

**HISTORY OF
ILLINOIS IN WORDS
OF ONE SYLLABLE**

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History of Illinois in Words of one Syllable by Thomas W. Handford

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THOMAS W. HANDFORD

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STAT-UE OF LIN-COLN, IN LIN-COLN PARK, CHIC-A-GO.

HISTORY OF ILLINOIS

IN WORDS OF ONE SYLLABLE



BY

THOMAS W. HANDFORD.

Profusely Illustrated

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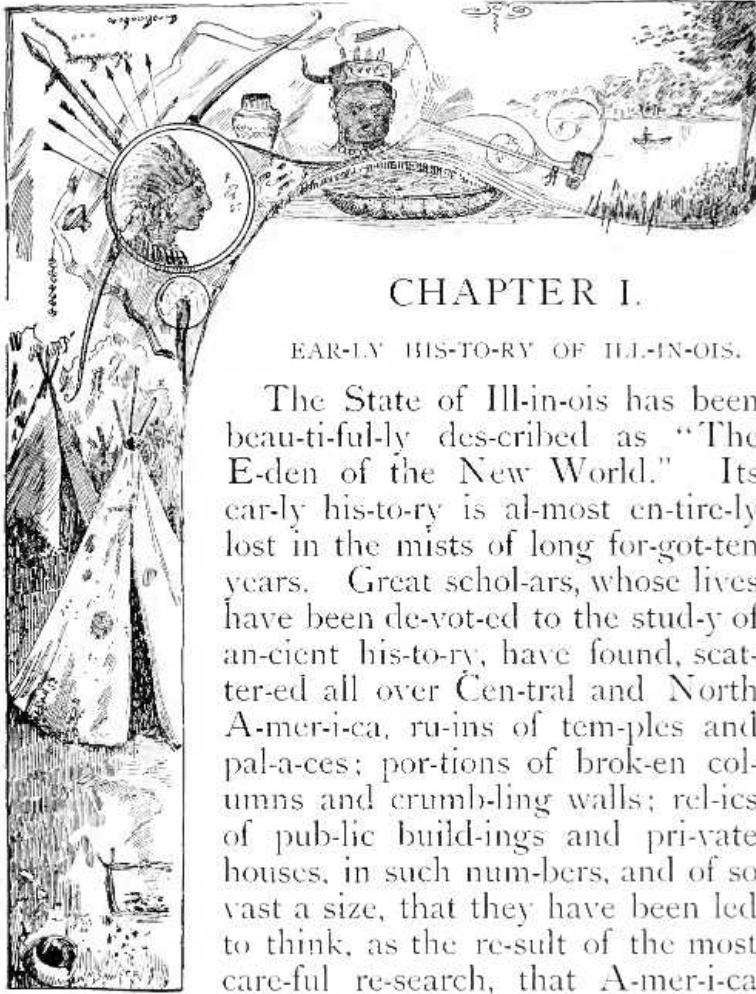
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CHAPTER I.

EARLY HISTORY OF ILLINOIS.

The State of Ill-in-ois has been beau-ti-ful-ly des-cribed as "The E-den of the New World." Its ear-ly his-to-ry is al-most en-tire-ly lost in the mists of long for-got-ten years. Great schol-ars, whose lives have been de-vot-ed to the stud-y of an-cient his-to-ry, have found, scat-ter-ed all over Cen-tral and North A-mer-i-ca, ru-ins of tem-ples and pal-a-ces; por-tions of brok-en col-umns and crumb-ling walls; re-lics of pub-lic build-ings and pri-vate houses, in such num-bers, and of so vast a size, that they have been led to think, as the re-sult of the most care-ful re-search, that A-mer-i-ca

was the home of a wonder-ful civ-il-i-za-tion, man-y, man-y a-ges a-go; and that, in-stead of call-ing A-mer-i-ca "The New World," it should more prop-er-ly be call-ed "The Old World."

These learn-ed men be-lieve that in man-y places where re-li-cies are found, cit-ies of great size and mag-nif-i-cence flour-ish-ed long be-fore the found-a-tions of Baal-bec, or Pal-my-ra, or Thebes, were laid. It is won-der-ful to think that long be-fore Rome was built, or the Pyr-a-mids rear-ed their lof-ty heads by the banks of the Nile, there may have been dense-ly crowd-ed cit-ies all over this fair land; and that on the fruit-ful plains of Ill-in-ois, men and wo-men, by thou-sands, liv-ed and lov-ed, suf-fer-ed and died, of whose ex-ist-ence there is scarce-ly the faint-est trace. All this seems ver-y strange; but the men who tell us these things are much too wise and care-ful to make such state-ments with-out good rea-son.

Whence these first in-hab-i-tants of A-mer-i-ca came from we shall prob-a-bly nev-er know. Some think they came from A-sia by way of Beh-ring Strait. Oth-ers cher-ish a tra-di-tion, still main-tain-ed in Chi-na, to the ef-fect that a com-pa-ny of sail-ors, driv-en off shore by west-er-ly winds, sail-ed man-y weeks, un-til they came to a great con-ti-nent, where the al-oe and kin-dred plants,