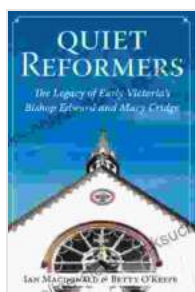


The Enduring Legacy of Early Victoria Bishop Edward and Mary Cridge: Shaping the Fabric of Vancouver Island's Faith and Community

Nestled amidst the picturesque beauty of Vancouver Island, British Columbia, lies the historic city of Victoria, a testament to the enduring legacy of two remarkable individuals: Bishop Edward Cridge and his wife, Mary. Their profound impact on the religious and societal landscape of early Victoria left an imprint that continues to shape the community's identity to this day.



Quiet Reformers: The Legacy of Early Victoria's Bishop Edward and Mary Cridge by Ian Macdonald

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 3159 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 238 pages
Lending	: Enabled



Pioneers of Faith and Education

Edward Cridge arrived in Victoria in 1853 as the first Anglican Bishop of British Columbia. A man of deep faith and boundless energy, he embarked on a mission to establish a strong Anglican presence in the fledgling colony. Under his leadership, St. Andrew's Cathedral, a majestic edifice that

remains a landmark in Victoria's cityscape, was built in 1860. This iconic structure became a hub for worship, community gatherings, and educational endeavors.

Recognizing the vital role education plays in shaping society, Bishop Cridge and his wife founded St. Andrew's School in 1852, which later became St. Michael's University School. This esteemed institution has provided generations of students with a rigorous academic foundation while fostering strong moral values and a commitment to service.

Champions of Social Welfare

Bishop and Mrs. Cridge's concern extended beyond the walls of the church and school. They were deeply committed to addressing the social ills prevalent in early Victoria. Mary Cridge, a compassionate and tireless advocate, established the "Ladies Benevolent Society" in 1856, an organization dedicated to providing aid to the sick, poor, and destitute. This society evolved into the "Victoria Ladies' Home," a shelter for women and children that continues to offer support to those in need.

The Cridges also played a pivotal role in founding the "Victoria Industrial School for Girls," which later became the "St. Ann's Academy." This institution provided vocational training and education to young women from disadvantaged backgrounds, empowering them with the skills and confidence to lead independent lives.

A Legacy that Endures

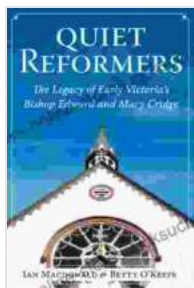
The impact of Bishop Edward and Mary Cridge on early Victoria is immeasurable. Their unwavering faith, tireless dedication to education, and compassionate social welfare work laid the groundwork for a vibrant and

just community. Their legacy continues to inspire and guide generations of Victorians, shaping the city's religious, educational, and social fabric.

Today, St. Andrew's Cathedral remains a spiritual and architectural centerpiece of Victoria, hosting a thriving congregation and serving as a venue for concerts, exhibitions, and community events. St. Michael's University School continues to provide an exceptional education, instilling in its students a commitment to academic excellence, character development, and service to others.

The Victoria Ladies' Home and St. Ann's Academy continue to offer vital services to those in need, providing shelter, education, and support to countless individuals. These organizations stand as a testament to the Cridges' unwavering dedication to creating a more compassionate and equitable society.

The legacy of Bishop Edward and Mary Cridge is a testament to the power of faith, education, and social welfare to transform communities. Their unwavering commitment to serving others left an enduring imprint on early Victoria, shaping the city's religious, educational, and social landscape in profound ways. Their story continues to inspire and challenge generations of Victorians to strive for a more just, compassionate, and equitable society.



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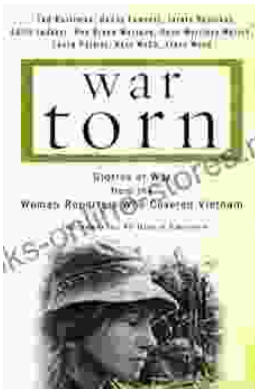
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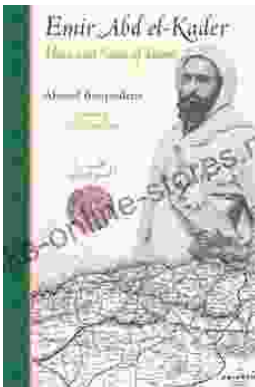
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