

THE OBSERVER

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WHEN A MOTHER DIES.

When a man has outlived his usefulness and passes into the great beyond we take it as a matter of law to which all of us must some day bow. But when a sorrowing congregation mourns over the remains of a young mother who has just performed the great object of her existence and succumbs to the ordeal it grips the heart of even the passing onlooker. To the young mother life holds nothing more precious than the tender bit of humanity which through a great law, takes its life directly from her.

In this stage she has been the object for the highest expressions of art, poets have sung their sweetest songs. And by a law of extremes men feel the pang of death more keenly when it intervenes to nip the tender bud of life or destroy the intimacy that the mother feels for her newborn babe. The loss of a mother; and in the tender years of life! It is like shutting out the sunlight which is the life of all creation, without which all created things would wither and die. For the living child there will be no fond cooing and caresses, no loving instruction from a mother's lips, no soothing word in the time of trial. And faithful and kind as relatives or friends may be, the loss is ever present and the inquiring mind soon learns to distinguish between the real and the unreal.

The death of Mrs. Elizabeth Rogers whose remains were sent to Logan, Utah last night, brought home to the thoughtful the whole import of the words just written. She was in the bloom of life, known as a faithful and kind wife, willing to do the duty for which her God had created her. In her willingness to do her duty unstintingly she was model for others to follow. In her bravery in trying to perform her self-imposed duty she was heroic. Mortals can do no more.

HIGH TAXES AGAIN.

Yes, we are all confronted with extraordinary high taxes, again. We say, again, because it seems that each year they climb with an occasional off year with a slight downward tendency so we can all get our breath once more. This year the state tax is abnormally high.

What is the cause? As long as we have expensive legislatures, expensive governors, expensive state schools, expensive elections,

there is but one answer and that is high taxes.

And now comes along a proposition to bond the state for something like sixteen million dollars to build roads.

You are for good roads, but are you for a blanket mortgage on top of what you are already paying in the way of taxes?

A MANAGED CITY.

La Grande is now under the managerial form of city government. Step by step the people have accomplished what they set out to do when they determined that the old councilmanic form of municipal government was antiquated and unsuited for a growing city.

In choosing Mr. L. F. Lafky of Salem, to manage La Grande, the commissioners have apparently acted with the wisdom and good judgment that was credited to them on the day of election, for Mr. Lafky is a man of wide experience in municipal affairs—has been a member of city councils and thus knows the weak points of the old system; has been a heavy taxpayer in cities that were growing and is familiar with the taxpayers' side of all improvement matters, which is a qualification that should render him very valuable at this particular time to La Grande.

When Salem changed over from a sleepy, country village to a city Mr. Lafky was there. He was a taxpayer and a councilman and as a prominent man of Salem said of him "He worked eight hours a day when on the council and received not a cent of remuneration. He examined into the minutest details of the city government and through his efforts Salem was saved thousands of dollars."

This recommendation came without solicitation. It came because it was based on fact, and there is every reason to believe in choosing Mr. Lafky the commissioners have done much in their first step for La Grande.

Now, the essential feature is loyalty. Let each individual do what he believes will assist rather than retard the new administration.

CHOICE STOCK SHIPPED

(Continued from Page 1.)

which the cattle came he was not allowed to feed them hay in the cars, but this is permitted on the O.-W. In Kansas City these cattle were an object of curiosity to trainment and officials, owing to the extreme novelty of the undertaking and the probable results that might be reached through the venture.

The secret, according to Mr. Spalding, lies in the fact that he has not overcrowded the cars, thus permitting the cattle to lie down when they get tired, and in the fact that he has fed them well all the way. The cost of this stock per head when loaded on the cars in Kentucky was about \$24. When they reached their destination they cost the buyer about \$35. When they are unloaded they will have to be driven a distance of 80 miles before they reach their destination. This venture is to be followed up by another shipment of two cars of young steers in the near future providing the weather is not too extreme.

LOST—Lady's alligator purse worth about \$7.00. Return to Observer. 12-5-4t.p.

DIAMETER OF THE EARTH.

Points at Which it is the Greatest and the Least.

What is the greatest diameter of the earth? The form of the earth is that of a flattened spheroid, greater in diameter at the equator than at the poles, but this is modified by the accidents of its surface, so that the diameter varies according to the point at which it is measured.

It might be expected that the diameter would be greatest if measured from the top of the highest mountain, which is Mount Everest, in the Himalayas, but unfortunately the point at which the diameter would emerge on the other side of the world is in the Pacific ocean, where this is more than 7,000 feet deep.

Professor L. Henkel of Schulpferda says the greatest diameter of the earth is that taken from the summit of Mount Chimborazo, in Ecuador, 20,130 feet above the sea level. This, he says, emerges at the antipodes on a high point on the north coast of Sumatra. This diameter is 7,920.3 miles.

As Chimborazo is almost on the equator, its summit is that point on the earth's surface which is most distant from the center. There weight is feeblest and centrifugal force greatest.

The earth's smallest radius is that from the center to the north pole, but it is not certain that the line through the poles is the smallest diameter, because the south pole is on a high plateau. It might be found that a line a little distant from the poles, which would emerge at sea level at each end, would be even shorter than the polar diameter. Such a line would be found from a point in the Arctic ocean between Spitzbergen and Greenland to a point just off the coast of the Antarctic continent in the big bay overlooked by Mount Erebus. In about 175 to 180 degrees east and 75 to 80 degrees south.—New York World.

A BOY'S MOMENT OF FAME.

When Young Walter Scott Was Praised by Robert Burns.

