

NEWS DEPARTMENT

Death of Mrs. Henry Villard

At her home "Thorwood," Dobbs Ferry, New York, Mrs. Fanny Garrison Villard died on July 5, 1928, at the age of 83 years. Her long and eventful life was from early childhood brought into contact with issues of national and international import.

She was the daughter of William Lloyd Garrison and, as her birth-year was 1845, her young girlhood was influenced by the excitement surrounding the abolitionist work of her father and his radical anti-slavery newspaper, *The Liberator*. In 1866 she became the wife of Henry Villard, a young newspaper man who later developed into one of America's great railroad builders. He was in control of the Northern Pacific Railroad at the time of its completion and was accompanied by his wife and baby Hilgard at the famous "last spike" ceremonies in Montana on September 3, 1883. There were present many dignitaries from Europe and America. Hilgard touched the historic spike with his baby hands and the head chief of the Crow Indians also participated.

Twenty-six years later, while Mrs. Villard was in Seattle as one of the leaders of the National Convention of Women Advocates of Equal Suffrage, during the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, she was shown a paragraph in the *History of the State of Washington* relating the "last spike" ceremonies. Her eyes filled with tears as she asked: "Have you that record there and the baby too?" That baby had died years before.

Mr. Villard had died in 1900 but Mrs. Villard kept up her interest in business and in great reforms. In addition to work for equal suffrage, she was active in peace movements. She founded the Women's Peace Society and was a delegate to The Hague in 1907 and to the Women's International Conference for Peace and Freedom in Vienna in 1921.

The Garrison family inherited the New York *Evening Post* and *The Nation*, which publications became the property of Mrs. Villard in 1881. She is survived by two sons, Harold G. Villard and Oswald Garrison Villard, present editor of *The Nation*.

Mr. and Mrs. Villard deserve the grateful memory of the University of Oregon and the University of Washington. Both were sustained from Mr. Villard's own funds when the insti-

tutions were neglected by the legislatures of the two States in 1881-1883.

In 1924, Mrs. Villard published an attractive little book entitled *William Lloyd Garrison on Non-Resistance*. One of the luring sentences is: "The company that frequented our house was so delightful that I never realized until I was fully grown that my father's devotion to the cause of the slave made him socially ostracized." In addition to the daughter's tribute the book has a chapter "What I Owe to Garrison" written in Russia, January, 1904, by Leo Tolstoi. There is also in the book a fine chapter: "William Lloyd Garrison As Seen by a Grandson" by Oswald Garrison Villard. The whole Garrison spirit is revived by a frontispiece quotation from the great editor's Salutory in the first issue of *The Liberator*, January 1, 1831: "I am in earnest—I will not equivocate—I will not excuse—I will not retreat a single inch—and I will be heard."

Judge Howay in Hawaii

Colonel C. P. Iaukea, Chairman of the Captain James Cook Sesqui-Centennial Commission, writes from Honolulu an expression of gratitude for having accredited Judge F. W. Howay of New Westminster, B. C., as a Delegate from the Washington University State Historical Society. He was primarily the Honorary Representative of the Government of Canada. Among Colonel Iaukea's praises of Judge Howay was: "He also contributed a considerable amount of historical material which we did not possess in our Archives."

A Contract with B. L. E. Bonneville

The *Midwest Review*, published at Caspar, Wyoming, recently reproduced in facsimile a contract entered into by David Adams with Capt. B. L. E. Bonneville to serve him faithfully during a trip "to and over the Rocky Mountains." The document reveals a number of points interesting to those who are studying the life and work of General Bonneville.

The contract is dated at St. Louis, Missouri, on February 22, 1832, at the beginning of the great venture. It is a printed form with spaces in which are written the names of both parties, time of service, dates, and rate of compensation. The form was one undoubtedly in common use by fur traders and hunters of that time. The name of René Paul was written in as the agent