

# **THE INDIAN PASS**

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The Indian pass by Alfred B. Street

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**ALFRED B. STREET**

**THE  
INDIAN PASS**



THE  
INDIAN PASS.

BY  
ALFRED B. STREET,

AUTHOR OF "FUGITIVE POEMS;" "PRONIKYAO," A POEM; "FOREST PICTURES IN  
THE ADIRONDACKS," A SERIES OF POEMS; "THE COUNCIL OF REVISION;  
WITH SKETCHES OF ITS MEMBERS AND EARLY COURSE, AND ITS  
VOTES;" "WOODS AND WATERS; OR, SUMMER IN THE  
BARRENAGE," ETC., ETC.



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## Medication.

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*The sympathy and kindness of three friends encouraged me  
to publish this record of pleasant hours passed in the  
mountain-forests of the State of which we are  
all native, and to*

*LYMAN TREMAIN, DANIEL B. ST. JOHN,*

*AND*

*JOHN H. REYNOLDS,*

*I GRATEFULLY INSCRIBE IT.*

*THE AUTHOR.*

*ALBANY, December, 1868.*

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## INTRODUCTION.

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THE history of Essex County (which county forms the scene of the wanderings described in the following work) comprises the history of the mountain region of Northern New York, and, as such, should be known to the people of the State of which Essex is the most remarkable and interesting portion. Organized in 1799, in the division of Clinton County, it is the second in territorial extent (St. Lawrence being the first) in the State, several of its Townships (Newcomb, Schroon, Minerva, Keene, and North Elba) being larger than some of the counties. It embraces nine tenths of the mountain system of the entire State, and the whole (except a few detached summits) of the northern portion, including as it does the five parallel ranges described in the commencement of this work. It thus bears the name of the Switzerland of the North, and is full of natural wonders and redolent of romance.

Indeed, Swiss travellers have acknowledged that while its peaks do not attain the height of theirs, it fully equals their country in romantic grandeur.

One thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine square miles compose the area of this wild, mountain county. Its north is bounded by the counties of Franklin and Clinton, with the Ausable River forming its northeastern line; along its eastern border stretches Lake Champlain; it is bounded south by Warren County, with its extreme southeastern portion joined by the northeastern peninsulated point of Washington County; and on the west by the counties of Hamilton and Franklin.

The home of nearly the whole of the Adirondack group (the Clinton Range, of which this group is the heart, passing nearly centrally through the county), of all its tallest peaks, and boasting an average height of three thousand feet above Lake Champlain, the county forms the great water-shed of the State north of the Mohawk River. Its three towns of Newcomb, North Elba, and Keene, embracing within their limits Mounts Marcy, McIntyre, Colden, and Santanoni, compose in turn the water-shed of the county, sending, like overflowing urns, streams in every direction, that find their way into the Atlantic—north by the St. Lawrence, and south by the Bay of New York.