THE MORNING ASTORIAN.

Established 1873.

RATES.

By mail, per year $6 00
By mail, per month 50
By carriers, per month 60

THE SEMI-WEEKLY ASTORIAN.

By mail, per year, in advance $1 00

ASTORIAN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

HAULING DOWN THE FLAG.

Newchwang is a Chinese river port on the Liao. It is one of the ports opened to commerce by our late treaty with China and to which we sent a consul. It is under Chinese jurisdiction, else we could not make a treaty respecting it. Russia has occupied it, proclaimed martial law and Cossacks have hauled down the American flag from the consulate and the residences of Americans. The same has been done with the British flag.

This was done by the order of Viceroy Alexieff and it is not yet known whether the high-handed proceeding is endorsed by his government. When that is known there will probably be diplomtic exchanges between our state department and Count Cassini. The count will dutifully convey the studied misrepresentations of his government to ours, and there the matter may rest. The act is another violation of the neutrality and territory of China. Meantime Gen-Ma, at the head of a Chinese army the strength and equipment of which is unknown, is moving toward north China, and Russia is protesting at Pekin that his presence within Chinese sovereignty with an armed force is a violation of neutrality and he must be ordered to withdraw.

The western nations may not choose to vove in the matter. But there is no doubt about what they should do. They should support China in putting Ma and his army right up to the frontier. It is obvious that Russia intends to continue her outrages upon China until that unfortunate empire is compelled to resist. If, at any time, Japan have an arm in the valley of the Lio above NewchWang and Ma is north of the Kangan mountains a junction between the two forces would be unhappy for Russia. In view of this she desires to occupy any Chinese position that is strategic as and when she pleases, pull down flags, violate treaties and keep the territory forces of China to which it belongs.

What she failed to get by the secret treaty in which she would have forced China had it not been discovered by Minister Conger she now takes by brute force and in brazen defiance of the international rights of the United States and Great Britain. Maybe such a course will win and perhaps it won't. The United States has no desire to be drawn into the controversy, but too many Cossack attacks on our flag may rouse such resentment among our people that the government will go beyond merely pretending to believe the diplomatic lies of the legation.

A TEST OF STRENGTH.

The first serious clash between the Russian and Japanese forces on land has come and terminated with the advantage with the latter. Four companies of Cossacks attacked four squadrons of the much-derided cavalry of the Japanese, and the latter, according to the Russian account, defended themselves stubbornly and finally beat off their assailants, who were compelled to retreat. According to the Russian account the retreat was on account of the approach of further Japanese reinforcements, says the Post-Intelingencer.

The actual number of men involved in the fight on either side is not given, but as nearly as can be ascertained the Japanese at the commencement of the fight wre out numbered by about 50 per cent. No advantage was gained by the Russians at any stage of the fighting, according to their own story, and if their retreat was due to the approach of reinforcements, the Japanese force originally attacked has still the credit of holding its own with a superior force and maintaining the fight in a gallant style.

It was little more than a skirmish, but it was a test of metal. It demonstrated, at least, that the Cossacks are not going to ride down any Japanese force of equal strength who mthey may encounter. After all, it was the Russian force which sought the fight and which retreated. The Japanese held what they had.

These outpost affairs are but the preludes to the land battle which is near at hand. Practically the Russians ocupy all of the country north of the Chongchou river, and the Japanese that to the southward. The advance outposts of the Japanese are evidently held strongly, as the manner in which the Cossack attack was repulsed indicates.

The correspondents report that the great Japanese machine is working smoothly and efficiently and that a spirit of confidence and quiet determination pervades the army. The Japanese have acquitted themselves well in the preliminary skirmish. The world will soon see what they can do in real battle.

JUDGE PARKER'S STRENGTH.

Reports from the democratic primaries in New York state summarized by the New York Herald show that David B. Hill will carry the approaching convention in the interest of Judge Parker, which will insure the latter the solid seventy-eight votes for the democratic presidential nomination, says the Ledger. The convention is to be held at Albany on April 18, and while the democrats of a few states, such as Rhode Island and South Dakota, have already held their conventions, and some others will have elected delegates before that date the democrats in most of the populous states are waiting to follow the New York lead. The probability is that Leader Murphy, of Tammany Hall, finding that he has failed to prevent the endorsement of Judge Parker, will fall in line and make the action of the New York democrats unanimous and harmouious. In that event there is little doubt that the influential and pivotal states of the east and a practically solid south will welcome New York's choice of a candidate and instruct their delegations for Judge Parker.

