

and curiosity ever present with him he longed to see them for himself.

"You see, Lachlan," he said to me after I had persuaded him to come, "dat be fine hixperience fer Pierre. He's have no femme, an' he's be glad fer go wit' you sure. Den w'en she's come back an' have nottings helse fer do, she can give de boys one beeg whirl in Cheecag' an' udder big citees w'en dey's go fer see w'at you call de helephant."

We had arranged to start east the Thursday after we reached the Fort, but on the advice of Dr. Schultz we remained over four days longer, so that we might travel by a new stage route that was being inaugurated, and which we found to be a great improvement upon the old coach in which we had ridden when crossing the plains on our entry into the country.

And now I seem to have reached a point where I must soon take leave of the reader, for I have told the story arising out of my mission to the Northwest, and I cannot hope that beyond a few sentences the reader would be interested in a further chronicle embracing only my personal or domestic affairs. I was wont, as a boy reader, to wonder why writers did not prolong the concluding events of their stories, or carry their readers along for years after the climax. I now see why it is not done. When a story is told, the prudent writer recognizes the necessity of taking the earliest opportunity to make a graceful bow to his readers and take an early leave. I shall, however, humor the readers who may happen to be constituted as I was in boyhood days by adding the following facts.