

SEWARD GATEWAY

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1905

JOHN HIPPLE MITCHELL

Novelists have rarely been able to devise a plot equal in uniqueness to the career of Senator John H. Mitchell of Oregon, who was born John M. Hipple in Pennsylvania, and at the age of 25 became one of the real members of the class, largely imaginary, who have changed their names on the way westward.

Mitchell deserted a wife and two children, and came west with school teacher with whom he lived several years but never married. Later he married another woman without being divorced from his first wife, and for many years was a bigamist. In the mean time he rose politically until after holding lesser offices he was elected United States senator in 1873.

In 1878 Harvey W. Scott of the Oregonian, whose enmity Mitchell had incurred, discovered the secret history of the senator's life published the facts with multiplicity of detail. The disclosures did not shake Mitchell's hold upon the Republican party of Oregon, although he temporarily lost his seat in the Senate because the legislature was Democratic when his first term expired. Six years later Mitchell was again elected senator, and re-elected a third time six years after that. In 1897 his Republican enemies, who were a minority of the party, accomplished his defeat by refusing to allow the legislature to be organized. In this they were aided by the Democrats, who were willing to keep any Republican out of the Senate, although a minority would have aided the election of Mitchell in preference to any other Republican.

Then came one of the most remarkable periods of Mitchell's career. When he went out of the Senate in 1897 he was broken financially and politically. It is said that he was obliged for a time to out at cheap tenap-houses. The next year Mitchell's forces were beaten in Portland in the Republican caucuses. They bolted, united with the Democrats, and were beaten at the polls. Mitchell's political and personal enemy, Joseph Simon, was elected United States senator.

Mitchell seemed politically dead. In the next two years he secured the silence of Harvey W. Scott, upon what terms nobody knows except that it is well understood that part of the compact was that both were to go to the Senate. In 1901 Mitchell was elected. The Oregonian spoke complaisantly of the event, although it had denounced Mitchell for more than twenty years as the embodiment of human depravity. Two years later Col. Scott was a candidate for the Senate but failed of election.

No attempt was ever made to prosecute Mitchell for bigamy, although wife desertion was coupled with child desertion, and he was three times elected senator after the fact became notorious. Yet when an old man he was prosecuted and convicted of the petty offense of accepting a fee for his services in behalf of a client before the general land office, an act which was not even considered an offense until Congress a few years ago made it a misdemeanor.

Grecian mythology relates that Thetis dipped Achilles in the river Styx when he was an infant, to render him immortal, but she held him by the heel, and after fighting innumerable battles he was killed by a chance arrow which a goddess directed to his heel.

SEWARD MADE A SUPPORT

Seward has been made a support by an official order of the secretary of the treasury, which will enable foreign and domestic vessels to clear here and avoid the necessity of going to a neighboring port to give an official account of themselves. It already has a deputy inspector of customs.

The new arrangement will permit steamers from Seattle, whose principal cargo is for Seward to come here direct. They can also return direct if their owners so wish. The rule however will be for vessels to come direct either to Seward or Valdez, and return by way of the other port. This will save both time and distance. As Seward receives by far the largest share of both freight and passengers coming this way the outside steamers will undoubtedly nearly always clear for this port first.

The creation of a support at this place is largely due to the efforts of Collector Clarence L. Hobart of the customs district of Alaska, who promised when here last fall to press the subject upon Secretary Shaw. He is now in Washington and has kept his word.

ALASKA DELEGATES DISAGREE

Dick Ryan and Capt. Humphrey, two of the numerous "delegates" elected by the Seattle convention to "represent" the district in Congress, are reported to disagree as to the best method of getting a pull at the composite Congressional ear.

Capt. Humphrey says it would be useless to ask floor privileges, as the delegates have no credentials upon which to base such a claim under any precedent which can be found in parliamentary history. Mr. Ryan says "Nothing else will do" but floor privileges. Doubtless timid persons are already shuddering to think of what action Mr. Ryan may possibly take if his ultimatum is turned down.

