

THE OBSERVER

BRUCE DENNIS Editor and Owner.

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This paper will not publish an article appearing over a nom de plume. Signed articles will be revised subject to the discretion of the editor.

Calendar for FEBRUARY 1911 with days of the week and dates.

FOOLISH MEASURES.

There are many bills before the legislature that are foolish in the extreme, but luckily they have not yet passed. One bill provides for a hotel inspector at a salary of \$4,000 per year.

Another is an 8-hour law applying to mills and factories. La Grande has a number of industries employing considerable labor.

It is very easy for a half baked representative to sit around the State House at Salem and see his future possibilities in a bill, but is quite different when the practical application of that law is considered.

President Taft is firm in his demand for reciprocity with Canada. The president believes he is right, he believes that this will reduce the high cost of living.

in their campaign statements regarding the tariff to them stand by the president in this reciprocity matter.

Governor West has made a botch of opening the Eastern Oregon asylum site. Just why he should not be able to accomplish more in this matter is hard to understand.

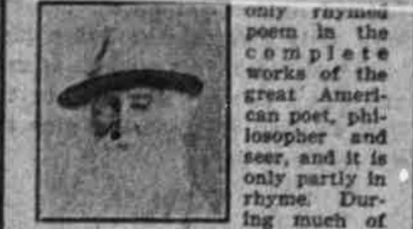
When the snow goes off the mountains around Joseph, look out for there will be something doing. No such gold bearing ore as has been found around Joseph can fail to attract considerable attention.

Elgin is letting contracts for street improvement in a way that will cause La Grande to increase her paved area.

CAPTAIN, MY CAPTAIN!



This is Walt Whitman's famous poem on the death of Abraham Lincoln. It is the only rhyme poem in the complete works of the great American poet, philosopher and seer, and it is only partly in rhyme.



WALT WHITMAN, ministering to the wants of sick and wounded soldiers in hospitals. Lincoln saw him one day and remarked, not knowing him at the time, "He looks like one of Fitzgibbon's men."

O CAPTAIN! My Captain! Our fearful trip is done; The ship has weather'd every rack, the prize we sought is won;

The port is near, the bells I hear, the people all exulting, While follow eyes the steady keel, the vessel grim and daring;

But heart! heart! heart! O the bleeding drops of red, Where on the deck my Captain lies, Fallen cold and dead!

O CAPTAIN! My Captain! Rise up and hear the bells; Rise up—for you the flag is flung—for you the bugle trills; For you bouquets and ribbon'd wreaths—for you the shores a-crowding; For you they call, the swaying mass, their eager faces turning;

Here, Captain! Dear father! This arm beneath your head; It is some dream that on the deck You've fallen cold and dead.

MY Captain does not answer, his lips are pale and still; My father does not feel my arm, he has no pulse nor will; The ship is anchor'd safe and sound, its voyage closed and done, From fearful trip the victor ship comes in with object won.

Exult, O shores, and ring, O bells! But I, with mournful tread, Walk the deck my Captain lies, Fallen cold and dead.

Walt Whitman

INGERSOLL'S TRIBUTE TO LINCOLN



STRANGE mingling of mirth and tears, of the tragic and grotesque, of Secures and Rabelais, of Aesop and Marcus Aurelius, of all that is gentle and just, humorous and honest, merciful, wise, laughable, lovable and divine, and all consecrated to the use of man, while through all and over all an overwhelming sense of obligation, of chivalric loyalty to truth and upon all the shadow of the tragic end.

Lincoln was not a type. He stands alone—no ancestors, no fellows and no successors. He knew and mingled with men of every kind, and, after all, men are the best books.

Lincoln never finished his education. To the night of his death he was a pupil, a learner, an inquirer, a seeker after knowledge.

Lincoln was a many sided man, acquainted with smiles and tears, complex in brain, single in heart, direct as lightning, and his words, candid as mirrors, gave the perfect image of his thought.

He was never afraid to ask, never too dignified to admit that he did not know. No man had keener wit or kinder humor. He was not solemn. Solemnity is a mask worn by ignorance and hypocrisy. It is the preface, prologue and index to the cunning or the stupid. He was natural in his life and thought, master of the story teller's art, in application perfect, liberal in speech, shocking Pharisees and prudes, using any word that wit could disaffect.

He was an orator—clear, sincere, natural. He did not pretend. He did not say what he thought others thought, but what he thought.

If you wish to know the difference between an orator and an elocutionist, between what is felt and what is said, between what the heart and brain can do together and what the brain can do alone, read Lincoln's wondrous words at Gettysburg and then the speech of Edward Everett. The oration of Lincoln will never be forgotten. It will live until languages are dead and lips are dust. The speech of Everett will never be read.

Lincoln was an immense personality—firm, but not obstinate, obstinacy is egotism—firmness, heroism. He influenced others without effort, unconsciously, and they submitted to him as men submit to nature, unconsciously. He was severe with himself and for that reason lenient with others. He appeared to apologize for being kinder than his fellows. He did merciful things as stealthily as others committed crimes.

