

**BRIEF HISTORY OF
CALIFORNIA;
BOOK I**

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Brief History of California; Book I by Theodore H. Hittell

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THEODORE H. HITTELL

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CALIFORNIA;
BOOK I**



HERNANDO CORTES.

[From Rivera's "Los Gobernantes de Mexico," Mexico, 1872. In the Sutro Library, San Francisco.]

BRIEF HISTORY
OF
CALIFORNIA

BY
THEODORE H. HITTELL

With an Introduction and Suggestive Correlations by
RICHARD D. FAULKNER,
PRINCIPAL FRANKLIN GRAMMAR SCHOOL, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Maps, Portraits and Other Illustrations
BY
CHARLES J. HITTELL

BOOK I

THE STONE EDUCATIONAL COMPANY
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LELAND STANFORD JUNIOR UNIVERSITY

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INTRODUCTION.

BY RICHARD D. FAULKNER.

The history of California is unique. Its periods of growth are distinct epochs. It did not grow out of complex situations. A series of logical events succeeded each other, apparently in natural sequence, until a typical State of the United States was completely evolved. Its history since its admission is equal in interest to its romantic past and its thrilling present.

A study of the history of such a State can not fail to interest, instruct, and inspire its future citizens.

The early history of the State, being the narrative of explorations in which the motive of the explorers is readily perceived, serves as an admirable introduction to the history of the United States, with which it is closely correlated. Its study can therefore be introduced early into the course of the elementary schools, and if completed, it will be an excellent preparation for a survey in the secondary schools of the whole history of the American continent.

It was difficult, until Mr. Theodore H. Hittell in 1897 completed his "History of California" in four volumes, to give to the pupils of the public schools a conception of the history of the State, without great labor on the part of the teacher; but it was generally recognized by teachers that the completion of this work made it possible to do so with the minimum of expense in time and effort. But to further minimize time and effort on the part of teachers, and at the same time to give pupils an opportunity of acquiring for themselves directly some knowledge of the history of the State, the author of the "History of California" has written, with all his charm of style and historical accuracy, a "Brief History of California" that can be read and comprehended by the pupils of the grammar grades of the public schools.

In the "History of California," the history of the State is discussed in twelve subdivisions termed books, the titles of which

are: Early Voyages, The Jesuits, The Franciscans, The Spanish Governors, The Mexican Governors, The Last Mexican Governors, The Americans, Early Mining Times, Progress of San Francisco, State Growth, Early State Administrations, Later State Administrations.

The plan of the "Brief History of California" is substantially that of the "History of California," and in many cases the same language is used. It consists of twelve subdivisions or books—the titles, however, differing slightly from those of the larger work. It is to be published in three forms: First, each subdivision or book under its own title, as each, though an integral part of the whole, is complete within itself; second, in parts, a part consisting of three of its subdivisions or books; third, in a single volume.

It is designed as a text-book for instruction in the history of the State and for supplementary reading.

It is believed that provision can be made for its use in schools, with but slight revision of Courses of Study, as it correlates closely on the one hand with the history of each pupil's neighborhood and on the other with the "History of the United States."

It is thought that the time required for instruction in local and State history will be more than offset by the alertness of mind which it will produce in awakening the interest of the pupils in their immediate surroundings, and in the past, present, and future of not only the section in which they live, but of the State and of the great country of which it is a part.

It is suggested that Part I be introduced into the sixth grade, Part II into the seventh, Part III into the eighth and Part IV into the ninth. But this is only a suggestion. It is expected that Boards of Education will exercise their discretion in its grading. The plan of its publication is intended to give flexibility to its introduction into the schools.

The maps, portraits, and other illustrations of the "Brief History of California" are carefully drawn by Mr. Charles J. Hittell from the most authentic sources, and may be relied upon as correct. It is the aim that they shall be educative within themselves, not only as suggestive of sources of information but also from an artistic standpoint.

August 4, 1898.

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