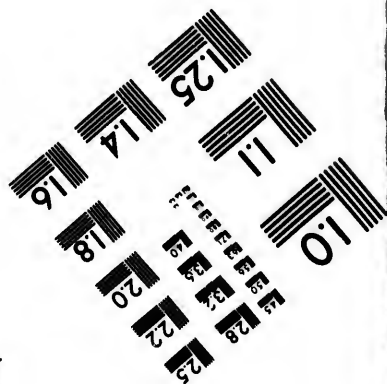
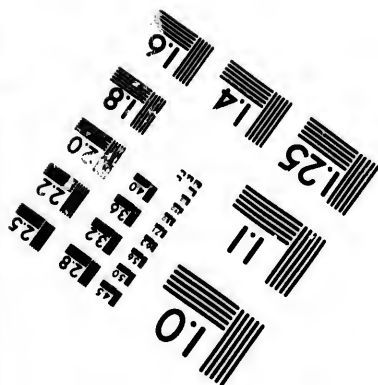
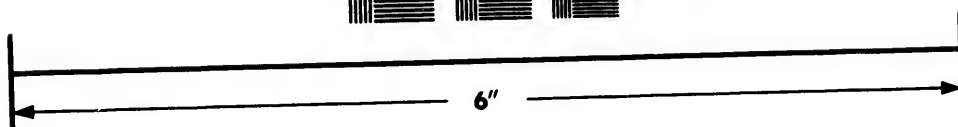
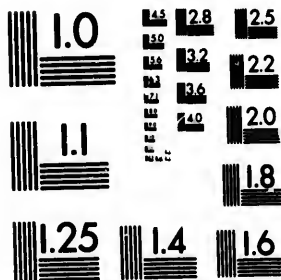


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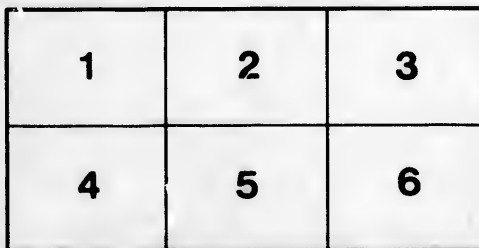
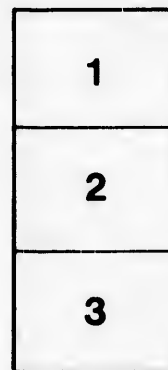
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OPEN LETTERS.

The Vancouver Centenary, and the Discoverers of Pacific America.

FOR some time preceding this last year of Chicago, the search-lights of history have been turned upon Columbus, his immediate successors, and the valiant Norse predecessor. Following upon these studies of Atlantic America, the local pride of Pacific America now demands the honors due the discoverers of the western shores of the New World. The hazardous voyage of Sir Francis Drake, resulting in the narrative "The World Encompassed," and of those other early round-the-world navigators who ventured into and across the great South Sea, are being celebrated at the present California Midwinter International Exposition, which is for the praise and glory of the whole Pacific coast. It was only a half-century after Columbus that galleons came to the Golden Gate, and now, side by side with models of these crafts, California's people show the counterfeit of the magnificent battle-ship just launched from the ways within that Western sea-gate—match-pieces for the caravels and the battle-ship at Chicago.

It is no longer questioned that some Chinese Leif Ericsson touched upon the Pacific coast centuries before Sir Francis rode in the shadow of Tamalpais, and Buddhist priests reached New Spain before Cabrillo, Vizcaino, and Ferrello brought their galleons from the south, and the piratical ones concealed their booty on the Farallones.

Professor George C. Davidson, the veteran scientist of the Pacific coast, whose surveys of thirty years cover all of that ocean's edge from Mexico to Bering Sea, has fully identified all the anchorages of these earliest visitors, and elaborated the proofs that Sir Francis Drake anchored in the little bay north of the Golden Gate, and not in the harbor of San Francisco, as so long supposed.

Even after the great navigator, Captain James Cook, came into the Pacific, the vast, mysterious South Sea was a realm of fable. Lilliput, Brobdingnag, and the lost Atlantis were washed by its waters; Del Fonte's river, the archipelago of San Lazaria, De Fuca's Strait, or those of Anian, tempted two centuries of discovery before the mystery was dispelled. In his second voyage Cook proved that the imaginary southern or Antarctic continent of that day did not exist. In his third and last voyage he supplemented the work of Bering, proving how closely the continental shores of Asia and America approached, and sailed up to the edge of the ice-pack in the Arctic. The recent publication of Captain Cook's own journal of his last voyage is most opportune at this season of sudden interest in all things concerning Pacific America, and it is to be hoped that a reprint of Vancouver's now rare "Voyages" will soon bring the work of that great surveyor within every student's reach.

