SNAP SHOTS ON THE COLUMBIA
Benj.A. Gifford
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"See once Columbia's scenes, then roam no more; No more remains on earth for mortal eyes. The palisades defy approach and rise Green-mossed and dripping to the vaulted skies."

—Joaquin Miller.

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THE DALLES, OREGON.

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Rooster Rock, Str. Dalles City

A gigantic basaltic column, nearly four hundred feet high—a fitting sentinel to guard Columbia’s Gorge. In the long ago the red man believed that in its breast there dwelt the spirit which could foretell his fate.
Latourelle Falls

A sheer plunge of nearly three hundred feet fills the beholder with awe, as heavenward his eyes he lifts. "The thoughts are strange that throng my brain as I look up to thee." In the long ago, as the legend runs, a stubborn woman was changed into the waterfall now called "Latourelle."
Cape Horn

The finest of all the promontories—fashioned by the hand of nature, and forever bathed by the crystal spray of many cataracts. "Columns and obelisks, and shafts, lift themselves with a mightier strength and a more majestic grace than architecture has been able to conceive. Through these stately gateways we come to the Cascades."
The Pillars of Hercules

The storm God of the mountains fashioned these stately pillars, and made them the gateway to scenes beyond of unspeakable beauty and grandeur. About these pinnacles there dwelt the guardian angels of the God Coyote.


Multnomah Falls, 840 Feet

In the deep-toned swell of this descending flood may be heard, by those having ears to hear, the sad, heart-breaking wail of the dusky maiden, the daughter of the mighty Chief Multnomah, who leaped to her death, as tradition says, rather than be taken by the hated Chief who had slain her lover.
Oneonta Gorge

A titanic cleft, hundreds of feet in depth, created by the Great Spirit, as the legend goes, to separate twin brothers who were contending to the death for the hand of Oneonta, the Chief’s favorite daughter.
Horse Tail Falls

Sometimes a waterfall dazzles and dances out of the sky, a little fluttering, quivering cobweb at first; then a floating ribbon; then a wind-blown veil of spray; then a cascade, leaping from rock to rock, forty, fifty, sixty, a hundred, two hundred feet; then a swift, resistless triumphant rush of water swirling and whirling towards the river of its love.
Str. Regulator, near Castle Rock

Like the placid waters of a lake, the river flows on resistless to the sea, with scarcely a ripple on its crystal bosom
Warren’s Salmon Cannery, Strs. Dalles City and Tahoma

The finny treasures of the deep are here made to administer unto the wants of man, even to the uttermost parts of the earth.
Castle Rock

This was named "Beacon Rock" by Lewis and Clark on Nov. 2, 1802, and is the head of tide water on the Columbia. It is said upon good authority to be one thousand feet high and to occupy an area of thirteen and one-half acres.
Str. Bailey Gatzert Approaching Cascade Locks

The steamer is here seen plowing her way through the boiling seething waters. The rapids are just below the locks at the Cascades of the mighty Columbia, said to be the swiftest navigable waters in America.
Cascade Locks

For countless ages the river was imprisoned here. Pigmy man said, "your fetters must be broken." A score of years, seven millions of dollars, and lo! 'tis free.
Fish Wheel and Cascades

At this point the river rushes through the fallen ruins of the "Bridge of the Gods," a few hundred feet above, and we are at the head of the famous "Cascades" of the Columbia. This is historic ground; near to where the fish wheel is tied up stood years ago the old "Block House," made famous by the fight between rival tribes of the Indians, and the sturdy pioneers of 1855. It was here that "Phil" Sheridan taught the savage Redskins a much needed respect for the white man's bullet and powder.
Cascades

Fierce and whirling rapids wherein the river falls forty feet, and for five miles is a seething whirlpool; and above it all towers the north abutment to the "Bridge of the Gods."
Mt. Hood from the Columbia near Hood River

It bursts upon your vision like a giant specter. You stand abashed, and feel yourself in the presence of the Infinite. This snow-clad summit and these shadowy slopes, ten leagues or more away, have tempted the brush of every artist who has gazed upon them.
Chicago-Portland Special.  Tunnel No. 2, O. R. & N.

The endless wonder of this incomparable journey is its sudden changes, as if the supernatural scene-shifters were kept employed in removing old scenes and bringing forward new and unexpected ones for the next act.
Memaloose Island

"Sepulchral Island" of Lewis and Clark. "Memaloose Alahee"—Land of the Dead. "Millions in these solitudes, since first the flight of years began, have laid them down in their last sleep—the dead reign there alone." The lone white shaft marks the resting place of the only white man buried here—Victor Frevitt.
The Whirlpool Overlooking Celilo Falls

Every form which water may assume, every tint* with which it can be beautified, every caprice of motion of which it is capable finds illustration here. The river descends thirty-eight feet in twelve hundred yards, measured by Lewis and Clark Oct. 23, 1805. Here they experienced great trouble in carrying their boats around the rapids. Here Indians may be seen spearing salmon for their winters supply.