

Foreword

soon be built through the mountain barrier, which will connect with railroads on the east side and afford the shortest and most direct route to the Atlantic coast. These lines will lead to the development of one of the most extensive coal fields in the United States, containing almost twelve thousand square miles and rich in every variety of coal except anthracite.

The publication comes, therefore, at a time when this region is entering upon a new phase of social and economic development, and all citizens, especially State legislators and educators, should be familiar with the facts so clearly set forth. The first part gives a full description of this elevated section of the State, and embodies much information inaccessible to the casual observer or student. The second part relates chiefly to mountain roads, with citations of the legislative enactments looking to their construction, and from which the reader will learn with surprise how little of actual construction or maintenance has resulted therefrom. The book stands upon its own merit, and will receive from the intelligent reader the praise which it deserves.

J. STODDARD JOHNSTON,
Vice-President of the Filson Club.