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This event brings to my mind recollections of childhood. In the early days of Oregon Country was a distant and mysterious region, reputed rich in natural resources, said to have a climate of paradise, and was a land teeming with stirring stories of adventure that thrilled the hearts of the average citizen. My father, who had been living for years in the Willamette Valley. Ever after I recall I used to read to him as he told stories of the country and its sturdy inhabitants. I recall his telling of an old miner who lived on a farm in the valley. His name or particular place of residence I never knew, but his character seemed to me to stand for pioneer endurance. Our friend would tell of this old miner and the arduous labor he endured for his flock and herds of horses, and he got up long before daylight, and stamped around in the mud and rain week in and week out, and his only consolation was the prospect of a good day's work for his Christian followers. To a small boy who knew something of doing things, this was a most interesting and seemed the very acme of self-sacrifice and field devotion to duty. I used to admire the old preacher, who would not count alone his minister to his flock and herds, but he got up long before daylight, and stamped around in the mud and rain week in and week out, and his only consolation was the prospect of a good day's work for his Christian followers.

With these memories before me, I came to you tonight as the Chief Executive of a state having a population of more than 600,000, and I feel that I meet you for the first time under these circumstances, and I feel that I will be strengthened by a closer acquaintance.

The experience of the past two weeks has confirmed in my mind the impression that I long ago entertained, that when James K. Polk won the Presidency on a "city-fourty" or "right" platform, and then marked down and alienated the Southern states and an English Ministry to drag him into an acceptance of the forty-third parallel as a settlement of the Oregon question, he not only lost a rich territory rightfully ours, but that statesmanship in the conduct of foreign affairs was never so grossly betrayed in the present day than during the Polk period. I can assure you that I more keenly prize than ever the territory which we have, because I am now denied the privilege of appointing hundreds of notaries public and of bestowing the honors of citizenship on the people now yielding allegiance to King Edward in the provinces north of the Columbia have been a part of our national domain.

Rivalry Causes Progress.

All we realize that, so far as competition along purely commercial lines and among the large commercial establishments in general, there is no rivalry between the states, but it is a healthy rivalry, and makes for constant improvement and advancement. It keeps a community abreast of the times. On higher and broader lines, however, there is a definite rivalry, and it is this rivalry in Washington in the upbuilding of the whole Pacific Northwest. In concrete form this rivalry is manifested in the competition for making through legislative bodies and commercial organizations to bring about the improvement of our present and the development of the interior can have an unimpeded waterway to the sea. In the protection of the fisheries and the fishing grounds of our coast, and in the development of the interior can have an unimpeded waterway to the sea. In the protection of the fisheries and the fishing grounds of our coast, and in the development of the interior can have an unimpeded waterway to the sea. In the protection of the fisheries and the fishing grounds of our coast, and in the development of the interior can have an unimpeded waterway to the sea.

Strong Reasons for Friendship.

From a more sentimental viewpoint there are other reasons for strengthening the bond of friendship between us. Politically Washington is the offspring of Oregon, once a part of Oregon territory, and the Oregon region known for so long as the Oregon Country, and no artificial barrier should keep the people of the two states from feeling the same natural resources, magnificent and varied, and capable of supporting a population far greater than we have, while in climate and physical conditions we are practically the same. It should be our purpose, irrespective of state boundaries, to bring the resources and the advantages that we possess in common to the attention of dwellers in less favored regions, that they may make the most of the help us to develop the natural wealth contained in our valleys and our mountains, our waters and our forests.

Scattered Blessings with a Wasteful Hand.

And scattered blessings with a wasteful hand. Oregon's interest in irrigation is a subject of great importance to the people of this state. The water resources of Oregon are abundant, but they are scattered and often wasted. The state has a long coastline with many rivers and streams, but only a few are navigable. The water is often lost to evaporation or runs to sea. It is the duty of the state to develop these resources and make them available to the people. This can be done by building dams and canals, and by improving the irrigation system. The state has a great future in agriculture, and irrigation is the key to its success. It is the duty of the state to provide for the needs of its people, and to develop its resources for the benefit of all.

come" to those who are seeking homes from the overpopulated centers of the East, and I say to them: "If you believe in good government and good citizenship, if you are wedded to the principles of American institutions; if you love our history and cherish our liberties; if you are willing to toil and labor with an industrious people, welcome are you to our valleys and our plains, our cities and our villages." To this class of citizens, and to none others, do we extend this greeting, and we wish that it were extended to all.

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