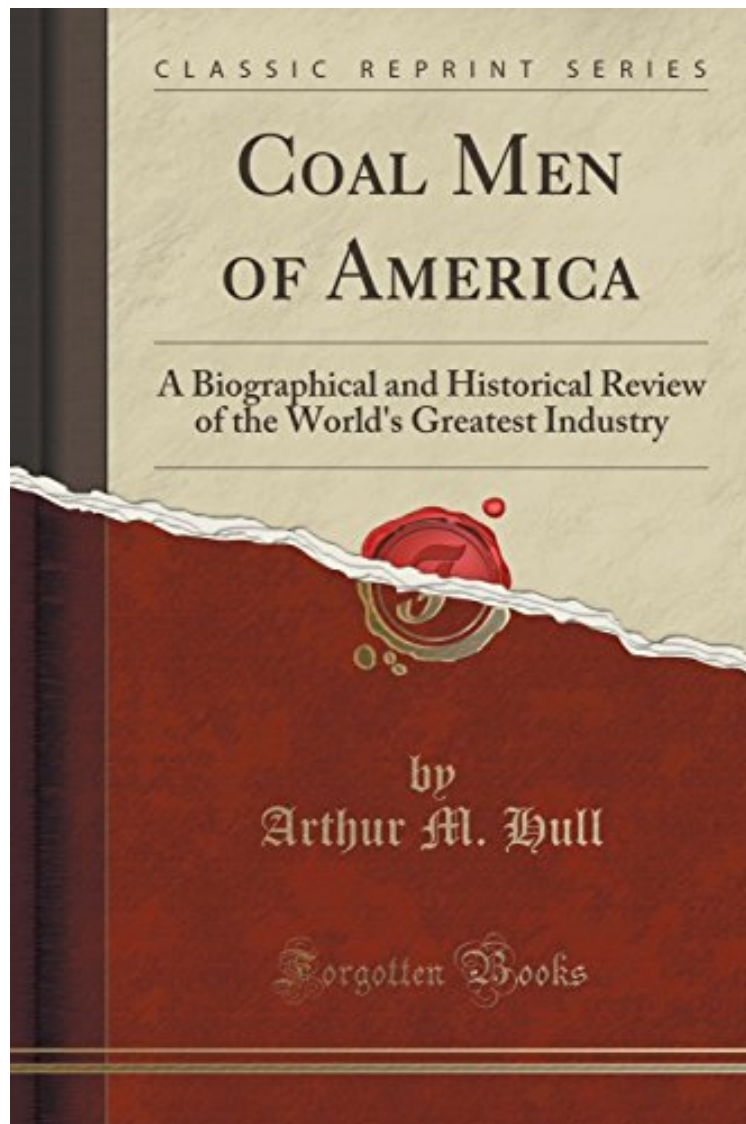


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Coal Men of America: A Biographical and Historical Review of the World's Greatest Industry (Classic Reprint)

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Coal Men of America: A Biographical and Historical Review of the World's Greatest Industry (Classic Reprint):

Excerpt from Coal Men of America: A Biographical and Historical Review of the World's Greatest Industry
The History of a country is the history of its people, of the individuals who constitute its citizenship. In like manner, the history of any movement, of any institution, of any great industry, is the history comprising the biography of the men whose lives are intimately identified therewith. The history of the coal trade, which is the history of a most wonderful industrial development, is distinctively the history of the men upon whose shoulders have been borne the burdens and upon whose brows have rested the victories and the successes incident to that wonderful commercial expansion. It is fitting that conspicuous pages from the unknown history of the coal trade should be garnered and collected in permanent form as a memorial to that trade, as a record of the achievements of its master minds, and of the worthy service which has been contributed to the industry by the business men who have developed the various mining fields, and those who have devised and conducted the splendid methods of distribution that are in operation. Within the memory of men who are now engaged in the coal trade, this industry has grown from small volume, by leaps and bounds, to a magnitude that arrests the attention and commands the respect of the entire world. Modern civilization would strive in vain to produce another era of human activity so stupendous or one more essential to human existence than that of the coal trade. We, the coal men of today, are in such close contact with this wondrous development that its marvelous growth is inadequately realized by us. Before the present generation of coal men retire from the stage of human activity, a record of what they have accomplished should be inscribed on the pages of history. The present undertaking is of this nature. It is proposed to show by the lives of men how one great coal field after another was discovered, how the mighty streams of commerce expanded incessantly beyond all bounds and expectations, and how the splendid fabric of transportation and distribution took shape and grew. It is a wonderful piece of mosaic work of which the lives of coal men form its units, constituting in its composite whole a vision that should be imperishable and which must of necessity be mellowed with added charm as the years lengthen into the cycles of time. About the Publisher
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