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Echoes from the Rocky Mountains: Reminiscences and Thrilling Incidents of the Romantic and Golden Age of the Great West, with a Graphic Account of Its Discovery, Settlement, and Grand Development

John Wesley Clampitt

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John Wesley Clampitt (1839-1906) was a lawyer who was Counsel for Mary E. Surratt in the trial of conspirators for the assassination of President Lincoln; he was the special inspector of the overland mail service; and hew was the Author of many articles in "Political Cyclopedia," "Story of Clouds Mills," etc.; he declined nomination for Congress in 1880.

Echoes of the Rocky Mountains is in effect, a history of nearly one-half of the territorial area of the country, and must arouse very warm emotions of pride, admiration, and astonishment, as page after page the glorious panorama unrolls before our vision. Mr. Clampitt, an actor in many of the scenes he describes—always subordinating his own personality, with the modesty of a truly brave man— tells his story with the spirit and dash which it deserves. He writes con amore, with the vividness of the eye-witness, and with as little bias as strong and sincere belief will permit; and if not always with the elegance and finish of the scholar and historian, at least with unvarying honesty and enthusiasm.

There are few pages of American old west history more interesting, or which contain more thrilling incidents. It is well illustrated and written in an entertaining style.

This book written by one who experienced the events is interspersed with personal reminiscences and covers the earlier history of the western territory embracing the Missouri River and the Pacific Ocean, relating the earlier voyages of discovery in its trackless depths, the early settlement of California, the Pacific coast and north-western territories, the establishment of the Pony Express, the great overland Mail Express line, and the building of the great lines of transcontinental railways; telling of the massacres of pioneers, of Indian treachery, of mail-coach pillage, and of the viligantes, of Indian songs, legends and dances, and of great mining enterprises.
That great cities should have arisen upon the scene of Indian raids forty years before is something in the nature of a miracle.

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