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Portland, Sunday, April 2, 1905. Mr. Meeker's "Reminiscences." We have received a copy of Mr. Ezra Meeker's book, bearing the title "Pioneer Reminiscences of Puget Sound."

Mr. Meeker, crossing the bridge, arrived at Portland October 1, 1852. Next Spring he went with his brother Oliver to Puget Sound by the Cowitz trail.

A spirit of romance seems to preside over the story, yet it is not romance, either. It is an account from the author's point of view, of the tragedy of the settlement of the Puget Sound country.

The wrong, as he states it, consisted in the Governor's endeavor to deprive the Indians of the lands necessary for their support, and in assignment to them of areas of rocky timber lands.

There is much to support this point of view, and Mr. Meeker maintains the contention with great force and with evident sincerity, throwing upon Governor Stevens the responsibility of the catastrophe.

It is Mr. Meeker's view that Governor Stevens pursued, in dealing with the Indians, an arbitrary course, un-

tempered by sense of justice. Such was not the opinion of the great majority of the white settlers. They stood by Governor Stevens throughout. One sees, of course, at this distance of time, that the injustice in the presence of the whites upon the Indians, but it is in this way that the continent has been opened to civilized life.

From this point of view, the criticism of Governor Stevens by Mr. Meeker seems too severe. But Mr. Meeker is highly conscientious, and faithful to his ideal.

The story, in Mr. Meeker's hands, is a drama of intense interest. It is history, too, not fiction; though it comes through his narrative almost in the nature of a romance.

One problem of the big city. No writer has yet determined at what point in the growth of a big city the "hooligan" or "hoodlum" or "larrikin" evil shows its head.

There will come—in fact there is now here—another race of miners, promoters and town-builders, such as the first.

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officer is at work to enforce drainage and cleanliness, where public baths abound, where gardens and parks are found, where open spaces for games and sports are provided and guarded, there war is being waged by "hooliganism."

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stanzas of "Snowdrift," perhaps the most tender as "Beautiful Willamette" is the most sublime of his poems.

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fense and defense, wherein ancient armors and shields repose side by side with clubs, slings, javelins and bows and arrows.

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NOTE AND COMMENT. Is there a "microbe with horns" running up and down your spine? If so, look out for the prevailing disease, cerebro-meningitis, or something to that effect.

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WHAT IS TRUE RELIGION. Not Shouting and Screaming, but Right Living. Religion can only be good if reasonable. That is, if it squares with the average, respectable, well-meaning man's common sense.

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