CATHERINE SCHUYLER

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Catherine Schuyler by Mary Gay Humphreys

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CATHERINE SCHUYLER





WOMEN OF COLONIAL AND REVOLUTIONARY TIMES™

CATHERINE SCHUYLER BY MARY GAY HUMPHREYS



WITH PORTRAIT



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PREFACE

The period embraced within the years of Catherine Schuyler's life is the most exciting in American history. In its military aspect it comprehends the French and Indian War and the Revolution. In its political aspect it includes the life of the Colony and the beginnings of the Nation.

Through the position of her own family and as the wife of General Philip Schuyler, she is a representative figure among the women of the Dutch Colony and the matrons of the Revolution. At the same time, in her own character she was so domestic, retiring, and unobtrusive that many of the details of her life can only be discovered indirectly and with difficulty. The impression which a study extending over a considerable period of all the authorities has left will be discovered in this volume.

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The authorities mainly responsible are the records of the Van Rensselaer family; Lossing's Biography of General Philip Schuyler and Field Book of the Revolution; Schuyler's Colonial New York; Munsell's Annals of Albany; the Correspondence of John Jay; the Letters of Abigail Adams; the Diary of Tench Tilghman; the Rutherford Papers; The Story of an Old Farm; Mrs. Lamb's History of the City of New York; the Life of Sir William Johnson, by William L. Stone; The Republican Court; Marshall's Washington; the Travels of de Chasteleux, Brissot de Warville, and de Rochefoucauld-Liancourt; The Sexagenary; Thacher's Military Journal; Autobiography of John Trumbull; the Correspondence of Baron Steuben, General Gates, and General Charles Lee, in the Historical Society Library of New York City; the newspapers of that period, and more particularly The Memoirs of an American Lady, by Mrs. Grant of Laggan.

The thanks of the author are due to the generous co-operation of Miss Fanny Schuyler, through the papers of her brother, John Schuyler, of the elder branch; to Miss Georgina Schuyler,

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Mrs. Howard Townsend, Miss Cornelia Cruger, Mrs. Sydney Morse, General John Cochran; and to Mr. Philip Schuyler for the opportunity of examining the Correspondence of General Philip Schuyler.

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