

**PACIFIC HISTORY
STORIES: ARRANGED AND
RETOLD FOR USE IN
THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

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Pacific History Stories: Arranged and Retold for Use in the Public Schools by Harr Wagner & Alice Rose Power

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HARR WAGNER & ALICE ROSE POWER

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Pacific History Stories

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by

HARR WAGNER

Assisted by
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Principal the Washington Irving School
San Francisco, Cal.



Westward the star of empire takes its way;
The four first acts already past,
A fifth shall close the drama with the day:
Time's noblest offspring is the last.
—Berkeley

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1918

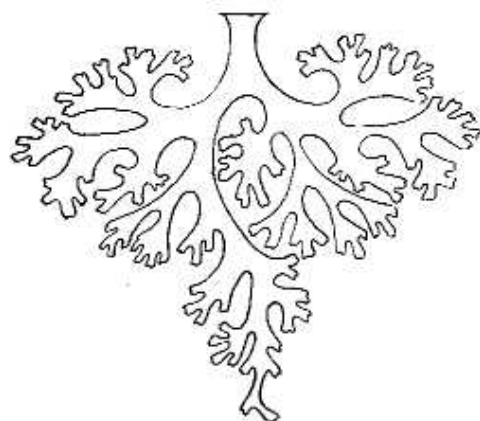
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PREFACE

The voyages of discovery and notable events of the West Coast of America have not been accessible to the teacher and pupil. An honest attempt has been made by the writer to bring this knowledge to the schools in the form of an historical reader. The book is designed for the middle grades. The direct form of narrative has been observed; clearness of statement, short words, and the human side of history have been made characteristic features.

The stories of Balboa, Magellan, Cabrillo, Drake, Portola, the Discovery of Gold, the Bear-Flag Republic, and others are interesting on account of the human and heroic side of the adventures. Where is the boy whose vision will not be enlarged by the picturesque situation of Balboa—

"Silent on a peak in Darien?"

The aim has been to make this a school-book for the teaching of Western history. The mechanical forms of numbered paragraphs and questions have not been introduced, because the progressive teacher desires to avoid the formality of the average text-book.

An effort has been made to teach history on the principle of correlation. For this purpose the geography of the West and Southwest Coast should be given special emphasis.

Myths, legends, and inaccurate descriptions have been

avoided. Sufficient authorities and original documents have been consulted so that impartial statements could be made.

On the pedagogical basis, that knowledge of the child should be builded on the foundation of facts that lie nearest to it, this book should have preference over the history stories of other lands.

The story of Fremont and the account of "Old Californians" were written by Joaquín Miller.

Topics for school composition may be taken from the different stories. The pupil will not then be puzzled for material, and there will be plenty of opportunity for original suggestions and descriptive writing.

Teachers will use different methods; but all teachers who desire to be successful will use the blackboard, the globe, maps, and drill on new words.

Carlyle, in his advice to his nephew, said in reference to history: "Never read any such book without a map beside you; endeavor to seek out every place the author names, and get a clear idea of the ground you are on; without this you can never understand him, much less remember him. Mark the dates of the chief events and epochs; write them; get them fixed into your memory—chronology and geography are the two lamps of history."

Harr Wagner.

A KEY FOR PRONOUNCING WORDS OF SPANISH DERIVATION.

A thorough drill on the following sounds will be helpful. The children of the Pacific Coast are required to use many foreign words. In pronunciation of Spanish words—

give *a* the sound of *ah*;

give *e* the sound of *ay*;

give *i* the sound of *ee*;

give *j* the sound of *h*;

give *o* the sound of *oh*;

give *u* the sound of *oo*;

h is silent;

ll is sounded like *lyā*, like the *ll* in *million*;

ñ is sounded like *ny* in *lanyard*;

hua is sounded like *wa* in *water*.

SOME NOTABLE VOYAGES, DISCOVERIES AND EVENTS

- 1492—**Columbus** discovers certain West Indian Islands.
- 1497—**John Cabot** discovers land in the vicinity of the Gulf of St. Lawrence.
- 1498—**Vasco de Gama** rounds the Cape of Good Hope.
- 1499—**Amerigo Vespucci** discovers the northern coast of South America.
- 1513—**Balboa** discovers the Pacific Ocean.
- 1513—**Ponce de Leon** discovers Florida.
- 1519—**Cortez** conquers Mexico.
- 1519—**Magellan** makes first trip around the world.
- 1531—**Pizarro** conquers Peru.
- 1539—**Hernando de Soto** fits out his expedition.
- 1540—**Coronado** discovers the Colorado.
- 1542—**Cabrillo** sails along the coast of California and into San Diego Bay.
- 1579—**Sir Francis Drake** discovers Drake's Bay.
- 1749—**Junipero Serra** leaves Mexico to begin his work.
- 1770—**Portola's** party discovers Bay of San Francisco.
- 1849—**Gold** discovered by Marshall.
- 1852—**California** admitted into the Union.
- 1906—**The Great Fire.**
- 1915—**The Completion** of the Panama Canal, and the Exposition.