

PERSONAL REMINISCENCES

INCLUDING LINCOLN AND OTHERS

1840-1890

BY

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ADMINISTRATION."

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To
EDWARD J. PHELPS,
 LAWYER, STATESMAN, AND FELLOW-VERMONTER,
 AS A
 MEMORIAL OF A FRIENDSHIP
 WHICH BEGAN WHEN WE CAME TO THE BAR,
 WHICH HAS SURVIVED A BUSINESS COPARTNERSHIP
 AND MANY "TRIALS,"
 WHICH GROWS CLOSER WITH THE PASSING YEARS, AND
 PROMISES TO BE INHERITED BY OUR CHILDREN,

I Dedicate this Volume.

THE AUTHOR.

PREFACE.

IF the opinion of a large body of correspondents is reliable, the reading-public have derived some pleasure from my "Recollections of President Lincoln and his Administration." The chief attraction of that book must lie in its great central figure. If, as these correspondents claim, it has other merits, I think they are comprised in the fact that the subjects are personal, and each is treated separately in a chapter of no great length. It was also my purpose to describe persons and events without exaggeration or prejudice, just as they appeared to me at the time.

The present volume is written in the same spirit and on the same plan. While it lacks the great central attraction of the "Recollections," I sincerely hope that each subject will be found to possess an interest or to point a moral which will justify its publication.

I have an impression that truth is just as attractive in a book as it is in the ordinary transactions of life. If there is any false statement of fact herein, it has escaped my notice and has been unintentionally made. No chronological or other order of subjects has been attempted. Observations upon birds follow