

12
were replaced by others. On the Pacific coast they were taken on the first steamship to pass through the Golden Gate to San Francisco. From there on an old brig the Valladora they started for the Columbia river. Storms caused them first almost to reach the Hawaiian islands. After about forty days on a ship while leaking kept from sinking by male passengers and men of the ship, they passed into the Columbia river. Here, on the edge of a forest close to the bank of the river, with bricks for a chimney, carried around the Horn a house was built. In an unlocked closet in the sitting room funds received from customs were for some time kept. The building was standing until about the beginning of 1921 when some people suggested that it ought not longer to be allowed to stand. In the sitting room of that substantially made house of timbers and boards hand made the writer as a small boy, on a wooden stool was placed by John Adair to recite verses as to Demosthenes and Cicero and as to tall oaks; and at breakfast later was asked to stand eggs on end which, after trying he did by adopting the method that afterwards he was told had been made use of by Columbus to show to others that it could be done. One of the earliest after the house had been finished to call on the first collector of customs of the Pacific coast had been an Indian chief coming with his Klootchman and retinue from across the river. On being presented with a cigar and smoking it while his retinue through an open door and window looked on; his constitution being not in the best condition to appreciate even a good cigar that had been brought around the Horn, the chief fainted. However, he was strong enough quickly to recover and say to his retinue that, both he and his cigar, were all right.

Now a Scotchman of a race that has done so many things for various places in many parts of the world will have imagination sufficient to know that there are men whose presence constitutes worth to cities and states beyond all material wealth. The presence of such men in communities is the best kind of "luck" that can come to them. Such men coming to, or from the outside helping them are assets of such a kind as can cause cities and states to become great.

NOTE. On Dec. 8th 1922 by the press it was announced that a number of blocks in Astoria, ^{Oregon} that for years have had wooden piles under them had been, by fire wiped out.

In connection with the loss of money from fire by the owners of structures was the hope that many, if not all, who would otherwise be losers would have arranged with insurance companies quickly to have returned to them the equivalent in money to what, in the fire, they had lost; by those servants selected by them, the insurance companies that constitute in countries in which inalienable rights leaves to men, and not to commissioners appointed, paid out of taxes to instead, act for them, the freedom, to arrange the terms with insurance companies as their servants, that have shown themselves to have been one of the greatest protections in countries, through their dependable conduct, of such civilization as has been in them.