

Ilwaco's promontory, and the bar
 Where shipwrecks lie beneath the gliding keels ;
 And there it shines on like an ocean star,
 While the loud breaking surf forever makes
 A low monotonous thunder from afar ;
 And "eight bells" rings from all the harbour decks,
 And in the softened twilight come and go
 The wide-winged sea-gulls with their bended necks,
 Creening and fluttering while the tide is low.
 ASTORIA, Oregon, 1891.

Current Topics and Events.

THE WESLEY CENTENARY.

The widespread attention which has been given to the centenary of the death of John Wesley cannot fail to be an inspiration to renewed Christian consecration and zeal. We are not one of those who believe that the former days were better than these ; but no one can read without a moral inspiration and uplift, the story of the heroic devotion, the lofty faith in God, the endurance of trials and persecutions of the early Methodists, without feeling that it was indeed an heroic age. It will do our young people especially incalculable good to read, in the light of to-day, the stirring traditions and stories of early Methodism. The extraordinary degree of attention which has been paid to this great movement, not only by every Methodist journal, but almost by every secular journal in the English speaking world, is a tribute to the pervading influence of the movement called Methodism. Not only thoughtful and philosophical historians like Lecky, Greene, Macaulay, Leslie Stephens, but the busy and crowded secular press pays its tribute to the memory of a great and good man, and to the work which, under God, he was permitted to accomplish.

"The centenary in England," says the *S. S. Chronicle*, "has been a great success. The whole arrangement of the services was conceived in a catholic spirit, the promoters of the celebration having recognized

unreservedly that all the Churches have their 'part' in John Wesley. They will have their reward. The fraternal spirit between the Wesleyans and the other denominations of Nonconformists will be warmer, while the desire for reunion on the part of the severed Methodist societies will be immensely strengthened. The Protestant feeling of the country will henceforth look mainly to the Wesleyans to maintain the conflict against aggressive sacerdotalism in the country parishes of the land. The characteristic Methodist doctrine of the witness of the Spirit is one of the surest weapons with which to defeat the pretensions of the sacerdotal theory. Men need no priest to assure them of their part in Christ ; they have a better witness."

HON. S. H. BLAKE, Q.C., ON JOHN
 WESLEY.

We have received the accompanying note from the Hon. S. H. Blake, Q.C.: "My Dear Dr. Withrow,—I should have written to you earlier in answer to your request for a contribution to your symposium on John Wesley, saying that it was impossible for me to comply. I felt that it would be wrong, on such an occasion, and touching such a person as John Wesley, to send you any words that were not well weighed and worthy of the great centennial that you are celebrating. Much has been said, and truly, upon the splendid character of the man, and the grand life of