

**ULYSSES S. GRANT:
CONVERSATIONS AND
UNPUBLISHED LETTERS**

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Ulysses S. Grant: conversations and unpublished letters by M. J. Cramer

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M. J. CRAMER

**ULYSSES S. GRANT:
CONVERSATIONS AND
UNPUBLISHED LETTERS**

TO MY DEAR WIFE,

WHO, LIKE HER SAINTED MOTHER, IS THE EMBODIMENT
OF GENUINE MODESTY AND INTELLIGENT PIETY,
THIS LITTLE VOLUME IS AFFECTIONATELY
INSCRIBED.



P R E F A C E .

HAVING married, on the 27th of October, 1863, Miss Mary Frances Grant, youngest daughter of Mr. Jesse Root and Hannah Grant, of Covington, Ky., in the course of time I came thus into frequent contact with General Grant by visits at his home and otherwise. From the 6th to the 12th of July, 1878, General and Mrs. Grant were our guests at Copenhagen, Denmark.

During these visits, etc., the general and I conversed freely on various subjects; he readily answered all questions I put to him. I generally made a memorandum of the most interesting things he had said. He was one of the most instructive and interesting talkers I ever conversed with. His conversations had wit and humor in them. He was well versed, not only in the history of the United States, but also in regard to the various resources of the several States and Territories of the Union; to say nothing of his accurate knowledge of recent events in European and oriental countries.

We also exchanged letters. Some letters from him to other members of his father's family also fell into my hands. Some of them throw fresh light on both his private and public character, as well as on several of his earlier campaigns.

Neither the conversations nor the letters contained in the following pages have ever been published. Friends in civil and military life have heard me relate some of the former, and seen some of the latter; at their earnest solicitations I have consented to publish them all; otherwise it would never have occurred to me to do so.

I have endeavored to give the letters and the conversations in their historical order. Some of his earlier letters suggested questions which I put to him in order to elicit a fuller account of things alluded to therein.

My sole object in sending out this little volume is to serve the cause of truth in reference to a man who has played an important part in the recent history of our country.

M. J. C.

EAST ORANGE, N. J., November, 1896.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. General Grant's Visit to Copenhagen —Incidents and Views.....	11
II. Experiences Previous to the War....	20
III. At the Breaking Out of the War.....	28
IV. Grant's Promotion.....	36
V. Grant's Busy Life—His Views on Religion	41
VI. Belmont—Our Country.....	47
VII. Grant's Conscientiousness.....	55
VIII. Grant's Views on Slavery—How he was Brought Forward as a Presidential Candidate.....	63
IX. Some Wartime Letters.....	77
X. Before the Fall of Vicksburg.....	86
XI. Grant Declines a Civil Office.....	89
XII. Grant's Views on President Lincoln, Stanton, Seward, Chase, and John- son.....	94
XIII. Much to Do—Little Influence— Grant's Views on Providence.....	102
XIV. Office-seeking an Industry.....	108
XV. Domestic Life.....	120

CHAPTER	PAGE
XVI. General Grant in Switzerland and France	131
XVII. In Egypt, Jerusalem, Ephesus, Constantinople, etc.	136
XVIII. More Letters from General Grant.	141
XIX. Various Conversations with General Grant.	146
XX. How President Grant Vetoes the So-called "Inflation Bill"	156
XXI. Grant's Views About English Rule in India—Importance of Christian Missions.	162
XXII. Grant's Desire to Please his Friends and Relatives.	171
XXIII. Grant Engaged in Writing his Memoirs.	175
XXIV. Grant as a Man and Friend.	177
XXV. General Grant's Capture of Fort Donelson—His Virtual Arrest Subsequent to that Event—His Behavior in the Field.	182

ULYSSES S. GRANT.

CHAPTER I.

General Grant's Visit to Copenhagen — Incidents and Views.

DURING his trip around the world General Grant visited Denmark. On July 5, 1878, they (the general and his wife) left Hamburg by rail for Lubeck, in order to see that quaint old city. On the evening of the same day they took a steamer for Copenhagen, arriving there the following morning at seven o'clock.¹ The

¹John Russell Young in his work, *Around the World with General Grant* (vol. i, p. 436), writes as follows: "We leave Hamburg on July 6, journey rapidly through Schleswig-Holstein and Denmark, and cross the Great Belt," etc. Mr. Young may have done so, for he did not accompany General and Mrs. Grant to Copenhagen; nor did he call either on them or on me during the time they were my guests.