



From a photograph by Gutekunst, taken in 1878.

LIFE AND LETTERS OF
BAYARD TAYLOR

68-29
55

EDITED BY

MARIE HANSEN-TAYLOR

AND

HORACE E. SCUDDER

IN TWO VOLUMES

VOL. I.



BOSTON
HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND COMPANY
New York: 11 East Seventeenth Street
The Riverside Press, Cambridge
1884

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The Riverside Press, Cambridge:
Electrotyped and Printed by H. O. Houghton & Co

From humble home-lays to the heights of thought
Slowly he climbed, but every step was sure.

J. G. WHITTIER, *Bayard Taylor*.

Dear is the Minstrel, yet the Man is more.

Goethe Ode.

PREFACE.

It is six years since Bayard Taylor died, and if it had been thought necessary only to satisfy a passing curiosity concerning him the delay in publishing his memoirs would have been unwise. But if a volume had been brought out within a few months of his death, it must have failed to present any full and intelligible interpretation of a career which was frequently misunderstood through superficial acquaintance with it. The delay in the appearance of this work has enabled the editors to gather a larger number of letters, to arrange them, and to supply such connecting links and slight comment as seemed necessary to a clear and comprehensive narrative. It has been their aim to let the poet tell his own story so far as is possible, and above all to follow the cl w which his own confession affords. No man's life can be truthfully written which does not take very close account of the ideal