

**GERALD FFRENCH'S
FRIENDS**

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Gerald Ffrench's friends by George H. Jessop

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FRIENDS

UNIV. OF
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BY

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PREFACE.

MR. GERALD FFRENCH'S journalistic career on the Pacific Coast covered a period of five years—from 1873 to 1878. In this time it was his fortune to meet a great many Irishmen, with several of whom he became more or less intimately associated. The Irish colony in California is important both in numbers and influence, and Mr. Ffrench's situation offered unusual advantages for a study of the more prominent peculiarities of the members of that colony. The purpose of these chapters is to depict a few of the most characteristic types of the native Celt of the original stock—as yet unmixed in blood, but modified by new surroundings and a different civilization. All the incidents related in this book are based on fact, and several of them are mere transcripts from actual life, with no more material alteration than seemed necessary to throw the veil of fiction over the identity of the characters.