

Oregon City Enterprise

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LIVES OF GREAT MEN.

The influence of the lives of men
who have done things worth doing
is remarkable. To read of the
achievements of others endows us
with added courage and stimulates
us with hope. Emulation is the nat-
ural ally of ambition. Reading of the
right sort has led many a boy into
the pathway that he followed to fame
and fortune. The boy or man who
is earnest in his desire to make the
most of himself can do no better than
secure the biographies of great men
of both present and past and read and
re-read them constantly. Such reading
will strengthen the reader's mor-
als and purpose—two essentials in
winning a higher place in the world.

In glancing over the annals of a
century, we find that just one hundred
years ago number of men were
born whose names are blazoned high
and shine brightly on the records of
achievement. In 1809 there came into
the world a number of individuals
who during their lifetime performed
deeds that brought them the homage
of their fellowmen and the gratitude
of all humanity down to the present
day. They were men whom the world
cannot forget, and whose memory will
be honored for generations to come.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, the "Au-
tocrat," came in with the 1809 con-
stellation of geniuses. Born in New
England, he came from rugged stock.
He studied law, medicine and litera-
ture, and clung to literature. He was,
in his day, the most loved man in
Boston, and those who read his writings
love his memory still. He con-
tributed gladness, sunshine, love,
kindness and good will to a world full
of sorrow and care. He helped hu-
manity all he could, and humanity is
grateful.

We are prone to look upon our fel-
low-beings, as "average men," and
nothing more. We are likely to think
of ourselves as being without that
spark of divinity that kindles the
fires of true greatness. We are filled
with wonder when a friend or ac-
quaintance, suddenly, by a single act,
leaps into prominence; for we "didn't
think it was in him." But there is
in every human soul the latent power
to become great. There was a time
in the life of every man now called
great, when all who knew him looked
upon him as an average man. A not-
able example of this was Darwin, the
great scientist, who was born in 1809.
He is often used as an object lesson
to fire the ambitions and sustain the
courage of the youths of today. In
his own writings he tells of his slow-
ness and naughtiness as a child. His
ambitions were small and easily filled.
He liked sensation and enjoyed cre-
ating a disturbance. His father des-
paired of him ever becoming even an
"average man."

Approaching manhood, Darwin stud-
ied medicine, but tired of it and gave it up.
Then he dabbled in geology, but soon decided that it was a dry
good-for-nothing subject not worthy of his attention. While still a lad he developed an enthusiasm for catching bugs and playing truant from school, and he soon forgot all he had learned from books. Finally he was induced to reform and enter college. His family thought that as he was fit for nothing else he might be made into a parson, and Darwin thought so too. It was evident that he had neither great purpose nor ability. But after a while the divine spark within his soul was kindled, and Darwin found something worth living for. He became interested in science. He wanted to know the why and wherefore of nature and he set diligently to work to learn her secrets. He found a work that was as play to him

because he loved his tasks. He never
tired, and became a painstaking,
careful student. He became a con-
firmed invalid, yet kept at his work.
His home was a happy one and he
was happy with his work. To read
of his life is a tonic to the discouraged
spirit. Here was a boy, dull of mind,
weakly of body, a poor student, who
promptly forgot all that was told him.
Then came the time when his soul
awakened and called him, and he
hearkened to the call.

Edgar Allan Poe, born with the
genius of poetry in his soul, gave all
his energy to his work. Frederic
Chopin, the great Polish pianist, and
Jacob Mendelssohn, the German-born
master of music, forged their careers
by tireless effort. William E. Glad-
stone, England's "Grand Old Man,"
was thorough in all he did even to
chewing his food.

