
**Gustavus Adolphus, Social Aspects of the Thirty Years'
War, 2 Lectures**

Trench Richard Chenevix

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Author: Trench Richard Chenevix

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SOCIAL ASPECTS OF THE THIRTY
YEARS' WAR.



GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS.
SOCIAL ASPECTS OF THE
THIRTY YEARS' WAR.

TWO LECTURES.

BY

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PREFACE.

THE first of the following Lectures was delivered four or five times. The second also was written for delivery, although for one reason and another I did not care, when written, to deliver it. I should scarcely have ventured on the subject without the help of Gustav Freytag's *Bilder aus der Deutschen Vergangenheit*, of which interesting book the Chapters on the Thirty Years' War constitute by far the most interesting portion. At the same time, I have drawn my materials from various other quarters as well.

LONDON: June 7, 1865.

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LECTURE I.

GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS.

FAMILIARITY with great men, and still more with men who were both great and good—with their lives and with their deaths—is among the best antidotes to that littleness and meanness which is ever seeking, and by a thousand avenues, to invade our own lives. To look up, believe me, is a healthy exercise for every one among us. I have one to bring before you this evening, who will demand from you this upward-looking attitude of the mind and spirit. Observe him, I beseech you, as closely as you can. What little I can seize of the actual man as he lived and moved, I will endeavour to set faithfully before you. ‘Great men,’ as it has been nobly said, ‘far more than any Alps or Coliseums, are the true world-wonders, which it concerns us to behold clearly, and imprint for ever on our remembrance. Great men are the fire-pillars in this dark