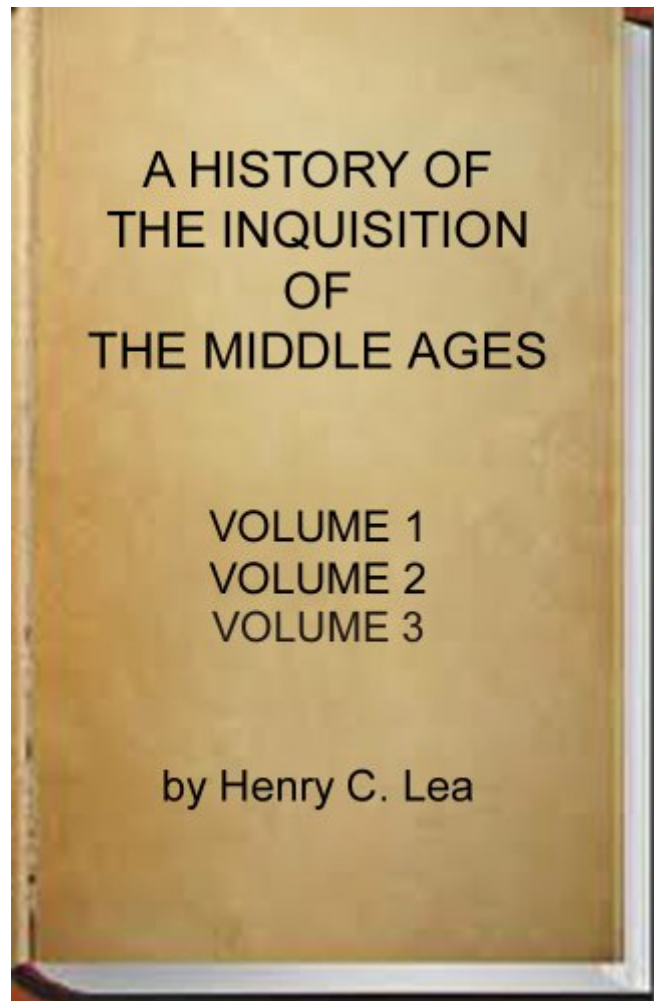


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A History Of The Inquisition Of The Middle Ages (Complete - Volume 1, 2 And 3)



Synopsis

A History of the Inquisition of the Middle Ages (Complete - Volume 1, Volume 2 and Volume 3)
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CHAPTER VI - SORCERY AND OCCULT ARTS
CHAPTER VII - WITCHCRAFT
CHAPTER VIII - INTELLECT AND FAITH
CHAPTER IX - CONCLUSION

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Customer Reviews

Henry Charles Lea's three volume A HISTORY OF THE INQUISITION OF THE MIDDLE AGES is an amazing accomplishment, and a fascinating source of information for anyone interested in the period and the topic. Written in the latter half of the 19th century, Lea's style is somewhat drawn-out and at times florid, but his sentence constructions and vocabulary are of educational value in and of themselves. In three volumes totaling perhaps 3,000 pages (hard to tell on Kindle), it is a long read as well. From my understanding, Lea had access and means to procure from Europe numerous (hundreds if not thousands) original documents and manuscripts of the period and written about the period centuries ago. His presentation on the Inquisition is thus uniquely drawn from original material. I believe he bequeathed his collection of manuscripts to Cornell (?), and it was regarded as a most significant contribution. His coverage of the Inquisition 'proper', a period roughly and broadly from 1150 to 1500 CE, is minute and exhaustive, but very well organized, and compellingly presented. One learns all the greater and lesser secular and ecclesiastical players, presented with fascinating insight as to their character and motivations. Lea paints the political and geographical landscape in high view, and then presents the individuals, their actions, conflicts, and responses colliding in a human tumult of dogma, desire for freedom, and the basest of motivations and actions. Lea covers the larger subject 'topically', and thus the span of the chronological period is covered several times with different focus. I believe this was a good choice because it allows clear presentation of a given issue at hand, with focused analysis and conclusions.

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