



Picturesque America; or, the land we live in

a delineation by pen and pencil of the mountains, rivers, lakes, forests, water-falls, shores, cañons, valleys, cities, and other picturesque features of our country ; with illustrations on steel and wood, by eminent American artists

Bryant, William Cullen

New York, 1872

City Of New Orleans.

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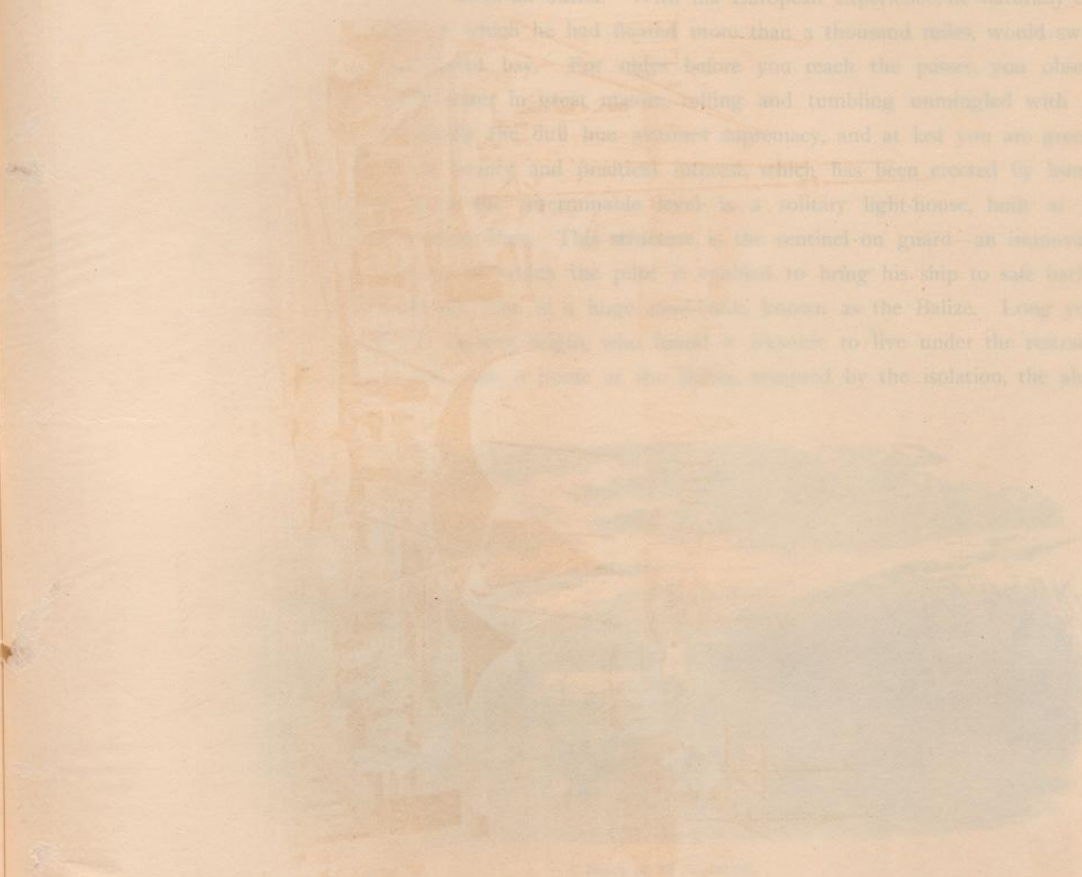
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A. R. Ward.

New Orleans

New York: D. Appleton & Co.

... an outlet. With his European experience, he naturally con-
 sidered that the great river, which he had feared more than a thousand miles, would sweep
 him out to sea. For under before you reach the passes, you observe
 a river in great measure rolling and tumbling unadvised with the
 force of the dull but constant agency, and at last you are greeted
 by a narrow and practical channel, which has been created by human
 industry. On the riverbank here is a solitary light-house, built at the
 expense of the government. This structure is the sentinel on guard—an invaluable
 aid, which the pilot is obliged to bring his ship to safe harbor.
 The light-house is a huge structure, known as the Balize. Long years
 ago, a man, who lived in a hut, to live under the patronage
 of the government, was placed in charge, and by the isolation, the aban-



andoned island of the river is now a place of wreckers. Within a
 short distance of the lighthouse, the rude huts of the
 natives are scattered about. The pieces of these waste places are called
 the Balize. The natives are personally inferior to some
 of the other tribes, but they are ever welcome visitors, as they
 are not afraid of the sea, and if kindly permitted will not only
 give you a thrilling yarn of the terrible times when the Balize
 was built.

For a long time after their entrance, the only thing
 that appears is a regular current flowing on in the
 direction of the Balize. In the distance, however, you may
 be heard of a swift-moving steamer, and then drop out here and there