To some persons up close to the Arctic circle it would appear that Capt. Humphrey is right. The "delegates" elected by the Seattle convention have exactly as much standing in Washington as they would have there as private citizens. Representative Alaskans have gone there before and done some good by talking up Alaska interests. Others will go there this winter for the same purpose, and they will accomplish just as much as the "delegates." A man's influence as a Washington lobbyist depends on his own personality.

The convention memorial was dignified and logical, and properly backed up at the capital should carry much weight, but the "delegate" election was a clear case of much ado about nothing.

The P-I, with the cheerful optimism of a man whose salary is going on, says the shut-down of the Sound shingle mills is a good thing because it enables the mill owners to make repairs and the railroads to catch up on transportation. It also gives the mill hands plenty of time to mow their lawns, hoe their potatoes and spend their surplus money.

The Douglas Island News makes merry over the fact that one of the directors of the Seattle-Yukon exposition is named Steel. It might have gone further and mentioned that his name is Will Steel, although he is an honest man and doesn't have to steal because he owns an Alaska newspaper.

If Dick Ryan intends to butt into Congress by force he can find a precedent set by "Buck" Kilgore of Texas, who once kicked down a door to get out of the House in order to bust a quorum. Maybe the door has never been fixed and he can get in through the hole.

Senator Piles of Washington has Horace McClure, formerly managing editor of the Post-Intelligencer and one of the ablest newspaper men in the Northwest, as his private secretary. McClure's new job is onerous but it will be a vacation compared with his old one.

The Wrangel Sentinel hopes for the addition of several hundred souls to the population of the town next year. Most Alaska towns are looking for immigrants with money and don't seem to care whether they have souls or not if they are not too tight with the coin.

The Douglas Island News grows envious because the Doukhobors want to come to Seward and work on the railroad. It intimates that the Doukhobors, who wear no clothes, have been attracted by the widely advertised semitropical climate of Kenai peninsula.

Englishmen always want to address the prime minister as "Me Lud," but Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman will not lose any glory by going into history with Gladstone and the younger Pitt as a premier who was too big for a title of artificial nobility.

It was always understood that Japan's righteous indignation over Russian encroachments in China was due to Japan's desire to gobble up everything herself, and she has quickly demonstrated it by the rape of Korea.

The Connecticut people who got mad because a preacher told them that grafters are going to hell are too thick-skinned to take any chances and had better reform immediately. Hell is hotter than a verbal roast.

Tammany Chief Murphy has gone to Canada because he likes a pleasant winter resort, and ill-natured persons insinuate that he is staying there to avoid arrest for election frauds.

Mr. Fitzgerald has been elected mayor of Boston. A man with that name ought to carry Boston as easily as Dublin unless he ran against O'Brien or Flaherty.

Richard Mansfield "canned" his leading man, Fuller Menish, because the Denver dramatic critics said Menish was as good as the great and only Mansfield.

The Canadians who frescoed Sarah Bernhardt with superannuated eggs failed to prove thereby that her criticisms of their style were ill-founded.

DEATH ENDS ALL FOR MITCHELL

Oregon Senator Passes Away of Impaired Vitality While Appeal is Pending

By Cable to The Daily Gateway.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 9.—Senator John H. Mitchell of Oregon died this morning in this city, from loss of blood resulting from hemorrhages caused by the extraction of four teeth. The senator's constitution was much impaired and he was unable to stand the drain upon his vitality caused by the loss of blood. He was 70 years of age.

Senator Mitchell had long been the most notable figure in Oregon politics. He was four times elected United States senator, the first time in 1873. He lost his seat in 1879 because the legislature of Oregon at that time was Democratic, but was re-elected in 1885 and 1891. In 1897 the anti-Mitchell Republicans of the legislature refused to allow the house of representatives to be organized, knowing that Mitchell could obtain enough Democratic votes to elect him. In 1901 however, Mitchell was elected senator a fourth time, on the last night of the legislative session. His term would have expired in March, 1907.

Convicted of Misdemeanor

Last June Senator Mitchell was convicted in the U. S. district court of accepting fees for the employment of his senatorial influence to push the granting of land patents through the general land office. The evidence to convict him was obtained chiefly from confessions by his law partner and his private secretary. His health declined from that time forward. He had appealed from the judgment of conviction, and only a few days ago paid \$850 in fees to perfect the appeal.

