A TRIP ROUND THE WORLD

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TRIP ROUND THE WORLD

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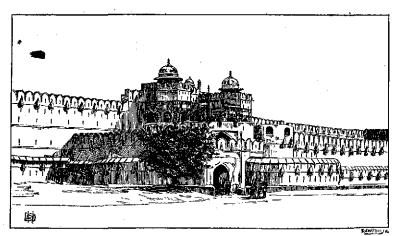
1887-8

 \mathbf{BY}

W. S. CAINE, M.P.

ILLUSTRATED BY

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And the AUTHOR



LAHORE GATE, DELHI FORT.

LONDON

GEORGE ROUTLEDGE AND SONS

BROADWAY, LUDGATE HILL

GLASGOW AND NEW YORK

1888



JIN-RICKISHAS, YOKOHAMA

LONDON: PRINTED BY WILLIAM CLOWES AND SONS, LIMITED, STAMFORD STREET AND CHARING CROSS.

U8.1.M8 B8 751 TO

MY CONSTITUENTS AND FRIENDS

ΑT

BARROW-IN-FURNESS,

TO WHOM THESE LETTERS WERE ORIGINALLY ADDRESSED,

THIS VOLUME

IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED.

PREFACE.

This volume consists of a reprint of letters addressed to the Barrow News, the leading newspaper of the constituency I represent in Parliament, dating from August 1887 to March 1888. The letters were written during idle hours on board steamers, for the amusement and information of my constituents and personal friends, but with no intention of adding to the many volumes of travel which deal with the various countries I have seen in my rapid tour round the world.

I have, however, found by experience, that the obiter dicta of other travellers have been of so much greater service to me during my own journey than the recognized guide books, many of which have been put quite out of date by the rapid developments of transit, and the equally rapid changes in Eastern customs, that I venture to add my modest contribution to the literature of travel. I hope it may prove of value to some of that increasing number of English and Americans to whom a tour round the world is becoming a matter of course, and perhaps also of some interest to the general reader. I have tried to make my letters readable by old and young alike.

In one respect this volume differs—so far as I am aware—

from any other of the kind which has yet been published. It is profusely illustrated. I trust more to my pictures than to my inexperienced literary powers, to make this volume acceptable to the public. I wish to acknowledge gratefully the assistance I have had from my old friend, Mr. John Pedder, of Maidenhead, who has evolved the greater portion of the illustrations, with accuracy and artistic skill, from a heterogeneous collection of rough sketches and photographs made by me on my journey; and also to Mr. H. Sheppard Dale for the excellent architectural drawings of Japanese and Indian buildings which bear his name.

The journey taken by my daughter and myself has entailed no hardship or inconvenience, with the not very serious exception of our voyage across the Pacific. Sir William Pearce's steamers can be avoided by other travellers, without losing the enchanting scenery of the Canadian Pacific route, or incurring extra expense. The Canadian Pacific Railway Company will book passengers from Quebec or Montreal, through to San Francisco, at slightly higher rates than the direct American Pacific Railroads; the sea passage from Vancouver to San Francisco is for the most part in smooth water, the coast being extremely beautiful, and the steamers comfortable. The only really good line of steamers crossing the Pacific are those chartered from the White Star Line sailing from San Francisco; their names all end with "ic," and if tourists take care to secure this last syllable, they will be sure of fine ships and comfortable accommodation.

None of the trans-continental railways of the United States can compare with the Canadian Pacific either for beauty of scenery or comfort in travel. It is easy, however, for those wishing to see the Yellowstone Park, to cross over via Winnipeg to the Canadian Pacific route.

It is important on all American lines of railway to secure sleeping-car berths the day before starting on the journey—they are generally crowded. I know no bed of little ease to compare with a night spent in the ordinary American car.

I advise travellers to resist all temptations to travel by steamers not flying the British flag. Their ways are not our ways.

There is absolutely no remedy for sea-sickness, but to go to bed and stop there till it runs its horrid course. The best food to take is beef-tea absolutely free from fat, with crisp dry toast, and grapes. There is an excellent preparation which can be made ready in a moment with boiling water, called Bovril, and another equally good, Johnson's beef-tea. I have often seen well-meaning but misguided folk, coming on board to see their loved ones off on a voyage, loading their friends' cabins with hot-house flowers. A basket of hot-house grapes instead, with six pots of Bovril, would bring grateful memories the third day at sea. Above all things to be avoided are quack remedies, or such dangerous drugs as cocaine, nitro-glycerine, or bromide In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, every of potassium. passenger is ready for a good breakfast the third morning out, without any remedy but Nature's recuperation, and the odd hundredth is best left to the ship's doctor.

Clothing sorely exercises the intending traveller round the world, and, as a rule, twice too much is taken. I advise plenty of good woollen underclothing, two new tweed suits, light and

strong, a thin dress suit, a light overcoat, a good ulster, and a mackintosh, with three or four pairs of shoes of different strengths, buying tropical clothing on the spot as required.

It is much more costly to pay fares from place to place, than to make up your route before starting, buying a through ticket from Thos. Cook & Son. Wishing to be free to select my own routes and steamers, I took the former course. Here follow the fares I had to pay:

	£	s.	d.
Liverpool to Montreal (Allan line) .	18	18	0
Montreal to Vancouver (Canadian			
Pacific Railway)	15	8	3
Vancouver to Yokohama (Sir Wm.	•		
Pearce's steamer)	36	9	2
Yokohama to Colombo (P. & O.			
steamer)	52	0	0
Colombo to Calcutta (ditto)	12	0	0
Calcutta, Benares, Lucknow, Cawn-	•		
pore, Agra, Delhi, Jeypore to			
Bombay, by rail	12	0	0
Bombay to Brindisi (P. & O. steamer)	63	0	0
Brindisi to London (by rail)	12	8	0
Total	£222	3	5

Messrs. Thos. Cook & Son can supply through tickets covering all these journeys for £155 18s. 8d., so that if I had booked through at starting, I should have saved £66 on each of my fares. I have not included in the list of separate fares the extras I paid for securing whole cabins for my daughter and myself.

I advise intending travellers round the world to fix their route, and take a through ticket from Cook. The £66 saved would more than suffice to secure the unspeakable comfort of a

whole cabin, when the steamers were at all crowded. We indulged in this luxury crossing the Atlantic and Pacific, at an extra cost of £30 each, and felt it to be the most profitable expenditure made on our whole journey.

It is well to have a small medicine chest. Ships' doctors are often very young and inexperienced, and in out-of-the-way places native doctors are not to be trusted, and the drugs are bad. In remote Japan, the almost universal treatment for disease of any kind is to stick the patient's body, in all safe places, full of needles. Any family doctor will be able to give a list of tinctures and compressed drugs, such as those manufactured by Wyeth, or Burroughs Welcome and Co., obtainable through any good chemist, with simple instructions for treating the ailments incidental to travel. They will pack into a small box about six inches cube. It is true I presented my own box intact to a medical missionary just before leaving India, but the knowledge that in cases where doctors were available, I had the best quality of drugs likely to be required, added greatly to my comfort of mind all through the journey.

A six months' tour round the world can be done economically, travelling first-class throughout, for about £350; luxuriously, with exclusive cabins, for £420 to £450.

I can confidently recommend to travellers in Japan my two guides, Mr. Ito and Mr. Hakodate, both of whom are to be found at the Grand Hotel, Yokohama.

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