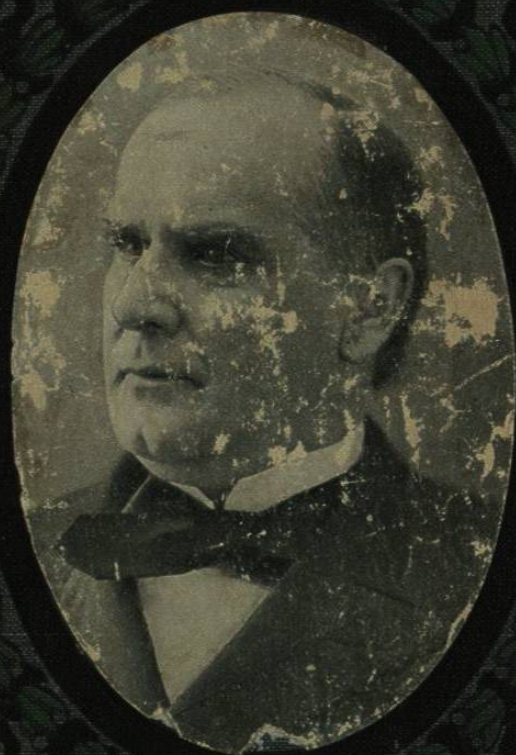


MEMORIAL LIFE
OF
WILLIAM MCKINLEY



OUR
MARTYRED PRESIDENT

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