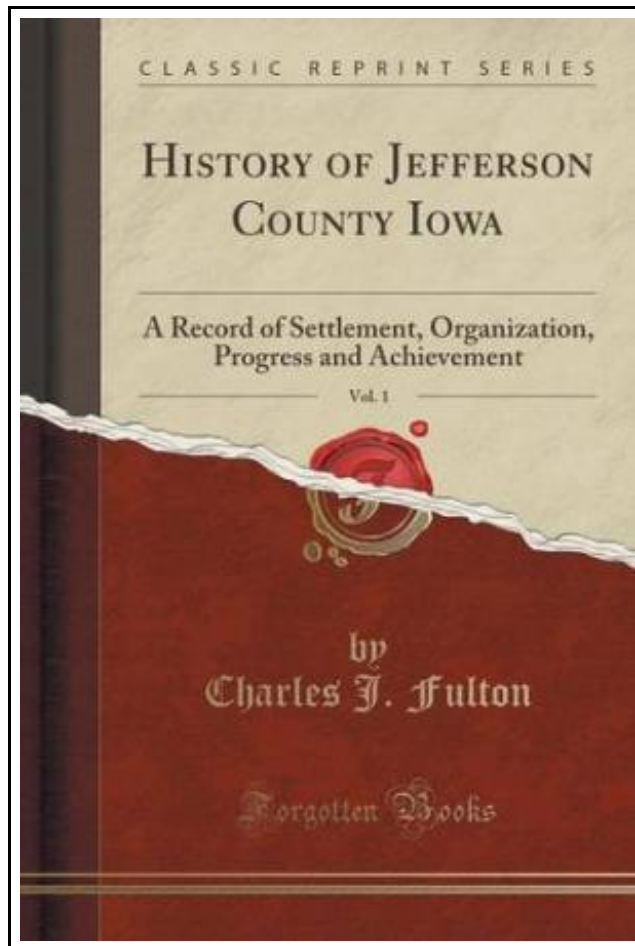


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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Excerpt from History of Jefferson County Iowa, Vol. 1: A Record of Settlement, Organization, Progress and Achievement Although the Spaniards under De Soto, in 1541, came upon and crossed the Mississippi River, little importance was attached to the event. The fact to them was a passing incident scarcely worthy to be remembered, for their minds were full of the mythical El Dorado of the New World of which they were in search. More than a century later, tales of a wonderful river to the westward were brought to the French Jesuits, who had established missions among the Indians about the Great Lakes. None of the talebearers had looked upon its waters, but they called it Mississippi and described it as rising in the north and flowing southward through a region of mystery and terror. In 1673, Joliet, a fur trader, and Marquette, a priest, were sent by Count Frontenac, then governor of New France, to find this river and to learn whither it ran. They were eager to obey his commands, the first with an eye to future business, the second for the glory and advancement of his religion. Their preparations were simple. For their party they secured five men; for food, a small supply of smoked meat and Indian corn; for transportation, two birch canoes. On the 17th of May, from Point St. Ignace on the north side of the Strait of Michilimacinac connecting Lake Michigan with Lake Huron, they set out on their adventure. They skirted the shore of Lake Michigan westward to a Jesuit mission at the head of Green Bay; then following up Fox River, on the 7th of June, they arrived at...



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