

possessed the spirit and genius of the explorer and was 'on discovery,' as the fur traders were accustomed to say.

"In this achievement Mackenzie was a geographer as well as a trader and explorer. He made permanent scientific locations of places never before visited by white men. He discovered the water-shed of the Fraser River, then known to the Indians as the Tacoutche Tesse. In so doing he established British rights to that water-shed which have never since been disturbed. It is true that for a brief period before the treaty of 1846 there was heard in parts of my country the political slogan (never more than that) of 'fifty-four forty or fight,' but the partizans had not studied history. Mackenzie's presence here on July 21-22, 1793, was a decisive barrier against any such peaceful claim.

"Mackenzie was a partner in the North-West Company, the 'Northwesters' so called. Other 'Northwesters' were discoverers and explorers in the Pacific Northwest. Among them were Simon Fraser, Donald MacKenzie, Finnan MacDonald, Peter Skene Ogden and, greatest of all, David Thompson, the discoverer of the sources of the Columbia River, and its tributaries near the 49th parallel. Much of this work was done in the 'Oregon Country' south of the boundary. We cordially and gladly join in extending to these men the honor due them, one and all.

"This monument answers finally the oft heard question—where did Alexander Mackenzie reach the waters of the Pacific Ocean? It occupies a secluded spot of the coast of British Columbia, and we have traveled many miles to reach here. The presence of yonder warship and of officials of Dominion and Province, evidences a fine spirit of veneration among the citizenship of Canada. You may well be proud of the government that fosters such memorials as this. It is a pleasure and an honor to be present with you and to extend these words of greeting and congratulation."

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*Union Veteran in Canada*

Mr. C. Winfield Matheson, a barrister and solicitor at Bluffton, Alberta, Canada, and a former graduate student at the University of Washington, writes about his surprise at meeting in that Canadian hamlet a veteran who had participated in the unfortunate Battle of Cold Harbor as a soldier in the Union Army. The former soldier is Charles Paterson who is now living with his wife on a farm near Springdale, Alberta, Canada. Mr. Paterson was born in Rochester, New York, in 1844. He loves to recall

the experiences of his young manhood and especially cherishes his memory of Abraham Lincoln, whom he saw in Washington City.

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*To Honor Gray's Birthplace*

Historically minded friends in Rhode Island have identified the house near Tiverton in which was born Captain Robert Gray, the great American explorer. Plans are under way to honor the place by Rhode Island and interested people in the Pacific Northwest where Gray's work helped to plant the American flag in 1792.

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*Pacific History Conference*

Professor Walter N. Sage, of the University of British Columbia, on returning from a summer's work in California, brought information that plans are about to be announced for an international conference on Pacific history to be held in Honolulu within a year or two.

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