George Vancouver, who entered the British navy at the age of thirteen, was a midshipman with Cook on the voyages toward the south pole and the north pole. In 1790 he was given the orders the execution of which fills the volumes entitled, "A Voyage of Discovery to the North Pacific Ocean and Round the World, In Which the Coast of Northwest America has been Carefully Examined and Accurately Surveyed; Undertaken by

His Majesty's Command, Principally with a View to Ascertain the Existence of any Navigable Communication between the North Pacific and North Atlantic Oceans; and Performed in the years 1790, 1791, 1792, 1793, 1794, and 1795. In the *Discovery* sloop of war, and armed tender *Chatham*, under the Command of Captain George Vancouver."

This long voyage, during which three summer seasons were spent in surveying the Northwest Coast and three winter seasons were devoted to the Sandwich Islands, was more fruitful of results than any other expedition of its kind—the greatest and most accurate piece of surveying recorded; their completeness causing Vancouver's charts to remain standards of authority for almost a hundred years.

Vancouver's commission ordered him to proceed by way of the Cape of Good Hope and the Sandwich Islands to the Northwest Coast, and to take over the fort at Nootka, which Spain had been forced to cede to Great Britain by the Convention at Madrid in 1790. He was then to survey that coast from latitude 30° N. to Cook's Great River, examining all considerable inlets and mouths of rivers for the supposed passage through to the Atlantic—as the reported voyages of Berkely, Meares, Kendrick, and Quimper in behind Nootka had revived a belief in the existence of Juan de Fuca's Strait.

Vancouver was not a discoverer, and was not entitled to any such first honors mistakenly accorded him. He only verified the reports of others, sailing by their notes and rough sketches; but his narrative and charts being the first published, and remaining for so long the sole authority, he has rather usurped the laurels of his predecessors. He sighted Cape Mendocino in April, 1792, and, cruising within a league of land, rounded Cook's Cape Flattery, entered De Fuca's noble strait, and proceeded to explore "the promised expansive Mediterranean Ocean, which by various accounts is said to have existence in these regions." There he found landscapes "almost as enchantingly beautiful as the most elegantly finished pleasure-groves in Europe," and that "the country exhibited everything that bounteous nature could be expected to draw into one point of view." But while he "could not believe that any uncultivated country had ever been discovered exhibiting so rich a picture," he sowed seeds of discord by his ill-considered nomenclature. As a boy, he saw Captain Cook scrupulously recording the native names of every place, and making every effort to obtain them, but it does not appear that Vancouver ever made an effort to learn one local name. Had he but pointed a finger in dumb inquiry, we might enjoy some better name for Puget Sound and the matchless mountain that guards its eastern wall, and the Rainier-Tacoma controversy would not have arisen to embroil two cities, and to force that technically just, but poetically unjust, decision from the Board of Geographic Names as to the name of the superb peak at the head of Puget Sound.

By a strange fatality Vancouver missed the opportunity to impose commonplace names upon the great rivers of the coast. Although anchoring in the discolored waters off their mouths, he failed to discover the

direct it by the county prosecuting attorney, within ten days after the application is filed. In case of refusal by the prosecuting officers, the applicant can bring his own action in the name of the State, but at his own expense. All actions are given preference on the docket of any court in the State. In case of conviction, the judgment shall be rendered ousting and excluding the defendant from office, and in favor of the State or plaintiff, as the case may be, subject to the provisions for the next succeeding election. In case the applicant or plaintiff is in turn found guilty, he also is to be ousted, and the office is to be filled by appointment or by a new election.

Under the California law any elector may contest the right of any person declared elected to an office, within from twenty to forty days after election, according to the office involved, and it is made the duty of the district attorney of the county to begin forthwith, if there is reasonable ground for so doing, proceedings in court against the accused. If the district attorney fails or refuses faithfully to perform his duty, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction must forfeit his office. Any citizen may employ an attorney to assist the district attorney in this work. Every candidate convicted of violating the law must forfeit his office, and cannot be appointed to it during the period for which he was elected.

