

## Hazelet's Journal

George Cheever Hazelet

Editor and Publisher John H. Clark IV

**Old Stone Press** 

Autobiography/ Personal Memoir

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For review copies or media inquiries, John@JHClarkand Associates.com or visit
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Contact: John H. Clark IV, editor and publisher 520 Old Stone Lane, Louisville, KY 40207 502-693-1506

John@JHClarkandAssociates.com
www.OldStonePress.com and www.HazeletsJournal.com

New Book chronicles a man, his family, and a restless nation finding its way into the twentieth century.

Diary kept from 1898 to 1902 offers riveting insight into the breed of men who pioneered America's last frontier, the great Alaska Territory, through grit and bootstrap entrepreneurship.

Louisville, KY - This riveting saga titled *Hazelet's Journal* is about one adventurous soul's quest to raise the level of his family's position in life by seeking his fortune in Alaska at the turn of the century. It reflects the great American spirit upon which this great nation was built.

This is a time before we jumped on airplanes to go from A to B, a time when there was no 'venture capital' to seed a company, a time when men died pursuing their dreams – and yet these sort of men were undaunted."

The diarist and voice of the new book, George Cheever Hazelet, was inspired by the great tycoons at the dawn of the Industrial Age. He became one himself in the chicory-coffee market, only to see his fortunes evaporate during the calamitous financial crisis of the late 1890s. Determined to secure a comfortable life for his beloved wife and two small sons, he took what he had left and headed for Alaska in 1898 to seek his fortune.

"And if parting from my boys was hard, that from my wife was torture. I had known for days that it would be difficult but the sad look in those eyes I can never forget as she said, "I know I shall never see you again," writes Hazelet as the journal begins. From here he records his motivations, his frustrations, his despair at being separated from his family, and his determination to keep prospecting in spite of all manner of deprivation, including frozen tundra, snow-covered glaciers, and seasonal mosquitoes so ferocious their bites swelled one's face and hands beyond recognition.

Hazelet's Journal contains never-before-published maps, illustrations, and more than one hundred black and white photographs from private collections and from museum archives. In this span of time, Hazelet reaches "the last frontier" – the Copper River Country – where he stakes his claim and struggles to make his fortune in spite of forest fires, claim jumpers, earthquakes, and inevitable heartbreak.

Early Review: "Cocooned as we are in the comforts of civilization, most of us have all but forgotten the 'grit' required of our ancestors as they settled the wilderness...Reading Hazelet's Journal will cause thoughtful people to reconsider life as we know it." - Tori Murden McClure, explorer, adventurer, the first woman to row alone across an ocean, and author of A Pearl in the Storm, HarperCollins Publishers

View the Net Galley listing here.

**Editor/Publisher:** John Clark received a bachelor of fine arts degree from the University of New Mexico and successfully ran a printing and manufacturing company located in Louisville, Kentucky, for 27 years. He also is the founder of Old Stone Press. He and his wife Gretchen live in Louisville, Kentucky.