

**HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES:  
FROM ABORIGINAL TIMES TO  
TAFT'S ADMINISTRATION.  
VOLUME ONE**

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History of the United States: From Aboriginal Times to Taft's Administration. Volume One by  
John Clark Ridpath

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**JOHN CLARK RIDPATH**

**HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES:  
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## A Key to the "Bird's-Eye View of the March of Civiliza- tion across America"

The series of maps shows each advancing stage of the frontier as it moved westward; the retirement before it of savagery and rapidly following it, the coming up of the forces of civilization.

The Progress of the Country in its various stages can be seen by placing all the sectional pages on the left hand side. As each section is turned from left to right a new map is formed showing the condition of the country during the period given just above the map.

### FIRST MAP 1513-1663 A. D.

The first map shows the vast wilderness to be subdued by the forces of civilization, and the heroic beginning of this work by the first pioneers—with the help of ax and gun only. The *Shadow Ships*, belonging to an earlier date, denote the discovery of America, and the foundation of England's claim to it. These ships are (1) ship of the Northmen, (2) Columbus' ships, (3) John Cabot's ship.

### SECOND MAP 1663-1780

In the second map the frontier advances over the Allegheny Mountains and down the Ohio River. The pioneers by land, traveled on foot or on horseback, their goods and chattels being moved by pack-trains; by water the first conveyances were canoes and flatboats.

### THIRD MAP 1780-1800

The third frontier reached up into the old Northwest, some daring souls even crossing the Mississippi to the prairies on the other side, all kinds of vehicles were used, the Conestoga wagon and flatboats being very popular.

### FOURTH MAP 1800-1830

The fourth map shows great improvement in the East and increased settlement in the West, the frontier line extending now to Texas, Arkansas and Nebraska.

*Note* the disappearance of the spinning-wheel and the beginning of the factory age; also the extension of plantations in the South and across the Mississippi, even into Texas and Arkansas.

### FIFTH MAP 1830-1850

In the fifth map civilization begins to come eastward from the Pacific while at the same time it makes long and rapid strides westward from the Atlantic.

The discovery of gold about this time draws a large population to California and leads to an immense transportation business over the plains.

*Note* Oregon and Santa Fe trails, Pike's Peak and Fort and the mining of gold in the Black Hills.

### SIXTH MAP 1850-1880

The achievement of railroads is the great feature of the sixth map. *Note* also bridges and steamboats, the far-reaching range, the Indians still at large, the vanishing of the frontier line and the many educational institutions beyond the Mississippi River.

### SEVENTH MAP TO-DAY

As the first map indicated what lay before the pioneers to do in taming the wild country and wilder men, so the seventh map shows that mighty task magnificently done.

Notice the many lines of achievement—agricultural, industrial, educational, humanitarian.

*Notice* four transcontinental railroads, the telegraph, the trolley, and in each state special industrial and educational development.

HISTORY  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES

FROM ABORIGINAL TIMES  
TO TAFT'S ADMINISTRATION

*By*

JOHN CLARK RIDPATH, A.M., LL.D.

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**Volume One**

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HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

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*VOLUME I*



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# HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

## PART I

### ABORIGINAL AMERICA

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#### CHAPTER I

##### THE RED MEN



THE primitive inhabitants of the New World were the Red men called Indians. The name *Indian* was given to them from their supposed identity with the people of India. Columbus and his followers believed that they had reached the islands of the far East, and that the natives were of the same race with the inhabitants of the Indies. The supposed similarity between the two peoples, if limited to personal appearance, had some foundation in fact; but in manners, customs, and character, no two races could be more dissimilar than the American aborigines and the inhabitants of China and Japan.

The origin of the Indians is involved in great obscurity. At what date or by what route they