

PACIFIC NORTHWEST AMERICANA

Brouillet versus Blanchet

Attention is here called to the fact that the anonymous booklet entitled *Dix ans sur la cote du Pacifique* (Quebec, 1873) was not written by the Rev. J. B. A. Brouillet to whom it has been frequently ascribed. This error in authorship was made in the compilation of the *Checklist of Pacific Northwest Americana* (item, no. 488) and on investigation it is found that of the three libraries reporting copies, two listed the book under Brouillet while the third gave a title entry only. The copy in the University of Washington Library contains a signed statement by the former owner, a well known student and collector, declaring Brouillet to be the author. The work appears to be similarly known in the book trade. It has been thus listed in *American Book-Prices Current* and so recently as December 1923 it was sold at the Anderson Galleries under the name of Brouillet.

Soon after the appearance of the *Checklist*, Mr. Soliday of Seattle pointed out to the present writer the improbability that this narrative was penned by Brouillet owing to the allusions to that gentleman made in the text. He suggested that internal evidence would indicate that Blanchet and not Brouillet was the "missionaire Canadien" responsible for the book. Definite confirmation of this view has been recently received from Father E. V. O'Hara, an authority on Oregon history, who shows that the author must have been Monsignor Francois Xavier Blanchet. One clear evidence of the author's identity is his statement on page thirty-nine of the text that he became pastor at Jacksonville in Southern Oregon and continued to be pastor in that territory. F. X. Blanchet, the author of *Dix ans*, was a nephew of the Archbishop, Francis Norbet Blanchet.

A New Oregon Bibliography

Miss E. Ruth Rockwood of the Library Association of Portland has practically completed an exhaustive compilation of Oregon State Documents. It has been accepted for publication by the State of Oregon as an official document under the title of *A Checklist of Oregon State Documents*. The list sets forth so far as possible all official and semi-official publications of the state of

Oregon and gives the location within the state of the rare items. Students of the entire Pacific Northwest will await with eagerness the completed publication.

American Book-Prices Current

Librarians and others wishing to keep in touch with prices on Western Americana will find much to interest them in Volume XXIX of the *American Book-Prices Current*. This volume recently issued contains the record of books sold at auction in America during the period from September 1922 to August 1923. Much important material was sold during this period. Although all sales under \$7.50 were eliminated the volume makes a book exceeding nine hundred pages.

An examination of the annual records of this publication justifies the belief that we have been passing through a period unusually rich in its offerings of local American history, travel and overland adventure. It cannot be expected that the supply either as to quantity or variety will much longer obtain. Prices have shown an upward tendency as might be expected when the increasing demand is considered. A considerable number of sales nevertheless show a decline from earlier years. Anyone at all familiar with book values can discover instances of prices absurdly high or ridiculously low but in spite of fluctuating prices the records of the *American Book-Prices Current* furnish the best available means of judging the market values of Americana.

Space will not permit an extended list of the Western items but a few titles are here given because of local interest or noteworthy prices. For sake of economy short titles only are given with reference to the *Checklist of Pacific Northwest Americana* where fuller description can be found:

Davidson, G. <i>Tracks and Landfalls of Bering and Chirikof.</i> (Checklist 905)-----	\$ 14.00
Dodge, G. M. <i>Biographical Sketch of James Bridger.</i> (Checklist 995)-----	45.00
Evans, E. <i>Washington Territory.</i> (Checklist 1178)-----	70.00
Hastings, L. W. <i>Emigrant's Guide.</i> (Checklist 1624)-----	520.00
Howison, N. W. <i>Oregon: Report.</i> (Checklist 1806)-----	27.00
Kip, L. <i>Indian Council.</i> (Checklist 2042)-----	210.00
Mercer, A. S. <i>Washington Territory.</i> (Checklist 2458)-----	200.00
Miller, D. <i>Walla Walla County Directory for 1881.</i> (Checklist 2493)-----	55.00