

was done with the University of California. It would scarcely be expected that the book's contents would bear upon the Pacific Northwest, and yet there are important references. These are in relation of the proposed railroads to the Pacific Coast and their influence on a larger Indian Territory. For example, on page 24: "After 1840 the pressure of the westward movement was shifted to the northern part of the larger Indian Territory. This region was intersected by the two great roads to the West, the Oregon Trail and the Santa Fé Trail; and, more important still, it controlled the only possible routes of the proposed central railroad to the Pacific. The rapidly growing states of the West and the Northwest needed an open door to the coast."

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*General Claxton: A Novel.* By C. H. HANFORD. (New York: The Neale Publishing Company. 1917. Pp. 263.)

Former United States District Judge Cornelius H. Hanford has surprised and delighted his many friends by the publication of this book. In the Prologue the author says: "The following narrative runs parallel with the thread of history, without pretense of accuracy as to either dates or details. Readers are expected to make allowance for the degree of license deemed legitimate by romancers in weaving historic events and personages into a fabric of imagination."

Thus is the critic silenced who would like to call attention to the fact that the hero could not have been Captain of Company M in the famous Seventy-ninth Highlanders, since the companies in that regiment exhausted the alphabet down only to the letter K. The author does not pretend to have written history. He has told a story and told it well. In the telling he has drawn some pictures of life in and around Seattle in the very early times. That is a valuable service. To render that service no one is better equipped than Judge Hanford. He was a small boy during the Indian attack on Seattle in 1856, and he has known this part of the country thoroughly from that day to this. His book merits a fine success, and it certainly will be prized by collectors of Northwest Americana.

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*Samuel Jordan Kirkwood.* By DAN ELBERT CLARK. (Iowa City: The State Historical Society of Iowa. 1917. Pp. 464.)

Here is another of the sumptuous, gilt-top volumes in the *Iowa Biographical Series*, edited by Professor Benjamin F. Shambaugh of the University of Iowa. Samuel F. Kirkwood is known as the "War Governor" of Iowa. He was a typical pioneer and Westerner. On page 373 is recorded a visit to the Pacific Coast, when, in a brief