

**THE LAWYER, THE
STATESMAN
AND THE SOLDIER**

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The Lawyer, the Statesman and the Soldier by George S. Boutwell

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311

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We value a man by the measure of his
strength at the place where he is strongest.

NEW YORK
D. APPLETON AND COMPANY

1887

2.35
1878

CHEMISTRY, 1887,
BY GEORGE S. BOUTWELL.

INTRODUCTION.

THE preparation of these sketches is due to the circumstance that it is my fortune to have had the acquaintance of the persons to whom the sketches relate. These pages may show the marks of friendship rather than the skill of the biographer or the research of the historian. I have written in obedience to the rule or maxim that we value a man by the measure of his strength at the place where he is strongest. Human errors and weaknesses, from which none of us are exempt, can not be set off properly against great thoughts expressed or great acts performed. Errors and weaknesses mar the man, but they can not qualify the greatness achieved.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
RUFUS CHOATE, THE LAWYER	I
DANIEL WEBSTER, THE STATESMAN	44
PRESIDENT LINCOLN, THE STATESMAN AND LIBERATOR .	90
GENERAL GRANT, THE SOLDIER AND STATESMAN .	150

THE LAWYER, THE STATESMAN, AND THE SOLDIER.

RUFUS CHOATE.

IF in imagination we can command the presence of a man only less than six feet in height, with a full, deep breast, high and unseemly shoulders, hips and legs slender and in appearance weak, arms long, hands and feet large and ill-formed, a head broad, chaste, symmetrical, covered with a luxuriant suit of black, glossy, wavy hair, a face intellectually handsome and equally attractive to men and to women, a complexion dark and bronzed as becomes the natives of the tropical isles of the East, a beard scanty and vagrant, mouth and nose large, lips thin and long, an eye black, gentle and winning in repose, but brilliant, commanding, and persuasive in moments of excitement—we shall have thus and now created an imperfect picture of Rufus Choate as he presented himself to his contemporaries when his physical qualities had not been wasted by disease nor impaired by age.

And if from this sketch we are in doubt whether