



Caesar In Abyssinia

By G.L. Steer

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INTRODUCTION THIS BOOK, which casts a narrow sidelight on an unimportant series of massacres known as the ItaloEthiopian War, bears, I am sorry to say, a title which will disappoint many, Caesar in Abyssinia conjures up a picture of cohorts, horse haircrests and Commentaries, all centring round the great Julius himself ungasmasked in the field. But look where I might in Abyssinia, with the assistance of Holmes, Collins, Harrison, Lowenthal and the British Red Cross, I could never find the fellow. Afterwards the Military Correspondent of The Times explained to me that he was playing the part of a dynamo in Rome. He compares ill with his rival, who handled an anti aircraft gun and a machinegun against Europeans fitted with far superior weapons. I have no desire, however, to belittle the military achievement of Italy in Ethiopia. I believe that an absurd excess of force was used that considering the condition of the Italian Treasury the war might have been waged more cheaply, and that the war...



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