

**WILLIAM EWART
GLADSTONE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649734061

William Ewart Gladstone by J. L. M. Curry

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

J. L. M. CURRY

**WILLIAM EWART
GLADSTONE**



By the Engraver, 1846

HON. WILLIAM E. GLADSTONE, M.P.



WILLIAM EWART GLADSTONE.

390

BY
J. L. M. CURRY, LL. D.,
Author of "Constitutional Government in Spain."

RICHMOND:
R. F. JOHNSON & CO., PUBLISHERS,
1891.

TO THE
Hon. Robert C. Winthrop,

I DEDICATE

THIS LITTLE BOOK

AS A MARK OF ADMIRATION FOR HIS PERSONAL VIRTUES,
FOR HIS DISTINGUISHED AND BENEFICIAL SERVICES
IN SO MANY POSITIONS, AND IN GRATITUDE FOR
HIS HELPFUL CONFIDENCE AND FRIENDSHIP.

PREFACE.

IN the preparation of this volume I have sought to gather material from many authentic sources, but I must gratefully acknowledge my special indebtedness to the *Life of Gladstone* by George Barnett Smith. Facts and language I have liberally borrowed, and without burdening my pages with frequent citations I prefer to refer to the book as the most complete and valuable account of the life of Mr. Gladstone, up to 1883, that has come to my knowledge.

Mr. Gladstone's speeches and writings have been used freely as furnishing the most accurate data and the most trustworthy statement of his opinions, purposes, and motives. Instead of paraphrase or abridgement, it has seemed to me best to let him, very often, speak for himself.

As this book is a study rather than a biography, I have not observed a chronological order, nor have I sought to disguise my admiration for the subject, my sympathy gene-

rally with the Liberal party, nor my leanings on economic questions which bear on the proper policy of our government.

Because of our close relationship with Great Britain, and of the common duties and responsibilities of the two governments and peoples, I venture to hope that this sketch may not be unprofitable to thoughtful American readers, and that whatever influence it may exert will tend to strengthen the bonds of confidence and affection between the two great English-speaking nations.

PRIME MINISTERS, 1834—1890.

Sir Robert Peel,	Dec. 26, 1834—April 18, 1835.
Lord Melbourne,	April 18, 1835—Sept. 6, 1841.
Sir Robert Peel,	Sept. 6, 1841—July 6, 1846.
Lord John Russell,	July 6, 1846—Feb. 21, 1852.
Lord Derby,	Feb. 27, 1852—Dec. 17, 1852.
Earl of Aberdeen,	Dec. 18, 1852—Jan. 30, 1855.
Lord Palmerston,	Feb. 3, 1855—Feb. 20, 1858.
Lord Derby,	Feb. 25, 1858—June 11, 1859.
Lord Palmerston,	June 18, 1859—Oct. 18, 1865.
Lord John Russell,	Nov. 6, 1865—June 26, 1866.
Lord Derby,	July 6, 1866—Feb. 25, 1868.
B. Disraeli,	Feb. 29, 1868—Dec. 2, 1868.
<u>W. E. Gladstone,</u>	<u>Dec. 9, 1868—Feb. 17, 1874.</u>
Earl Beaconsfield,	Feb. 21, 1874—April 21, 1880.
2 <u>Gladstone,</u>	<u>April 28, 1880—June 9, 1885.</u>
Earl Iddesleigh,	June 24, 1885—Feb., 1886.
4 <u>Gladstone,</u>	<u>Feb., 1886—June, 1886.</u>
Lord Salisbury,	August, 1886.

In Sir Robert Peel's first ministry, Mr. Gladstone was Under-Secretary for the Colonies; in his second ministry, Mr. Gladstone was, for a part of the time, President of the Board of Trade.

In Aberdeen's, Palmerston's, Russell's second, and his own first and second ministries, Mr. Gladstone was Chancellor of the Exchequer. For a portion of the time of his first and second ministries he devolved the office of Chancellor of the Exchequer on Sir Robert Lowe and Mr. Childers.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER.	PAGE.
I. BIRTH AND EARLY ENVIRONMENTS	9
II. EARLY PARLIAMENTARY LIFE—REFORM BILL OF 1832—CORN LAWS—NAVIGATION LAWS—NEAPOLITAN CONTROVERSY	16
III. TRANSITION PERIOD—CHANGE OF OPINIONS AND PARTIES—DISESTABLISHMENT OF IRISH CHURCH—RECOGNITION OF CON- FEDERACY	36
IV. CHARACTER OF THE ENGLISH GOVERNMENT— THE CONSTITUTION—THE CABINET—THE PRIME MINISTER	62
V. CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER—FINAN- CIAL POLICY	84
VI. STATESMANSHIP—PAPER DUTY—PUR- CHASE OF COMMISSIONS IN THE ARMY	106
VII. FRANCHISE BILL—DISTRIBUTION—OTHER ELECTORAL REFORMS	116
VIII. FOREIGN AFFAIRS	133
IX. THE HOUSE OF LORDS	140
X. THE IRISH QUESTION—LAND TENURE— HOME RULE	146
XI. AUTHORSHIP—HOMERIC WRITINGS—THE VATICAN DECREES	183
XII. CHARACTER, CONDUCT, AND OPINIONS AS RELATED TO RELIGION AND THE CHURCH	191
XIII. GLADSTONE AND THE UNITED STATES	213
XIV. PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS	224