A history of France

Jameson J Franklin
A HISTORY OF FRANCE

BY

VICTOR DURUY
MEMBER OF THE FRENCH ACADEMY

ABRIDGED AND TRANSLATED FROM THE
SEVENTEENTH FRENCH EDITION

BY

MRS. M. CAREY

WITH AN INTRODUCTORY NOTICE AND A CONTINUATION TO THE YEAR 1889

BY

J. FRANKLIN JAMESON, Ph.D.
PROFESSOR OF HISTORY IN BROWN UNIVERSITY

NEW YORK
THOMAS Y. CROWELL & COMPANY
13 ASTOR PLACE
COPYRIGHT, 1889,

BY THOMAS Y. CROWELL & CO.

TYPOGRAPHY BY J. S. CUSHING & CO., BOSTON.
## CONTENTS

### INTRODUCTION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geographical Description of Gaul</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### FIRST PERIOD

**Gaul Independent (to 50 B.C.).**

1. Primitive populations: manners and customs (to 125 B.C.) | 9
2. Migrations of the Galls (to 123 B.C.) | 15
3. Conquest of Gaul by the Romans (125–50 B.C.) | 19

### SECOND PERIOD

**Gaul under the Romans (50 B.C.–476 A.D.).**

4. The Galls under the Empire (50 B.C.–395 A.D.) | 26
5. Invasion of the barbarians.—The Franks before Clovis (241–481 A.D.) | 32

### THIRD PERIOD

**Merovingian France (481–687).**

6. Clovis (481–511 A.D.) | 36
7. The sons of Clovis (511–564 A.D.) | 43
8. The sons and grandsons of Chlothar I. (561–613 A.D.) | 48
9. Condition of Gaul in the sixth century | 53
10. Chlothar II. and Dagobert sole kings of the Franks: after them, anarchy (613–687 A.D.) | 61

### FOURTH PERIOD

**Carolingian France (687–887).**

11. Reconstitution of the Empire and of authority by the mayors of Austrasia (687–752 A.D.) | 66
12. Wars of Pippin and Charlemagne (752–814 A.D.) | 72
13. Government of Charlemagne | 78
14. Dismemberment of the Empire of Charlemagne by the revolt of the nations (814–843 A.D.) | 86
15. Dismemberment of the kingdom of France by the usurpations of the Leudes (843–887 A.D.) | 91


# CONTENTS.

## FIFTH PERIOD.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>FEUDAL FRANCE (887–1180).</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XVI.</td>
<td>The last Carolingians and the dukes of France (887–987 A.D.)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XVII.</td>
<td>The first four Capetians (987–1108 A.D.)</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XVIII.</td>
<td>France in the eleventh century: exposition of the Feudal System</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIX.</td>
<td>External enterprises in the second half of the eleventh century</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XX.</td>
<td>The first crusade (1095–1099 A.D.)</td>
<td>129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXI.</td>
<td>The rural classes, the urban population, and the communes: Louis VI. (1108–1137 A.D.)</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXII.</td>
<td>Louis VII., the Young (1137–1180 A.D.)</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## SIXTH PERIOD.

**First Victory of Royalty over the Feudal Aristocracy (1150–1328).**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th></th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XXIII.</td>
<td>Philip Augustus and Louis VIII. (1180–1223 A.D.)</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXIV.</td>
<td>St. Louis (1226–1270 A.D.)</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXV.</td>
<td>Civilization in the thirteenth century</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXVI.</td>
<td>Philip III. the Bold and Philip IV. the Fair (1270–1314 A.D.)</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXVII.</td>
<td>The three sons of Philip the Fair (1314–1328 A.D.)</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## SEVENTH PERIOD.

**Hundred Years’ War; Renewal of Anarchy (1328–1436).**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th></th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XXVIII.</td>
<td>House of Capet-Valois: Philip VI. (1328–1350 A.D.)</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXIX.</td>
<td>John the Good (1350–1364 A.D.)</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXX.</td>
<td>Charles V. the Wise (1364–1380 A.D.)</td>
<td>203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXXI.</td>
<td>Charles VI. (1380–1422 A.D.)</td>
<td>212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXXII.</td>
<td>Charles VII., to his return to Paris (1422–1436 A.D.)</td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## EIGHTH PERIOD.

