A HOLIDAY IN ICELAND, PP. 1-97

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649445615

A Holiday in Iceland, pp. 1-97 by N. L. Van Gruisen

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N. L. VAN GRUISEN

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BY N. L. VAN GRUISEN, Jun.



LONDON: ELLIOT STOCK, PUBLISHER, 62 PATERNOSTER ROW. 1879. 501

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PREFACE.

HE writer hopes that, as the following recollections of a very pleasurable summer holiday in Iceland have afforded him great pleasure in the writing, they may cause others some in the reading, and be sufficient to induce them when asking, "Where shall we go?" to seek the same enjoyment. They will at least, in some degree, inform them of the nature of the journey, and of the extent to which they must be prepared to "rough it."

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CHAPTER I.

T had long been my earnest desire to visit the lands of the far North, but the distance, the almost insuperable difficulties of the journey, together with the length of time it would require, had for many years deterred me from making an attempt. However, early in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-eight, I chanced to mention to my friend, Fred D_____, more in the spirit of fun than earnestness, that a trip to Iceland in the summer would be very enjoyable, as well as a very novel mode of spending a holiday. Somewhat to my surprise he received the idea with enthusiasm, and immediately commenced searching for whatever information he could get of this little-known country *—Ultima Thule.*

The only work giving anything like full details is that written by one of our great travellers, and I must confess our enthusiasm was considerably

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