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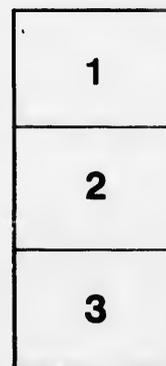
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Alexander



Washington



Peter I



Charles XII

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Vol 3

1832
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A

CATECHISM

OF

UNIVERSAL HISTORY;

CONTAINING

A CONCISE ACCOUNT

OF

THE MOST STRIKING EVENTS,

FROM

The Earliest Ages to the Present Time.

WITH ENGRAVED ILLUSTRATIONS.

BY C. IRVING, LL.D.

Holyrood-house, Southampton.

Altius omnem
Expeditam, prima repetens ab origine, famam.—*Virgil.*

ADAPTED TO THE USE OF SCHOOLS.

MONTREAL:

PUBLISHED BY THOMAS A. STARKE,
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1831.



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CONTENTS.

BOOK I.

From the Creation of the World, 4004 Years B.C. to the Siege of Troy, B.C. 1193.

CHAP.	PAGE
I. The Creation and Deluge	5
II. The first Monarchy, B. C. 2217	7
III. Cadmus introduces Letters into Greece, B.C. 1519	10
IV. The Argonautic Expedition, B.C. 1263	12
V. The War of Thebes, B.C. 1225	13

BOOK II.

From the Siege of Troy, B. C. 1193, to the Foundation of Rome, B. C. 752.

I. The Siege of Troy, B.C. 1193	15
II. The Return of the Heraclidæ, B.C. 1104	16
III. Lycurgus, the Spartan Lawgiver, B.C. 884	17
IV. Solon, the Athenian Legislator, B.C. 594	19
V. The History of Persia	21
VI. Greece invaded by the Persians, B.C. 490	23
VII. The Peloponnesian War, B.C. 431	24
VIII. Alexander the Great, B.C. 336	27
IX. The Conquest of Greece by the Romans, B.C. 146...	28

BOOK III.

From the Foundation of Rome, B.C. 752, to the Establishment of the Empire under Augustus, B.C. 27.

I. The Kings of Rome	31
II. Rome under the Consuls	33
III. The Decemvirate, B.C. 451	36
IV. History of Carthage and Sicily	38
V. The Punic Wars	40
VI. The Gracchi and Decline of the Commonwealth ...	42
VII. The Civil Wars of Pompey and Cæsar	44
VIII. Second Triumvirate and Fall of the Commonwealth	46

BOOK IV.

The Roman Empire from its Commencement under Augustus, B.C. 27, to its Fall in the West, A.D. 476.

CHAP.		PAGE
I.	The Twelve Cæsars	48
II.	The five good Emperors of Rome	51
III.	The Decline of the Empire	52
IV.	Constantine the Great, A.D. 306	53
V.	Extinction of the Western Empire, A.D. 476	54

BOOK V.

From the Fall of the Roman Empire in the West, A.D. 476, to the Reformation, A.D. 1517.

I.	The Eastern Empire	57
II.	The Feudal System	59
III.	The Empire of the Saracens	60
IV.	Charlemagne	63
V.	The Anglo-Saxon Monarchy	66
VI.	State of Europe before the Crusades	68
VII.	The Crusades	70
VIII.	The Discovery of America	72

BOOK VI.

From the Reformation, A. D. 1517, to the present Time.

I.	The Reformation	75
II.	Charles the Fifth	77
III.	The Spanish Armada	78
IV.	The Commonwealth of England	81
V.	The Age of Louis XIV.	83
VI.	Peter the Great and Charles XII	85
VII.	George the Third	88
VIII.	The French Revolution	90
IX.	Buonaparte	93
X.	The United States of America	100

der Augustus,
76.

.....	PAGE
.....	48
.....	51
.....	52
.....	53
76.....	54

A.D. 476, to

.....	57
.....	59
.....	60
.....	63
.....	66
.....	68
.....	70
.....	72

nt Time,

.....	75
.....	77
.....	78
.....	81
.....	83
.....	85
.....	88
.....	90
.....	93
.....	100

A
CATECHISM

OF

UNIVERSAL HISTORY.

BOOK I.

FROM THE CREATION OF THE WORLD, 4004 YEARS B. C.
TO THE SIEGE OF TROY, B. C. 1193. - 2811

CHAPTER I.

The Creation and Deluge.

Q. How was the world, in which we live created?

A. We are taught by the Sacred Scriptures, that the world was created by God, 4004 years before the coming of our Saviour.

Q. How was the world first peopled?

A. The whole race of mankind are descended from Adam and Eve, the first man and woman, who were created by God, in a state of happiness and innocence.

A

Q. Did Adam continue in his original state?

A. Adam disobeyed his Maker, by eating the fruit of the forbidden tree, and was, in consequence, made subject to labour, sin, and death.

Q. What was an early proof of man's degeneracy?

A. Cain, the son of Adam, committed the first murder, by killing his brother Abel.

Q. What was the occasion of this murder?

A. Cain was offended, because his brother's offering had been accepted by God, while his own had been rejected.

Q. What is recorded of the first inhabitants of the world?

A. The inhabitants of the world before the flood were very numerous, and were well skilled in the arts and agriculture, but had become extremely wicked.

Q. What was the consequence of their wickedness?

A. To punish mankind for their iniquity, God sent a deluge, or universal flood, by which all mankind were destroyed except Noah and his family.

Q. When was the deluge sent upon the earth?

A. The deluge was sent upon the earth 2348. before Christ, or 1656 years after the creation of the world.

Q. How were they preserved?

A. Noah, being a just man, had been commanded by God to build an ark, large enough

to contain himself and his family, with at least two of every species of animals.

Q. By whom was the earth re-peopled after the flood?

A. The earth was re-peopled by the three sons of Noah—Shem, Ham, and Japheth; from whom the present inhabitants of the earth are descended.

Q. What memorable enterprise did the descendants of Noah undertake?

A. To protect themselves from a second deluge, the descendants of Noah designed to build the Tower of Babel, whose top should reach to heaven.

Q. How were their designs frustrated?

A. To punish the presumption of those who imagined that they could shield themselves from the divine power and justice, God confounded their language, which obliged them to separate to different parts of the earth.

Q. Whither did the three sons of Noah retire, after the confusion of languages?

A. Shem remained in Asia, Ham retired into Africa, and Japheth re-peopled Europe.

CHAPTER II.

The first Monarchy, B. C. 2217.

Q. WHAT was the earliest kind of government?

A. The most ancient government was the patriarchal, or that in which the fathers of families, and their first-born after them, exercised an authority over their children, relations, and dependents.

Q. Who was the first that established the regal power?

A. Nimrod, an expert hunter, having rendered himself eminent by his conquests over the wild beasts, which infested the earth in vast numbers, was chosen by his companions to be their king, or chief.

Q. Where did he establish his monarchy?

A. Nimrod built Babylon, and Assur, Nineveh, which became the capital of the Assyrian empire, about one hundred and fifty years after the deluge.

Q. What was the next kingdom that was founded?

A. The next kingdom recorded in history, is that of Egypt, which was founded by Menes, called in scripture, Misraim, B. C. 2183.

Q. What was the condition of mankind at this time?

A. The first arts, which Noah had preserved, were still practised in Babylon and Egypt; but they were lost by those who removed to the other parts of the world.

Q. Did mankind still worship the true God?

A. By the separation of mankind, the knowledge of God and the ancient traditions were

forgotten, and each nation worshipped false divinities, peculiar to itself.

Q. How did God provide for the preservation of his worship?

A. That the belief in one supreme God might not be lost, Abraham was appointed to teach his faith to his posterity, who were afterward called Jews.

Q. When did this event take place?

A. The selection, or as it is termed, the call of Abraham, happened 1921 years before Christ.

Q. What do you observe of the successors of Nimrod?

A. Ninus, the son of Nimrod, and his queen Semiramis, raised the Assyrian empire to so great a degree of splendour, that it continued to be the supreme state of Asia for many centuries.

Q. What was the state of Egypt?

A. Egypt had become a highly civilized and populous nation, excelling all the rest of the world in the arts and sciences.

Q. What other nation distinguished itself at this time?

A. The Phœnicians, called Canaanites in scripture, one of the most civilized nations of Asia, were the inventors of writing, and of commercial navigation.

Q. What settlements did the Phœnicians make?

Inachus reigned 30 years - & succeeded by son Phoroneus
 called the Father of Abakkin - built first altar to Demeter
 civil 140 had subject, CATECHISM OF ^{Argos} ^{66 yrs}
 left to his son Argus (30th generation) the father of Argos
 was succeeded by Argus - his sister Crochus son (with that of)

Argos A. The Phoenicians planted colonies in Spain,
Argos Africa, Greece, Sardinia, and Sicily; and Ina-
Argos chus, who emigrated from Phoenicia, founded
Argos the kingdom of Argos, in Greece, B. C. 1856.

Argos Q. In what state was Europe at this time?
Argos A. The inhabitants of Greece and the other
Argos countries of Europe were extremely barbarous,
Argos living in caves and hollow trees, and feeding on
Argos acorns.

Argos Q. How had this degeneracy taken place?
Argos A. Europe being thinly peopled, had little
Argos intercourse with the civilized nations of Asia,
Argos and becoming uninstructed and uninformed, the
Argos people sunk into barbarism.

Argos Q. By whom were they civilized?
Argos A. The Greeks were civilized by colonies
Argos from Phoenicia and Egypt; and they communi-
Argos cated their knowledge to the Romans, who af-
Argos terward conquered and instructed the other na-
Argos tions of Europe.

Argos The Grecian history is divided into 4 periods.
Argos 1st from foundation of Troy on 2,100 B.C. to 1184
Argos 2nd from Troy 1184 - to the reign of Darius
Argos 3rd from Darius 521 to Alexander's death 323
Argos 4th from Alexander's death to the Romans 146

CHAPTER III

Cadmus introduces Letters into Greece.
 B. C. 1519.

Q. By whom was the Grecian kingdom of Athens founded?

Argos Crotus: with Metes in - was called Metes in
Argos Astronomy & Arithmetic - his daughter Peleus
Argos in Athens (Peleus & Metes) - his brother Peleus
Argos formed Men of Letters - became a wise
Argos man & taught the use of Reason. From concerning
Argos instances, though the same as Metes -

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The citadel was first called Cecropia from Cecrops,
 but afterwards Athens from Athena, because it was the school of polite learning, arts
 and sciences. It was burnt by the Persians
 & rebuilt with the most magnificence by Pericles. It
 is still famous to the noblest remains of antiquity.

UNIVERSAL HISTORY

A. The kingdom of Athens was established
 by Cecrops, an Egyptian, famous both as a law-
 giver and politician, B. C. 1556.

Q. What tended the most to civilize the
 Greeks?

A. Cadmus brought the Phœnician letters in-
 to Greece, and founded the kingdom of Thebes;
 and from this period the Greeks made rapid
 advances in civilization.

Q. What measure did the newly-founded
 states of Greece adopt for the mutual security?

A. Greece being now composed of a num-
 ber of petty independent states, continually at
 war with each other, Amphictyon joined them
 together in a general confederacy, B. C. 1522.

Q. How were the interests of this confede-
 racy supported?

A. Each state sent deputies to a general as-
 sembly, called the Amphictyonic Council, which
 met twice a year to deliberate on the common
 interests of the confederacy.

Q. What other circumstances tended to unite
 the Greeks?

A. The Greeks were united not only by a
 similarity of language and manners, but also by
 the celebration of certain games, to which they
 all resorted.

Q. What were the principal games of Greece?

A. The most celebrated Grecian games were
 the Olympic, established by Hercules, in hon-
 our of Jupiter Olympus.

A son of Laïus a Theban king named by the
 Oracle was asked a riddle by a Sphinx. Oedipus
 answered, "It is man, which was to fulfil an ancient prophecy, and by
 which animal walks on four legs in the morning, on two
 legs in the day, and three in the evening."

This is the name of his name from
 the kingdom of Thebes & is called
 after having killed his father
 the discovery of all this
 & the death of his mother
 & the death of his mother & the death of his mother

Q. What else do you observe of them?

A. The Olympic games, after having been neglected, were revived by Coræbus, B.C. 776, and being regularly celebrated every fifth year, form the computation of the Olympiads, the most certain in ancient history.

CHAPTER IV.

The Argonautic Expedition, B. C. 1263.

Q. WHAT was the first great enterprise of the Greeks?

A. The first expedition undertaken by the Greeks, for the general benefit, was that of the Argonauts; which is, however, so disguised by fable that nothing certain can be said about it.

Q. What was the fabulous object of this expedition?

A. According to the ancient fables, the Argonautic expedition was undertaken to recover a celebrated golden fleece, from Ætes, king of Colchis, who had unjustly acquired it by the murder of his son-in-law Phryxus.

Q. By whom was it undertaken?

A. Jason, assisted by Hercules, Theseus, Castor, Pollux, Orpheus, Æsculapius, and other heroes, undertook to obtain possession of the fleece.

+ according to fable, it was the fleece of a ram guarded by a terrible dragon & by a bull with brazen feet, out of whose mouth issued flames of fire.

Q. Why is it called the Argonautic expedition?

A. The expedition of the Grecian heroes is ^{or called} termed Argonautic, from the ship ^{from Argos} 'Argo, in ^{the buxelles} which the adventurers sailed, who themselves are called Argonauts.

Q. What was their success?

A. After surmounting the greatest obstacles, Jason accomplished his purpose, and returned to Greece, where he was received with the greatest joy.

Q. When did this event take place?

A. The Argonautic expedition is computed to have happened about 1263 years before Christ.

Q. What is the supposed meaning of the fable?

A. The real object of the expedition appears to have been to open a commerce with the Black Sea, and to settle colonies on the coasts near Colchis.

CHAPTER V.

The War of Thebes, B. C. 1225.

