

By the middle of January, after having attended a number of board and annual meetings, some of which were quite animated, I felt tired. ~~////~~ Lots of men and women have felt the same way since reason was dethroned ~~evening / I was sitting / next / to / the / fireplace~~. ~~Sitting by the fireplace and~~ in high places, and all of the beloved tenets of God and man have been ~~weary of reading~~ *silly, futile and* chucked in the ash can to make way for the visionary schemes of half baked advisors, who having nothing to lose, are willing to sacrifice the the rights, liberties and property of others, ~~////~~ that they for a time may bask in the sunlight of public attention.

Someway I felt that I had stood just about all that I could and without ~~////~~ a moments thought I blurted out:- "Let's take a trip." Only five short words contracted into four, but they found *quick* ~~sweet~~ response in the mind of my wife and she answered sweetly, "Where shall we go?"

In a few minutes my handy container, of everything brought home to read, looked worse than ever and we were going thru our atlas and ~~////~~ papers to find the favored spot towards which we should journey. We wanted to go far and wide and we didn't want to spend any money with the nations of Europe, either our open enemies, nor our presumed friends, who had refused to ~~////~~ *to us* pay their just debts.

We wouldn't ride on a German, ~~////~~ Italian, nor Japanese boat on a bet, and Finland, of ~~////~~ all our debtors the only one that was honest, unfortunately ~~////~~ offered no winter tours. We remembered that while England is friendly now, that she burned our  $\beta$  capital in 1712; and that we had many times repaid our debt to La Fayette, receiving in return a kick in the pants rather any practical exhibitions of appreciation.

*friends and* We were rather strong for the Swedes, especially when we thought of *our good* their good cooking, and gave serious *consideration* ~~thought~~ to a ninety day trip to Australia x

~~////~~ Then we thought of Holland and of its splendid history which had *such* a big part in achieving liberty for the masses, and decided to go to South-America, *on the Holland-America line*