

**LIFE AND TIMES OF WILLIAM
SAMUEL JOHNSON, LL.D., FIRST
SENATOR IN CONGRESS FROM
CONNECTICUT, AND PRESIDENT OF
COLUMBIA COLLEGE, NEW YORK**

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Life and times of William Samuel Johnson, LL.D., first senator in Congress from Connecticut, and president of Columbia college, New York by E. Edwards Beardsley

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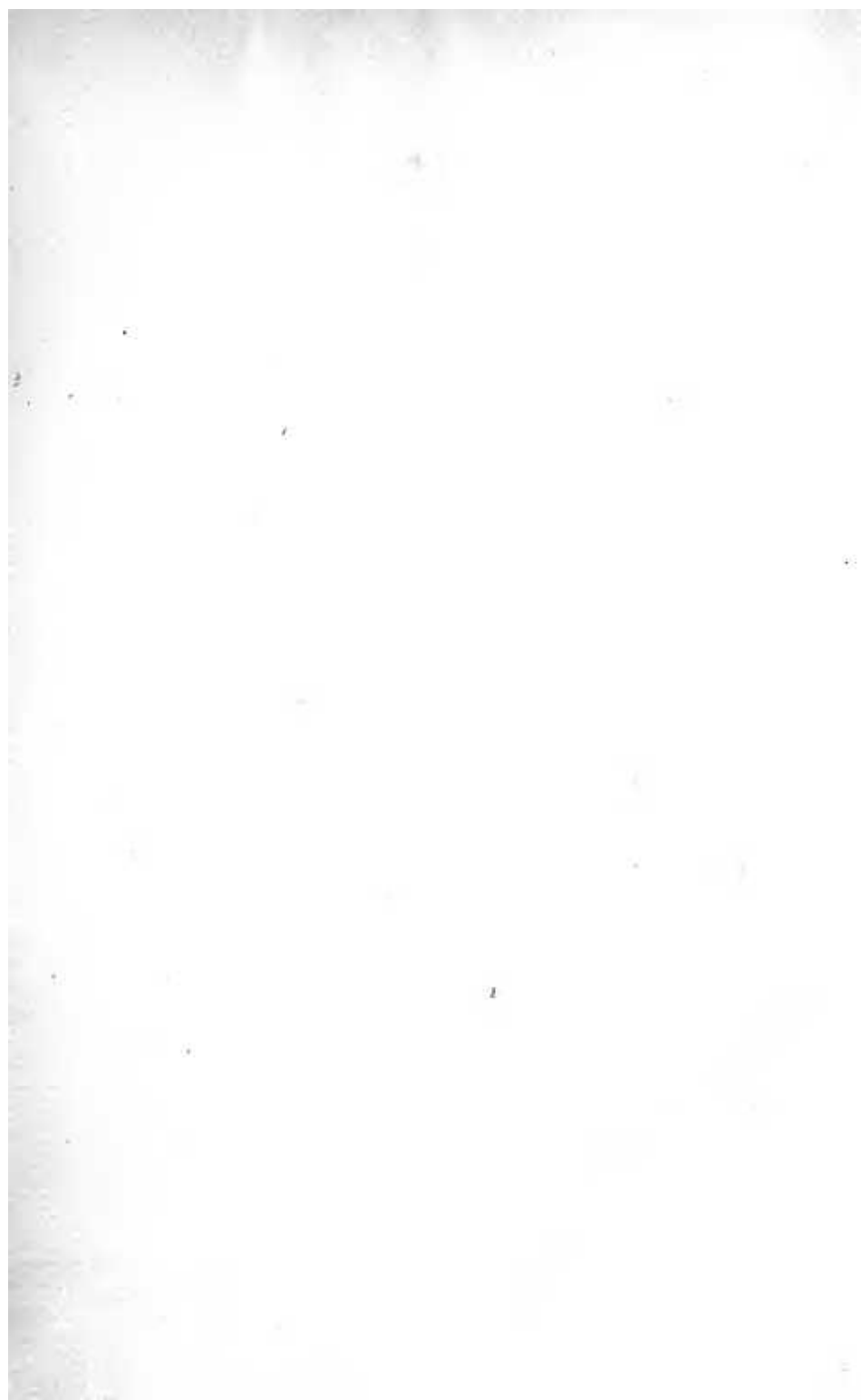
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E. EDWARDS BEARDSLEY

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BY

E. EDWARDS BEARDSLEY, D. D., LL. D.,

RECTOR OF ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH, NEW HAVEN.

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P R E F A C E.

No one will think that I have stepped beyond my province to write this volume. The life of a Christian layman is not an unsuitable theme for the pen of a clergyman; and the delineation of individual character, when it is made subservient to the cause of morals and religion, is an employment, the importance of which cannot fail to be generally recognized. Undoubtedly it would be better for the youth of our land, if in the multiplicity of books more fondness were shown for those which inculcate the great lessons of practical duty, and less fondness for works that furnish ideals of goodness and excite the imagination without teaching the due restraint of the appetites and passions. Biography, rightly prepared, is a species of literature which will impart both pleasure and instruction.

It has been said by a great English author that "they only who live with a man can write his life with any genuine exactness and discrimination." If this were true, biographies for the most part would