

Reflections on History and Historians

THEODORE S. HAMEROW

Reflections On History And Historians

Jacob Burckhardt



Reflections On History And Historians:

Reflections on History and Historians Theodore S. Hamerow, 1991

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Theodore S. Hamerow, 1987 History as a field of learning is in a state of crisis It has lost much of its influence in institutions of higher learning and its place in public esteem Historians have in large part lost touch with the intelligent lay reader and with the undergraduate college student History's value to society is being questioned In this work a distinguished historian views the profession to which he has been devoted for more than thirty years Theodore S Hamerow's learned observations will be welcomed by all historians and by those involved in the management of higher education and should be required reading for all graduate students in history Far from being a sentimental look at the past Hamerow's work confronts the unpleasant reality of the present History he says flatly is a discipline in retreat The profession is in serious trouble and there are no signs that its problems will be resolved in the foreseeable future After identifying the current crisis Hamerow proceeds to trace the development of the profession over the last hundred years and to examine its characteristics in modern society In this section of the book he shares some fascinating practical observations on the ways in which the profession operates Hamerow explains why some historians rise to prominence while others do not He also examines causes of the dissatisfactions that afflict many historians and their students Hamerow also examines the way in which academic historians live their lives as he expands on the daily realities that they face He then explains how those realities have shaped scholarship and led to the new history The broad use of social science methods he observes has had the effect of isolating the new historians from traditional historians indeed from one another Couched in the arcane prose of machine readable languages says Hamerow history has become inaccessible to the intelligent lay reader who had once read historical works with interest understanding and appreciation In concluding his examination Hamerow asks What is the use of history It has long been a favorite question asked by historians but seldom one over which they agonized for very long After considering various arguments for the usefulness of historical investigation Hamerow offers his own justification There are times says Hamerow when even the most spontaneous or instructive cultural pursuits need to be examined in the light of the purposes they serve and the goals they seek Now might be a good time for all historians to take a long look at the direction their discipline has taken in the past century at the functions it has come to perform and at the serious dilemma it now faces Hamerow is a steady and helpful guide to any such examination

Reflections on History Jacob Burckhardt, 2025-07-27

Originally given as a series of lectures between 1868 and 1871 and attended by Friedrich Nietzsche on whom they had a formative influence these Reflections on History present Burckhardt's quintessential view of the processes which have shaped and continue to shape European civilization Jacob Burckhardt 1818-1897 was an historian of art and culture who taught at the University of Basel His major works include *The Civilization of the Renaissance in Italy* *The Age of Constantine* *the Great Judgements on History and Historians* and *The Greeks and Greek Civilization*

Reflections on Modern History

Hans Kohn,1963 *Force and Freedom* Jacob Burckhardt,2011-06-01 **On Doing Local History** Carol Kammen,1986

To America Stephen E. Ambrose,2002 When Stephen Ambrose became intersted in American history at age 18 there was much that America had done that made him proud but there were some things he condemned as well for instance slavery the treatment of Native Americans racist Southern politicians the Robber Barons of the transcontinental railroad the use of the atomic bomb All through his undergraduate and graduate years from 1953 1960 Ambrose learned such ideas from his professors and believed and then taught them himself when he became a teacher of history in 1960 But after reasearching and writing about the Civil War in graduate school Eisenhower in the 60s Crazy Horse and Custer Lewis and Clark Nixon the transcontinental railroad and World War II over the next three decades Ambrose s views on American history changed In his new book the renowned historian celebrates America s spirit and confronts its failures and struggles As always in his much acclaimed work Ambrose brings alive the men and women famous and not who have peopled history and made the United States the superpower it is now **Force And Freedom** Jacob Burckhardt,2011-10 **Essays on history, particularly the Jewish, Assyrian, Persian, Grecian, and Roman, etc** John HOLLAND (of Bolton-in-the-Moors.),1815 Essays on French History and Historians John Stuart Mill,1985-12-15 J S Mill s deep interest in French intellectual political and social affairs began in 1820 when in his fourteenth year he went to France to live for a year with the family of Sir Samuel Bentham French became his second language and France his second home where he died and was buried in 1873 His interest in history began even earlier when as a child of seven he tried to imitate his father s labours on the History of British India though he never wrote a history in his maturity study of the past remained a passion and helped shape the philosophy of history that informed his views of society and ethics His intense interest in contemporary French politics also led him to seek connections between historical developments and present trends both seen by his from a Radical perspective appropoate to what he believed to be an age of transition The English historians of France including Walter Scott and Thomas Carlyle as well as the French some of whom were themselves political figures are judged by their historical methods but those methods are seen as having practical effects in shaping as well as revealing the mind of the times This volume brings together for the first time the essays running from 1826 to 1849 that meld these abiding interests They give as well insights into Mill s personal aspirations his developing view of comparative politics and sociology his concern for freedom and his feminism During these years Mill worked on a published his System of Logic Book VI of which shows in condensed form the results of the speculations here developed reading these essays with that work which made his reputation as a philosopher enables one to see the effects of romanticism on analytic thought in a way not as clearly evident even in Mill s Autobiography Independently important then the essays in this volume also enable us to interpret anew the practical and theoretical concerns fundamental to his formative years and maturity John C Cairns Introduction demonstrates how the essays reveal through their reactions to the Revolutions of 1789 1830 and 1848 and to French historiography politics

and thought the effect of France on Mill's ideas and also the way in which his other concerns influenced his reactions to France. The texts with the variants and notes that are the hallmark of this edition are described in John M. Robson's Textual Introduction which explains the editorial principles and methods.

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