



Bulletin Volume 2, Nos. 26-35

By U S Coast and Geodetic Survey

Rarebooksclub.com, United States, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 246 x 189 mm.

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Contrary to the usual custom pursued in making relief maps, the vertical scale adopted is the same as that for horizontal distances. This means that the heights of the mountains and plateaus have not been exaggerated for pictorial effect, but retain in this respect their true proportion in reference to their bases. The elevations are built up with layers of prepared cardboard. Each layer is twelve onethousandths of an inch (0.012 inch) thick, and represents an increase of height above sea level of one thousand feet. Thus Mt. Washington, N. H., which is 6,000 feet high, requires, six layers, while Pikes Peak, 14,000 feet, and Mt. St. Elias, 18,000 feet, require fourteen and eighteen layers, respectively. The edges of these successive steps being left sharply cut and perpendicular, serve to mark the lines of equal elevation, and correspond to the contours of a topographical map....



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