PREFATORY NOTE

This work purports to be a revised version of my dissertation on Swami Vivekananda accepted for the Doctoral degree by Panjab University, Chandigarh in 1981. It focusses on the Swami's sojourns in the West during 1893-96 which left a lasting impact there.

Swami Vivekananda was the first Hindu to win admiration for his religion in the West, the first who could hundreds of Europeans as his disciples, the first to establish the Vedanta Society for the propagation of Indian culture and the first to remove gross misconceptions about Hinduism that were prevailing in the West. His success lay as much in the musical tone of his voice, in his eyes sparkling with confidence and in his manner, as in his choice of words and his command over the English language. He is said to have initiated what the late Dr C.E.M. Joad once called "the counter attack from the East".

to the facsimilies is only to facilitate the general reader who may not have access to the original stuff.

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