CHARLES FOLLEN MCKIM; A STUDY OF HIS LIFE AND WORK

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Charles Follen McKim; a study of his life and work by Alfred Hoyt Granger

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WITH ILLUSTRATIONS

"Perfection in whatever be undertook,"



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TO WILLIAM RUTHERFORD MEAD THE LAST OF A GREAT TRIUMVIRATE



PREFACE

The preparing of this short memoir has been inspired by the desire to set before the younger members of the Architectural profession and particularly the draughtsmen in offices, something of the personality of a very great man. It must remain for some other pen than mine to write a complete analytic life of Charles F. McKim. Since his death, new schools of Architecture have grown up which, inspired perhaps by the restless spirit of the age in which we live, seem like the Athenians of old, to be eagerly striving after some new thing. With this spirit McKim, and the wonderful group of men with whom he both worked and played, could have but little sympathy. He stood for a national architecture, inspired by beauty and built upon the solid foundations of law, order and tradition. It is the abiding quality of the principles in accordance with which he lived and worked and died that I have tried to make plain. In order to do this, I have had to call upon his friends, his family and above all upon his only surviving partner for co-operation and help. To them all I wish to express here my deep

PREFACE

and heartfelt thanks. They have given me far more than I have asked, and it is they alone who have made this little work possible.

ALFRED HOYT GRANGER.

Philadelphia, 1913.