

INCIDENTS IN MY LIFE.

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BY

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WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY JUDGE EDMONDS.

FIFTH EDITION.



op. 31-82

NEW YORK:

A. J. DAVIS & CO., 274 CANAL STREET.

1864.

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1863,  
BY GEO. W. CARLETON,  
In the Clerk's Office of the District Court for the Southern District of New  
York.

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## I N T R O D U C T I O N

T O T H E A M E R I C A N E D I T I O N .



It is now about fifteen years since there occurred at Rochester, in the State of New York, some incidents of so unusual a character as to excite a very lively attention.

These incidents were, the locomotion of ponderable objects without any perceptible mortal agency, and the creation of sounds without any discoverable human origin ; and through their instrumentality, such an intelligence displayed as enabled conversation to be carried on with the unseen power that was acting thus strangely in their midst.

Through the conversation thus opened, it was professed that these things were done by the spirits of those who had once lived on the earth, and that the object was to open a communication between the living and the dead.

Such a claim was received by an almost universal disbelief—by vehement condemnation of the impiety, or unsparing ridicule of the credulity which could receive or avow it.

Still the thing went on, and impelled by curiosity or the love of the marvelous, people began to investigate—and as investigation progressed, the belief in the spiritual origin of the phenomena spread, until in a short time, people of all classes and positions in society, and of all conditions of in-