

**TRAVELS WITH A DONKEY
IN THE CEVENNES. [NEW
YORK-1901]**

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Travels with a Donkey in the Cevennes. [New York-1901] by Robert Louis Stevenson

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ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

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BY
ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

NEW YORK
CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS
1901
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MY DEAR SIDNEY COLVIN,

The journey which this little book is to describe was very agreeable and fortunate for me. After an uncouth beginning, I had the best of luck to the end. But we are all travellers in what John Bunyan calls the wilderness of this world—all, too, travellers with a donkey ; and the best that we find in our travels is an honest friend. He is a fortunate voyager who finds many. We travel, indeed, to find them. They are the end and the reward of life. They keep us worthy of ourselves ; and when we are alone, we are only nearer to the absent.

Every book is, in an intimate sense, a circular letter to the friends of him who writes it. They alone take his meaning ; they find private messages, assurances of love, and expressions of gratitude, dropped for them in every corner. The public is but a generous patron who defrays the

postage. Yet though the letter is directed to all, we have an old and kindly custom of addressing it on the outside to one. Of what shall a man be proud, if he is not proud of his friends? And so, my dear Sidney Colvin, it is with pride that I sign myself affectionately yours,

R. L. S.

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VELAY

*'Many are the mighty things,
and nought is more mighty
than man. . . . He masters
by his devices the tenant of
the fields.'*—Sophocles.

*'Who hath loosed the bands of
the wild ass?'*—Job.