



The Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World: From Marathon to Waterloo (Forgotten Books)

Edward Shepherd Creasy

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The Fifteen Decisive Battles of the World: from Marathon to Waterloo is a book written by Sir Edward Shepherd Creasy and published in 1851. This book tells the story of the fifteen military engagements (from Marathon to Waterloo) which, according to the author, had a significant impact on world history.

The book is a product of the Victorian era, and Creasy's descriptions of the battles and their impact on history are from a decidedly Eurocentric, and specifically Anglocentric, point of view. For example, every one of Creasy's choices involve Europeans as one or both of the combatants. Of the ten battles fought among Europeans, five of these involve the English. Five of the battles are described as a clash of civilizations between European and Asiatic powers (or between the Indo-European and Semitic linguistic families), with each one being a European victory and with the view that the Europeans are superior. Creasy's comments about Alexander's victory at Arbela are:

"Alexander's victory at Arbela not only overthrew an Oriental dynasty, but established European rulers in its stead. It broke the monotony of the Eastern world by the impression of Western energy and superior civilization, even as England's present mission is to break up the mental and moral stagnation of India and Cathay by pouring upon and through them the impulsive current of Anglo-Saxon commerce and conquest."
(Quote from wikipedia.org)

About the Author

Edward Shepherd Creasy (1812 - 1878)

Sir Edward Shepherd Creasy (1812 - 1878), historian, was educated at Eton College and the University of Cambridge and called to the Bar in 1837. He became in 1840 Professor of History at the University of London, and in 1860, Chief Justice of Ceylon, when he was knighted. His best known contrib

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