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## RATES.

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY ASTORLAN.
By mail, per year, in advance

## astorian publishing company.

## THE STAGE AND PROFANITY.

e will tage of any of the showhouses which he is connect ed with. The article in which the statement appear does not go into detail and the manager is not give an opportunity to make himself clear, but we can sur mise that he is opposed to vulgarity from the stage mise that he is opposed to vulgarity from the stag departure will have sweeping effect.

This theatrical manager ought to be tendered vote of thanks. If he adhers to his publicly express ed determination, he will have taken a long step to wards decent entertainment, and his course will approved by every theatergoer with a thimbleful of appreciation. There are mighty fe wof us who have not attended theatrical performances where lame ac tors have sought to amuse with vulgarity. We hav aken our mothers, wives, sisters and sweethear and have often noticed the blush of shame upon the faces at the coarse jokes of some barnstormer who knowing his own professional incompeteney, em-
ployed profanity as a substitute. With every oath ployed profanity as a substitute. With every oath
uttered by this elass of actors, the rough element of uttered by this elass of actors, the rough element of he audience gives way to its merriment, to the embarrassment of the respectable people
their money to see the performance.

So general has become the practice among enterainers of swearing on the stage that one never know What he will have to put up with when he goes to the playhouse. It is time the practice were stopped. There is a very considerable respectable element
which objects seriously to this persistent insulting f women, ana, while respectable people do not ap pland as vociferously as those of the rougher class performers should be required to respect their feel ings. The hobo actor who comes upon the stage and fails to "get a hand" with legitimate lines immed iately attempts vulgarity, and is promptly applauded by those to whom such stuff appeals. It is a villain
ous practice and should no longer be comntenanced. ous practice and should no longer be countenanced.
If the Portland manager insists upon the obliter ation of profanity at his showhouses, he will confer a lasting favor on ladies and gentlemen, an
example which ought to net good returns.

## asLatic Markmanship.

$\qquad$ that our destroyers, the Asashio, Kasumi and Akatsuki, nearly touched the enemy's ships and ou jured men on them.
So reports Admiral Togo, describing to the mikado his valorious defeat of the Rusian flotilla Mountain. He details further that the battle lasted 30 minutes. Thirty minutes, nose to nose, yet the total damage done, according to Togo's report, is one
Russian boat captured and though this has not been confirmed, so badly smashed up that she sank later. T
killed and eight wounded.
Time was when the horrors of warfare, w great belching steel guns and craekling small arm
that can throw scores of shells a minuts "rupil that can throw scores of shells a minute, "rapid-fire
shells, piercing three inches $f$ armor, were painte shells, piereing three inches f armor, were painte
in ochre by the war specialist. It was said that eac resort to which General Sherman likened it. Yet after a dozen or more engagements and bombardment the total casualities in the present straggle, allowin
for exaggeration, fall short of a thousand, and a larg part of these result from inefficient handling of gur and explosives, as W
But perhaps, after all, it is not the fault of th Asiatic marksmanship is not to be considered. the majority of the naval engagements thus far, ous engagements off Port Arthur an din the bombar ment of Vladivostok, they hurled, without exagge ation, thousands upon thousands of shells into th
Russians' forts. Yet few were killed and compara tively little damage done. Which is easily understoo when it is explained that as ation, the Japane are nearsighted.
powers intervene the war will drag wearily on. 00 50
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Dewey suiled into Manila bay and sunk or captured
the Spanish tleet in less than an hour. All of the world knows of the quick work Schley made of the Spanish squadron at Sautiago. It is not the faul of modern engines of war. The complaint is made that the fisheries d partment is selecting the petty offenders and overlon ing the effenses of large concerns. It is alleged to be thrown into the river, and the belief is frequent ly expressed that an example should be made of then and not of the individuals who dump an occasional
load of sawdust into the bay. The throwing of sawdust into the Columbia
prohibited by law because of its bad effects the fishing industry. Sawdust will not kill all of thy salmon in the river, but it will contribute its share oward that end, and, with many other such pract which many thousands of persons depend. The mi who violates the law should be punished, and natter of small concern whether the start is made is case or in that of a saw milling company
sh warden is doubtless quite as anxious to ish warden is doublless quite as anxious the two men arraigned this week. Enforeement he two men arraigned this week. Enforeement
he fishing laws has been left with him, and he he fishing laws has been left with him, and he has doubt that all offenders will be promptly arreste nd we have enough faith in the intelligence of courts
ished.

In itself, the practice of throwing sawdust ist the river is one of not very grave importance. B is prohibited by law, and the law should be rigidly desired at Astoria, the headquarters of the fishing in dustry. If the people of this city can not be brought laws, it would be folly to attempt to compel fishing laws, it would be folly to attempt to compel observ
ance of the regulations elsewhere. The salmon in dustry sustains Astoria, and the pepole of this city hould be ever watchful to see that the daws ar trietly observed.

> ADVERTISING ABUSES.

All through the United States people are realizing as never before the need of checking the very serious evil of most of the advertising on sign-boards
and deaid walls. Municipalities and railway companies are taking the matter up in earnest and the movement for the suppression of this form of public
nuisance seems to be acquiring at last a strength hat was hardly hoped for a few years ago, says the Post-Intelligencer.
oking out of our windows to be strack full in the eyes with a twenty-foot red and yellow horror adve tising Flor de Cabbagio cigars, we have for so lon with nightmares calling attention to Peerless Pant and in the more thickly regions have so often mad ar railway journeys between interminable walls
ill-board monstrosities, that we have almost come to look upon this course of daily life as part of $n$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { 's plans } \\
& \text { The Pe }
\end{aligned}
$$

The Pennsylvania and Boston \& Albany rail ong their lines removed. Massachusetts has pass law prohibiting advertising signs in, or in sight, of
public parks and parkways or in public place public parks and parkways or in public places.
Pennsylvania has adopted the rule as to public places. Cities all over the country have passed or are con-
sidering stringent municipal regulations as to adyer. tising signs and bill-boards and private societies b the hundred are keeping up continued agitation o
the subject.
The movement should enlist the hearty sympathy of everyone who is not utterly callons to ugliness achusetts have held that a thing may be a nuisance
because it offends the sense of sight just as mueh
as if it offended the sence of smell or hearing, and as it offends the sense of smell or hearing, an In Paris not an advertising sign can be erecte been granted by a municipal commission whieh al
lows nothing which in size, color or shape may defac the appearance of the street or mar the skyline. A out his eye being once needlessly offended. That is probably far too radical a rule for th
country, although only because Americans are n educated up to it, but as regards bill-boards or any sort of advertising signs in public places no city ca
afford not to take a civilized stand and forbid then to a point where a man who in time be educate barn or the dead walls of his building to be defaced where he himself will feel the ing bad citizen and


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