

**SPEECHES OF THE RIGHT
HON. W.E.
GLADSTONE, M.P. WITH
A SKETCH OF HIS LIFE**

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Speeches of the Right Hon. W.E. Gladstone, M.P. with a Sketch of His Life by Henry W. Lucy

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HENRY W. LUCY

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SPEECHES

OF THE RIGHT HON.

W. E. GLADSTONE, M.P.

UNIFORM WITH THIS VOLUME.



LORD SALISBURY'S SPEECHES,

THE RT. HON. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN'S
SPEECHES.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL'S
SPEECHES.

SPEECHES

OF THE RIGHT HON.

W. E. GLADSTONE, M.P.

WITH

A SKETCH OF HIS LIFE

EDITED BY

HENRY W. LUCY.

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MR. GLADSTONE.

THREE years ago Mr. Gladstone celebrated the jubilee of his labours in the public service, and but yesterday he was in Midlothian engaged with all the fervour of a young candidate in promoting his own election and the triumph of the principles of which he is the representative. Born on the 29th of December, 1809, he distinguished himself both at Eton and Oxford, taking a double first-class at the University, which he quitted in 1831. After the fashion of the day, he proceeded from College to make the grand tour, and was in Italy when the summons came, in obedience to which he placed his foot on the first rung of the ladder of his fame. It was the Duke of Newcastle, registered owner of the borough of Newark, who was immediately instrumental in bringing Mr. Gladstone into the House of Commons. He issued his Address to the Electors on the 9th of October, 1831, and it is curious to find in it a promise on the part of the young Tory candidate to do his best to secure the allotment of small holdings for the agricultural labourer. His maiden speech in the House of Commons was delivered in defence of the domestic institution of slavery, a burning question at the time he entered Parliament. Mr. Gladstone was then, as he is described in a famous sentence by Lord Macaulay, "A young man of unblemished character and of distinguished parliamentary talents, the rising hope of those stern and unbending Tories who follow reluctantly and mutinously a leader whose experience and eloquence are indispensable to them, but whose cautious temper and moderate opinions they abhor."

There was nothing either of caution or reluctance in Mr. Gladstone's attachment to Sir Robert Peel. To this day he can hardly mention the name of his early leader without signs of emotion. It was in the last days of 1834 that Sir Robert Peel, undertaking to form a Ministry in succession to that of Lord Melbourne,