

NEWS DEPARTMENT

On October 16, 1927, an interesting historic event was commemorated at the junction of the Snake and Columbia Rivers. A marker was unveiled where the Lewis and Clark Expedition had made its first camp on a bank of the Columbia River. The ceremonies were under the auspices of Chapter 3, Daughters of the Pioneers of Washington Prior to 1870. Mayor A. P. Gray of Pasco presided. His wife and Mrs. W. F. Chute, native daughters of Washington, participated. Those who offered prayers and addresses were Rev. W. A. Sprague, Rev. U. F. Hawk, Secretary W. P. Bonney of the State Historical Society, T. C. Elliott of Walla Walla, Mark M. Moulton of Kennewick, and Dr. F. F. Nalder of the State College of Washington. Probably the most distinguished man present was Chaptain W. P. Gray, son of William H. Gray, a member of the famous Whitman Mission of 1836. William Polk Gray was born in Oregon City, Oregon, on July 26, 1845. He was a noted steamboat pilot on the rivers of Oregon and Washington and also had steamboat experiences in Alaska. He is one of the oldest pioneer residents of Pasco. His presence on this historic occasion was highly appreciated. The land on which the marker is placed was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Carstens of Tacoma. It is called Carstens Park. The singing on this occasion was led by Mrs. Robert R. Glen, and the unveiling of the marker was done by little Gloria Glen, daughter and granddaughter respectively of Mayor A. P. Gray.

The most directly applicable address delivered was that by Mr. Elliott, part of which was as follows:

"On the 16th day of October, 1805, one hundred and twenty-two years ago, at about this hour in the afternoon, Lewis and Clark, and thirty companions, arrived near this spot and went into camp. They came by water, in five pirogues, or heavy wooden canoes dug and burned out of newly fallen trees at the forks of the Clearwater River in Idaho. They came from St. Louis and had been a year and a half on the way: by water to the head of Jefferson Fork of the Missouri, thence by foot and on horseback across the Rocky Mountains. The details of their journey, told by another speaker, it is not my purpose to repeat, but this expedition marked a real event in the history of our

country, and formed a strong link in our chain of title to the Pacific Northwest.

"The personnel of this expedition was composed of enlisted officers and men of the army of the United States, Meriwether Lewis and William Clark being of equal rank, although Captain Lewis was tacitly considered the higher authority. They carried with them the flag of our country, the Stars and Stripes. It was not the same flag we use today; it had fifteen stars and fifteen stripes, then the official flag of our nation. They also carried medals to distribute to the Indians, a few of special design and others used by George Washington in his dealing with Indians. Departing from here on the afternoon of the 18th of October, the following morning they met with Chief Yellepit of the Walla Walla tribe and presented him with both a medal and a flag, which he preserved for many years after.

"If you are ever privileged to visit the capital city of Virginia, you will find there on the state house grounds, a famous monument of George Washington, surrounded by other famous Virginians who had assisted in the founding and early events of our republic. Among those life-sized figures is one of Meriwether Lewis, explorer, discoverer, and geographer, who camped on or near this spot for three days in October, 1805, in whose honor this monument has now been erected here."

Anniversary in Olympia

An event of historic importance occurred in Olympia on Saturday, December 10, when there was celebrated with appropriate honors the seventy-fifth anniversary of Olympic Lodge No. 1, of Free and Accepted Masons. The lodge was organized on December 11, 1852, while Washington was still a part of Oregon. It was No. 5 of Oregon, but when Washington Territory was organized by Congress in 1853, the lodge became No. 1 under the new jurisdiction.

Judge Howay Honored

At its December meeting, the Massachusetts Historical Society elected Judge F. W. Howay, of New Westminster, B.C., a corresponding member. The name of Judge Howay is well known to readers of the *Washington Historical Quarterly* from his numerous articles and book reviews. He has been a contributing editor of this publication for the past eleven years. He is a member of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of