

**THE CONQUEST OF CALIFORNIA
AND NEW MEXICO, BY THE
FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES,
IN THE YEARS 1846 & 1847**

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JAMES MADISON CUTTS

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BY
JAMES MADISON CUTTS.

WITH ENGRAVINGS, PLANS OF BATTLE, ETC.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE AUTHOR'S PURPOSE.

WHETHER by emigration or by war—by conquest or by purchase—*New Mexico*, and the *Californias*, one or all, are to become territories of the *United States of North America*, is no part of this work to discuss. Their geographical position and the course of events may tend to this result. It is, however, left to others to canvass the possibilities or probabilities, along with the policy of such consummation.

A general outline of the geography of these countries, together with *a concise and continuous narrative* of recent military and naval operations connected with the *Conquest of California and New Mexico*, embodying marches and exploits "*among the most wonderful of the age,*"* is apparently demanded by their romantic and "*almost fabulous*" interest, as well as by the universal attention bestowed upon the *Mexican war*, and its consequences.

The purpose is here to sketch the geographical and histo-

* Senator Benton.

rical outlines with entire impartiality, and with such fidelity as the records now admit of; so that the Public may have before them an unpretending, yet useful *compendium*. At least, such is the Author's only design, and this he hopes to accomplish satisfactorily, the more that he makes no literary pretensions, and that it must be obvious to all, that the materials of history are not sufficiently developed for the more studied and philosophical research, which may hereafter occupy the minds of some of those historians of whose fame America is so justly proud.

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