He knew others because perfectly acquainted with himself. He cared nothing for place, but everything for principle; nothing for money, but everything for independence. He knew neither tyrant nor slave. He neither knelt nor scorned. With him men were neither great nor small; they were right or wrong. Through manners, clothes, titles, rage and race he saw the real—that which is. Beyond accident, policy, compromise and war he saw the end.

He was patient as destiny, whose undecipherable hieroglyphs were so deeply graven on his end and tragic face.

It is the glory of Lincoln that, having almost absolute power, he never abused it except on the side of mercy.

Wealth could not purchase, power could not awe this divine, this loving man. He knew no fear except the fear of doing wrong. He spoke not to inflame, not to upbraid, but to convince. He raised his hands not to strike, but in benediction. He looked to pardon. He loved our country as he loved the people of it. In the bosom of a wife whose life was his record book, he lived.

Lincoln never was a slave. He never was a tyrant. He never was a hypocrite. He never was a liar. He never was a cheat. He never was a thief. He never was a murderer. He never was a traitor. He never was a coward. He never was a coward.

Harold—I guess these must have been a famine in the land.—Exchange.

MANUFACTURER'S SALE OF TOURIST TRUNKS BOUGHT AT A GREAT DISCOUNT

The manufacture of this particular trunk has been discontinued by the makers of the great

Indestructo Trunks

and have placed them on the market at a reduced price that enables us to retail them to you at a price as low and lower than we formerly paid for them

BETTER SEE THESE TRUNKS TODAY

PARTY DRESSES AND SLIPPERS IN THE VERY NEWEST STYLES

WOOLTEX Spring styles in Suits and Coats for ladies arriving daily. Some attractive models now on display in our ladies SUIT DEPT

NEW SILKS IN DRESS PATTERN LENGTHS JUST RECEIVED

N. K. WEST "The Quality Store"

ARCADE IS NEW THEATRE

Big Sign Being Attached to Old Orpheum Building This Afternoon.

The "Arcade" is the name of the theatre which the People's Amusement company will open Monday and a huge sign is being hung up today. The Orpheum's last attraction goes on tonight for the flying machine girl and the bag puncher leave tomorrow morning and the Orpheum will give its last performance tonight before going out of existence.

Late this afternoon the matinee billed for Sunday afternoon was cancelled.

Error in Report.

In yesterday's issue the Rebekah's lodge was inadvertently used in connection with the Woodmen social and dance next Friday evening. Royal Neighbors are the lodge people who are special guests for the occasion.

Numerous steps being taken by the government forces during the past few weeks indicates that construction of the federal building will start soon. The local post office department has received plans of the proposed building showing various points of interest.

Notice of Street Improvement.

To Whom it May Concern: Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of a resolution adopted by the Common Council of the City of La Grande, Oregon on the 15th day of December 1909, creating Improvement District No. 12, and designating Pennsylvania avenue, as such district, and in pursuance of a resolution adopted by said Common Council on the 18th day of January, 1911, whereby said Council determined and declared its intention to improve all that portion of Pennsylvania avenue, in said improvement district, as hereinafter described, by laying thereon Bitullith pavement, the Council will, ten days after the service of this notice upon the owners of the property affected and benefited by such improvement, order that said above described improvement be made; that the boundaries of said district to be so improved are as follows:

All that portion of Pennsylvania avenue, from the east side of 4th street to the west side of Washington avenue.

TO OUR CUSTOMERS

There Are Many of You That we appreciate your patronage, your loyalty and steadfastness, fully as much as you appreciate the help we have at times been able to furnish you, goes without saying.

HOWEVER, we want to take this public method of thanking you for past patronage and, with full confidence that this patronage will continue, we pledge you our best endeavors for the future as you have had them in the past.

Wishing you an increased measure of Happiness and Prosperity for the year 1911, we are Sincerely yours, The United States National Bank, LA GRANDE, OREGON

Wyandotte Cleaner and Cleanser Should be used for all Laundry Purposes Your washing will be whiter. It makes the sour, slimy spots as sweet as sweet and clean as new. Used by laundries and dairies. 3 1-2 lb sack 30c

Pattison Bros. Use either phone Why pay Rent? We loan you money to build, and you pay us as you would rent. J. R. OLIVER

TO OUR CUSTOMERS There Are Many of You That we appreciate your patronage, your loyalty and steadfastness, fully as much as you appreciate the help we have at times been able to furnish you, goes without saying. HOWEVER, we want to take this public method of thanking you for past patronage and, with full confidence that this patronage will continue, we pledge you our best endeavors for the future as you have had them in the past. Wishing you an increased measure of Happiness and Prosperity for the year 1911, we are Sincerely yours, The United States National Bank, LA GRANDE, OREGON

THE OFFICERS

of this bank will be pleased to talk with you at any time concerning mutual business relations

La Grande National Bank

LA GRANDE, OREGON. CAPITAL \$ 100,000.00 SURPLUS 100,000.00 RESOURCES 1,125,000.00 UNITED STATES DEPOSITORY George Palmer, Pres. Fred J. Holmes, Vice Pres. F. L. Meyers, Cashier Earl Zundel, Ass't. Cashier