

Marx Hardy Machiavelli Joyce Austen
Defoe Abbot Melville Montaigne Cooper Emerson Hugo
Stoker Wilde Christie Maupassant Haggard Chesterton Molière Eliot Grimm
Garnett Engels Byron Schiller
Goethe Hawthorne Smith Kafka
Cotton Dostoyevsky Hall
Baum Henry Kipling Doyle Willis
Leslie Dumas Flaubert Nietzsche Turgenev Balzac
Stockton Vatsyayana Crane
Burroughs Verne
Curtis Tocqueville Gogol Busch
Homer Tolstoy Whitman Twain
Darwin Zola Lawrence Dickens Plato Scott
Potter Freud Jowett Stevenson Andersen Burton Harte
Kant London Descartes Cervantes Hesse
Poe Aristotle Wells Voltaire Cooke
Hale James Hastings Shakespeare Irving
Bunner Richter Chekhov Chambers Alcott
Doré Dante Shaw Wodehouse
Swift Pushkin Newton



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**Life and Public Services of John
Quincy Adams Sixth President of
the United States**

William Henry Seward

Imprint

This book is part of TREDITION CLASSICS

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[Transcriber's Notes:] This text is an accurate reproduction of the original book with the following exceptions. Obvious misspellings and typos have been corrected but contemporary usage is unchanged, e.g. "centre". Sentences spanning pages have been joined to facilitate searches and analysis.

I encourage you to forgive the verbose style that suggests authors were paid by the word. The gems of character description and contemporary viewpoints are worth the effort.

The book supports the observation "The news never changes, just the names." I am encouraged that the tone of politics is not much different today than it was at Adams' time. Things are no worse. In spite of continual bickering, a few persons with good will, careful planning, hard work and a thick skin can achieve wonderful results.

The following glossary contains unfamiliar (to me) terms.

abjuration

Renounce under oath; forswear. Recant solemnly; repudiate. Give up.

Abstain from.

abstemious

Eating and drinking in moderation. Sparingly used. Restricted to bare necessities.

Aceldama

A place with dreadful associations.

animadversion

Strong criticism.

approve

Sanction officially; authorize.

arbitration

Arbitrating; arbitration. Judgment of an arbitrator or arbiter.

assiduity

Persistent application or diligence; unflagging effort. Constant personal attention.

(a)thymy

(Not) abounding with thyme; fragrant.

barouche

Four-wheeled carriage with a collapsible top, two double seats inside opposite each other, and a box seat outside in front for the driver.

barque

Sailing ship with three to five square-rigged masts, except the after mast, which is fore-and-aft rigged. Small vessel propelled by oars or sails.

benison

Blessing; a benediction.

cesural

Pause in a line of verse dictated by sense or natural speech rhythm rather than by metrics. Pause in conversation.

chaplet

Wreath or garland for the head.

Circean (Circe)

A Greek goddess who turned Odysseus's men temporarily into swine but later gave him directions for their journey home.

coeval

Originating or existing during the same period; lasting through the same era. One of the same era or period; a contemporary.

condign

Deserved; adequate.

contemned

Viewed with contempt; despised.

contumelies

Rudeness or contempt arising from arrogance. Insolent or arrogant remarks or acts.

cortege

Train of attendants of a distinguished person; a retinue. Ceremonial procession. Funeral procession.

demurrage

Detention of a cargo conveyance during loading or unloading beyond the scheduled time of departure. Compensation paid for such detention.

deputed

Appoint or authorize as a representative. Assign (authority or duties)

to another; delegate.

descant

Ornamental melody or counterpoint sung or played above a theme. Highest part sung in part music. Discussion or discourse on a theme.

descried

Catch sight of (something difficult to discern). Discover by careful observation or scrutiny; detect:

didactic

Intended to instruct. Morally instructive.

dilatory

Intended to delay. Tending to postpone or delay.

discomfited

Make uneasy or perplexed; disconcert. Thwart plans; frustrate.

disquisitions

Formal discourse, often in writing.

doit

Dutch coin, worth about half a farthing. A thing of small value.

effulgence

Brilliant radiance.

elegiac

Mourning for that which is irrecoverably past.

emoluments

Payment for an office or employment; compensation.

encomiums

Warm, glowing praise. Formal expression of praise; a tribute.

enervate

Weaken or destroy strength or vitality.

ephemeral

Lasting for a brief time. Living or lasting only for a day, as some plants or insects.