There is no reason to deny the fact that Judge Parker's nomination would be one of the strongest the democrats could make. He has been almost unknown outside of his own state, and there is no record whatever of his views on many political propositions. But these are far from being disqualifications. A democrat who has kept silent during the past fifteen years as Judge Parker has since his elevation to the bench has avoided a multitude of pitfalls and has not made enemies in his party. Judge Parker is clean, eminently respectable, dignified, learned and urbane. He will command respect and confidence. It will not do to underrate his popularity. If he is nominated the contest will be between two gentlemen of recognized character and honor, which have always been indespensible qualifications for the presidency. Personalities will in a large measure be eliminated. No one will have reason to complain on this score.

A Russian officer is authority for the statement that the world will never know until the eastern war is over, if it knows then, how many Japanese fighting ships have been crippled or destroyed by the guns of the czar. If we were to accept as true what Russian authorities think they see at Port Arthur we would believe that every time a Japanese ship was hit it exploded into a dozen more, each better qualified to fight than that from which it sprang.

Carnegie has given five million dollars more to advance the interests of another American institution. The steel king has left no doubt of his purpose to prove that it is possible for at least one man in the world, properly conditioned by enormous wealth, to cultivate phlianthrophy as a habit. It is a habit, however, that not many will find it difficult to direct or break.

When the murderer of an innocent girl stood in court recently to receive a sentence of life imprisonment for his crime, his lawyer declared that the defendant had nothing to say. It is not improbable that he felt as did every one else that knew the story of his dread deed, that in the gift of his life he was receiving a worthless favor.

Major General Wood has scored another glorious victory in his vigorous campaign against the Moros. Yet it is highly improbable that General Wood in all his military career will ever register a triumph comparable to that which was achieved for him in his absence in a committee room of the United States senate.

We trust that those senate investigating committees will make plain the distinction between being retained and being bribed.

It is proposed to divide New York into two states, and call one of them Manhattan. How would Martini do for the other?

It would seem that the output of fiction in the far east was sufficient without sending noveliists out as war correspondents.

Finland and Poland promise to rise against Russia as soon as they can get the men, money and amunition needed.

Corea has a new law requiring hunters to pay a heavy license tax. It is not being enforced this year.

Russia tacitly agrees to keep out of China so long as the other nations insist that she shall not enter.

The Japanese never use profanity, but they do not hesitate to cause more or less of it.

China's attitude is not guaged by her love for Japan so much as her hatred for Russia.

The sultan thinks he has a chuckle coming.

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To Adjust Wages.

New York, April 1.—Employes of the Erie railroad are seeking a readjustment of wages. The first committee representing the locomotive drivers has called on General Manager Stewart before whom the matter was placed. Meetings will be held almost daily until the complaints of all departments have been adjusted. The demands of each class of emyloyes are to be considered separately an dadvances or reductions in wages will depend wholly upon the merit of individual cases.

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8:00 a m 7:00 p m	Portland Union Depot for Astoria and Way Points	11:10 a m 9:40 p m
	ASTORIA	
7:45 a m 6:10 p m	For Portland and Way Points	11:30 a m 10:30 p m
	SEASIDE DIVISION	
*8:15 a m 11:35 a m 5:50 p m	Astoria for Warenton, Flavel Fort Stevens, Hammond and Seaside	7:40 a m 4:00 p m *10:45 a m
6:15 a m *9:30 a m 2:30 p m	Seaside for Warrenton, Flavel, Hammond, Fort Stevens & Astoria	12:50 p m 7:20 p m *9:25 a m

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Atlantic Express 8:15 p. m. via Huntington	Salt Lake, Denver Ft Worth, Omaha, Kansas City, St Louis, Chicago and the East	9:00 a m
St. Paul Fast Mail 7:45 p. m. via Spokane	Walla Walla, Lewiston, Spokane, Minneapolis, St Paul, Duluth Milwaukee, Chicago, and East	8:00 p m

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