

**HORACE MANN.
THE EDUCATOR**

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Horace Mann. The Educator by Albert E. Winship

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ALBERT E. WINSHIP

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HORACE MANN,

1897
THE EDUCATOR.

By ALBERT E. WINSHIP.



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To Henry Barnard,
THE
MOST DISTINGUISHED EDUCATIONAL CONTEMPORARY
OF
HORACE MANN,
AND THE
MOST EMINENT LIVING EDUCATOR, THIS TRIBUTE TO
MR. MANN IS AFFECTIONATELY
DEDICATED BY THE
AUTHOR.

PREFACE.

Great men are rare. Mute, inglorious Miltons may be numerous, but greatness, as the world views it, must be judged from the way in which emergencies are met. Horace Mann was a great educator because he met a great educational emergency.

With some characters greatness is linked to a single event. Columbus discovered America, Wellington defeated Napoleon at Waterloo, Perry wrote, "We met the enemy and they are ours." With others it is an inherited reputation of which few have any definite estimate as to the merit of the popular verdict. Walpole and Pitt in England, John Hancock and Charles Sumner in America are securely anchored in the public mind though few can give a reason for the admiration that is in them. Horace Mann's reputation is largely of the latter class. His name is a household word among teachers and yet few can tell aught of the man or of his work.

The one hundredth anniversary of his birth (May 4, 1896) should make this entire year a memorial season so far as to give every teacher and every school acquaintance with the essential features of his character and with the leading characteristics of his work.

There is one great monument to this leader in the "Life and Works of Horace Mann," in five volumes edited by his widow and published by Lee & Shepard, Boston. Without these volumes comparatively little could now be written of his life. His correspondence was voluminous and confidential, giving details regarding his contests and he was one of the few men fortunate enough to keep a good diary. The correspondence and the diary were both available when Mrs. Mann wrote this "Life," and for the service here rendered the educational public owes her a debt of gratitude. These volumes also contain his reports and addresses. Unfortunately many who would gladly know of Horace Mann cannot afford to buy the five volumes, and many will re-

gret that they do not contain the great controversy with the "Thirty-one Boston Masters." An inexpensive book upon "Horace Mann, the Educator" should certainly be available.

The author would acknowledge his indebtedness to the "Life and Works" by Mrs. Mann. No apology is made for the absence of reference footnotes—since no claim is entered to skill in "the laboratory method in history," nor for the absence of a literary or historical style which requires the pruning and polishing of sentences; nor for the unusual freedom in the expression of opinion. The facts are closely verified, the winnowing has been done with some care, whatever bears no relation to his educational service being eliminated. Beyond that the thought has been to give the author's view of the man, his work and his times in a condensed and readable form, with convictions rather than pretensions.