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Did Dr. Whitman Save Oregon?

ARTICLE FOUR.

We have followed Mrs. Victor's attempt to falsify historical facts, and to destroy the credit due to a Christian patriot for the unselfish effort he made to prevent Oregon from becoming a British territory, by representing in person its real value to the American people through its representatives in congress then assembled. We have shown by competent witnesses that he went to the national capital, that he used his influence on his way and on his return to induce as large an immigration of settlers to come to Oregon as possible, to counteract the influence of a foreign power then in actual possession of the country, and claiming the most numerous settlement of its subjects, which being now admitted by statements of both nations then contesting for possession, was the legitimate title for permanent possession, and was by the safe arrival of that immigration, and its opening a wagon road to the Columbia river, the principle means of giving up of the one nation and the holding on of the other; as it demonstrated the existence of a practicable route to the country in dispute, for ox-teams and wagons to reach it with families, and with troops for defense. At this point in the defense of historical facts relative to Dr. Whitman's objects in going to Washington in 1842, we will return to what Mrs. Victor claims to have received from Hon. Jesse Applegate. She says:

A year or two ago he sent me a copy of "Grays History with marginal notes." On page 285 he writes: "I saw Dr. Whitman, not sure he was in the country, until he overtook me on the Platte." Admit that Dr. Whitman did not see a single man till he reached Washington; does that prove that he did not go there, or that he had no influence in getting a large immigration to come to Oregon; or that he was not with them before Mr. Applegate saw him and was assisting the "good angel" all the time, still Mr. Applegate did not see him! Does it prove that Dr. Whitman did not do all that Mr. Spalding said he did, as being told to him by Dr. Whitman, or does it prove that Dr. Applegate himself did not tell Dr. Whitman what Mr. Spalding wrote to the Pacific, as published November 9, before 1870?

W. H. Gray is not responsible for the forgetfulness or ignorance of Mr. Applegate about Dr. Whitman being one of that large emigrating company before they reached the Platte, for it is known that he was with them, and quietly aiding and counseling them, and giving them confidence in their great and glorious undertaking to aid in securing to our American people so rich and valuable a country as Oregon is to-day.

Mrs. Victor adds: Also this: From the time he overtook the emigration until he left it at Fort Hall, Dr. Whitman remained in camp at headquarters. Everything concerning Oregon and its future was talked over between us. I understood his visit to the states was to obtain help from his board to counteract Catholic influence—the political part being incidental.

First, Dr. Whitman did not leave the immigration at Fort Hall, as shown by Hobson, Baker, and ex-senator Nesmith in his annual address in 1880. He accompanied them as pilot till he reached the Grand Ronde and there he procured the best Indian that Mr. Nesmith, as he said, ever saw, for their guide; besides marking the way for them, as Mr. Baker says.

As to Mr. Applegate's understanding of Dr. Whitman's object in visiting the mission board in Boston, it has nothing to do with the question at issue—except to confuse; and did Mrs. Victor in lumbering this question to deceive as to her real object under the spurious pretense of telling the truth.

That he was the prime mover in getting up the emigration of 1843, is not true. It would have been very kind in Mrs. Victor if she would have given us a hint who was the author, or from what paper, book or history, she gets the idea that Dr. Whitman was the prime mover in getting up the emigration of 1843, or did she put it in to say it "is not true," or did she mean to understand that is Mr. Applegate's assertion, as he do not find him in the same place on the 6th page of his Cow Column article: "That to no other individual are the immigration of 1843 so much indebted for the successful conclusion of their journey, as to Dr. Marcus Whitman."

Mrs. Victor continues with Mr. Applegate and says: On page 291, Mr. Gray says: He asked not, nor expected a dollar as a reward, from any source; he felt himself abundantly rewarded when he saw the desire of his heart accomplished, the great wagon route over the mountains established, and Oregon in a fair way to be occupied with American settlements, etc.

On which Mr. Applegate remarks: All this is true of Dr. Whitman; but his coadjutors Walker and Ellis, were at his station, and obliged him to ask every emigrant for pay for pilotage. I paid forty-five dollars.

In this last charge of Mr. Applegate against Walker and Ellis, Mr. Ellis is still living and competent to speak for himself. Under date of April 22d 1881, Mr. Ellis says:

I was not at Wallatou when the immigration of 1843 passed that place, consequently the statement that he obliged Dr. Whitman to ask every emigrant for pay for pilotage is false. I have no evidence that Mr. Walker performed such a act.

