

# ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON.

REV. H. H. GOWEN'S LECTURE ON THE GREAT NOVELIST.

Man Whose Genius Has Enrolled His Name Among the Immortals—Leader of the Younger School of Fiction—Analysis of His Works.

Rev. Herbert Henry Gowen, F. R. G. S., rector of Trinity parish church, delivered last night in the Chamber of Commerce lecture in his winter series on the great novelist, his theme for the evening being Robert Louis Stevenson.

In this, as in his other lectures, Mr. Gowen showed himself a thorough master of his subject and his incisive and intellectual analysis of the great novelist's writings was supplemented and infused by a sympathetic and artistic appreciation which contributed much to the enjoyment of the audience and to the literary value of the lecture.

The large hall in the Chamber of Commerce building was well filled, the audience seeming to have realized fully the treat in store for the evening. Every seat was taken, and a number of people remained standing throughout the lecture. The listeners were aided by a clear syllabus which Mr. Gowen had placed conspicuously on a blackboard, on which the novelist's works were grouped in logical arrangement.

After an introductory reference to the subject of hero-worship, the lecturer said that the critics and public opinion had decided to enroll Robert Louis Stevenson among the immortals. The estimate placed upon him as a writer shortly after his death appeared to some as extravagant, but it had been confirmed by reflection, and now the younger school of novelists regard Stevenson as their leader, through whom the most unworthy is a little more worthy and the meanest a little less mean.

Stevenson, after all his wanderings, remained at heart a Scotchman, Scotch in that strain of the unconscious of his thought, in his wandering habits, and his sincere filial affection.

The lecturer described Stevenson's grief at not being able to gratify his father by following the profession of an engineer, his struggle as an engineering pupil under Prof. Fleming Jenkin, his brief acquaintance with the law courts, and then went on to describe Stevenson's career as an author. The attempts and failures of the writer till he was 21 were recounted and commented on; then the romantic origin of "Treasure Island" was given. Then books of travel, such as "An Inland Voyage," "The Emigrant," "The Wrecker," and the essay which place Stevenson side by side with Montaigne as a prince of essayists.

The speaker then took up the group of works which placed Stevenson in the front rank of realists. There is some taint of morbid feeling in some of them, but such works as the "New Arabian Nights," "The Merry Men," and "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" won universal recognition for their extraordinary cleverness and exquisite art.

In a similar way the books which followed were rapidly characterized, particularly "The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," "The Wrecker," and "David Balfour." The latter, remarkable as containing Stevenson's first successful impersonation of female character, the Pacific ocean stories were taken in a group by themselves, some account being given of the lecturer's knowledge of the genesis of "The Wrecker." Next followed a brief description of the two last novels incomplete at the author's death.

The lecturer went on to deal with Stevenson as a writer of plays, as a writer of fables, and as the poet of childhood. In a field where Eugene Field alone was a rival. Several very appropriate fables and poems were quoted. The last part of the lecture described Stevenson as a man, his life in Samoa, where his heart went down into nothings whence no wildness might extract nor any diver fish it up; his domestic life, his dealings with the natives, teaching, his amusements and worshipping with them; his literary methods and his political action, which all but led to his deportation by the Germans, but which caused the natives to hulk for him "The Road to the South." The pathetic circumstances of his death and the romantic burial on the Pala mountain were depicted, and the lecturer wound up with a eulogy of Stevenson as a Helong optimist, and a student of the gospel of cheerfulness under difficult circumstances, as one who consistently believed in the ultimate decency of heaven and labored to teach the same to others. He has written in one of his early essays: "By all means begin your folio, even if your doctor gives you only a year to live; even if he hesitates about a month, see what you can accomplish in a week. A spirit never dies, and the man who means execution which outlives the most untimely end." So at his death the clouds were "blown away" and he found his grave as he desired—

"Under the wide and starry sky,  
Dig the grave and let me lie,  
Glad have I lived and glad to die,  
And I lay me down with thee."

"This he the line you crave for me—  
Here he lies, where he longed to be;  
Home is the soldier, here he lies,  
And the hunter home from the hill."

**A New Publication.**  
A new publication, published monthly by the Commercial Printing Company of Tacoma, with Leonard Fowler as editor and general manager, is "The State." The first number, for the current month, is a creditable production, and contains many things hidden away under a neat and attractive cover. Besides editorial comment and miscellany, it includes short poems by Herbert Washford and Richard Raye Jones, Paul W. Robinson, and "Prosperity's Ominous" Rev. Alfred W. Martin on "Agnosticism and Science" and S. M. Bruce on "Corporations Justified." Bertha Piper Veran contributes a short story and John W. Robinson a sketch "to be continued." Rollan McFarlane Porter presents something of a riddle in fiction in the shape of "Two Letters." The financial department is in charge of P. C. Kauffman, cashier of the Fidelity Trust Company's bank. Miss Jessie Bramel writes the book notes, and Miss May Fuller the society paragraphs. Outlining its own policy, the State says: "We have selected a wide field. Not one city nor one section shall claim our invidious attention. Every city in the state will be praised for its good, and while making no pretensions as to good-

