

**SKETCHES OF HISTORY, LIFE, AND
MANNERS IN THE WEST; CONTAINING
ACCURATE DESCRIPTIONS OF THE
COUNTRY AND MODES OF LIFE, IN THE
WESTERN STATES AND TERRITORIES OF
NORTH AMERICA; VOLUME I**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649391196

Sketches of history, life, and manners in the West; containing accurate descriptions of the country and modes of life, in the western states and territories of North America; Volume I by James Hall

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

JAMES HALL

**SKETCHES OF HISTORY, LIFE, AND
MANNERS IN THE WEST; CONTAINING
ACCURATE DESCRIPTIONS OF THE
COUNTRY AND MODES OF LIFE, IN THE
WESTERN STATES AND TERRITORIES OF
NORTH AMERICA; VOLUME I**

SKETCHES
OF
HISTORY, LIFE, AND MANNERS
IN THE
WEST;

CONTAINING ACCURATE DESCRIPTIONS OF THE COUNTRY
AND MODES OF LIFE, IN THE WESTERN STATES
AND TERRITORIES OF NORTH AMERICA.

BY JAMES HALL.

VOLUME I.

CINCINNATI:
HUBBARD AND EDMANDS.

1834.

VM



Entered, according to act of Congress, in the year 1834.

BY HUBBARD AND EDMANOS,

In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of Ohio.

N. S. Johnson, Printer.

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER I.

Introduction, - - - - -	10
-------------------------	----

CHAPTER II.

French Settlements—discovery of the Mississippi valley—missionaries—La Salle's voyages—grants to Crozat and others—Fort Chartres—villages—manners of the French settlers—anecdote, - - - - -	23
--	----

CHAPTER III.

French Settlements—St. Louis—French grants—Spanish grants—attack on St. Louis—intercourse with New Orleans—French boatmen, - - - - -	53
--	----

CHAPTER IV.

Settlements on the Ohio—First expedition from Virginia—Fort Pitt—Carver's travels—Dunmore's expedition, - - -	71
---	----

CHAPTER V.

Settlements on the Ohio—Indian tribes—the pioneers—M ^r Bride, Walker, Finley, Boone—settlement of Kentucky, - - -	80
--	----

CHAPTER VI.

Early Civil and Political Institutions—counties organized—discontents—foreign intrigues—views of the French government—of the British—of the Spanish, - - - - -	90
---	----

CHAPTER VII.

Spanish Conspiracy—French conspiracy—causes of discontent, - - -	101
--	-----

CHAPTER VIII.

Burr's Conspiracy, - - - - -	111
------------------------------	-----

CHAPTER IX.

Character of the Pioneers—stratagems of border warfare—anecdote of Boone—stratagem of an Indian—courage of a female—anecdote of Major Smith, - - - - -	121
--	-----

CHAPTER X.

Character of the Pioneers—mode of emigration—their houses—their arts—mode of living—their social manners, - - -	130
---	-----

CHAPTER XI.

- Character of the Pioneers—inducements to emigrate—outlaws—
Harpe, Meason, Sturdevant—regulating companies, . . . 138

CHAPTER XII.

- Character of the Pioneers—their origin, 148

CHAPTER XIII.

- Foreign Influence over the Indians—policy of the American gov-
ernment in relation to the Indians—tampering with them by
foreign agents, 153

CHAPTER XIV.

- Clarke's Expedition—capture of Kaskaskia—march to Vincennes
—crossing the Wabash—capture of Vincennes—anecdote of
Kenton, 165

CHAPTER XV.

- Other Expeditions—Bowman's, Clarke's—battle of Blue Licks—
Scott and Harmar's expedition—Wilkinson's expeditions, 173

CHAPTER XVI.

- Early Military Operations—character of the regular troops—St.
Clair's expedition, 189

CHAPTER XVII.

- Settlement of Ohio—hardships of the pioneers—Marietta founded
—Symmes' purchase—French at Gallipolis—system of selling
land, 199

CHAPTER XVIII.

- Civil Institutions—cessions by states to the United States of
western territory—ordinance of 1787, 205

CHAPTER XIX.

- Territorial and State Governments—northwestern territory—how
governed—becomes a state—constitution of Ohio, 216

CHAPTER XX.

- Territorial and State Governments—Indiana, how governed as a
territory—becomes a state—constitution—Illinois admitted into
the Union—constitution of Illinois—Missouri admitted—con-
stitution of Missouri, 230

CHAPTER XXI.

- Laws—their spirit—laws of Illinois, 241

CHAPTER XXII.

- Conclusion—last war—settling of Indiana and Illinois—battle
of Tippecanoe, 259

P R E F A C E .

WHEN the following work was commenced, it was intended to have been comprised within one volume, and to have contained only such facts and statistics, as might be considered interesting in reference to the present condition of this country. Such, however, is the intimate connection between the institutions of a country, and its history, and so difficult is it to explain the character of that which exists, without reference to something which has preceded it, that we found it impossible to avoid mingling historical details, with the statements which it was our main purpose to have presented. On further reflection, it was determined to extend the plan, so as to embrace two volumes; one of which should be devoted exclusively to historical matter, and the other, to descriptive and statistical information.

It has not been the object of the writer, to attempt a regular history of this region, or any connected description of the country, or its institutions. The materials for such a work are not in existence; no

complete collection of political or statistical facts, or scientific observations, has yet been made, from which such a work could be compiled. Ignorant and presumptuous travelers have published their own hasty and inaccurate conceptions; and careless writers have selected from these, such supposed facts, as comported with their gratuitous theories, or notions of probability; and we hesitate not to say, that the works which have professed to treat of the whole western region, have been failures. Particular departments of this great subject, have been well treated. Dr. Drake's admirable description of the Miami valley, entitled "A Picture of Cincinnati," is written in the calm spirit of philosophical inquiry, and is worthy of entire confidence. The travels of Pike, Lewis and Clarke, and Long, are replete with valuable facts, carefully collected, and reported with scrupulous fidelity. The statistics embraced in Darby's "Views of the the United States," and Brackenridge's "Louisiana," may be safely relied upon. But these works embrace but a small portion of the whole ground. The best compilation from these and other authorities, and the only one which may be consulted with safety, is Tanner's "Guide to Emigrants," a volume prepared with great care and fidelity. When the materials shall be accumulated — when the loose facts and scattered reminiscen-

ces, which are now floating along the stream of tradition, shall be gathered together, then may such a work be prepared, as will be creditable to our country. Until then, we can only aim at presenting to the public, such fragments of history as may be rescued from oblivion by individuals; and such observations, as the few, who are curious in collecting the statistics of their own times, may be able to accumulate.

In the following volumes, therefore, nothing further is attempted, than a collection of facts; many of which are the result of the writer's own observation. These are not presented in any connected series, nor with any embellishment of style; but are placed before the reader, under the most unambitious form, consistent with convenience of arrangement, and propriety of expression. This is not said to disarm criticism; an author has no right to interpose himself between the critic and his duty, either to secure his clemency, or resent his decision; but simply to explain to the reader, the unpretending character of these volumes, in order that their appearance may not awaken expectations, which they are not calculated to satisfy.