

**CLEMENCEAU**

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Clemenceau by Camille Ducray

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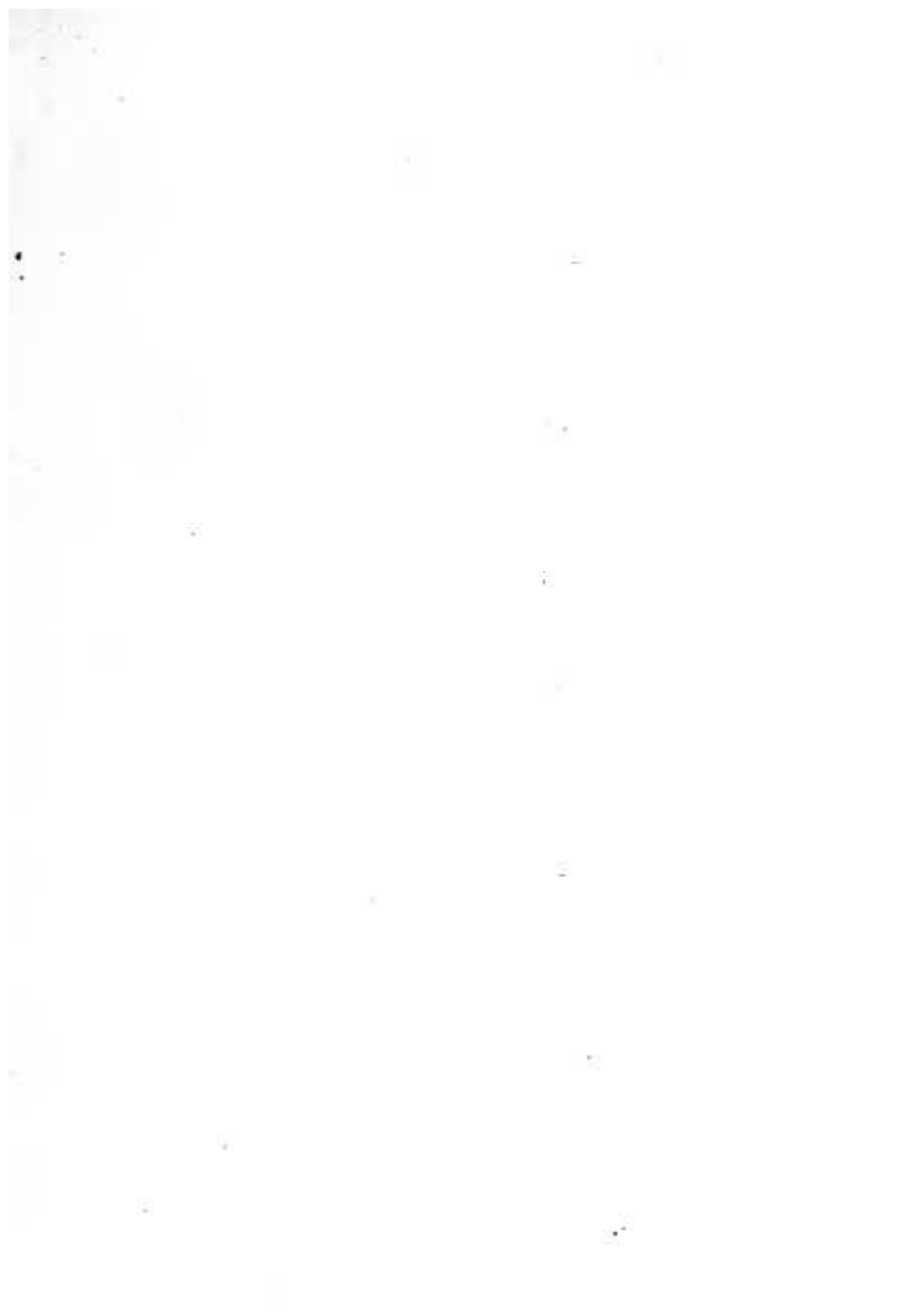
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**CAMILLE DUCRAY**

