SCATHING REVIEW AND CRITICISM

EVISCERATION OF DR. W. A. MOWRY'S BOOK ON THE WHITMAN MYTH

he has been more than 20 years investigating the Whitman-Saved-Oregon subject, and that he has read "Everything I could Hist, Asen., 1900, pp. 228-230). lay my hands upon," he says, "This book. is a history. It is not an embellished story like Irving's 'Astoria' or Parkman's regon Trail.' It is written with the single purpose of stating in a clear and concise manner the important facts with men who remained associated with him to which it has to deal. From first to last It has to do with facts."

On page 114 he says: "It should be the ine all sides of a disputed question, to ories, to go, as far as possible, to the from blas or prejudice, to state only that which appears to be thoroughly corrobo rated as truth."

Let us compare his performance with

this statement of his duty. He says (page 1), "At one time ou Government ignored the country" (L e. Dregon) 'as worthless, and was not unwilling to cell it for a mess of pottage. (Page 2.) "Finally the savages were per mitted to butcher in cold blood the man who by bravery and patriotism utterly unprecedented, wrested that entire counmry from the grasp of the Hudson's Bay Company, and made it possible for the States to hold it." (Pages 170-171, writing of the Spring of 1848, and of Webster's and Tyler's ideas of Oregon.) "It was plainly apparent that Lord Ashburton. Sir George Simpson and others with British proclivities had thoroughly indoctrinated cur statesmen with the idea that the Rocky Mountains were impass able to wagons, that Oregon could no be peopled from the States, and therefore its value to this country was small," and that "Webster thought Oregon was use less to our country, on account of the impassable character of the mountains, and that "Tyler entertained precisely the same views" (as Webster) "as to the elessness of Oregon to the United States." (Pages 191-2, speaking of those desiring to migrate to Oregon in 1845). "It is evident from a variety of sources of information that the great drawback to these would-be emigrants was that they could not carry their wagons and familles through the mountains. The great Rocky Mountain range and the Blue Mountains were supposed to be impassable

for wagons." Only Three Important Questions Concerning Whitman.

As to Dr. Whitman, there are but three really important questions, to wit: (A.) What was the origin and the purpose of Whitman's ride from Oregon to the States, begun October 2, 1842?

(B.) What was the condition of the Oregon question at Washington (i. e., the attitude toward it of Tyler's administration), in the Winter of 1842-43 and the Spring of 1843, and what influence, if any, did Whitman exert to change the policy of the National Government toward Ore-

(C.) What was Whitman's real relation to the great overland migration of 1842? Let us examine Dr. Mowry's treatment of the original sources concerning each of these three points.

Original Sources as to "A." As to (A.) the only important original

sources and the only ones that it is cer

tain Dr. Mowry has examined are: First-The correspondence of the Oregon Mission in the archives of the A. B. return to Oregon in September, 1843, before which none of his associates knew that anything had occurred to make them wish their records different from what they had been written.

These letters, many of them long (one covering 74 and another 52 pages of very large paper), number more than 200, and must aggregate considerably more than 400,000 words, and in them all is not one sentence expressing the least interest in or concern about the political destinies of any part of the Oregon Territory, or furnishing the least support, in any other way, to any form of the Saving-Oregon theory of Whitman's ride, and the same is true of all the correspondence of all these missionaries with their friends (so far as it has yet been published) during the whole time the Oregon question was unsettled, except that after Whitman had visited the States and found the whole country affame about the Oregon question he did, in some of his letters after his return express some terest in the subject, and made some very extravagant claims of having been largely instrumental in settling the quesgion by having led out the 1843 migration.

The nearest to an expression of any interest in the political destiny of Oregon prior to Whitman's Ride is the following passage in an undated letter of W. H. Gray (No. 136, Vol. 138, Am. Bd. archives), plainly written after October, 1839, and probably in November or December, 1829: "Dr. McLoughlin said to me that it was his wish that our people should occupy that place, and gave as a reason that then our people would be all together, and have nobody to meddle with us, and in case the boundary line was to be the Columbia River, and the Fort" (l. e., Watla Walla) "was to be removed, he should like to have us there, both on account of the influence we might exert on the Indians and the men of the fort. He did not wish to answer all my questions about the country, because it would imply a claim to the country, which they had none, except what their forts now occupied; he would say that he thought we had just as good a right to occupy any

place as they had." Any proper treatment of Whitman's career requires an honest summary (to the reer requires an honest summary (to the extent of 20 or 25 pages like this of some Situation," of which he devotes three 75,000 to 95,000 words of this correspondence, and, in addition, an accurate quotation of some 8000 to 10,000 words more of it.

