

THE COST OF EMPIRE. By Sarah Pratt Carr. (Seattle, The Stuff Printing Concern, 1912, pp. 23, 35 cents.)

This is the libretto for the opera "Narcissa" by Mary Carr Moore. The author and composer, mother and daughter, live in Seattle. The theme comprises one of the most romantic incidents in the history of the Pacific Northwest. If the opera meets with the success that many people expect for it, there is no doubt that it will start another wave of discussion over the "Whitman Myth." In the synopsis the author says: "The story follows history almost exactly, departing from it only in trifles and in compressing events, to fit the necessities of stage portrayal." In spite of this avowed purpose, the author has not been contented to abide by the abundantly heroic portions of the story, which are undisputed, but has made prominent the so-called political purpose of the winter's ride. That is the crux of the "Whitman Myth." It has been sadly shattered by recent investigations.

Perhaps we should not hold an opera to strict historical standards. Many are avowedly built on myths. It is certainly wise to cordially welcome so serious an effort in this field by a writer and composer of such unmistakable talent.

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SEATTLE PARK COMMISSIONERS' EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT. Compiled by Roland W. Cotterill, Secretary. (Seattle, 1911, pp. 112.)

The City of Seattle has been taking an advanced position among American cities in the matter of parks and especially in the adjuncts of playgrounds and boulevards. This report is therefore the more important, as it contains statistics and data from 1890 to 1911. The report is illustrated and carries a valuable map of the city.

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A SHORT HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY. By Captain George R. Clark, U. S. N., William O. Stevens, Carrol S. Alden, and Herman F. Krafft. (Philadelphia, J. B. Lippincott Company, 1911, pp. 505, \$3.00 net.)

This work has no direct bearing on the Pacific Northwest, the peculiar field of the Washington Historical Quarterly, but it has a number of references to such warships as the Olympia, Oregon, and Washington. Brief mention is also made of the Wilkes Exploring Expedition.

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THE AMERICAN LUMBER INDUSTRY. By The National Lumber Manufacturers' Association. (Chicago, Leonard Bronson, Manager, 1912, pp. 238, \$1.00.)

The volume embraces the proceedings of the Tenth Annual Convention of the association. The Pacific Northwest is interested in the report of the President, Everett G. Griggs, of Tacoma, on the "West Coast Lumber Manufacturers' Association"; the report on "Western Pine Manufacturers' Association" by A. W. Cooper, of Spokane; and the paper entitled: "Men or Trees? The Problem of Our Logged-Off Lands," by J. J. Donovan of Bellingham.

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THE BAILEY AND BABETTE GATZERT FOUNDATION FOR CHILD WELFARE. By Stevenson Smith. (Seattle, University of Washington, 1912, pp. 15.)

This is the first annual report of the Director of the Gatzert Foundation. It includes a statement of the work of the Department of Diagnosis of the Juvenile Court of Seattle. The Foundation is explained and the "Bureau of Child Welfare" is outlined, as are, also, the scope of the Foundation and its relation to the public schools. The cases of two hundred delinquent boys were studied in the Juvenile Court of Seattle.

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#### Other Books Received

BURY, J. B. A History of the Eastern Roman Empire, From the Fall of Irene to the Accession of Basil I. (A. D. 802-867). (London: Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1912. Pp. 530. \$4.00 net.)

CROLY, HERBERT. Marcus Alonzo Hanna, His Life and Work. (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1912. Pp. 495. \$2.50 net.)

DORSEY, JAMES OWEN, and SWANTON, JOHN R. A Dictionary of the Biloxi and Ofo Languages. (Washington: Bureau of American Ethnology, 1912. Pp. 340.)

ROBINSON, JAMES HARVEY. The New History. Essays Illustrating the Modern Historical Outlook. (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1912. Pp. 266.)

THEBAUD, REV. AUGUSTUS, S. J. Three-Quarters of a Century (1807 to 1882). Vol. I.: Political, Social, and Ecclesiastical Events in France. (New York: The United States Catholic Historical Society, 1912. Pp. 334.)