

**POMEGRANATES
FROM THE PUNJAB.
INDIAN STORIES**

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Pomegranates from the Punjab. Indian stories by A. L. O. E.

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"His strength was failing; he was just giving himself up as lost, when, with a shout, Yusuf rushed to his aid."—p. 151



POMEGRANATES

FROM

THE PUNJAB.

Indian Stories.

BY

A. L. O. E.

Four Full-Page Cuts.

GALL & INGLIS.

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PREFACE.

THESE little stories, written in India, and expressly for the people of India, have been intended to act, by God's blessing, as minute files to help to free our heathen and Mahometan brethren from the chains of prejudice and superstition. A story may find its way where a tract will not, and be listened to by those who would turn away from a sermon.

The Tales are now offered to British readers, not merely in the hope to amuse, or even instruct, but with the desire that they may help to *interest* those born in the light of a Christian land in those on whom the darkness of night still rests. O dear Readers in my native Isle ! plead before God for those who have left you to carry Good Tidings to India ; beseech the Lord to put His own

Word into our stammering lips—to give us zeal, power, and success! And plead for the many here upon whom light is beginning to break, but who shrink from taking up the heavy heavy cross which confession of Christ must bring! We missionaries see something of their struggles and sufferings; perhaps through the medium of my little book you may also be able to form a somewhat better idea of the difficulties and darkness through which converts in Hindustan are now groping their way to the Saviour.

A. I. O. E.



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POMEGRANATES FROM THE PUNJAB.

The Two Pilgrims to Kashi.*

RAM SAHAI was one of the holiest of the sect of the Saraogis,† a strict observer of all its rules. None was more regular in ablutions, none more frequent in pilgrimages. So careful was the Hindú not to destroy animal life that he was often seen with a cloth before his mouth lest he should by accident swallow a mosquito. A lie might sometimes come from the lips of the Saraogi, but no animal food ever passed them. Rám Sahai despised chumars and mihtars,‡ but he revered monkeys and snakes. In his

* Káshi is the ancient name of Benares, and that by which it is best known to the Hindú. It is considered a very holy place. It is said that there are as many idols in it as there are people.

† These are a peculiar sect of Hindús. Some of their views will be explained in the tale.

‡ Shoemakers and sweepers, who are much despised.