Then, last, and greatest, comes the
man, the centenary of whose birth
we celebrate today, and whose mem-
ory is hallowed in nearly every Amer-
ican home—the martyred Lincoln. In
some qualities there may have been
greater men; but in honesty, sym-
pathy, courage and impartiality no
greater man ever lived than Lincoln.
When he came into the world of being,
a great soul was given to hu-
manity, a noble nature came to help
the sons of men with the problems of
life. An example was given to show
us the possibilities of honest effort.
Lincoln helped to show us the divinity
within ourselves. He was honest and
common, yet in him was found the
highest and noblest qualities of man-
kind. We cannot think of him without
becoming more lovable, charitable
and true. We cannot think of him too
often, for our thoughts become a
part of us, and we grow to be like
that which we love. He was great
because he let us see that the simple
things are the greatest things in life,
and that true greatness lies within
the reach of all. He glorified the
humbleness of humanity so that we
can realize its divinity. He did it
by his loyalty to justice and truth,
and by his love for his fellowmen. He
taught us the value of endeavor, of
honesty, of courage, of knowledge and
of exact justice. His greatest deeds
were acts of simple kindness tem-
pered by merciful justice. His greatest
utterances were simple truths told in
simple words that even a child can
understand. Though he towered
above the great mass of humanity in
greatness, he did not forget, nor did he
let the world forget, that his feet
were on the same foundation as theirs
—that he was merely a man among
men.

It is for us to meet the problems of
our lives today as Lincoln met the
problems of the day in which he lived.
Let us keep alive the Lincoln spirit,
and we shall have a nation worthy of
men and pleasing to God.

There is much discussion in Wash-
ington, concerning a memorial to
President Lincoln. It is the desire of
the country at large that he shall have
a monument commensurate with that
of Washington. A road to Gettysburg
is under discussion; an arch over
Sixteenth street is favored by some.
A towering monument on the Plaza
between the new Union Station and the
Capitol is perhaps more popular
with artists than any other suggestion.
Old Andrew Jackson, however,
had a great contempt for architects
and artists, as was shown when he
walked out and planted his hickory
stick in the center of Pennsylvania
Avenue and ordered the Treasury
building erected there.

Petitions are circulating throughout
the country beseeching the President
to give up his African hunting ex-
cursion. They are the pleas of sen-
timental and hysterical members of
human associations. There are a few
such members in the societies for
the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
and they harm rather than help
these excellent organizations. The
intelligent and thoughtful members
of these societies devote their time
and means to the alleviation of the
sufferings of domestic herbivorous
animals. It is in the interest of the
welfare of these animals that lions,
tigers, wolves and all predatory
creatures shall be exterminated. Just
as it is good to extirpate weeds, to
hang assassins, it is also desirable to
rid the earth of beasts of prey. It
is presumably against these that the
President is going abroad in Africa.

**DON'T HITCH YOUR HORSE IN
THE RAIN**—Get acquainted with E.
W. Melien & Co., Complete House-
furnishers. Use their free stable room.

FIRE CHIEF NOMINATED

CATARACT HOSE COMPANY WILL
GIVE GRAND INAUGURAL
BALL MARCH 4.

The Cataract Hose Company held
the regular meeting at the company's
headquarters Tuesday night, and the
installation of officers took place.
Judge G. B. Dimick, acting as install-
ing officer. The officers installed
were W. R. Logus, president; Charles
Croner, vice-president; Ivy Stipp,
secretary; Henry W. Stratton, fore-
man; Ed Bailey, first assistant fore-
man; "Billy" Croner, second assistant
foreman.

The Cataract is the fire company
that is entitled to elect a fire chief
at the coming election in March, and
Ed McFarland was nominated for that
office.

It was decided at the meeting to
give a ball March 4, and the com-
mittee for the arrangement of the af-
fair consists of Henry W. Stratton, E.
A. Leighton and Charles Croner. The
affair will be one of the most elaborate
balls given in this city this season.

At the close of the meeting a ban-
quet was served, and a most enjoy-
able time was had by the company.

Notice of Grange Meeting.
The annual county convention of
the Patrons of Husbandry, for Clack-
amas County, will convene in Oregon
City, Tuesday, March 9, at 1:30 P.M.
This meeting is called for the pur-
pose of electing five representatives
to attend the annual session of the
Oregon State Grange to be held at
McMinnville, commencing, the
2nd Tuesday in May, 1909.

MARY S. HOWARD,
Deputy State Master.

Notice.

The regular annual meeting of the
stockholders of the Clear Creek
Creamery Company will be held on
the third Monday of March, March 19,
1909 at 10 o'clock A.M. at the
Creamery, Stone, Ore. At this meet-
ing five directors, a secretary, and
a treasurer will be elected for the en-
suing year, and any other business
transacted which may properly come
before it.

