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Sidney Lee, George Smith, Leslie Stephen
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George Smith – A Memoir

This 1902 book, originally intended for private circulation, is a memoir of George Smith (1824–1901), founder, proprietor and publisher of *The Cornhill Magazine* and later the *Dictionary of National Biography*. The small volume, compiled by Smith's wife, consists of a memoir of Smith by Sidney Lee, followed by four short autobiographical pieces that Smith wrote for *The Cornhill*. He recalls his years at the publishing house of Smith, Elder and Co.; his encounters with Charlotte Brontë, who stayed with the Smiths in London; his idea of founding a magazine; and the 'lawful pleasures' of court cases for libel. The final item is Sir Leslie Stephen's obituary of Smith, first published in *The Cornhill*. The book, illustrated with two portraits of Smith, and a photograph of his memorial tablet in St Paul's Cathedral, provides an engaging portrait of a significant Victorian publisher and man of letters.

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George Smith A Memoir

SIDNEY LEE
GEORGE SMITH
LESLIE STEPHEN



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CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town,
Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi, Mexico City

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108047647

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This edition first published 1902
This digitally printed version 2012

ISBN 978-1-108-04764-7 Paperback

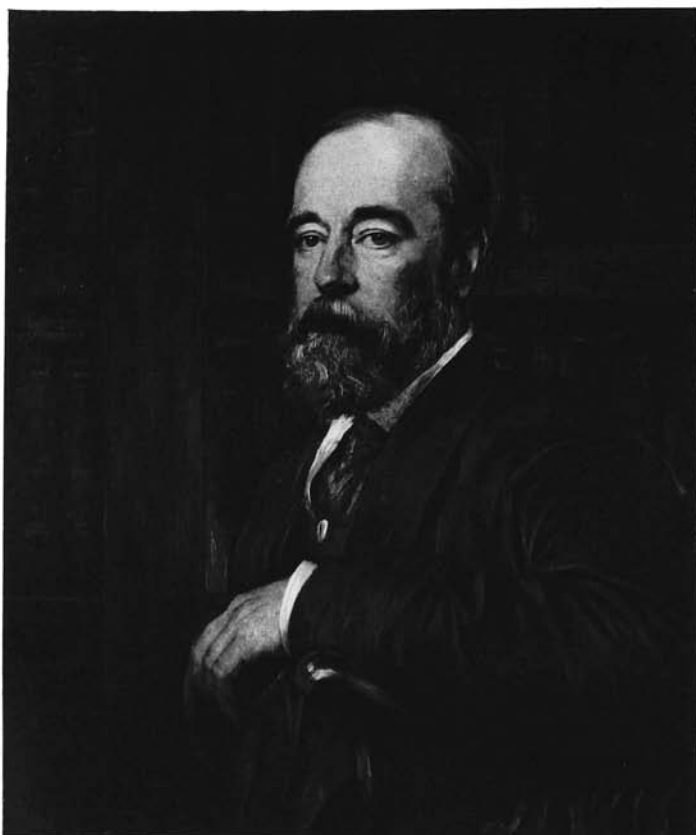
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Walker & Cockerell, pb. sc

*Yours sincerely
Smith*

From the picture painted by G. F. Watts, R.A. in 1876.

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GEORGE SMITH

A MEMOIR

WITH SOME PAGES OF AUTOBIOGRAPHY

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION

LONDON

1902

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In this small volume I have brought together, for private circulation among my husband's friends, the four papers of Reminiscences which he contributed to the 'Cornhill Magazine' during the last months of his life, together with the In Memoriam notice from Sir Leslie Stephen's pen which appeared in the Magazine immediately after his death, and the fuller Memoir which Mr. Sidney Lee wrote for the first volume of the Supplement to the 'Dictionary of National Biography.'

I have also included reproductions of the two portraits of my husband: one painted of him in middle life, by Mr. G. F. Watts, R.A., and the other, a posthumous portrait by the Hon. John Collier, representing him in his latest years, which I owe to the kindness of the friends who desire that it should remain with me until offered to the National Portrait Gallery.

The friends of my dear husband have in many ways shown the affection and esteem in which they hold his memory, and I believe I am not wrong in thinking that they will welcome this small memorial of his career, which I beg them to accept with my grateful acknowledgments of their kindness and sympathy.

I am also glad to have this opportunity of expressing the deep gratification which the Memorial Tablet his friends have placed in St. Paul's Cathedral has given to me and to my children.

E. S.

August 1902.

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