

**LIFE OF W. M.
THACKERAY. BY
HERMAN MERIVALE
AND FRANK T. MARZIALS**

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Life of W. M. Thackeray. By Herman Merivale and Frank T. Marzials by Herman Charles Merivale & Frank T. Marzials

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HERMAN CHARLES MERIVALE & FRANK T. MARZIALS

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PREFATORY NOTE.



THIS little book was begun by Mr. Merivale, who, however, found himself unable to finish more than the first six chapters, and the supplementary chapter, on Thackeray's friendships, which he had intended to incorporate into his narrative. The task of completing the volume then devolved on me. As Mr. Merivale was not primarily responsible for the choice of his successor, and has had no opportunity of seeing what I have written, it will be understood how anxious I am that none of my errors of omission or commission should, however lightly, be laid to his charge.

Through the kindness of Thackeray's family, and especially of his daughter, Mrs. Ritchie, certain "Memorials of the Thackeray family," collected by his relations, Mrs. Bayne and Mrs. Pryme, were placed unreservedly in Mr. Merivale's hands, and, more reservedly, in mine. These Memorials, in so far as they referred to Thackeray, had reference especially to his youth, and use of them has been made in the earlier of the

following chapters, which contain information and passages of correspondence not hitherto published. My own task has been to take up the narrative where Mr. Merivale had left it, and, with such materials as I could collect, to carry it to a conclusion.

I am sure I am doing right in expressing Mr. Merivale's thanks, as well as my own, to Mrs. Ritchie. Mr. Merivale would also, I think, have wished to express his obligation to Sir Theodore Martin and to Mr. Syngé for some valuable notes and memoranda. Personally my thanks are due to Mr. Garnett for several suggestions, and for kind revision of proofs; and also to Messrs. Smith and Elder for permission to quote from Thackeray's works, and from the "Collection of Letters," published in 1887. I have, moreover, received help from the Bibliography appended to the volume entitled "Sultan Stork," and published by Redway in the same year. My other debts will be found acknowledged, either in the text, or in the foot-notes.

FRANK T. MARZIALS.

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