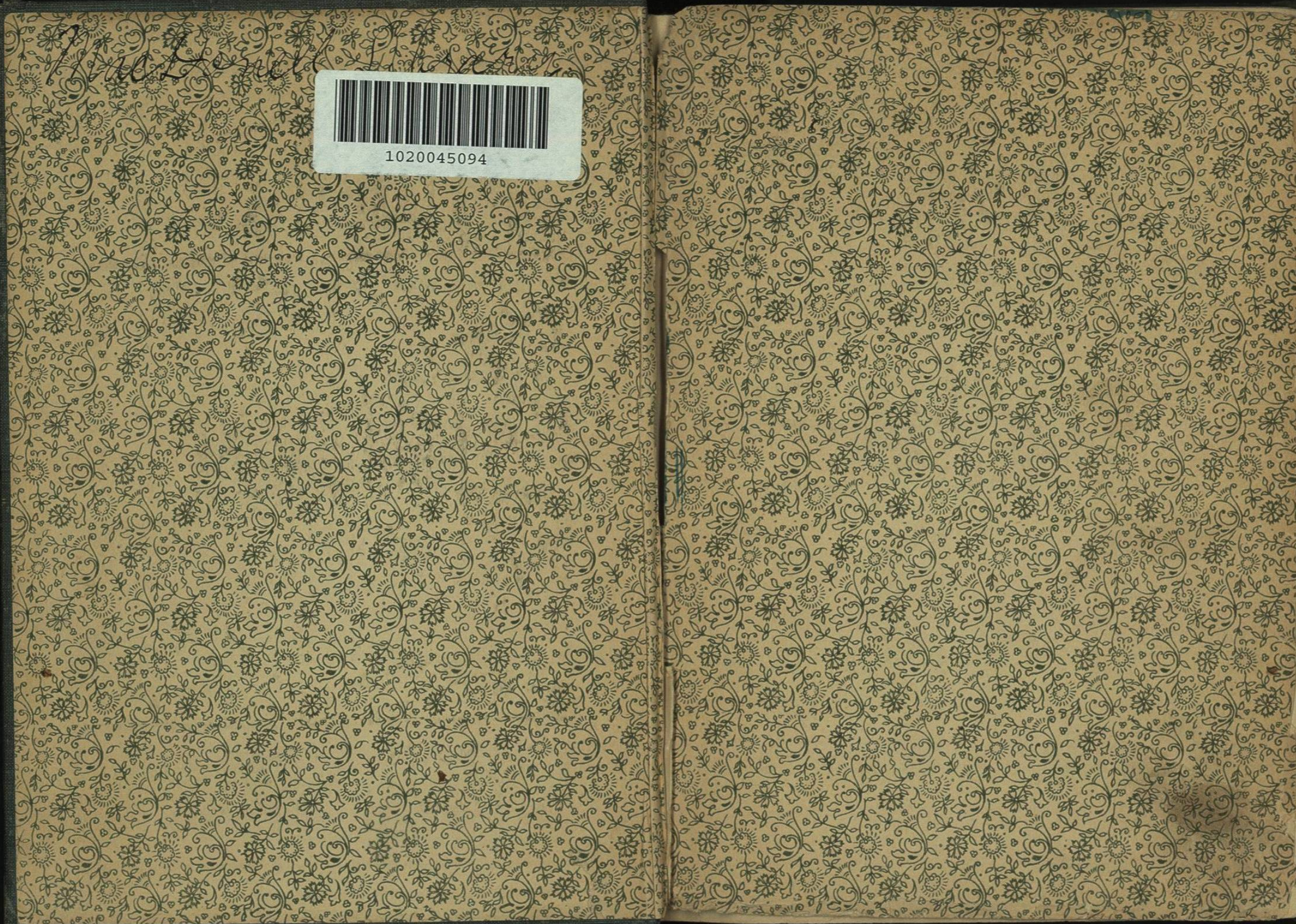
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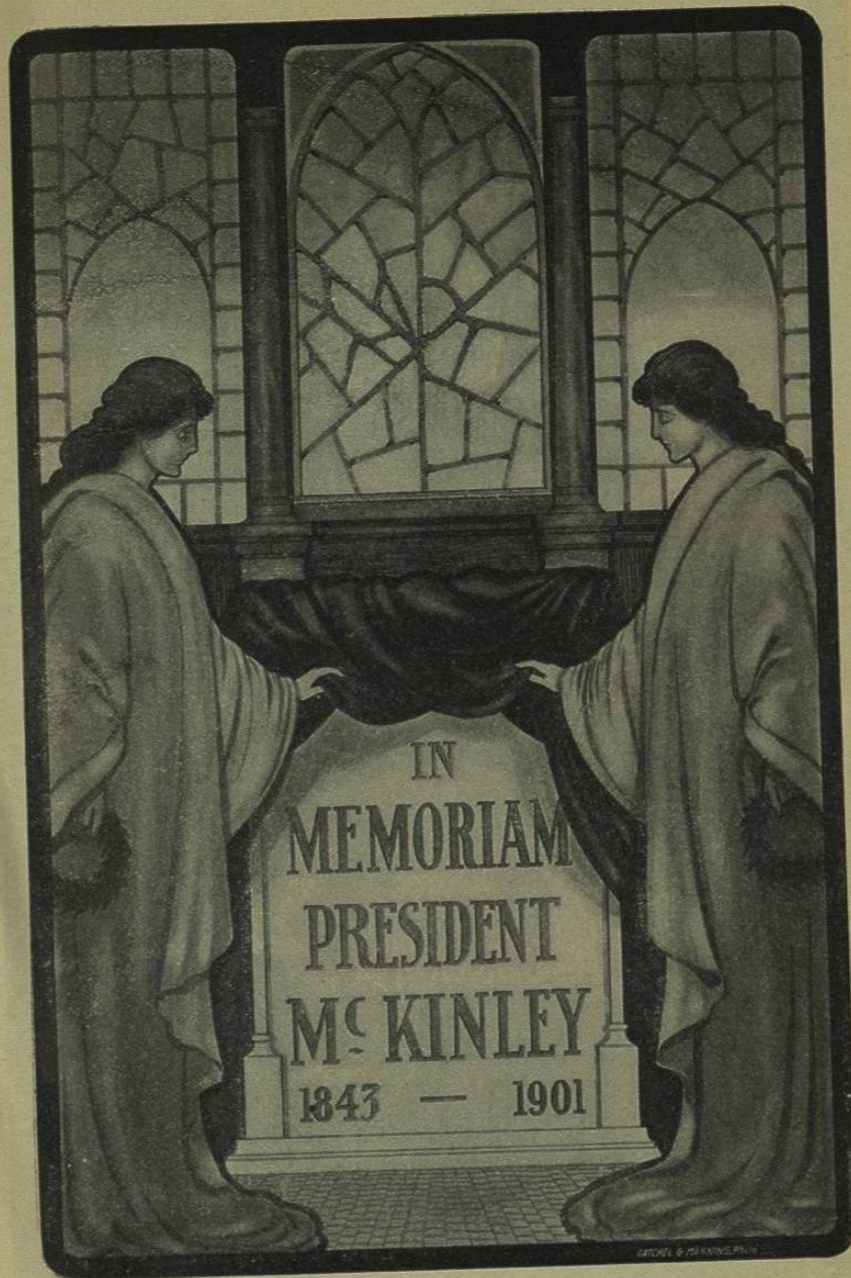
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