

## NEWS DEPARTMENT

### *Journal of Indian Treaty Days.*

The University of Washington Library has been enriched by the gift from William S. Lewis, Corresponding Secretary of the Eastern Washington State Historical Society, of a substantially bound typewritten copy of the original journal kept by James Doty who was secretary of the Indian treaty-making commission organized by Governor Isaac I. Stevens. He received that appointment on December 7, 1854, and entered upon the duties with enthusiasm.

Young Doty inherited a love for such work. His father, James Duane Doty, was an early settler of Michigan and in 1820 went with a party under General Lewis Cass, traveling 4000 miles in canoes, exploring the upper lakes and making treaties with the Indian tribes of that region. He was a judge in Northern Michigan and in 1830 was one of a commission to lay out a military road from Green Bay through Chicago to Prairie du Chien. As a member of the Michigan Legislature in 1834 he introduced a bill which led to the division of Michigan and the creation of Wisconsin and Iowa Territories. He was one of the founders of Madison and secured its adoption as the capital of Wisconsin. He served the Territory as Delegate in Congress, 1837-1841, as Governor, 1841-1844, and as a member of the constitutional convention. He served two terms as Congressman from the new State, 1849-1853. As that service was ending his son James received appointment as a member of the exploring party under Governor Isaac I. Stevens. Later President Lincoln appointed the father, James Duane Doty, Governor of Utah Territory in 1864.

James Doty was listed in the party of Governor Stevens for "astronomical and magnetic observations." As the party progressed westward he was left for the winter at Fort Benton to prepare the way for a proposed treaty with the Blackfoot Indians. Governor Stevens says: "Mr. Doty, who had won very much upon me by his intelligence, his fidelity, his promptitude, and energy of character, parted with me with feelings of hope and pride at the idea that now a field was opening to him where he could be useful to his country, and make a reputation for himself." General Hazard Stevens in his "Life" of his father speaks of those winter explorations as "remarkable and valuable."

The first Indian treaty concluded by Governor Stevens was with the Nisqually and other bands and was dated December 26,

1854. Among the witness signatures is that of James Doty, "Secretary of the Commission." In that same winter he was sent to Eastern Washington with Indian Agents Bolon and Lansdale to prepare the tribes there for assembling in treaty councils. The greatest value of the present journal is its record of that mission.

When Governor Stevens learned of the plot by Pio-pio-mox-mox at the Walla Walla council to kill the white people, he confided the danger to only two of his party. These were the Secretary, James Doty, and the Packmaster, C. P. Higgins, who later was the founder of Missoula, Mont. Doty bore this and all other responsibilities bravely. Later, at the Blackfoot council he rode night and day far into Canada to recover stolen horses and thus to impress upon the Indians the serious purpose of the treaty commission.

As the rumbles of the Indian war began, Governor Stevens appointed Doty a Lieutenant Colonel. He remained close to Governor Stevens until the latter was nominated for Delegate in Congress in 1857 and went out on the campaign. On his return he was saddened with the news that James Doty had died and was buried on Bush Prairie besides his friend George W. Stevens. The Governor declared: "I have never been connected with a more intelligent and upright man."

This journal of 108 pages begins with the date of January 20, 1855, and ends with May 24, 1856. The records supplement the accounts of the Indian treaties and the transactions just before the outbreak of the Indian war. It is especially welcome in the University of Washington Library already rich in materials pertaining to the life and work of Washington's first Territorial Governor, Isaac Ingalls Stevens.

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#### *Oregon Historical Society*

The twenty-first annual meeting of the Oregon Historical Society was held in Portland on October 25, 1919. The annual address was given by Dr. Henry L. Bates on "The History of Pacific University."

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#### *The Pioneer*

A rugged and forceful statue by the noted sculptor, A. Phimister Proctor, was unveiled on the campus of the University of Oregon, at Eugene, on May 22, 1919. A record of the ceremonies appears in the *Quarterly of the Oregon Historical Society* for Sep-