Episcopal

Church governed by a bishop.

epithet

Term to characterize a person or thing or as a descriptive substitute

for the name or title of a person. Abusive or contemptuous word or phrase.

erudition

Deep, extensive learning.

escutcheon

Shield-shaped emblem bearing a coat of arms. Plate inscribed with a ship's name.

eternize

Make eternal. Protract for an indefinite period. Make perpetually famous; immortalize.

eulogium

Formal eulogy.

evanescent

Vanishing or likely to vanish like vapor.

execration

The act of cursing. A curse. Something cursed or loathed.

exigency

Requiring much effort or immediate action. Pressing or urgent situation.

extirpate

Pull up by the roots. Destroy totally; exterminate. Remove by surgery.

fain

Happily; gladly.

garniture

Garnish; embellishment.

gratulation

To congratulate.

green withes

Cords or bowstrings used to bind Samson; Judges 16:8.

habiliments

Special dress or garb associated with an occasion or office.

hecatomb

Large-scale sacrifice; sacrifice to the ancient Greek and Roman

gods of
100 oxen.

importunity
Importunate request; an insistent or pressing demand.

indefeasible
Cannot be annulled or made void.

ineffably
Incapable of being expressed; indescribable, unutterable, unspeakable,
taboo.

ingenuously
Lacking in cunning, guile, or worldliness; artless. Openly straightforward or frank; candid.

importunate
Troublesomely urgent or persistent in requesting.

intendant
Administrative official serving a French, Spanish, or Portuguese monarch.

Jacobin
Radical or extreme leftist. Radical republican during the French Revolution.

meed
Fitting recompense. Merited gift or wage.

mensuration

Process of measuring. Measurement of geometric quantities.

mole

Massive stone wall constructed in the sea as a breakwater to protect an anchorage or a harbor. Anchorage or harbor enclosed by a mole.

munificence

Liberal in giving; generous. Showing great generosity.

Nestor

Hero celebrated as an elderly and wise counselor to the Greeks at Troy

obsequies

Funeral rites or ceremonies.

octavo

Page size, from 5 by 8 inches to 6 by 9-1/2 inches, of a book composed of printer's sheets folded into eight leaves. A book composed of octavo pages.

odium

Strong dislike, contempt, or aversion. State of disgrace resulting from hateful or detestable conduct.

panegyric

Formal public compliment. Elaborate praise.

parsimony

Unusual or excessive frugality; extreme economy or stinginess.

patronymic

Derived from the name of one's father or a paternal ancestor.

pertinacity

Persistent determination.

Plenipotentiary

Diplomatic agent, such as an ambassador, fully authorized to represent his government.

Presbyterian

Church governed by elected elders.

probity

Complete and confirmed integrity; uprightness.

proconsular

Provincial governor of consular rank in the Roman Empire.

pusillanimity

Cowardice.

recusant

One of the Roman Catholics in England who incurred legal and social penalties in the 16th century and afterward for refusing to attend services of the Church of England. Dissenter; a nonconformist.

Sabine (River)

River flowing into the Gulf of Mexico just East of Houston, Texas.

sagacity

Discerning, sound in judgment, farsighted; wisdom.

Silesia

Region of central Europe in southwest Poland and northern Czech Republic.

sinecure

Position or office that requires little work but provides a salary.

spoliations

Despoiling or plundering. Seizure of neutral vessels at sea by a belligerent power in time of war.

stivers

Nickel coin used in the Netherlands and worth 1/20 of a guilder (about 0.4 Euros in 2006). Something of small value.

TETE D'ARMEE

Head of the Army.

thrall (thraldom)

Held in bondage; servitude; intellectually or morally enslaved.

tittle

Small diacritic mark, such as an accent, vowel mark, or dot over an i.

Tiniest bit; an iota.

umbrage

Offense; resentment. Something that affords shade or shade itself.
Vague indication; hint.

unction

Anointing as part of a religious, ceremonial, or healing ritual.

Ointment or oil. Something that serves to soothe; a balm. Affected
or

exaggerated earnestness, especially in choice and use of language.

Unitarian

Believes in the oneness of God as opposed to the Trinity. Historic
Unitarians believed in the moral authority, but not the deity, of
Jesus.

Free thinkers and dissenters, evolving their beliefs by rationalism
and
humanism.

usurpation

Usurping, especially the wrongful seizure of royal sovereignty.
Wrongful
seizure or exercise of authority. Encroachment.

vicissitudes

Change or variation.

vituperation

Abusive censure. Sustained, harshly abusive language.

votaries

Persons bound by vows to live a life of religious worship or ser-
vice.

Devout adherents of a cult or religion. Persons fervently devoted
to a

leader or ideal; faithful followers. Persons filled with enthusiasm,
as

for a pursuit or hobby; enthusiasts.

[End of Transcriber's notes]

[Illustration: Portrait of John Quincy Adams.]

Engraved from a Painting by A.B. Durand.

John Quincy Adams

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The Publishers apologize for the delay in issuing this volume, which was announced by them as in press, more than one year since, shortly after the decease of its illustrious subject. Gov. Seward, in undertaking its preparation, was well aware of the engrossing attention which his professional duties required, but looked constantly for relaxation from his multiplied business engagements, in the hope that he might be able to complete the work commenced by him. It however became necessary for its timely completion, to obtain the literary assistance of an able writer, who has, under his auspices, completed the work. The Publishers confidently believe, that it will in all respects, be received as a faithful and impartial history of the Life of the "Old Man Eloquent," and worthy a place in the library of every friend of liberty and humanity. AUBURN, April, 1849.

