

**AN EASTERN  
TOUR AT HOME**

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An Eastern Tour at Home by Joel Cook

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**JOEL COOK**

**AN EASTERN  
TOUR AT HOME**



AN EASTERN TOUR  
AT HOME.

BY

JOEL COOK,

AUTHOR OF "A HOLIDAY TOUR IN EUROPE," "ENGLAND PICTURESQUE  
AND DESCRIPTIVE," ETC., ETC.

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## INTRODUCTORY.

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It is the belief of the writer of the prefatory note to this book that neither the book itself nor its author needs to be introduced, for its contents already enjoy high favor with a large portion of the reading public by reason of the original serial publication of the articles in the *Public Ledger*, and the author is widely known through his other contributions to this class of descriptive literature. Still, as the Publisher prefers an introduction, the undersigned performs the ceremony of presentation with real satisfaction.

While the volume is entitled AN EASTERN TOUR, it is not to be understood that it means a tour in "Oriental" countries. On the contrary, it is limited to that near-by region embraced in the Eastern States of our own country between Pennsylvania and Maine, including portions of the States of New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire as well—a region much more important in all ways to every-day Americans than any Oriental country can be, and in many respects quite as interesting.

Mr. Cook has certainly made his narrative extremely interesting, so much so as to cause a demand that his serial articles should be reproduced in collected form in a book. He has the faculty of seeing in familiar scenes and places notable features and aspects usually overlooked

by other writers, and of giving to his narrative and descriptions the sparkle of sprightliness, freshness, and life, in company with marked graphic power. These characteristics give such a charm to his descriptive writings that many people are at a loss to couple them with his matter-of-fact and prosaic vocation of Financial Editor of the *Public Ledger*.

But the volume has merit of far more importance than commonly comes with a tourist's narrative. The book, besides the general interest always aroused by vividly-described travel, is valuable because of the interwoven facts, data, history, tradition, poetry, and anecdote that exhibit the very life, great activities, and wealth of resource of the country traversed by the author.

W. V. McKEAN,  
*Editor-in-Chief.*

PUBLIC LEDGER OFFICE, }  
October 1, 1889. }



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## AN EASTERN TOUR.

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### I.

#### THE BOUND BROOK ROUTE.

DURING several years past the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad has had in successful operation its new line between Ninth and Green streets, Philadelphia, and New York, popularly known as the "Bound Brook Route." It passes out through the northern suburbs, and, skirting Germantown, crosses the lowlands beyond Wayne Junction, bisecting diagonally Mr. Clayton French's magnificent avenue of overarching trees leading up to his residence, and then goes on to the picturesque scenery of the North Pennsylvania road. Its rails are laid in a lovely section, the train now darting into rock-cuttings and over purling brooks and beside pretty sheets of water, and then out upon the open, rolling ground dotted with beautiful villas, gliding by charming little stations and across field and meadow, moving swiftly and smoothly as the car-windows display in dissolving views the gorgeously variegated panorama of Philadelphia's fascinating scenic environment upon a balmy summer morning. Past Ashbourne and Ogontz and Cheltenham Hills, with a brief halt at Jenkintown, the train leaves the North Penn road and rushes across country, seeking the Delaware River above Trenton. There are broad farms and many villas, sloping lawns and bits of woodland on the hillsides, the delicious green of grass and foliage varied by brown fields and waving grain.