

# CONTENTS.

PREFACE.....	3
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	7

## PART I.—OUR WESTERN EMPIRE.

### CHAPTER I.

WHAT IT COMPREHENDS—THE WEST BEYOND THE MISSISSIPPI—ITS AREA AND EXTENT—COMPARISON WITH OTHER EMPIRES—CLIMATE—MOUNTAINS—NATURAL PHENOMENA—SOIL—THE ALKALINE, VOLCANIC AND "BAD LANDS"—PREDOMINANCE OF ARABLE AND PASTURE LANDS—NUTRITIOUS GRASSES IN THE GRAZING LANDS.....	33
---	----

### CHAPTER II.

THE GREAT AMERICAN DESERT: WHERE IS IT?—THE HUNDRETH MERIDIAN—"ELI PERKINS'S" SCARE—THE FACTS IN REPLY—COLONEL (BREVET BRIGADIER-GENERAL) HAZEN ON THE NORTHERN PACIFIC—GOVERNOR HOWARD'S ANSWER, AND OTHER FACTS—DAKOTA—WYOMING AND ITS AGRICULTURE—MONTANA—B. R. AND MR. Z. L. WHITE ON ITS CROPS—THE SMALL MODICUM OF TRUTH IN THESE "DESERT" STORIES—THE REPORTED "DESERT" BEYOND THE ROCKIES—THE UTAH AND NEVADA DESERT—TESTIMONY OF SURVEYORS-GENERAL—THE TEXAN DESERTS AND ARIZONA—THE GREAT AMERICAN DESERT A MYTH.....	37
---	----

### CHAPTER III.

THE WHOLE REGION ABOUNDING IN MINERAL WEALTH—PRODUCTION OF GOLD AND SILVER, OTHER METALS, ETC.—FORESTS—GRASSES—ROOT CROPS—FRUITS—VINICULTURE.....	51
---	----

### CHAPTER IV.

WILD ANIMALS AND GAME—BEASTS OF PREY—GRIZZLY AND OTHER BEARS—MR. MURPHY'S GRIZZLY BEAR STORY—THE COUGAR, PUMA, OR PANTHER—THE JAGUAR AND OTHER FELIDÆ—LYNXES—WHAT SORT OF AN ANIMAL A LYNX IS—THE MARTEN AND WEASEL TRIBE—THE GRAY WOLF—THE COVOTE—IS THE PRAIRIE WOLF A COVOTE?—COLONEL DODGE'S OPINION—AMPHIBIA—THE WHALE TRIBE—BIRDS OF PREY—PERCHERS AND SONG-BIRDS—PIGEONS AND GROUSE—WADERS AND SWIMMERS—REPTILES—FISHES—MOLLUSKS AND CRUSTACEANS—DOMESTIC ANIMALS....	56
--	----

### CHAPTER V.

POPULATION—THE INCREASE SINCE 1870—TABLES SHOWING THE ESTIMATED INCREASE IN EACH STATE AND TERRITORY—NOTES IN REGARD TO EACH STATE AND TERRITORY.	63
---	----