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This vast study, first published between 1784 and 1818, and written on an unprecedentedly large historical scale, was begun at the urging of the author's friend Edward Gibbon. William Mitford (1744–1827), a scholar of private means, a magistrate and an MP, was concerned for the preservation of national and military stability, and he in part used his work to draw parallels between the rise of Athenian democracy and the contemporary status of the British constitution. This stance drew some criticism initially, but Mitford's approach was later praised in the wake of the French Revolution. The *History*, therefore, offers fascinating insights into its own time as well as a study of ancient Greece. The four volumes reissued here are from the uniform edition of 1808. Volume 1 covers the period from Greece's earliest foundations to the time of Pericles and the end of the first Peloponnesian War in 445 BCE.

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History of Greece

VOLUME 1

WILLIAM MITFORD



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OF
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CONTENTS

OF THE

FIRST VOLUME.

CHAPTER I.

History of GREECE, from the earliest Accounts to the End of
the TROJAN WAR.

- SECT. I. *State of the World before the first Accounts of Greece. Assyria, Syria, and Egypt civilized; the rest barbarous or uninhabited. Geographical Description of Greece. Unsettled Population of the early Ages. Spirit of War and Robbery. Phenician Navigation in the Grecian Seas, and Settlements on the Coasts* - - - - - p. 1.
- SECT. II. *Of the southern Provinces of Greece from the earliest accounts to the Trojan War. Crete: Minos. Sicyon. Corinth. Argos: Pelasgian Dominion in Greece: Egyptian Colonies in Greece: Danaüs: Acrisius: Perseus. Pisa: Colonies from Phrygia and Thessaly under Pelops. Hercules. Atreus: Dominion of the Family of Pelops. Agamemnon. Lacedæmon* - - - - - p. 14.
- SECT. III. *Of the northern Provinces of Greece from the earliest accounts to the Trojan War. Thessaly: Tempè: Deucalion's Flood: Centaurs: Jason: Argonautic Expedition. Bœotia: Flood of Ogyges: Thebes. Ætolia. Attica: Cecrops: Athens: Ægeus. Theseus: Ariadne. Improvement of the Athenian Government by Theseus. The Athenians the first civilized People of Greece* - - - - - p. 29.
- SECT. IV. *Early People of Asia Minor and Thrace. Origin and Progress of the Trojan State. Licentious Manners of the early Ages. Early Hostilities between Greece and Asia. Expedition of Paris: Rape of Helen: League of the Grecian princes: Sacrifice of Iphigenia: Difficulties of the Greeks in the Trojan war: Troy taken: Return of the Greeks: Consequences of their absence: Assassination of Agamemnon. Credit due to Homer's historical evidence. Resemblance of the Trojan War to circumstances in modern History* - - - - - p. 52.

VOL. I.

b

CHAPTER

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER II.

Of the Religion, Government, Jurisprudence, Science, Arts, Commerce, and Manners of the early GREEKS.

- SECT. I. *Of the Progress of things from the East into Greece, and of the Religion of the early Greeks* - - - - - p. 64.
 SECT. II. *Of the Government and Jurisprudence of the early Greeks* p. 82.
 SECT. III. *Science, Arts, and Commerce among the early Greeks. Letters: Language: Poetry: Music. Husbandry: Traffic. Masonry. Manufactures: Commerce. Art of War. Navigation. Astronomy. Physic* p. 89.
 SECT. IV. *Of the Manners of the early Greeks* - - - - - p. 117.

CHAPTER III.

History of GREECE from the TROJAN WAR to the Return of the HERACLEIDS; and of the GRECIAN ORACLES, the Council of AMPHICTYONS, and the OLYMPIAN GAMES.

- SECT. I. *Restoration of Orestes to the Throne of Argos. Conquest of Peloponnesus by the Dorians under the Heracleids, commonly called the Return of the Heracleids. Distinction of the Greek Nation into Ionic, Æolic, Attic, Doric* - - - - - p. 131.
 SECT. II. *Origin and Progress of Oracles* - - - - - p. 136.
 SECT. III. *Origin and Constitution of the Council of Amphictyons* - p. 146.
 SECT. IV. *Early Dissentions of the Heracleid Princes. Unsettled state of Peloponnesus. Origin of the Grecian Games. Institution of the Olympian Festival by Iphitus king of Elis* - - - - - p. 151.

APPENDIX TO THE THIRD CHAPTER.

- Of the Chronology of Grecian History* - - - - - p. 159.

CHAPTER IV.

History of the southern Provinces of GREECE, from the Return of the HERACLEIDS to the Conquest of MESSENIA by the LACEDÆMONIANS.

- SECT. I. *Recapitulation of Events in Greece. General change of Governments from Monarchal to Republican. Different kinds of Government distinguished by the Greeks* - - - - - p. 181.
 SECT.

