

## NEWS DEPARTMENT

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### Gift of Valuable Manuscripts

Edith G. Prosch has presented to the University of Washington Library for preservation in its fireproof vault a collection of rare documents collected by her father, the late Thomas W. Prosch of Seattle. The most valuable item consists of a satchel filled with official letters received by Colonel William H. Wallace. The satchel was carried by Colonel Wallace on his trips from the territories of Washington and Idaho to Washington city as delegate in Congress, and many of the letters relate to official business. It will be remembered that Colonel Wallace came to Washington Territory in 1853 and became an early delegate in Congress. In 1861 he was appointed governor of the territory by President Lincoln, but being elected as territorial delegate he failed to qualify as governor. While still in Washington, D. C., he was appointed on March 10th, 1863, first governor of the newly created Territory of Idaho. This office he accepted, but resigned in the fall of the same year on being elected as Idaho's first delegate in Congress. During these years he had official relations with the leading men in the Pacific Northwest. The letters in this collection bear upon important events of the period covered. In addition to these letters are many other documents covering the period of the fifties and sixties. Noteworthy among these are proposals and other manuscripts relating to the Northern Pacific Railway, papers concerning the Nez Perces Indian Agency, the W. A. Slaughter papers, and receipts and accounts illustrating the business life of old Steilacoom.

### Gift of Missionary Record

William S. Lewis, Corresponding Secretary of the Spokane Historical Society, has copied and compared with the originals an extensive volume of records of the Spokane Mission. The mass is substantially bound in a large volume of 428 pages of typewritten matter. The volume is presented through the Washington Historical Quarterly to the Library of the University of Washington. The contents include the diaries of Rev. Elkanah Walker and Mrs. Mary R. Walker from 1838 to 1852 and a large number of letters. A few of the letters were written by Mr. Walker but most of them are letters from Marcus Whitman and one from Mrs. Whitman.

The Elkanah Walker family and the Cushing Eells family were of that part of the so-called Whitman Mission which settled and