Of all this correspondence Dr. Mowry quotes only 510 words, and they-even as he quotes them-furnish no support to his theories about the political purpose of

All but 88 of these 510 words Professor Bourne had previously quoted in the "Legend of Marcus Whitman," as being the strongest possible evidence against the Saving-Oregon theory of Whitman's ride, and they have been considered as being conclusive against the theory of any Saving-Oregon purpose of that ride, and as proving it to have been undertaken solely on the business of his mission, by such historians as Professor John Fiske, Dr. Edward Eggleston, Professor John B. Mc-Master, Professor Allen C. Thomas, Prolessor Harry P. Judson, Professor Edward

In his preface, after informing us that, Professor Edward Channing, Professor F., that any political or patriotic ideas were Newton Thorpe, etc. (Cf. Am. Hist. Review, Jan., 1901, pp. 276-200, and Tr. Am. But, whereas, Professor Bourne quoted

> accurately, Dr. Mowry quotes far other-The only document Whitman took with him to the American Board from the three

the mission was the following: "Resolved, That if arrangements can be made to continue the operations of this sim of the impartial historian to exam- station, that Dr. Marcus Whitman be at liberty, and advised to visit the sift all etstements, to examine all the- United States, as soon as practicable, to confer with the committee of the A. B. C. original sources for his facts, and, free F. M., in regard to the interests of this mission.

"E. WALKER, Moderator, "CUSHING EELLS, Scribe. H. H. SPALDING.

"Waillatpu, Sept. 28, 1842." This Dr. Mowry prints (on pp. 174-5), but omits the last eight words, "In regard to the interests of this mission," being the adverbial phrase which distinctly limited to the business of the mission the purpose for which all of his associates sanctioned his journey.

That this was an intentional omission is evident from the fact that in an article glorifying Whitman, in the Boston Con-gregationalist, November 18, 1897, Dr. Mowry emitted from his quotation of this document all after the word "practica-ble," putting a period there, where the cument had a comma; and when he was criticised for making so deceptive a quotation, he defended it as justifiable saying, "One sentence was all I needed and I used that one," whereas there is but one complex sentence in the whole docu-ment, and the criticism was because he had not "used that one," but had omitted the two adverbial phrases which stated precisely why Whitman was authorized to make his ride.

Further, Dr. Mowry (p. 129) prefaces the 420 words he has quoted from Rev. E. Walker's letter of October 3, 1842, with the statement that "Father Eells." wrote a letter from which the following is quoted," and prints at the end of the

'(Signed.) CUSHING EELLS Yet Dr. Mowry well knows (having mentioned this identical letter as one of Walker's in a letter to the writer of this criticism in 1899) that this letter, which ne thus ascribes to Cushing Eelis, is in dexed in the archives of the American Board as a letter from Rev. Elkanah Walker, and that of the 16 pages of this etter 15, including every one of the 420 words he has quoted from it, are in the nandwriting of Elkanah Walker, and that is signed Elkanah Walker and not Cushing Eelis, and that every word in it which is in C. Eeli's handwriting is the following indorsement of its correctness on its 14th page, which, by mistake, Wai-ker had left blank.

Through mistake this page was omitted. I am happy to say the subjects of this letter have been frequently discussed of late by Mr. Walker and myself. I do not now recollect that there has been any important difference in the conclusions arrived at, and I do most cheerfully add that considering the short time allowed for writing the letter I think it well done and consider the statements very just. "The general plan of the letter was mu-tually agreed upon, and after hearing the whole of it read once and parts of it more than once, I have observed nothing of importance to which I cannot give a

"CUSHING RELLS." Rev. E. Walker's diary (in MS, in possession of the Oregon Historical Society) reads "Monday, October 3, 1842. Com-menced my letter to Mr. Greene. Sucseeded better than I expected. Tues, 4. Continued to write and make slow prog-rone. Wed, 5. Busy at writing, but, feel gon Mission in the archives of the A. B. as though I could not make out a good one. . . Thurs. 6. Still at my letter, return to Oregon in September, 1843, before

ter to Mr. Greene and read it to Mr. Eells who approved it. "the short time allowed for writing the letter" was six days.

Not another word besides these 510 is there in Dr. Mowry's book, written by Rev. C. Eells, Rev. H. H. Spalding, Rev. E. Walker or Mr. W. H. Gray to the secretary of the American Board while the mission continued, nor subsequently down to May 28, 1866 (when Rev. C. Bells first indorsed the Whitman-Saved-Oregon story, in a letter which the Misionary published in December, 1866), except that in his appendix, Dr. Mowry prints two letters from Rev. C. Eells and two from Rev. H. H. Spalding, written in December, 1847, and January, 1848, and relating to nothing but the dreadful massacre of November 27-December 8, 1847, in which Dr. and Mrs. Whitman and 12 others perished and which destroyed the mission and to the rescue of the survivors by th Hudson's Bay Company's efforts; and the though there are in the American Board archives letters written by them to the American Board, between Whitman's return to Oregon, in September, 1843, and May, 1886, amounting to about 250,000

Though thus chary of quoting what C Eells, H. H. Spalding and W. H. Gray wrote prior to the publication of the "Whitman-Saved-Oregon" story, in 1864-5. Dr. Mowry quotes from their letters. "statements" and other publications subuent to September, 1865, to the follow-

Words From Rev. H. H. Spalding From Rev. C. Eelis From Mr. W. H. Gray

.7085 Total But neither he nor any other advocate of the Saving-Oregon theory of Whitman's ride has ever been able to produce one word written by Rev. E. Walker in support of it, though he lived in Oregon till his death in 1877, and knew exactly as much about the origin and purpose of that

ride as any of his associates.

