

**SKETCHES OF  
AMERICA  
AND AMERICANS**

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Sketches of America and Americans by George I. Haight

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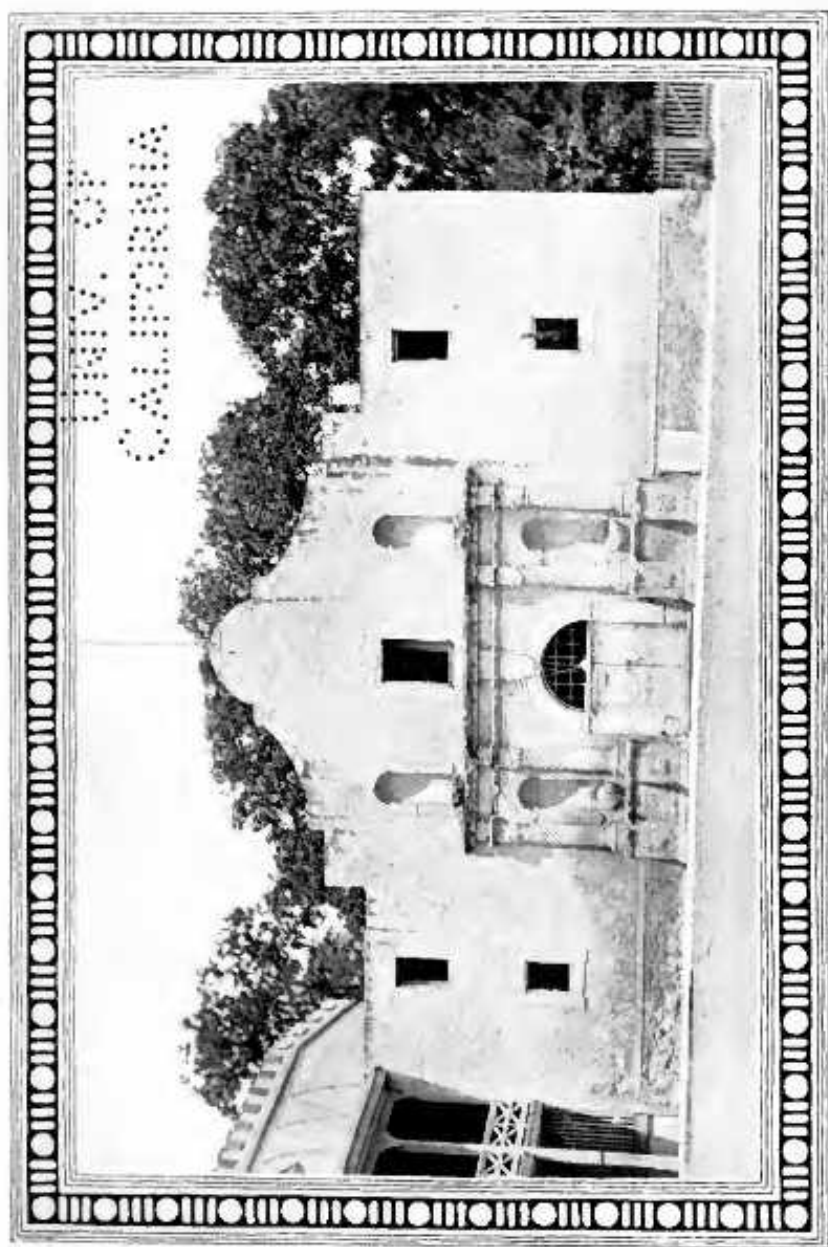
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**GEORGE I. HAIGHT**

**SKETCHES OF  
AMERICA  
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THE ALAMO AT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

SKETCHES  
OF  
AMERICA  
AND  
AMERICANS

LIBRARY OF  
CALIFORNIA

BY  
GEORGE I. HAIGHT

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1920  
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## Preface

**T**HERE is no country whose story is more interesting than that of our own United States. To the student of history, America offers a most fertile field. Our annals ought to appeal deeply to all of our citizens. From a wider popular acquaintance with our past will come a better understanding of our institutions, a clearer idea of the rights and privileges of Americans and their foundation, a wider appreciation of the cost of the citizenship we enjoy, and a deeper conception of our duties in cherishing and preserving our inheritance.

In the American narratives, thousands of men and women appear who were leaders in great accomplishments. Some were partly or wholly appreciated by their contemporaries; many were not generally known or understood. Among all of these are multitudes of heroes. In a country's heroes can be found the measure of that country's ideals. More than this, by a knowledge of heroes ideals can be created and stimulated.

To arouse, though only in small measure, an interest in the heroic and vital of America, these short essays are written. Their fields are very small. None is complete, either as biography or history. All relate to subjects and events that are widely known. If they command attention sufficient to induce further particular study by those to whom any element of novelty is presented, or by



## PREFACE

those to whom they serve only as small reminders of the greater fields from which they are drawn, they will have succeeded to the full limit of the author's purpose.

G. I. H.

*The story of the Alamo is of men  
who, rather than yield to a tyrant,  
fought valiantly under terrific odds  
and died in defense of their natural  
rights.*