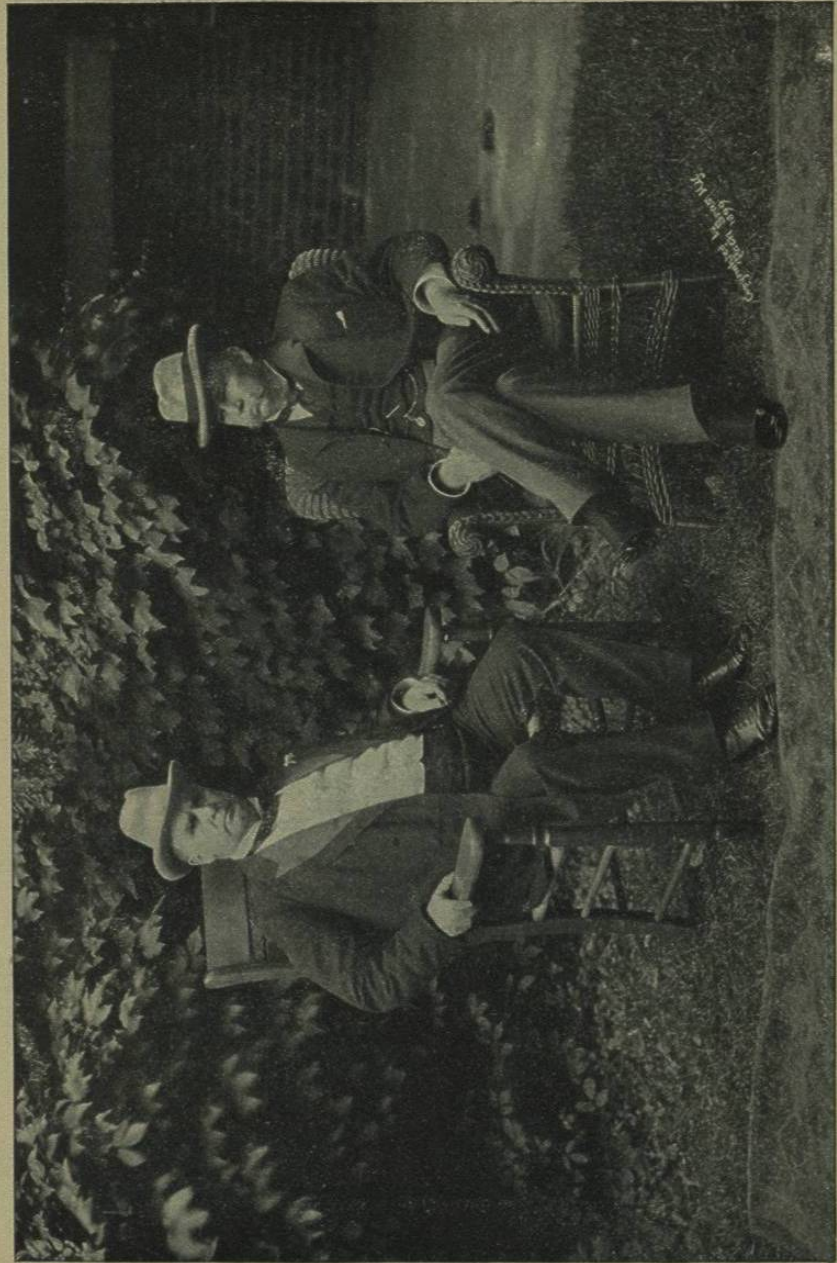
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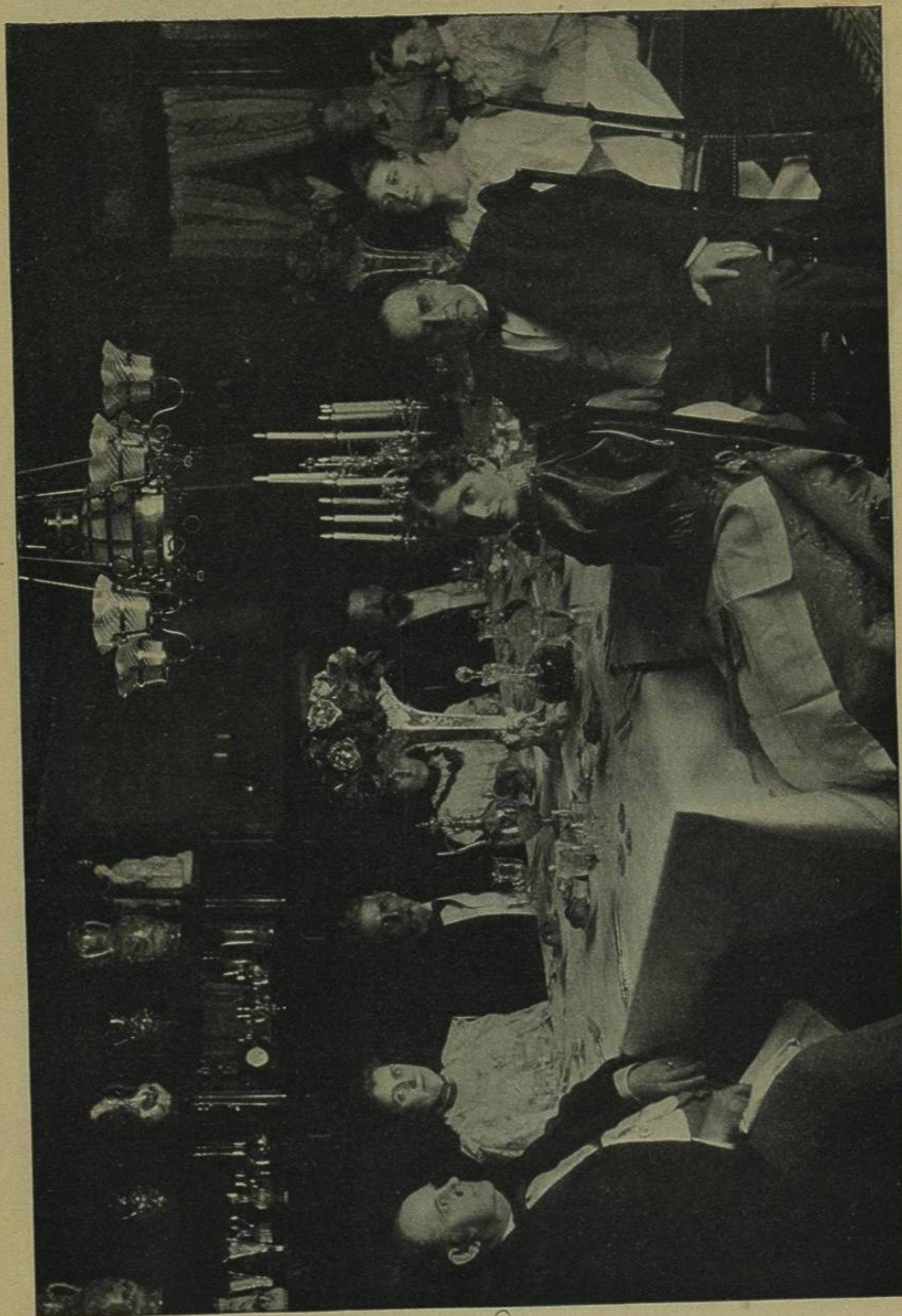