Great as is this amount, it is but a faint index of the extent to which Dr. Mowry used the statements of Spalding, Gray and C. Eelis made subsequent to 1884-5. for practically all of his book that relates to Whitman is a mere condensation of, or a paraphrase of those statements, or of the statements of others whose ideas about the matter are plainly derived from Spalding, Gray and C. Eells, An example of how year reculier are

An example of how very peculiar are Dr. Mowry's ideas as to the proper use of "original sources." is found in his and subsequent years down to 1882, which "recollections" (from 24 to 40 years after "recollections" (from 24 to 40 years after the event) Mr. Eells did not pretend to support by reference to any contemporaneous letters, journals or other written or printed documents, as to the patriotic origin of Whitman's ride, and of the details of the special meeting of the mission held at Whitman's Station Sep-tember 26-27, 1842, which authorized his

But neither in Chapter X, nor elsewhere in the book, does he even allude to the 14-page letter (received by D. Greene, Secretary on May 3, 1843), dated October 2 B42, in Cushing Eells' handwriting and de-signed by him (and indexed by the Amer-ican Board among C. Eells' letters), which has a brief note of endorsement of its correctness in E. Walker's handwriting, and signed by him, which letter contains the official report of that special meeting of September 26-27, 1842, signed by E. Walker, moderator, and Cushing Eells, Scribe, which record, written but six days after the close of the meeting, gives only

mentioned during its whole se Yet knowing well that this record still exists in the archives of the American Board, Dr. Mowry copies without comment (on p. 129 Rev. C. Eelis' statement, made in 1882, that the record of that speial meeting was destroyed at the time of the Whitman massacre.

Dr. Mowry's Treatment of Mrs. Whit-

man's Letters. The second such "original source" as to A, is the correspondence of Mrs. Whitman with her parents, brothers and sisters, after March, 1840, when Gray began to bring the quarrels of the various members of the mission (and especially of the Whitmans and Spalding and himself) to the attention of the American Board, and prior to her husband's return in Septem-

Of this there will be found about 42,000 words in the Trans-Oregon Ploneer Assoclation, 1891 and 1893, and to fairly present the relation of the Hudson's Bay Com-pany to the Spaiding-Whitman mission at east 20,000 mere words of earlier and later dates should be carefully studied and summarized to the extent of fully 1999 words, while fully 1000 words more should be quoted from these 20,000. Of the 42,000 above mentioned fully 2000 should be

Of these 42,000 words Dr. Mowry uotes the following 42 words (page 122) in letter to her husband, dated October 22, 1842: "Indeed, much as I shall and do wan to see you, I prefer that you stay just as ong as it is necessary to accomplish all your heart's desire respecting the interest of this country, so dear to us both, our

This brief extract, he declares, "showed what she understood to be the object of his journey.

But how this shows "what his heart's lesire was" he falls to explain. where informs his readers where they can find this correspondence, and he carefully refrains from even alluding to her two etters to her parents, brothers and siswritten while he was preparing for Journey. (Trans-Oregon Association, 1892, pages 165-167, dated September 29 and 30, 1842, 1. e., the first and second days after he first proposed to go to the States), in the first of which she wrote: The interests of the missionary cause in this country calls him home," and in the second, "He goes upon important business connected with the missionary cause, the cause of Christ in this land," and with not the least intimation that anything else impelled him to the journey. Nor does he allude to hers of March II.

for her to part from her husband, she continued: "It was for Him, for the ad-vancement of His cause, that I could say o my beloved husband: Go, take all the time necessary to accomplish His work, and the Lord go with and bless you." Nor does he allude to hers of April 14, 1842, to her brother (Ibid, page 161), in which she wrote: "A great loss is sustained by his going to the States, I mean a present loss to the station and the In-dians, but hope and expect a greater good will be accomplished by it. There was no other way for us to do. We felt that we not remain as we were more help, and we were so far off that to

1843, to her sister (Ibid, page 155), in which, after saying that it was painful

the present emergency." Dr. Mowry's Treatment of the First and Second Accounts of the Origin and Purpose of Whitman's Ride.

send by letter was too slow a way for

The third such "original source," as to A, is the first and second accounts of the origin and purpose of Whitman's ride, which were ever printed, and which were also the official accounts, and the only accounts ever printed till the Saving-Oregon story appeared in 1884-5. The first was in the Missionary Herald, for Sep-tember, 1843, and with it should be read from the annual report of the American Board for 1842.

It is too long to quote here, but it ex-plicitly declares that his ride was authorized by the special meeting of the Oregon mission held to consider the or-der of the board discontinuing the southern branch of the mission (i. e., three of its four stations), and recalling Spaiding and Gray to the States (which agrees exactly with the account of the origin of his ride given in the correspondence of the mission which Dr. Mowry so sedu-lously suppresses), and it gives no intimation that there was any other than missionary business impelling him to the

The second account is in the Missionary Herald for July, 1848, in the brief sketch of his life prefacing the account of the massacre, and merely says: made a visit to the Atlantic States in the Springsof 1843, being called hither by the susiness of the mission."

