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President Wilson by Daniel Halévy & Hugh Stokes

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DANIEL HALÉVY & HUGH STOKES

PRESIDENT WILSON

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DANIEL HALÉVY

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PREFACE

At any other time the author would ask indulgence for presenting to the public such a summary work upon so difficult and vast a subject. But, with events crowding upon each other so rapidly that we can scarcely follow them, information can only be conveyed in a hasty and improvised manner.

The author has made use of two biographies: "Woodrow Wilson, the Man and His Work," by Mr. Henry Jones Ford, and "President Wilson, His Problems and His Policy," by Mr. H. Wilson Harris. He has had access to the fine library of the American Chamber of Commerce, always hospitable to workers. He has also been greatly helped by former colleagues of the Bureau des Études de la Maison de la Presse, MM. Othon Guerlac, Professor of French Literature at Cornell University, and M. Michel Beer. They have assisted him with advice, and opened for his benefit archives which are extremely valuable in the study of our own period.

D. H.

October, 1917.

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I-Childhood and Youth

HE most active of the aristocracies which take the lead in the United States of America is formed of the descendants of the puritan families. They have created manners, culture, the State itself. Woodrow Wilson belongs to these families by double kinship.

His grandfather, James Wilson, came originally from Ulster. In 1807, while quite a young man, he disembarked at Philadelphia. He was a man of the people, but well informed like so many members of the Protestant sects. Setting up as a printer, he was successful in business. In 1808 he married a girl, also an Ulster Presbyterian, who had crossed the Atlantic with him in the previous year. Then, leaving Philadelphia, they settled in Ohio where pioneers were busily founding the early townships. James Wilson established in Ohio a newspaper, the Western Herald. In 1832 he established a second, the Pennsylvania Advocate of Pittsburg. Both were produced with the assistance of his sons, who were brought up to be working printers as well as publicists.