The career of Senator Mitchell was most remarkable. His real name was John M. Hipple. He was born in Pennsylvania June 22, 1835. When very young he married, and after a few years, in 1860, he deserted his wife and small children and came to the Pacific coast, where he took the name of John H. Mitchell and married again without obtaining a divorce from his first wife.

Record Did Not Stop Him

These facts were unearthed more than a quarter of a century ago by Harvey W. Scott, editor of the Portland Oregonian, for many years Mitchell's most inveterate enemy. In spite of it Mitchell retained his political influence in Oregon, but shortly afterward through friends he induced his Pennsylvania wife to secure a divorce from him.

Twenty-five years later Col. Scott laid down his enmity and allowed Mitchell to be elected senator in 1901 without adverse criticism. It was understood in Oregon at the time that Mitchell had agreed to secure the election of Scott as his colleague two years later, and Scott received a strong vote in 1903. He failed to secure a majority however, and Charles W. Fulton was chosen the last night of the session, as Mitchell had been two years before.

Baby Comes to Life in Morgue

With an incubator and a milk bottle as its foster mothers, a very small Detroit baby will probably survive to rejoice over—or regret—its very narrow escape from death, says the New York World.

Twins came to bless Mrs. Carmela Detry, wife of Police Detry, a laborer of No. 236 Avenue A. The atoms of humanity breathed faintly for an hour and then the flickering flame of their lives seemed to be snuffed out.

The father put the twins in a shoe box, placed the lid on the box and went to the morgue and asked the great city to bury his dead.

After a while Attendant McCarthy happened to take the lid off the shoe box. One diminutive Detry lay still as a piece of clay, which indeed it was. The other baby opened its mouth and uttered a faint squeak and clutched its tiny fist. McCarthy, who had acquired presence of mind in the morgue, ran with both babies to Bellevue hospital.

Dr. Drury, who raises babies by steam, instantly saw that one Detry was alive, and hastily put it in one of his incubators, which was promptly heated to an agreeable and stimulating temperature. Little Detry fell asleep and, awaking, became acquainted with its other foster mother.

Dr. Drury thinks the baby fell into a stupor soon after birth, and that it was revived by the warmth in the shoe box where there was enough air for its puny lungs.

The supreme court of the United States decided lately in a Kentucky case that the state cannot tax railroad cars used in other states even though they are owned by a Kentucky corporation.

Seattle had better not postpone the Alaska fair too long or Seward may take it off her hands.

REAL ESTATE RECORDS

DEEDS

Nov. 29—F. P. Skeen et al to Hoorah Gold Mining Co., Falls creek property, \$1.
Nov. 30—F. L. Ballaine to E. G. Stokes, lot 12 block 10, Seward, \$700; E. G. Stokes and wife to Napoleon Wells, lot 12 block 10, Seward, \$1500.
Dec. 6—F. L. Ballaine to Mrs. J. G. Munsell, lot 23 block 14, Seward, \$300; F. L. Ballaine to Bank of Seward, lots 19 and 20, block 15, Seward, \$1; F. L. Ballaine to F. G. Hale, lots 3 and 4 block 10, \$2000; F. L. Ballaine to Genevieve Ballaine, lots 1, 2, 3 and 4, block 25, Seward.

Dec. 8—F. L. Ballaine to Thos. Carstens, lot 36 block 9, \$700; Jno. H. Brownlow et al to Jos. Wilson, seven claims on Canyon creek, Sunrise district, \$1.

AGREEMENTS

Dec. 9—Wm. N. Armstrong and John C. Streng to C. D. Lane, agreement to sell Minnie, Dynamite Jack and Cholulla quartz claims on Falls creek, \$60,000; F. P. Skeen and John Lechner to C. D. Lane, agreement to sell the Betty, Columbia and half interest in Texas quartz claims, Falls creek, \$150,000; W. C. Graham to C. D. Lane, agreement to sell Texas quartz claim on Falls creek, \$50,000; Hoorah Gold Mining Co. to C. D. Lane, agreement to sell Hoorah Group of quartz claims, the Captain and the Seattle claims, \$110,000.

