

**OUR  
COUNTRY: WEST**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649388127

Our country: West by Various

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**VARIOUS**

**OUR  
COUNTRY: WEST**



THE COMPANION SERIES.

Our Country: West.



1900:  
PERRY MASON & COMPANY,  
BOSTON, MASS.

F595

~~Y~~ 6

Y

m/e

5/23/86

Copyright, 1897.  
BY PERRY MASON & COMPANY,  
BOSTON, MASS.

## CONTENTS.

### IN ALASKA.

OUR ONE AMERICAN CASTLE . . . . .	LEIGH YOUNG	3
SITKA AND ITS INHABITANTS . . . . .	EDWARD FIELD, U.S.A.	7
INDIAN CANOE-BUILDING . . . . .	L. NEVEN	12
AT A SALMON POOL . . . . .	C. A. STEPHENS	17
THE LONELIEST PLACE IN THE UNITED STATES	FREDERICK SCHWATKA	21
ALASKA ESKIMO HOUSES . . . . .	JOHN MURDOCH	26
REINDEER FOR ALASKA . . . . .	CHARLES ADAMS	31
ON THE YUKON . . . . .	J. E. CHAMBERLIN	37
VOLCANIA . . . . .	C. A. STEPHENS	40
THE HERMITS OF WESTERN ALASKA . . . . .	C. W. PURINGTON	45
SEAL ISLANDS OF ALASKA . . . . .	M. M. BALLOU	49
SEA-LIONS . . . . .	GRANVILLE B. PUTNAM	53
HUNTING THE SEA-OTTER . . . . .	HENRY W. ELLIOTT	57

### AMONG THE ROCKIES.

THE BIGHORN CANON . . . . .	GEN. JAMES S. BRISBIN, U.S.A.	67
HUNTING ELK ON SKEES . . . . .	SHERWOOD DAVIS	73
VISITING THE YELLOWSTONE PARK	GEORGE S. ANDERSON, U.S.A.	78
IN THE YELLOWSTONE PARK . . . . .	C. A. STEPHENS	80
ROCKY MOUNTAIN BURROS . . . . .	J. H. LEWIS	86
CHINESE RAILWAY LABORERS . . . . .	ERNEST INGERSOLL	90
SOME ROCKY MOUNTAIN ANIMALS . . . . .	PROF. ARTHUR LAKES	96
WHERE RAILROADS GO . . . . .	J. L. HARBOUR	102
DIGGING UP A FOSSIL MONSTER . . . . .	PROF. ARTHUR LAKES	106
A PETRIFIED BIG TREE . . . . .	PROF. ARTHUR LAKES	112
THE HOLY CROSS AND TWIN LAKES . . . . .	J. L. HARBOUR	117
SIGNAL STATION ON PIKE'S PEAK . . . . .	J. H. SMITH	121

## IN THE SOUTHWEST.

THE BIG TREES OF CALIFORNIA . . . . .	M. V. MOORE	131
THE LUMBERMEN OF THE SIERRAS . . . . .	WILLIAM H. RIDEING	135
A ROAD OF THE SIERRAS . . . . .	GRACE ELLERY CHANNING	139
CALIFORNIA RAISIN-MAKING . . . . .	ELIAS LONGLEY	143
DEATH VALLEY . . . . .	JACQUES W. REDWAY	149
THE QUEER SURFACE OF NEVADA . . . . .	PHILIP VERRILL MIGHELS	153
PYRAMID LAKE . . . . .	M. V. MOORE	157
THE GRAND CANON . . . . .	J. G. OWENS	161
CAVE-DWELLERS OF ARIZONA . . . . .	PRESTON H. UBERROTH, U. S. R. M.	167
A BUILDED LAKE . . . . .	HELEN FRANCES BATES	173
THE OLDEST AMERICAN HOUSES . . . . .	HELEN HUNT JACKSON	178
NEW MEXICO . . . . .	SARAH WINTER KELLOGG	183
ADOBE . . . . .	SARAH WINTER KELLOGG	189

---

## ON THE PLAINS.

THE PRAIRIE SCHOONER . . . . .	JAMES FULLERTON	195
PRAIRIE SIGNS . . . . .	HAMLIN GARLAND	197
PIONEER LIFE IN DAKOTA . . . . .	THEODORA R. JENNESS	203
THE HATED COYOTE . . . . .	I. N. QUEST	209
BOY-LIFE ON THE PRAIRIE . . . . .	HAMLIN GARLAND	212
RANCH LIFE . . . . .	HELEN HUNT JACKSON	217
COWBOYS OF THE PLAINS . . . . .	J. T. TROWBRIDGE	222
THE GREAT CATTLE-TRAILS . . . . .	C. M. HARGER	228
THE LANGUAGE OF CATTLE-BRANDS . . . . .	P. W. HORN	233
BREAKING A BRONCO . . . . .	HESTER WASHBURNE	236
A CHASE FOR WILD HORSES . . . . .	MAX OWEN	240
ANCIENT FARMERS AND SPORTSMEN . . . . .	AURELIA H. MOHL	244
THE WATER CACTUS . . . . .	P. C. BICKNELL	249
GOVERNMENT CAMELS . . . . .	A. I. PECK, U. S. A.	252



IN ALASKA.



Fribilof Island Seals. See Page 4D.

## Our One American Castle.

Away up in Alaska, the northwesternmost part of our country, lies the strange old tumble-down, sleepy, little moss-grown town of Sitka, where stands our one American castle.

Crowning a rocky headland that rises precipitously from the water on three sides and descends with a steep slope to the town on the other, is the castle, with a small but somewhat formidable-looking battery at the foot of the terrace on the seaside.

The castle is one hundred and forty feet long and seventy wide, and is built of heavy cedar logs. Copper bolts, piercing the walls, rivet it to the rocks.

The Russian governors of the colony held residence in the castle, and traditions of the social splendor that reigned there still cling to the weather-beaten building.

With the Alaskans all things date back to the transfer of Alaska to the United States. Here, in the days before this transfer, princes and barons ruled. Something like regal splendor prevailed in Baranof Castle, as the palace was called in honor of the first governor.

Travellers in the early part of the present century give charming pictures of social life at Sitka. State dinners were given once a week, and a constant round of balls and festivities was kept up.

Baroness Kupreanof crossed Siberia on horseback to Bering Sea in 1835, in order to be with her husband at Sitka. There she made the castle a place of rendezvous for all classes of society, extending to each a charming and gracious hospitality.

A big brass samovar, or tea-urn, was always boiling in the dining-room, and by day or night a glass of the choicest caravan tea was served to every visitor. Beautifully wrought