HAMLIN GARLAND. MAIN-TRAVELLED ROADS

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Hamlin Garland. Main-Travelled Roads by W. D. Howells

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W. D. HOWELLS

HAMLIN GARLAND. MAIN-TRAVELLED ROADS



HAMLIN GARLAND

Main-Travelled Roads,

BEING SIX STORIES OF THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY
A NEW EDITION, WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY W. D. HOWELLS, AND
DECORATIONS BY H. T.
CARPENTER



HERBERT S. STONE & COMPANY
CHICAGO & NEW YORK
MDCCCXCVIII

TO MY FATHER AND MOTHER

WHOSE
HALF-CENTURY PILGRIMAGE ON THE
MAIN-TRAVELLED ROAD OF LIFE HAS
BROUGHT THEM ONLY TOIL AND
DEPRIVATION, THIS BOOK OF STORIES
IS DEDICATED BY A SON TO WHOM
EVERY DAY BRINGS A DEEPENING
SENSE OF HIS PARENTS' SILENT
HEROISM.

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THE MAIN-TRAVELLED ROAD in the West (as merywhere) is bot and dusty in summer, and desolate and drear with mud in fall and spring, and in winter the winds sweep the snow across it; but it does sometimes cross a rich meadow where the song of the larks and bobolinks and blackbirds are tangled. Follow it far enough, it may lead past a head in the river where the water laughs eternally over its shallows.

Mainly it is long and wearyful and bas a dull little town at one end, and a home of toil at the other. Like the main-travelled road of life it is traversed by many classes of people, but the poor and the weary predominate.

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A TABLE OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS BOOK.

INTRODUCTION

A BRANCH ROAD 7

UP THE COULÉ 69

AMONG THE CORN-ROWS 137

THE RETURN OF A PRIVATE 175

UNDER THE LION'S PAW 205

MRS. RIPLEY'S TRIP 231

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