FOUR PHASES OF AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT; FEDERALISM-DEMOCRACY-IMPERIALISM-EXPANSION

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Four phases of American development; federalism-democracy-imperialism-expansion by John Bassett Moore

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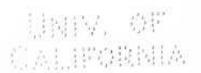
FOUR PHASES OF AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT

FEDERALISM-DEMOCRACY-IMPERIALISM-EXPANSION

BY

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TO WINE California

TO

J. A. M

IN REMEMBRANCE OF HIS FONDNESS FOR POLITICAL HISTORY AND HIS LOVE OF THE TRUTH



FOREWORD

The four lectures embraced in the present volume were delivered at the Johns Hopkins University, in April last, on the foundation established there by James Schouler, lawyer and historian, for lectures in history and political science. Their object is to give, not a chronological detail of related or unrelated incidents, but rather a general survey of important movements, explained in the light of the causative facts, whether these be particular acts, or human traits and tendencies disclosed by men acting in the mass or individually. This is, in the writer's opinion, the historian's primary task. To frame indictments, to condemn and exculpate, to distribute censures and pronounce encomiums, on the strength of preconceptions as to what ought to have taken place, belongs to the historical moralist, the nobility of whose aims is supposed to justify him in exacting from the past, as the price of its exoneration, an anticipatory conformity to his own views. The function of the historian, if apparently less exalted, is more truthful. It is also more difficult of performance, and requires a wider range of thought, of investigation and of sympathies. History is the drama of the ages reduced to writing. The historian, like the dramatist, may also be and in a qualified sense necessarily is a moralist, since every picture of life conveys a lesson of some kind. But his first duty is that of exposition. He deals in realities. His chief end is to recreate the past, so that the reader may live in it and, seeing things as they were, understand things as they are.

J. B. M.

OCTOBER 21, 1911.

CONTENTS

		LEC	TUR	ΕI				PAGE
Federalism	283	18	•81	80	*	**	*	9
		LEC:	rure	ıı				
DEMOCRACY	(1 .	•			*	ě	٠	47
	3	LECT	URE	ш				
IMPERIALISM	į.	27	şi)	2	*	\$3	*	96
		LECT	TURE	iv				
EXPANSION .	8	€3	80		80	(4)		147
Index	52	50	ŧ	*	*			205
							7	