

CIVILIZATION IN ENGLAND.

VOL. I.

LONDON: PRINTED BY
SPOTTISWOODE AND CO., NEW-STREET SQUARE
AND PARLIAMENT STREET

HISTORY
OF
CIVILIZATION IN ENGLAND.

BY
HENRY THOMAS BUCKLE.

IN THREE VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

NEW EDITION.

LONDON :
LONGMANS, GREEN, AND CO.
.1872.

XXII-3444

ANALYTICAL TABLE OF CONTENTS.



CHAPTER I.

STATEMENT OF THE RESOURCES FOR INVESTIGATING HISTORY, AND PROOFS OF THE REGULARITY OF HUMAN ACTIONS. THESE ACTIONS ARE GOVERNED BY MENTAL AND PHYSICAL LAWS: THEREFORE BOTH SETS OF LAWS MUST BE STUDIED, AND THERE CAN BE NO HISTORY WITHOUT THE NATURAL SCIENCES.

	PAGE
Materials for writing history	1-3
Narrow range of knowledge possessed by historians	-5
Object of the present work	6
Human actions, if not the result of fixed laws, must be due to chance or to supernatural interference	8
Probable origin of free-will and predestination	9-12
Theological basis of predestination, and metaphysical basis of free-will	12-16
The actions of men are caused by their antecedents, which exist either in the human mind or in the external world	18-20
Therefore history is the modification of man by nature, and of nature by man	20-21
Statistics prove the regularity of actions in regard to murder and other crimes	22-26
Similar proof respecting suicides	27-29
Also respecting the number of marriages annually contracted	31-32
And respecting the number of letters sent undirected	32
The historian must ascertain whether mind or nature has most influenced human actions; and therefore there can be no history without physical science	33-35
NOTE A. Passages from Kant on free-will and necessity	35-38

CHAPTER II.

INFLUENCE EXERCISED BY PHYSICAL LAWS OVER THE ORGANIZATION OF SOCIETY AND OVER THE CHARACTER OF INDIVIDUALS.

Man is affected by four classes of physical agents; namely, climate, food, soil, and the general aspect of nature	39-41
Operation of these agents on the accumulation of wealth	41-51

vi ANALYTICAL TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Their operation on the distribution of wealth	51-64
Illustrations of these principles from Ireland	65-67
From Hindustan	69-82
From Egypt	82-93
From Central America	93-94
And from Mexico and Peru	95
Operation of physical laws in Brazil	101-108
Influence of the general aspects of nature upon the imagination and the understanding	118-119
Under some aspects, nature is more prominent than man ; under others, man more than nature	120
In the former case the imagination is more stimulated than the understanding, and to this class all the earliest civilizations belong	120-121
The imagination is excited by earthquakes and volcanoes	122-124
And by danger generally	125-126
Also by an unhealthy climate making life precarious	126-130
From these causes the civilizations exterior to Europe are mainly influenced by the imagination, those in Europe by the understanding	130-132
This proposition illustrated by a comparison between Hindustan and Greece	132-147
Further illustration from Central America	147-148
Chemical and physiological note on the connection between food and animal heat	148-151

CHAPTER III.

EXAMINATION OF THE METHOD EMPLOYED BY METAPHYSICIANS FOR DISCOVERING MENTAL LAWS.

In the last chapter, two leading facts have been established, which broadly separate Europe from other parts of the world	154-156
Hence it appears that of the two classes of mental and physical laws the mental are the more important for the history of Europe	156-157
Examination of the two metaphysical methods of generalizing mental laws	158-165
Failure of these methods	165-167

CHAPTER IV.

MENTAL LAWS ARE EITHER MORAL OR INTELLECTUAL. COMPARISON OF MORAL AND INTELLECTUAL LAWS, AND INQUIRY INTO THE EFFECT PRODUCED BY EACH ON THE PROGRESS OF SOCIETY.

The historical method of studying mental laws is superior to the metaphysical method	168-174
--	---------