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Outlines of California History

"Westward the Course of Empire
Takes Its Way."

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TEACHER
in the
SAN FRANCISCO SCHOOL DEPARTMENT



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Inscribed with Appreciation
to
RICHARD D. FAULKNER,
Principal of the
Horace Mann Intermediate School
San Francisco

The man who put the "India Idea" into the school study of California History

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Outlines of California History*

ELIZA D. KEITH

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PART I.

Foreword.

To understand the history of California, the history student must know something of the old world and its history, of the influence of the "India idea" in shaping the destiny of California. The following facts deal directly with the development of California. Other facts have been excluded for want of direct connection with California history.

The waters sailed, and the places discovered, are mentioned by the names they bear today; although at the time of their discovery they were not all called by their present names.

*The Repetition of the Substantive.—In the following statements, note the repetition of the substantive in place of the customary pronoun. This has been done designedly, in the hope of impressing upon the child each fact as he hears it for the first time. It goes without saying that some of the words may need to be defined, their meaning clarified, to a class.

Outline of California History. Introduction.

The human race means men, women and children, all who have lived on this earth, who are now living, and all who are yet to live upon the earth.

The human race was born, thousands of years ago, in Asia.

Ever since the birth of the human race in Asia, the human race has been moving westward, through Europe, across the Atlantic Ocean, across North America, across the Pacific Ocean, back to Asia, the land of its birth.

Every human being believes in some kind of a god.

Our great white race has always believed in the one true God, and worshipped Him.

The oldest form of the one-God religion is Judaism, the religion of the Jews, or Hebrews. Christianity, founded by Jesus Christ, grew out of the Jewish religion.

We keep historical account of time, dating or starting the Christian era, or years, from the birth of Christ.

B. C. means before Christ. A. D. means Anno Domini, in the year of our Lord (starting from the birth of Christ).

Mohammedanism, the religion of the Turks and the Arabs, was founded some hundreds of years after the birth of Christ, by Mohammed, the Camel Driver of Mecca (570?-632).

The Mohammedans carried their religion from Arabia into Africa and across Europe, through the Mediterranean Sea; spread it by the sword, killing all those who refused to accept the religion founded by Mohammed. (570?-632, A. D.).

The Mohammedans settled in Spain, where they were called the Moors.

The Moors taught the people of Spain how to make lace, other industrial arts, and how to build beautiful palaces, like the Alhambra, using the Moorish arch.

Centuries later Spanish priests built the Missions in California, using a form of the Moorish arch, which can still be seen in the corridors of the old Spanish Missions of California.

Long before anyone knew about California; long before America had been discovered, all the known world was the land on all sides of the Mediterranean Sea, and that fabled land—"farthest east," India, rich in gold, spices and precious stones. A part of China was also known to Europeans.

The Mediterranean Sea is surrounded by the southern countries of Europe, the northern countries of Africa, and by part of the southwestern edge of Asia.

Mediterranean means in the middle of the land.

Italy, once called Rome, is a peninsula extending down into the Mediterranean Sea.

Venice and Genoa, two great rival States of Italy, engaged in trade with India, the rich land "farthest east."

Europe sent to India, and to China, then called Cathay, copper, tin, lead and woolens.

To Europe India sent spices, drugs, camphor, precious stones, perfumes and silks.

The trade between Europe and India was carried on by ships in the Mediterranean Sea to Constantinople, or to Cairo, and by camels across the deserts of Arabia to India.

The old trade routes to India were growing more and more dangerous, menaced by pirates by sea and by wild Arabs in the desert.

Great cargoes of rich goods were stolen at heavy loss to the traders.

A new way to India, indeed, was needed.

Spain and Portugal, jealous of the great Indian trade of the Italian States of Venice and Genoa, desired to find a way of their own to India since they (Spain and Portugal) could not use the routes already established by Venice and Genoa.

It was a time of seeking a new pathway to the Indies.

The Portuguese King encouraged his sailors to try to sail around the great continent of Africa to find another way or route to India.

The Portuguese navigators were very brave for those days of darkest superstition, and ventured far down the coast of Africa, even crossing the equator. At last one Portuguese navigator, Bartholomew Diaz, reached the most southern point of Africa, and named that point the Cape of Good Hope.

Search for a Western Route to India.

