

**THE OX TEAM OR
THE OLD OREGON
TRAIL, 1852-1906**

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The OX team or The old Oregon trail, 1852-1906 by Ezra Meeker

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EZRA MEEKER

**THE OX TEAM OR
THE OLD OREGON
TRAIL, 1852-1906**

[FOURTH EDITION]

THE OX TEAM
OR THE
Old Oregon Trail
1852--1906

AN ACCOUNT OF THE AUTHOR'S TRIP ACROSS THE PLAINS, FROM THE MISSOURI RIVER TO PUGET SOUND, AT THE AGE OF TWENTY-TWO, WITH AN OX AND COW TEAM IN 1852, AND OF HIS RETURN WITH AN OX TEAM IN THE YEAR 1906, AT THE AGE OF SEVENTY-SIX, WITH COPIOUS EXCERPTS FROM HIS JOURNAL AND OTHER RELIABLE SOURCES OF INFORMATION; A NARRATIVE OF EVENTS AND DESCRIPTIVE OF PRESENT AND PAST CONDITIONS. : : :

By

EZRA MEEKER

AUTHOR OF PIONEER REMINISCENCES OF PUGET SOUND,—
THE TRAGEDY OF LESCHI, HOP CULTURE IN THE
UNITED STATES, WASHINGTON TERRITORY
WEST OF THE CASCADE MOUN-
TAINS, FAMILIAR TALKS—A
THREE YEARS
SERIAL.

Published by the Author
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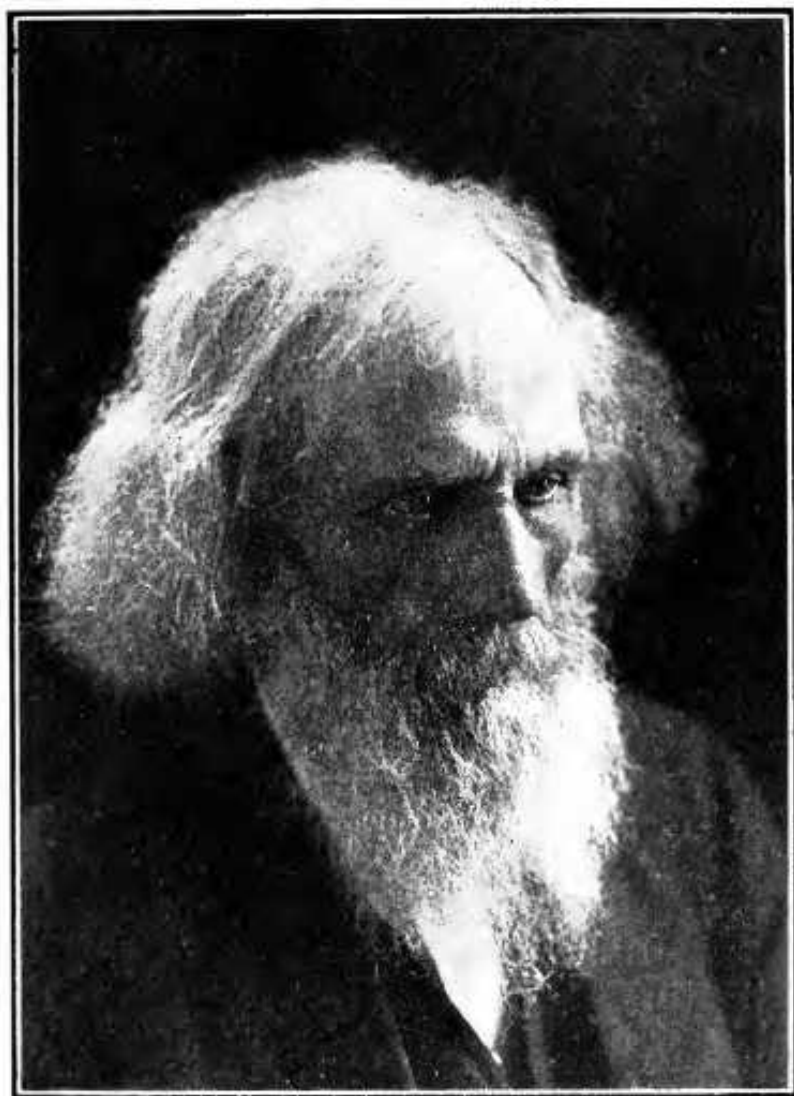
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ANNONIA

IN MEMORIAM

Henry J. L. McDonald



E. Meeker

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M4
1907

The Dream of the Star

[A Song of the Oregon Trail. Dedicated to Ezra Meeker, Pioneer.]

I

A song for the men who blazed the way!
With hearts that would not quail
They made brave quest of the wild Northwest,
They cut the Oregon trail.

Back of them beckoned their kith and kin
And all that they held their own;
Front of them spread the wilderness dread,
And ever the vast unknown.

But ever they kept their forward course,
And never they thought to lag,
For over them flew the Red, White and Blue
And the dream of a star for the flag!

II

A cheer for the men who cut the trail!
With souls as firm as steel
And fiery as wrath they hewed the path
For the coming Commonwealth.

And close on the heels of the pioneers
The eager throng closed in
And followed the road to a far abode,
An Empire new to win.

And so they wrought at the end of the trail,
As ever must brave men do,
Till out of the dark there gleamed a spark,
And the dream of the star came true!

III

A toast to the men who made the road!
And a health to the men who dwell
In the great new land by the heroes planned,
Who have builded it wide and well!

The temple stands where the pine tree stood,
And dim is the ancient trail,
But many and wide are the roads that guide
And stanch are the ships that sail!

For the land is a grand and goodly land,
And its fruitful fields are tilled
By the sons who see on the flag of the free
The dream of the star fulfilled!

ROBERTUS LOVE

DEDICATION.

To the Pioneers who fought the battle of peace,
and wrested Oregon from British rule, this book
is reverently dedicated.

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