As to Mr. Walker, who is now dead, no one who knew him while alive will believe that any statement of the kind is true, and from the acquaintance I have had with Mr. Applegate I do not believe he ever made it, or paid one cent for pilotage. I believe that he made Dr. Whitman a present of forty-five dollars for the Doctors services in attending his wife while on the march, as he describes her case, and at this point we will copy what he says in connection with the inci-

dents of A Day with the Cow Column, page 63, transactions of the fourth annual reunion of the Oregon Pioneer association for 1876, Mr. Applegate says: "But a little incident breaks the monotony of the march. An emigrants wife, whose state of health has caused Dr. Whitman to travel near the wagon for the day, is now taken with violent illness. The doctor has had the wagon driven out of the line, a tent pitched and a fire kindled. Many conjectures are hazarded in regard to this mysterious proceeding, and as to why this wagon is to be left behind.

"And we, too, must leave it, hasten to the front and note the proceedings, for the sun is now getting low in the west, and at length the painstaking pilot is standing ready to conduct the train in the circle which he has previously measured and marked out, which is to form the inviolable fortification for the night. The leading wagon follows him so nearly round the circle that but a wagon length separates them. Each wagon follows in its track, the rear closes on the front, until its tongue and ox-chains will perfectly reach from one to the other, and so accurate the measure, and so perfect the practice that the hindmost wagon of the train always precisely closes the gateway as each wagon is brought into position. It is dropped from its team (the teams being inside the circle), the teams unyoked, and the yokes and chains used to connect the wagon strongly with that in its front. Within ten minutes from the time the leading wagon halted the barricade is formed, the teams unyoked and driven out to pasture. Every one is busy preparing fire of buffalo chips to cook the evening meal, pitching tents and otherwise preparing for the night. There are anxious watchers for the absent wagon, for there are many matrons who may be afflicted like its inmate before the journey is over; and they fear the strange and startling practice of this Oregon doctor will be dangerous. But as the sun goes down the absent wagon rolls into camp; the bright, speaking face and cheery look of the doctor, who rides in advance, declares without words that all is well, and both mother and child are comfortable.

"I would fain now and here pay a passing tribute to that noble and devoted man, Dr. Whitman. I will intrude no other name upon the reader, nor would I have been he of our party or even living, but his stay with us was permanent, and he has long since died at his post.

"From the time he joined us on the Platte until he left us at Fort Hall his great experience and indomitable energy were of priceless value to the emigrating column. His constant advice, which we knew was based upon a knowledge of the road before us, was, 'travel, travel, travel; nothing else will take you to the end of your journey; nothing is wiser than that does not help you along, nothing is good for you that causes a moment's delay. His great authority as a physician and complete success in the case above referred to, saved us many prolonged and perhaps ruinous delays from similar causes, and it is no disparagement to others to say that to no other individual are the immigration of 1843 so much indebted for the successful conclusion of their journey as to Dr. Marcus Whitman.

"The encampment is a good one; one of the causes that threatened much future delay, has just been removed by the skill and energy of that good angel of the emigrants, Dr. Whitman, and it has lifted a load from the hearts of the elders. Many of these are assembled around the good Doctor at the tent of the pilot, (which is his home for the time being), and are giving grave attention to his wise and energetic councils. The careworn pilot sits aloof quietly smoking his pipe, for he knows the brave Doctor is strengthening his hands. Even the father and the pilot have finished and separated for the night."

We ask, can anyone write the above eulogium on Dr. Whitman and furnish material or statements to blot his character? As I have before intimated, the statements claimed by Mrs. Victor to have been made by Mr. Applegate are a forgery; or from a man whose noble memory has been lost. Mrs. Victor in speaking of Dr. Whitman dealing with immigrants after pretending to quote Mr. Applegate's paying forty-five dollars for pilotage says:

No wonder he felt himself abundantly rewarded for piloting a company over a march, from his own experience, and that he, from his own experience, knows the fallacy there is in such a statement, that Dr. Whitman, under any circumstances, would take the least advantage of an emigrant, no

reasonable person will believe for a moment, and it would be folly to attempt to explain to Mrs. Victor or give to her the facts. This fact has been strongly impressed upon my mind from the moment I read her production, and I have not reviewed it expecting to convince her nor those in whose interests she hunts up and publishes slanders and misstatements. But silence with such an array of quotations from parties having but little or no knowledge of the facts that Mrs. Victor quotes would be construed as proof of the correctness of her influences and conclusions. Hence we cannot in justice to the dead and the living, and the truth of history, avoid the duty of exposing such palpable misstatements as are found in misrepresentations such as the following: Dr. McLaughlin, against whom Mr. Gray constantly insinuates evil.