Columbus, the Italian Genoese sailor, believed that he could find a new route to India by sailing ever westward. Columbus believed that the earth was round.

For over seven years Columbus tried in vain to induce kings to give him men and ships to sail westward. No one would pay any serious attention to Columbus.

At last Isabella, the Catholic queen of Spain, inspired by the thought of converting the heathen to Christianity, sold her jewels to give Columbus men and ships to sail westward in search of India.

On October 12, 1492, Columbus, after sailing westward for months, reached land. Columbus thought he had discovered a portion of India, so he called the inhabitants "Indians."

Columbus in all made four voyages to the new world, but Columbus died in the belief that he had discovered a new way to India.

Columbus never knew the greatness of his discovery.

The Line of Demarcation.

The Portuguese were still trying to sail around Africa.

Vasco da Gama, the Portuguese, sailed down the west coast of Africa around the Cape of Good Hope, the southern point of Africa. Vasco da Gama then sailed up through the Indian Ocean to India, 1497-1498.

Vasco da Gama had found a new route to India, and that new route belonged to Portugal by virtue of da Gama's discovery.

Spain claimed all the land discovered by Columbus.

Portugal had her new route (around Africa) to India.

Spain and Portugal even quarreled over the ocean routes of travel.

The Pope settled the dispute between Spain and Portugal. The Pope drew the Line of Demarcation from pole to pole through the Atlantic Ocean, at a certain distance west of Europe.

The Line of Demarcation was an imaginary line running due north and south about one hundred leagues west of the Azores and Cape Verde Islands, fixed in papal bull of Alexander VI, May 5, 1493. By treaty, 1494, the line was shifted 270 miles farther west.

The Pope declared that Spain could have all that Spain discovered west of the Line of Demarcation.

The Pope declared that Portugal could have all that Portugal discovered east of the Line of Demarcation.

The Line of Demarcation kept Spain from sailing east, and the Line of Demarcation kept Portugal from sailing west.

Vasco da Gama gave Portugal an all-sea route to India, but it was very long, and exhausting.

Spain could not use Portugal's sea route to India, so Spain still hoped to find a western route to India, which would be all Spain's own.

Magellan, First Circumnavigator of the Globe.

1519-1521.

Magellan, who was an ambitious Portuguese captain, asked the King of Portugal for a ship and men that he might go on a voyage of discovery.

The King of Portugal treated Magellan with disdain, refused to give Magellan ships or men.

Magellan, angered by the treatment of the Portuguese king, forswore Portugal, Magellan's native land, and went to Spain.

Magellan offered his services to the King of Spain.

Magellan obtained ships and men from the King of Spain.

Magellan set out to find for Spain a western route to India, 1520.

Magellan's crew and officers were nearly all Spaniards. The Spaniards were jealous because Magellan, a Portuguese, had been placed over them, in command of a Spanish fleet.

Magellan sailed southwest through the Atlantic Ocean, passed through the straits which are now known as the Straits of Magellan, and sailing northwest across the Pacific Ocean, Magellan led the Spanish fleet to the Philippines.

It was Magellan who named the Pacific Ocean.

Magellan took possession of the Philippines for Spain, 1521.

Magellan was killed by the natives at the Philippines and Sebastian Del Cano took the ships back to Spain via the Indian Ocean, and around the Cape of Good Hope into the Atlantic Ocean and through the Atlantic to Seville, Spain.

It seems the very irony of fate that Del Cano, once a mutineer, received the honors that Magellan had so dearly earned.

Magellan is called the first circumnavigator of the globe.

Through the voyage of Magellan, Spain gained a western route to India. But the route taken by Magellan was long, dangerous and not practical in those days.

The Pope's division of the world between Spain and Portugal excluded the Spaniards from the Indian Ocean and the Cape of Good Hope, and thus forced the commerce of Spain with the East Indies across the Pacific, a long and hazardous route.

Spain Seeks a Shorter Western Route to India.

Spain tried to find a shorter and more directly western route to India by crossing the Spanish possessions in the new world.

Cortez, the Spanish conqueror and explorer, in the years 1519-1521, landed in Mexico, conquered Mexico and made Mexico the Spanish headquarters for expeditions of discovery and exploration.

Cortez sent out expeditions to find India. These expeditions of Cortez failed to discover India, but carried the Spaniards across Mexico, across the Gulf of California, to Lower California.