CONTENTS.

iii

- SECT. II. *Summary of the Histories of Crete, Argos, the Calarean Confederacy, Corinth, Sicyon, Achaia, Eleia, Arcadia* - - - p. 188.
 SECT. III. *History of Lacedæmon. Legislation of Lycurgus* - p. 197.
 SECT. IV. *History of Messenia from the Return of the Heracleids, and of Lacedæmon from the Legislation of Lycurges, to the completion of the conquest of Messenia by the Lacedæmonians* - - - - - p. 222

CHAPTER V.

Summary View of the State of the Northern Provinces of GREECE, and of the Establishment of the early GRECIAN Colonies; with the History of ATHENS, from the TROJAN WAR to the first public Transaction with PERSIA.

- SECT. I. *View of the State of the Northern Provinces of Greece, after the Trojan war. History of Athens, from the Trojan war, to the Abolition of Royalty, and the Appointment of Hereditary Archons* - - p. 245.
 SECT. II. *Grecian Islands: Æolic and Ionic Migrations: Grecian Colonies in Asia minor, Thrace, Cyprus, Africa, Sicily, Italy* - - p. 251.
 SECT. III. *History of Athens from the Abolition of Royalty to the Legislation of Solon* - - - - - p. 261.
 SECT. IV. *Reformation of the Athenian Government and Jurisprudence by Solon* - - - - - p. 270.
 SECT. V. *History of Athens from the Legislation of Solon to the Expulsion of the Peisistratids and the first public transaction with Persia* - p. 288.

CHAPTER VI.

View of the Eastern Nations politically connected with GREECE.

- SECT. I. *Of Lydia: Asiatic Grecian Commonwealths: Scythia: Assyria: Persia. Reduction of the Asian Greeks under the Persian dominion by Cyrus* - - - - - p. 309.
 SECT. II. *Accession of Cambyses to the Throne of Persia. Acquisition of Tyre and Conquest of Egypt by the Persians. Accession of Darius. Constitution of the Persian Empire: Persian Religion* - - - p. 322.
 SECT. III. *Conquest of Thrace, and Invasion of European Scythia by Darius. Submission of Macedonia to the Persian Empire. State of the Ægean Islands, and history of Polycrates tyrant of Samos. Situation of the Grecian People under the Persian Dominion* - - - - - p. 329.

b 2

CHAPTER

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER VII.

Continuation of the History of GREECE during the Reign of
 DARIUS King of PERSIA.

- SECT. I. *Immediate Causes of the Wars between Greece and Persia. Persian expedition against Naxos. Revolt of the Asian Greeks against the Persian Government* - - - - - P. 337.
- SECT. II. *Affairs of Athens. Invasion of Attica by the Peloponnesians, Bœotians, and Eubœans. Assistance from Athens to the Ionians against Persia. Reduction of the Asiatic Grecian states again under the Persian dominion. History of the Athenian colony in the Thracian Chersonese. Liberal administration of the conquered Provinces under the Persian dominion* - - - - - P. 343.
- SECT. III. *First Persian armament against Greece under Mardonius: proceeds no farther than Macedonia. The Grecian Cities summoned by Heralds to acknowledge subjection to the Persian empire. Internal Feuds in Greece: Banishment of Demaratus king of Lacedæmon: Affairs of Argos: Banishment and restoration of Cleomenes king of Lacedæmon: Death of Cleomenes: War of Athens and Ægina* - - - - P. 357.
- SECT. IV. *Second Persian armament against Greece under Datis and Artaphernes: reduces the Islands of the Ægean: invades Attica. Battle of Marathon* - - - - - P. 365.
- SECT. V. *Growing Ambition of Athens. Effects of Party-spirit at Athens. Extraordinary honors to the memory of Harmodius and Aristogeiton. Impeachment and death of Miltiades* - - - - - P. 375.

CHAPTER VIII.

History of GREECE, from the accession of XERXES to the
 throne of PERSIA till the Conclusion of the first campaign
 of that monarch's Expedition against GREECE.

- SECT. I. *Accession of Xerxes to the throne of Persia. Immense Preparations of the Court of Persia for conquest in Europe. Assembly of the Army at Sardis, and of the Fleet in the Hellespont. March of the Army. Muster of the Army. Arrival of the Army and Fleet at Thermæ in Macedonia* p. 379.
- SECT.

CONTENTS.

v

- SECT. II.** *State of Greece at the time of the invasion under Xerxes. Themistocles. Responses of the Delphian oracle concerning the Invasion. Measures for forming a Confederacy of Grecian Commonwealths. Disunion among the Greeks. Assembly of deputies from the confederated commonwealths at Corinth. The Defence of Thessaly given up by the Confederates. Measures for defending the pass of Thermopylæ - - - - - p. 387.*
- SECT. III.** *Station of the Grecian Army at Thermopylæ; of the Fleet at Artemisium. Responses of the Delphian oracle. Progress of the Persian Fleet to Sepias; of the Army to Thermopylæ. Numbers of the Persian forces. Storm and shipwreck at Sepias. Battle of Thermopylæ p. 400.*
- SECT. IV.** *Numbers of the Grecian Fleet. Sea-fights off Artemisium. Retreat of the Grecian Fleet. March of the Persian Army toward Athens. Attempt against Delphi - - - - - p. 411.*
- SECT. V.** *Unsteady Counsels of the Grecian Confederacy. The Athenians, deserted by the Peloponnesians, remove their families from Attica. Aristides. Ostracism. Athens taken by the Persians. Artemisia. Antient manner of Naval action. Battle of Salamis. Return of Xerxes into Asia - - - - - p. 421.*

APPENDIX TO THE EIGHTH CHAPTER.