Q. WHAT was the cause of this war?

A. The Theban war originated in a dispute for the divided sovereignty of Thebes, between two brothers, Eteocles and Polynices.

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Q. What was the consequence of their rivalry?

A. The two brothers engaged their neighbouring princes, to espouse their interests, but in a battle which ensued, they both fell by mutual wounds.

Q. Did this terminate the war?

A. The sons of the commanders slain in this war, renewed the quarrel of their fathers; and, after laying waste the country, finally took possession of Thebes.

Q. What was the state of the military art at this period?

A. The science of military tactics was as yet unknown, and every battle was only a vast number of single combats.

Q. What weapons were used by the soldiers?

A. The weapons of war, were the javelin, the bow, the sword, the hatchet, the club, and the sling; their defensive armour consisted of a helmet of brass, a breastplate, and an enormous shield.

Q. What do you observe of their sieges?

A. As the ancients were ignorant of the art of attack and defence, the sieges differed little from blockades, and the military enterprises were carried on during the spring and summer only.

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BOOK II.

FROM THE SIEGE OF TROY, B. C. 1193, TO THE FOUNDATION OF ROME, B. C. 752. - 441

CHAPTER I.

The Siege of Troy, B. C. 1193.

Q. WHAT was the next great enterprise in which the Greeks engaged?

A. The next enterprise in which the Greeks exerted their united force, was the war against Troy, a powerful city of Asia.

Q. What was the cause of this war?

A. The Trojan war was undertaken to avenge the cause of Menelaus, king of Sparta, whose wife Helen, Paris, son of Priam, king of Troy, had carried away, *+ violated the rights of hospitality by carrying Helen away*

Q. What number of forces did the Greeks lead against Troy?

A. The Grecian fleet consisted of 1,000 ships, carrying about 100,000 men, of whom Agamemnon was the commander-in-chief. *king of Mycenae*

Q. Who distinguished themselves in this expedition?

A. Among the Grecian heroes who signalized themselves, were Agamemnon, Menelaus *king of Sparta*, Lacedaemon. * *brother, king of Pylos & Ithaca*, Achilles, *of Peithia & Larissa*, Ajax *king of Salamis*, Odysseus, *of Ithaca*, & Diomedes *king of Argos*.

+ Troy was founded by Dardanus, a Phrygian
1400 B.C.; succeeded by Laomedon his son
and by his daomedon's son Priam who
was King.

CATECHISM OF

* Nestor, Achilles, Ajax the son of Telamon,
Ulysses, Ajax the son of Oileus, and Diomedes;
and, among the Trojans, Hector, Æneas, and
Sarpedon.

Q. What was the issue of the war?

of the wooden horse,
A. After a siege of ten years, Troy was taken
by a stratagem, and being set on fire in the night,
was burnt to the ground.

preluded
Q. When did this event take place?

A. The taking of Troy, one of the most
celebrated epochs in ancient history, happened
B.C. 1184.

Q. Did none escape the general ruin?

A. Two of the Trojan princes, Antenor and
Æneas, escaped: the latter, after a long wan-
dering, landed in Italy, where he became the
great progenitor of the Romans.

*After this war, Agamemnon was killed
by Clytemnestra; Idomeneus banished himself
from his own country; Ulysses long wandered
upon the seas.*

CHAPTER II.

The Return of the Heraclides, B.C. 1104.

Q. WHAT memorable event succeeded the
siege of Troy?*

* The siege of Troy has furnished the subject of the
two most perfect epic poems in the world—the Iliad
and the Æneid. The former written by Homer, details
the proceedings of the Trojan War: and the latter
written by Virgil, gives an account of the travels and
adventures of Æneas.

*his other incomparable poem was the Odyssey
describing the return of Ulysses to the island
Ithaca, his native country, after encountering
multitude of difficulties.*

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The Order of the Heraclidæ at their expulsion
was Hyllus, son of Hercules, afterwards—
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A. About 80 years after the taking of Troy,
happened the war of the Heraclidæ, usually call-
ed the return of the Heraclidæ into Peloponnesus.

Q. Who were the Heraclidæ?

A. The Heraclidæ were the descendants of
Hercules, king of Mycenæ, who, after their
father's death, were deprived of their inheritance
by Atreus, the son of Pelops.

Q. By whose means were they reinstated?

A. The Heraclidæ ^{conducted by Perseus & Erichonides} having obtained assistance
from the Dorians, invaded Peloponnesus, expelled
the inhabitants, or put them to the sword, and
made themselves masters of the whole country.

Q. What became of the exiled inhabitants of
Peloponnesus?

A. The inhabitants of Peloponnesus, when
expelled by the Heraclidæ, retired to Asia
Minor, and possessed themselves of the country
afterward called Ionia.

Q. Their return introduced 4 distinctions of dialects
among the Grecians, viz. Æolic, most elegant, Æolic
most esteemed, Doric, spoken by Dæci, Sicilians, Dorians,
Thracians & Cretans, & Æolic used by Boeotians & Thesians.

CHAPTER III.

The Son of Cumnus, King of Sparta.

† Lycurgus, the Spartan Lawgiver, B.C. 884.

Q. WHERE was Sparta situated?

A. The kingdom of Sparta, or Lacedæmon,
was situated in Peloponnesus; and, upon the
division of that country among the Heraclidæ,
fell to the share of Aristodemus.

Sparta was found B. C. by Lélex about 1771 B.C.
† his equal division of property among the citizens
would take away inequality, envy, fraud, luxury
& other vices, caused by the two great evils—
extreme wealth & extreme poverty.

Perseus & Erichonides
founded by Perseus
founded by Perseus
founded by Perseus

Q. What took place at his death?

+Curys thenes
Phocles
A. On the death of Aristodemus, Sparta was governed jointly by his two sons⁺; and after their death, continued for many centuries subject to kings of their descendants. *for near 900 years.*

Q. What were the consequences of this double monarchy?

A. The state was weakened by civil commotions, and the people, feeling the want of established laws, chose Lycurgus to be their legislator.

Q. What were the institutions of Lycurgus?

A. Lycurgus made an equal division of land among the citizens, abolished the use of gold and silver, and distinction of dress, and ordained that all should take their meals in public.

Q. What system of education did he establish for the Spartan youth?

A. As Lycurgus wished to make a nation of warriors, he took the children from their parents, at seven years of age, and placed them in public schools; where, by a rigid discipline, they were inured to bear hardships, to scorn danger, to respect the aged, and to love their country.

Q. How long did these institutions continue in force?

A. The laws of Lycurgus remained in force about 500 years, during which time Sparta conquered many of the neighbouring states, and attained the chief power in Greece.

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*The form of the Athenian Government was first
promulgated & enacted till 594 B.C. when
it became democratical undignified
was called Democracy*

UNIVERSAL HISTORY.

CHAPTER IV.

Solon, the Athenian Legislator, B. C. 594.

Q. WHAT was Athens?

A. Athens was the capital of Attica in Greece, which afterward became very powerful and the nursery of learning and the arts.

Q. Who was the last king of Athens?

A. The last king of Athens was Codrus, who, in a war with the Heraclidæ devoted himself to death for the good of his country, B.C. 1070.

Q. What government was established in Athens, after his death?

A. The sons of Codrus disputing for the sovereignty, the Athenians abolished the regal power, and appointed a chief magistrate, with the title of archon.

Q. What changes did the form of government undergo?

A. (The office of archon was at first for life, and hereditary;) but afterward for 10 years only; and, finally, became annually, and was divided among nine persons.

Q. What was the condition of the people under all these changes?

A. The state was agitated by discord, and the condition of the people being miserable, they intrusted Draco with the care of forming a body of laws for their future government.

Q. What do you observe of Draco?

+ endeavoured to follow the example of the Spartans, but failed in consequence of making his laws severe beyond all human sufferance.

+ Solon's institutions in capital punishment, were modelled for their mildness, being less rigorous, to accommodate his system to the habits of the people. He abolished the debts of the poor. He prepared an act of insolvency. He repealed the severe laws of Draco, except of death in cases of murder.

CATECHISM OF

A. Draco was wise and upright: but his laws were so severe, that they punished every crime with death; from which circumstance they were said to have been written, not with ink, but with blood.

Q. By whom was the Athenian constitution new modelled?

A. The laws of Draco were repealed, and the constitution was new modelled by Solon, his successor in the archonship.

Q. What form of government was instituted by Solon?

A. The nine archons were continued, and a senate of 400 members were appointed to prepare the measures that were to be decided by the assembly of the people, in whom the supreme power was vested.

Q. What do you observe of Solon?

A. Solon was a great and good man, and was one of the seven wise men of Greece; he died B.C. 536. *in the island of Cyprus, two years after his return & 80 years of age.*

Q. Who were the other six?

A. The other wise men were Thales of Miletus, Periander of Corinth, Bias of Priene, Chilo of Sparta, Pittacus of Mitylene, and Cleobulus of Rhodes.

Q. What took place after the death of Solon?

A. Pisistratus, an artful man, usurped the sovereignty of Athens, and transmitted it to his two sons after a reign of 40 years.

Q. What happened to his two sons?

during his travels to Egypt & Asia. Athens was divided by three factions - one headed by Megacles, one by Pisistratus, & third by Alcibiades. Alcibiades was powerful by his vast riches. Pisistratus established his government by his affability & liberality, secured the reigns of government.

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A. Hippias and Hipparchus, the sons of Pisistratus, were expelled from the throne of Athens, and the latter was put to death.

Q. What became of Hippias?

A. Hippias fled to Darius, king of Persia, who readily undertook to espouse his cause, and prepared to invade Greece, with a powerful army.

CHAPTER V.

History of Persia.

Q. WHO was the last king of the first Assyrian monarchy? *

A. The first empire of the Assyrians ended under Sardanapalus, a very effeminate prince, who burnt himself to death in his palace, with his family and treasures.

Q. How was the empire divided after his death?

A. Out of the Assyrian empire arose the three monarchies, of Nineveh, Babylon, and that of the Medes.

Q. What do you observe of the Babylonian monarchy?

A. Babylon became the seat of a very powerful empire, and Nebuchadnezzar, the last king,

* See Book I, Chapter II, page 8.

led the Jews into captivity, took Jerusalem and Tyre, and conquered Egypt.

Q. By whom was the empire of Babylon overthrown?

A. Cyrus, king of Persia, having succeeded to the sovereignty of the Medes, vanquished the Babylonians, and made himself master of the greater part of Asia.

Q. Who succeeded Cyrus in the empire of Persia?

A. Cyrus was succeeded by his son Cambyses, the Artaxerxes of scripture, who added Egypt to his empire, but was distinguished for his cruel tyranny.

Q. By whom was Cambyses succeeded?

A. After the death of Cambyses, Darius the the son of Hystapes was elected sovereign of *221. 32* Persia, and signalized himself by his valour and enterprising spirit.

Q. What were the chief occurrences of his reign?

A. Darius was unsuccessful in a war with the Scythians, but he achieved the conquest of India; and, at the instigation of Hippias, the exiled king of Athens, projected an invasion into Greece.

Q. What was, at this time, the extent of the Persian empire?

A. The Persian empire comprehended Asia Minor, Phoenicia, Syria, Palestine, Egypt, Bablylonia, Media, Persia, India, and part of Arabia.

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The Persians lost 6,000 of their troops & Darius was slain. This success is considered as the source & original cause of their future conquests and victories.

CHAPTER VI.

Greece invaded by the Persians, B. C. 490.

Q. WHAT force did Darius employ in the invasion of Greece?

A. Darius sent into Greece 100,000 foot and 10,000 horse under the command of his generals, Datis and Artaphernes, ^{attended by Hipparchus for} ~~this~~ ^{his} ~~counsellor~~ ^{his} ~~& command~~ ^{commander}.

Q. What was the success of this expedition?

A. The Persian army was totally defeated at Marathon, by 10,000 Athenians, and 1,000 Plataeans, under the command of Miltiades.

Q. What happened after this defeat?

A. Darius was not discouraged by the failure of the expedition: but while making preparations to invade Greece in person, he died, and was succeeded by his son Xerxes, B. C. 486.

Q. How did Xerxes begin his reign?

A. Xerxes set out for the conquest of Greece, with an army of 5,000,000 men, and 1,000 ships of war, and 3,000 ships of burden.

Q. What was the fate of this vast armament?

A. Xerxes was opposed, with great loss, by the immortal Leonidas, ^{with 3,000} at the straits of Thermopylae; and, after he had burned the city of Athens, his fleet was defeated at Salamis, and he hastily retreated to Asia.

Q. Whom did he leave to prosecute the war in Greece?

Xerxes was killed by Artabanus an Thracian
whom he attempted to kill Artabanus his son who was
at 40 years old received the punishment with
his 24 children.

CATECHISM OF

A. Xerxes left Mardonius, one of his ablest generals, with an army of 300,000, to complete the reduction of Greece, to the power of Persia.

Q. Was Mardonius successful?

A. In the ensuing campaign, Mardonius was entirely overcome at Platea, by the combined troops of Athens and Lacedæmon; and on the same day, the Greeks destroyed the remains of the Persian fleet at Mycale, B. C. 479.

CHAPTER VII.

The Peloponnesian War, B. C. 431.

Q. How did the Greeks act, after the overthrow of the Persians?

A. The Greeks, in their turn, attacked the Persians; and, after sustaining many signal defeats, Artaxerxes, the Persian king, requested peace, which was granted.

Q. By whom were the Grecian affairs raised to a high degree of glory?

A. The Greeks were indebted for their prosperity, to the virtues and talents of the celebrated commanders, Miltiades, Themistocles, Aristides surnamed the Just, Cimon, and Pericles.

Q. What were the consequences of the peace with Persia?

A. The Grecian states when freed from external aggression, began to quarrel among themselves, and the Athenians and Lacedæmonians

Pericles, son of Xanthippus, commander at Mycale.
distinguished for extent of knowledge, great talents,
of administration, & irresistible eloquence, with
qualities procured the chief direction of affairs
which he sustained for 40 years.

