

PREFACE.

Some books are written for the same purpose that rural newspapers are established—"to fill a long-felt want." The volume now presented, however, aims rather to fill a new-felt want, which, just now, is pressing and wide-spread, for complete and reliable information about the new land of gold, for the word "Klondike" now fills every mouth and every ear.

The subject being timely, the writer has endeavored to apply the advantages of an experience covering years of life in mining camps in different parts of the world, in such a manner as to answer the questions daily being asked about the latest El Dorado and gold mining methods.

The story of the Klondike discoveries here told is that of those who saw them and were part of them, and the facts in regard to Alaska, Northwestern Territory and the Yukon Region have been gathered from the last and latest resources of information.

For those going to the mines the preparations to be made, the outfit required, the details of the route, and the methods of prospecting and mining are minutely described, and the mining laws, both of Canada and the United States, are given, so that the prospector may know his duties as well as his rights.

For those who stay at home the story will be none the less interesting, as the Klondike and its doings will long continue to be an important subject of discussion.