

# TABLE OF CONTENTS.

## VOLUME I.

### CHAPTER I.

#### ANCESTRY OF THE SHERMAN FAMILY.

	PAGES
Family Name is of Saxon Origin — "Conquer Death by Virtue" — Arrival of Rev. John Sherman at Boston in 1634 — General Sherman's Reply to an English Sexton — Career of Daniel Sherman — My First Visit to Woodbury — "Sherman's Tannery" — Anecdote of "Uncle Dan" — Sketch of My Father and Mother — Address to Enlisting Soldiers — General Reese's Account of My Father's Career — Religion of the Sherman Family — My Belief. . . . .	1-27

### CHAPTER II.

#### MY BOYHOOD DAYS AND EARLY LIFE.

Born at Lancaster, Ohio, May 10, 1823 — Death of My Father and Its Effect on Our Family — Early Days at School — A Dead Sheep in the Schoolroom — Lesson in Sunday Sport — Some of My Characteristics — My Attack on the Schoolmaster — Robbing an Orchard — A Rodman at Fourteen and My Experiences While Surveying — Debates at Beverly — Early Use of Liquor — First Visit to Mansfield in 1839 — The Famous Campaign of 1840 — I Begin the Study of Law. . . . .	28-55
--	-------

### CHAPTER III.

#### OHIO; ITS HISTORY AND RESOURCES.

Occupation by the Indians — Washington's Expedition to the Head of the Ohio River — Commencement of the History of the State — Topography, Characteristics, etc., in 1787 — Arrival of the First Pioneers — The Treaty of Greenville — Census of 1802 Showed a Population of 45,028 Persons — Occupation of the "Connecticut Reserve" — Era of Internal Improvement — Value of Manufactures in 1890 — Vast Resources of the Buckeye State — Love of the "Ohio Man" for His Native State. . . . .	56-77
--	-------

### CHAPTER IV.

#### ADMISSION TO THE BAR AND EARLY POLITICAL LIFE.

Law Partnership with my Brother Charles — Changes in Methods of Court Practice — Obtaining the Right of Way for a Railroad — Excitement of the Mexican War and its Effect on the Country — My First Visit to Washington — At a Banquet with Daniel Webster — New York Fifty Years Ago — Marriage with Margaret Cecilia Stewart — Beginning of My Political Life — Belief in the Doctrine of Protection — Democratic and Whig Conventions of 1852 — The Slavery Question — My Election to Congress in 1854. . . . .	78-109
--	--------

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

CHAPTER V.

EARLY DAYS IN CONGRESS.

	PAGES
My First Speech in the House—Struggle for the Possession of Kansas—Appointed as a Member of the Kansas Investigating Committee—The Invasion of March 30, 1855—Exciting Scenes in the Second District of Kansas—Similar Violence in Other Territorial Districts—Return and Report of the Committee—No Relief Afforded the People of Kansas—Men of Distinction in the 34th Congress—Long Intimacy with Schuyler Colfax. . . . .	110-116

CHAPTER VI.

BIRTH OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

The Name Formally Adopted at Jackson, Michigan, in 1854—Nomination of John C. Fremont at Philadelphia—Democratic Convention Nominates James Buchanan—Effect of the Latter's Election on the North—My Views Concerning President Pierce and His Administration—French Spoliation Claims—First Year of Buchanan's Administration—Dred Scott Case Decision by the Supreme Court—The Slavery Question Once More an Issue in Congress—Douglas' Opposition to the Lecompton Scheme—Turning Point of the Slavery Controversy. . . . .	130-162
--	---------

CHAPTER VII.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE FINANCIAL PANIC OF 1857.

Its Effect on the State Banks—My Maiden Speech in Congress on National Finances—Appointed a Member of the Committee on Naval Affairs—Investigation of the Navy Department and Its Results—Trip to Europe with Mrs. Sherman—We Visit Buckle's Bridge, Made Famous by Sir Walter Scott—Ireland and the Irish—I Pay a Visit to Parliament and Obtain Ready Admission—Notable Phases in Paris Viewed with Senator Sumner—The Battlefield of Magenta—Return Home. . . . .	153-166
--	---------

CHAPTER VIII.