W. P. KIRKHAM, President.
A. O. Hollingsworth, Secretary.

WHY TAXES ARE HIGH

(Continued from page 1.)

make a total of \$55,000, and at no
time have we ever raised, prior to
this year, more than \$52,000 road fund,
so it can be easily seen that the re-
pair of bridges and improved roads
requires more money than we have
ever raised by tax levy, for that pur-
pose.

And in addition to those items we
have been spending about \$60,000 per
annum in opening up and improving
roads running into different portions
of the County.

Those sums above mentioned seem
large, but when we take into consider-
ation that we have over 3,000 miles
of public highways in this County and
such a large number of bridges, we
are compelled to admit that the amount
expended thereon is not excessive.

Now in addition to the amounts
above mentioned there has been levied
in Clackamas County about \$20,-
000 of special school tax in the dif-
ferent districts. Also there has been
levied in the several road districts
more than \$25,000 of special road tax,
which is not included in the figures
above mentioned.

Now the only way open for the
County Court to do in order to pro-
tect themselves from the assaults
made upon them is to begin this com-
ing year and make our levy for actual
running expenses of the County, our
school tax, our State tax and the
amount required to keep our bridges
in repair and then let the tax payers
in the several districts in this County
levy special assessments to suit
themselves or go without a road tax
entirely.

It seems that when the County
Court tries to open up the roads and
make it possible for the improvement
of the County roads, so that the mail
routes can carry the mail to the rural
districts, remove obstructions from
the roads and convert plank roads in-
to rock roads and thereby make per-
manent improvements which neces-
sarily costs money, then they have to
stand up and be condemned on ac-
count of the expenses connected therewith.

When I go over this County and see
the vast amount of valuable improve-
ments made upon our public roads
during the last two years and which
improvements have been made at the
instance and request of the taxpayers
themselves and then held up and
idle. It is time for the Court to
protect its own good name by throw-
ing off this responsibility onto the differ-
ent road districts and let them make
their levies to suit their own desires.

The people, as a general rule, never
consider these matters and right here
in Oregon City while knowing that
the County Assessor practically

doubled the valuation of property, not
at the instance and request of the
County Court, but because the legis-
lature in 1907 made it mandatory for
him to do so, and still they sit by
while the Council of Oregon City made
an 8 mill levy on the double valuation
while the year before they had a
3 mill levy on the low valuation and
by reason thereof greatly increased
taxation in Oregon City.

Also the school district of Oregon
City under the same conditions above
mentioned made a 5 mill levy which
practically doubled their levy of last
year, and then when the tax payer
goes to pay his taxes he lays it all
to the County Court when that Court
has nothing to do with the matter
whatever.

I greatly desire the tax payers of
Clackamas County to take the figures
mentioned and go over them carefully,
and if they can devise any plan by
which we can relieve the tax payers
from the heavy burden, the members
of the County Court will only be too
glad to receive the suggestion.

Yours,

GRANT B. DIMICK.

Bad boys will not jump over your
fence if barbed wire is stretched over
the top. Frank Busch is selling a
new kind of wire of 2600 feet covering
capacity to one hundred pounds.

ELY BROTHERS, 56 Warren St., New York.

THE PARAGUAYANS.

I Lazy, Happy-go-lucky People in a
Bankrupt Republic.

The infusion of Spanish blood and
customs into the Guarani has produced
a people with the faults and good qual-
ties of both in about equal parts.
Dark of complexion, with strongly
marked Indian features, essentially
gentle when unrestrained or not unduly
excited, careless of the morrow,
poor and honest, hospitable and generous,
indolent and uncultured, strongly
Catholic in theory, but generally lax
in religious performances as to dogmas—
this is a rough sketch of the native
people of Paraguay.

Asuncion, the capital, and the
largest town, is a city of 100,000
population, situated on the Parana River,
about 100 miles from the Atlantic Ocean.
The city is built on a flat plain, with
the river on the west and the mountains
on the east. The climate is hot and
humid, with a mean temperature of
75° F. The soil is very fertile, and
agriculture is the chief industry.

The Paraguayan people are
mostly Indians, with a few Span-
iards and negroes混血.

The Paraguayan government is
a republic, with a president, vice-
president, and a congress.

The currency is the guarani, which
is divided into 100 centavos.

The chief exports are cotton, tobacco,
hides, and wool.

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