

**SEVEN HISTORIC AGES OR
TALKS
ABOUT KINGS, QUEENS,
AND BARBARIANS**

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Seven Historic Ages or Talks About Kings, Queens, and Barbarians by Arthur Gilman

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ARTHUR GILMAN

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PHILIP THE SECOND, OF SPAIN. See page 95.

Charles F. Moring.
© From his *Mather*. Dec 27th 1873.

SEVEN HISTORIC AGES

OR

TALKS ABOUT

KINGS, QUEENS, AND BARBARIANS

BY

ARTHUR GILMAN, M. A.

AUTHOR OF "FIRST STEPS IN ENGLISH LITERATURE"

*"I doubt not through the Ages one increasing purpose runs,
And the thoughts of men are widened with the process of the suns"*
LOCKSLEY HALL.

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PREFACE.



 WHEN the celebrated Doctor Johnson was asked by a friend if he would advise one to read a voluminous work on China, the philosopher replied, "Why yes, as one reads such books — that is to say, consult it."

Of many large books with which our library shelves are burdened, we may say the same. Large books are to be consulted — small ones read. The opinion appears to be growing, that the worth of our volumes increases in proportion as their size decreases.

Specially is this true of works of history for the young. If the author can fix the mind upon certain salient points, important characters, or great eras, he may expect to make a vivid impression upon the young imagination.

In this volume an attempt is made to present a series of grand events in the history of the world from the Golden Age of Greece to the palmy days of France.

The sketches are merely suggestive, but it is hoped they will in some degree fulfill the three offices of history, in giving healthful pleasure, educational stimulus, and moral lessons.

The episodes delineated must be familiar to all who aspire to be considered well-educated. If the imagination be stirred enough to lead the young reader to further and more careful studies, he will not regret the time spent on the little volume now open before him.

"Books that you may carry to the fire, and hold readily in your hand, are the most useful, after all," said Doctor Johnson, in another place.





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