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 Advertisements will be inserted at Reasonable Prices.  
 All Correspondence intended for publication should be ad-  
 dressed to the Editor, and all business letters to the  
 DUNWAY PUBLISHING COMPANY,  
 No. 5 Washington street, Portland, Oregon.  
 PORTLAND, OREGON, THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 1881.

THE FOURTH.

It is generally considered the proper thing for the press to write unlimited bombast about America before each Fourth of July. The day itself is also a most prolific source of gush. This year "the anniversary of our national independence" falls on Monday—next Monday. From the Atlantic to the Pacific, from the Lakes to the Gulf, the day will be devoted to celebrations. There will be parades and processions of a thousand different magnitudes and degrees—little and commonplace, large and attractive, gigantic and imposing; brazen bands pouring forth strains of patriotic and martial music, good, bad and indifferent; manifold poems on the anniversary—many bad, some indifferent, and few good; numerous orations on the day—most of them trashy, some passable, and a few brilliant. Amid all these exercises of various quality and degree, the central idea of gratulation will be that the United States is "a land of freedom." Yet this is an idle boast, as many and many a thoughtful and self-respecting woman keenly feels. She knows it is a mockery. She will call to mind the fact that she is still taxed without representation, governed without consent, and held amenable to laws which she has had no voice in making. Woman cannot yet celebrate with royal good will.

"A SAMARITAN IN COURT."

Men frequently say that "woman is woman's worst enemy," citing as proof the fact that women are much quicker than men in condemning erring sisters and less willing to grant penitents aid and assistance in reformation. This uncharitableness on the part of women is traceable directly to men, who have established a code of conduct which forbids women to give any kind of recognition to the sinning of their sex, under penalty of suffering ostracism along with the moral delinquents. Thus, by means of their greater power and freedom in the world, men force their wives and sisters to condemn the fallen, while they are themselves professing charity for the unfortunate. But women are not infrequently found who totally ignore the unwritten law of men in regard to the treatment of erring sisters. They, as a matter of course, are of the "strong-minded" class—women of sound sense and practical ideas.

A woman of this class who is worthy of special notice, if press reports are to be believed, is Mrs. Dr. Mary Pratt, of Philadelphia. She dresses plainly but neatly, and combs her hair back smoothly, revealing a high, broad forehead. She is said to be as punctual in attendance at the sessions of the criminal courts as the judges, and closely watches and earnestly listens to the proceedings. The expression of her face indicates that she fears the fate hereafter of an erring sister depends on her vigilance. Her mission is not to effect the escape of the guilty, turning them free that they may return to a life of sin and shame, but to reform the repentant; and while she seeks to reclaim the wanderer, she also jealously guards against the possibility of unjust penalties. She is given the credit of saving two women from the gallows, though in one case she was aided by Miss Annie McDowell, of the Sunday Republic. She has also interested herself in behalf of women accused of various petty crimes, and has in several instances found them to be the victims of malicious persecution and prosecution. Furthermore, she has succeeded in getting the punishment of many offenders made light, and has aided them in leading useful lives. In short, she pays no attention to the unwritten laws of men, and is a tried and true friend, not an enemy, of her sex, and is appropriately called "A Samaritan in Court."

The Oregonian is having its say about trades unions, and some of its remarks are highly amusing to persons who have practical knowledge of the inside workings of labor organizations. Read this, for instance: "Employers in one locality make money by strikes in another and can therefore afford to hire officers of so-called protective unions to order men to quit work—that is, they find it profitable to invest money to get up 'strikes' against their rivals in the same line of industry."

The canvassing Board, consisting of City Auditor Durham, County Clerk Borthwick and Justice of the Peace Davis, has declared Hon. D. P. Thompson re-elected to the office of Mayor. His majority is one. He received his certificate and was sworn in on last Thursday afternoon. Mr. Simon's friends have carried the case to the Circuit Court, claiming that the Board had no right to alter and correct the returns.

A "HOBBY."

Miss Kate Kane, a lawyer of Milwaukee, Wis., has petitioned the Board of Aldermen to appoint a woman on the police force of that city, to do duty at the city prison. Her reasons for making the request are sound, and are applicable to all other cities as well as Milwaukee. She calls attention to the manner in which officials treat women who are brought to the police-stations, and handles the subject without gloves. She says that when women are arrested, whether justly or unjustly, they "have every inch of their bodies examined and searched by men," and must necessarily suffer more or less insult.

