

Church, of Boston, Massachusetts. Colonel A. E. Clark was chairman of the committee on arrangements. A beautiful and sympathetic account of the ceremonies was published by Editor Robert Montgomery in the *Puyallup Valley Tribune* of July 28, 1933.

Honor for President Kane

Thomas Franklin Kane, who was President of the University of Washington from 1902 to 1914, has just resigned the position of President of the University of North Dakota where he had served since 1918. At the recent forty-fourth Commencement exercises the outgoing President was signally honored. The information was sent by Professor Albert H. Yoder who served under President Kane at both Washington and North Dakota. Professor Yoder writes: "You will be pleased to know that President Kane was presented an LL.D. It was a complete surprise. I never saw him so near to breaking down as when he received this official evidence of the affection of the faculty and students."

It Was Not a Portrait of Whitman

In the April issue of this *Quarterly* a brief article proclaimed the finding of a portrait of Dr. Marcus Whitman, something that historians had sought for nearly a century. The portrait had been reproduced and discussed by the Presbyterian Historical Society in the *Journal of the Department of History* for December, 1932.

Instantly there arose a questioning of the authenticity of the so-called "Ambrotype." Professor F. H. Hodder of the University of Kansas was prompt with questions but naturally the center of greatest interest was at Whitman College, Walla Walla. President S. B. L. Penrose received the original picture from Mrs. Eva A. Rule of Fredericktown, Ohio, who said that it had been in her family for many years. The known dates in the development of photography could not be reconciled with the years of Whitman's life. While Doctor Penrose would love to secure a portrait of Whitman, this one seemed to be impossible. Finally, he got Professor Brode, Curator of Whitman College Museum, and Professor Haigh, Head of the Department of Chemistry, to take the "Ambrotype" out of its case and on the metal plate, on which the picture had been made, there was stamped this inscription: "Melainotype Plate. For Neff's Pat. 19 Feb. 56."

Doctor Whitman had been slain in the famous massacre on

November 29, 1847. The flurry over the purported discovery of a genuine portrait was interesting, but it was futile.

Governor McMullin's Appointment

Frederic K. Struve, of Seattle, has forwarded an original document of interest in the Territorial history of Washington. It is the commission of Fayette McMullin as Governor, signed on January 18, 1858, by James Buchanan, President, and Lewis Cass, Secretary of State, with the seal of the United States attached. On the back is the oath of office signed "F. McMullin," and sworn to on March 13, 1858, before F. A. Chenoweth, Associate Justice, Washington Territory. Mr. Struve found the document among papers left by his father, the late Judge Henry G. Struve.

Honoring Vancouver's Grave

The Native Sons of British Columbia have determined to honor the grave of the great explorer, Captain George Vancouver. He was buried on May 18, 1798, in the churchyard of St. Peter's, Petersham, Richmond, England. The 135th anniversary was honored by ceremonies in which Mr. F. P. Burden, Agent General of British Columbia, participated. Mayor Alexander Reid of Petersham suggested that the Native Sons of British Columbia send a curb stone for the grave and this is now being done. Citizens of Vancouver, named for the explorer, are proud of reviving interest in that great voyage of 1792.

A Mercer Girl at Astoria

Mary Jane Smith, a girl in the second expedition brought to Puget Sound by Asa Shinn Mercer, married Samuel Terry McKean, a pioneer who made his home in Astoria. A daughter, Mrs. Polly Bell, now lives in Seattle. She has saved a copy of her father's experience in crossing the plains and many other records of value in history. All these she has deposited with the *Washington Historical Quarterly* for use in an early issue.

Roll of Overland Astorians, 1810-12

The Oregon Historical Quarterly for June, 1933, has an article under the above title by Kenneth W. Porter, author of *John Jacob Astor, Business Man*. This is in line with a pronounced awakening of interest in the identity of those who were earliest in the development of the Oregon Country.