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Charles Napier

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An Account of the War in Portugal between Don Pedro and Don Miguel

Charles Napier (1786–1860) served in the Royal Navy for sixty years. A brave yet controversial commander, he became one of the most popular naval officers in Britain for his role in many battles during the Napoleonic, Anglo-American, Syrian and Crimean wars. He also served as an MP in Parliament. In this two-volume work, originally published in 1836, Napier gives a first-hand account of the Portuguese Civil War, in which he was a key participant. Between 1828 and 1834, a conflict of succession occurred between two brothers, the progressive constitutionalist Don Pedro and the authoritarian absolutist Don Miguel. In 1833, Napier led the Liberal fleet which defeated Don Miguel. He remained in Portugal for some time after the surrender to fight pockets of Miguelite resistance. In Volume 1, Napier explains the origins of the war and takes the story through to the victory of Don Pedro.

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VOLUME 1

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OF THE
WAR IN PORTUGAL
BETWEEN
DON PEDRO AND DON MIGUEL.

BY
ADMIRAL CHARLES NAPIER.

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MERCHANT, PRINTER, INGRAM-COURT, FENCHURCH-STREET.

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TO

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS
PRINCE AUGUSTUS FREDERICK,
DUKE OF SUSSEX,

&c. &c. &c.

I dedicate this work to your Royal Highness,
because you are the friend of Portugal and of
freedom.

I have the honour to be,

Your Royal Highness's

Most obedient servant,

CHARLES NAPIER.

*Merchistoun-Hall, Horndean,
5th July, 1836.*

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P R E F A C E.

VARIOUS accounts have been given of the war in Portugal, both by French and English officers who served in the armies of the Queen and of Don Miguel, but they relate chiefly the operations which came under their own observation, and touch little on what was going on in other parts of the country.

I have endeavoured to give an impartial account of the whole war, praising and blaming where it is due without favour or

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affection. I am not accustomed to write histories or prefaces, therefore the less I say the better—the reader may judge for himself.

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