Of course, the masculine editors of Milwaukee papers are displeased with Miss Kane's work. They call it her "hobby." With the characteristic selfishness of men generally, they oppose opening any avenue which will afford means of livelihood to women, few in number though they be. Through their comments, the Aldermen have been deterred from acting on the petition, which was offered in the interest of morality. The Board has scarcely deigned to notice it, and the lady says "the probabilities are that it will never be treated as anything more than the fanciful outgrowth of an overheated imagination until the public actually rise and demand its consideration."

A woman can search prisoners of her own sex much more satisfactorily and without subjecting them to such shame as accompanies the work when done by men. It is particularly trying and degrading to a woman innocent of crime, who may happen to be arrested through the malice of some scoundrel, to suffer the indignity of private personal examination by men whose finer and better feelings are blunted by contact with criminal classes. An addition to our police system is needed. Women should be connected with the departments of prisons for the erring of their own sex. It has been found beneficial to employ them in the "female departments" of insane asylums, and it will prove equally wise to have them in police stations. Women are engaged in Eastern custom houses to search the ladies arrived from foreign ports, and they do the work quicker and better than men could do it, besides decreasing the annoyance and almost obliterating the mortification which accompanied examinations by men.

We hope Miss Kane will press her "hobby" to a successful issue in Milwaukee, and trust that a like result will eventually be attained in Portland. Several ladies of this city have petitioned the Council for separate apartments in the city prison for women and girls, and the matter is now awaiting action, and has been for some time. Agitation is necessary to accomplish any reform, even such a plainly-needed one as prison-departments for women under the charge of women, and we fear the point will not be gained until the subject is harped on for some time.

The July number of the North American Review bears the usual characteristic of timeliness. Carl Schurz leads with a suggestive paper on "Present Aspects of the Indian Problem." Next a caustic writer gives the views of "A Yankee Farmer" on "The Religious Conflicts of the Age." Another trenchant article is "The Power of Public Plunder," by James Parton, which appeals to the sons of our men of character and wealth, on patriotic grounds, to enter into politics, and become the safeguards of their country against rings and bosses. Mr. Henry-George dwells on "The Common Sense of Taxation." "The Cost of Cruelty" is presented by Mr. Henry Bergh, and "A Study of Tennyson" comes from the pen of Mr. Richard Henry Stoddard.

Mrs. E. P. W. Packard's son-in-law, a wild-eyed and canting simpleton named Harry Gordon, prints in an obscure Eastern Oregon patent sheet, published by a debased and senile inebriate, some doggerel in abuse of the senior editor of the New Northwest, because this journal asked the public to charitably overlook Mrs. P.'s double-dealing and falsifying in regard to Woman Suffrage, for the reason that on the subject she is as crazy as a bug. We must again ask a generous public to be charitable, not only with the demented mother-in-law, but the weak-minded son-in-law. These poor people are hardly accountable for their actions and words.

We have received a copy of the Agents' Herald, published at Philadelphia, Penn., by L. L. Smith. It is devoted to advertisers as well as agents' interests, and wars on irresponsible persons who use the press for the purpose of swindling the public. It prints a list of firms and companies that are under the ban of the post office department and to whom money orders and registered letters are not delivered. The Pacific Coast is not credited with any of these frauds.

On Thursday last, at Vancouver, Rev. L. A. Banks, of the Pacific Cosmor, was shot through the thigh by Thomas Sperry, who took to himself some remarks about a drunkard that "beat and abused his poor wife till death put an end to her misery." The words must have struck home. The murderous assault will be considered an admission of their truth. Mr. Banks may suffer somewhat from the wound, but the temperance cause will be the gainer.

The local news department of the Corvallis Gazette has been greatly improved of late.

