

"Fortunately there is obtainable a sketch of the appearance of the entrance to the river in 1792, so that with it and Heceta's chart it is possible to ascertain just what was known previously to the triumphant accomplishment of Gray in crossing a bar which no white man had ever before been able to cross. That remarkable and daring feat is an honor which has never been disputed, and the name he gave to the clear fresh water which he was the first to navigate will forever commemorate his brave act and his staunch little ship, the *Columbia Rediviva*. All honor and fame be to him for having succeeded where all others had failed."

Honoring Pioneers of Southwest Washington

At the annual picnic of the Southwest Washington Pioneers' Association in August, 1931, Historian N. B. Coffman gave his customary review including the biographies of three outstanding pioneers who had passed away during the year. Selections for such honors are made annually by the Association, the choice being limited to those who were pioneers when the Territory of Washington was organized in 1853. Those included in this year's honors were as follows :

"Anna Rachel Grey Urquhart, wife of William Muir Urquhart, pioneer merchant of Chehalis.

"Christopher Columbus Simmons, a son of that earliest of Western Washington American home-seekers, Michael Troutman Simmons.

"William Mills, son of Elkanah and Elvina V. Mills, brother of Mary Jane Brown, queen-mother of Southwest Washington pioneers."

The *Chehalis Bee-Nugget* for August 21 and 28 carried Mr. Coffman's report in full. Those issues are well worth saving for their historic values.

Geographic Names Decisions

Two reports, Numbers 8 and 9, by the United States Geographic Board resulted from the meeting of June 3, 1931. One was devoted wholly to decisions as to names in Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming. This is in line with the work of recent years in clearing up confusions and duplications in our National Parks.

The other report records fifteen decisions for Alaska, one for California, two for Washington, and six for Wyoming. Readers of this publication are most interested in those for Washington.

Mount Abercrombie, altitude 7,200 feet, Stevens County, on the west side of Pend Oreille River. "Name given by Joint Resolution No. 1 of the Legislature of the State of Washington, approved April 24, 1931, in honor of Col. W. A. Abercrombie, United States Army, retired, who, in 1879 and 1883, as a lieutenant, while making surveys of the Pend Oreille River called attention to the natural resources of that section; who as major in 1902 made a preliminary survey of the country along the rout of the proposed Copper River Railway in Alaska; and who has been closely identified with the development of the region in which this mountain is located."

Mount Lundin in eastern King County, between Snoqualmie Mountain and Red Mountain, Snoqualmie National Forest, is named "in honor of the late John Lundin, who was formerly district ranger in charge of the region in which this mountain is located."

Report Number 10, for the meeting of October 7, 1931, records seventeen decisions for Alaska, four for Oregon, one for Montana and six for Wyoming. There is no decision relating to Washington geography but one of the Oregon decisions deserves mention here:

Captain Cook Point, about one mile south of Cape Perpetua on the Oregon coast. "Name proposed by the Oregon Geographic Board in honor of Capt. James Cook of the Royal Navy, who visited this region in March, 1778, and who was the first Englishman, of whom we have detailed knowledge to visit the coast of Oregon."

Report Number 11, November 4, 1931, is a brief one. It includes two Washington decisions:

Bainbridge Island, named in 1841 by the Wilkes Expedition after Captain William Bainbridge, American naval hero in the war of 1812. There seems little reason for this decision since the name has been in constant use for ninety years.

Treasure Island, Kitsap County, "about 114 yards long, on north side of and 900 yards inside entrance of a small bay, indenting north end of Bainbridge Island."

American Historical Association

The Pacific Coast Branch and the parent organization each held their meetings during the Christmas vacation.

The American Historical Association held its forty-sixth annual meeting at Minneapolis and, as is customary, other organizations held concurrent meetings at the same place, including the fol-