To neither of these accounts does Dr. Mowry allude, and the same is true of every other advocate of the Whitman-Saved-Oregon story.

If based only on the correspondence of

the mission, these accounts of course could not rank as "original sources," but they might have been based also Whitman's verbal communications dur-ing his stay in Boston, March 30-April 8, 1843, they are entitled to rank as "original Sources.

Dr. Mowry's Treatment of Whitman's Correspondence After His Return to Oregon.

Whitman's letters after his return to Oregon cannot be considered as ['original sources" as to the origin and purpose of that ride, since his frigid reception by the secretary of the American Board (who told him he was sorry that he had come), and the fact that the next month after he started on that journey the Indians burned his rude grist mill and a large quantity of grain, involving him in so much expense to rebuild that, with expenses of his journey, he was troubled for two years after his return in his zertlements with the American Board, as he states in his letter of April 12, 1846 (which Dr. Mowry refrains from even al-luding to), furnished him a strong temp-tation for magnifying the importance of that ride and its results.

Sixteen of these letters between November 1, 1842, and October, 1847, aggregating about 26,000 to 28,000 words, are in the archives of the American Board.
Although in several of these letters Whitman made very extravagant and wholly unwarranted claims of great serv-ices rendered to the National Government, it is a very significant fact that in none of them, nor in any of his letters to his friends, nor in any of Mrs. Whitman's to her friends, is there any claim that he ever had had any interview with President Tyler, or Secretary Webster, or that he had ever received any promise of any assistance from them, or from any officer of the National Government, or that he had had anything to do with originating or organizing the migration of 1843, and though he claims-what is manifestly incorrect—that the migration of 1843 was a decisive factor in bringing about the treaty of 1846, he nowhere, in his letter of April 1, 1847-four and one-half years after he started on his rideclaims that his ride had any other pur-Dr. Mowry's treatment of this letter il-

lustrates his ideas of going to "original sources wherever practicable." On pages 198-9 he says: "In another letter" (whose date he does not give) "to Mr. Greene is the following: 'It was to E. McLoughlin, Horace E. Scudder, Prin-lipal Wilbur F. Gordy, D. H. Montgomery, its attention, without the least intimation open a practical (practicable) route and safe passage, and secure a favorable re-

caused me to leave my family and brave the tolls and dangers of the journey, notwithstanding the unusual severity of the

Then he mentions the "saving the mis-on from being broken up as 'another' object of his journey."

But instead of going to the "original source" for this extract, Dr. Mowry has copied it verbatim (and without credit) from an article defending the Whitman-Saved-Oregon story (by Rev. Dr. Lyuria. the official historian of the American Board), in the Missionary Herald for September, 1885, page 350. Going to the "original source," to wit,

Winter, and the great depth of snow."

Then he mentle

Whitman's own letter in the archives of the American Board, we find the following, viz.:

"It was to open a practical route and safe passage, and to secure a favorable report of the journey from immigrants, which, in connection with other objects, caused me to leave my family and brave the tolls and dangers of the journey, which carried me on, notwithstanding I was forced out of my direct track, and notwithstanding the unusual severity of the Winter and the great depth of snow. 'In connection with this let me say, the

other great object for which I went was to save the Mission from being broken up just then, which it must have been, as you will see by a reference to the doings of the committee," (i. e., the prudential committee of the American Board), which confirmed the recall of Mr. Spald-ing only two weeks before my arrival in Boston. I often reflect upon the fact that you told me you were sorry I came. . . . It may not be inappropriate to observe that at that moment the Methodist mission, as well as our own, was on the

Three indispensable postulates of Dr. Mowry's claim that Whitman "wrested that entire country" (i. e., the old Oregon Territory) "from the Hudson's Bay Com-pany," are-

As to "B."

First-That as late as March 1813 that 'entire country," i. e., the present states of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, toof Oregon, gether with about 28,000 square miles of Northwestern Montana and about 13,000 square miles of Northwestern Wyoming, in all about 202,000 square miles, was in controversy between the United States and Great Britain.

Yet, knowing perfectly well that in 1824 and again in 1827, England offered us the 49 degrees to the most northeastern branch of the Columbia, and thence along the river to the Pacific, which left really in dispute not "that entire country," but only about 55,000 to 58,000 square miles, or less than one-fifth of "that entire country," being only that part of Washington north and west of the Columbia, and that we both times immediately refused this offer and insisted on 49 degrees to the coast, Dr. Mowry deems it consistent with his duty as an "impartial historian" suppress all mention of these offers of England, and of the fact that in 1825 the Hudson's Bay Company "officially noti-fied" Dr. McLoughlin, their superintendent, in charge of the Oregon region from 1824 to 1845, that "in no event could the British claim extend south of the Columbia, "and also to suppres, all mention of the fact that Lord Ashburton came over in April, 1842, "specifically authorized," as we shall see later, to recew to us the offer made us in the negotiations of 1824 and 1827, and also to suppress all mention of the fact that in 1826, when not only all the region north of Missouri and west of the Mississippi River, but also executing else porth and west of Illinois everything else north and west of Illinois and Michigan was not even organized as a territory, but was an unbroken wilderness, we notified England that "48 degrees was our ultimatum for the north bound ary of Oregon."

