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PROJECTILE TRAINS FOR THE MOON.

FROM THE

EARTH TO THE MOON,

DIRECT IN NINETY-SEVEN HOURS

AND TWENTY MINUTES:

AND A TRIP ROUND IT.

JULES VERNE,

AUTHOR OF "A JOURNEY TO THE CENTRE OF THE EARTH."

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH

BY

LOUIS MERCIER, M.A., (OXON,). AND ELEANOR E. KING.

WITH EIGHTY FULL PAGE ILLUSTRATIONS.

NEW YORK: SCRIBNER, ARMSTRONG & COMPANY. 1874.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

A Journey to the Centre of the Karth.

WITH 53 ILLUSTRATIONS. ONE VOL. 12MO, \$2.00.

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FROM THE EARTH TO THE MOON.

CHAPTER I.

THE GUN CLUB.

During the War of the Rebellion, a new and influential club was established in the city of Baltimore in the State of Maryland. It is well known with what energy the taste for military matters became developed amongst that nation of ship-owners, shopkeepers, and mechanics. Simple tradesmen jumped their counters to become extemporized captains, colonels, and generals, without having ever passed the School of Instruction at West Point: nevertheless, they quickly rivalled their compeers of the old continent, and, like them, carried off victories by dint of lavish expenditure in ammunition, money, and men.

But the point in which the Americans singularly distanced the Europeans was in the science of gunnery. Not, indeed, that their weapons retained a higher degree of perfection than theirs, but that they exhibited unheard-of dimensions, and consequently attained hitherto unheard-of ranges. In point of grazing, plunging, oblique, or enfilading, or point-blank firing, the English, French, and Prussians have nothing to learn; but their cannon, howitzers, and mortars are mere pocket-pistols compared with the formidable engines of the American artillery.

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