† Athens on one side, & Sparta, almost all Peloponnesians, Phœcia, & Bœotia on the other.

his ablest complete of Persia.

A. What do you observe of this war?

Q. The Peloponnesian war was carried on with great vigour and animosity on both sides, and finally ended in the subjection of Athens to the Lacedæmonians, B. C. 403. *by Alexander the Great.*

Q. By whom was Athens restored to freedom?

A. Thrasbylus, an Athenian of virtue and abilities, by expelling the 30 tyrants that had been set over the state by the Lacedæmonians, restored the popular government. *who stayed for 2 years.*

Q. What remarkable event happened at this time in Asia?

A. Cyrus conspired to dethrone his brother Artaxerxes Mineon, king of Persia, and with the assistance of 13,000 Grecian troops, came to an engagement near Babylon, where he was defeated and slain. *the democracy.*

Q. What become of the Greek mercenaries?

A. Although the Greeks were in an enemy's country, and 600 leagues from home, yet Xenophon, their commander, conducted their retreat with such ability, that the greater part reached in safety their native land.

Q. What name is given to this memorable enterprise?

A. The return of the Greeks is called THE RETREAT OF THE TEN THOUSAND; and is one of the most astonishing military events related in history.

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the king's army.
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the king's army.

*Agisilans was king of a bc. d. demon of the
times. Theban war having defeated Sepia-
phimus the Persian general near river Pactol.
but was recalled by the Persians to defend his
country.*

CATECHISM OF

*1. See man kind by the Persians, to whom he had
once done a wrong.*

Q. What gave rise to new disturbances in Greece?

A. The Lacedæmonians became proud of their superiority over the other states, and involved themselves in a war with the Thebans, in which the latter, under the command of Epaminondas, were victorious, B. C. 371.

Q. What was the effect of these intestine wars?

A. By these continual wars, the states of Greece exhausted their strength, and became less capable of resisting foreign invasions.

Q. Who took advantage of the weakness of the Grecian states?

A. Philip, king of Macedon, by the most consummate policy, procured himself to be admitted a member of the Amphictyonic council; * but finding the Athenians and Thebans inimical to his views, he attacked and defeated them, at the famous battle of Cheronæ, B. C. 338.

Q. What enterprise did Philip project after his conquest of Greece?

A. Philip projected an invasion of Persia and caused himself to be appointed commander-in-chief of all the Greeks; but in the midst of his preparations, he was assassinated by a captain of his guards, B. C. 336. *reigned 24 years*

Q. What eminent men flourished during the period?

* See page 11.

+ the great Athenian philosopher, perhaps the
greatest character that Greece ever produced.
UNIVERSAL HISTORY. 27

A. About this time, the celebrated philoso-
phers, Pythagoras, and Socrates; the dramatic
writers, Sophocles, Euripides, and Aristophanes;
the historians, Herodotus, Thucydides, Xeno-
phon, and Aristotle, the illustrious preceptor of
Alexander the Great.

CHAPTER VIII.

*Alexander the Great, B.C. 336. was named
heavily & princely generalissimo of his people
of great the Persians.*

Q. Who succeeded Philip in the sovereignty
of Greece?

A. Philip was succeeded by his son Alex-
ander, a prince of the most unbounded ambi-
tion, and one of the greatest conquerors that the
world ever produced.

Q. What do you observe of the beginning
of his reign?

A. Alexander subdued several provinces that
had revolted, and collecting an army of 30,000
foot and 5,000 horse, he then passed into Asia,
to prosecute the designs of his father, for the
conquest of Persia.

Q. What was his success?

A. With this small force, Alexander con-
quered the vast armies of Persia, in the three
pitched battles of the Granicus, Issus, and Ar-
bela, and made himself master * of the whole
Persian empire.

*at Issus there were 400,000 Persians; they
lost there 110,000; he next reduced Asia all the way
Lydia; took Tyre; engaged Egypt, a huge
found the city of Alexander; he returned through
Persia, defeated the army of Darius, the king of Persia
at Arbela. of 700,000 with the loss of 300,000.*

Darius was at length basely murdered by Darius
one of his own officers. The Persian empire which
28 CATECHISM OF
submitted to Alexander 336 B.C.

Q. How far did Alexander extend his conquests?

A. Not satisfied with the possession of Persia, Alexander overcame the Scythians, conquered India, and would have penetrated to the Eastern Ocean, had not his soldiers refused to follow him.

Q. What do you remark of his return and death?

A. After encountering many dangers, Alexander arrived at Babylon, where he gave himself up to intemperance and debauchery which brought him to his end, in the 33d year of his age, and in the 13th of his reign, B.C. 324.

Q. What was the character of Alexander the Great?

A. Alexander was generous, humane, and liberal, a great encourager of learning, and brave even to rashness.

St. 13, We see in Alex's life that the lust of conquest produces no real happiness, & that the violent nature may be corrupted by giving away to the violence of passions.

CHAPTER IX.

The Conquest of Greece by the Romans, B. C.
146.

Q. WHAT became of the empire of Alexander, after his death?

A. The vast dominions of Alexander were

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divided among his generals, who, after much war and bloodshed, established the kingdoms of Egypt, Syria, Bithynia, and Parthia, Macedonia, and Greece.

Q. What were the names of the generals among whom the empire was divided?

A. Ptolemy, Cassander, Lysimachus, and Seleucus.

Q. How long did these states exist?

A. These states were governed by their respective kings for nearly three centuries, when all of them except Parthia fell under the overwhelming power of the Romans.

Q. What took place in Greece?

A. The Greeks, stimulated by the exertions of Demosthenes, attempted several times to recover their freedom, but were as often subdued.

Q. What was the state of Greece at this period?

A. The Greeks had degenerated from the virtuous patriotism of their ancestors, but excelled all the other nations of the world in learning, politeness, and the arts.

Q. What were the last efforts the Greeks made to regain their independence?

A. To rescue their country from the yoke of foreign slavery, the Achæans of Peloponnesus, formed a league, which was for upwards of a century, ably supported by Aratus and Philopœmen, the latter of whom is styled the last of the Greeks, B. C. 281.

Q. What event led to the final subjection of Greece?

A. The people of Ætolia being attacked by the Macedonians, called in the assistance of the Romans, who from a contemptible beginning had become the most powerful nation of Europe.

Q. What was the success of the Romans?

A. Macedonia was speedily subdued, and Perseus, the last sovereign, was led captive to Rome, to grace the triumph of Paulus Æmilius the Roman general, B. C. 167.

Q. How did the Romans act, after they had thus obtained a footing in Greece?

A. The Romans encouraged dissensions among the Grecian states, and soon after found a pretext for dissolving the Achæan league, and subduing the whole country.

Q. When did this event take place?

A. The final reduction of Greece was by the consul Mummius, who sacked[†] Corinth, and formed the whole into a Roman province under the name of Achaia, B. C. 146.

Q. What do you observe of Greece, during its subjection to the Romans?

A. Greece although conquered, still retained the ascendancy of genius and taste over the rest of the world, and was the school to which the most illustrious men repaired to learn the arts of elegance and refinement.

† Corinth was founded 1184 B. C. by Sisyphus son of Pelus King of Peloponnesus. Its last King was Pericles and the government was followed by a democracy. It was called the eye of Greece.

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BOOK III.

FROM THE FOUNDATION OF ROME, B.C. 752, TO THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EMPIRE UNDER
AUGUSTUS, B.C. 27. = 425

CHAPTER I.

The Kings of Rome.

Q. By whom, and when was Rome founded?

A. Rome was founded by Romulus, in the year of the world 3252, and 752 years before the birth of our Saviour.

Q. Who was Romulus?

A. Romulus, born at the same birth with his brother Remus, was the grandson of Numitor, king of Alba, a territory of Italy.

Q. What is recorded of his early life?

A. Romulus and Remus, soon after their birth, were exposed near the river Tiber, by command of Amulius, who had usurped the throne of his brother Numitor, but were preserved and educated by a shepherd.

Q. What was the occasion of his building the city?

A. Romulus being informed of his true origin, deposed Amulius, restored his grand-father Numitor, and built the city of Rome on the spot where he had been preserved.

Q. Who were the first inhabitants of Rome?

A. The first inhabitants were a troop of shepherds, banditti, and fugitive slaves, who peopled their new city by carrying off the wives and daughters of their neighbours, the Sabines.

Q. What kind of government was established at Rome?

A. Romulus who was elected king, appointed a senate of the principal men in the city divided the people into tribes and permitted them to have a vote in the enactment of laws.

Q. How long did Romulus reign?

A. Romulus died after a reign of 39 years, during which Rome increased in power, and became formidable to the neighbouring states.

Q. How long was Rome governed by kings?

A. The monarchy subsisted 244 years, under seven kings.

Q. What are the names of the seven kings of Rome?

A. The kings of ^{Rome} were Romulus, Numa Pompilius, Tullus Hostilius, Ancus Marcius, Tarquinius Priscus, Servius Tullius, and Tarquin the Proud.

Q. What cause led to the abolition of the regal power in Rome?

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wicked conduct incited the people to expel the family from Rome, and to abolish the regal government for ever, B.C. 509.

Q. What was the state of Rome at this period?

A. The city had been adorned with many public edifices; religious institutions had been established, several of the surrounding states subdued, and the Romans had begun to distinguish themselves by their bravery and military discipline.

CHAPTER II.

Rome under the Consuls.

Q. WHAT form of government was established after the expulsion of Traquin?

A. Upon the abolition of the regal power, the Romans established a republican form of government, in which the supreme authority was vested in the people, and the executive power in two annual magistrates, called consuls.

Q. Who were the first two consuls?

A. The people elected as the first consuls, Brutus and Collatinus, two eminent patriots, who had been the most active in abolishing tyranny.

Q. What is related of Brutus?

A. The sons of Brutus having joined in a

conspiracy to restore Tarquin, their father sacrificed the feelings of nature to the public good, and condemned them to be beheaded in his presence.

Q. What other efforts did the Tarquins make to regain the sovereignty?

A. The Tarquins excited many states against Rome, the most powerful of whom were the Etrurians, who, under their king Porsenna, laid siege to the city.

Q. By whose valour was the city saved, on this occasion?

A. The enemy had driven the Romans over a narrow bridge, and were following them into the city, when Horatius Cocles sustained alone the whole attack of the enemy, till the bridge was cut down behind him, and then jumping into the river, swam over to his companions, amid the darts of the enemy.

Q. What induced Porsenna to raise the siege?

A. Mucius Scævola, a noble Roman, burnt the hand that missed Porsenna, and told him that 300 Roman youths had resolved to kill him or perish in the attempt: upon which, the king made peace with the city, and withdrew his army.

Q. What commotions followed, shortly after the retreat of the Etrurians?

A. The *plebeians*, or common people, being oppressed by the *patricians*, or nobles, refused

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to serve in the wars, and the senate was obliged to create Lartius, a popular man, DICTATOR.

Q. What was a Dictator ?

A. A Dictator was a magistrate, who in seasons of public danger, was invested with sovereign and absolute power.

Q. How did the people finally obtain a redress of their grievances ?

A. The whole army, with the greatest part of the people, removed, in a body, from Rome to Mount Aventine ; from which they did not return, till the senate had granted them the right of choosing magistrates to guard their liberties, B.C. 493.

Q. What were these magistrates called ?

A. The new magistrates were named tribunes, and were chosen annually, from among the body of the people : their persons were sacred ; and by a single word *Veto*, I forbid, they could stop any public proceeding.

Q. In what wars had the Romans been engaged, during these commotions ?

A. The Romans had subdued the Sabines and Latins ; and the Volsci had been defeated by Coriolanus.

Q. What is recorded of Coriolanus ?

A. Coriolanus, having been banished from Rome, for opposing the power of the people, went over to the Volscians, and would have destroyed the city, but was dissuaded by the tears of his wife and mother.

CHAPTER III.

The Decemvirate, B. C. 451.

Q. WHO were the Decemviri ?

A. The Decemviri were ten men, appointed to draw up a body of laws for the government of the Romans, who, till this time, had no written laws.

Q. How long did their power continue ?

A. After a few years, the ambition of the Decemviri, and the tragical death of Virginia, caused the re-establishment of the consular government, B. C. 449.

Q. What celebrated military enterprise was undertaken by the Romans ?

A. Veii, the most opulent city of Etruria, was attacked by the Romans, and taken by Camilius, after a siege of 10 years.

Q. What event threatened the destruction of the Roman name ?

A. Brennus, king of the Gauls, having defeated the army of Rome, marched against the city, which he entered, and burnt to the ground, B. C. 385.

Q. By whom was the capitol or citadel preserved ?

A. The capital was preserved by the bravery of Manlius, who, being awakened by the

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cackling of geese, repulsed a body of Gauls, that had scaled the walls during the night.

Q. By whom were the Gauls afterward defeated?

A. Camillus, who had been exiled, hearing of the disgrace of his country, raised an army, and having defeated the Gauls with great slaughter, caused the city to be rebuilt.

Q. By whom were the Samnites assisted?

A. The Samnites had called to their assistance Pyrrhus, King of Epirus, the ablest commander of his age, who obtained several victories over the Romans, but was finally obliged to relinquish them the possession of all Italy.

Q. Who were at this time the principal Roman generals?

A. The Romans that signalized themselves in these wars, were Lævinus; Fabricius, illustrious for his virtuous poverty and incorruptible integrity; and Curius Dentatus, famous for his magnanimity and military skill.

Q. To what object did the Romans now direct their arms?

A. The Romans, 480 years after the building of the city, having made themselves masters of Italy, passed over into Sicily, to assist the Mamertines against the Carthagenians.

CHAPTER IV.

History of Carthage and Sicily.

Q. WHERE was Carthage situated?

A. Carthage was situated on the northern coast of Africa, near the spot where the city of Tunis now stands.

Q. By whom was it founded?

A. Carthage was founded by a colony of Tyrians, under the conduct of the king's sister Dido, about 70 years before the building of Rome.