Second-That England could by making settlements and establishing trading posts sequent to October 20, 1818 (the date of the first of our treatles of "joint policy" relating to Oregon) strengthen her claim to it while the treaty of 1818 and its re-newal in 1827 remained in force.

But the very terms of those treaties made such strengthening of her claims impossible, a position not only always held by our diplomatists and Presidents who negotiated on the Oregon question, John Q. Adams, Albert Gallatin, Andrew Jackson, Edward Livingston, Martin Van Buren, John Tyler, Daniel Webster, John C. Calhoun, James Buchanan, James K. Polk and George Bancroft, and also many others of our most eminent statesmen, but also tacitly admitted by all the British diplomatists who negotiated on it, no one of whom ever ventured to assert that such settlements and trading posts had made the British claim one whit stronger than it was October 29, 1818, and also explicitly assented to by Lord Aberdeen (head of the British Foreign Office from 1841 to 1846), in two interviews with Edward Everett in November and December, 1843 (Cf. on this, authorities cited in Trans. Am. Hist. Assn. for 1900, p. 223, and Berlin Arbitration, p. 125).

Third-That as late as March, 1843, the Government and the people of the country thought Oregon worthless because the Rocky and Blue Mountains were supposed to be impassable for wagons. To sup-port this Dr. Mowry offers not a sentence from any Congressional debate on Oregon, nor from any report of a Congressional committee on Oregon, nor from any report of any Government explorer of Oregon, nor from any book of travels or magazine article about Oregon printed prior to the invention of the Whitman-Baved-Oregon story, in 1884-5, but quotes his favorite original sources" for Oregon history, to vit, Rev. H. H. Spalding's, Rev. C. Eells' and W. H. Gray's alleged recollections from 1884 to 1882, and the recollections of others whose ideas are plainly mere echoes

of Spalding, C. Eelis and Gray. Prior to March, 1843, the Oregon Territory had been far more extensively and thoroughly explored and reported on (in Government reports, books of travel and magazine articles) by our citizens, both Government exaeditions and private citizens; more often and more thoroughly de-bated in Congress; the subject of more numerous and elaborate reports of Congressional committees; the object of more and more important diplomatic negotia-tions, than any other territorial acquisi-tion we have made on this continent had been up to the date of its full accomplishment; and to Oregon acquisition there was far less opposition—in Congress and out of it-than to that of any other of these acquisitions except Florida.

Oregon had been discussed at 14 sessions of Congress, between 1821 and March 1, In these debates it was repeatedly declared, beginning as early as 1824, that Oregon was easily accessible by wagons over the low passes of the .. ocky Mountains even without any expenditure for

roadmaking.
The official record of these debates covers 300 columns, or about 250,000 words in "Annals of Congress," "Debates in Congress" and "Congressional Globe." Yet Dr. Mowry deems it consistent with his duty as an "impartial historian" not only not to quote one word of all these debates, but not even to mention the above official reports which are the only

'original sources' for these debates. To these 14 sessions there were made 11 reports of committees of the Senate and House Representatives, and besides there were read in the Senate or House the reports of Special Agents J. B. Prevost (1822), Lieutenant W. A. Slocum, of the Navy (sent to Oregon by the State Department by order of President Jackson in 1855 with special instructions to examine and report on everything important for whose report was read in the Senate in 1837, and was often referred to and quoted in later Congressional discussions and in Congressional committee reports, and of Secretary of War Poinsett, in 1840, recommending the establishment of a line of military posts from the Missouri River outh of the Columbia

There was also the report of Captain Bonneville to the Secretary of War in 1835, reporting his success in driving 20 loaded wagons through the South Pass over the Rockles and into the Oregon Territory to Green River in 1832. All these committee reports were unanius, all enthusiastic as to the great

value of Oregon to us, and the validity of our title at least as far north as 49

As early as 1831 the report of the mili-tary committee of the Senate contained the letter of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company, to the Secretary of War, dated October 29, 1830, stating that in the precedng five years with from 80 to 100 men divided into small parties, they had explored the whole region beyond the Ro-les from the Gulf of California to mouth of the Columbia, and had made disoverles and acquired information they emed it important to communicate to the Government. Then, after describing their driving 10 wagons loaded with from 1800 to 2000 pounds each from St. Louis to the east and of the South Pass and eack to St. Louis between April 10 October 10, 1830, they continue, "This is the first time wagons ever went to the Rocky Mountains, and the case with which it was done proves the facility of communicating overland with the Pacific, Great Falls of the Columbia being easier than on this side.

