MARCELLUS HARTLEY, A BRIEF MEMOIR

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Marcellus Hartley, a Brief Memoir by Julia Ward Howe

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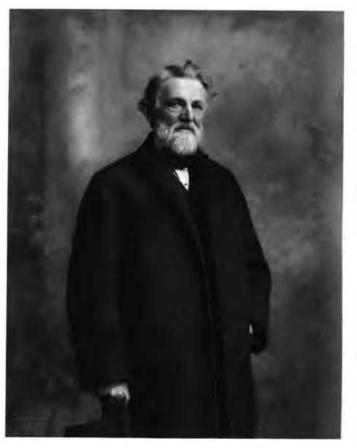
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JULIA WARD HOWE

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PREFACE

SEVERAL friends of the late Marcellus Hartley, who for the past five and twenty years have been in close business and personal relations with him, believing that a life so useful and patriotic as his should not be allowed to lapse into obscurity, have desired that some memorial of him should be published.

The difficulty of giving interest and color to such a sketch is evident. The life of Mr. Hartley was mainly passed in mercantile pursuits; aside from his files of business letters, he kept no journal and preserved no account of one of the most interesting periods of his career—that which he spent in procuring arms and equipment for the troops called into service during the opening months of the Civil War. Then, too, few men were more reticent; rarely could he be induced to talk on this matter, or, indeed, on any other of a business nature. He seemed to think that the silence imposed upon him when acting in the service of the government was still to be observed long after the occasion had passed. It was only after the day's work, at his country

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home with a friend on an autumn evening before a blazing fire, or when away on a vacation with mind in repose, that he would tell of his recollections and in his quiet, easy manner charm his listener for hours with anecdotes and incidents of his eventful life. Enough however, has, it is believed, been gathered together not only to indicate the road along which his success was achieved, but also to give a partial picture of a man of many deeds of charity, most of which will never be known to others than the recipients of his benevolence. Keeping in mind the quiet demeanor of Mr. Hartley, and feeling that anything concerning him beyond a simple narrative of such incidents of his life as might best serve as a stimulus to others and as a source of interest to his personal friends, would be distasteful to him, the writer of this sketch of his life and work has endeavored to tell the story as simply as possible, in the hope that thereby the narrative may be found not only more characteristic of the man, but all the more fitting a tribute to his memory.

The portraits in this volume represent Mr. Hartley at different periods. The frontispiece is from a photograph taken about 1896, usually regarded as his best picture. That opposite page 10, from an old daguerreotype, represents Mr. Hartley as he appeared when a clerk at the age of twenty-one. That at page 56 shows him at about forty-five years. Facing pages 58 and 64, are pictures of his home on Orange Mountain and

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