DISRAELI ON WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

The cause of Woman Suffrage was deprived of one its ablest and earliest supporters by the death of the Earl of Beaconsfield. Not only the suffragists of the British Kingdom, but those of America, feel the loss. But it is possible, and perhaps probable, that the repetition of his remarks on woman's cause will now have more weight and attract more attention than while the statesman was living. Then his utterances were regarded as his opinions only. Now their wisdom and truth are better seen and appreciated. The Englishwoman's Review says that he was the first member of the House of Commons to mention the subject of Woman Suffrage. In a discussion on the Reform Bill in 1866, he used these words:

I say that in a country governed by a woman—where you allow woman to form part of the other estate of the realm—persons in their own right, for example—where you allow a woman not only to hold land, but to be a lady of the manor and hold legal courts—where a woman by law may be a qualified ward and overseer of the poor—I do not see, where she has so much to do with the State and Church, on what reasons, if you come to right, she has not a right to vote.

Subsequently, Disraeli twice recorded his vote in favor of giving the Parliamentary franchise to women—the first time in May, 1871, and the second in April, 1873. He continued to support the measure as long as he remained a member of the House of Commons. It is also well-known that the Viscountess Beaconsfield gave her cordial approval to the movement.

The usual Indian troubles are reported in the southwest, now that the bad weather is past and the Government's wards no longer need to be provided with food, shelter and raiment. Colorado dispatches give accounts of stock-stealing and other depredations by Paw-Utes, and say the whites are revenging their wrongs. The skirmishing has occurred principally in Southern Utah, and several whites and quite a number of Indians have been killed. The chances for a fair-sized warfare are excellent.

The question, "Do ladies succeed as agents and canvassers?" is often asked. The Agents' Herald unhesitatingly answers in the affirmative, and says further, that, in proportion to the numbers engaged, fewer women than men fail. Every day the army of canvassers is augmented by large numbers of women, who find that, with slight preparation for the work, they are able to make good incomes.

Mr. A. Noltner announces that he will hereafter give his entire attention to the Weekly Standard, having sold the Daily to Messrs. Sutherland & Christie, who will conduct it in the future. Mr. S. has been connected with the journal for years, and is well-known as a forcible writer and thorough newspaper man. Mr. C. will have charge of the business department.

The Democrats of Iowa have incorporated a strong prohibition plank in their platform. The charge can no longer be made that the Democratic party is opposed to progress—they have made too great a stride.

A writer for the Glasgow News says that the mania for slender figures is to be laid at the door of fashion magazines, where the human figure is invariably represented entirely out of proportion.

The wife of Henry Villard is a daughter of the late William Lloyd Garrison. He is himself a native of Rhenish Bavaria, and is forty-six years old.

Mrs. E. K. Kinker, of Corvallis, has been awarded a patent for a dress chart.

Mrs. Litt, the accomplished cutter and fitter, will leave on the 7th of July for New York and San Francisco in search of recreation, and also to buy a select stock of trimmings, etc. She will, on her return, in addition to her present designers, have excellent assistants from New York. Mr. Litt will continue to devote his time exclusively to manufacturing ladies' ready-made dresses and dolmans, and also society goods. We are not writing this as an advertisement, but we know the way this gentleman conducts his business, and his success has already been proved, for not less than 38 to 40 hands are constantly working for this house. It is the only one in the Northwest which makes a specialty of ladies' dresses and dolmans and misses' dresses. Read his advertisement under "New This Week." Every word of it is solid truth. Due notice will be given of the name of the cutter who will fill Mrs. Litt's place during her absence.

Appointed Attorney.  
 Mr. Benjamin I. Cohen has removed his law office to the suit of rooms numbered 20 in Union Block. Mr. Cohen has been appointed resident attorney of the Equitable Mercantile Company of New York, and also of the North American Attorney's and Tradesmen's Protective Union Company of Connecticut. These are two of the largest and most responsible collection agencies in the country, and claims placed in Mr. Cohen's hands will receive careful attention and be vigorously pressed by the best legal talent in the United States and Canada. He has also engaged a competent assistant to aid him in the enforcement of local claims.

Mrs. A. J. Brannell, the well-known modiste, has removed to No. 914 Morrison street, between Fourth and Fifth, where she is prepared to do first-class dress-making, and would be pleased to see all her old patrons. She is prepared to teach cutting and fitting by the celebrated "Square System."

Mrs. Simmons, Bleacher and Presser, has removed to No. 226 Third street, near Salmon, city.

The "New No. 6" is the cheapest sewing machine to buy. Wheeler & Wilson M'f'g Co., 88 Morrison st.

NEW THIS WEEK.

**THE ATTENTION**  
 Of persons visiting Portland during the coming Fourth of July celebration is called to our  
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