The Great Rock-Island Route

J.A. Roff
by Dr. Craig, of the Chicago Theological Seminary, and another by Dr. Gregory on the Assembly's Committee on Education. Also an extract from Dr. Lyman Beecher's plea for collegiate education, and the history of the "Log College" (Princeton). It is devoutly to be wished that all our colleges and universities would rise to such a height of matter and style in their publications.

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THE GREAT ROCK-ISLAND ROUTE.

[Railroad poetry is now the order of the day. Old Homer and Milton never dreamed of such a song.]

From a rocky bound Atlantic, to a mild Pacific shore,
From a fair and sunny southland to an ice-bound Labrador,
There's a name of magic import, and 'tis known the world throughout,
'Tis a mighty corporation, called the "Great Rock-Island Route."

CHORUS.

Now listen to the jingle, and the rumble, and the roar,
As she dashes thro' the woodland, and speeds along the shore,
See the mighty rushing engine, hear her merry bell ring out,
As they speed along in safety, on the "Great Rock-Island Route."

All great cities of importance can be found along its way,
There's Chicago and Peoria and Rock-Island so they say,
With Davenport, and westward still is Council Bluffs far out,
As a western termination of this "Great Rock-Island Route."

To the great southwest another, and a mighty line they run,
Reaching far-famed Kansas City, Leavenworth, and Atchison,
Rich in beauty, power, and grandeur, and they owe it all no doubt,
To the fact that they are stations, on the "Great Rock-Island Route."

There's their "Northern-Route," a daisy as you all can plainly see,
To St. Paul and Minneapolis, 'tis the famous "Albert Lea;"
To the lakes of Minnesota, and all points there 'round about,
Reached directly by no other than the "Great Rock-Island Route."

Now let music soft and tender, in its mystic power reveal,
Praises to the "Great Rock-Island," that the heart can only feel;
And to swell the mighty chorus — comes the glad re-echoing shout,
That for safety, time, and comfort, take the "Great Rock-Island Route."

—J. A. Roff.
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