The Great Falls of the Columbia are no only west of the Blue Mountains, but more than 100 miles west of where Whitman aix years later estab, ished his mission; and this report of the military committee of the Senate was often referred to and quoted in later committee reports and it books, newspapers and magazine articles

These 15 reports covered about 600 page

Mowry as an "impartial historian" only names three, and only quotes from Cushing s in 1829—to the of 297 words, and that extent the wholly unimportant point whether or not Oregon was included in the Louisiana purchase, while he omits to even aliude anywhere in his book to Lieuteant Slacum, or to Poinsett's re-port, or to the Rocky Mountain Fur Company's wagons in 1830, and their exten-sive explorations in Oregon before 1830, or to boneville's proving Oregon easily accessible by wagons in 1832, or to the fact that Whitman in 1835 wrote of Bonneville's wagons, and that the route pre-sented little difficulty for wagons; and though quoting freely from Gray's and Spalding's deciarations in 1864-5 to 1882 that the route to Oregon was deemed impracticable for wagens as late as 1843, he mits to quote from Spalding's letter of September 20, 1835 (published in the sionary Herald, October, 1837, and giving an account of the overland journey of the Spalding-Whitman party in 1836) the following: "We drove a wagon to Snake Fort" (L. e., Fort Boise) "and could have driven it through but for the fatigue of We expect to get it at

some future time." Before March 1, 1843, in Presidential messages, or in instructions to diplomate negotiating with England or Russia about Oregon, or in other executive papers, or in correspondence which has been in print for 15 to 50 years past, or in reports of negotiations on Oregon, or in debates in Congress, or in reports of Congressional committees, the following statesmen are on record as holding that Oregon was of great value to the United States, and could be easily occupied by us, while it was practically impossible (as the world then was) for any European power to people it, and that our title was unques-tionable at least as far north as 49 degrees, and that we should insist on not accepting any line south of 49 degrees as the north boundary of Oregon, viz.;

Ten men who have been Presidents-Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, J. Q. Adams Jackson, Van Buren, Tyler, Polk, Pierce and Buchanan; also Calhoun and King, Vice-Presidents (as had been also Jefferson and Van Buren); also Wobster, Clay, Everett, Forsyth, Secretaries of State (as had been also Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, J. Q. Adams, Van Buren, Calhoun, Livingston and Buchanan); Gal-latin, R. Rush, Livingston and Everett, Ministers to England (as were also J. Q. Adams, Van Buren and Buchanan); also Middleton, Cambreling and Inger soll, Ministers to Russia; and Archer, Baylies, Benton, Berrien, Lewis Cass, Choate, Caleb Cushing, John J. Critten-den, Drayton, Floyd, John Reid, of Masachusetts ("the life member"); Reynolds Rives, Sevier, Tappan, J. W. Taylor, of New York; R. J. Walker, Woodbury and many others of lesser note, while not a single authentic sentence has ever been produced from any man of importance that the difficulty of communication with Vice-President, or Minister to England or Russia, or Secretary of State, or even Senator for as much as one full term, which expressed any doubt of our title to all of Oregon south of 49 degrees, or which intimated that we would surren-der anything to Great Britain south of 49 degrees. It is true that Tyler had "a dream of policy never embodied" about selling to England that part of the present State of Washington lying north and west of the Columbia, but that wholly impracticable scheme necessarily plied not surrendering it, but insisting on 49 degrees to the coast as our boundary to the coast, since England certainly would not buy what we did not own.

(Cf. pp. 35-6 infra.)
But no reader of Dr. Mowry's book will find in it any intimation of these indisputable facts about the position of our leading statesmen on the Oregon question.

A detailed criticism of Dr. Mowry's treatment of all the "original sources" as to "B" would require very much more space than is available, and, as no one has ever pretended that Whitman could by any possibility have influenced the Oregon policy of any other administration than that of Tyler, we will conclude this part of the criticism with a brief examination of his treatment of "original sources" as the attitude towards and actions up the Oregon question of President Tyler and Secretary of State D. Webster prior

to March 1, 1843.
On pages 170 and 171 Dr. Mowry asserts that Webster and both thought in the Spring of 1843 that Oregon was uscless to the United States, because "Lord Ashburton, Sir George Simpson and others with British proclivities had thoroughly indoctrinated ou statesmen with the iden that the Rocky Mountains were impassable to wagons, that Oregon could not be peopled from the states, and therefore its value to this country was very small." The reader looks through his book from

title page to finis in vain for a single sentence in support of this shocking impeachment of the patriotism and the knowledge of our statesmen, except what Rev. H. H. Spalding, Rev. C. Eells and W. H. Gray though they remembered (from 23 to 4 years after the event) that Whitman told them after his return from the states. Not a word is there in Dr. Mowry's book which intimates that either Webster or Tyler had ever taken the slightest in terest in the Oregon question or had done towards securing Oregon to the United States, or had any special information about it till Whitman reached

April), 1843.

Let us examine the official records and learn the facts.

