

Clive, who was in command of the English forces, saw that young Hastings would be of far more service to the Company by allowing him to fight with his brains rather than with arms. It was from this time that the greatness of Warren Hastings originated.

In 1761, he became a member of the Council at Calcutta. This was between Clive's first and second administration. Having occupied this post for three years, Hastings returned to England (1764) with nothing but a very moderate fortune.

After spending four years in London, he was obliged to return to India to seek another fortune. Among the passengers aboard the Duke of Grafton, on which he took passage, there was a German, Turhoff by name, who was travelling with his wife. Hastings became infatuated with her, and made overtures with the German by which it was arranged that the latter should sue for a divorce, and Hastings should wed the daughter of the Arctic Circle, who was destined to soon become the Queen of the tropic of Cancer.

Prior to his sailing, Hastings had been appointed Governor-General of India. At Madras he found the affairs of the Company in a very deplorable condition. He therefore busied himself in making the stock pay better dividend. Although he never received instructions from the officials in the Mother Country to carry on trade irregularly, they were ever urging him to send larger returns. At certain times his coffers were low, and it is a known fact that, in so many words, he robbed the native Princes to enrich his cause, and to meet the demands of the home officials.

Later, some of his dealings with Nabob Vizier were condemned. Several other of his actions were also condemned, and gradually his authority crept out of his hands. He lived in the Governor's House, drew the Governor's salary, and dealt with the minor affairs at the Council board; but the higher power and patronage had been taken from him.

The Indians were not long in discovering this, and henceforth they regarded him as a fallen man. They soon resembled a flock of crows on a carrion. Countless charges by the natives began to pour in against the Governor. They were looked upon favorably by some of the Councilors, others were unaware of the natives' cupidity, duplicity and avarice; consequently, they took the accusations for just what they contained. Hastings was found guilty by the council to the extent of selling offices for thirty or forty thousand pounds. The supreme court gave a de-