EXCITING SCENES IN CONGRESS.

I am Elected for the Third Term—Invasion of Virginia by John Brown—His Trial and Execution—Spirited Contest for the Speakership—Discussion Over Helper's "Impending Crisis"—Angry Controversies and Threats of Violence in the House—Within Three Votes of Election as Speaker—My Reply to Clark's Attack—Withdrawal of my Name and Election of Mr. Pennington—Made Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means—President Buchanan Objects to Being "Investigated"—Adoption of the Morrill Tariff Act—Views Upon the Tariff Question—My Colleagues. . . . .	167-196
---	---------

CHAPTER IX.

LAST DAYS OF THE BUCHANAN ADMINISTRATION.

	PAGES
My First Appearance Before a New York Audience—Lincoln's Nomination at the Chicago Convention—I Engage Actively in the Presidential Campaigns—Making Speeches for Lincoln—My Letter to Philadelphia Citizens—Acts of Secession by Southern States—How the South was Equipped by the Secretary of the Navy—Buchanan's Strange Doctrine Regarding State Control by the General Government—Schemes "To Save the Country"—My Reply to Mr. Pendleton on the Condition of the Impending Revolution—The Ohio Delegation in the 36th Congress—Retrospection. . . . .	197-230

CHAPTER X.

THE BEGINNING OF LINCOLN'S FIRST ADMINISTRATION.

Arrival of the President Elect at Washington—Impressiveness of His Inaugural Address—I am Elected Senator from Ohio to Succeed Salmon P. Chase—Letters Written to and Received from My Brother William Teetsch—His Arrival at Washington—A Dark Period in the History of the Country—Letter to General Sherman on the Attack Upon Fort Sumter—Departure for Mansfield to Encourage Enlistments—Ohio Regiments Reviewed by the President—General McLaughlin Complimented—My Visit to Ex-President Buchanan—Meeting Between my Brother and Colonel George H. Thomas. . . . .	231-250
--	---------

CHAPTER XI.

SPECIAL SESSION OF CONGRESS TO PROVIDE FOR THE WAR.

Condition of the Treasury Immediately Preceding the War—Not Enough Money on Hand to Pay Members of Congress—Value of Fractional Silver of Earlier Coinage—Largely Increased Revenues an Urgent Necessity—Lincoln's Message and Appeal to the People—Issue of New Treasury Notes and Bonds—Union Troops on the Potomac—Battle of Bull Run—Organization of the "Sherman Brigade"—The President's Timely Aid—Personnel of the Brigade. . . . .	251-267
---	---------

CHAPTER XII.

PASSAGE OF THE LEGAL TENDER ACT IN 1862.

My Interview with Lincoln About Ohio Appointments—Governmental Expenses Now Aggregating Nearly \$2,000,000 Daily—Secretary Chase's Annual Report to Congress in December, 1861—Treasury Notes a Legal Tender in Payment of Public and Private Debts—Beneficial Results from the Passage of the Bill—The War Not a Question of Men, but of Money—Proposed Organization of National Banks—Bank Bills Not Taxed—Local Banks and Their Absorption by the Government—The 1862 Issue of \$150,000,000 in "Greenbacks"—Legal Tender Act a Turning Point in Our Financial History—Compensation of Officers of the Government. . . . .	268-283
---	---------

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

CHAPTER XIII.

ABOLISHMENT OF THE STATE BANKS.

Measures Introduced to Tax Them out of Existence—Arguments That Induced Congress to Deprive Them of the Power to Issue Their Bills as Money—Bill to Provide a National Currency—Why Congress Authorized the Issue of \$100,000,000 of United States Notes—Issues of 5, 20 and 100—Bonds to Help to Carry on the War—High Rates of Interest Paid—Secretary Chase's Able Management of the Public Debt—Our Improved Revenue System—Repeal of the Income Tax Law—My Views on the Taxability of Incomes. . . . . 324-330

CHAPTER XIV.