Mendoza, the Governor of Mexico, fitted out an exploring expedition under Cabrillo to sail up the coast of California.

Cabrillo discovered San Diego Bay, Monterey Bay. Cabrillo sailed up the coast of California in 1542.

Cabrillo died in 1543, and Cabrillo's pilot, Ferrelo, took the ships as far north as Cape Blanco, Oregon.

Ferrelo discovered and named Cape Mendocino, California.

The discovery of San Diego Bay by Cabrillo was the first discovery on the western coast of North America, of territory that now belongs to the United States.

Cabrillo's explorations and discoveries dissipated the idea held by the Spaniards that they were on the threshold of India.

Recapitulation.*

The India-idea led to the discovery of California.

1492, Columbus sailed westward; Columbus discovered the island of Haiti, West Indies.

1500, Cabral, Portuguese navigator, discovered coast of Brazil, South America.

Cape St. Roque, the most easterly point of South America, was well within the region east of the Line of Demarcation; so the country thus discovered by Cabral, the Portuguese navigator, and now known as Brazil, was by the terms of the Pope's decision claimed and taken by Portugal.

1513, Balboa discovered the Pacific Ocean, called it the South Sea.

(Note the direction of the Isthmus of Panama, and the points of the compass in connection with the Panama Canal).

1519-1520, Cortez, conqueror of Mexico, as Governor-General of New Spain, sent out exploring parties along the west coast of Mexico.

1534, Ximinez, a pilot of Cortez, discovered Lower California, named the place at which he landed La Paz.

Ximinez was assassinated by natives.

1534, Cortez at head of an expedition, landed in Lower California, at same place (La Paz) that Ximinez had landed. Cortez renamed La Paz, calling it Santa Cruz.

1539, Francisco de Ulloa, sent forth by Cortez, explored what is now known as the Gulf of California. The Gulf of California was once called the Sea of Cortez in honor of Cortez.

Ulloa rounded Cape St. Lucas, at the southern extremity of Southern California, and tried to continue his exploration.

1540, Ulloa discovered the island of Cerros, off the coast of California.

Ulloa was assassinated by one of his own people.

*Grateful acknowledgment of indebtedness is made to William Henry Johnson's "The World's Discoverers," and to the "Brief History of California, Discovery and Early Voyages," by Theodore H. Hittell, with suggestive correlations by Richard D. Faulkner, Principal of the Horace Mann Intermediate School, San Francisco.

Summary of the Connection of Cortez with California.

1519-1540.

Under the auspices of Cortez ships first breasted the waters of the North Pacific Ocean.

Under the auspices of Cortez the west coast of Mexico was minutely examined.

Cortez was responsible for the fact that the Gulf of California was explored, and its existence made known to the civilized world.

By Cortez the peninsula of California was discovered and surveyed in almost its entire extent.

Cortez' brilliant career in Mexico entitles him to a high rank among the conquerors of the earth.

Cortez, in his California expeditions, displayed to the highest degree his courage, his constancy and his fortitude.

In 1540 Cortez returned to Spain to try to obtain some acknowledgment for the six hundred thousand dollars that he had expended in his explorations in the New World.

Cortez was received with honors in Spain.

Cortez was never repaid any of his fortune expended in explorations.

Cortez waited in vain hope for seven years.

Cortez died, 1547, still unheard and unrequited, at a little village near Seville, Spain.

Summary of the Connection of Cabrillo with California.

1542-1543.

1542, Mendoza, Viceroy of New Spain and Mexico, sent five ships across the Pacific to the Philippines.

1542, Mendoza gave two ships to Juan Rodriquez Cabrillo, a Portuguese navigator of great reputation, to explore the coast of California, beyond what had already been ascertained.

1542, Cabrillo discovered what is now San Diego Bay. Cabrillo called it the Bay of San Miguel.

Cabrillo discovered Alta or Upper California and Cabrillo was the first white man that ever laid his eyes or placed his feet upon the soil of Alta California.

Cabrillo discovered the islands now known as San Clemente, Santa Catalina, Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa, San Miguel.

Cabrillo was near Santa Barbara.

Cabrillo discovered Monterey Bay.

Cabrillo's discovery of what is now San Diego, in 1542, was the first discovery on the western coast of territory now belonging to the United States.