The Kansas law is less specific and less stringent in its provisions than the two we have been considering, but is a fairly good law. It requires sworn publication by both candidates and committees, forbids treating and bribery and undue influence of all kinds, and makes forfeiture of office the penalty for all candidates found guilty of violating its provisions. A correspondent of *THE CENTURY*, writing about its first trial in the elections of April, 1893, says:

The value of the law has been demonstrated by the municipal elections in April. There was less money spent in every city, the elections were more orderly, and there was much less corruption than formerly. The mayor-elect of the capital city, Topeka, with over 10,000 voters, filed his verified statement showing the total expenditure in his behalf to have been less than \$50, which was certainly very small, considering the determined opposition to his election, though it was about the average of the election expenses in other cities of Kansas.

The practical working of the California and Missouri laws will be watched with great interest. Their success will depend largely upon the amount of public sentiment in favor of their rigid enforcement, for upon that hangs the fate of all similar laws everywhere. We believe that there is a steady growth in this sentiment, the evidence of which is to be found in the increasing stringency of the successive laws which are enacted. Each new one is a gain on its predecessors, and each commands a wider and more interested audience.

The Only Literary Success Worth Having.

THE relation between editors and authors was discussed in the last number of *THE CENTURY*—especially the relation between the editor and the unknown author.

The general subject has so many ramifications that one is tempted to recur to the main theme, and to follow out the branches thereof again from the editorial point of view. The point of view of the author has made itself evident in literature more conspicuously than that

of the editor; perhaps because the authors greatly outnumber the editors, and also because the experience of the author is always more individual and interesting than that of the editor. The former is a person, the latter is a functionary. The author has a career which may be both picturesque and pathetic. The editor is a bureau; or if, to a certain extent, a person with a history, this history is very largely lost in the history of an "institution." If the institution happens to be a "successful" one, this again detracts from the interest in the editor as an individual. The actual or supposed alliance of the editor with the publisher makes him, in the view of the author, rather an agent, or representative, and not altogether an independent force. And so it is that the editor does not often present his side of the various literary problems in which he is involved with the frankness and fullness that frequently characterize the story of the author. Perhaps this is fortunate, because, as the editor to some extent commands the situation, it is evident that if he should avail himself of all his opportunities to put forth his own professional opinions, he would soon become an unmitigated bore.

But, to proceed, we were a good deal interested lately in hearing an editor—who, however, was, we fear, something of an old fogey—draw a comparison between the method of procedure on the part of authors in the earlier days of American literature and our own time. He said he thought there was a great deal of talent afloat nowadays, but it lacked concentration; it was too subject to distraction. He said he had seen any number of bright and strong beginnings end in slight accomplishment through lack of continuity of purpose, and of a high artistic ideal. How many of our writers, he asked, proceed as did the earlier men, with deliberation, and with the success that follows intensity of purpose, from one work of art to another? Leaving out the question of the greater cost of living,—which may indeed be balanced by the greater pecuniary rewards,—it sometimes seems that the ease of reaching the public nowadays, by one channel or another, renders less important in the mind of the author the appearance each time made by him before that public.

See how it was with the older writers: study the careers of Irving and Hawthorne, Bryant and Longfellow, and see how they did their "prettiest" each time; and see how this deliberate progress on their part rapidly or gradually impressed the public with a sense of their art. If it is true that many of our better writers do not build up their work with the artistic conscience of the elder men; that they yield to the distracting environment—to the clamorous editorial environment, itself, perhaps—if this is true, how natural that younger writers should be too easily satisfied with insufficient achievement, and fail to keep before their eyes a true standard, resting satisfied with a success achieved merely by some salient quality, not, perhaps, the most artistic or lasting.

When one sees certain of our writers proceeding with patience in a serene and contemplative spirit, in pursuance of a lofty ideal, one does not wish to be committed to sweeping assertions, which would lead to unjust applications. But surely it is safe to say that there never was a time in the history of American literature when it has seemed more needful to insist upon art, and always art, as a requisite to the only "success" worth having.

Columbia, the Fraser, and the Stikine, and even scouted the possible existence of the first two when Gray and the Spaniards reported them.