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PRESIDENT AND MRS. MCKINLEY ENTERTAINED BY SENATOR AND MRS. HANNA

OUR MARTYRED PRESIDENT

As a Man, the Noblest and Purest of his Times.

As a Citizen, the Grandest of his Nation.

As a Statesman, the Idol of Millions of People.

MEMORIAL LIFE OF WILLIAM MCKINLEY

CONTAINING A

FULL ACCOUNT OF HIS EARLY LIFE; HIS AMBITION TO OBTAIN AN EDUCATION; HIS BRILLIANT CAREER AS A SOLDIER IN THE CIVIL WAR; HIS PATRIOTIC RECORD AS A MEMBER OF CONGRESS AND GOVERNOR OF HIS STATE; HIS ABLE ADMINISTRATION AS PRESIDENT, ETC.

INCLUDING A

THRILLING ACCOUNT OF HIS ASSASSINATION; HIS HEROIC STRUGGLE FOR LIFE; HOPE OF RECOVERY SUDDENLY BLASTED; PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND ANXIOUS SUSPENSE OF THE WHOLE CIVILIZED WORLD, ETC.

TOGETHER WITH A FULL

HISTORY OF ANARCHY AND ITS INFAMOUS DEEDS

By COL. G. W. TOWNSEND
THE WELL-KNOWN AUTHOR

WITH AN INTRODUCTION

By HON. JAMES RANKIN YOUNG
Member of Congress and formerly Clerk of the United States Senate

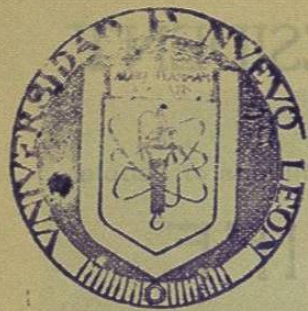
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PREFACE.



