

supper in a land of perpetual summer, and have glided down from far above timber line into a region of continuous bloom, where the luscious fruits ripen each day of the year.

The author first began his explorations of the Trans-Mississippi country in 1860, as a "Pilgrim," and upon the completion of the Pacific railroad-line, wrote the *first* descriptive guide of the roads—from actual observation—the "Great Trans-Continental Railroad Guide" of 1869. Soon "Crofutt's Tourist" followed, the publication of which was continued thereafter. The popularity of these books was so great that the sale aggregated 344,000 copies.

The present book describes more than *three times* the extent of country of any book heretofore published, and is profusely illustrated by nearly 100 beautiful engravings, most of which were photographed, designed, drawn, and engraved expressly for the author of this work.

ANNEX—A department in the back part of this book, originated by the author, under which will be found a mass of condensed information, indirectly pertaining to the subject-matter of this work—and under which will be found full descriptions of all the large, double-page illustrations contained in this, our new book.

From the first issue of our book, in 1869, imitators have been numerous; no less than *twenty-five* "Guide-books," "Tourists' Hand-books," and "Books of Travels Across the Continent," etc., etc., have been issued, most of which were compiled in the East—without their compilers traveling over one foot of the route or at least not spending more than a few days on the road—while we have spent the best part of every year since 1860 acquiring the information,—every item of which we are prepared to verify.

To newspaper correspondents across the continent, our books have proved a perpetual "God-send," enabling them to minutely describe the wonders of the trip passed in the night, while sleeping soundly in a palace car, equally as well as though they were *awake* and in perpetual daylight. Now we do not mean to complain of these flighty journalists, as they are all "good fellows," but we *do* expect the courtesies usually extended by all honorable writers.

GEO. A. CROFUTT.

CHICAGO, ILL., April, 1878.

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