The discoveries of Cabrillo on the Pacific Coast dispelled the belief of the Spaniards that they were on the threshold of India.

The Search for the Strait of Anian.

Cabrillo sailed northward evidently in search of the Strait of Anian.

Cortez himself had believed in the existence of the Strait of Anian.

In the time of Cortez, the Strait of Anian was supposed to extend across or at the northern edge of the North American continent, from Newfoundland to the East Indies.

When Cabrillo was dying, he bade his pilot, Ferrelo, to continue the search for the Strait of Anian; therefore Ferrelo tried to complete the voyage.

Ferrelo went as far north as Cape Blanco, Oregon, where the winds drove him southward again.

Ferrelo's experience confirmed him in the belief that the Strait of Anian really existed, for:

In 1543 Ferrelo had mistaken the drift from the mouth of some river, possibly the Columbia River, for a discharge from the Strait of Anian.

What Was the Supposed Strait of Anian?

The Strait of Anian was a belief in something which never existed, save in the imagination of men's minds.

The Strait of Anian was **not** what is now called Bering Strait, as is taught by some misinformed instructors. The Strait of Anian was supposed to extend from east to west, starting in the known latitude of New Foundland.

The Strait of Anian never existed, yet nevertheless it was a belief that held sway for centuries, a belief which became an active principle in the settlement and attempted fortification of the Californias.

The Spaniards believed in the existence of the Strait of Anian.

The Spaniards believed that the Strait of Anian was a short cut from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean.

The Spaniards believed that their enemies could sail through the Strait of Anian into the northern part of the Pacific Ocean, and fall upon the Spanish commerce in the Pacific on its way to and from the Philippines.

Effect of the Strait of Anian Belief.

The Spanish believed that, if the English and other enemies of Spain could find so short a way into the Pacific as through the supposed Strait of Anian, Spain must provide stations for the protection of ships in trade in the Pacific.

The Spanish also believed that it would be better still to seize upon the Strait of Anian itself and to fortify the Strait of Anian. (Note—Compare the United States' ownership and fortification of the Panama Canal.)

Spain dominated the greater part of Europe. Spain claimed, under the Pope's grant, along with Portugal, exclusive ownership of the New World.

Francis Drake, the English Freebooter, in the Pacific.

Englishmen, resenting the oppression and cruelty of Spain, struck at Spanish power whenever and wherever they could.

The pirates of that day fell upon the ships of the Spanish King and secured many a rich booty.

Queen Elizabeth winked at the action of these pirates. Elizabeth could disown all responsibility for the English pirates that preyed upon the Spanish commerce.

But Elizabeth reaped the benefit of the operations of these pirates. Elizabeth cared not what was done, so long as it did not exasperate King Philip of Spain into declaring war upon England.

Drake had once been plundered by a Spanish captain.

1577, Drake left Plymouth, England, in English channel, with five vessels, and less than 200 men to prey on Spanish ships.

Sixty years had passed since Magellan had sailed through the straits which now bear the name of Magellan.

Geographers taught that there was no passage from the Atlantic into the South Sea (now Pacific Ocean), save through that one crooked Strait of Magellan.

The Strait of Magellan had baffled the skill of the most renowned Spanish navigators, and had finally been abandoned as a possibility.

The vast wealth of the Pacific Coast went northward to the Isthmus of Panama, where it was carried overland and then re-shipped to Spain.

Drake planned to follow in Magellan's track, to penetrate the south sea, to freight his ships with the almost fabulous riches of Peru.

Drake sailed through the Strait of Magellan, became separated from his other ships—was driven southward by the storm.

At last Drake found himself at the end of the Western Continent.

Drake saw an open sea instead of the solid land imagined by the geographers to extend to the South Pole.

Drake saw the Atlantic and the Pacific rolling together.

Drake's discovery of the union of the Atlantic and the Pacific gave to the world the commercial route, the Southwest Road to Cathay.

Drake plied his trade of pirate with good effect, capturing many a rich prize on his way up the Pacific Coast looking for the Strait of Anian.

Drake, in one of his prizes, had made a capture of priceless value, the secret charts by which Spain conducted her rich traffic in the Eastern Asiatic Archipelago.