Q. How was it governed?

A. The government of Carthage was nearly similar to that of Rome, being composed of two magistrates, called Suffetes, annually chosen, and of a senate, while the sovereign authority remained with the people.

Q. What was the character of the Carthaginians?

A. The Carthaginians were ingenious, persevering, and attentive to commerce; but crafty, cruel, and so faithless, that Punic or Carthaginian faith became a proverbial expression for treachery.

Q. What was the power of the Carthaginians at the time of their wars with the Romans?

A. At the period of these wars, Carthage

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the richest
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had raised itself by its commerce, to be one of the richest and most splendid cities of the world.

Q. What were its possessions ?

A. Carthage had under its dominions 300 cities on the coast of Africa, a considerable part of Spain, the islands of Corsica and Sardinia, and was endeavouring to add Sicily to its empire.

Q. What do you observe of Sicily ?

A. The island of Sicily, situated between Italy and Africa, was peopled by colonies of Greeks, and was frequently invaded by the Athenians, Pyrrhus, and the Carthagenians.

Q. What was the principal state ?

A. The most powerful state of Sicily, was Syracuse, the country of Archimedes, the celebrated mathematician.

Q. Which were the most distinguished characters of Syracuse ?

A. Gelon, the first king, was a prince of great virtue and abilities ; the two Dionysii were tyrants : but Dion and Timoleon, two celebrated patriots, restored the people to freedom.

CHAPTER V.

The Punic Wars.

Q. WHAT was the cause of the first Punic or Carthaginian war?

A. The Romans had become jealous of the growing power of the Carthagenians, and declared war against them, at the request of the Mamertines, a people of Sicily.

Q. What do you observe of this war?

A. During the first Punic war, the Romans first became powerful at sea, and having expelled the Carthagenians from Sicily, Regulus supported the glory of their name in Africa.

Q. How did it terminate?

A. After a contest of 24 years the Romans obliged the Carthagenians to pay them tribute, and to give up Sicily, and the other islands of the Mediterranean, B.C. 241.

Q. What was the cause of the second Punic war, and when did it commence?

A. Twenty-three years after the conclusion of the first Punic war, the Carthagenians took Saguntum, a city in alliance with Rome, and openly commenced hostilities.

Q. What was the success of the Carthagenians?

A. Hannibal, the famous Carthagenian gene-

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ral, after subduing Spain, crossed the Pyrenees and the Rhone, climbed the Alps, and rushing on the Romans, routed their armies in four pitched battles.

T. Describe the subsequent events.

P. Hannibal having permitted the Romans to recover their strength, they sent an army into Africa against Carthage, and Hannibal was hastily recalled from Italy.

Q. How was the war brought to a conclusion?

A. Scipio, the Roman general, entirely defeated Hannibal, and obliged the Carthaginians to sue for peace, which was granted them on very humiliating terms, B.C. 196.

Q. In what other wars were the Romans engaged?

A. The Romans were victorious over Perseus king of Macedonia, and annexed his kingdom with the states of Greece to their dominions, B.C. 167.

Q. What became of Hannibal?

A. Hannibal sought refuge at several courts from the persecutions of the Romans, and finally, to avoid falling into their hands, the veteran warrior put an end to his life by poison.

Q. What was the next object of ambition to the Romans?

A. The Romans now aimed at the total destruction of Carthage, and, upon a slight

pretext, took the city massacred the inhabitants, and razed it to the ground.

Q. When did this event take place?

A. The destruction of Carthage happened 146 years before the birth of our Saviour, and 607 years after the building of Rome, which ended the third Punic war.

Q. What was the extent of the Roman dominion at this period?

A. The Romans at this time, were masters of all Italy, Spain, Sicily, Corsica, Sardinia, Macedonia, Greece, Epirus, and the northern parts of Africa, that had been subject to Carthage.

Q. What do you observe of the manners of the Romans?

A. This is the most glorious period of Roman history; for, shortly after, the Romans, by an acquaintance with foreign manners, degenerated from their ancient virtues, and contracted a taste for luxury, which finally led to the ruin of the commonwealth.

CHAPTER VI.

The Gracchi, and Decline of the Commonwealth.

Q. WHAT was the state of Rome after the destruction of Carthage?

A. The Romans being no longer in fear of a rival, became corrupted with riches and luxury

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and the nobles oppressed the lower orders of the people.

Q. Who were the Gracchi?

A. Tiberius and Caius Gracchus were two noble youths, who zealously endeavoured to reform the corruptions of the state.

Q. What was the fate of the two brothers?

A. Tiberius enacted several salutary laws, but was killed in a tumult; and Caius pursuing a similar career, met with the same fate, with 3000 of his partizans, B.C. 121.

Q. What nations threatened to subvert the Roman empire?

A. The Teutones and Cimbri issuing from the north of Europe, spread devastation throughout the Roman states, but were defeated with tremendous slaughter by Marius, B.C. 102.

Q. What was Marius?

A. Marius was an ambitious general, who, by his great abilities and the interest of the people, had raised himself from an obscure rank in society to the first honours of the commonwealth.

Q. By whom were his ambitious designs opposed?

A. The rival of Marius was Sylla, who, after much civil discord and bloodshed, finally prevailed, and was appointed perpetual Dictator,* B.C. 82.

* This was an office hitherto unknown in the commonwealth, and was the first step towards its dissolution.

Q. What remarkable conspiracy was formed shortly after ?

A. Sylla having resigned his power, Catiline formed a conspiracy for the destruction of the commonwealth, which was happily suppressed by the celebrated Cicero.

Q. In what wars were the Romans engaged during these domestic contentions ?

A. While the state was agitated by civil discord, Pompey and other generals conquered Numidia and Mauritania, in Africa ; the Asiatic kingdoms of Syria, Pontus, Armenia, and Bithynia ; and reduced Judea to the form of a Roman province.

CHAPTER VII.

The civil Wars of Pompey and Cæsar.

Q. WHAT was the state of parties at this time in Rome ?

A. The two most powerful men in Rome were Pompey and Crassus, who having joined their influence to that of Julius Cæsar, usurped the supreme power of the state, under the name of Triumvirate,* B.C. 59.

Q. What was their first measure ?

A. The Triumvirate divided the provinces of the empire among themselves, Pompey choosing

* Triumvirate is derived from the Latin words *trium* the genitive of *tres* three, and *viri* men.

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that of Spain, Crassus, Syria, and Cæsar that of Gaul.

Q. What became of Crassus ?

A. Crassus was killed a few years after in a war against the Parthians.

T. Relate the exploits of Cæsar.

P. Cæsar was ten years in subduing the nations of Gaul, carrying the terror of his arms into Germany and Britain.

Q. What else do you relate of him ?

A. Cæsar is reckoned to have taken 800 cities, reduced 300 states, and defeated 3 millions of men, of whom 1,000,000 fell in the field of battle.

Q. What were the consequences of his success ?

A. Pompey became jealous of Cæsar's power and endeavoured to diminish it ; but Cæsar marched his army and took possession of Rome.

Q. Where was the contest decided ?

A. Pompey retired into Greece, whither he was followed by Cæsar, and defeated in the famous battle of Pharsalia, B.C. 48.

Q. What became of Pompey ?

A. Pompey fled into Egypt, where he was treacherously murdered : and Cæsar having overcome the remainder of his party in Africa and Spain, returned in triumph to Rome.

Q. How did Cæsar conduct himself ?

A. Cæsar being now possessed of sovereign power, behaved with great clemency and mo-

deration ; but Brutus and Cassius formed a conspiracy against him, and he was murdered in the senate house by the senators, B.C. 44.

CHAPTER VIII.

Second Triumvirate and Fall of the Commonwealth.

Q. What took place after the death of Cæsar?

A. Antony, Lepidus, and Octavianus or Octavius, the nephew and adopted son of Cæsar, undertook to revenge his death, and formed what is termed the second Triumvirate.

Q. How did the conspirators act ?

A. After a fruitless attempt to raise the people of Rome in their favour, Brutus and Cassius retired into Greece, where they raised a powerful army.

Q. What party proved successful ?

A. Antony and Octavius engaged and defeated the republican army at Philippi ; Brutus and Cassius fell by their own swords, and the liberty of Rome perished with them, B.C. 42.

Q. What followed this victory ?

A. Octavius, upon a slight pretence, dispossessed Lepidus of his power, and soon after quarrelling with Antony, he defeated him in the battle of Actium, and thus became sole master of the Roman empire.

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Q. How was he received at Rome?

A. The Roman senate behaved to Octavius with the most abject servility, giving him the appellations of father of his country, Emperor, and *Augustus*, by which name he was afterward distinguished.

Q. When did this event take place?

A. Augustus ascended the imperial throne, 27 years before the birth of our Saviour; and 725 years after the foundation of Rome.

Q. What do you observe of the manners of the Romans at this period?

A. The Romans had now lost that poverty, simplicity, and patriotism, which distinguished the first ages of the commonwealth, and had given themselves up to luxury, splendour, and a corruption of morals.

Handwritten notes:
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BOOK IV.

THE ROMAN EMPIRE FROM ITS COMMENCEMENT UNDER
AUGUSTUS, B.C. 27, TO ITS FALL IN THE
WEST, A.D. 476. = 503-

CHAPTER I.

The Twelve Cæsars.

Q. WHO were the twelve Cæsars ?

A. The Cæsars were twelve Roman emperors, the first being Julius Cæsar, who is usually considered as the founder of the imperial government.

Q. What were their names ?

A. The twelve Cæsars were Julius, Augustus, Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius, Nero, Galba, Otho, Vitellius, Vespasian, Titus, and Domitian.

Q. What do you observe of the reign of Augustus ?

A. Augustus reformed abuses, restored order in the government, encouraged learning, and extended the boundaries of the empire.

Q. What were the limits of the Roman empire ?

A. Rome had now attained the meridian of her power, and possessed all the countries from

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the Euphrates to the Atlantic, and from the Danube to the deserts of Africa, comprehending the whole of the then civilized world.

Q. What illustrious men lived at this period?

A. In the Augustan age flourished the poets Virgil, Horace, Ovid, Tibullus, and Phædrus; the historians Livy, Cornelius Nepos, and Trogus Pompeius; Strabo the geographer; and Mæcenas, whose name is become proverbial for an encourager of learning.

Q. What remarkable event occurred in this reign?

A. Towards the end of the reign of Augustus, when all the world was at peace, and the temple of Janus was shut,* JESUS CHRIST came into the world.

Q. By whom was Augustus succeeded?

A. After a prosperous reign of 44 years, Augustus died, and was succeeded by Tiberius, A. D. 14.

Q. What was the character of Tiberius?

A. Tiberius was possessed of great abilities, but was cruel, suspicious, and tyrannical; his reign was distinguished by the crucifixion of our Saviour.

Q. What do you observe of the three succeeding emperors?

* Janus was a divinity whom the Romans worshipped, and whose temple was open in time of war, and shut in time of peace.

A. Caligula, Claudius, and Nero, have rendered their names infamous by their prodigality, cruelty, and impiety.

Q. What memorable events took place in their reigns?

A. Claudius invaded Britain in person; and Nero having wantonly set fire to Rome, laid the blame on the Christians, against whom he raised a persecution, in which the apostles Peter and Paul lost their lives, A. D. 67.

Q. What do you remark of the reigns of Galba, Otho, and Vitellius?

A. The reigns of Galba, Otho, and Vitellius, which together lasted only two years, were distinguished by weakness, cruelty, and civil discord.

Q. Who succeeded Vitellius?

A. The successor of Vitellius was Vespasian, a prince of great wisdom, in whose reign Jerusalem was taken and destroyed, by his son Titus, A. D. 70.

Q. What was the character of Titus?

A. Titus, who succeeded Vespasian, was distinguished for his virtues; during his reign the greater part of Britain was conquered by Agricola, the Roman general.

Q. By whom was he succeeded?

A. Domitian, the brother of Titus, succeeded him in the empire, A. D. 81, and proving a vicious and inhuman tyrant, was murdered by his domestics.

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CHAPTER II.

The Five good Emperors of Rome.

Q. WHAT do you observe of the emperors next to Domitian ?

A. After Domitian followed five sovereigns, who, from their virtues, wisdom, and talents, have been called the five good emperors.

Q. What were their names ?

A. The successors of Domitian were Nerva, Trajan, Adrian, Antonius Pius, and Marcus Aurelius Antonius.

Q. What character is given of Trajan ?

A. Trajan was possessed of great military talents, justice, and humanity ; he restored the ancient splendour of the Roman arms, and greatly extended the limits of the empire.

T. Relate his military achievements.

P. Trajan subdued the Dacians, conquered the Parthians and Arabians, and annexed to the empire Assyria, Mesopotamia, and Armenia.

Q. What illustrious men flourished in his reign ?

A. Under Trajan flourished Pliny, Tacitus, Juvenal, and Plutarch.

Q. What do you remark of the reign of Adrian ?

A. Adrian reduced the empire to its ancient limits, and visited the whole of the provinces ; during his stay in Britain, he built a wall from

Carlisle to Newcastle, to protect the Britons against the inroads of Picts.

Q. What was the character of the two Antonini?

A. The Antonini were eminent for virtue, piety, and love of justice, and the period of their reigns was one of public happiness and splendour.

Q. What progress had the Christian religion made at this period?

A. Christianity was professed by all the eastern provinces of the empire, and although often persecuted, it was still successful and triumphant.

CHAPTER III.

The Decline of the Empire.

Q. WHAT was the state of Rome, under the succeeding emperors?

A. Rome still preserved her external grandeur, but became enfeebled by luxury and the weakness and anarchy of her governors.

Q. What was the cause of these disorders?

A. Rome had become entirely subject to the soldiers, who made and unmade emperors at pleasure; and even on one occasion exposed the imperial dignity to sale.

Q. By whom was this confusion remedied?

A. Diocletian, who began to reign, A. D. 284, introduced a new system of government, and divided the empire into four provinces, under as many princes.