**Final Victory of the Crown over the Feudal Aristocracy (1436–1491).**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th></th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XXXIII.</td>
<td>The English expelled from France: government of Charles VII. (1436–1461 A.D.)</td>
<td>239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXXIV.</td>
<td>Louis XI. (1461–1483): his reign to the death of his brother (1461–1472 A.D.)</td>
<td>251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXXV.</td>
<td>The reign of Louis XI. (1472–1483 A.D.)</td>
<td>263</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXXVI.</td>
<td>The reign of Charles VIII. (1483–1491 A.D.)</td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## NINTH PERIOD.

**Italian Wars (1494–1515).**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th></th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>XXXVII.</td>
<td>First Italian War (1494–1498 A.D.)</td>
<td>283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXXVIII.</td>
<td>Louis XII. (1498–1515 A.D.)</td>
<td>288</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONTENTS.

TENTH PERIOD.
FIRST STRUGGLE OF FRANCE AGAINST THE HOUSE OF AUSTRIA.—
INCREASE OF THE ROYAL POWER.—THE RENAISSANCE.

CHAPTER (1515-1559.) PAGE
XXXIX. Francis I. (1515-1547 A.D.).............................. 299
XL. Henry II. (1547-1559 A.D.).................................. 314
XLII. Government of Francis I. and Henry II.............. 319
XLIII. The Renaissance under Francis I. and Henry II. ... 324

ELEVENTH PERIOD.
RELIGIOUS WARS.—FEUDAL AND COMMUNAL ANARCHY RENEWED.

XLIII. Francis II. (1559-1560 A.D.)......................... 332
XLIV. Charles IX. (1560-1574 A.D.)......................... 338
XLV. Henry III. (1574-1589 A.D.)............................. 350
XLVI. Reign of Henry IV. (1589-1598 A.D.)................ 365

TWELFTH PERIOD.
THE RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF INTERNAL ORDER BY ROYALTY, AND
THE SECOND STRUGGLE OF FRANCE AGAINST THE HOUSE
OF AUSTRIA (1598-1659).

XLVII. Reorganization of France by Henry IV. (1598-1610
A.D.)................................................................. 377
XLVIII. Louis XIII. (1610-1643 A.D.).......................... 385
XLIX. Minority of Louis XIV. and administration of Maza-
rin (1643-1661 A.D.).............................................. 404

THIRTEENTH PERIOD.
TRIUMPH OF ABSOLUTE MONARCHY (1661-1715).

L. Louis XIV.: Internal organization; Colbert; Lou-
vois; Vauban. (1661-1683 A.D.)............................. 416
II. Louis XIV.: external history and conquests, from
1661-1679........................................................... 430
III. The last part of the reign of Louis XIV. (1679-1715
A.D.)................................................................. 440
IV. Government of Louis XIV................................. 460
LV. The age of Louis XIV............................ 468

FOURTEENTH PERIOD.
The Eighteenth Century.—Development of the Abuses of
Absolute Monarchy.—Progress of Public Opinion.
(1715-1789.)

LV. Minority of Louis XV. and regency of the Duke of
Orleans (1715-1723 A.D.)....................................... 480
LVI. Reign of Louis XV. (1723-1774 A.D.).................. 487
LVII. Condition of France at the end of the reign of Louis
XV................................................................. 506
LVIII. Reign of Louis XVI. to the Revolution (1774-1789 A.D.) 522
CONTENTS.

