

**SKETCH OF THE LIFE AND
RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE
OF ELD. LUTHER BOUTELLE**

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Sketch of the Life and Religious Experience of Eld. Luther Boutelle by Luther Boutelle

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LUTHER BOUTELLE

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Yours in the Gospel
L. Boutelle

SKETCH OF THE LIFE
AND
RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE

OF
ELD. LUTHER BOUTELLE.
WRITTEN BY HIMSELF.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY
WILLIAM H. MITCHELL.

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144 HANOVER ST., BOSTON.
1891.

PREFACE.

TO THE READERS OF THIS BOOK. The author of these pages would say, that not until recently were they contemplated, and this only by the desire of friends, who urgently requested that something of the kind be written by me.

As I had kept no journal of my life-experience, I have had to depend upon my memory in giving this narrative. I have given only a glimpse of the way along down to the present time.

The goodness of God has been manifested during all my life, and I wish it might have been more set forth in these pages. This I have attempted to show: the special care that God has for those who trust him, and do his will. Also the regard he has for the accomplishment of his word, and the keeping of his promises.

In sending forth this imperfect sketch of my lengthened life, my prayer is that it may be for the glory of God and the strengthening and comforting of all who read these pages.

L. BOUTELLE.

Chelsea, Mass.

INTRODUCTION.

Books have their influence, and therefore leave their impress on the human mind. Some have a very debasing effect; others elevate and refine. The lives of good men have a very healthy influence upon society, hence a record of the incidents and events of their lives wherein God hath wrought graciously with them is valuable to preserve. The wise man saith, "The memory of the just is blessed."

Who does not feel that he is made better by reading the lives of great and good men? When Paul wrote to the Hebrew church he related some of the wonderful events in the lives of the suffering saints of God. When the king of Israel was holding converse with the servant of the prophet Elisha, he desired him to tell him all the great things that "Elisha did." So like the king when we hear of men of eminent piety we desire to know something of their religious experience.

More than a quarter of a century has passed since I became acquainted with the author of this narra-

tive, and our frequent interviews and correspondence have been so pleasant, that I have often thought a brief narrative of his life and religious experience written by himself, together with many of his excellent articles published in years past, might make a book which would be both interesting and profitable to the religious body with which he has long been connected, as well as his numerous friends.

A few months ago I suggested to him I should be pleased to have such a book to place in my library. The thought struck him at first unfavorably at the advanced age of his life, the task seeming too much for him to undertake; but, upon more mature reflection he consented to undertake the work, and now this little volume is completed and sent forth to greet the thousands of his friends and acquaintances with whom he has mingled in years past, and to whom he has faithfully preached the unsearchable riches of Christ, and heralded the speedy advent of the Messiah.

In conclusion, I would say, I hope this little book will find a hearty welcome among the household of faith, cheering, comforting and instructing, like its author during his ministry of the word of God among his fellowmen.

W. H. MITCHELL.

Kennebunk, Maine, Nov. 5th, 1890.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Preface.....	iii
Introduction.....	iv
CHAPTER I.	
Parentage, Birth and Early Life.....	9
CHAPTER II.	
Later in Life—Choice of Occupation.....	15
CHAPTER III.	
Married and Settled in Life.....	19
CHAPTER IV.	
Conviction and Conversion.....	24
CHAPTER V.	
United with the Church.....	29
CHAPTER VI.	
A Strange Sound—New Subject.....	38
CHAPTER VII.	
Leaving Home to Give the Message.....	45
CHAPTER VIII.	
Returning Home, Incidents.....	56
CHAPTER IX.	
Great Interest in the Coming of Christ.....	62

CONTENTS.

vii

CHAPTER X.	
The Great Disappointment.....	65
CHAPTER XI.	
Resuming the Work with Good Courage.....	71
CHAPTER XII.	
Still Pressing on in the Work.....	77
CHAPTER XIII.	
Changes, with a New Time.....	83
CHAPTER XIV.	
Experience and Deep Affliction.....	88
CHAPTER XV.	
Sick, Miraculously Healed.....	92
CHAPTER XVI.	
Health Restored. A Neighbor Quieted.....	99
CHAPTER XVII.	
Healing in Answer to Prayer.....	112
CHAPTER XVIII.	
Afflicted with Loss of Hearing.....	118
CHAPTER XIX.	
Death in family. Visit to Vernon, Vt.....	123
MISCELLANEOUS.	
I. Divine Healing.....	128
II. Is Christ's Coming Near?.....	138
III. A Tremendous Lie.....	143
IV. Thy Kingdom Come.....	145
V. Spiritual Longevity.....	148
VI. Pastoral Resignations.....	150