Q. By what enemies was the empire attacked during his reign?

A. The empire was attacked by the Parthians in the east, while a host of barbarians inundated the northern provinces.

Q. Whence did they originate?

A. The barbarians of the North issued from the dark forests of Germany, and though often defeated with dreadful slaughter, still continued their depredations.

Q. What became of Diocletian?

A. Diocletian, with his colleague Maximian, resigned his power, and after the death of Galerius and Constantius, his successors, the empire was distracted by civil war, until reunited under Constantius, A. D. 306.

CHAPTER IV.

Constantine the Great, A. D. 306.

Q. WHO was Constantine the Great?

A. Constantine was the son of Constantius, whom, after defeating several competitors, he succeeded in the empire, A. D. 306.

Q. What do you observe of his reign?

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A. The vigorous administration of Constantine restored order to the empire, and prolonged the period of its duration.

Q. What are the most remarkable events?

A. Constantine abolished Paganism, and embracing Christianity, rendered it the established religion; he also removed the seat of empire from Rome to Byzantium, which from him was called Constantinople, A.D. 329.

Q. What took place after his death?

A. Upon the death of Constantine, the Roman state was divided among his three sons, two of whom fell victims to their mutual ambition, and left the whole empire under the dominion of Constantius.

Q. What occurred during his reign?

A. The barbarous tribes ravaged Gaul, but were repulsed by Julian, a brave prince, who succeeded to the throne, and was called the Apostate, from his abandoning Christianity, and restoring Paganism.

CHAPTER V.

Extinction of the Western Empire.

Q. WHAT was the condition of the Roman empire, after the death of Julian?

A. The barbarous nation of the North overran the provinces, and although checked for a short time by the abilities of Theodosius the

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Great, A. D. 379, were hastening the ruin of the empire.

Q. What change took place upon the death of Theodosius?

A. After the death of Theodosius, the Roman dominions were divided into the eastern and western empires; the former of which had Constantinople, and the latter Rome for its capital.

Q. What nations now dismembered the empire?

A. Under a succession of weak monarchs, the Goths, the Huns, the Heruli, the Vandals, the Suevri, the Alains, and other savage tribes, followed each other in rapid succession, and possessed themselves of the Roman provinces.

Q. Who are the most conspicuous among their leaders?

A. The Vandals were led by Genseric, the Goths by Alaric, and the Huns by Attila, who devastated a greater part of Europe, and from his cruelty was called the *Scourge of God*.

Q. What events had taken place in Britain?

A. At this period of universal decay, the Romans were obliged to withdraw their forces from Britain; and the Britons, having implored them in vain, to defend them against the Picts and Scots, called in the Saxons to their assistance.*

* Their message to the Romans, which is still on record, is as follows:—*To Ælius, thrice consul, the groans*

Q. What was the state of Rome during these devastations ?

A. Rome was taken and pillaged by Gense-ric and Alaric, and being abandoned by Augustulus, the last emperor of the West, Odoacer, general of the Heruli, assumed the title of *King of all Italy*.

Q. When did this memorable event take place ?

A. The extinction of the western empire of Rome took place, A.D. 476 ; 507 years after the battle of Actium, and 1224 years after the building of Rome.

Q. What nations possessed themselves of the different provinces.

A. The Goths and Lombards remained in Italy, the Franks and Burgundians seized on Germany and Gaul, the Visigoths conquered Spain, and the Picts and Saxons possessed themselves of England.

Q. What division does this event make in history ?

A. The fall of the western empire, and the final reduction of Italy by the Lombards, the epoch at which ancient history ends, and modern commences.

of the Britons. The barbarians drive us to the sea, the sea throws us back on the barbarians ; so that we have only the hard choice left of perishing by the sword or by the waves; The Romans made answer that they had nothing to bestow on them but compassion.

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BOOK V.

FROM THE FALL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE IN THE WEST,
A.D. 476, TO THE REFORMATION, A.D. 1517. = 1041

CHAPTER I.

The Eastern Empire.

Q. How long did the eastern empire subsist after the extinction of the western ?

A. The eastern empire, called also the Greek, or Constantinopolitan empire, subsisted about 1000 years longer than the western ; but its history is seldom interesting.

Q. How was it governed ?

A. The eastern empire was subject to sovereigns who often procured their dignity by guilt, and met with an untimely end, and who preserved their power only by fomenting divisions among their barbarian neighbours.

Q. Under whom was the empire most prosperous ?

A. In the reign of Justinian, the renowned generals Belisarius and Narses completely recovered Africa from the Vandals, and Italy from the Goths, where the latter founded the exarchate of Ravenna.

Q. By whom were they afterward conquered?

A. The Lombards conquered Italy; and the Saracens, a hardy Arabian nation, the followers of Mahomet, overran Syria, Egypt, and all Africa.

Q. What other nations reduced the power of the empire?

A. The Turks, under Othman and Bajazet, obliged the eastern emperors to pay them tribute, and established a powerful empire in Asia Minor.

Q. Who were the Turks?

A. The Turks, or Turcomans, were a people who had fled from the oppression of the Tartars, and by their intrepidity, subdued the nations that afforded them protection.

Q. What opponents had the Turks to encounter?

A. The Turkish dominion in Asia was overthrown by Gengis-Khan and Tamerlane, two great conquerors; but it soon after became more powerful and extended itself to Europe.

Q. By whom was the eastern empire finally destroyed?

A. The eastern empire, which had for a long time been weak and inconsiderable, at length fell under the power of Mahomet II. who took Constantinople by storm, and laid the foundation of the present Turkish empire. A.D. 1453.

CHAPTER II.

The Feudal System.

Q. WHAT was the state of the western countries of Europe, after the fall of Rome?

A. The provinces of the West, after the fall of the empire, exhibited the most shocking scenes of horror and devastation; the barbarians expelling each other, and marking their progress with plunder and brutal revenge.

Q. What influence had they upon the countries where they settled?

A. The barbarians totally subverted the Roman laws, arts, and literature, and introduced new forms of government, new manners, dresses, and names of men and countries.

Q. What effect had this change on the manners of Europe?

A. From the fall of Rome to the eleventh century, the whole of Europe was sunk in the grossest ignorance and barbarity; so that this period has been termed the *Dark* or *Gothic Ages*.

Q. What was the religion of these nations?

A. The nations which invaded the empire, were converted from Paganism to Christianity soon after their settlement, but retaining many of their absurd doctrines and ceremonies, the true religion degenerated into the superstitions of the church of Rome.

Q. What form of Government prevailed among them?

A. The form of government which the victorious nations established, is now called the *Feudal System*.

T. Describe the Feudal System.

P. When a tribe determined on settling in a country which they had subdued, the king or general parcelled out the lands to his officers, and they to their soldiers, on condition of attending the king in war, when required.

Q. What were the consequences of this form?

A. The powerful barons became independent of their sovereign, and engaged in continual wars with each other, so that the people became gradually brutalized.

CHAPTER III.

The Empire of the Saracens.

Q. WHAT new empire arose towards the end of the sixth century?

A. While the inhabitants of Europe were sunk in barbarism, the Arabs or Saracens, inspired by a religious enthusiasm, raised a powerful empire, which changed the aspect of a great portion of the globe.

Q. Who was the founder of this empire?

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A. The dominion of the Saracens was founded by the celebrated impostor Mahomet, who assumed the title and character of a prophet, and established the religion which bears his name.

Q. What are the principal heads of the doctrine which he taught?

A. The tenets of Mahomet contained in the *Koran*, teach the belief in one God, and in Mahomet as his greatest prophet; that the duty of man is, to love his neighbours, assist the poor, protect the injured, and to pray seven times a day.

Q. What success did he first meet with?

A. The doctrine of Mahomet raised some tumults at Mecca, and his enemies caused him to be banished, A.D. 622.

Q. What is remarkable of his flight from Mecca?

A. The flight of Mahomet, called the *Hegira* is the era from which his followers compute their time, as Christians do from the birth of our Saviour.

Q. Whither did he go on retiring from Mecca?

A. Mahomet fled to Medina, where he armed his numerous converts, and took the city of Mecca.

Q. What other advantages did he obtain?

A. Mahomet excited in his followers a thirst for conquest, and at their head subdued all

Arabia and Syria, but died in the midst of his victories, A.D. 632.

Q. What was the progress of his doctrine under his successors?

A. In less than a century after the death of Mahomet, his successors, called *Caliphs*, added to the Saracen dominion and faith, all the countries from India to the Atlantic Ocean, including Persia, Syria, Egypt, Africa, Spain, and Portugal.

Q. Who were the most celebrated of the Saracen Caliphs?

A. The Caliphs most renowned for their conquests and wisdom were Omer, Othman, Ali, Almanzor, and Haroun Alraschid.

Q. What was the character of the Saracens?

A. The Saracens were remarkable for their desperate valour, generosity to fallen enemies, and profuse magnificence; they were great promoters of learning and practised medicine, geometry, and astronomy; while Europe was immersed in the grossest ignorance.

Q. What was the cause of the decline of this empire?

A. The Saracen empire having arrived at the highest pitch of magnificence, gradually sunk under the power of the Turks, who took and pillaged Bagdad, the seat of the Caliphate, A. D. 1458.

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CHAPTER IV.

Charlemagne.

Q. BY whom was Gaul subdued, at the decline of the western empire ?

A. About the year 420 of the Christian era, Gaul was invaded by the Franks, who maintained themselves against the Roman power, and gave that country the name of France.

Q. Who was the founder of the French monarchy ?

A. The French monarchy was founded by Clovis, A.D. 481, and continued without interruption till the late revolution.

Q. What was the character of Clovis ?

A. Clovis was a prince of great talents and unbounded ambition ; he became a convert to Christianity ; and the Franks, till then idolaters, followed the example of their sovereign.

Q. What do you observe of his successors ?

A. Clovis was succeeded by a series of weak and wicked princes, who for 300 years deluged the kingdom with blood, and plunged it into worse than ancient barbarism.

Q. Into whose hands did the government finally fall ?

A. Through the indolence of the sovereigns the whole administration of affairs fell into the hands of the mayors of the palace, the most

celebrated of whom were Pepin Heristel, Charles Martel, and Pepin the Short.

Q. What was the character of Pepin the Short?

A. Pepin the Short distinguished himself by his valour and abilities, and, with the consent of the Pope, dethroned Childeric III. with whom ended the first or Merovingian race of the kings of France, A.D. 751.

Q. Who were the Popes?

A. The popes were the bishops of Rome, who, amid the continual changes in the surrounding governments, had assumed the supreme power over the church, and even succeeded in extending their influence over the different sovereignties.

Q. How did Pepin recompense the service done him by the Pope?

A. Pepin twice rescued the Pope and the city of Rome from the arms of Astolphus king of the Lombards, from whom he wrested the exarchate of Ravenna, and gave it to the Pope, to whom it has ever since been subject.

Q. Who succeeded Pepin the Short?

A. Pepin was succeeded by his two sons, Charles and Carloman, but the latter dying shortly after, left to Charles the undivided sovereignty of France, A.D. 772.

Q. How long did he reign?

A. Charlemagne, or Charles the Great, reigned 45 years; in the course of which, he subdued part of Spain, all Italy, the Low Countries,

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Austria, Hungary, Dalmatia, and, after 30 years' war with the Saxons, all Germany.

Q. What were the other events of his reign?

A. Charlemagne cultivated science and literature, enacted salutary laws, and while on a visit to Rome, received the crown of the Cæsars from the hands of the Pope, and was acknowledged emperor of the West, A.D. 800.

Q. By whom was he succeeded?

A. Charlemagne died in 814, and was succeeded in the empire by Louis the Pious, whose reign was distracted by the ambitious restlessness of his sons.

Q. What became of the empire at his death?

A. After Louis, the empire was preserved entire under his successor Charles the Bald; after whom, the imperial dignity was transferred to Germany.

Q. What was the character of the successors of Charles?

A. The kings of France that succeeded Charles the Bald, are undeserving of mention from their weakness; and the family of Charlemagne, called the Carlovingian race, became extinct in the person of Louis the Fifth, A.D. 987.

CHAPTER V.

The Anglo-Saxon Monarchy.

Q. How did the Britons act upon being abandoned by the Romans?

A. The Britons being attacked by the Picts and Caledonians, and having requested, in vain, the assistance of the Romans, called in the Saxons for their protection.

Q. Who were the Saxons?

A. The Saxons were a nation inhabiting the north of Germany; they were brave and warlike in their manners, and very powerful by sea.

Q. Did the Saxons comply with their request?

A. The Saxons landed in England to the number of 1600, under the command of Hengist and Horsa, and joining the Britons, soon compelled the Scots to retreat, A.D. 449.

Q. What followed this success?

A. The Saxons now projected the entire subjection of the Britons, and being joined by large reinforcements of their countrymen, succeeded, after an arduous struggle of nearly 150 years.

Q. How did they divide their conquests?

A. The Saxons established seven kingdoms called the *Heptarchy*, which all in the end fell under the power of Egbert, the first king of England, A.D. 827; nearly 400 years after the arrival of the Saxons in England.

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Q. What was the state of England under Egbert's successors ?

A. After the time of Egbert, England was desolated by the invasion of the Danes ; but by Alfred the Great, they were entirely defeated, and driven out of the island, A.D. 890.

Q. What was the character of Alfred ?

A. Alfred was a prince of consummate prudence, valour, and piety : he gave laws to his people, founded the university of Oxford, built a powerful navy, and proved one of the best and greatest of princes.

Q. What took place after his death ?

A. Under the successors of Alfred, the Danes again renewed their ravages, and the dastardly Ethelred consented to pay them tribute, but basely ordered a general massacre of them throughout the kingdom.

Q. What were the consequences of this cruelty ?

A. Sweyn, the Danish king, landed in England with a powerful army, conquered the whole country, and was succeeded by his son, Canute the Great, 1017.

