



# LEADSTONE

1848 His CONTEMPORARIES.

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PRESENTED BY  
Dr. Dadabhai Naoroji.

*NEW EDITION, CONTINUED TO 1890.*

# GLADSTONE

AND

## HIS CONTEMPORARIES.

SIXTY YEARS OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PROGRESS,  
FROM 1830 TO 1890.

BY

THOMAS ARCHER, F.R.HIST.SOC.,

AUTHOR OF "THE WAR IN EGYPT AND THE SOUDAN;" "PICTURES AND ROYAL PORTRAITS;" "OUR SOVEREIGN  
LADY QUEEN VICTORIA;" ETC.

~~~~~  
*WITH NUMEROUS AUTHENTIC PORTRAITS.*  
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Recent national and political events intimately associated with the condition of Ireland, the change in the relative position of parties in the House of Commons, and the questions involved in an intelligible interpretation of what is to be understood as "Home Rule," challenge the attention of every thoughtful reader who desires to become acquainted with the history of the time in which we live. But that we may comprehend the bearing of such social and political changes, it is necessary that we should be familiar with the interesting story of the national life during the past sixty years. That story is clearly and pleasantly told in the present work, the early issues of which were received with such general approbation both by the public and by the reviewers, that it seemed desirable to continue the narrative to the present time, and, by extending the last volume, to complete the six decades of what may be called the later history of the country.

For that reason, though it was deemed not only admissible but appropriate to associate with it the name of William Ewart Gladstone, a statesman who has filled a larger space in that history than has been occupied by any other now living, the present work is not a mere biography of a great political leader. It deals with the political and social achievements and characteristics of his contemporaries in various relations, as well as with those by which he is distinguished. It is the story of social and political progress from the year before the passing of the first Reform Bill to the present time, and a wonderful story it is, for it includes among its chief events the early triumphs of Parliamentary Reform, the Abolition of Slavery in the West Indies, the Repeal of the Corn Laws, the amelioration of the Criminal Code, the Chartist Agitation, the terrible Famine in Ireland, the great tide of Emigration, the Discovery of the Gold-fields, the Crimean War, the removal of Religious Disabilities, the Indian Mutiny, the Great International Exhibitions, the Extension of the Franchise, the establish-