He first visited the Spanish settlement of "St. Francisco" in California in November, 1792, when the Presidio was garrisoned by thirty-five soldiers, and sheep and cattle grazed on all the hills. The commodore's adobe house, where Vancouver visited the sergeant temporarily in command, is still standing. Vancouver also visited the Franciscan and Santa Clara missions, and about twenty-five miles below San Francisco, he entered a country he "little expected to find in these regions. For about twenty miles it could only be compared to a park which had originally been closely planted with the true old English oak."

The accounts of Vancouver's California visits of 1793 and 1794 are most interesting, and his search of all the fords of the great north coast, all "terminating as usual" in some cul-de-sac, is a romance of exploration. At last it was proved that no passage through the mountains existed, and by the surveyor's last camp-fire on Alaska islands they remembered "with no small portion of facetious mirth" that they had set sail to find the mysterious Northwest Passage on the first of April.

Vancouver's "Voyages" is still the best handbook for all that marvelous scenic coast. Yet of this great surveyor neither a full biography nor a portrait is obtainable, and copies of his works are seldom found save in the largest libraries.

Eliza Ruhamah Seidmore.

American Artists Series.

M. BOLTON JONES. (See page 771.)

IN no class of pictorial representation is there so much variety and individuality among American artists as in that of landscape, and no class of picture is more popular, for happily we have outgrown the old prejudice which relegated landscape to a place inferior to that of figure-painting. To say nothing of our In-

ness, who is in the world's first rank, we have in Davis, Martin, Tryon, and others, delightfully individual and successful landscape-painters.

The picture "Spring," engraved on page 771, is the work of one of the most conscientious and sensitive of the landscapists. Mr. Bolton Jones knows nature and loves her well, and he is so well skilled in the use of his materials as to be able deftly to transfix many of her moods. In other words, he is a well-trained painter.

Mr. H. Bolton Jones was born in Baltimore in 1848. Eighteen years later he exhibited in the National Academy of Design in New York. In 1876 he went to France. He did not go through any regular academical course there, but painted from nature in Pont-Aven and other parts of Brittany, and spent one year in like manner in Algiers. During his residence in France he profited much by contact with artists older than he, among these Wylie, Pelouse, and Defaux. In 1881 Mr. Jones was admitted an Associate of the National Academy of Design, and two years later he was made a full member. He shortly after became its vice-president, a position which he held for several years. He received medals at the Paris and Chicago exhibitions.

W. Lewis Fraser.

"Garfield and Conkling"—A Correction.

IN the January CENTURY, ex-Senator Dawes, describing the "Garfield and Conkling" controversy, said that the feeling was intensified "by the appointment to the cabinet of a Secretary of the Treasury from New York, not only without consultation with the Senator, but against his earnest recommendation of another." Mr. Dawes writes to explain that "strict accuracy would have required me to say 'by the offer of an appointment,'" etc., the offer having been made to Judge Folger before the appointment of William Windom. Judge Folger subsequently accepted the Treasury portfolio from President Arthur. THE EDITOR.

IN LIGHTER VEIN.

Minerva in Boston.

MY Minerva flouts the Graces, and forgets how fair
Her face is,

But the higher criticism she entirely comprehends;
So she dresses very plainly, after some reform un-

gainly,
And looks on Briggs and Spencer as her intimates
and friends.

She 's indifferent to ices and confectioners' devices,
But on esoteric Buddhism she loves to ponder
well;

And though she never glances at the popular romances,
She indulges on occasion in a "study" or "pastel."

She 's superior to flirtation; she contributes to "The
Nation,"

And she 'd be a rank agnostic if she did n't know
so much;

She declines in social duty to display her modest
beauty,

But she 's put a poem of Browning into genuine low
Dutch.

She is musically clever, and the "tune" taboos forever,
For to "Vagner" she is faithful, and to Brahms she
gives her heart;
Then at art's high altar kneeling she will talk "tech-
nic" and "feeling,"
And if I say, "It 's pretty," will reply, "But is it art?"

Dare I ever hope to hold her in the arms that would
infold her?

Or, with Plato for my pattern, must I tell my love
in Greek?