Q. What do you observe of Canute ?

A. Canute the Great was the most powerful monarch of his time, being sovereign of England, Denmark, and Norway.

Q. Who succeeded Canute the Great ?

A. Canute was succeeded by two Danish princes, Harold and Hardicanute ; after whose

death, the Saxon line was restored in the person of Edward the confessor, A.D. 1048.

Q. What happened upon the demise of Edward?

A. Edward dying without children, Harold usurped the throne, but was opposed by William duke of Normandy, who claimed the crown as his inheritance, by the will of the late king.

Q. How was the contest decided?

A. The contending parties come to a decisive battle at Hastings, where Harold being defeated and slain, William, surnamed the Conqueror, quickly took possession of the English crown, A.D. 1066.

CHAPTER VI.

State of Europe before the Crusades.

Q. WHO assumed the crown of France after the extinction of the Carlovingian race?

A. On the death of Louis V. Hugh Capet, the most powerful of the French nobles, was unanimously called to the throne, A.D. 987.

Q. What was the state of Italy at this period?

A. Italy was distracted by continual disputes between the Popes and German emperors: the Normans conquered Naples and Sicily from the

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Saracens, but were expelled by Henry of Germany, who annexed these countries to his empire, A. D. 1194.

Q. What do you observe of the Northern nations ?

A. The north of Europe was still extremely barbarous, and although Russia, Sweden, Hungary, and Bohemia were converted to Christianity, the latter three relapsed into idolatry.

Q. By whom was Spain and Portugal occupied ?

A. Spain and Portugal were possessed by the Moors or Saracens ; but the Christians, who retained about a fourth of the kingdom, were insensibly gaining ground.

Q. Who succeeded William the Conqueror on the throne of England ?

A. William the Conqueror was succeeded by William Rufus, Henry I., Stephen, and Henry II., the last of whom annexed Ireland and a great part of France to his dominions.

Q. What event distinguished the reign of his successor ?

A. Richard I., surnamed *Cœur de Lion*, or lion-hearted, immediately on accession embarked for the Holy Land, on the third crusade against the Infidels, A. D. 1189.

CHAPTER VII.

The Crusades.

Q. WHAT were the Crusades?

A. The Crusades were expeditions undertaken for the recovery of the Holy Land, out of the hands of the Turks, who ill-treated the Christians that visited Jerusalem.

Q. Why were they called Crusades?

A. These expeditions received the name of Crusades, from the badge of the cross worn by those who joined in them.

Q. Who was the exciter of the first crusade?

A. Peter the Hermit having excited general indignation at the outrages committed by the Turks on the Christians, led a numerous army of enthusiasts into Asia, where they were cut to pieces by the Sultan, A.D. 1097.

Q. What was the success of the second crusade?

A. The second crusade, which amounted to several hundred thousands, conducted by warlike princes, twice defeated the Turks, and took Jerusalem, of which Godfrey of Bouillon was appointed king, A.D. 1099.

Q. What was the cause of the third crusade?

A. The Turks having recovered from their defeat, attacked the newly formed Christian states with such vigour that they were obliged to solicit assistance from Europe.

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Q. Who were the leaders of the third crusade?

A. The third crusade was undertaken by Philip Augustus, king of France, Richard of England, and Frederick, emperor of Germany.

Q. By whom was the war finally maintained?

A. Frederick dying in Asia, and jealousies arising between the French and English monarchs, Philip returned home in disgust, and left the contest to Richard.

T. Relate the exploits of Richard.

P. Richard conquered the island of Cyprus, and defeated the brave Saladin near Ascalon, but his army being reduced by famine and fatigue, he concluded an honourable peace.

Q. By whom was the last crusade undertaken?

A. The last crusade against the infidels, was undertaken by Louis IX. of France, who after some considerable success, was defeated and taken prisoner, A.D. 1248.

Q. What became of the kingdom of Jerusalem?

A. Jerusalem was retaken by Saladin, and the Christians were ultimately expelled from Palestine, after having lost, in the whole of the crusades, upwards of 2,000,000 Europeans.

Q. What effect had these crusades on the manners of Europe?

A. By an intercourse with the Eastern nations, the Europeans imbibed a taste for magnificence and the arts: and the feudal authority

was, at the same time, greatly weakened, by the sale of the estates of the nobility, anxious to procure money to fit them out for the expedition.

Q. What other effect had they on Europe?

A. During the crusades, the Italian states of Venice, Genoa, and Pisa, rose to opulence, by their commerce, the benefits of which were soon communicated to the other states of Europe.

Q. For what was this age also distinguished?

A. In the age of crusades, chivalry and romance were at their greatest height throughout the western kingdoms of Europe.

Q. What was chivalry?

A. Chivalry was a passion for adventurous exploits and romantic love, which distinguished the order of knighthood.

CHAPTER VIII.

The Discovery of America.

Q. WHAT was the state of the kingdoms of Europe after the crusades?

A. With the exception of the Italian states of Venice, Genoa, and Pisa, most of the countries of Europe were exhausted, feeble, and disorderly.

Q. What are the principal events relating to Great Britain?

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A. John, the successor of Richard I. granted the famous *Magna Charta*, A.D. 1215 ; Wallace and Robert Bruce asserted the independence of the Scots ; and Edward III. and Henry V. for a short time made the French monarchy subject to England.

Q. What events took place on the Continent ?

A. The Popes and the Emperors of Germany continued their contests for the dominion of Italy ; and the Swiss seized the opportunity of throwing off the yoke of the latter, 1308.

Q. Were they successful in establishing their independence ?

A. The Swiss maintained their liberty against their enemies in 60 pitched battles, and were finally declared a free and independent republic, at the treaty of Westphalia, A.D. 1648.

Q. What was the state of affairs in Spain ?

A. The Spaniards were successfully engaged in expelling the Moors or Saracens from the country, and the different kingdoms were united under one sovereignty, by Ferdinand and Isabella, A.D. 1479.

Q. What extraordinary event took place in their reign ?

A. Christopher Columbus, a native of Genoa, being furnished with a small fleet by Ferdinand and Isabella projected and accomplished the discovery of America in 1492.

Q. By whom was this continent afterward explored ?

A. Sebastian Cabot explored the coast of North America, in 1499 ; and Americus Vesputius having also made a voyage published an account of the country, and gave it the name of America, which it has since retained.

Q. What important discoveries had been made prior to this ?

A. The mariner's compass was invented in the year 1302 ; gunpowder in 1344 ; the art of printing in 1440 ; and in 1479 ; the Portuguese discovered the passage to the East Indies, by doubling the Cape of Good Hope.

Q. What were the effects of these discoveries on the European nations ?

A. These discoveries were not only favourable to commerce and manufactures, but signally advanced that knowledge and energy to which we are indebted for the numerous improvements that have since taken place.

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BOOK VI.

FROM THE REFORMATION, A. D. 1517, TO THE
PRESENT TIME. - 313 years -

CHAPTER I.

The Reformation.

Q. WHAT causes led to the Reformation?

A. During the gloomy ignorance of the worship and doctrine of the church of Rome, and the immorality as well as tyranny of the clergy, had alienated the minds of the people.

Q. By whom was the Reformation begun?

A. Martin Luther, a German friar took upon him to preach against these corruptions; and being countenanced by several powerful princes, great numbers of people embraced his doctrines.

Q. By whom was he seconded?

A. The doctrines of the Reformation were also propogated by Zuinglius and Calvin, two learned doctors of Switzerland.

Q. What countries embraced the Reformed religion?

A. In a few years the Reformation prevailed in the greater part of Germany, Switzerland, Denmark, and Norway.

Q. What were its effects on the states of Europe ?

A. The Reformation roused the states which embraced it from their superstitious lethargy, and excited them to researches in learning, science, and religious truth.

Q. What was the state of the northern nations at this period ?

A. Sweden, Norway, and Denmark, had been reduced under one sovereignty, by Margaret, A.D. 1387 ; and were now groaning under the tyranny of Christiern II.

Q. By whom was Sweden liberated ?

A. Sweden was indebted for her liberty to the heroic conduct of Gustavus Vasa, who deposed the tyrant, and being elected king, established the reformed religion, A.D. 1521.

Q. What do you observe of Russia ?

A. Russia, then called Muscovy, from Moscow, its capital, had long been tributary to the Tartars, but in the reign of Ivan Vasiliwitch I. it recovered its independence, A.D. 1474.

Q. In whose reign was the Reformation introduced into England ?

A. The Reformation commenced in England during the reigns of Henry VIII. and Edward VI. ; and, although counteracted for some time by the efforts of Mary, became the established religion of the state, under Elizabeth, A. D. 1558.

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CHAPTER II.

Charles the Fifth.

Q. WHO was Charles V.?

A. Charles V. was the grandson of Ferdinand and Isabella, whom he succeeded on the throne of Spain, and was soon after elected emperor of Germany, A.D. 1519.

Q. What country was subject to his dominion?

A. Charles the Fifth was emperor of Germany, sovereign of Austria, and king of Spain, Naples, Sicily, Lombardy, Navarre in France, Holland, and the Netherlands.

Q. In what wars was he engaged?

A. Charles V. contended long with Francis I. of France, whom he made prisoner; he afterward defeated the Turks, on their invading Hungary; and carried the war into Africa, with honour and success.

Q. What other events happened in his reign?

A. The Spaniards subdued and cruelly depopulated the powerful American kingdoms of Mexico, Peru, and Chili; and the Portuguese possessed themselves of Brazil.

Q. How long did Charles V. reign?

A. Charles having reigned 40 years, and finding himself no longer adequate to the cares of government, retired at the age of 56, to spend the remainder of his days in tranquil meditation, A.D. 1557.

Q. What was the character of this emperor?

A. Charles V. was a prince of great spirit and political abilities, as well as the richest and most powerful monarch of his age.

Q. How were his dominions divided on his resignation?

A. Charles resigned the imperial crown to his brother Ferdinand, and gave Spain and the rest of his dominions to his son Philip.

Q. For what was his reign celebrated?

A. The reign of Charles V. was distinguished by the revival of literature, and as the time at which the fine arts were at their highest pitch of splendour in Italy and the south of Europe.

Q. What eminent characters lived in his time?

A. At this period lived the poets Shakspeare, Camoens, and Tasso; the astronomer Copernicus; and the celebrated painters and sculptors, Michael Angelo, Raphael, Titian, Corregio, Da Vinci, and Paul Veronese.

CHAPTER III.

The Spanish Armada.

Q. WHAT was the character of Philip II.?

A. Philip II. was a vindictive tyrant, and so bigoted to the cause of popery, that on coming

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to the throne he determined to extirpate every species of heresy from his dominions.

Q. What were the consequences of his intolerance and cruelty?

A. The oppression of Philip excited part of the Netherlands to revolt; and after a sanguinary struggle, the insurgents succeeded in establishing their independence under the title of the Republic of Holland, or the United Provinces, A. D. 1572.

Q. What other events took place in Philip's reign?

Q. Philip annexed Portugal to his extensive dominions, and projected an invasion of England, and the dismembering of the kingdom of France.

Q. What were the reasons assigned by Philip for his invasion of England?

A. The expedition against England was undertaken to avenge the death of Mary queen of Scots, whom Elizabeth had unjustly caused to be beheaded, and to punish the English for assisting the Netherlands in their revolt.

Q. What forces did he prepare for this invasion?

A. The expedition, which was termed the *invincible armada*, consisted of 150 ships of war, carrying 27,000 men and 3,000 pieces of cannon.

Q. What was its success?

A. The English fleet, under admirals Howard and Drake, attacked the enemy during the

night, and the remainder being shattered by a storm, only fifty vessels, with 6,000 men, were able to effect their return to Spain, A.D. 1588.

Q. How were Philip's views on France disconcerted?

A. France, that had long been distracted by contests between the Catholics and the Protestants,* was now happily restored to peace, and the schemes of Philip frustrated by the conversion of Henry IV. to the Catholic religion.

Q. What was the character of Henry IV.?

A. Henry IV., deservedly surnamed the Great, was dreadful in battle; but in peace the father of his people,—reforming the laws, improving agriculture and manufactures, and acquiring the love of his subjects, by his justice and humanity.

Q. How long did he reign?

A. After a beneficent reign of 21 years, this excellent monarch was assassinated by an insane fanatic named Revailac, on the 4th of May, 1610, and was succeeded by his son, Louis XIII.

* In the reign of Charles IX. the Catholics, exhausted by a long civil war, concluded a treacherous peace with the Protestants; but on the night of the 23d August, 1572, being the feast of St. Bartholomew, a general massacre was made of all the Protestants throughout France, the king himself assisting in the cruel slaughter of his subjects.

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CHAPTER IV.

The Commonwealth of England.

Q. BY whom was Elizabeth succeeded on the English throne?

A. Elizabeth was succeeded by James I. king of Scotland, in whose reign the conspiracy called the Gunpowder Plot was formed for destroying the king and the two houses of parliament, A.D. 1605.

Q. What took place under his successor?

A. In the reign of Charles I. the parliament made war on the king, whom they defeated and brought to the block, on the 30th of January, 1649.

Q. What changes happened after his death?

A. The republican form of government subsisted four years, when it was overturned by Cromwell, a fanatical general, who caused himself to be appointed Lord Protector of the three kingdoms.

Q. How long did he enjoy his power?

A. Cromwell governed successfully during five years, and was succeeded by his son Richard, who soon after resigned his power; and a free parliament being assembled, Charles II. was proclaimed king, 29th May, 1660.

Q. What do you observe of the reign of Charles II.?

A. Charles II. was long engaged in a war with the Dutch, but afterward joined with them and Sweden in a triple alliance, to oppose the growing power of Louis XIV. of France.

Q. Who succeeded Charles II.?

A. Charles was succeeded by his brother, James II. whose irreligious measures in attempting to restore the Roman Catholic religion, induced the nation to transfer the crown to William prince of Orange, who had married Mary, the king's eldest daughter, A.D. 1688.