LOCATION NOTICES

Nov. 23—D. F. Griffith, two placer bench claims, Canyon creek; W. G. Jack, two placer bench claims, Canyon creek; L. H. Lauritsen, two claims on Canyon creek; J. G. Kopp, two claims on Canyon creek, Sunrise district.

Nov. 28—Wm. N. Armstrong, two claims on Falls creek.

Dec. 4—W. B. Poland, placer claim, E. side Resurrection bay; J. B. Cameron, 20 acre placer claim, Resurrection bay; Pat Kendrick, 20 acre placer claim, Resurrection bay; Phil Williams, 20 acre placer claim, Resurrection bay; John Black, 20 acre placer claim, Resurrection bay; F. E. Youngs, et al, 100 acres placer ground, Cooper creek; Clara A. Lyon, 100 acres coal land near Homer.

Dec. 6—A. Erierson, 20 acre quartz claim on Falls creek; L. F. Shaw, 20 acre quartz claim, Falls creek; H. A. Ingalls et al, 100 acres quartz ground, Falls creek; F. L. Ballaine, 20 acre quartz claim, Lake Kenai.

HOMESTEAD LOCATIONS

Dec. 2—John Nash, 320 acre homestead North end Resurrection bay.
Dec. 4—M. B. Holland, 320 acre homestead, E. side Resurrection bay; H. A. McClure, 320 acre homestead, E. side Resurrection bay.

DEEDS

Dec. 13—F. L. Ballaine to Ellen Rogers Atwood, lots 31 and 32 block 25, Seward, \$1000.
Dec. 14—F. L. Ballaine to Robert Ashland, lot 5 block 3, Seward, \$700; F. L. Ballaine to Mrs. Mary Rasmussen, lot 4 block 3, Seward, \$700; F. L. Ballaine to Mrs. C. B. Cave, lot 20 block 9, Seward, \$200; Mrs. C. B. Cave to Alatore Boling, lot 20 block 9, Seward, \$1000.

MISCELLANEOUS

Dec. 14—Mrs. Wm. Cave to John J. Johnson, agreement to lease lot 15, block 10, Seward, for six months for \$125 and at end of lease to sell for \$1350.

Chas. Tecklenburg and J. M. Cummings to Henp Brandt, lease to lot 1, block 3, Seward, for one year at \$250 per month.

POWERS OF ATTORNEY

S. D. Hanaway to John Lechner; Jesse W. Lowry to John Lechner; Maggie E. Caldwell to F. P. Skeen; Wm. N. Armstrong and E. G. McMichen to John Lechner.

WEEKLY WEATHER RECORD

Weather record for the week ending December 16.

	TEMPERATURE.		
	Max.	Min.	
Saturday	20	19	Clear
Sunday	34	24	Snow
Monday	38	25	Rain
Tuesday	38	33	Snow
Wednesday	35	34	Snow
Thursday	36	33	Snow
Friday	35	33	Snow

Fair progress is reported to the war department on the work of rebuilding the telegraph line between Rampart and Fort Gibbon, although the weather is cold.

Seattle Headquarters

All Alaskans going to Seattle on business or for other purposes are cordially invited to have their mail addressed to themselves in care of the Industrial Bureau of the Alaska Central Railway Company, Lumber Exchange Building, Seattle, Wash., and make the Bureau their headquarters while in that city.

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Str. SANTA CLARA Leaves Seattle 1st of each month. Same trip as Santa Ana, connecting at Seldovia with S. S. Neptune, etc.—returning leaves Seward 12th of each month.

Steamship "SANTA ANA" Leaves Seattle 16th of each month for Juneau, Kayak, Yakutat, Ellemar, Valdez, Seward, Seldovia—connecting at Seldovia with S. S. Neptune for all Cook Inlet points—returning, leaves Seward 29th of each month.

Str. "DORA" Leaves Seward 27th of each month for Unalaska, Dutch Harbor, and all way points, returning, leaves Seward about 14th, of each month.

For transportation, berth reservations, freight rates etc. call on S. P. BROWN, Agt., Coleman House, Seward, Alaska.

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