Let me curb this crude young passion, and, since
courting 's out of fashion,

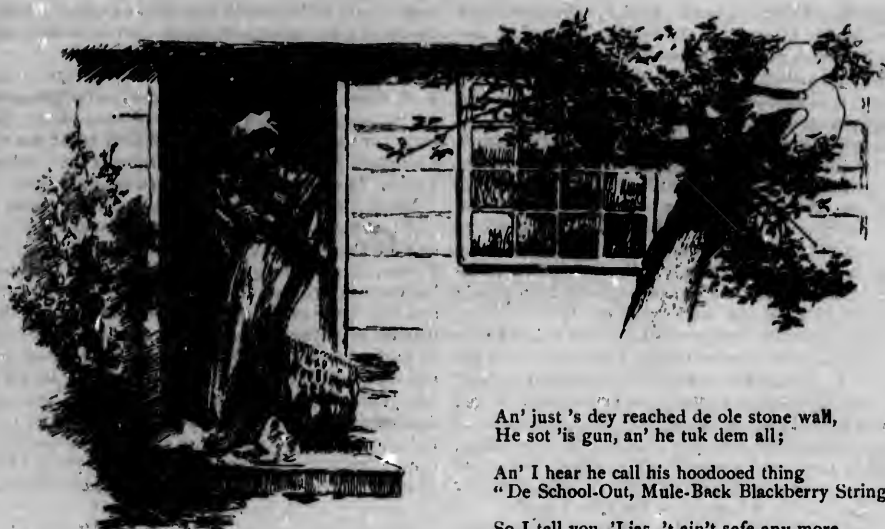
Woo Minerva with a problem, and of Eros shyly
speak.

Mos' persistently I 'm cramming, but I weary of my
shamming,

And am not intoxicated with Castalia's bitter cup;
I might win the maid's affections through a course in
conic sections,

But I wonder if, once married, I could keep the
blamed thing up.

Edward A. Church.



LYNETTE '93

The Kodak Fiend.

Oh, doan' go out, 'Lias, doan' go out,
For de kodak fiend he 's all about;

You know yo' features mighty plain,
An' he haunt de street an' de meader-lane,

He sets in de kyar w'en de kyar goes by,
An' de railroad one, he 's mighty sly;

He doan' care w'eder you clean or not,
An' he 'll take yo' rags right on de spot.

Ef he do it now wid yo' 'lasses face,
I tell you, 'Lias, you 'll be 'n disgrace.

No, doan' go out, 'Lias, doan' go out,
For de kodak fiend he 's all about;

He come down hyar de oder day,
An' he tuk dis shanty w'en I 's away;

An' he drove in front de goats an' geese,
An' de ole lame sheep, wid his thick black fleece;

De hats in de window an' rags he got,
Wid his hoodoo gun, f'om de meader-lot.

Oh, de kodak fiend, he 's sly an' mean,
An' you can't go out near his machine,

Or he 'll take you down wid yo' kinked-up hair,
An' yo' dirty clothes, and yo' feet all bare.

He 's got de meader, de bridge an' stream,
An' de boss's mule an' d' ole ox-team;

An' I doan' now reckon a single spot
Dat he has n't look' for, an' has n't got.

W'en yo' Uncle Mose' rode on de mule,
An' brought de chil'en home f'om school,—

Wid six 'pon de small mule's holler back,—
De kodak fiend went 'long his track,

An' just 's dey reached de ole stone wall,
He sot 'is gun, an' he tuk dem all;

An' I hear he call his hoodooed thing
"De School-Out, Mule-Back Blackberry String."

So I tell you, 'Lias, 't ain't safe any more
For 'spect'ble folks to go out-door;

'Nless dey go in de edge of night,
W'en de sun an' de gun is out o' sight.

Joel Benton.

Biggest of All.

"PUT away lying:" this the preacher's text,
When a fair Sunday crowded every pew.
He preached so close that "What is coming next?"
Kept both bare heads and bonnets all askew.

Lies of all kinds he deftly classified,
Giving the forms and colors of each class.
Where was the hearer, then, that had not lied;
Who could not somewhere find his looking-glass?

Lies of good nature, pity, courtesy,
Revenge and malice, slander, envy, fear;
The lies of business and of policy,
And lies political, told once a year.

But, at the sermon's close, the preacher leant
Over the pulpit with close-folded arms
And such a gracious smile, as if it meant
To balm the conscience pricked with truth's alarms.

"But I do fondly trust, my people dear,
These subtle sins are found not at your door!"
This said; a butt of slander whispered clear,
"That lie beats everything that went before!"

Charlotte Fiske Bates.

Her Smile.

THE odor is the rose;
The smile's the woman.
Delights the bad doth sheathe,
Unfolded, all may breathe.
So joys that none could know
Her smiles on all bestow,
As tho' gh a rose were happy to be human!

R. U. J.



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