Q. What name is given to this event?

A. This period of English history is called *the glorious era of the revolution*, in which the rights of the people and the prerogatives of the crown became fixed and determined.

Q. What beneficial effects did the revolution produce on the English nation?

A. Since the revolution, England has become more powerful, both by sea and land; commerce and manufactures have flourished; as also literature and the arts.

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CHAPTER V.

The Age of Louis XIV.

Q. WHO was Louis XIV.?

A. Louis XIV. was the grandson of Henry IV. king of France, and ascended the throne when only five years of age, A. D. 1643.

Q. What were his first measures upon coming to age?

A. Louis governed his kingdom with great wisdom, and carried his arms into the Netherlands, where his career was checked by the triple alliance of England, Holland, and Sweden.

Q. What event took place at this time in Germany?

A. Louis encouraged the Turks to attack Germany; and Vienna must have fallen into their hands, had it not been relieved by John Sobieski, king of Poland, 1683.

Q. What impolitic measures did Louis adopt?

A. Louis revoked the edict of Nantz, by which the Protestant worship was suppressed in France: and he received and supported James II. after his deposition from the throne of England.

Q. In what war was he afterward engaged?

A. William III. of England excited Germany, Spain, and Holland against France; but Louis was victorious, and greatly extended the limits of his kingdom.

Q. What was the war of the Spanish succession?

A. Charles II. king of Spain, dying without issue, left his crown to Philip duke of Anjou, grandson of Louis XIV. but his succession was opposed by England, Holland, Portugal, and the German empire.

Q. How was the war terminated?

A. The war continued 13 years, and the power of France was reduced to the lowest ebb, by the duke of Marlborough, when the battle of Villavittiosa turned the scale of victory, and the claim of Philip was admitted by all Europe, at the peace of Amiens, A.D. 1713.

Q. What memorable event had taken place in England?

A. In 1706, during the reign of queen Anne, the treaty of union between Scotland and England was signed; by which it was agreed that both kingdoms should have the same commercial privileges, but that each country should enjoy its own established religion and laws.

Q. How long did Louis XIV. reign?

A. Louis XIV. died A.D. 1715, in the 77th year of his age and the 72d of his reign: one of the longest to be met with in the annals of history.

Q. What was his character?

A. Louis XIV. was a prince of inordinate ambition and great vigour of mind; he was a

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liberal patron of merit; and, during his reign, literature, the sciences, and the art of war flourished in France, with peculiar splendour.

CHAPTER VI.

Peter the Great and Charles XII.

Q. WHAT was the state of the northern countries of Europe, at the beginning of the eighteenth century?

A. Towards the latter part of the age of Louis XIV. the north of Europe was distinguished by the appearance of two illustrious characters, Peter the Great, czar or emperor of Moscovy, and Charles XII. king of Sweden.

Q. What do you observe of Peter the Great?

A. Peter succeeded to the Russian empire in 1689; but having no education, he resolved to travel in search of knowledge, that he might instruct and civilize his barbarous subjects.

Q. What countries did Peter visit for instruction?

A. Peter laid aside the pomp of royalty, and coming into Holland and England, learned the art of ship-building, by working in the dock-yard with his own hands; after which he visited the rest of Europe, and obtained a practical knowledge of military and naval tactics, and of various trades of civilized life.

Q. What measures did he adopt on his return?

A. By his liberality, Peter drew into his empire eminent men of every profession, by whose means, and by a number of excellent institutions, he raised his people from barbarism and obscurity, and laid the foundation of the present rank and distinction of the Russian empire.

Q. What was Peter's first military achievement?

A. The first battle which Peter fought with his new disciplined army, was at Azoph, where he completely defeated the Turks and took the city, A. D. 1697.

Q. What was his next enterprise?

A. Peter entered into a league with Poland and Denmark, to seize and share the dominions of Charles XII. king of Sweden.

Q. What do you observe of Charles XII.?

A. Charles XII. succeeded to the throne of Sweden at 15 years of age, and soon after displayed that hardihood of body and bold spirit of enterprise that have ranked him among the greatest heroes of antiquity.

Q. How did he counteract the designs of his enemies?

A. Charles, although but 17 years of age, led an army against Copenhagen, and obliged the Danes to lay down their arms; then hastening into Ingria, with only 8,000 men,

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Q. What were his subsequent achievements?

A. In the next campaign, Charles subdued the whole of Poland, and having deposed Augustus, placed Stanislaus, his own dependant, on the throne.

Q. What enterprise did he next project?

A. Charles marched into Russia to dethrone Peter the Great; but after repeated victories, his army being wasted by famine and fatigue, he was defeated by his rival, in the famous battle of Narva, A. D. 1709.

Q. Where did he retire after his defeat?

A. Charles XII. after his defeat, took refuge among the Turks, where he remained five years, and performed actions of the most romantic heroism.

Q. What did he do on his return?

A. Charles returned home in disguise, and, in attempting to wrest Norway from the Danes, he fell at the siege of Frederickshall, in the latter end of the year 1718.

Q. How long did his rival survive him?

A. Peter the Great died six years later than Charles, after a glorious and useful reign of 45 years, leaving the empire to his wife Catharine, who had been a Livonian captive, but who afterward ruled with wisdom and success.

CHAPTER VII.

George the Third.

Q. WHO succeeded queen Anne on the throne of England?

A. At the death of queen Anne, the crown was transferred from the Stuarts to the illustrious house of Brunswick, and George I. elector of Hanover, ascended the throne of Great Britain, A. D. 1714.

Q. What are the principal events of his reign?

A. In 1715, an unsuccessful effort was made by the Scots in favour of the son of James II. called the Pretender: and the remainder of the reign was occupied in endeavours to preserve the balance of power in Europe.

Q. What do you observe of his successor?

A. George II. was fond of military pursuits, and his reign was both glorious and advantageous to Britain.

Q. What part did he take in the affairs of the Continent?

A. The French, Prussians, and Bavarians, opposed the lawful succession of Maria Theresa to the empire of Germany; but George II. putting himself at the head of her party, gained the battle of Dettingen, A. D. 1743.

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Q. What other remarkable event happened in this reign?

A. In 1745, the young Pretender excited a rebellion in Scotland, and was victorious over the king's troops, at Preston Pans and Falkirk, but was signally defeated at Culloden by the duke of Cumberland.

Q. What was the state of Europe in 1748?

A. There was a general cessation of hostilities, and Great Britain, France, Spain, Austria, Sardinia, and Holland, concluded the famous peace of Aix-la-Chapelle.

Q. When did hostilities recommence?

A. The flame of war was again kindled in 1756, and lasted six years; during which the English deprived the French of Canada and many other colonies.

Q. Who succeeded George II?

A. George II. dying in 1760, was succeeded by his grandson, George III.

Q. What event took place about this time in the north of Europe?

A. Russia, Prussia, and Austria, taking advantage of the distracted state of Poland, dismembered it of its finest provinces, and, a few years after, it ceased to be a kingdom.

CHAPTER VIII.

The French Revolution.

Q. Who succeeded Louis XIV. on the throne of France?

A. Louis XIV. was succeeded by Louis XV. who, after an inglorious and disgraceful reign, left his kingdom exhausted and discontented, to the unfortunate monarch, Louis XVI. A. D. 1774.

Q. What was the character of Louis XVI.?

A. Louis XVI. was an amiable and well-meaning prince, anxious for the welfare of his people, but without sufficient energy for the disaffected and rebellious times in which he lived.

Q. What were the first measures of his reign?

A. Upon coming to the throne, Louis XVI. began to correct numerous abuses, to diminish the weight of the public taxes, and to grant to the people an extension of their liberties.

Q. In what war did he engage?

A. Louis sent an army to assist the Americans in their contest for independence; but, on their return, they brought back to France principles of freedom, which were soon spread throughout the kingdom.

Q. What were the consequences of this state of the public mind?

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A. In 1789, Louis XVI. called together the states general, who, availing themselves of the general discontent, usurped the sovereign authority under the name of the National Convention.

Q. What events afterward took place?

A. The revolution being thus begun, a number of factions arose, which overturned religion and the ancient system of government, and plunged the state into anarchy and confusion.

Q. What became of the king?

A. After having been long detained as a prisoner, he underwent a mock trial, and being condemned to death, was beheaded January 17th, 1793.

Q. What took place after his death?

A. France became a republic; and on the attainment of power by the sanguinary Robespierre, a scene of the most horrid cruelty and bloodshed ensued; all religion vanished, and the reign of terror was established.

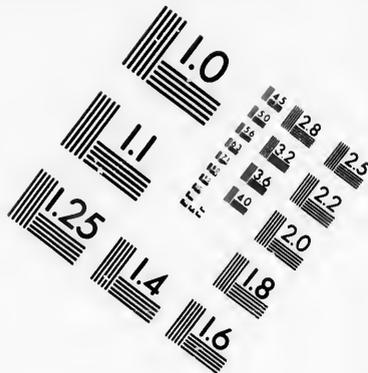
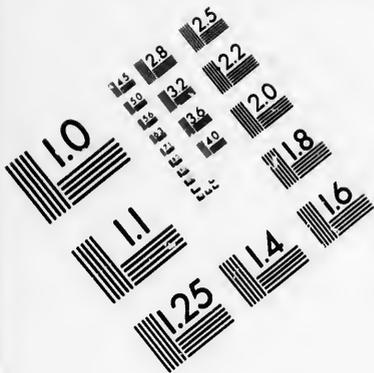
Q. What measures were adopted by the other states of Europe, in consequence of these disorders?

A. The great powers of Europe formed a confederacy against France, but their armies were obliged to retreat before the fury and enthusiasm of the French soldiers.

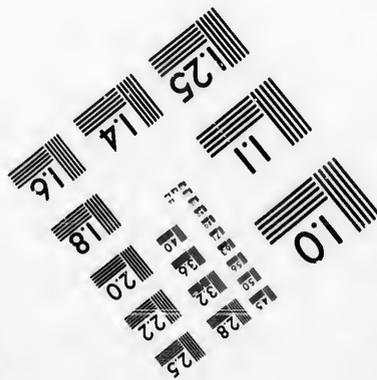
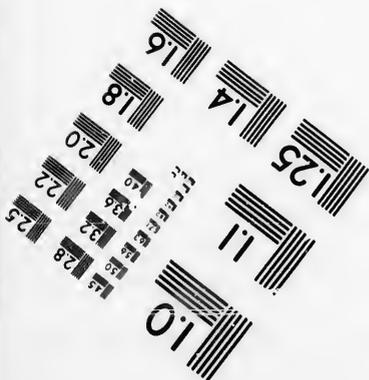
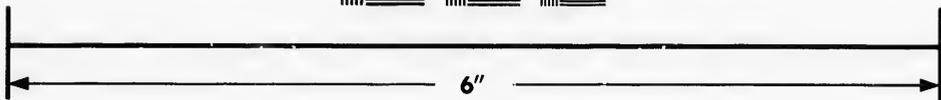
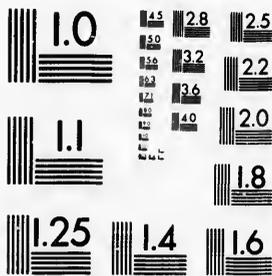
Q. In what countries were the French successful?

A. The French armies, with amazing rapidity, conquered Holland, Flanders, and part of





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Germany, while Buonaparte, triumphing over the Austrians, overran and plundered the states of Italy.

Q. Who was Buonaparte?

A. Buonaparte was a native of Corsica, who, from an officer in the engineers, had risen by his great military talents, to the supreme command of the armies of the French republic.

Q. What plan did he project for the aggrandisement of France?

A. In the year 1798, Buonaparte conducted an expedition against Egypt, of which country he took possession, and annexed it as a province to France.

Q. What was ultimately the result of this expedition?

A. The French fleet was defeated by Lord Nelson, in the battle of the Nile; and their army being routed by the brave Abercrombie, they were soon after totally expelled from the country.

Q. What other losses did the French sustain?

A. The French power was entirely humbled by sea, and the British acquired all their colonies and foreign possessions.

Q. What did Buonaparte do on his return from Egypt?

A. Buonaparte dissolved the existing government of France, and putting himself at the head of the nation under the title of First Con-

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sul, and hastening into Italy, he gained the sanguinary battle of Marengo, over the Austrians, A.D. 1800.

Q. What events had taken place in England?

A. In 1799, the Duke of York led an unsuccessful expedition against Holland; and on the 1st January, 1801, Ireland was united to Great Britain.

Q. What were the consequences of the success of the French?

A. The Austrians and Russians, unable to continue the contest against France, agreed to a suspension of hostilities; and in 1802, the peace of Amiens was concluded between France and Great Britain.

CHAPTER IX.

Buonaparte.

Q. What took place in France during the peace of Amiens?

A. Buonaparte caused himself to be appointed successively, consul for 10 years and for life; and having ordered the murder of the duc d'Enghien, he was proclaimed emperor of the French, and king of Italy.

Q. How long did the peace continue?

A. The peace of Amiens lasted but little longer than 12 months; and hostilities having

recommenced, the French seized on Hanover, and induced the Spaniards to declare war against Great Britain.

Q. What combinations were formed against Buonaparte?

A. In 1805, Great Britain, Russia, and Austria formed a confederacy to diminish the power of France, and to restore the balance of power in Europe.

Q. What was the success of this confederacy?

A. The combined fleets of France and Spain were entirely defeated at Trafalgar, by Lord Nelson; but Buonaparte routed the Austrians and Russians with terrible slaughter at Austerlitz, December 2nd, 1805.

Q. What other victories did Buonaparte gain?

A. Buonaparte, pursuing his conquest with wonderful rapidity, annihilated the Prussian monarch, by the famous battle of Jena, gained the battles of Eylau and Freidland over the Russians, and forced them to sue for peace.

Q. What was the extent of the French empire at this period?

A. Buonaparte was now master of all France, Italy, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Holland, and the greater part of Germany.

