

The Oregonian

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PORTLAND, SUNDAY, FEB. 12, 1905.

IT IS THE END. It does not become The Oregonian to say very much at this time about the disclosures made through A. H. Tanner's confession, yesterday, in Judge Bellinger's court. There needs no homily on the moral effect of this confession on the position and fortunes of John H. Mitchell.

The wisest thing Mr. Tanner could have done was to tell the truth, though it involved a most humiliating confession of misconduct and guilt, on his own part. When a man is wrong the proper thing for him to do is to get right at the very first moment he can, regardless of everything else.

The Oregonian could say much. It will say little. It rejoices in no man's downfall. Enough now to say that Senator Mitchell was. He still is Senator—nominally—but that title to him is not even the shadow of a name—the name that has dominated the politics of Oregon nearly forty years.

MATING HEARTS. February, which Henley has called "the moon of half-candied merriment"—a description particularly appropriate to Multnomah County just at present—is chiefly notable for being the month wherein occurs Valentine's day. Half way through February the birds begin to mate, according to the old belief, so it is entirely fit that at the same period the young man's fancy should lightly turn to thoughts of making his self solid with his best girl.

For his song is all of the joy of life. And we in the mid, Spring weather, we two have listened till we cease. Our hearts and lips together.

as possible. The latter was meant, so far as their meaning is ascertainable, as a lesson to the person who receives them, a dose of unpalatable truths that will cure the faults which prompted them.

Two Anniversaries. On this day in well-nigh every language used by civilized men and in nearly all alphabets which profess to record in the interest of the masses will be seen—Abraham Lincoln, born February 12, 1809, and Charles Darwin, born February 12, 1809.

FROM THE BOTTOM TO THE TOP. A few days ago the Washington Legislature elected to the United States Senate a competent calculator for the game of tilt-to-tilt—an indoor sport entirely inimical to the study of the "jogger's lesson"—such a writer is sure of a multitude of readers whose eyes grow misty behind their glasses as the successive chorals of memory are touched by the recital.

IN NEW ENGLAND. The Fall River cotton mill strike, which began last June and was ended early in January, through the intervention of Governor Douglas, presents, among other things, a condition of self-restraint among a class of idle laborers, 26,000 strong, that was highly commendable, and, indeed, under the circumstances, little less than wonderful.

SCHOOL IN THE OLD DAYS. The Old Red Schoolhouse, a sketch by Eugene Wood in the current number of McClure's Magazine, means much to those of a passing generation who do not recall its existence. The article we refer to is a most interesting detail of the sports and recites the incidents of which the country schoolhouse of three-score years ago was the center; who, merely as a matter of taste, defends the quality of McClure's school readers against all comers; who pictures the excitement that reached to the uttermost corners of two rival districts upon the occasion of a "choosing up and spelling down" between the pupils of the respective schools; who tells of "speaking pieces" the dread of which exercise in due time turned to assurance and made us a "nation of orators"; of "reading in concert," of ciphering upon slates, and the surreptitious use of these now discarded aids to mental calculation.

ANALYSIS OF IRRIGATION BILL. A substitute for the irrigation bill (House bill No. 51) was on February 8 introduced in the Oregon Legislature by the committee on irrigation. It contains but fifteen sections, but is perhaps the most vague in its wording and far-reaching in its effects of any bill introduced in the Oregon Legislature since the passing of the act of 1903.

BY HIM ARE APPROPRIATED ANNUALLY. conditional on the United States Government spending equal amounts for surveys within the state. Then this State Engineer is to make surveys and investigations of every stream system and source of water supply within the state. It is an immense undertaking.

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loan, there will be plenty of men of the type of Calvin Piles, Markham, Mohler and others of similar worth, who will turn a deaf ear to all preachers of the socialistic doctrine of equality in man. As it was in the beginning and as it will be to the end, "some must follow some compass," and out of the ranks of industrial, literary, political and other workers will continue to come an endless procession of graduates who will prove by example that poverty is no bar to greatness and that there is always "room at the top."

Nothing is said or apparently known against this man. He was just a minor star in the Rockefeller cluster, and took what was coming to him by virtue of his investments in that mine to which Colombia was a desert, Consolidated Virginia and Pennsylvania. Of course, such a growth and return is unnatural and wicked. But the question is how, rightly, to correct the condition which made it possible.

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