

"And, sir, who peopled that region and founded those cities? It was the pioneer and his children, who fought, with a desperation surpassing the heroic, the most effective battle of all—the battle of the supremacy of the white man over the aborigines and the elements, coupled with isolation and want, that that immense stretch of country might not fall into alien hands. That they prevailed, sir, history records.

"But, Mr. President, had the pioneer been as timorous or as indifferent as were some of the statesmen of their age, their efforts would have been but 'a twice-told tale,' remembered only as are 'the footprints of the traveler over the sand;' and that land, formerly known as the 'Oregon Country,' instead of being, as it now is, the common heritage of all our people, would be to-day one of the possessions of the British Empire.

"It is therefore fitting, in view of their achievements, that Congress should aid the people of the Pacific Northwest in their desire to exhibit to an astonished world the progress that in so brief a space of time, and under such trying and difficult conditions, has been made in the arts, in science, in commerce, in agriculture, in mining, and in manufacturing, and in all, sir, that goes to make a great and glorious land."

The Oregon Trail.

Ezra Meeker, the venerable pioneer, has returned to his Puget Sound home after his remarkable and arduous undertaking of retracing the famous Oregon Trail with an ox-team. A number of his friends and of historians gathered at the home of his son-in-law, Eben S. Osborne, in Seattle, to receive Mr. Meeker's report and suggestions about permanently marking the trail. He said Congressman Will E. Humphrey had introduced a bill to accomplish that desired end, and before the meeting adjourned it resolved to recommend to President Roosevelt that, in case the Humphrey bill is enacted, Mr. Meeker, George H. Himes, of Portland, Oregon, and Clarence B. Bagley, of Seattle, be chosen as a commission to carry out its provisions. Mr. Meeker's hardihood in carrying on the work up to this point is meeting with deserved praise and approval on every side.

Honoring Whitman's Memory.

Walla Walla was the scene of interesting exercises on November 29, 1907. It was the sixtieth anniversary of the martyr-

dom of Marcus Whitman and his wife during the terrible Indian massacre at the old Whitman mission.

Governor Mead and his staff, troops of the United States cavalry, with the band, students of Whitman College, survivors of the massacre, pioneers and many citizens, made a pilgrimage to the grave and listened to part of the programme, which was concluded in the evening. Addresses were made by Governor Mead, President Penrose of Whitman College, and others. The address by Edwin Eells, whose father was a colleague of Whitman, is reproduced in this issue of the *Quarterly*.

One announcement, that brought forth applause, was made by Rev. J. C. Reid, to the effect that the debt that had hung over the Whitman monument for ten years had at last been cancelled.

Bibliography of Pacific Northwest History.

Mr. Charles W. Smith, of the University of Washington Library, whose expansion of the Dewey Decimal Classification appears in this issue of the *Quarterly*, has initiated a movement toward the preparation of a co-operative bibliography of Northwest history. His plan is for each important library in the region of Old Oregon to prepare a slip list of the books and pamphlets in its possession relating to the history of the Pacific Northwest. These slips are then to be incorporated into one straight alphabetical list, representing the resources of the libraries co-operating. By means of an initial letter or abbreviation placed after each item, will be indicated the libraries in which each book or pamphlet can be found. The list when printed will thus become a catalogue of each individual collection, as well as a combined check list of the whole.

Such a check list has long been needed, but its preparation has seemed too laborious for one person to attempt. The present co-operative plan seems to be a feasible one, and we believe that its success is assured.

Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association.

The fourth annual meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association was held in San Francisco on November 29 and 30, 1907. The programme was as follows:

(1) A general session on Friday afternoon, beginning at 2:30 o'clock, with papers by Professor Bernard Moses, of the University of California, on "The State of Chile in the Last Decades