LIFE STORIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE; LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN, TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN

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Life Stories for Young People; Ludwig Van Beethoven, Translated from the German by Franz Hoffmann & George P. Upton

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FRANZ HOFFMANN & GEORGE P. UPTON

LIFE STORIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE; LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN, TRANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN



LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

LIFE STORIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Translated from the German by GBORGE P. UPTON

BEETHOVEN MOZART
MAID OF ORLEANS WILLIAM TELL

do cents each



WHEN the child saw him he shrank back afraid, and hid his face in his mother's dress

(Page 17)

LIFE STORIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

beethoven

Franslated from the German of Franz Hoffmann

BY

GEORGE P. UPTON
Translator of "Memories," etc.



CHICAGO

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1904

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Preface

THE life-story of Beethoven, contained in these pages, is a résumé of the events of his childhood and youth, those of his maturer years being merely indicated in order to give symmetry to the narrative. just that period of his life in which young readers are likely to be interested. Those who have the leisure and inclination to study the details of his entire career will find them in the biographies of Schindler, Ries, Marx, Thayer, and others, but it is questionable whether any of these will bring the reader as closely to the actual man and musician as this little story. And this is so not only because it is a story, but because it is a story true to life, with actual, not imaginary, personages, set in a social, domestic, and musical environment which is accurately reproduced, and dealing with historical events which are correctly stated. In a strict sense, therefore, it is not fiction, far less is it rhapsody; and to this extent it is valuable not alone for facts charmingly set forth, but for effects which are realistic and which seem to bring the actual Beethoven before the reader. It is the story

₹ PREFACE ₹

of a sad struggle against obstacles which sometimes appeared almost insuperable; but its lesson for youth is the reward of world-wide fame which followed the exercise of industry, courage, honesty, self-respect, and self-devotion to his calling. The translator has endeavored to reproduce the story in an English setting without sacrificing its charming German characteristics.

G. P. U.

+35

CHICAGO, September 1, 1904.