From the time he was six Walter Scott read ravenously, and it was through his wide reading that when only fifteen he became for a few moments the center of a group of learned men. It was when the poet Burns visited Edinburgh and had shown great interest in a picture of a soldier lying dead in the snow with a dog keeping patient watch beside him.

Beneath the picture were some beautiful lines, but neither Burns nor any of those learned men knew their author until young Walter Scott, who happened to be present, whispered that they were by Langhorne.

Then Burns turned to him, with glowing eyes, and said, "It is no common course of reading that has taught you this," adding to his friends, "This lad will be heard of yet."

How proud the lad felt! How wistfully joyful in the warmth of the great poet's praise and then how suddenly forgotten when only a few days later Robert Burns passed him in the street without a glance! Scott's moment of fame had vanished.—Ariadne Gilbert in St. Nicholas.

Boys and Bonfires.

The most fun a boy can have is at a barn fire.

The freckled boy says you call them barn fires because you build them near barns. Boys usually build them after elections in the fall, but any time when you feel bully is a good time.

Sticks of wood do not seem so heavy when you are carrying them to a bonfire as when you are bringing them in for the hired girl. Splinter don't hurt so much either. The freckled boy says the reason is because you are having fun. Why, he ran a long silver under his nail one night at a bonfire and he never noticed it until school time the next morning. Then it hurt him terribly. He had to stay out of school all day, and he could not do his chores. Part of the day he carried his arm in a sling.—"Auburn and Free Press."

Well Posted.

The various dishes in the Hungarian restaurant were numbered for the convenience of the waitresses and the benefit of the patrons. A young couple entered. The orchestra struck up the "William Tell" overture. Turning to her escort, the young woman said "That's familiar. What is it?" The man glanced up at the orchestra and saw the number 3 displayed. The with the air of one who is accustomed to cafe life, he looked up number 3 on the bill of fare. "That," he replied when he had located it, "is 'Filet Mignon,' by Clamponons."—Argonaut.

The Easiest Way.

An eminent German professor by the misfortune to die while he was away on his holidays. When the time came to put up a tablet to his memory in the little university town where his life's work had lain this was the man which the mortuary artist carved upon it: "He died during his absence."—New York Post.

Flowers.

Flowers are the terrestrial stars falling down heaven to earth and carrying our thoughts from earth to heaven—poetry of the Creator written in color and fragrance.

Got Him.

Briggs—Some mighty cheap men ride in high priced cars. Griggs—Yes, mine is a low priced one too.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

You Should do Your Xmas Shopping Right Now. Don't Delay Any Longer.

TWENTY DAYS TO CHRISTMAS



The Old Woman Who Lived In a Shoe Bought Her Christmas Presents Early.

Entire Line Ladies' Ready-to-Wear Apparel At Great Reductions

Our Christmas Display Offers Hundreds of Useful and Attractive Gifts that your Friends will Appreciate.

We invite you to inspect them and compare your prices.

TOY DEPARTMENT IN BALCONY Sole Agents for the Famous Steiff's Imported Toys "See the Windows"

Money Saving Prices on all Gordon Furs West THE QUALITY STORE

THE TELEPHONE

By furnishing quick service in communication multiplies a man's capacity and makes it possible for the business man to transact more business.

EVERY TELEPHONE A LONG DISTANCE STATION HOME INDEPENDENT TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Jones Little Dairy Sausage

Swift's Small Premium Hams & Bacon

Shipment Just Received



A Full Line of Fruits and Vegetables.

The City Grocery & Bakery E. POLACK, PROP.

La Grande National Bank Organized in 1887. DESIGNATED DEPOSITORY OF UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. UNITED STATES POSTAL SAVINGS DEPOSITORY. Capital \$100,000.00 Surplus \$130,000.00 Total Resources \$1,000,000.00 For twenty-six years, in all kinds of financial weather, we have successfully catered to the monetary wants of the people of La Grande and the Grande Ronde Valley. We respectfully solicit your business. La Grande National Bank La Grande, Oregon

Flowers. Flowers are the terrestrial stars falling down heaven to earth and carrying our thoughts from earth to heaven—poetry of the Creator written in color and fragrance. Got Him. Briggs—Some mighty cheap men ride in high priced cars. Griggs—Yes, mine is a low priced one too.—Cleveland Plain Dealer. Well Posted. The various dishes in the Hungarian restaurant were numbered for the convenience of the waitresses and the benefit of the patrons. A young couple entered. The orchestra struck up the "William Tell" overture. Turning to her escort, the young woman said "That's familiar. What is it?" The man glanced up at the orchestra and saw the number 3 displayed. The with the air of one who is accustomed to cafe life, he looked up number 3 on the bill of fare. "That," he replied when he had located it, "is 'Filet Mignon,' by Clamponons."—Argonaut. The Easiest Way. An eminent German professor by the misfortune to die while he was away on his holidays. When the time came to put up a tablet to his memory in the little university town where his life's work had lain this was the man which the mortuary artist carved upon it: "He died during his absence."—New York Post. He Knew How He Got It. "That large lump running across the back of your head," said the phrenologist, "means that you are inclined to be curious, even to the point of recklessness." "I know it," said the man who was consulting him. "I got that bump by sticking my head into the dumb waiter shaft to see if the waiter was going up, and it was coming down." Quite Natural. "Judge," said the forewoman of the jury of ladies, "we want to speak to you about that sealed verdict we just rendered." "Well, ladies?" "Can we unseal it and add a postscript?"—Washington Herald. Why Read Aloud? A modern moralist regrets that nobody nowadays reads aloud. But is that the main regret? Isn't the lack of listeners much more serious?—Cleveland Plain Dealer. Something on the Ancients. "An oyster of the paleozoic period would have made a meal for twelve people." They didn't swallow them whole in those days.—Toledo Blade.