First—In both his first and second annual messages, in December, 1841, and December, 1842, President Tyler had strong paragraphs on Oregon, in the first rec-ommending the establishment of a line of military posts from the Missouri to the To neither of these messages

does Dr. Mowry even allude. Second-Elijah White, M. D., had been a Methodist missionary to the Oregon Indians, and stationed nearly 300 miles west of Whitman's mission, from 1838 to 1840, when he was discharged

In January, 1842 (as we know from con-temporaneous written and printed sources). Dr. White appeared in Washington with letters of introduction from Dan-tel Webater's oldest son to President Tyler. Secretary Webster and Secretary of the Navy A. P. Upshur, and, after in-terviews with them, and with Secretary of War John C. Spencer, and Senator Linn and other friends of Oregon, by or-der of the President he was commissioned Indian sub-agent for the region west of the Rockies, and directed to raise as large a company as possible, and proceed with them to Oregon, which he did, starting from near Westport, Mo., May 16, 1842, as

the leader of the first large overland mi- | righted manuscript sent him gration, consisting of 112 persons.

He remained in Oregon some three years, and was the only official ever com-

There is no doubt but what a very large part-if not all-of the honest ad-vocacy of the Whitman-saved-Oregon story has resulted from transferring to made, of the influence on Tyler's Oregon policy of his interviews with President

Tyler and Secretary Webster, just be-fore Ashburton's arrival in Washington. How does Dr. Mowry treat this matter? Though he mentions "White's Travels in Oregon" (published in 1848) in his list of authorities, he does not quote one word from it, and nowhere gives his readers any intimation that Dr. White had ever been a missionary to the Oregon Indians, or was ever in Oregon before the Autumn of 1842, or that he ever was in Washing Secretary Webster, or that he held any official position in Ocegon, but only says of him (page 185): "Dr. White, with a considerable party of settlers, arrived near Whitman's station early in Septem-Third-When, in August, 1828, Lieuten-

ant Charles Wilkes set sail with six ships and nearly 600 men, in command of the greatest exploring expedition our Governent has ever sent out. Van Buren's Administration gave him positive instruc-tions to spend six months in exploring 'our territory on the northwest coast of America," and the Columbia " and the or America, River, and the coast of Califor-nia as far south as San Francis-co Bay. April 28, 1841, 24 days after Hardson's death brought Tyler to the Presidency. Wilken with part of his squadron, sighted the mouth of the Columbia, and with "a sloop of war, a brig of war, two launches, 10 boats, and upwards of 300 men," he was busily engaged till Oc-tober 10, 1841, in a far more extensive and thorough exploration of Oregon by land and water than any other single expedition has ever made, even to this day. He surveyed and charted Puget's Sount, and the navigable waters of the Columbia, mission stations of the Methodists

He sent a party from Puget Sound (activated to the Columbia, and back to the Sound by a different route, through the center of the region north and went of the Columbia (being all that was really in sion, which, he conceived, was calculated dispute), of the real value of which (according to Spalding's letter of April 7, 1846, edited by Whitman and published in Palmer's Journal in 1847), the missionaries of the American Board knew absolutely othing until a party sent from the settlements in the Willamette Valley ex-plored it in the Autumn of 1845, i. e., three years after Whitman started to the states. Columbia River as the boundary line. cars after Whitman started to the states,

"special report" covering 44 pages fools-cap urging the immense value of the Puin Oregon a man could make a living and acquire wealth with only one-third the portion of the world beyond the tropics the subject of Benton's can be found that will yield so readily with said: "I desired chiefly moderate labor, to the wants of man." These statements, with enough more to make 14 pages, the House of Representatives took, and on January 4, 1843, when Whitman was near Bent's Fort, added it to the 64 pages of the report of the mili- dary line south of the parallel 49 tary committee of the House on Oregon, grees is totally unfounded. He would be (of which 5000 copies had been printed in glad to hear me say, that I am authormay, 1842), and ordered another edition of ized and desired to declare, that in no 5000 copies printed

the Rocky Mountains, Wilkes wrote: "Finally the two southern routes, which

credit) a page from a copy- to the Coast) with Lord Ashburton, he

the writer of this criticism, which page word from Wilkes' re port, but merely states my inferences missioned by our Government to reside in (written on first reading the manuscript Oregon, till after the territory was organ- of this special report in 1887, at the Navy of this special report in 1887, at the Navy ized in 1848. Being a very "shifty" and Department), as to why the Administra-selfish politician, White became exceed-tion would not allow the whole report to ingly unpopular and consequently his be printed in 1843; but though the immetion would not allow the whole report to be printed in 1843; but though the immework for Oregon has received very scant | diate context of this page of my inferences in the manuscript sent him con inined copious quotations from this special report of Wilkes, and from his other un-published dispatches, Dr. Mowry not only nowhere copies one word of that context Dr. Whitman the claims which Dr. White but he nowhere quotes one word from made, of the influence on Tyler's Oregon any of Wilkes' reports, nor prints one word which will give his readers any information as to the cause of, the time of, or the extent and value of Wilkes' explorations of Oregon, or of the time when he filed this special report, nor of the fact that for nine months before Whitman could by any possibility have reached Washington, Tyler's Administration could on any day have had interviews with Wilkes and the other officers of his ex-pedition, who knew a vast deal more about all of Oregon that was really in dispute than all the missionaries-Metho-dist and American Board put togetherold then or for many years after.

