

**MEMORIES OF THE
MEN WHO SAVED
THE UNION**

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Memories of the Men Who Saved the Union by Donn Piatt

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DONN PIATT

**MEMORIES OF THE
MEN WHO SAVED
THE UNION**



MADE IN GREAT BRITAIN BY
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Geo H Thomas

~~HUBER~~
~~PLATT~~

MEMORIES
OF THE
MEN WHO SAVED THE UNION

BY
DONN PLATT



NEW YORK AND CHICAGO
BELFORD, CLARKE & COMPANY

1887

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17/5/11

SEEN BY
PRESERVATION
SERVICES

APR 1 1891

TO MY BROTHER,

General A. Sanders Piatt,

WHOSE DISTINGUISHED SERVICES IN THE LATE WAR,
SCHOLARLY ATTAINMENTS, AND HIGH CHARACTER, HAVE
ADDED LUSTRE TO THE NAME WE BEAR,

THIS BOOK

IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED.

"The world knows nothing of its greatest men "

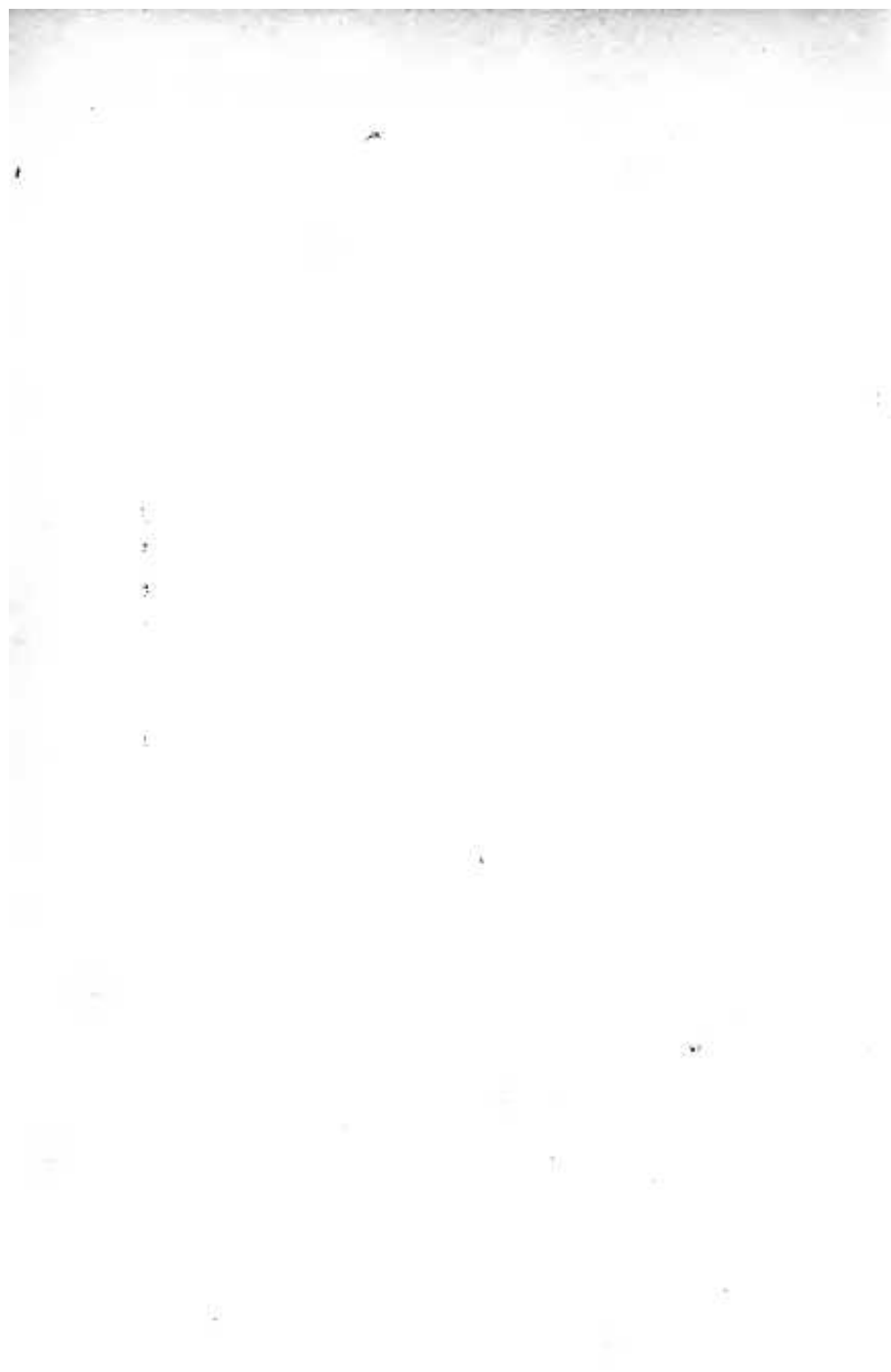
—PHILIP VAN ARTEVELDE.

"The real heroes of this war are the 'great, brave, patient, nameless PEOPLE.' It is to their service through these varied scenes that we now gladly turn. The victory was not won through Generalship—it is a libel on the word to say that Generalship delayed for four years the success of twenty-five millions over ten millions, or required a million men in the closing campaigns to defeat a hundred thousand. It was won by the sacrifices, the heroism, the sufferings, the death of the men in the ranks. Their story we now seek to tell."—"*Ohio in the War*," by WHITELAW REID.

"West Point turns out shoulder-strapped office-holders. It cannot produce Soldiers ; for these are, as I claim, born, and not made. And it is susceptible of demonstration that the almost ruinous delay in suppressing the rebellion and restoring the Union ; the deadly failure of campaigns year after year ; the awful waste of the best soldiers the world has seen ; and the piling up of the public debt into the billions, was wholly due to West Point influence and West Point commanders. They were commanders, but they were not soldiers."—"*Recollections of a Private Soldier*," by FRANK WILKINSON.

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PREFACE.

PURE hero worship is healthy. It stimulates the young to deeds of heroism, stirs the old to unselfish efforts, and gives the masses models of manhood that tend to lift humanity above the common-place meanness of ordinary life. The better instincts of the human race have, through all the ages, recognized and elevated its heroes into something like objects of religious worship. To such, songs of praise have been sung, eulogies made eloquent, histories written, and great monuments erected. When gods were created by men, their deities began as heroes, and it was what they did on earth that gave them existence and sovereignty in heaven.

To have such hero-worship healthy it must be true. The false heroes, like false gods, degrade their worshippers; for let the fraud be ever so well constructed, there is a general instinctive consciousness that the thing is false. Temples of imposing magnitude may be erected, ceremonies devised, and a priesthood organized, and yet through all, the common mind retains the subtle, almost unrecognized thought of falsity in the god. Fraud degrades, and