LINCOLN'S EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION.

Slavery in the District of Columbia Abolished—Law Goes into Effect on April 10, 1862—Beginning of the End of Slavery—Military Measures and Congress to Carry on the War—Response to the President's Call—Beneficial Effects of the Confiscation Act—Visits to Soldiers' Camps—Robert S. Granger as a Cook—How I Came to Purchase a Washington Residence—Increase of Compensation to Senators and Members and Its Effect—Excitement in Ohio over Vallandigham's Arrest—News of the Fall of Vicksburg and Defeat of Lee at Gettysburg—John Brown Elected Governor of Ohio—Its Effect on the State. . . . . 330-336

CHAPTER XV.

A MEMORABLE SESSION OF CONGRESS.

Dark Period of the War—Effect of the President's Proclamation—Revenue Bill Enacted Increasing Internal Taxes and Adding Many New Objects of Taxation—Additional Bonds Issued—General Prosperity in the North Following the Passage of New Financial Measures—Aid to the Union Pacific Railroad Company—Land Grants to the Northern Pacific—13th Amendment to the Constitution—Resignation of Secretary Chase—Anecdote of Governor Tod of Ohio—Nomination of William P. Fessenden to Succeed Chase—The Latter Made Chief Justice—Lincoln's Second Nomination—Effect of Vallandigham's Resolution—General Sherman's March to the Sea—Second Session of the 38th Congress. . . . . 336-344

CHAPTER XVI.

ASSASSINATION OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Johnson's Maudlin Stump Speech in the Senate—Inauguration of Lincoln for the Second Term—My Trip to the South—Paying Off a Church Debt—Meetings to Celebrate the Success of the Union Army—News of the Death of Lincoln—I Attend the Funeral Services—General Johnson's Surrender to General Sherman—Controversy with Secretary Stanton Over the Event—Review of 65,000 Troops in Washington—Care of the Old Soldiers—Annual Pension List of \$150,000,000—I am Re-elected to the Senate—The Wade-Davis Bill—Johnson's Treatment of Public Men—His Veto of the Civil Rights Bill—Reorganization of the Rebel States and Their Final Restoration to the Union. . . . . 351-376

CHAPTER XVII.

INDEBTEDNESS OF THE UNITED STATES IN 1865.

PAGES

Organization of the Greenback Party—Total Debt on October 31st amounts to \$2,808,549,437.55—Secretary McCulloch's Desire to Convert All United States Notes into Interest Bearing Bonds—My Discussion with Senator Fessenden Over the Finance Committee's Bill—Too Great Powers Conferred on the Secretary of the Treasury—His Desire to Retire \$10,000,000 of United States Notes Each Month—Growth of the Greenback Party—The Secretary's Powers to Reduce the Currency by Retiring or Canceling United States Notes Is Suspended—Bill to Reduce Taxes and Provide Internal Revenue—My Trip to Laramie and Other Western Ports with General Sherman—Beginning of the Department of Agriculture. . . . . 377-394

CHAPTER XVIII.

THREE MONTHS IN EUROPE.

Short Session of Congress Convened March 4, 1867—I Become Chairman of the Committee on Finance, Succeeding Senator Fessenden—Departure for Europe—Winning a Wage from a Sea Captain—Congressman Kasson's Pistol—Under Surveillance by English Officers—Impressions of John Bright, Disraeli and Other Prominent Englishmen—Visit to France, Belgium, Holland and Germany—An Audience with Bismarck—His Sympathy with the Union Cause—Wonders of the Paris Exposition—Life in Paris—Presented to the Emperor Napoleon III and the Empress Eugenie—A Dinner at the Tuileries—My Return Home—International Money Commission in Session at Paris—Correspondence with Commissioner Ruggles—His Report—Failure to Unify the Coinage of Nations—Relative Value of Gold and Silver. . . . . 395-412

CHAPTER XIX.

IMPEACHMENT OF ANDREW JOHNSON.