ness for ourselves, we shall unhesitatingly condemn the evil. We do not sanction the hatred, all too common, and the petty warfare indulged in by various cities of the state of Washington. That Puget sound has upon her shores two cities of considerable size within thirty miles of one another should be a matter of congratulation rather than of childish hatred; of puerile contumacious and disdain. And we shall consider it one of our noblest affairs to visit upon this little feeling our most earnest disapproval. The resources of Whatcom county and the fisheries of Bellingham bay will be disregarded no more than will be the golden grain clothed hillsides of that rich and fertile region of which Spokane is queen. And when we

cannot evade the tariff.

Transportation of Goods From One United States Port to Another, Via British Ports, Balked by Secretary Spalding.

The attempt to evade the United States customs regulations in their imposition of a duty at Alaska ports on Canadian goods by purchasing outfits in Seattle, shipping them to British Columbia ports in an American bottom and there transferring to a British bottom for their destination, has been effectually balked by the United States government officials. As announced in a special dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer from Washington, published yesterday morning, Acting Secretary Spalding has decided that the transportation of freight in such a manner is in violation of our exporting laws and subjects the merchandise to seizure. Section 4347 of the Revised Statutes, as amended February 15, 1893, under which this ruling is made, is as follows:

"No merchandise shall be transported under penalty of forfeiture thereof, from one port of the United States to another port of the United States, in a vessel belonging wholly or in part to a subject of any foreign power; and the transportation of merchandise in any such vessel, or vessel, from one port of the United States to another port of the United States via any foreign port shall be deemed a violation of the foregoing provision."

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This matter was first brought to the attention of the treasury department January 14, and since then the British steamers Danube and Tees have been able to get away with freight which, under the late decision, would be subject to seizure at Dyea and Skagway.

A section not quoted by Secretary Spalding as bearing upon the matter, but under which it would seem that his decision could be upheld, is as follows:

Section 3068, Revised Statutes—"No merchandise exported to Mexico or the North American provinces shall be voluntarily landed or brought into the United States; and any so landed or brought into the United States shall be forfeited; and the same proceeding shall be had for its condemnation, and the distribution of the proceeds of the sales, as in other cases of forfeitures of merchandise illegally imported. Every person concerned in the voluntary landing or bringing such merchandise into the United States, shall be liable to a penalty of \$500."

This action has never been enforced and that was probably the reason why it is ignored by Secretary Spalding. That it exactly fits the present case is apparent. The shipment of goods to Victoria, Vancouver or Nanaimo would be an export. The transportation there and subsequent landing at Dyea or Skagway would be a re-landing in the sense of section 3068 and would not only subject the goods to seizure, but persons concerned to a penalty of \$500.

have reason to speak of Seattle we hope we shall be proud as becomes a Washingtonian of the ability, the energy and the sterling qualities of the vigorous men and women who dwell by the shores of Elliott bay. And we shall be no less proud of Tacoma than Seattle and Spokane. We shall have kind words to say of the prominent men and women of this city who seem to mirror the rosy flush of the early dawn; at whose wharves the vessels of the world make fast. We have called this journal The State because we expect to represent the whole commonwealth of Washington."

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Mill owners are looking for permanence in their line, as during the last summer they have been making efforts to get control of timber enough to last for some years, and in all cases heard from the mills will be able to run from three to ten years on the supply now contracted for.

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# NOVEL WRITERS DISSEMINATE

TO GAIN FLESH, TO SLEEP WELL, TO KNOW WHAT APPETITE AND GOOD DIGESTION MEAN, MAKE A TEST OF STUART'S DYSPEPSIA TABLETS.

Interesting Experience of an Indianapolis Gentleman.

No trouble is more common or more misunderstood than nervous dyspepsia. People having it think that their nerves are to blame, and are surprised that they are not cured by nerve medicine and spring remedies; the real seat of the mischief is lost sight of; the stomach is the organ to be looked after.

Nervous dyspepsia often do not have any pain whatever in the stomach, nor perhaps any of the usual symptoms of stomach weakness. Nervous dyspepsia shows itself not in the stomach so much as in nearly every other organ; in some cases the heart palpitates and is irregular; in others the bowels are affected; in others the bowels are constipated, with headaches; still others are troubled with loss of flesh and appetite, with accumulation of gas, sour risings and heartburn.

