

Governor General of India. He held the position of Governor General of Bengal, with indefinite powers over the presidencies of Bombay and Madras, from 1773 until his voluntary resignation in 1785. His rule on the whole was strong and wise, but he did some unjust and cruel things, and his enemies made the most of them.

In 1780, Edmund Burke moved the impeachment of Warren Hastings, and articles of impeachment were drawn up containing nine charges, afterwards increased to twenty-two. The principal managers of the impeachment were Burke, Fox, Sheridan and Windham. The trial began in 1788 and dragged on for seven years.

In 1795, Hastings was acquitted on all charges. In its early stages the trial attracted great attention. The greatest orators in the kingdom took part in it, and feeling ran high on both sides. A very entertaining account of the first days of the trial is found in Mme. D'Arblay's Diary, Vol. II.

*Impeachment.* The accusation and prosecution of a person for treason or other high crime or misdemeanour before a competent tribunal; in Great Britain, 'the judicial process by which any man, from the rank of a peer downwards, may be tried before the House of Lords at the instance of the House of Commons.'—*New English Dictionary*.

*The holy city of Benares.* Benares is a great and ancient city on the Ganges, held sacred by the Hindoos. The "lord" was the Rajah Cheyte Sing, who paid tribute to the English. Hastings was accused of extorting money from him unjustly, with the object of provoking him to rebellion.

*The ladies of the princely house of Oude.* Oude or Oudh, a province of India. The ladies were the mother and grandmother of the reigning prince, who were possessed of vast hereditary treasures. Hastings was accused of confiscating a large amount of money from them by cruel means.

*The great hall of William Rufus.* Westminster Hall, part of the Parliament Buildings at Westminster. The Hall was begun by William Rufus in 1097. It is 290 feet long, 68 feet broad, and 92 feet high. The English kings down to George IV held their coronation festivals in this hall, and it is rich in historical associations.

*The just sentence of Bacon.* Francis Bacon (1561-1626), Baron Verulam and Viscount St. Albans, (commonly, but incorrectly called Lord Bacon,) philosopher, statesman, jurist, Lord Chan-

cellor, was impeached and condemned in 1621, for taking bribes.

*Somers.* Lord Chancellor, 1697-1700. Impeached in 1701, for the part he was supposed to have taken in making the partition treaty of 1698, he was formally acquitted.

*Strafford.* Thomas Wentworth, Lord Strafford (1593-1641), chief adviser of Charles I. He was impeached for his share in trying to set up absolute government, condemned, and executed.

*Charles.* Charles I was tried and condemned to death in Westminster Hall.

*Garter King at-Arms.* More correctly, King-of-Arms. The chief herald of the Order of the Garter.

*Defence of Gibraltar.* In 1782 (see an English history.)

*Siddons.* Sarah Siddons, a famous tragic actress, 1755-1831.

*Historian of the Roman Empire.* Probably Edward Gibbon, 1737-1794, author of *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*.

*Cicero — Verres.* Verres was a Roman Governor of Sicily, 73-71 B. C., who enriched himself by plundering the island, and was brought to trial. Cicero, the famous Roman statesman and orator was the prosecutor, and delivered an eloquent oration against him.

*Tacitus.* Celebrated Roman historian and orator in the first century.

*Reynolds, 1723-1792.* Celebrated English portrait-painter.

*Parr.* Samuel Parr, a great English scholar, 1747-1825.

*Her to whom the heir of the throne had in secret plighted his faith.* Mrs. Fitzherbert, a widow, whom the Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV, had secretly married in 1785.

*The beautiful mother of a beautiful race.* Mrs. Sheridan, wife of Richard Brinsley Sheridan, famous for her beauty and her voice. She sat to Sir Joshua Reynolds for his picture "St. Cecilia." Her three daughters, Lady Dufferin, the Duchess of Somerset, and Mrs. Norton were said to be "only less beautiful and charming than their mother."

*Mrs. Montagu.* Elizabeth, wife of Edward Montagu, a woman of great and varied abilities and especially noted for her social gifts. For many years her house in London was celebrated for its gatherings of famous people. The term