



HISTORY *of the* MONGOLS

FROM THE 9th TO THE 19th CENTURY.

PART I.

THE MONGOLS PROPER AND THE KALMUKS.

BY

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WITH

TWO MAPS BY E. G. RAVENSTEIN, F.R.G.S.

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TO

SIR HENRY C. RAWLINSON, K.C.B., F.R.S.

IT was once the fashion for authors to dedicate their works to patrons from whose bounty some advantage was expected, and few things are more humbling in literary history than the servile addresses which sycophancy under these circumstances has produced. We now live in more dignified times; and may place on the threshold of our work the name of some friend whom we reverence and respect without degrading our pens to such mercenary uses.

I feel it a privilege to be permitted to dedicate this the first-fruits of not inconsiderable toil and exertion, to one who has raised very high the reputation of England for wide and cultured scholarship, and for brilliant fertility in discovery. Your kind and considerate notice of my efforts when a boy encouraged me to persevere in an arduous task, of which this is the outcome. It is probable that you will find something to object to and much to correct, besides the errors inevitable in such a work; but I shall feel gratified if you conclude that I have in some measure thrown light on a difficult and perplexing subject.