

THE LEADING FACTS OF
ENGLISH HISTORY

BY
MONTGOMERY

SH-
RY
ERY

RY

ENGLISH
HISTORY
—
MONTGOMERY

DA 32
M 79
1898

GINN & COMPANY



1020043372

Almajones

115

"Harold the last of the
Saxon Kings"

by Lord Bulwer-Lytton.
Lord Bulwer-Lytton.





MEDALLION OF QUEEN VICTORIA.

The Leading Facts of History Series.

THE
LEADING FACTS OF ENGLISH
HISTORY.

BY
D. H. MONTGOMERY.

"Nothing in the past is dead to the man who would learn how the present
came to be what it is." — STUBBS: *Constitutional History of England*.

SECOND EDITION, REVISED.

BOSTON, U.S.A.:
GINN & COMPANY, PUBLISHERS.
1898.

13430



BIBLIOTECA

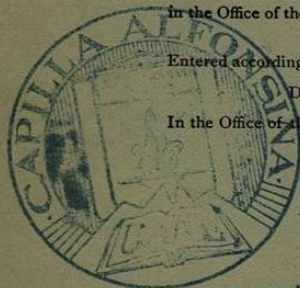
DA 32

M 79

1898

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1887, by
D. H. MONTGOMERY,
in the Office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington.

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1889, by
D. H. MONTGOMERY,
in the Office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington.



ACERVO GENERAL

129553

TYPOGRAPHY BY J. S. CUSHING & Co., BOSTON, U.S.A.

PRESSWORK BY GINN & Co., BOSTON, U.S.A.

I dedicate this book
to my friend J. J. M., who generously
gave time, labor, and valuable
suggestions towards its
preparation for
the press.

LEADING FACTS OF HISTORY SERIES.

By D. H. MONTGOMERY.

BEGINNER'S AMERICAN HISTORY.

With numerous Maps and Illustrations. For introduction, 60 cents.

THE LEADING FACTS OF AMERICAN HISTORY.

With numerous Illustrations, Maps, and Tables. For introduction, \$1.00.

THE STUDENT'S AMERICAN HISTORY.

With numerous Maps and Illustrations. For introduction, \$1.40.

THE LEADING FACTS OF ENGLISH HISTORY.

With numerous Maps and Tables. For introduction, \$1.12.

THE LEADING FACTS OF FRENCH HISTORY.

With numerous Maps and Tables. For introduction, \$1.12.

GINN & COMPANY, PUBLISHERS.

PREFACE.

MOST of the materials for this book were gathered by the writer during several years' residence in England.

The attempt is here made to present them in a manner that shall illustrate the great law of national growth, in the light thrown upon it by the foremost English historians.

The authorities for the different periods will be found in the List of Books on page 434; but the author desires to particularly acknowledge his indebtedness to the works of Gardiner, Guest, and Green, and to the excellent constitutional histories of Taswell-Langmead and Ransome.

SECOND EDITION.

The present edition has been very carefully revised throughout, and numerous maps and genealogical tables have been added.

The author's hearty thanks are due to G. Mercer Adam, Esq., of Toronto, Canada; Prof. W. F. Allen, of The University of Wisconsin; President Myers, of Belmont College, Ohio; Prof. George W. Knight, of Ohio State University; and to Miss M. A. Parsons, teacher of history in the High School, Winchester, Mass., for the important aid which they have kindly rendered.

DAVID H. MONTGOMERY,
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

CONTENTS.

SECTION	PAGE
I. Britain before History begins	I
II. The Relation of the Geography of England to its History . . .	12
III. A Civilization which did not civilize; Roman Britain	18
IV. The Coming of the Saxons; Britain becomes England ¹	31
V. The Coming of the Normans	58
VI. The Angevins, or Plantagenets; Rise of the English Nation . .	87
VII. The Self-Destruction of Feudalism	150
VIII. Absolutism of the Crown; the Reformation; the New Learning .	179
IX. The Stuart Period; the Divine Right of Kings <i>vs.</i> the Divine Right of the People	229
X. The American Revolution; the House of Commons the Ruling Power; the Era of Reform.	306
XI. A General Summary of English Constitutional History	391
XII. Constitutional Documents—	xxvii
Table of Principal Dates	xxxii
Descent of the English Sovereigns	xlii
List of Books	xliv
Statistics	xlviii
Index	1

¹ Each section or period is followed by a general view of that period.

FRONTISPIECE AND MAPS.

MAP	PAGE
I. Medallion of Queen Victoria. Frontispiece.	
II. Britain before its Separation from the Continent	4
III. Roman Britain	24
IV. The Continental Home of the English, with their Successive Invasions of Britain	34
V. The English Settlements and Kingdoms	38
VI. Danish England	42
VII. The Four Great Earldoms	44
VIII. The Dominions of the Angevins, or Plantagenets	88
IX. The English Possessions in France, 1360 (in colors)	130
X. England during the Wars of the Roses	174
XI. The World at the Accession of Henry VII., showing Voyages of Discovery by the Cabots and Others	186
XII. Drake's Circumnavigation of the Globe, with the First English Colonies planted in America	218
XIII. England during the Civil Wars of the Seventeenth Century	244
XIV. The British Empire (double page) in 1837 and 1897	391
XV. Clive's Conquests in India	318
XVI. Plan of a Manor	80
XVII. Scotland, illustrating English Wars facing	122
XVIII. Europe, illustrating Campaigns of Marlborough, etc. "	294
XIX. County Map of England and Wales (in colors)	403

THE

LEADING FACTS OF ENGLISH HISTORY.

I.

" This fortress built by Nature for herself
 Against infection and the hand of war;
 This happy breed of men, this little world,
 This precious stone set in the silver sea,
 Which serves it in the office of a wall,
 Or as a moat defensive to a house,
 Against the envy of less happier lands;
 This blessed plot, this earth, this realm, this England."

SHAKESPEARE, *Richard II.*

BRITAIN BEFORE WRITTEN HISTORY BEGINS.

THE COUNTRY.

1. Britain once a Part of the Continent. — The island of Great Britain has not always had its present form. Though separated from Europe now by the English Channel and the North Sea, yet there is abundant geological evidence that it was once a part of the continent.

2. Proofs. — The chalk cliffs of Dover are really a continuation of the chalk of Calais, and the strait dividing them, which is nowhere more than thirty fathoms deep,¹ is simply the result of a

¹ The width of the Strait of Dover at its narrowest point is twenty-one miles. The bottom is a continuous ridge of chalk. If St. Paul's Cathedral were placed in the strait, midway between England and France, more than half of the building would be above the surface of the water.