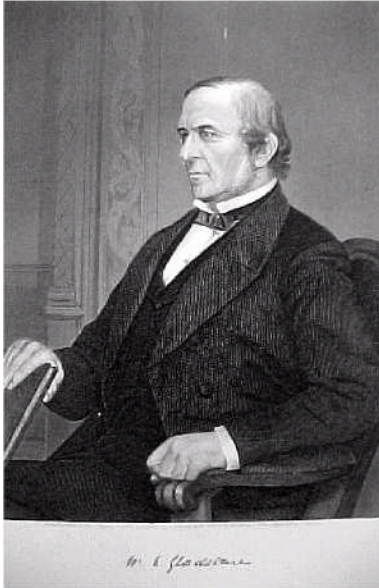


## GLADSTONE, William Ewart (1809-1898)

Gladstone was born December 29, 1809, in Liverpool, Merseyside, NW England. He studied at Oxford, and entered parliament in 1832 as a Conservative, working closely with Peel. From 1834 he held various junior posts, becoming President of the Board of Trade (1843-45). He was Chancellor of the Exchequer in Aberdeen's coalition (1852-55) and again under Palmerston (1859-66). In 1867 he became leader of the Liberal Party, and soon after served his first term as premier (1868-74). He disestablished and disendowed the Irish Church, and established a system of national



education (1870). He served three other terms as Prime Minister (1880-85, 1886, 1892-94) until his resignation in 1894 and succeeded in carrying out a scheme of parliamentary reform which went a long way towards universal male suffrage. In his last two ministries he introduced bills for Irish Home Rule, but both were defeated. He was also the author of *Studies on Homer and the Homeric Age* (1858) and in 1869 he published *Juventus Mundi, The Gods and Men of the Heroic Age*, the product of the two previous years parliamentary vacations.