

The scenery throughout is peculiarly beautiful and varied.

To the wide awake business man a grand succession of industrial centres present themselves, mills, factories, shops; a very world of busy men and women, whose handiwork goes to every quarter of the world.

Hartford, Springfield, Chicopee, Holyoke, Northampton, Greenfield, Brattleboro and Bellows Falls, are the chief jewels upon this necklace of thrift, while intermediate are scores of lesser communities, clean, bright and happy. The Connecticut River leaves its native hills away up in the northern extreme of New Hampshire, and flowing down past the rugged western spurs of the White Mountains, forms the boundary of two great States, bisects two others, and finally loses itself in the sound at a distance of four hundred miles from Lake Connecticut, its source.

The city of Hartford, where we first meet the downflowing river, is certainly one of the most attractive of American cities.

The shapely gilded dome of the new State capitol reflects from its burnished flank the rays of the midday sun. The broad, well paved streets reach away with charming disregard of the cardinal points of the compass into the loveliest of suburbs. City Park is the pride of the residents. Among other great industries of the city is that of the Colt's Fire Arms Company.

Springfield, Mass., is the next important point, and a passing glimpse of its busy streets and shady avenues of homes justifies the reputation it enjoys as a delightful place of residence. Springfield enjoys a large income due to the presence of a national arsenal. One of the most striking natural features along the line is Mt. Holyoke, a fine bluff suggestive of the abrupt elevations one meets upon the upper Mississippi River. Here the peaceful river winds amid rich meadows dotted with wide spreading elms. These are the storied Northampton meads. From the summit of Holyoke, attained by an inclined plane, a grand view, revealing one of the richest sections in the Bay State, is enjoyed. In the same vicinity is Mt. Tom, also a notable elevation. South Hadley, at this point, is an ideal New England village, very popular as a summering place. Next comes scholastic Amherst, Hatfield, Whatley, and the Deerfields. Two affluents, the Fall and Green Rivers, pour their waters into the Connecticut at Greenfield.

At last, Vermont, with its rugged hills, homely ways, and splendid thrift! Brattleboro, Bellows Falls, where the mills are so closely clustered, and later, White River Junction, one of the busiest of New England railway centres. Lastly, Wells River, and good-by to the grand old Connecticut! for here we take the famous Passumpsic route.