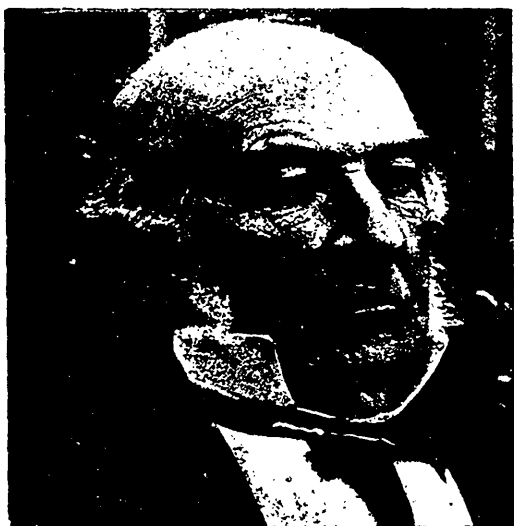


# Methodist Magazine and Review.

JUNE, 1898.

WILLIAM EWART GLADSTONE.

BY WILLIAM T. STEAD.



RECENT PORTRAIT OF MR. GLADSTONE.

Mr. Gladstone appealed to the men of to-day from the vantage-point of extreme old age. Age is so frequently dotage, that when a veteran appears who preserves the heart of a boy and the happy audacity of youth under the "ivart haffets wearing thin and bare" of aged manhood, it seems as if there is something supernatural about it, and all men feel the fascination and the charm.

There is something imposing and even sublime in the long procession of years which bridge as

with eighty-eight arches the abyss of past time, and carry us back to the days of Canning, and of Castlereagh, of Napoleon, and of Wellington. His parliamentary career extends over sixty years—the lifetime of two generations. For over forty years he had a leading part in making or in unmaking Cabinets, he served his Queen and his country in almost every capacity in office and in opposition, and yet, despite his prolonged sojourn in the malaria of political wirepulling, his heart