

A

NARRATIVE

OF THE

NORTH CHINA CAMPAIGN

OF 1860;

CONTAINING PERSONAL EXPERIENCES

OF CHINESE CHARACTER, AND OF THE MORAL AND SOCIAL
CONDITION OF THE COUNTRY; TOGETHER WITH A
DESCRIPTION OF THE INTERIOR OF PEKIN.

BY

ROBERT SWINHOE,

OF H. M.'S CONSULAR SERVICE IN CHINA, STAFF INTERPRETER DURING
THE CAMPAIGN TO H. E. SIR HOPE GRANT.

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS.

LONDON:

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OF 1870

AND PERSONAL TRIP TO THE

PAKISTAN AND OF THE RECENT HISTORY OF
THE COUNTRIES OF THE INDIAN
ARCHipelago OF THE INDIAN

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ROBERT SWINHOLE

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY THE AUTHOR

AND A MAP OF THE COUNTRY

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P R E F A C E .

IN reading descriptive narratives and accounts of travels, I have often wished that the writers, instead of pitching upon the salient points alone for narration, had given a fuller detail of all the minor occurrences ; which, though unimportant in themselves, often reflect light upon the chief events, and give a continuity to the whole. This I have tried to accomplish in the following work ; and though some readers may consider such parts uninviting and of small import, there may be others who will be thankful for a full and truthful narrative.

It has been my object to write a complete account of the campaign, in conjunction with my own experiences in it, and I have thought it best to note every event in order as it occurred ; for if any portion were cut out, it would spoil the free course of the narrative.

In describing the various occurrences, I have endeavoured to enliven the subject with anecdotes

gathered on the spot, both from members of the expedition and in conversation with natives of the places visited.

Each chapter, as it was written, was forwarded home; and as now, with the closing chapter, I am unable to leave my duties in China to revisit England for the purpose of passing the work through the press, I must beg the indulgence of the reader for its literary defects and errors; I trust, however, that they are few and unimportant.

I ought to state that I have made free use of descriptions of scenes and places already published in periodicals, as also of printed official documents; but I have in every case acknowledged the source from which such extracts are derived.

ROBERT SWINHOE.

Amoy, 17th June, 1861.

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