

**CROSSING THE PLAINS, DAYS OF  
'57; A NARRATIVE OF  
EARLY EMIGRANT TRAVEL TO  
CALIFORNIA BY THE OX-TEAM  
METHOD**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649358700

Crossing the plains, days of '57; a narrative of early emigrant travel to California by the ox-team method by Wm. Audley Maxwell

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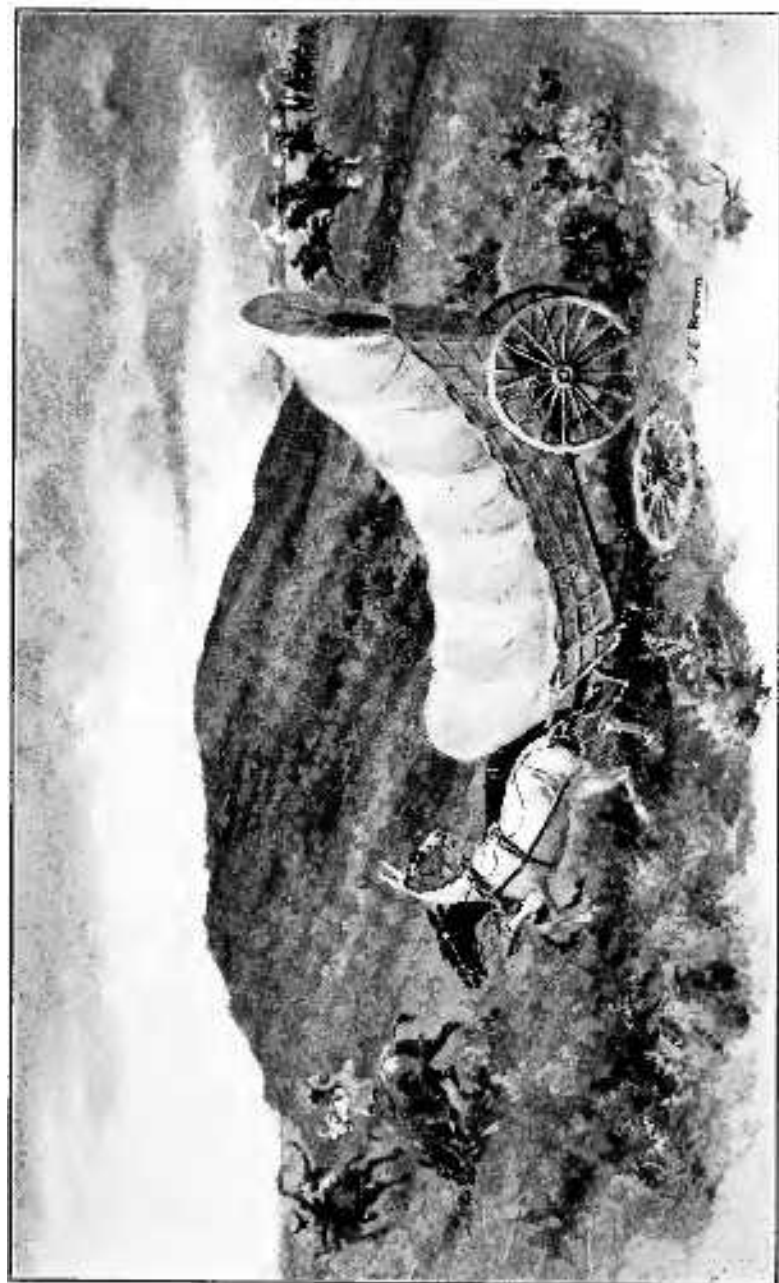
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**WM. AUDLEY MAXWELL**

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"They started flight"  
(See page 119.)

# CROSSING THE PLAINS DAYS OF '57

A NARRATIVE OF EARLY EMIGRANT TRAVEL  
TO CALIFORNIA BY THE  
OX-TEAM METHOD



BY  
WM. AUDLEY MAXWELL



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## FOREWORD

Diligent inquiry has failed to disclose the existence of an authentic and comprehensive narrative of a *pioneer* journey across the plains. With the exception of some improbable yarns and disconnected incidents relating to the earlier experiences, the subject has been treated mainly from the standpoint of people who traveled westward at a time when the real hardships and perils of the trip were much less than those encountered in the fifties.

A very large proportion of the people now residing in the Far West are descendants of emigrants who came by the precarious means afforded by ox-team conveyances. For some three-score years the younger generations

have heard from the lips of their ancestors enough of that wonderful pilgrimage to create among them a widespread demand for a complete and typical narrative.

This story consists of facts, with the real names of the actors in the drama. The events, gay, grave and tragic, are according to indelible recollections of eye-witnesses, including those of

THE AUTHOR.

W. A. M.,

*Ukiah, California, 1915.*