FIFTEENTH PERIOD.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHAPTER</th>
<th>CONSTITUTIONAL FRANCE, SINCE 1789.</th>
<th>PAGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LIX.</td>
<td>The Constituent Assembly (1789–1791 A.D.)</td>
<td>535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LX.</td>
<td>The Legislative Assembly (1791–1792 A.D.)</td>
<td>550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LXI.</td>
<td>The Convention (1792–1795 A.D.)</td>
<td>555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LXII.</td>
<td>The Directory (October, 1795–November, 1799)</td>
<td>566</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LXIII.</td>
<td>The Consulate (November, 1799–May, 1804)</td>
<td>579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LXIV.</td>
<td>Reign of Napoleon I. to the peace of Tilsit (1804–1807 A.D.)</td>
<td>590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LXV.</td>
<td>The Empire, from 1807 to 1812</td>
<td>604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LXVI.</td>
<td>The Empire, from 1812 to 1814</td>
<td>610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LXVII.</td>
<td>The first restoration and the hundred days (1814–1815 A.D.)</td>
<td>624</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

APPENDIX.

SUMMARY OF EVENTS FROM 1815 TO 1870.

I. The Restoration | 632  |
II. The July Monarchy (1830–1848 A.D.) | 635  |
III. The Republic of 1848 | 644  |
IV. The Second Empire (1852–1870 A.D.) | 649  |

CONTINUATION:

The German War and the Third Republic (1870–1889 A.D.) | 657  |
INTRODUCTORY NOTICE.

The work which follows is an abridged translation of the seventeenth edition (1884) of the *Histoire de France*, in two volumes, by the distinguished French historian, M. Victor Duruy. A good short history of France is, it is believed, a book widely desired; and perhaps this is especially true in the present year, when that great country, its past and its present, is attracting an unusual degree of attention. For this purpose no better choice could be made than that of the famous work of M. Duruy. Ex-President Andrew D. White, of Cornell University, whose especial familiarity with French historical literature is well known, has said of it that, "of all the short summaries of French history, this is probably the best." President C. K. Adams, in his *Manual of Historical Literature*, declares that it is "beyond question, the best history of France ever published in the small space of two volumes." Its popularity in France itself is attested by the extraordinary number of the editions through which it has passed. In preparing the present abridgment, the effort has been made to follow as closely as possible the text of the original. A continuation has been added, bringing down the narrative from 1870 to the present year.

It has been thought not unfitting that this work should be introduced to the American public with some notice of its eminent author. His life has been marked not only by distinguished literary achievements, but by public services of an unusually interesting character.

Victor Duruy was born at Paris on the 11th of September, 1811, of a family of artists employed in the Gobelin tapestry works. At first he was himself destined to the same employment; but at the age of twelve he entered the Collège Sainte-Barbe, now called the Collège Rollin, and began his classical studies. Seven years later, in 1830, he was admitted into the École Normale Supérieure. Here
his taste for historical studies already showed itself, and at his graduation from the institution, in 1833, he was sent as professor of history to the college at Rheims. Thence, after a few months' service, he was recalled to Paris, and was given charge of the same department in the Collège Henri IV. Here, and at the Collège St. Louis, he continued as professor until 1861, exercising throughout that period a strong influence upon historical education in the secondary schools of France, both by his instructions and by his writings.

The first in the long series of M. Duruy's published writings began to appear soon after his recall to Paris. At first he rendered anonymous assistance in the production of several text-books of history. The earliest of his writings which appeared under his own name were on subjects in the field of historical geography. They were, first, his Géographie Politique de la République Romaine et de l'Empire, which appeared in 1838; second, his Géographie Historique du Moyen Âge (1839); and third, his Géographie Historique de la France (1840). The three works had a common aim, to improve historical education in France by making it easy to accompany the study of history with that indispensable adjunct, the study of historical geography; in 1841 the labors performed in the preparation of the three works were summed up in an Atlas de la Géographie Historique Universelle.

