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## ASTORIAN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

HAVE SOME SENSE, GENTLEMEN.

site upon which it stands. The mayor says in his veto message that he believes the price fixed upon the property, \$15,000, is too low, and that there is a gen- ity" in words, but in this, if extremists, they are eral demand for a more costly building than has here-| quite as far in error as any imitator of the Johnsonese tofore been contemplated by the council. He sug-dialect, the San Francisco Bulletin believes. Eng gests that action be deferred until such time as the city is financially able to erect a suitable building.

The common council is rapidly making no progress During the past four or five months it has undertaken several proposals, and in almost every instance it without the Latin and Greek, derivatives English has failed miserably to accomplish the ends sought would be a bare, poor speech, inadequate for the . The greatest fiasco was the city hall muddle, which has made the council ridiculous in the eyes of the community. The mayor's veto of the ordinance will stand, for the reason that three members proposal for some time. So it has been with the general demand for a dumping ground. The committee on public property selected a tract belonging to the proposal is off in a thousand places.

a typewriter, it will be recalled, proved entirely be-tion," said Macaulay, "either has never conversed youd the administrative capacity of our municipal with an accomplished woman or does not deserve to guardians, who were compelled to abandon the pro- have conversed with her." Bunyan wrote racier, ject. Provision for heating the office of the chief of finer prose that the pedantic Milton. "Gulliver's police was so stupendously bewildering that the Travels" is a better book than "Rasselas." councilmen deliberately side-stepped it, preferring Scientists are the worst offenders against Saxon to have the city pay \$30 or \$40 a month for gas simplicity. They persist upon falling back upon the heat rather than tackle the proposition.

of which the members will have scant reason to feel an intelligible to all learned men. Many words, once proud when they retire again to the modest life of confined exclusively to scientific jargon, are now in private citizens. In years to come they will look ordinary circulation. Anent the adoption of scienback over the records of the municipality and contifie expressions into the common speech Punch once template the many things they have not accomplished a clever bit of verse whose merit, more ed and the very few proposals which they have car-than its pertinency here, is an excuse for reprinting ried to a successful issue. They have wasted weeks it: in their persistent pursuit of phantoms, and it is about time they ceased this kill-o'-the-wisp legisla-

Members of the city council my attribute their failures to several factors. In the first place, they fail to get together. New proposals are unexpectedly sprung at council meetings and opposition develops that engenders more or less hard feeling. One of the elements in the council is numerically strong enough to pass such measures as it deems necessary, but it not infrequently occurs that even the majority goes to pieces. The minority, which supports the course of the mayor, is strong enough to sustain vetoes and thus thwart the will of the majority.

abuse of the power delegated one member to defeat the interests of their own city by supporting The prompt action through suspension of the rules. Seven Astorian's 1904 directory. Local men are employed of the eight members at present in the council fre- in its publication and their salaries are spent at home quently favor some proposal which does not meet with The merchant who invests in The Astorian directory the approval of the remaining member, who blocks affords himself an opportunity of getting back some action by refusing to agree to suspension. In except of his investment, whereas the merchant who gives tional cases this sort of thing may be entirely proper, his coin to outsiders sends that much money out of but as a rule it indicates remarkably poor judgment the city. It pays to be patriotic. on the part of the solitary member casting the negative vote. Naturally some feeling follows, and mem- All we ever claimed for Wexford Jones is that he bers of the council drift hopelessly apart, with the is a good newspaper man. That residence in Astoinevitable result that nothing is accomplished. In ris should have made him proficient is merely inci- Office hours: 10 to 12 A. M., I to 420 P. M. view of the fact that councilmen are merely agents dental. of the city, it would seem that they should get onto themselves.

the mayor is quite right. To build another barn receipt of a now-is-the-time telegram? such as we have now would be deliberate waste of the people's money. Astoria needs a new city hall, recently proposed. The city is a permanent insti-ski! Do it somemorevitch!"

tution and its improvements should be of a perma nent character.

## LATIN AS AN AID TO ENGLISH.

The English, as a rule employ words with a finer feeling for the nicities of meaning than do the Americans, as a people, and the explanation of this lies probably in the fact that all English schools and universities, until very recent years, insisted on the setudy of Latin and Greek. Whether the institution of "modern sides" in most of the English public schools will effect precision of speech in England is they were exhorbitant. For instance, a problem that must wait for an answer. American schools have never made so much of "the classics" as have the English schools, and this policy may be furnish the business for the hackmen. defended by many sound, strong arguments. But it is indisputable that a man who possesses a fair knowledge of Latin and Greek-especially Latinwill use English more accurately-other things being equal- than a man who lacks that knowledge. Of course, there are a number of writers who, though totally ignorant of those dead tongues, use English with exquisite precision. The rule is subject to many Mayor Suprenant has returned without his ap-exceptions. And there are many who have been put proval the ordinance passed at the last session of the through a course of Latin and Greek with no percouncil authorizing the committee on public property ceptable gain in the art of using English words. Some to advertise for bids for the present city hall and the people are born without a sense for perceiving linguistic nicities, just as others are born without a sense for good music.