If the reader will examine my history, on the 20th page, in answer to the charge made against Dr. McLaughlin's treatment of the Red river settlements such as the following: Dr. McLaughlin, against whom Mr. Gray constantly insinuates evil.

"This statement, while it affirms an important fact, gives a false impression as regards Dr. McLaughlin. He, to my certain knowledge, extended to the Red river settlers every facility within his power." Three hundred and eighteenth page—"We believe Dr. John McLaughlin to have been one of the best and noblest of men."

If Mrs. Victor had read my history more carefully, she might have displayed better judgment in her insinuations. This must suffice for this article; in my next will close this discussion, till Mrs. Victor or some one else will make an attack on the truth of history. Respectfully, etc., etc., W. H. GRAY.

The True Status.

St. Louis Globe.

It is all nonsense to speak, as many newspapers do, of the Globe-Democrats position on the Conkling-Robertson question as the result of "an effort to keep the Grant movement alive for 1884." The Grant movement is dead and buried, beyond either the hope or the desire for resurrection. If there ever was any intention to put Grant forward again, its fulfillment was rendered impossible by Grants own conduct in withdrawing from the great body of the people, among whom his strength lay, and seeking fellowship and favors among the wealthy few of New York. As a citizen of Illinois, spending the long summer evening of his life at his old home, Grant was a possible candidate; as a pensioner upon the bounty of a few millionaires, the suggestion of his candidacy would be a suggestion of luncacy on the part of him who made it. We are for Mr. Conkling in the fight which the President has unwisely forced upon him, because we are unwilling to see a great and brave man causelessly and needlessly assailed by men of his own party.

Development.

Gen. Grant.

Our experience in the United States been that wherever we can find inlets that can by the expenditure of money be made to admit large vessels, it is to our advantage and to the advantage of the whole country to enlarge their capacity so as to admit vessels, and instead of being rivals and in competition with well-established and old ports, it only seems to increase the business of the old ones. The United States now expends millions of dollars annually in improvements of harbors and in making additional harbors. She is at this time expending large sums in the creation of four new harbors in Texas, in addition to the expenditures for the improvements in process at Galveston, the only harbor in the state now admitting vessels of considerable draught.

The New School Books.

Messrs. Chas. Stevens & Son have a full supply of text books lately adopted in the public schools by or before October 1st, 1881.

The following books are offered at introductory rates, but not on exchange: Montiel's Elementary Geography, Montiel's Comprehensive Geography, Sills Grammar, and Sills & Co.'s Brooks Primary, Elementary, Written and Higher Arithmetics. The following will be sold at introductory rates, but not on exchange: Watson's Child's Speller, Watson's Youth Speller, Montiel's Easy Lessons in Popular Science, Lyles Book Keeping, Westlake's Common School Literature. City Book Store, Astoria, Oregon.

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Chinquin Bitters.

The Count Clinchon was the Spanish Viceroy in Peru in 1620. The Countess, his wife, was prostrated by an intermitting fever, from which she was freed by the use of the native remedy, the Peruvian bark, or, as it was called in the language of the country, "Quinquina." Grateful for her recovery, on her return to Europe in 1622, she introduced the remedy in Spain, where it was known under various names, until Linnaeus called it Cinchona, in honor of the lady who had brought them that which was more precious than the gold of the Incas. To this day, after a lapse of two hundred and fifty years, science has given us nothing to take its place. It effectually cures a morbid appetite for stimulants, by restoring the natural tone of the stomach. It attacks excessive fever of liquor as it does a fever, and destroys both alike. The powerful tonic virtues of the Cinchona is preserved in the Peruvian Bitters, which are as effective against malarial fever to-day as they were in the days of the old Spanish viceroys. They guarantee the ingredients of these bitters to be absolutely pure, and of the best known quality. A trial will satisfy you that this is the best bitter in the world. "The proof of the pudding is in the eating," and we will gladly abide this test. For sale by druggists, grocers and liquor dealers. Order it.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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C. W. FULTON.

ATTORNEY AT LAW, ASTORIA OREGON. Office over Page & Allen's store, Cass street

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