Judiciary Committee's Resolution Fails of Adoption by a Vote of 57 Yeas to 108 Nays—Johnson's Attempt to Remove Secretary Stanton and Create a New Office for General Sherman—Correspondence on the Subject—Report of the Committee on Impeachment, and Other Matters Pertaining to the Appointment of Lorenzo Thomas—Impeachment Resolution Passed by the House by a Vote of 126 Yeas to 47 Nays—Johnson's Trial by the Senate—Acquittal of the President by a Vote of 35 Guilty to 49 Not Guilty—Why I Favored Conviction—General Schofield Becomes Secretary of War—"Tenure of Office Act." . . . . 413-432

CHAPTER XX.

THE FORTIETH SESSION.

Legislation During the Two Years—Further Reduction of the Currency by the Secretary Prohibited—Report of the Committee of Conference—Bill for Refunding the National Debt—Amounted to \$2,639,382,572.68 on December 1, 1867—Resumption of Specie Payments Recommended—Refunding Bill in the Senate—Change in My Views—Debate Participated in by Nearly Every Senator—Why the Bill Failed to Become a Law—Breach Between Congress and the President Paralyzes Legislation—Nomination and Election of Grant for President—His Correspondence with General Sherman. . . . . 433-445

CHAPTER XXI.

BEGINNING OF GRANT'S ADMINISTRATION.

His Arrival at Washington in 1864 to Take Command of the Armies of the United States—Inaugural Address as President—"An Act to Strengthen the Public Credit"—Becomes a Law on March 19, 1862—Formation of the President's Cabinet—Fiftieth Amendment to the Constitution—Bill to Fund the Public Debt and to Aid in the Resumption of Specie Payments—Bill Finally Agreed to by the House and Senate—A Redemption Stipulation Omitted—Reduction of the Public Debt—Problem of Advancing United States Notes to Par with Coin. 446-453

CHAPTER XXII.

OUR COINAGE BEFORE AND AFTER THE WAR.

But Little Coin in Circulation in 1869—General Use of Spanish Pieces—No Mention of the Dollar Piece in the Act of 1853—Free Circulation of Gold After the 1853 Act—No Truth in the "Democratization" Charge—Account of the Bill Revising the Laws Relative to the Mint, Assay Offices and Coinage of the United States—Why the Dollar was Dropped from the Coins—Then Known Only as a Coin for the Foreign Market—Establishment of the "Trade Dollar"—A Legal Tender for Only Five Dollars—Repeated Attempts to Have Congress Pass a Free Coinage Act—How It Would Affect Us—Controversy Between Secretary Sumner and Secretary Fish. 459-473

CHAPTER XXIII.

SOME EVENTS IN MY PRIVATE LIFE.

Feuds and Jealousies During Grant's Administration—Attack on Me by the Cincinnati "Enquirer"—Reply and Statement Regarding My Wobbly Possessions—I Am Elected to the Senate for the Third Term—Trip to the Pacific with Colonel Scott and Party—Visit to the Yosemite Valley—San Diego in 1872—Return via Carson City and Salt Lake—We call on Brigham Young—Arrival Home to Enter into the Greeley Grant Canvass—Election of General Grant for the Second Term. 474-487

CHAPTER XXIV.

THE PANIC OF 1873 AND ITS RESULTS.

Failure of Jay Cooke and Co.—Wild Schemes "for the Relief of the People"—Congress Called Upon for Help—Finance Committee's Report for the Redemption of United States Notes in Coin—Extracts from my Speech in Favor of the Report—Bill to fix the Amount of United States Notes—Finally Passed by the Senate and House—Vetoed by President Grant and Failure to Pass Over His Objection—General Effect Throughout the Country of the Struggle for Resumption—Imperative Necessity for Providing Some Measure of Relief. 488-503

CHAPTER XXV.

BILL FOR THE RESUMPTION OF SPECIE PAYMENTS.