Mr. A. W. Sharper, of No. 61 Prospect St., Indianapolis, Ind., writes as follows: "A motive of pure gratification prompts me to write these few lines regarding the new and valuable medicine, Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets. I have been a sufferer from nervous dyspepsia for the last four years, and have used various patent medicines and other remedies without any favorable result. They sometimes gave temporary relief until the effects of the medicine wore off. I attributed this to the fact that I was using a bookkeeper with little physical exercise, but I am glad to state that the tablets have overcome all these obstacles, for I have gained in flesh, sleep better and am better in every way. This above is written not for notoriety, but is based on actual fact." Respectfully yours,

A. W. Sharper,  
61 Prospect St., Indianapolis, Ind.

It is safe to say that Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets will cure any stomach trouble, disease except cancer of stomach. They cure sour stomach, gas, loss of flesh and appetite, sleeplessness, palpitation, heartburn, constipation and headache. Send for a free trial bottle on stomach diseases by addressing Stuart Co., Marshall, Mich. All druggists sell full sized packages at 50 cents.

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Direct to DAWSON.

Delivery guaranteed by first boat, about July 25. Storage at Seattle and Dawson FREE. Insurance free. Any amount of freight. Only established freight line. For rates, etc., call

SEATTLE-YUKON TRANSPORTATION CO. 90-92 Columbia St., Near Depot.

tion as diligently as he should, and has been absent from his office at different times for several days consecutively, allowing letters and telegrams of importance to remain unattended to. This culminated today in his dismissal, it being said by the mayor that for four days past he has not been near his office.

Jacob A. Jacobson is the mayor's choice as the successor to Hoffman, and was named early this afternoon. Jacobson is said to be well posted in shipping affairs, and will assume his new duties at once.

**ONIONS GETTING SCARCE.**

Demand of the Evaporating Plants Cleans Up the Stock.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer, TACOMA, Jan. 23.—Onions are so scarce that a famine in these vegetables is predicted by local dealers. It develops that the demand in Alaska has created the shortage, and dealers are in nowise anxious to sell onions in large lots at any figure—in fact, there are but few in the market. The evaporating process of curing vegetables has, it is said, proven such a success that the onion product of this state and Oregon has been largely purchased by factories, leaving the supply for ordinary general demands very small. Factories throughout the state have disposed of their cured goods as fast as they turned them out, and now on all sides onions are wanted.

The evaporating establishments are now not able to keep up with orders, and a Sound firm announces that it recently cabled to Germany for a supply of evaporated onions, which are to reach here next month.

**MRS. GEAR'S CASE.**  
Believes She is Persecuted by the State School Superintendent.  
Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer, TACOMA, Jan. 23.—School Mistress Mrs. Elizabeth C. Gear, who has been made the defendant in a suit brought by State School Superintendent Browne in an effort toward revoking her state certificate, has little to say regarding the matter. She, however, makes no secret of her feeling that she is being persecuted by the state and that neither she nor any one interested in the warrants were made parties to the suit the outcome of which was declaring certain warrants invalid.

**Checking Up the Cash.**  
Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer, TACOMA, Jan. 23.—The board of county commissioners were busy today checking the accounts of the treasurer and auditor for January 1. The money of the county was all drawn from banks and placed in the vaults to permit the commissioners to count it. The total receipts for the last quarter amounted to \$287,295, leaving a cash balance on hand in the sum of \$135,296.21.

**Baker Files His Bond.**

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer, TACOMA, Jan. 23.—Frank R. Baker, clerk of the municipal court, filed his official bond in the sum of \$1,000 today. A trust company guarantees the surety.

**Mr. Balkwill May be Persuaded to Withdraw His Resignation.**

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer, TACOMA, Jan. 23.—The Republican city executive committee took a peculiar and surprising tack at its meeting today in the matter of the resignation of Chairman S. R. Balkwill. Instead of accepting his resignation and selecting a successor to fill the unexpired portion of the term, the committee declined to act upon it at all.

**ONE HOPEFUL POPULIST.**

Believes Middle-of-the-Roaders Are Not in the Majority.

Special Dispatch to the Post-Intelligencer, TACOMA, Jan. 23.—E. C. Nordyke, of Stevens county, a member of the state Populist committee, who made one of the closing talks here last evening, predicts a meeting held here last evening, predicts fusion in the state at the next campaign beyond all question of doubt.

Mr. Nordyke is visiting the Sound in the interest of our party, favors fusion at the next state election. He is endeavoring to secure a satisfactory rate for the railroads to Eastern points, and will also settle the matter of the ownership of certain small portions of land lying within the limits of the quarry, which are as yet unsurveyed and without patent, and which lie within the railroad grant.

"I believe I am safe in saying that 90 per cent of our party favors fusion at the next state election. I may also add that there is not, all told, 1 per cent of the Democrats who will oppose a coalition of the middle-of-the-road and Populist parties. I admit that there are a few isolated districts where those who profess to be 'middle-of-the-road' Populists may not fall into line. Yes, there are Whittier and Lincoln counties and portions of other counties, possibly, where the Populists

will fight a combination of forces. But you may depend that it is but a small portion of the party as a whole that will hold out. If a fight is made by these people, I prefer a sure defeat to victory. It will result in the untimely death of the party walking over to the Democratic party."

"And while on this point I want to say that we can do this without the sacrifice of a single principle, or the damage of a single plank in the St. Louis platform. The platform of the Populists is simply walking over to the Democratic party."

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