

NEWS DEPARTMENT

The Gray Memorial

On November 1, 1916, near Walla Walla, were held exercises of a very impressive nature and of historic meaning. The bodies of William H. Gray and Mrs. Mary A. Dix Gray, after a long rest in graves at Astoria, Oregon, had been removed and placed in new graves by the side of their friends and missionary colleagues, Doctor and Mrs. Marcus Whitman, on the site of the Waiilatpui Mission, a few miles from the present City of Walla Walla.

The exercises were participated in by the president, faculty and students of Whitman College, members of the Walla Walla Pioneer Association, the Commercial Club, citizens, and the following members of the Gray family: Mrs. Jacob Kamm of Portland, Oregon; Mrs. J. H. D. Gray of Pendleton, Oregon; Captain W. P. Gray of Pasco; Captain James T. Gray of Alaska; Henry D. Gray of Pendleton; William H. Gray of Spokane; Mrs. J. H. Sprague of Pasco; Mr. and Mrs. George Hartman, Jr., and Miss Louisa Gray of Pendleton; Mrs. Charles Kamm and Jacob Kamm, 3rd, of Portland.

The new graves were surrounded with a carpet of evergreens, and as the students marched from the special train each boy dropped a sprig of evergreen and each girl a white carnation on the graves—a touching tribute of reverence and affection for the memory of those who had labored as missionaries with Doctor and Mrs. Whitman.

After the singing of "America" by the audience, Rev. Charles E. Tuke, rector of St. Paul's Protestant Episcopal Church of Walla Walla, offered prayer. Professor William D. Lyman, of Whitman College, delivered an address on "The Place of William H. Gray in Our History." The students sang their Founders' Day hymn and Captain William P. Gray, of Pasco, oldest living son of Mr. and Mrs. Gray, read two poems composed by himself for the occasion. One was entitled "The Pioneer," and the other, "In Memoriam." Rev. John H. Boyd, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Portland, Oregon, delivered a memorial address on "Mary A. Dix Gray."

William H. Gray came to the Oregon country with Dr. and Mrs. Whitman and Rev. and Mrs. H. H. Spalding in 1836. He returned east in 1837. The next year he and Mrs. Gray returned in company with other missionaries, including Rev. and Mrs. Cushing Eells. This fact received pointed evidence in the ceremonies when President Stephen

B. L. Penrose of Whitman College read the following telegram from Edwin Eells, son of Rev. Cushing Eells:

"Congratulations that the remains of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Gray are at rest by the side of their martyred compatriots, Doctor and Mrs. Whitman. Mr. and Mrs. Gray slept in the same tent with my father and mother while crossing the plains in 1838. We started the funds for the building of the monument and the honor is well deserved. I personally well remember them."

The students sang their song, "Whitman! Here's to You," after which the benediction was pronounced by Rev. W. H. Bleakney, Professor of Greek in Whitman College, who represented the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, of which Mr. and Mrs. Gray were devoted members.

Markers for the Oregon Trail

In the Washington Historical Quarterly for October, 1916, pages 329-330, the record was given of three markers having been placed on the Oregon Trail at Tumwater, Tenino, and Bush Prairie. Since then seven more of the markers have been placed. The programs show that the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution went at the work on a regular and earnest campaign.

On October 12, two markers were placed and occasion was also taken to celebrate Columbus Day at the same time. At 2 P. M. a marker was unveiled at the crossing of Skookum Chuck Creek by the Pacific Highway, near Centralia. The chairman was Orison J. C. Dutton, President of the State Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. The program was as follows: Invocation, Rev. Mr. Dores; singing, "America"; address, Mr. W. H. Cameron; "Pioneer Days," General Hazard Stevens; "Marking National Old Trails," Mrs. Henry McCleary; presentation of marker to state and city, Mrs. Edmund Bowden, unveiling, Miss Zeola Dickinson; acceptance for the state, Governor Ernest Lister; acceptance for Centralia, Mayor John Galvin; Flag Salute, school children; singing, "Star Sangled Banner."

At 4 P. M. the ceremonies took place at the junction of the Pacific Highway and the Rochester road on Grand Mound Prairie. The chairman was Mrs. Edmund Bowden, State Regent of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The program was as follows: Invocation, Rev. Frank W. P. Camp; singing, "America"; address, Mr. Theodore Hoff; song, High School of Grand Mound; reminiscences, Mrs. E. N. Sargent; national medley, High School; "Grand Mound Sixty-four Years Ago," Mr. John R. James; solo, Miss Irene Holcomb;