A TOPICAL OUTLINE OF ENGLISH HISTORY: INCLUDING REFERENCES FOR LITERATURE; FOR THE USE OF CLASSES IN HIGH SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649355181

A Topical Outline of English History: Including References for Literature; for the Use of Classes in High schools and Academies by Frederick J. Allen

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AND ACADEMIES

BY

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Preeminent among the stories of the nations stands the story of the Anglo-Saxon race.

BOSTON, U.S.A.
D. C. HEATH & CO., PUBLISHERS
1908

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THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY 229582B

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By FREDERICK J. ALLEN.

PREFACE.

HISTORY has more sides than the gold and silver shield. No writer has given us all that is best upon any period or subject. The method of the following pages, carefully developed, and tested in the class-room with gratifying results, enables the student to appropriate the best to be found in many books. It covers the entire field of English history, and aims to fill that place in its study which the laboratory manual fills in chemistry.

The topics are more complete than can be found in any one textbook. They are placed upon the left side of the page, with numbers upon the right referring to the pages of the latest editions of standard school histories. The arrangement is both chronological and related, special effort being made so to group facts that relation and result may be clearly understood. Careful attention has been given to dates, and constant sight of topic and date, rather than any committing to memory, fixes both in mind. In the case of sovereigns, the pages given mark only the beginnings of the reigns; in other cases the references include all of value to be found.

This book is a result of-practical teaching, and those teachers who have seen it in preparation have warmly advised its publication.

It is, first of all, a class-book, taking away no individuality of teacher or pupil, and being especially adapted to working purposes. The author's method has been as follows:—

Have a variety of histories in the class; let each pupil use a copy of the *Topics* and one or more text-books, with works of reference constantly at hand. Let the class keep note-books, also, in which may be written concise statements on the daily lessons, especially useful for re-review. This stimulates investigation, and arouses in each member of the class a desire to bring what others do not.

It also serves as a test in selection and discrimination. For instance, the author once asked his class for results of the reign of William the Conqueror, and twenty-five definite results, positive and negative, were promptly given.

Names of writers have been combined with the historical topics, because it is believed that literature is best understood when seen in its proper setting of political and social history; and the knowledge so gained will serve to direct further reading and research. In most cases one representative book is given with each author.

As applying, in some measure, to the text-books referred to, the following quotation is made from Professor Charles F. Richardson: "From the days when Alfred translated Boethius and Orosius instead of Ciccro and Tacitus, wise teachers have used means toward ends, have taken simple books instead of (invariably) great ones, and have sought to stimulate as well as to instruct."

The histories to which reference is made are those in most common use. Their arrangement is partly according to value. Some of them contain little upon the earlier periods, and should be supplemented by cyclopedias and general works of reference. Green's and Gardiner's, the single-volume editions, are the most valuable; while Curnow's, "written for English schools," is least so in some respects. Emery's Notes is a good guide to further study in literature. Where the histories afford no late information, as, for instance, in the case of Earl Rosebery, reference has been made to those periodicals most easily accessible to high schools and academies. To ensure completeness in this book as a practical manual, a carefully selected list of works for consultation has been placed at the end.

F. J. A.

MILFORD, N.H., Oct. 27, 1894.

ABBREVIATIONS.

- A. = Anderson's School History of England (Maynard, Merrill, & Co.).
- M. = Montgomery's Leading Facts in English History (Ginn & Co.).
- B. = Buckley's History of England for Beginners (Macmillan & Co.).
- C. = Curnow's English History for Schools (George Philip & Son).
- T. = Thalheimer's History of England (American Book Co.).
- S. = Stone's History of England (Thompson, Brown, & Co.).
- D. = Dickens' Child's History of England (American Book Co.).
- G. = Green's Short History of the English People (Harper & Brothers).
- Gar. = Gardiner's Students' History of England (Longmans, Green, & Co.).
- E. = Emery's Notes on English Literature (Ginn & Co.).
 - Br. = Brooke's Primer of English Literature (American Book Co.).
 - Ap. = Appendix.
 - Scrib. = Scribner's Monthly.
- Cent. = Century Magazine.
- Harper = Harper's Magazine.
- Forum = The Forum.
- R. of Rs. = Review of Reviews.
- McClure = McClure's Magazine.

¹ Latest editions in all cases to 1807.

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CONTENTS.

		AGE
ABB	REVIATIONS	5
	Lish Sovereigns	
	PART L - OLD ENGLAND 1066 A.D.	
I.	Prehistoric Britain. — 55 b.c	11
11.	ROMAN BRITAIN. 55 B.C449 A.D	12
ш.	Anglo-Saxon Britain, 449-1066	11
	ROMAN BRITAIN. 55 B.C449 A.D	15
	PART II FRUDAL ENGLAND, 1066-1485.	
I.	THE NORMAN CONQUEST. 1066-1154	16
	THE NORMAN CONQUEST. 1066-1154	18
II. THE	THE PLANTAGENETS, 1154-1399	10
	Supplementary Topics	2
	Supplementary Topics	24
III. LAN	LANCASTER AND YORK. 1399-1485	24
	Supplementary Topics	
	PART III MODERN ENGLAND. 1485	
I.	THE TUDORS. 1485-4603	21
	Supplementary Topics	3
	Elizabethan Literature	3
II.	THE STUARTS (AND THE COMMONWEALTH). 1603-1714	3
	Supplementary Topics	4
	Puritan and Classical Literature	4
III. TH	THE HOUSE OF HANOVER. 1714	4
	Supplementary Topics	5
	Classical, Romantic, and Victorian Literature	5
	Colonies of the British Empire	5
	Colonies of the British Empire	5
IND	ox	6
	•	

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