### OVER THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS TO ALASKA; PP. 1-166

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

#### ISBN 9780649666393

Over the Rocky Mountains to Alaska; pp. 1-166 by Charles Warren Stoddard

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### **CHARLES WARREN STODDARD**

## OVER THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS TO ALASKA; PP. 1-166



# Over the Rocky Mountains to Alaska.

BY

CHARLES WARREN STODDARD.



ST. LOUIS, MO., 1899.
Published by B. HERDER,
17 South Broadway.

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- BECKTOLD PRINTING AND BOOK MFG. CO.
ST. LOUIS MO.

#### To

#### KENNETH O'CONNOR,

First-District-of-Columbia Volunteers, Gen'l Shafter's Fifth Army Corps, Santiago de Cuba:

IN MEMORY OF OUR HOME-LIFE IN THE BUNGALOW.

#### CONTENTS.

	~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~	
Chapter.		ge.
1.	Due West to Denver	7
II.	In Denver Town	18
III.	The Garden of the Gods	29
IV.	A Whirl across the Rockies	40
v.	Off for Alaska	47
VI.	In the Inland Sea	56
VII.	Alaskan Village Life	66
VIII.	Juneau	74
IX.	By Solitary Shores	86
X.	In Search of the Totem-Pole	98
XI.	In the Sea of Ice 1	IJ.
XII.	Alaska's Capital 1:	24
XIII.	Katalan's Rock 1	36
	From the Far North 1	
XV.	Out of the Arctic 1:	59

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#### CHAPTER I.

#### Due West to Denver.

OMMENCEMENT week at Notre Dame ended in a blaze of glory. Multitudes of guests who had been camping for a night or two in the recitation rooms -our temporary dormitories -gave themselves up to the boyish delights of schoollife, and set numerous examples which the students were only too glad to follow. The boat race on the lake was a picture; the champion baseball match, a companion piece; but the highly decorated prize scholars, glittering with gold and silver medals, and badges of satin and bullion; the bevies of beautiful girls who for once — once only in the year — were given the liberty of the lawns, the campus, and the winding forest ways, that make of Notre Dame an elysium in summer; the frequent and inspiring blasts of the University Band, and the general joy that filled every heart to overflowing, rendered the last day of the scholastic year romantic to a degree and memorable forever.

(7)

night — not one solitary wink; all laws were dead-letters — alas that they should so soon arise again from the dead! —and when the wreath of stars that crowns the golden statue of Our Lady on the high dome, two hundred feet in air, and the wide-sweeping crescent under her shining feet, burst suddenly into flame, and shed

There was no sleep during the closing

a lustre that was welcomed for miles and miles over the plains of Indiana—then, I assure you, we were all so deeply touched that we knew not whether to laugh or to weep, and I shall not tell you which we did. The moon was very full that night,

and I didn't blame it!

But the picnic really began at the foot of the great stairway in front of the dear old University next morning. Five hundred possible presidents were to be distributed broadcast over the continent;

five hundred sons and heirs to be returned with thanks to the yearning bosoms of their respective families. The floodgates of the trunk-rooms were thrown open, and a stream of Saratogas went thundering to the station at South Bend, two miles away. Hour after hour, and indeed for several days, huge trucks and express wagons plied to and fro, groaning under