## RATES.

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THE SEML-WEEKLY ASTORIAN.
By mail, per year, in advance
$\$ 100$

## ASTORIAN PUBLISHING COMPANY.

## mghty bad business.

One of the brightest advertising men on the coast H. W. Gowell of Seattle, has committed suicide at Portland because he lost his money gambling at the different houses there. At Seattle Gowell met with financial reverses and went to Portland to gamble He hoped in this manner to reeoup his finances to an extent that would enable him to pull through the erisis. He lost $\$ 1100$, and then repaired to his room and turned on the gas. He left an explanatory let ter, which appeared in the Journal.
Gowell expressed the conyiction in his letter to the Journal that the gambling houses, in view of the circumstances, should return to his widow enough of the money lost by him to enable her to settle some
obligations which can not well go unpaid. He said he did not believe in "squealing," but that, as he killed himself in order to place his wife in possession this offer some assistanee by returning part of the money lost. Of course, the gamblers will do this; they always help in a case of death
The suieide of this intelligent man points a moral that ought not escape any man with a desire to gamble. It would seem from the letter left by Gowell $\$ 1100$ in an effort to win enough to settle elaims amounting to $\$ 360$ indieates very bad judgment. But the man made the fatal mistake of risking his little pile at the faro table, and perhaps did the proper thing when he kee
his life insurance.
Gambling is mighty bad business, not alone for the man who plays the game, but as well for the owner feelers are entwined about a victim, it is difficieult for him to free himself. The more he plays the for him to free himself. The more he plays the greater becomes his desire fire him with the idea of getting back his money; a winning prompts him to continue the play. At times he starts off winner as the gamblers say, and, upon losing lack the money the game he is the victim of what is at best an aceute mania. Gambling will ruin he best of men, deaden their sense of deceney and drive them to deeds which no other form of vice will prompt them to commit.
The sympathy of everyone will go out to Gowell and his unfortunate wife. His was surely a sad ending, and the circumstances surrounding his death were indeed lamentable. But his demand upon the him is hardly fair, if anything affecting gambling can be called fair. The man who goes to a gaming table is actuated by but one desire-to possess simsetf
of the gambler's money. He wants to win. If he is lucky enough to "break the bank," he buys a drink
and departs the financial well-being of the gambling man's family is not a consideration with him. If hat loses he should not "squeal." He stould, instead, make and live up to a firm resolution to forego the pleasure of gambling. A law that makes it possible
for a loser to demand back money which he has lost at gambling tables is a blot upon our statute books. It was calculated, perhaps, to force the gamblers ou of business, but it has failed of its purpose. results, then, in nothing more or less than an en
couragement to men to gamble. Under its terms a man may gamble, assured that, should he win, th money will be his, but, if he should lose, that he may recover twice the sum lost. Gambling will thrive under its terms. Recently Dr. Woods Hutchinson said of whisky that it was a good thing, as it
had a tendency to exterminate the unft. There is a yery great deal of truth in this statement of the doetor; and a somewhat similar expression might be applied to gambling. Any effort on the part of the law to protect the man who risks his money al to increase the play. The sooner a player is "bust," to increase the play. The sonerned. With no money be can not longer gamble.
Viewed from any point, gambling is mighty bad business follow.

ELEMENTS OF LIFE. Ten years ago the injection of salt water as a re storative to patients dying from loss of blood aroused general nterest. The disoovery of this quality of
salt water probably suggsted to the French amvant; M. Quinton, a long and patient ressarch concerning
sea water, the conclusion of which throws unexpect esa water, the conclusion of which hrows unexpect ed light on and adds support to the Darwinian theory of evolution.
of evolution.
M. Quinton maintains that sea water is the nat ural source from which, as Professor Heeckel be lieves, elementary bodies rise which develop into all
the species, including the human. The environment wherein the anatomical elements of living creature exist is neither more or less than a marine one. Our
tisuues and cells continue to exert their functions in a fluid where the composition bears the closest $n$ semblance to that of sea water.
Hitherto the number of elements entering into the composition of the living body was considered abou 15. M. Quinton has shown the existence of trace of at least 14 others, which are also found in se water, such as copper, lead, silver and gold. Further if an animal is bled to the point of exhanstion and
the pace of the blood supplied with sea water the the place of the blood supplied with sea water the animal regains its strength in one day, and there in ito animals a quantity of sea water greater tha heir own body weight without toxic effect. The jection of pure water rapidly causes death. Thu sea water appears to be the true nutrient fluid for animal
Sun.

## QUEEN'S ENGLISH

The following speeimen of Babu English, extract from the report of a Punjab civil service employe going the rounds of the press: "The sub-post master reports that last evening a mice came out ttle, stammered and door, and, after walking nee of the sub-postmaster there. As these are the rognostics of plague, I beg you will kindly arrang o have the office disinfected at an early date."
John Sharp Williams, the minority leader in con ress, is one of America's brightest men. His abilit recognized by his republican opponents at Wash gton, who have frequently found it difficult sucessfully cope with him in his administration was asked if he would be a candidate for the demo ratic presidential nomination. He replied that h as aware a southern man could not yet hope to be me president, but expressed the conviction the day ble. "And when that day comes the south will be ble to furnish 10,000 better and 100,000 abler men
han I," said Mr. Williams. Mr. Williams' modesty only another evidenec of his real greatness.

A 12-year-old boy has been arrested in Palouse
or burglary, and the correspondent who sends th
the lad for some time." If not taken promptly
nay cultivate the bad habits of murder and arso
The big fair is open and St. Lonis is beginning to realize her conspicuous position. The exposition ha attracted hundreds of conventions to the fair city
and a steady stream of delegates will pour into St Louis until the fair closes. Then Portland will hav a turn as the convention city of 1905 .
A distinguished party of railroad men and million aires traveling west as guests of E. H. Harrima came near being mixed up in a bad aceident near
Ogden a short time. ago. Had the worst happened or courts throughout the country.
St. Petersburg advices tell of the blowing up Japanese troopship by a Russian submarine boa Possibly an easy way of satisfying the Russian mind ing beneath the surface of the water some of it effective.

The old monitors have been sold for junk. One hing in their favor was that, unlike the modern bat turtle. There will doubtless be some modification of the battleship to cure this established defect.

The Russians, after carful investigation, have de ship the ther day was really laid by the Japanese. The Russians, as usual, are behind hand. The Japaese knew this all along.

There is something of the barbarian left in people who gloat over the sinking of transports with all on board. That is not the kind of naval action that appeals to the admirers of the heroic in

With a continuation of the valuable advertising he is receiving, Madame Nordica, the noted Wag
The real facts about that engagement on the banks the Yalu are wanted.

Pears'
soap brings health and the color of health to many a sallow skin.

| ROBBED THE GRAVE. <br> A starting inoldent in related by John ollver of Phlladelphta, as foltows: "I was in awful condition. My skin was almost yellow, eyea sunken, tongue coated, pain continually in back and aldee, no appette, growing weaker day by day. Three phymilelans had given me up. Then I was advised to use Eleetric Bitters; to my great Joy, the frat bottle made a deelded improvement. I continuerd their use for three weeka, and am now a well man. I know they robbed the grave of another vlettm." No one should fall to |
| :---: |


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