

Reports from the Field.

One made the good confession at Monmouth, last Lord's day.

The Polk county meeting closed its work under most favorable surroundings. There were two confessions—the last discourse. The preaching was unusually good, done mostly by Bro. R. H. Moss. The order throughout the entire meeting was all that could be expected from the large crowds that were present on Sunday's, for all confessed that they never saw such good order and attention when so many were present.

There were four confessions during the meeting, and it is confidently hoped that much good seed was sown to be gathered hereafter.

The secretary will probably furnish a report of the business meeting.

Commencement at Oregon University.

Eugene City was very fortunate in obtaining the site of the State University, and the well chosen location given it upon a sloping hill outside the city does honor to the Eugene people.

They, too, may well be proud of the class graduating from its halls before careless hands and Time's dusty fingers, have marred their newness.

The commencement room was a marvel of beauty, and the hand that directed the distribution of vines, flowers and evergreens did it with an exquisite taste not often seen. The front of the large platform was bordered with a bank of mountain mosses brightened with a profusion of flowers and relieved by ivy vines.

The planting of the class-tree took place in the afternoon of June 21st, at which was read T. J. Chesher's Class Tree Poem; the regular commencement exercises beginning at eight o'clock in the evening. At that hour hundreds of people had climbed the long stairway and were eagerly awaiting the evening's entertainment. After the entrance of the class, music by the orchestra and prayer by Rev. E. R. Geary, Mr. M. S. Wallis delivered a finished oration on the "Development of Science. Mr. Wallis will be remembered as one of the lawyer's class of ten, going from Monmouth in 1873. Mr. Whiteaker the next orator spoke on National Progress and Prosperity, coming out strongly against Chinese emigration and political wire pulling. Mr. George S. Washburne's oration on Pioneering was very good and covered him with bouquets as well as honors. Earth's Battle Fields, brought forth the eloquence of Mr. Robert S. Bean, who proved the truth of Earth's great nations have always sprung from her bloodiest battle fields. Robert is another of the class of ten in which Christian College takes such pride, and in remembrance of the old pleasant days the MESSENGER congratulates him upon his advancement. Last of the class of five, came Miss Nellie A. Condon with the Valedictory and an essay on "Feeling as truly Scientific as Thought." She had matured her subject well, and gave out the terse sentences strong with feeling; in a voice richly modulated, now ringing clear as the bugle call then again low and thrilling as flute notes. The young gentlemen of her class may truly boast of their essayist, and do homage to her whose heart and talent matches well their strength of intellect. The music was good throughout the evening, a cornet solo, and a quartette, "Come where the wild flowers bloom," most especially so. If so happy a first commencement be the harbinger of what Oregon University may become its friends and patrons have no cause to dread the future.

Whatever you would not wish your neighbor to do to you, do it not unto him. This is the whole law; the rest is merely the exposition of it.—*Rabbi Hillel.*

Death of Bryant.

William Cullen Bryant died June 12th, at his home in New York City. As the light of life went out, leaving only the venerable clay of this most revered of American poets, the longest literary record in the annals of the nation was closed. For more than sixty years he had been an energetic and acceptable laborer in the field of American literature. For above fifty years he has been connected editorially with the New York *Evening Post*. Thousands have lingered lovingly over his poetical fancies and enjoyed his sketches of Eastern travel, while tens of thousands have become acquainted with him through the columns of the journal above named. He was born in Massachusetts in November, 1794, hence had nearly attained his eighty-fourth year. He, "Who so much with book and pen Has toiled among his fellow-men,"

Has completed his long task, completed it faithfully and well, leaving as the glorious fruits of a long life a well-filled niche in many a library that future generations will visit with pleasure and study with profit.

"Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams,"

He reposes in his last rest at Roslyn, Long Island. The funeral services took place at All Soul's Church, which was crowded with distinguished citizens, members of the several arts and professions. They were conducted by Rev. Henry Bellows, who also delivered the address, in which he said: "The whole country is bending with us, their favored representatives, over the bier that holds the dust of Bryant."—*Ex.*

A Truthful Sketch.

Let a man fail in business, what an effect it has on his former creditors? Men who have taken him by the arm, laughed and chatted with him by the hour, shrug their shoulders and pass on with a cold "how do you do?" Every trifle of a bill is hunted up and presented that would not have seen the light for months to come, but for the misfortune of the debtor. If it is paid, well and good; if not, the scowl of the sheriff, perhaps, meets him at the corner. A man that has never failed knows but little of human nature.

In prosperity he sails along gently, wafted by favoring smiles and kind words from everybody. He prides himself on his name and spotless character, and makes his boast that he has not an enemy in the world. Alas! the change. He looks at the world in a different light when reverses come upon him. He hardly knows how to move or to do this thing or the other; there are spies about him, a writ is ready at his back. To know what kind of stuff the world is made of, a person must be unfortunate and stop paying once in his lifetime. If he has kind friends then they are manifest. A failure is a moral sieve, it brings out the wheat and shows the chaff. A man thus learns that words and pretended good, will not, and do not constitute real friendship.—*Ex.*

A BEAUTIFUL THOUGHT.—Dickens wrote: "There is nothing—no, nothing beautiful and good, that dies and is forgotten. An infant, a prattling child, dying in its cradle, will live again in the better thoughts of those who loved it, play its part, though its body be burned to ashes or drowned in the deepest sea. There is not an angel added to the hosts of heaven but does its blessed work on earth in those that loved it here. "Dead! O, if the good deeds of human creatures could be traced to their source, how beautiful could even death appear; for how much charity, mercy, purified affection would be seen to have their growth in dusty graves!"

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A New Bridge at London.

London is about to attempt a bridge which rivals in boldness of engineering that between New York and Brooklyn. The plan of Sir J. Bazalgette for throwing a steel bridge across the Thames, about half a mile east of London bridge, where relief for the crowded traffic is imperiously demanded, has been approved. The recent improved process in the manufacture of steel, by which its strength is twice that of iron, and its cost greatly reduced, enables the construction of the proposed bridge. One bold span of 850 feet will carry the proposed highway from the Irongate stairs to Hersleydown. The bridge will have a clear headway of 86 feet above high-water mark, and permit the passage of three-fourths of the shipping of the Thames, and the remaining one-fourth by lowering top sails. The bridge will be six feet wider than the London bridge; cost £1,250,000 sterling, and be the longest arched bridge in existence.—*Ex.*

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