

**THE TORCH: EIGHT LECTURES ON  
RACE POWER IN LITERATURE  
DELIVERED BEFORE THE LOWELL  
INSTITUTE OF BOSTON MCMIII**

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The Torch: Eight Lectures on Race Power in Literature Delivered before the Lowell Institute of Boston MCMIII by George Edward Woodberry

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**GEORGE EDWARD WOODBERRY**

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# The Torch

EIGHT LECTURES ON RACE POWER  
IN LITERATURE DELIVERED BEFORE  
THE LOWELL INSTITUTE OF  
BOSTON MCMIII



GEORGE EDWARD WOODBERRY

ADDESCUNT ALIAS QUESIT, ALIAS MISCENTOR,  
ENQUE BREVI SPATIO MUTANTUR SACOLA ANIMANTUM  
ET QUAM CURSORES VITAE LAMPADA TRADUNT

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### MAN AND THE RACE

It belongs to a highly developed race to become, in a true sense, aristocratic — a treasury of its best in practical and spiritual types, and then to disappear in the surrounding tides of men. So Athens dissolved like a pearl in the cup of the Mediterranean, and Rome in the cup of Europe, and Judæa in the cup of the Universal Communion. Though death is the law of all life, man touches this earthen fact with the wand of the spirit, and transforms it into the law of sacrifice. Man has won no victory over his environment so sublime as this, finding in his mortal sentence the true choice of the soul and in the road out of Paradise the open highway of eternal life. Races die; but the ideal of sacrifice as the highest race-destiny has seldom occurred to men, though it has been suggested both by devout Jews and by devout Irishmen as the divinely appointed organic law of the Hebrew and the Celt. In the general view of men the extinction

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