In April, 1842, Lord Ashburton arrived in Washington, and (after various informal conferences) on June 13, 1842 (the very day Wilkes filed his special report on Oregon in the Navy Department), began the formal negotiations August 9, with the signing of the Webster-Ashburton treaty.

As it was generally understood that he was to treat on all points in dispute, there was much disappointment that Oregon was not included in the treaty, but though Benton on this account assailed it most bitterly in the Senate, he could only rally nine votes against it to 39 for it. In December, 1842, Benton returned to the subject and asserted that Webster had proposed to accept of the line of the Columbia instead of standing firmly for 49 degrees to the Pacific. To this partisan cusation Webster could not in reply in the Senate chamber, but, fortunately for the vindication of the truth of history, his lifelong friend, Rufus Choate, had succeeded him in the Senate, and twice, on January 18 and February 3, 1843, while Whitman (of whose existence 1843, while even there is no evidence that either Ty and of the American Board, and all the posts of the Hudson's Bay Company south of 49 degrees, except Hall and Boise (which hundreds of Americans had build and all the settlements in Ore-Close 27th Congress, third session, pp. Close 27th Congress, to do great injustice to a distinguished man, Mr. Webster, who could not there defend himself. He alluded to the fears expressed by the Senator from Missouri, that . . . the rumor must be correct which had got abroad, that a proposition He also sent a party overland from the Columbia up the Willamette and down the Sacramento to San Francisco.

Now he was giad to have it in his power to undeceive the Senator, and to assure him, which he did from authority, for he He dropped anchor at New York June 0. 1842, and three days later filed in self to do it for him, that he never either the Navy Department a most enthusiastic made or entertained a proposition to adcial report" covering 44 pages fools-urging the immense value of the Pu-of latitude as a negotiable boundary line Sound region, and declaring that for the territory of the United States." On February 3 Mr. Choate made an-

other speech (which was printed verbatim abor required in the states, and that "no in ibid, App. pp. 222-229), and returning to Benton's accusations Senator and the Senate, that the apprehension intimated by him that a closure of these informal communicati would disgrace the American Secretary, communication-formal or informal-was In a part of this special report which such an offer made, and that none such was not printed, in discussing passes over was ever meditated."

Precisely why Oregon was not included in the Ashburton treaty could not be are preferable, susceptible of being used stated with due regard to the diplomatic proprieties, either by Choate, in 1843, or Webster in his great speech in defenge pense. . . It is readily to be perceived of the Ashburton treaty in 1846, nor by that the difficulty of communication with Everett, his life-long friend, in his brief the territory is far less for us than for biography of Webster, in which all he the British."

How does Dr. Mowry treat this matter?

On pages 190-91 he has appropriated (with-seffected on this basis (i. e., 49 degrees

MISS BLANCH ST. ELMORE

DETROIT. MICH.

Supreme Organize-Ladies of Honor.



DETROIT, MICH., Feb. 13, 1902.

For seven years I did not know what it was to be well. At that time I slipped and fell, straining myself inwardly. I paid little attention to it at first, but soon I found that I had habitual backache and a peculiar sick feeling at my stomach. The right side of my bowels ached and if I was on my feet a couple of hours at a time I would give out completely. I began coughing and thought I was getting consumption but the doctor told me this was on account of my weak condition, that I was in reality troubled with falling of the womb. My menstruation was very irregular. Sometimes it would stop for two or three months and again I flowed so much there was danger I would flow to death. I now became convinced that the doctors could not help me and as I saw an advertisement of your Wine of Cardui I decided to try it. It brought me quick relief, the nausea stopped, my appetite improved, gradually my pains stopped and I felt how my entire system was being renewed. I have now been a well and happy woman for over a year, thanks to Wine of Cardui.

to be discharged naturally and health- nence-this leader amor

T is little wonder Miss St. Elmore | ligaments. Her physician's treatwas discouraged in the search for ment failed to accomplish anything health. There is hardly a physi-cian who would hesitate to call such a case chronic and incurable. But has had a year of health and happi-Wine of Cardui has cured thousands ness—the cure was quick and per-of such cases. To cure sickness of manent. This great remedy, Wine seven years' standing the treatment of Cardui, is for you as well as for must be thorough. Wine of Cardui, her. It is for you to decide whether to regulate the menstrual flow, be-gins at the fundamental principle—better advice than this clear, simple that of allowing the poisonous waste letter, written by this lady of promito be discharged naturally and health-fully. This removes all irritation interested in the welfare of her sex? and inflammation. Wine of Cardui Many women envy her position in brings relief as a mild aid to Nature the fraternal world. No woman can in removing the causes of sickness. fail to want her health. You may have it by taking Wine of Cardui lieves the blood of impurities and as she did. Ask your druggist for Ask your druggist for allows pure blood to build up and a dollar bottle of Wine of Cardui strengthen the afflicted organs and and accept nothing else.

WINE of CARDUI