

Eaton, John. Grant, Lincoln and the Freedmen: Reminiscences of the Civil War. New York: Longmans, Green, and Co., 1907.

Biographical sketch of Eaton, ix-xxxiv

CHAPTER I The camp of the Union Army at Grand Junction, 1862 — "The Army of the Tennessee" and "The Army of the Contrabands" — Grant issues an order to "Chaplain Eaton" — A difficult task — En route to Grant's headquarters — Gloomy recollections of Fremont and Halleck — Gloomier forebodings of Grant and the work to come 1

CHAPTER II Arrival at La Grange — First interview with General Grant — A pleasant disillusionment — Grant's plans for the Negroes — I leave my regimental companions 9

CHAPTER III First camp for the "contrabands" — Some early orders — Heavy responsibilities assumed by Grant therein — The loss of Holly Springs, and how Grant bore it — Grant's father talks of his son 18

CHAPTER IV Falling back upon Memphis — Conditions among the contrabands — A comprehensive wedding — A prayer for "Jeff" Davis — White and colored refugees cared for and sent North — Gossip about Grant — He assumes command of the movement on Vicksburg — His care for his subordinates 30

CHAPTER V The policy of the Nation toward the Negro — Fugitive slaves and military commanders — Arming the Negro — Arrival of Adjutant-General L. Thomas in the Mississippi Valley — The organization there of colored regiments — The beginnings of the lessee system 46

CHAPTER VI I report to Grant at Vicksburg before the surrender — An unpublished letter from Grant to Lincoln — The Shirley family and Grant's kindness to them — On the way to Washington — Stirring news 62

CHAPTER VII First interviews with President Lincoln — His power of gauging men — His anecdotes — His tender-heartedness — The American Freedmen Inquiry Commission 87

CHAPTER VIII Return to the Valley — Meeting with Grant at Cairo — Banquet at Memphis in Grant's honor — Down the river to Vicksburg with Grant and his staff — The General talks of himself — Tales of his intemperance 94

CHAPTER IX Arrival at Vicksburg — Thirty thousand contrabands to be cared for near that point — Organization, by Grant's advice, of the colored invalid corps, or "Home Guards" — Appointed Colonel of the 63d United States Colored Infantry — Value of these regiments to the Freedmen's Department . . . 104

CHAPTER X Up the river with Grant to Cairo — An autograph letter — Grant assumes command at Chattanooga — Trip to Chattanooga after the battle — Grant's attitude toward the officers of the Army of the Cumberland — His influence on the political situation in Tennessee — His unflagging interest in the refugees and freedmen 113

CHAPTER XI Fuller statement of the work of the Freedmen's Department, based on reports of the General Superintendent and other officers of freedmen for 1864 — Classification of the freed people 123

CHAPTER XII Statement continued — The plantation interests and the lessee system — Treasury control and resulting complications — The Negro's condition when employed by white lessees — The Negro as an independent cultivator 142

CHAPTER XIII Second visit to Washington, and interviews with President Lincoln — New regulations of the Treasury Department are revoked — Mr. Lincoln talks of the Negro, and of the

criticisms of himself — Another side to Stanton — A public assembly at the White House — Sent by Mr. Lincoln to Grant's headquarters at City Point — A dramatic interview 167

CHAPTER XIV Education for the Negro in the Mississippi Valley under the auspices of the Freedmen's Department — A centralized school system established September, 1864 — Other educational and philanthropic efforts — The Negro as he appeared to the officers of freedmen — Difficulties confronting the Freedmen's Department : what it accomplished 192

CHAPTER XV Third visit to Washington — Legislation concerning the Freedmen's Bureau — Chaplain Fiske's mission — Mr. Sumner's heroic convictions — "Memoranda concerning Freedmen's Bureau," — a political leaflet — Last interview with President Lincoln — The news of his assassination reaches Memphis 221

CHAPTER XVI Appointed by General Howard, Assistant Commissioner of the Freedmen's Bureau for the District of Columbia, etc. — Two early circulars — General Grant's "diffidence" — I assume the editorship of the Memphis Post — Organization of public school system of Tennessee — Grant is nominated for President — His disinclination to "make the sacrifice " 236

CHAPTER XVII President Grant's interest in education — He visits West Point — Report of the Board of Visitors for 1869 — Anecdotes connected with the Academy and Grant's standing as a cadet — Grant and the Peabody Fund — He champions the Bureau of Education — I become United States Commissioner of Education in 1870 — The President's earnest support of educational measures — He attends some early " Teachers' Conventions" — Proposes to veto Butler's bill — He "cuts red tape " and interests himself in the subject of English in our colleges — His speech on education at Des Moines in 1876 252

CHAPTER XVIII Some political memories — The great questions on which Grant "hammered " — A sketch of what he achieved in our foreign and domestic affairs — His unwillingness to think evil — His promptitude in suppressing it when once admitted — A group of friends and advisers — " Zack " Chandler, his honesty and courage — The Belknap tragedy — An ex-Confederate general and a Negro orator agree politically on Grant 272

CHAPTER XIX Last interview with Grant at Mount McGregor — A written greeting 295

CHAPTER XX Personal characteristics of Grant and Lincoln — Grant's kindness to friend and foe — His even temper — Sensitiveness to criticism — His modesty — Grant, Lincoln, and Sumner — The unassuming quality of great men — The genius of Grant and Lincoln rooted' in character — Their attitude toward religion — Conclusion 298

APPENDIX Freedmen's Bureau, Bureau of Education Publications ... 315