Decline in Value of Paper Money—Meeting of Congress in December, 1874—Senate Committee of Eleven to Formulate a Bill to Advance United States Notes to Par in Coin—Widely Differing Views of the Members—Redemption of Fractional Currency Readily Agreed to—Other Sections Finally Adopted—Means to Prepare for and Maintain Resumption—Report of the Bill by the Committee on Finance—Its Passage by the Senate by a Vote of 32 to 14—Full Text of the Measure and an Explanation of What It Was Expected to Accomplish—Approval by the House and the President. 507-518

CHAPTER XXVI.

RESUMPTION ACT RECEIVED WITH DISFAVOR.

It Is Not Well Received by Those Who Wished Immediate Resumption of Specie Payments—Letter to "The Financier" in Reply to a Charge That It Was a "Political Trick," etc.—The Ohio Canvass of 1875—Finance Resolutions in the Democratic and Republican Platforms—R. B. Hayes and Myself Talk in Favor of Resumption—My Recommendation of Him for President—A Democrat Elected as Speaker of the House—The Senate Still Republican—My Speech in Support of Specie Payments Made March 6, 1876—What the Financial Policy of the Government Should Be. 519-537

CHAPTER XXVII.

MY CONFIDENCE IN THE SUCCESS OF RESUMPTION.

Tendency of Democratic Members of Both Houses to Exaggerate the Evil Times—Debate Over the Bill to Provide for Issuing Silver Coin in Place of Fractional Currency—The Coinage Laws of the United States and Other Countries—Joint Resolution for the Issue of Silver Coin—The "Trade Dollar" Declared Not to Be a Legal Tender—My Views on the Free Coinage of Silver—Bill to Provide for the Completion of the Washington Monument—Resolution Written by Me on the 100th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence—Unanimously Passed in a Day by Both Houses—Completion of the Structure Under the Act. 538-549

CHAPTER XXVIII.

THE HAYES-TILDEN PRESIDENTIAL CONTEST.

Nomination of R. B. Hayes for President—His Fitness for the Responsible Office—Political Shrewdness of Samuel J. Tilden, His Opponent—I Enter Actively into the Canvass in Ohio and Other States—Frauds in the South—Requested by General Grant to Go to New Orleans and Witness the Canvassing of the Vote of Louisiana—Departure for the South—Personnel of the Republican and Democratic "Visitors"—Report of the Returning Board—My Letter to Governor Hayes from New Orleans—President Grant's Last Message to Congress—Letters from President Hayes—Request to Become his Secretary of the Treasury. 550-564

*TABLE OF CONTENTS.*

CHAPTER XXIX.

I BEGIN MY DUTIES AS SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

Legislative Training of Great Advantage to Me in My New Position— Loan Contract in Force When I Took the Portfolio— Appointment of Charles F. Conant as Funding Agent of the Treasury Department in London— Redeeming Called Bonds— Sale of Four Per Cent Bonds Instead of Four and a Half Per Cent.— Popularity of the New Loan— Great Saving in Interest— On a Tour of Inspection Along the Northern Atlantic Coast— Value of Information Received on This Trip— Effect of the Baltimore and Pittsburg Railroad Strikes in 1877 Upon Our Public Credit. . . . . 164-168

CHAPTER XXX.

POLICY OF THE HAYES ADMINISTRATION.

Reception at My Home in Mansfield— Given by Friends Irrespective of Party— Introduced by My Old Friend and Partner, Henry C. Hodges— I Reply by Giving a Résumé of the Contests in South Carolina and Louisiana to Decide Who Was Governor— Positions Taken by Presidents Grant and Hayes in These Contests— My Plans to Secure the Resumption of Specie Payments— Effects of a Depressed Currency— Position of the Secretary of the Treasury— Two Modes of Resuming— My Mansfield Speech Printed Throughout the Country and in England— Letters to Stanley Matthews and General Robinson— Our Defeat in Ohio— An Extra Session of Congress— Bills Introduced to Repeal the Act Providing for the Resumption of Specie Payments— They All Fail of Passage— Popular Subscription of Bonds All Paid for. . . . . 169-182