

American Reformers

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Charles Sumner

THE LIFE
OF
CHARLES SUMNER

The Scholar in Politics

BY

ARCHIBALD H. GRIMKE

AUTHOR OF "WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON," ETC.

FUNK & WAGNALLS COMPANY
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Dedication.

To my dear child, Angelina, whose long and painful illness occupied so much of my thoughts during the composition of these pages, this record of a noble life is lovingly dedicated.

P R E F A C E.

IN the two volumes assigned to him in the American Reformer Series, viz., the "Life of WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON, the Abolitionist," and that of "CHARLES SUMNER, the Scholar in Politics," the Author has tried to give a comprehensive view of the forces, moral and political, which combined to achieve the downfall of slavery and the slave-power in the United States.

In the "Life of Garrison" his pages are mainly concerned with the moral aspect of the great struggle, while in the "Life of Sumner" the political side of the contest has chiefly occupied his attention. Garrison, more than any other man, embodied the moral forces of the conflict, the story of his life being essentially the history of the moral uprising against Slavery; while on the other hand Sumner was the impersonation of the political movement against the giant evil of the country.

Between these two volumes the Author hopes that he has measurably succeeded in conveying a tolerably comprehensive and vivid impression of that grandest chapter which America has yet contributed to the universal history of Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity. The period covered by the irrepressible conflict is, to his way of thinking, preëminently the moral age of the Republic; and to his mind Garrison and Sum-

ner, with Wendell Phillips, constitute the three principal figures and actors, the elect and glorified spirits and leaders in that mighty battle of Right and Wrong.

As this volume takes its place in the series, the earnest wish of the Author goes with it that the great example herein contained, of renunciation of self for fellow-men, of absolute devotion to duty, of incessant and uncompromising support of heaven-born ideas and principles, and of magnificent labors in the cause of a common humanity, without distinction of race, color, or condition, may be to many a savor of life unto life to the end that America, like the Divine Parent, shall have no respect to the persons of her children whether they be black or white, but shall treat all as equals throughout her broad lands, and before the genius of her laws.

HYDE PARK, MASS.,
December 30, 1891.

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