

**HARD KNOCKS: A
LIFE STORY OF THE
VANISHING WEST**

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Hard knocks: a life story of the vanishing West by Harry (Sam) Young

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HARRY (SAM) YOUNG

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VANISHING WEST**

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A LIFE STORY *of the*
VANISHING WEST



By HARRY ~~(SAM)~~ YOUNG
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DEDICATION

***T**O those brave and generous men whom I met and knew along the rugged Life Journey herein described, I dedicate these treasures of a fruitful memory. May those who fell by the wayside rest peacefully, and those who still trudge on, find Life's Trail less difficult as they approach its end.*

HARRY YOUNG

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

IN presenting this book, the publishers feel that they need not emphasize either its purpose or its merits. They will speak for themselves. The reader will need no spur to his interest, nor the work require either apology or explanation. Interest is certain from beginning to end, and few readers will wish to lay the book aside until they have reached the end of the rapidly succeeding incidents. If crudity mar in any respect, it will be quickly forgotten in the manifest truthfulness and candor of the narrator.

The great lesson of the book is that "truth is stranger than fiction." The life story here given belongs to a generation that has not only seen the world's greatest advancement, but has been a part of the greatest development of our own country. It has been a period rich in story, and the experiences here detailed run like a thread through the entire fabric. In the main, they deal not with the great heroes,—the Carsons, the Custers, and the Buffalo Bills,—but with the great multitude of brave and adventurous spirits that have swept over the West in the past generation, and to whose undaunted courage and tireless energy our development is mainly due.

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NOTE: The illustrations in "Hard Knocks" after which the word "sketch" appears, were drawn from descriptions furnished by the author.