HE news of the appalling tragedy that ended the life of our beloved President was received with profound horror and indignation throughout the civilized world. It was instantly followed with a great outbreak of popular wrath and execration. No American Statesman or President ever filled the hearts of the people more fully than he did.

The martyrdom of Lincoln and Garfield won for them a peculiar veneration and their names are now consecrated in the memory of their countrymen. President McKinley gained the highest place in public esteem, admiration and love, and his name and memory are doubly consecrated by his untimely death.

Brilliant as a Statesman and wise as a ruler, President McKinley was more than this. He was loved for his warm and generous nature. His patriotism was so broad and bold that it won the applause of his political opponents. Even they believed in the man. They honored his opinions and his honesty even though they differed from him. He was followed with the devotion and enthusiasm of the army that bore the eagle of France when Napoleon marched to his world-renowned victories. As the mighty ocean is stirred by the resistless cyclone, so the hearts of the American people have been moved by the infamous crime that laid our third martyred President in the grave.

The complete and graphic story of President McKinley's marvelous career is written in this volume. His life and public services are a part of our country's most thrilling history, and these are vividly detailed in this work which is worthy of its illustrious subject. No grander record of dazzling achievements can be placed under the name of any man of modern times. Not merely in intellect, eloquence and far-seeing statesmanship—not merely as a great political leader and advocate of our national industries, welfare and great prosperity, but as a man of noble

virtues and exalted character, President McKinley stood upon the highest pedestal. He fell from the very pinnacle of human fame.

From his boyhood to his entrance into the army, from his noble stand for his country to the close of the Civil War, from his obscure beginning as a public man to the grand successes that pointed to him as a fit representative of his State in Congress, from his proud triumphs under the dome of our National Capitol to the Governorship of his State, and Presidency of the United States, the reader follows him with ever-increasing interest and admiration.

He was the master statesman of his age, the magnetic leader and gallant defender of American rights, the idol of his nation, unsurpassed in eloquence, invincible in debate—the man who was greater than any party and who will rank in history with Washington, Lincoln, Grant and Garfield. This memorial volume contains the complete and fascinating story of his life and depicts in glowing colors his marvelous career.

In Congress he was considered an authority on every subject upon which he expressed an opinion. Clear in his grasp of public questions, eloquent in advocating the principles he professed, considerate and lenient toward his opponents, affable in all his intercourse with others, and manifesting always a certain dignity, strength and sincerity that impressed all who knew him, he was for years one of the most conspicuous figures in the halls of Congress. For William McKinley to become President of the United States was only a natural step from the commanding position he had gained.

The story of President McKinley's life is much like that of nearly all our renowned statesmen and rulers. He was born in humble life. He had that contact with Mother Earth which falls to the lot of the farmer's son. While his advantages for education were not the best, he made such diligent use of his time and opportunities that he became distinguished as a scholar, and especially as a student of political economy. He is an admirable example for young men. Let them emulate his diligence, his lawful ambition, his devotion to duty, and enthusiasm as a worker.

INTRODUCTION.

BY

HON. JAMES RANKIN YOUNG,

Member of Congress and Late Clerk of the United States Senate.

Probably there is no one fact in the history of the Republic, of which Americans are prouder than that all their Presidents were exceptionally good men—men who filled the great office with credit to themselves and honor to the Nation. They were especially noted for their earnest love of country, their rigid integrity and the simplicity of their lives.

Simplicity was the ruling point in view when our fathers founded the Government, and the Presidents, in the performance of their duties, never seemed to have lost sight of the fact. Simplicity is known to be the leading characteristic of all great men, probably it would be better to say men who combine that which is good with that which is great. We saw it as a shining mark in Washington; it was the ruling spirit with Jefferson, it made Jackson more famous than did his deeds of heroism and aggressiveness, it was personified in Lincoln and Grant, but with no desire to retract from the others, I am free to say that the perfect model of simplicity was found in McKinley.

It was his life and staff. It permeated every fibre of his make up. It came with him at his birth. It clung to him through life—as the youth at school, as the soldier in the field, in his profession as a lawyer, as the servant of the public in the trusted positions in which they placed him. You had but to look at the benign expression ever present in his countenance to see that gentleness of nature was his leading characteristic.

Probably no better idea of just what the character of man our late President was can be found than in what was said of him