Drake sailed to Cape Mendocino, looking for the Strait of Anian, and spent much time in "watchful waiting" for the Spanish Gallions from the Philippines on their way to the Isthmus.

Drake discovered Drake's Bay, California, June 17, 1579.

Drake took possession of the Pacific Coast in the name of Queen Elizabeth, for England.

Drake gave the name New Albion to what is now California.

Drake held the first Christian service in the English tongue, on the Pacific Coast, at Drake's Bay, California, June 17, 1579.

The Prayer Book Cross was erected in Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, to commemorate the first Christian service ever held in the English tongue on the Pacific Coast.

(Drake—Drake's Bay—California, English Episcopal Service, 1579.)

Francis Drake made the second circumnavigation of the world, 1577-1580.

Drake, the plain English sea captain, on his return to England, was knighted by Queen Elizabeth, as a reward for his brilliant exploit, and so became Sir Francis Drake.

(Note: Read "Westward Ho," by Canon Kingsley.)

The Spanish believed that Drake must have come through the Strait of Anian and Spain felt the necessity of fortifying the California coast.

Other Spanish Expeditions.

1602-1603, there was a Spanish expedition under Viscaïno in search of the Strait of Anian.

1602, Sebastian Viscaïno set out to find the Strait of Anian, and explored the California coast.

Viscaïno stayed awhile at San Diego.

Viscaïno gave the name Santa Catalina to an island.

December 15, 1602, Viscaïno practically rediscovered a fine bay, already discovered by Cabrillo in 1542.

Viscaïno named the bay Monterey Bay in honor of the Viceroy of Mexico.

January, 1603, Viscaïno searched for Cape Mendocino.

Viscaïno, while en route for the supposed Strait of Anian, anchored near Point Reyes.

Viscaïno sailed almost to Cape Blanco, Oregon, but storms drove Viscaïno back to Mexico.

Spanish Occupation of California.

1606, King Philip II of Spain ordered a new expedition under Viscaino to undertake the occupation and settlement of Monterey.

Monterey was to be maintained as a sort of half-way station between Mexico and Manila, for the benefit of Philippine commerce.

But Viscaino was too ill and old; Viscaino died before he could start on the King's expedition. There was not one to take Viscaino's place, so the plans to settle Monterey were abandoned.

The Pearl Fisheries of California.

1615, Juan Iturbide sailed from New Spain for California.

Iturbide sailed up the Gulf of California, collected pearls from the Indians.

Iturbide's purchase of pearls opened up a new source of revenue, a new cause for immigration to California—the pearl fisheries of Lower California.

But—the Spanish government assumed control of the California pearl fisheries, and created a monopoly of the California pearl fisheries.

The Spanish monopoly of the California pearl fisheries excluded colonists and closed the Californias to immigration.

The California pearl fisheries were a failure through the rapacity of the concessionaires, and the cruelty practiced on the Indians.

No one wanted the pearl fisheries of California.

(Note: Read Gertrude Atherton's "The Pearls of San Loreto.")
1677-1679, the Spanish King recognized the importance of maintaining some kind of a Spanish force in California.

King Charles II sent Admiral Atondo, accompanied by three Jesuit priests, to colonize Lower California.

The Jesuits converted many Indians of Lower California.

But Lower California was barren, unproductive, with no rain. There was difficulty in getting supplies to Lower California.

There was much sickness and discouragement among the men.

Atondo broke up camp, abandoned Lower California, and returned to Mexico.

Atondo in three years had spent \$225,000 of royal money in the vain attempt to settle in Lower California.

Atondo had made a costly failure.

There was still great need to protect Philippine ships. The interest of commerce required the occupation of the northwest coast of California.

But what the Spanish crown failed to accomplish the Spanish church performed—

"The Cross prevailed

Where the Sword had failed."

This brings the history of California to the Era of the Missions.

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The India-Idea and California

It was the India-idea, which so long influenced American exploration, that led to the discovery of California. To understand the circumstances of its discovery, it is therefore necessary to trace the routes by which trade was carried on between Europe and Asia early in the fifteenth century; to discuss the necessity of finding an ocean route to India; to determine when, by whom, and in which direction the first attempt was made to find such a route, and finally to understand why the thought of the time culminated in the sublime idea, of which Columbus was the ablest advocate and first practically to test.—Richard D. Faulkner, address before California Association of Teachers of History, December, 1898.



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