

**FROM NEW YORK TO
NEW ZEALAND; OR,
THE NEW CENTURY TRIP**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649096183

From New York to New Zealand; or, The new century trip by C. W. McMurran

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C. W. MCMURRAN

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NEW CENTURY TRIP.

BY

C. W. MCMURRAN, NEW YORK CITY.

INTRODUCTION BY

His Honour Sir ROBERT STOUT, K.C.M.G., Chief Justice of the Supreme
Court of New Zealand.

Edited by C. O. MONTROSE.



WELLINGTON.

PRINTED BY JOHN MACKAY, AT THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.

1904.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE United States of America have been brought much nearer to us who are the dwellers in the Western Pacific by the acquisition of the Hawaiian Islands, of Tutuila (the southern isle of the Navigation Group), and of the Philippines. For many years we have had trade relationship with the Eastern States, and the monthly mail-steamers between San Francisco have, like shuttles, been weaving a web of mutual knowledge and brotherhood between us. Much, however, remains to be done. Americans know little of us. Their vast territory and their strenuous business activities alike prevent them from being concerned regarding Australasia. Still they should not forget that Australasia has as large a territory as the States, excluding Alaska.

Mr. McMurran is a native and citizen of the United States. He has undertaken to bring our Colony of New Zealand to the notice of his fellow-countrymen. He has been amongst us, and he has seen our Islands, ourselves, and our ways. His impressions and his conclusions are his own. So far as his observations on our climate, our scenery, and our natural resources are concerned I do not think they are exaggerated. New Zealand, as the late John Fiske said, is a country of "eternal spring." We have neither the heat nor the cold of continental countries. Our winter is of short duration. In the North Island snow is unknown on the coastal lands, and rarely falls on the low lands of the South Island. The flowers that bloom in our gardens in the winter tell the nature of our climate. Roses are in Wellington almost ever with us, and the heliotrope

has flowers in midwinter. The willow has almost become an evergreen in the North Island, and is not leafless in many places for six weeks.

As for our scenery, we can show fiords grander than any in Norway, and alpine scenery that Switzerland cannot surpass. Egmont is a second Fusiyama. Our hot-lake country extends for more than one hundred miles, and is not equalled by the Yellowstone Region; and our land produces gold, silver, coal, wool, and wheat, and fruits semi-tropical and temperate.

It would not be fitting for me to express my opinion on Mr. McMurrin's criticisms or views of our politics, our laws, or our colonists. It is ever beneficial for a people to see themselves as they appear to an acute, far-travelled, and sympathetic onlooker. To New-Zealanders Mr. McMurrin's book will be interesting. The book, however, appeals to those Americans who desire to see a fresh country. We cannot rival the countries of the Old World in their historical associations, but we can show a country of great loveliness.

I hope, however, the book will have a greater result than inducing Americans to visit our Islands. They are ever welcome. We speak the same tongue, and we have much in common with them. We read American books, and I do not know if, relatively to our population, the works of their literary men have not been as well perused by us as by the inhabitants of the States. The names of Irving, Hawthorne, Longfellow, Thoreau, Bryant, Lowell, Holmes, Emerson, Whitman, Burroughs, &c., are household words with us; and the American novel has reached us. We have laughed over David Harum's horse tale; we have been charmed with the description of "A Field of Flax" in Kentucky; and the sketch of Lincoln in "The Crisis" has revived memories of that greatest of Presidents. Many of us long for something more. Will mutual knowledge not

create a feeling of respect and brotherhood that will make future misunderstanding amongst English-speaking people impossible? The citizens of the Great Republic as well as those of our Empire are anxious that the great message of "Peace on earth and goodwill to men" should be wafted from shore to shore. Can nothing more be done than has been done to realise the message? If this book can in even the slightest way help to bring about a better understanding between Americans and Englishmen it will not have been written or published in vain.

I commend it to all those who wish to extend their knowledge of our colony. New-Zealanders are proud of their colony, and love it with a fervour and devotion that travel in other lands never weakens. Why they do so can only be appreciated by a visit to our Islands.

Wellington, New Zealand, September, 1902.

Robert Stout