- Of the antient Ships of War - - - - - p. 437.*

CHAPTER IX.

HISTORY of GREECE, from the Battle of SALAMIS to the Conclusion of the PERSIAN Invasion.

- SECT. I.** *Return of the Athenians to their Country. Measures of the Grecian Fleet. Dedication to the Gods for the Victory at Salamis. Honors to Themistocles. Revolt of Chalcidice from the Persians. Siege of Potidæa by Artabazus - - - - - p. 440.*
- SECT. II.** *Preparations for the Campaign. Congress at Athens: Speeches of Alexander king of Macedonia, of the Lacedæmonian ambassador, and of the Athenian minister. Athens a second time abandoned. Zeal of the Athenian People for the prosecution of the Persian War - - p. 444.*
- SECT. III.** *Campaign in Bœotia. Battle of Platæa. Punishment of Thebes p. 450.*
- SECT. IV.** *Measures of the Grecian Fleet. Battle of Mycalæ. End of the expedition of Xerxes - - - - - p. 471.*

CHAPTER

CONTENTS.

CHAPTER X.

View of the People of the Western Countries politically connected with the GREEKS, and of the Grecian Settlements in SICILY and ITALY.

- SECT. I. *Of Carthage. Of Sicily: Agrigentum: Phalaris: Syracuse: Gelon: Invasion of Sicily by the Carthaginians: Battle of Himera* - p. 477.
 SECT. II. *Of Italy: Tuscany: Rome: Latium: Sybaris: Crotona: Pythagoras: Thurium: Pæstum: Cuma: Campania: Lucania* - p. 491.

CHAPTER XI.

Affairs of GREECE, from the Conclusion of that commonly called the PERSIAN WAR, to the Establishment of Security for the Greeks, against the Barbarians, by the successes of CIMON.

- SECT. I. *State of the known World at the time of the Retreat of Xerxes from Greece. Dedications, Festivals, and Monuments in Greece, occasioned by the Victories over the Persians. Restoration of Athens: Jealousy of the Peloponnesians: Administration of Themistocles: Parties at Athens: Banishment of Themistocles* - - - - - p. 508.
 SECT. II. *War prosecuted against Persia under Pausanias and Aristides. Treason of Pausanias: Athens head of a new Confederacy composed of the Greeks of the Ægean Ilands, Asia minor, and Thrace* - - p. 525.
 SECT. III. *Administration of Cimon. Death of Xerxes, and accession of Artaxerxes to the Persian throne. Successes of the Confederate arms under Cimon: Battle of the Eurymedon* - - - - - p. 532.

CHAPTER XII.

Affairs of GREECE, from the Establishment of its Security against PERSIA, to the TRUCE for Thirty Years between ATHENS and LACEDÆMON.

- SECT. I. *Athens the Seat of Science and Arts. Extension of the Power of Athens: jealousy of Lacedæmon. Earthquake at Lacedæmon: Revolt of the Helots: Assistance sent from Athens to Lacedæmon: Renunciation of*

C O N T E N T S.

vii

- of the Lacedæmonian confederacy by the Athenians. War of Argos and Mycenæ* - - - - - p. 549.
- SECT. II. *Change of Administration at Athens, and Banishment of Cimon. Renunciation of the Peloponnesian Confederacy by Megara, and Accession to the Athenian. Difficulties of the new Athenian Administration: Ephialtes; Pericles; Depression of the Court of Areiopagus: Expedition to Egypt. War in Greece; Siege of Ægina; Relief of Megara by Myronides* - - - - - p. 559.
- SECT. III. *War between Doris and Phocis. Hostilities resulting between Athens and Lacedæmon: Battle of Tanagra. Affairs of Bœotia: Battle of Œnophyta: Successes of the Athenians under Myronides. Ægina taken. Successes of the Athenians under Tolmides: Messenians established in Naupactus. Conclusion of the Egyptian expedition. War in Thessaly. Expedition under Pericles to the Western Coast of Greece* - - p. 568.
- SECT. IV. *Coalition of parties at Athens, and Recall of Cimon: Truce of Five Years with Peloponnesus. Long Walls of Athens. Restoration of the Order of Knights, or Cavalry. Expedition to Cyprus: Death of Cimon* p. 576.
- SECT. V. *Contest for Command of the Temple of Delphi. Athens at the summit of her greatness. State of Parties: Pericles; Thucydides. Policy of the Grecian Republics for holding the weaker Republics in Subjection. Revolt of Bœotia; of Eubœa; of Megara: Invasion of Attica by the Peloponnesians. Thirty-Years Truce. Power of Pericles* - - p. 582.
-

THE