Some writers affect the "good old Saxon simpliclish is neither pure Saxon nor pure Latin and Greek. It is a thorough blend and mixture of the two. The Norman word has become as English as the Norman baron. It has as much right in our English tongue as any word of pure Saxon derivation. In fact, converse of civilized people.

And yet, since there are two sides to every argument, it is also the fact that knowledge of other tongues sometimes impares the idiomatic raciness of a man's own, native speech. William Matthews of the council will unquestionably vote to sustain it. quotes Schiller as saying that he read no more than The killing of this measure will settle the city hall was necessary in foreign languages because it was his business to write German, and he thought that by reading other languages he should lose his nicer perceptions of what belonged to his own. But German is not so composit a language as English. Many city, but upon the filing of a remonstrance the pro- writers from the time of Cicero, have remarked that posal was dropped. Of course, the dumping ground women speak their native tongue most purely because they know no other. "A man who thinks a knowl-Even so inconsequential a matter as purchase of edge of Latin essential to the purity of English dic-

dead languages for scientific terms, for the reason The present council is making for itself a record that these terms will thus be identical in all languages

> 'I love thee, Mary, and thou lovest me. Our mutual flame is like the affinity That doth exist between two simple bodies. I am Potassium to thine Oxygen. . . Sweet, thy name is Briggs,

And mine is Johnson. Wherefore should not we Agree to form a Johnsonate of Brigggs?

We will. The day, the happy day is nigh, When Johnson shall with beautious Bgiggs com-

Every dollar sent away from Astoria is a dollar lost. The trade-at-home spirit is what makes communities. Patriotic Astorians, besides getting the The contention in the council results from the greatest value for their money, will likewise advance

Jefferson Myers has sprung H.W.Scott's name So far as the city hall proposition is concerned for the vice-presidency. Wonder if Jeff is lately in

Every time the Japs sink a Russian vessel the av- DRAYING AND EXPRESSING but it cannot afford to erect a structure such as that erage American feels like exclaiming: "Welldone-

GO TO SEATTLE TO DIE.

Unique Rate War Lends Inducement to be Buried.

Seattle, Feb. 10 .- Now is a cheap war on among the various stables direct from the stables, instead of goowning and renting backs for funerals ing to the undertakers. The undertakers of the city are in on

The first of the year the leading sta- unique war. bles and undertakers of the city formed a combine whereby they agreed to raise prices for rent of backs for funerals. The prices were put to figure whereby to raise the union rate of wages for \$8.50 was charged for a back to Lake View cemetery, the nearest burial place to the city. The undertakers were to and the latter in return for the favor were to pay the undertakers 20 per cent of the amount they received.

Yesterday afternoon the superintends ent of the Montana stables posted a notice that his company would with- feet. draw from the combine, and that in the future he would charge but \$5 for

Seattle to die.

The undertakers resent the cut by walking delegates is not popular.

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declaring that they will not send a bit of their business to the Montana sta bles. The latter declare that they will get the business in time any how, because persons who are burying their time to die in Seattle. There is a rate relatives will contract for their backs

> In the meantime the public is wait-... | ng unxously to see the outcome of the

### Wage Increase Not Popuar.

New York, Feb. 10 .- A proposition bers of orchestras will come up before the meeting of the Musical Mutual Protective Union next Thursday evening. Many of the union members oppose the suggestion as thy are of the opinion that many proprietors of summer resorts would try to get non-union players if the plan should go into ef-

Other proposals are to increase the pay of walking delegates from 4500 to \$1000 each for the season, and to de-That notice has started a war where- mand half pay for union musicians in by it is believed that in time the hack- cases where they are unable to play on men will be making prices so low that account of rain. The last proposal is it will be an inducement to come to looked on with favor by the members. but the attempt to increase the pay of

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11:35 a m ton, Flavel Fort 4:00 p m 5:50 p m Stevens, Hammond 10:46 a m and Seaside

6:15 a m | Seaside for War-| 12:50 p m \*9:30 a m renton, Flavel, 7:20 p m 2:30 p m Hammond, Fort \*9:25 a m Stevens & Astorial

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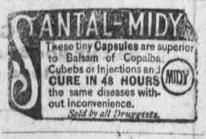
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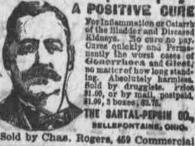
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