ment of Vote by Ballot, passing of the Irish Land Act, the Development of Steam Transit and of the Postal and Telegraph systems, and later still the Intervention in Egypt, the War in the Soudan, the New Franchise and Redistribution Bills, the controversy on "Home Rule" in Ireland, the Local Government Acts in England and Scotland, the changes in Parliament, in political parties, and in the aspects and developments of social life. These subjects yield scenes and episodes of fascinating interest, an extensive gallery of attractive pictures, a chronicle full of absorbing topics and recollections.

In the pages of this history there may be said to appear a succession of the most illustrious, famous, or notorious persons in the present century. They are presented to the reader "in their habit as they lived." Even those names which bear immediately on the main current of events form a grand muster-roll of statesmen, legislators, judges, soldiers, orators, philosophers, philanthropists, and men of society, literature, and science, prominent among them appearing Gladstone, Disraeli, Earl Grey, Wellington, Lansdowne, Brougham, Melbourne, O'Connell, Russell, Aberdeen, Derby, Ashley, Cobden, Bright, Palmerston, Peel, Fowell Buxton, Sydney Herbert, Forster, Spencer, Harcourt, Morley, Denman, Lyndhurst, the Napiers, Raglan, Clyde, Havelock, Lawrence, Wolseley, Gordon, Rosebery, Graham, Stuart, Macaulay, John Stuart Mill, Wheatstone, Faraday, Newman, Chalmers, Maurice, Rowland Hill, and a host of others.

The value of this publication as a record of the modern history of our country has already been amply attested by the number of those who have subscribed to the former edition, and by the commendations of the public press. The present edition will be found even more useful than its predecessor, as the narrative now includes those recent manifestations of great social and political movements which are unquestionably fraught with such wide possibilities for the future of Great Britain and Ireland. The writer has been careful to display no party bias; and his work has been pronounced to be true, earnest, and sympathetic in tone—a book appealing to citizens in all ranks and of all classes.

The Work will be completed in four volumes, super-royal 8vo, price 9s. 6d. each, illustrated by a series of thirty-six authentic portraits of the leading men of the last sixty years. The volumes will be bound in cloth, in a substantial and elegant style, with burnished olivine edges, fitting them either for continuous present use or a place on the library shelf. The Work will also be issued in fifteen parts, price 2s. each.

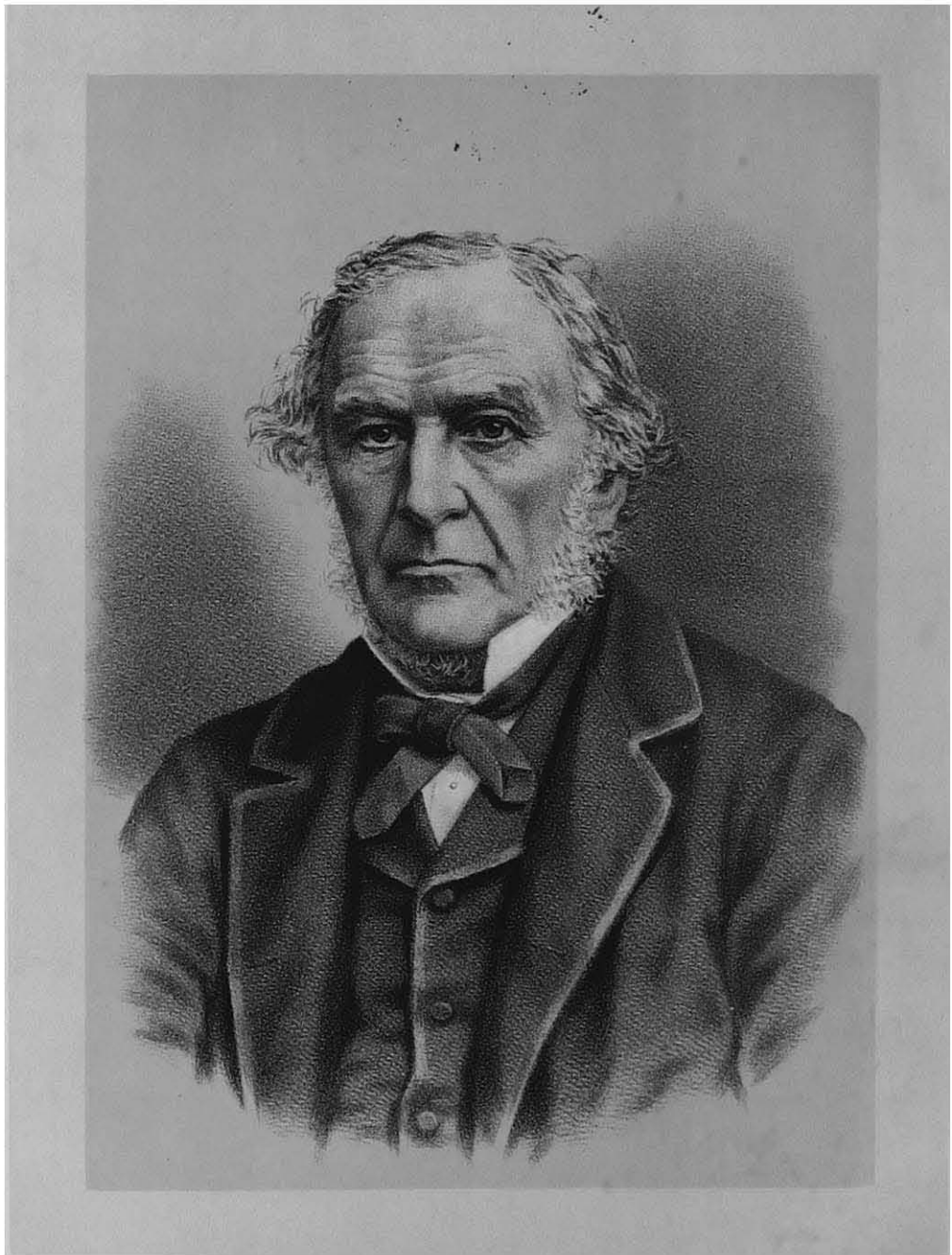
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WILLIAM EWART GLADSTONE.

FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY ELLIOTT & FRY

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FROM 1830 TO THE END OF THE PARLIAMENTARY SESSION OF 1889,  
AND TO THE YEAR 1890.

VOL. I.

1830 TO 1845.



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