



PRETTY GIRLS OF CHILE

SOUTH AMERICA

Social, Industrial, and Political

A TWENTY-FIVE-THOUSAND-MILE JOURNEY IN
SEARCH OF INFORMATION

*in the Isthmus of Panama and the Lands of the Equator,
Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, Tierra del Fuego,
the Falklands, Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay, Brazil,
the Guianas, Venezuela, and the Orinoco Basin : : :*

THE RESOURCES AND POSSIBILITIES OF THE VARIOUS COUNTRIES—
THE LIFE AND CUSTOMS OF THE PEOPLE—THEIR GOVERN-
MENTS, BUSINESS METHODS, AND TRADE

BY

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Fully Illustrated

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PREFACE

HE present volume is the outcome of a journalistic expedition to South America in search of information for the American business man and the general reader. The journey occupied about a year of constant travel, during which the author visited the various countries, spending some time in their capitals and ports, and making many journeys into the interior.

During his travels the author wrote letters for many of the leading newspapers of the United States, and at the same time prepared the notes which form the basis of this book. His aim has been to take the reader as far as possible through the scenes described, and for this reason the matter is, in the main, given as it was penned on the ground.

The work is more a study of the commercial and social life of the cities, and a description of how the people live and work in the country, than a diary of travel and adventure. It describes the chief industries, notes the characteristic features of the inhabitants, discusses the resources and possibilities of the various countries, and incidentally points out the chances for the investment of American capital and the increase of American trade.

These matters, however, are discussed from the standpoint of human interest and for the average reader, the aim being to give a plain, simple narrative, conveying the information about South America most desired at the present time. The author has as far as possible verified all statements of facts; but many of the

South American republics are lamentably lacking in accurate statistics, and in order to secure information the traveller has to rely to a large extent upon personal interviews. The various so-called authorities on South America are now of little value, for the continent is rapidly changing, and what was true of its people and condition a few years ago may not be so now.

In his work the author has received assistance from so many sources that it is impossible for him to render proper thanks to all. He wishes, however, to express his gratitude to our Cabinet Ministers at Washington, to the General of the United States Army, and to other officials, for letters of introduction which opened to him the government sources of the South American republics, and also to our Ministers and Consuls stationed at the various ports and cities of South America for putting themselves at the author's disposal and materially assisting him in the collection of information. He also tenders his thanks to the Presidents of the various South American republics and their officials for many courtesies and favours, and also to the people of South America generally, for their very cordial treatment of him, a stranger in their lands.

THE AUTHOR.

WASHINGTON, D. C., February, 1900.