

PREFACE

THE Committee of Seven, in their Report to the American Historical Association on the study of history in the schools (1899), recommended that a year be given to "Ancient History, with special reference to Greek and Roman history, but including also a short introductory study of the more ancient nations. This period should also embrace the early Middle Ages, and should close with the establishment of the Holy Roman Empire (800)," or some neighboring event.

Following the recommendation of the Committee, this book aims to present Ancient History as a unit, comprising three closely related parts, -- the Orient, Greece, and Rome. It is adapted to beginning classes in the high school, and furnishes material for a year's work. This volume is not to take the place of the "Orient and Greece" and "Rome"; it is for those who need a briefer and more elementary treatment of ancient times.

As it is intended for pupils who have never studied history before, the story is told simply, all unfamiliar terms are explained, and proper names are syllabified and accented on their first occurrence. The larger topics are printed in bold type and their subdivisions are in italics.

Myth, the foundation of ancient thought and an important element of modern literature, receives due attention. Although especial prominence is given to the narrative, the effects of geographical conditions and the causal relation of events are explained in an elementary way.