For some years after this, M. Duruy's attention was mainly given to ancient history. In 1844 he began the publication of a Histoire des Romains et des Peuples soumis à leur Domination, in two volumes, announced at the time as the prelude to a more extensive work upon the same subject. What was substantially a third volume of the same, a work entitled État du Monde Romain vers la Fondation de l'Empire, appeared in 1853, nearly contemporaneously with the foundation of that other military empire with whose fortunes the author was in so distinguished a manner to be connected. This last work was used by the author as a thesis for the degree of docteur ès lettres, which he received in 1855. Meanwhile he had published, in 1845, an Histoire Sainte d'après la Bible, which in 1884 had reached its eighth edition, and of which the author also prepared an abridgment, in 1848 an Histoire Romaine in one volume, and in 1851 an Histoire Grecque of similar extent. These last two had in 1884 reached their sixteenth and twelfth editions respectively. His works in the
department of French history began with the publication of a small text-book in 1848; four years later he brought out the first edition of his Histoire de France, in two volumes, of the seventeenth edition of which the present volume is an abridged translation. So extensive was the popularity of M. Duruy's works that they had sold in 1860 to the amount of more than two hundred thousand copies. That their favor with the reading public and their use for purposes of instruction has not since declined may be judged from the fact that in 1879 it was estimated that, including in addition the works which the indefatigable historian had published in the interval up to that date, the extraordinary number of a million and a half copies of his books had then been printed.

In 1861 M. Duruy resigned his professorship, and became, first, inspector of the Academy of Paris, and then lecturer at the École Normale. Continuing his studies of classical history, he published in 1862 a larger work of Greek history, Histoire de la Grèce Ancienne, which received the honor of being “crowned” by the French Academy. It is no secret that he rendered very considerable assistance to the emperor Napoleon III. in the preparation of the latter’s well-known history of Julius Caesar. At the personal desire of the emperor he was next appointed inspector-general of secondary instruction, and professor of history in the École Polytechnique. He then published, in the year 1863, an Histoire des Temps Modernes, now in its tenth edition, and an Histoire Populaire Illustrée de la France; in 1864, as a companion to this, an Histoire Populaire Contemporaine; and in 1865 an Introduction Générale à l'Histoire de France. Several of the historical works which have been mentioned, together with the Histoire du Moyen Âge, which has now passed its twelfth edition, form part of the collection of historical manuals called the Histoire Universelle, published under the editorship of M. Duruy, concerning which it may suffice to quote the statement of President Adams of Cornell, in his work referred to above, that, “as a whole, they probably form the most valuable series of historical text-books ever published.” Mention of several minor school text-books of M. Duruy has necessarily been omitted.

The desire to treat together a group of the author’s historical works has led us to a slight anticipation in the narrative of his life. A new career began for M. Duruy in the summer of 1863. At the end of June of that year, while he was making the tour of
the departments in his capacity of inspector-general of secondary education, an imperial missive, which, forwarded from his home, had pursued him from department to department, finally reached him in one of the southern departments, and informed him that he had been appointed minister of public instruction. M. Duruy has himself told us that he never received from the Emperor any other instructions than these words, in a letter written soon after his appointment: "Maintain, as I do, an enthusiasm for all that is great and noble." The new minister entered at once and with vigor upon a career of wide and far-seeing educational reform. His tenure of office during six years, a period almost unexampled among modern French administrations, gave abundant opportunity for carrying out such designs, and the years 1863 to 1869 form an epoch of the most signal importance in the annals of French education.

It is impossible to do more than mention the chief measures of improvement which signalized this great administration. M. Duruy restored the study of philosophy to an important place in the curricula of the lycées, or secondary schools. He introduced into them, against strong opposition, the study of contemporary history, rightly contending that it was absurd to know the history of Pyrrhus, yet to be ignorant of that of Napoleon I., Louis XVIII., and Louis Philippe. He introduced gymnastic exercises and military drill into the lycées, colleges, and normal schools, and arranged with Marshal Niel a plan by which six or eight hundred instructors would have been sent each year into the village schools, to prepare the youthful portion of the rural population for national defence. He arranged upon a more satisfactory basis the mutual relations of scientific and literary studies in secondary schools. He provided a commission to which professors displaced from state institutions might appeal. He reorganized the Museum of Natural History, and so developed the courses of instruction afforded by it that they might serve the interests of agricultural education. Recognizing the benefits which German university instruction had derived from the system of seminaries, he established, for similar purposes, the École Pratique des Hautes Études, and provided numerous laboratories for scientific instruction and research. The learned societies of the provinces were encouraged and their labors systematized; and a professional normal school was established in