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SAMUEL GRIDLEY HOWE was born in Boston Massachusetts on November 10th 1801. His father lived in Pearl Street and was a manufacturer of ropes and cordage. One of his uncles on the Howe line was one of the "Indians" of the Boston Tea Party, while another was at Bunker Hill Battle.

There are some stories characteristic of his early childhood adventurous spirit and persistence. When a boy jumping from cake to cake on the broken ice of the frozen Charles River fell at last into the icy water and being fished by his father, was sent by him to his mother to be whipped... Or, when at his eleventh year when he was sent to the Boston Latin School, and was beaten by his teacher "to make him cry" but without effect, or when he was thrown headlong down the stairs of the school, in the presence of his Principal because he refused to adjure his democratic principles...

His father being an ardent democrat, sent him to Brown University having chosen him among his three sons for reading best the Bible. He graduated when he was twenty years old and entered Harvard Medical School. He took his degree as Doctor of Medicine in 1824.

Although a contemporary of the greatest pioneers of American civilization he turned at first not towards the advancing country but towards struggling Greece. He was by then "a fine looking youth of good height, slender but uncommonly

