



America: The Mexican War And Slavery (America, Great Crises In Our History Told by its Makers Book 7)

*Abraham Lincoln, Stephen A. Douglas, Jefferson Davis, Henry Clay, James K. Polk, Ulysses S. Grant,
Daniel Webster, John Brown, Robert E. Lee*

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In the 1840s and 50s, political upheavals and threats of secession engendered deep divisions in the United States. Eye-witness reports from these troubled times help you develop your own view of this critical period in American history as you read the words of James K Polk, Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, and Abraham Lincoln. This volume begins with accounts from political and military participants in the Oregon boundary dispute and the war with Mexico, which resulted in the annexation of California. Brigham Roberts, official historian of the Church of Latter-Day Saints, describes the Mormon exodus to Utah; a "forty-niner" recalls the hardships of the California gold rush; and Commodore Perry tells of his treaty with Japan. Read John Brown's final speech and letters; Lincoln's famous oration "A house divided ..." and accounts of his nomination for the Presidency; and Jefferson Davis's farewell address to the Senate and inaugural address as Confederate President.

Introduction To The Series

"After you've heard two eyewitness accounts of an auto accident, you begin to worry about history." This observation, attributed to the comedian Henny Youngman, summarizes the dilemma you face when you want to find out what really happened in the past. When you read a history book, the "facts" are actually the author's own interpretation, often colored by a conscious or unconscious wish to have you share a particular point of view. You're one step (or many steps) removed from the original source material.

That's why the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States compiled this 12-volume collection of writings of people who actually witnessed the key events in American history - the actual actors in the events or contemporary observers of them. Past historians have spent decades locating, studying and consulting vast amounts of material such as this. This meticulously chosen selection brings you the essence of history as originally recorded by those who participated in it.

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accounts, your knowledge of American history will be immeasurably greater, your understanding of the key events in the building of the nation immensely increased.

Founded in 1899, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts, from the Spanish-American War to Iraq and Afghanistan, and to ensure that they receive due respect and entitlements for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of the nation. With this mission, the VFW has a natural desire to encourage a broad understanding and appreciation of American history, and this essential collection of historical documents makes a huge contribution to that aim.

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