

Kossuth és Webster

Derby, J.C. - 50 years among
authors, N.Y. 1884,
G.W. Carleton
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men; he said to me recently that after Kossuth's arrival in this country in 1851, David Webster, then Secretary of State, in a private letter to a friend, said: "His presence here will be quite embarrassing (owing to our friendly relations with Austria). I am at a good deal of a loss what to do or what to say." When Kossuth arrived in Washington, Webster by appointment met him at Mr. Seward's house, thus avoiding anything like an official reception of the great Hungarian. Mr. Seward described the meeting as one of intense feeling on the part of Webster and Kossuth alike. The latter plead the cause of Hungary in such eloquent terms as to draw tears from Mr. Webster's eyes, while he remarked: "O! he is a royal fellow!" Mr. Seward always regarded Kossuth's speech as the most eloquent he ever heard. The next day Mr. Webster, accompanied by Mr. Seward, presented Kossuth to the President. Mr. Seward describes Mr. Fillmore's interview with Kossuth as cold and formal, in marked contrast with Mr. Webster's affecting meeting with him at Mr. Seward's house.