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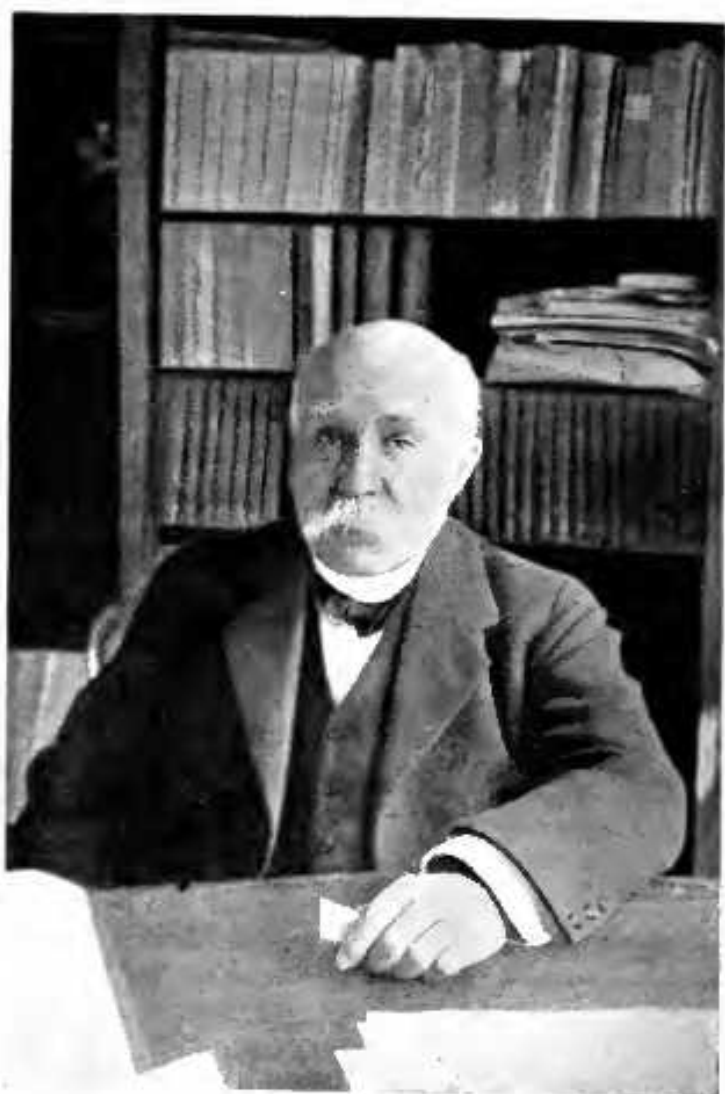


Photo Manuel

M. CLEMENCEAU IN HIS STUDY

*Frontispiece*

# CLEMENCEAU

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TRANSLATED BY  
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## PREFACE

THERE are few lives that have been so full of incident as that of Georges Clemenceau. There are few men that have had so many, such diverse, and such opposing careers.

Clemenceau made his mark first under the Empire, and remained the outstanding figure during the Commune, the Republic, and in the War.

Under each *régime* and in every task he undertook he was in the forefront of all the greatest happenings of the day and was always the principal actor. He has been an inveterate fighter all his life ; he takes a bitter pleasure in the struggle for the survival of the fittest, for he has a tremendous feeling that it is his destiny to fight and that he has the power to fulfil his destiny.

One must exist, and Clemenceau was determined to exist.

In turn student, teacher, mayor, doctor, municipal councillor, deputy, journalist, man of letters, senator, dramatic author, and minister, he plied his varied trades, carried on his professions and filled his numerous public offices, first setting aside politics for a liberal career and finally giving up that to take the reins of government in his hands.

He is a Frenchman through and through. His life has been a unity of splendid, irreducible, almost savage patriotism. His first public utterance, in the Bordeaux Assembly, of which he is the last survivor, was a youthful and passionate protest against the mutilation of Alsace and Lorraine. Almost his last public utterance—so far—is a hymn of fervour over the restored provinces.

All his life, by his spoken word, by his pen, by his *action*, he has in his own way, as a citizen, preached for the glory of the country he desired to see strong