# VIEWPOINTS IN BIOGRAPHY: AN ARRANGEMENT OF BOOKS ACCORDING TO THEIR ESSENTIAL INTEREST

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Viewpoints in Biography: An Arrangement of Books According to Their Essential Interest by Katherine Tappert

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# KATHERINE TAPPERT

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# THE VIEWPOINT SERIES JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE, Editor

# VIEWPOINTS IN BIOGRAPHY

AN · ARRANGEMENT · OF · BOOKS ACCORDING · TO · THEIR ESSENTIAL · INTEREST

BY

UNIM OF CALIFORNIA

KATHERINE TAPPERT

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PUBLISHING BOARD
1921

### THE VIEWPOINT SERIES

ESSAYS IN INTERPRETIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY,
EDITED BY JOSEPHINE ADAMS RATHBONE,
VICE-DIRECTOR, PRATT INSTITUTE
LIBRARY SCHOOL

Viewpoints in Travel, by Josephine Adams
Rathbone.

Viewpoints in Biography, by Katherine Tappert, Librarian, New York Evening Post.

IN PREPARATION

Viewpoints in Essays, by Marion Horton, Principal of the Los Angeles Library School.

### PREFACE

Like the preceding list, Viewpoints in Travel, this also aims to present a selection of books from a standpoint not usually considered. Biographies are generally thought of in connection with the person written about and not on account of the idea that dominated the individual's life nor because the personality brought out some very valuable contribution to life. Here, the plan has been to arrange biographies according to the subject or the idea that makes them stimulating or interesting without attempting to include the lives of all prominent or important people.

There is probably no class of literature so large, that contains so few really fine examples of the form, as biography. This list, therefore, is not exhaustive. The most readable and lovable biographies and autobiographies have been chosen and they have been, in the main, annotated by those people who have had great appreciation for them. Mrs. Burr and Mr. Dunn have been most cordial in permitting me to quote from their books, "The Autobiography" and "English Biography," respectively. These have been valuable and delightful sources.

Many others have assisted by giving opinion and advice and to them I am deeply indebted.

No rare books have been included. Of necessity, some books that are out of print but accessible in libraries and book shops have been listed. The book market is as unsettled now as most things in the world and although the list was revised by Mr. Melcher of Publisher's Weekly, there are probably many books which will be out of print by the time this book appears. Because of frequent changes the prices of books have been omitted.

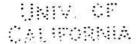
New York 7 October 1920 K. T.

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## VIEWPOINTS IN BIOGRAPHY

I am not made like anyone des l'have eser known; yet if I am not better, at least I am different.—Jean Jacques Rousseau.

### THE ADAMS FAMILY

Few American families have made so much impression on the world as the Adamses. As a study in heredity these biographies and autobiographies would interest one who cared nothing for the accomplishments or the personalities of the individuals.

Adams, John, 1735-1826. Morse, J. T., Jr. John Adams (American Statesmen). Houghton, 1900.

Adams, John and Abigail (Smith). Familiar letters of John Adams and his wife Abigail Adams during the Revolution, with a memoir of Mrs. Adams. Houghton, 1904.

This is a new edition, the letters having been published originally in 1876.

Adams, John Quincy, 1767-1848. Morse, J. T., Jr. Life of John Quincy Adams. Houghton, 1899.

Morse has covered the Adams period in an impartial way. His biographies are most satisfactory and need only the occasional more intimate light of Brooks Adams's "Hermitage of Henry Adams," to give a complete picture of the two generations of the family.

Adams, Charles Francis, 1807-1886. Adams, Charles Francis, II. Charles Francis Adams (American Statesmen). Houghton, 1900.

Charles Francis Adams was the son of John Quincy Adams. He rendered invaluable service to the Government as Minister to England during the war between the states.

Adams, Charles Francis, II, 1835-1918. An autobiography. Houghton, 1916.

In the first place, a really strong personality values all things by its own scale. . . In the second place a strong personality impresses its own peculiar quality, its tastes, preferences, instinctive views with a force that somehow sets free new energy in those who come in contact with it. This is eminently true of Charles Francis Adams's personality as expressed in his autobiography.—North American Review.