Q. How did he dispose of his conquests?

A. Buonaparte united the Netherlands to France, made one of his brothers king of Holland, another of Naples, a third of West-

phalia; and rewarded his Germanic allies with the titles of kings of Bavaria, Saxony, and Wirtemberg.

Q. To what country did Buonaparte now direct his ambitious designs?

A. Buonaparte now projected the conquest of Spain; and having invited the king to visit him at Bayonne, he detained him in confinement, and placed his own brother Joseph on the throne, A. D. 1808.

Q. By whom was the accession of Joseph opposed?

A. The Portuguese took up arms against the French; and the Spanish patriots having solicited aid from Great Britain, an army was sent to their assistance, under the command of the illustrious Sir Arthur Wellesley, now duke of Wellington.

Q. What was the success of the allies in Spain?

A. The French armies were at first successful; but they were soon after driven out of Portugal, and defeated in the battles of Vimiera, Talavera, Busaco, and Salamanca.

Q. What was the first step to the downfall of the French emperor?

A. In 1812, Buonaparte declared war against Russia, and prepared to invade that country at the head of an army of 500,000 veterans, commanded by able and experienced generals.

Q. What success attended the French in the commencement of the campaign?

A. The Russians fought with the most obstinate courage, but after many sanguinary engagements, they were obliged to yield to the superior discipline of the French army.

Q. Where did the general engagement take place?

A. The whole Russian army gave the enemy battle at Borodino, on the Moskwa; the contest was fierce and destructive, and terminated in favour of the French, who immediately took possession of Moscow, the ancient capital of Russia.

Q. What disasters afterward befel the French army?

A. The French had scarcely entered Moscow when it was set on fire and reduced to ashes by the patriotic inhabitants; and the invaders, being thus deprived of winter quarters, were obliged to commence a precipitate retreat.

T. Describe the sufferings of the French in their retreat.

P. The Russian winter set in with extraordinary severity; and the French army, assailed by the exasperated inhabitants, and by all the horrors of cold, hail, and snow, without provisions or forage, was almost totally annihilated.

Q. What was the loss of the French in this campaign?

A. The number of those that perished by cold, famine, and the sword, is computed at nearly 200,000: 100,000 were made prisoners, and all the artillery, ammunition, standards, &c.

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of the army fell into the hands of the Russians.

Q. What were the consequences of these disasters?

A. An alliance was immediately formed between Great Britain, Russia, Prussia, Austria, and Sweden, for the purpose of dethroning Buonaparte, and restoring liberty to the conquered states.

Q. What events distinguished the year 1813?

A. Buonaparte was successful in the battles of Lutzen and Dresden, but was totally routed at Leipsic; Lord Wellington gained the great battle of Vittoria in Spain; and the Dutch threw off their dependence on France.

Q. What memorable events took place in the ensuing year?

A. While Lord Wellington invaded France on the south, the allied army entered it on the north, and meeting with little opposition took possession of Paris on the 31st of March, 1814.

Q. What became of Buonaparte?

A. Buonaparte renounced for himself and for his heirs the thrones of France and Italy, and was permitted to retain his title, with the sovereignty of the small island of Elba, in which he was to reside.

Q. What followed the abdication of Buonaparte?

A. The family of the Bourbons, who had taken refuge in England, were invited to return to France, and the brother of the late un-

fortunate king was placed on the throne, with the title of Louis XVIII. May 3rd, 1814.

Q. What event again disturbed the tranquillity of Europe?

A. Buonaparte quitted his retreat on the 1st March, 1815, and upon his landing in France with only a few troops, the whole army flocked to his standard, and in a few days he entered Paris in triumph, the royal family fleeing before him.

Q. What measures were adopted by the powers of Europe?

A. The principle states of Europe immediately reassembled their armies, and the British and Prussian forces had taken their positions on the Netherlands by the beginning of June.

Q. How did Buonaparte now act?

A. After an attempt at negotiation, which was rejected with disdain, Buonaparte collected an army with wonderful despatch, and advanced by rapid marches to give the allies battle.

Q. What was the number of the respective armies?

A. The army under the command of the duke of Wellington amounted to 70,000 men; that of Prussia, under prince Blucher, to 100,000; and the French, led on by Buonaparte in person, to about 150,000.

Q. What was the result of the contest?

A. On the 15th of June, Buonaparte defeated the Prussians; on the 16th he obtained

some advantages over the British; but, on the 18th, his army was completely defeated in the memorable **BATTLE OF WATERLOO**.

Q. What were the consequences of this victory?

A. The allies again took possession of Paris, and replaced Louis XVIII. upon the throne; and Buonaparte, having given himself up to the English, was sent to the island of St. Helena, at which place he died, May the 5th, 1821, and was buried with the highest military honours.

Q. What event distinguished the year 1816?

A. The English sent out a fleet to punish the piratical states of Algiers, which, with the assistance of a Dutch squadron, destroyed the whole of the navy, and two-thirds of the city, and obliged the Dey to consent to the abolition, for ever, of Christian slavery.

Q. What has been the aspect of Europe since that time?

A. Europe has since enjoyed the blessings of a profound peace; for, although, the sudden transition from a state of warfare excited some temporary disturbances, the nations are now gradually returning to a state of tranquillity and prosperity.

CHAPTER X.

The United States of America.

Q. WHEN were the first European settlements made in what are now the United States of America?

A. The settlement of the colony of Virginia commenced in 1607; the Dutch formed a settlement in New York in 1614; and in 1620 a settlement was made in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Q. Did the country enjoy a state of peace during the early period of its settlement?

A. The inhabitants had repeatedly to contend with the savage Indians, and none more than the Virginian colony, where the design of the Indians appeared to be to extirpate them altogether.

Q. What other settlement had to contend with the Indians?

A. The settlements in New England suffered severely. The war, usually denominated Philip's war, 1675—76, was by far the most severe they had to endure; in which many of the English towns were burnt. Philip was, however, finally taken, and great destruction made among the Indians.

Q. In what further war were the colonists concerned?



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A. In a war between England and France, in the reign of William and Mary, all the colonies north of Pennsylvania suffered severely, being involved in the attempt of the English to conquer Canada from the French.

Q. In what way did this war most distress the colonists?

A. The principal means of annoyance, on the part of the French, were by exciting the northern Indians to make depredations on the defenceless inhabitants; keeping the whole country in a state of alarm. Many of the towns were burnt, and the inhabitants carried into savage captivity.

Q. What produced the war which ended in the establishment of the independence of the colonies?

A. The British government taxed the colonies against their will. This gave rise to discontent and jealousy, which spread with great rapidity through the country.

Q. Where was the commencement of hostilities?

A. The first battle was fought at Lexington, Massachusetts, in April, 1775.

Q. What was the duration of the war?

A. It was just eight years from the time the first blood was spilt at Lexington, until peace was proclaimed in the American army.

Q. Who was placed at the head of the American army.

A. George Washington was appointed commander-in-chief of the American army, through whose exemplary patriotism and virtues, and extensive influence, the country is indebted, under God, for the success which attended the protracted conflict.

Q. What form of government was adopted by the United States?

A. The United States took a republican form of government, composed of a president, senate, and house of representatives.

Q. Who have been the presidents of the United States?

A. The presidents have been, George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Maddison, and James Monroe.

Q. What were the causes that led to the late war between the United States and Great Britain?

A. The causes alleged by the United States government were—The confiscation of American property, under the British orders in council; the impressment of American seamen on board British ships of war, and searching American ships for British seamen.

Q. With what success was the war attended?

A. In the numerous naval engagements, victory was declared in almost every case on the side of the United States. In the attempt to invade Canada the American armies were repulsed.

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Q. When did peace take place?

A. A treaty of peace between the two countries was signed at Ghent, Dec. 25, 1814, and on the 11th of February the news arrived in New York, and was received with every demonstration of joy by all parties.

Q. What is the present condition of the United States?

A. Since the conclusion of the late war, the country has returned to its former prosperity. Agriculture, commerce, and manufactures are prosperous and flourishing; the virulence of party feeling has abated, and the prospect bids fair for the United States speedily becoming a rich and powerful nation.

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EPOCHS IN HISTORY,

From the Creation of the World to the Year 1850.

Before Christ.

- 4004 Creation of the world
- 3875 The murder of Abel
- 2348 The deluge
- 2247 The Tower of Babel built
- 2100 Seniramis, queen of the Assyrian empire, flourished
- 2000 The birth of Abraham
- 1728 Joseph sold into Egypt
- 1571 The birth of Moses
- 1451 The Israelites under Joshua pass the river Jordan
- 1400 Sesostris the Great, king of Egypt
- 1184 Troy taken
- 1117 Samson betrayed to the Philistines
- 1095 Saul anointed
- 1070 Athens governed by archons
- 1048 Jerusalem taken by David
- 1004 Solomon's dedication of the temple
- 926 The birth of Lycurgus
- 907 Homer supposed to have flourished
- 753 The building of Rome
- 587 Jerusalem taken by Nebuchadnezzar
- 539 Pythagoras flourished
- 536 Cyrus founded the Persian empire
- 525 Cambyses conquered Egypt
- 520 Confucius flourished
- 515 The temple of Jerusalem finished

Before Christ.

- 490 The battle of Marathon
- 431 Beginning of the Peloponnesian war
- 390 Plato and other eminent Grecians flourished
- 336 Philip of Macedon killed
- 323 The death of Alexander the Great, aged 33, after founding the Macedonian empire
- 322 Demosthenes put to death
- 264 Beginning of the Punic war.
- 218 The second Punic war began. Hannibal passed the Alps
- 187 Antiochus the Great defeated and killed
- 149 The third Punic war began
- 146 Carthage destroyed by Publius Scipio
- 107 Cicero born
- 55 Cæsar's first expedition against Britain
- 48 The battle of Pharsalia, between Pompey and Cæsar
- 44 Cæsar killed in the senate-house, aged 56
- 31 The battle of Actium. Marc Antony and Cleopatra defeated by Augustus
- 8 Augustus became emperor of Rome, and the Roman empire was at its greatest extent
- 4 Our Saviour's birth

Christian Æra.

- 14 Augustus died at Nola
 27 John baptized our Saviour
 33 Our Saviour's crucifixion
 36 St. Paul converted
 43 Claudius's expedition into Britain
 53 Caractacus carried in chains to Rome
 61 Boadicea, the British queen, defeats the Romans
 70 Titus destroys Jerusalem
 286 The Roman empire attacked by the northern nations
 319 The emperor Constantine favoured the Christians
 325 The first general Council of Nice.
 406 The Goths & Vandals spread into France and Spain
 410 Rome taken and plundered by Alaric
 426 The Romans leave Britain
 449 The Saxons arrive in Britain
 455 Rome taken by Genseric
 536 Rome taken by Belisarius
 597 St. Augustin arrives in England
 606 The power of the Popes began
 632 The flight of Mahomet
 637 Jerusalem taken by the Saracens
 774 Pavia taken by Charlemagne
 828 The seven kingdoms of England united under Egbert
 886 The university of Oxford founded by Alfred the Great
 1013 The Danes, under Sueno, got possession of England
 1065 Jerusalem taken by the Turks
 1066 The conquest of England under William, duke of Normandy, since called William the Conqueror
 1096 The first Crusade to the Holy Land.
 1147 The second crusade
 1172 Henry II. took possession of Ireland.
 1189 The kings of England and France went to the Holy Land
 1192 Richard I. defeated Saladin at Ascalon
 1215 Magna Charta signed by king John
 1227 The Tartars under Gingiskan, overran the Saracen empire
 1283 Wales conquered by Edward the First
 1293 The regular succession of the English parliaments began
 1346 The battle of Cressy
 1356 The battle of Poitiers
 1381 Wat Tyler's insurrection
 1389 Richard II. deposed and murdered. Henry IV. became king
 1400 Battle of Damascus, between Tamerlane and Bajazet
 1420 Henry V. conquered France
 1453 Constantinople taken by the Turks
 1423 Henry V. an infant crowned king of France, at Paris
 1440 The art of seal engraving applied to printing with blocks
 1483 The two sons of Edward the Fourth murdered in the Tower by order of their uncle Richard
 1485 The battle of Bosworth, between Richard the Third and Henry the Seventh
 1497 The Portuguese first sail to the East Indies
 1517 The Reformation begun by Luther
 1534 The Reformation began in England, under Henry VIII.
 1588 The destruction of the Spanish Armada
 1602 Queen Elizabeth died, and James I. of Scotland ascended the English throne.
 1608 The invention of telescopes
 1642 Charles I. demanded the five members
 1642 The battle of Naseby
 1649 King Charles beheaded
 1660 The Restoration of Charles the Second
 1666 The great fire of London
 1688 The Revolution of England.

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| James II. expelled, and William and Mary crowned | 1805 War recommenced between France and England |
| 1704 Victory over the French, at Blenheim, gained by John duke of Marlborough | 1805 The victory of Trafalgar, gained by Nelson, who was killed |
| 1714 Queen Anne dies, & George the First, of Hanover, ascends the throne of England | 1808 The Empire of the French, under Napoleon Buonaparte, extended over France, Italy, Germany, Prussia, Poland, Holland, and Spain |
| 1718 Charles the Twelfth of Sweden killed, aged 36 | 1812 The burning of Moscow |
| 1727 Sir Isaac Newton died | 1814 Napoleon abdicated the throne of France, and the Bourbons restored |
| 1760 George the Second died | 1815 Napoleon returned from Elba |
| 1775 The American war commenced | 1815 Battle of Waterloo, and the Bourbons reinstated |
| 1783 America acknowledged independent | 1820 George the third died. |
| 1789 The Revolution in France | 1820 George the Fourth died, and WILLIAM IV. proclaimed.— |
| 1793 Louis XVI. beheaded | Revolution in France, Charles X. abdicated the throne, and was succeeded by Louis Philippe. |
| 1798 The victory of the Nile, by Nelson | |
| 1799 Buonaparte made first Consul of France | |



