

**REMINISCENCES OF
CHICAGO DURING
THE CIVIL WAR**

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Reminiscences of Chicago during the civil war by Mabel McIlvaine

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MABEL MCILVAINE

**REMINISCENCES OF
CHICAGO DURING
THE CIVIL WAR**

The Lakeside Classics

Reminiscences
of Chicago During the
Civil War

WITH AN INTRODUCTION

BY

MABEL McILVAINE



The Lakeside Press, Chicago

R. R. DONNELLEY & SONS COMPANY

CHRISTMAS, MCMXIV

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Publishers' Preface

THIS year's volume of The Lakeside Classics continues the printing of material bearing upon Chicago's history. It has not been the purpose to publish in serial form a complete history of Chicago, but rather to give to the reader brief, intimate glimpses of life in Chicago during its various stages of development, leaving the consecutive and complete relation to the serious historian. This year the subject matter has been drawn from the days immediately preceding, and during the early part of the Civil War. To-day the minds of all of us are filled with the terrible cataclysm of the European War; the years of plotting and counterplotting of diplomats, so that none of us can say with authority what are its real causes, except that they are sordid; and the cruel preparedness that resulted in a great battle within a week of the declaration of war. The following pages will bring to our minds, by contrast, how clearly the Civil War was the spontaneous uprising of a people to a great moral issue, and why, through the absolute lack of a military spirit or preparedness it took four years to weld clerks and workingmen and farmers and school boys into a victorious army. Nor do many of us of the present gen-

Publishers' Preface

eration realize how large a party of outspoken opposition the President had to fight throughout the North. The fact that in spite of it the war was carried through to a conclusion, which all now admit was to the advancement of human rights, ought to be a lesson (if anyone will ever learn wisdom from others' experience) that free speech even in times of national peril never crushes, but often advances and makes more readily accepted the truth.

The publishers are under great obligation to Mr. Ogden T. McClurg for allowing them to print that portion of the unpublished memoirs of his father, General Alexander C. McClurg, of the Civil War, which bears upon the recruiting of his company in Chicago.

The balance of the articles have all appeared in print before, either in books, pamphlets, or newspapers, but have been collected and sifted out by the intelligent and diligent efforts of the editor, Miss Mabel McIlvaine.

It hardly seems necessary to mention once more that, as in past years, the book is the product of the boys in the School for Apprentices of The Lakeside Press, which is now in its seventh year. The little volume goes forth as a messenger of Christmas good wishes to the friends and patrons of

THE PUBLISHERS.

CHRISTMAS, 1914.

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Introduction

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