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MOST of the scenes described, and nearly all the incidents narrated, in the pages of this book, were a part of my own personal experience of a residence of some thirty years on the frontier, and for which I can vouch as true, except, perhaps, the incidents of the last great battle of the lamented Custer with Sitting Bull, and for these I am indebted to one who was early on the ground after the conflict, and who has obtained from the Indians themselves what I deem to be a very accurate picture of the terrible struggle between the contending forces.

Of the various traditions which are woven in among the other articles, I can only say, in the language of Longfellow:

> "Should you ask where Na-wa-da-ha Found these songs, so wild and wayward,-Found these legends and traditions,-I should answer, I should tell tell you, In the bird's nests of the forest, In the lodges of the beaver, In the hoof-prints of the bison, In the eyrie of the eagle.

Here Na-wa-da-ha found these legends,"

The object of this work is to group together some of the traditions of the past and many of the characteristics of the Indians of the Northwest, and to so weave in romance and history as to form interesting reading matter for the general public. Several of the legends