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SEA-POWER

AND OTHER STUDIES

BY

ADMIRAL SIR CYPRIAN BRIDGE, G.C.B.

AUTHOR OF 'THE ART OF NAVAL WARFARE' ETC.

LONDON

SMITH, ELDER & CO., 15 WATERLOO PLACE, S.W.

1910

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PREFACE

THE essays collected in this volume are republished in the hope that they may be of some use to those who are interested in naval history. The aim has been to direct attention to certain historical occurrences and conditions which the author ventures to think have been often misunderstood. An endeavour has been made to show the continuity of the operation of sea-power throughout history, and the importance of recognising this at the present day.

In some cases specially relating to our navy at different periods a revision of the more commonly accepted conclusions—formed, it is believed, on imperfect knowledge—is asked for.

It is also hoped that the intimate connection between naval history in the strict sense and military history in the strict sense has been made apparent, and likewise the fact that both are in reality branches of the general history of a nation and not something altogether distinct from and outside it.

In a collection of essays on kindred subjects some repetitions are inevitable, but it is believed that they will be found present only to a moderate extent in the following pages.

My nephew, Mr. J. S. C. Bridge, has very kindly seen the book through the press.

June 1910.

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TEN of the essays included in this volume first appeared in the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, the *Times*, the *Morning Post*, the *National Review*, the *Nineteenth Century and After*, the *Cornhill Magazine*, and the *Naval Annual*. The proprietors of those publications have courteously given me permission to republish them here.

Special mention must be made of my obligation to the proprietors of the *Encyclopædia Britannica* for allowing me to reproduce the essays on 'Sea-Power' and 'The Command of the Sea.' They are the owners of the copyright of both essays, and their courtesy to me is the more marked because they are about to republish them themselves in the forthcoming edition of the *Encyclopædia*.

The paper on 'Naval Strategy and Tactics at the Time of Trafalgar' was read at the Institute of Naval Architects, and that on 'The Supply and Communications of a Fleet' at the Hong-Kong United Service Institution.