QUESTIONS RAISED

Rev. Father Waters Propounds a Few on Church Matters.

ADDRESSED TO REV. GILBERT

Matters of Interest Involved—View Point Always a Feature—Astorian Simply a Medium—Enlightment Always Desirable in Controversey.

The Astorian this morning offers the full text of a communication submitted to the office by Rev. John Waters, rector of St. Mary's Catholic church in this city, anent the published lecture of Rev. W. S. Gilbert in its columns of Sunday last: The Astorian has, as yet, no comments to make in this matter, other than to remark that view-points vary on all subjects and that enlightenment is always valuable under any circumstances, and respectfully leaves whatever of issue there is in the matter to the capable hands that have raised the argument, if argument it proves to be. Father Waters' communication is as follows:

Astoria Ore, Feb. 14. 1906.

To The Editor of The Morning Astorian.

"Dear Sir:—In the issue of your paper, last Sunday morning, the 11th inst, appeared an account of the proceedings that transpired at the meeting of the Women's Club, in this city on the 10th inst. The principal feature of the meeting it seems was an address delivered by the Reverend W. S. Gilbert, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, entitled '"Present Conditions in the Philippines."' According to the narrative in the 'Astorian,' the major portion of the Reverend Mr. Gilbert's remarks are published in said account.

"As certain of the statements impressed me, as being quite novel; and recognizing the fact that occasionally despite the most earnest endeavors of newspaper men, an error may be made in reporting the words of a public speaker, I presented a letter to the 'Astorian' Monday the 12th inst. In said open letter I requested the 'Astorian' to inform me concerning the authenticity of the address as published. Today I received an answer signed by the Editor of the 'Astorian' to the effect that published account contained the words furnished by Reverend W. S. Gilbert, himself.

"In order that the public may thoroughly understand the issue I respectfully request the 'Astorian' to publish my letter of the 12th inst.

"As an introduction to his address, the Reverend Mr. Gilbert uses considerable space demonstrating how little is known concerning the Philippine Islands and their inhabitants by people in this country. I am of a similar opinion.

"The Astorian' of the 11th inst. says: Rev. W. S. Gilbert, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, was the speaker of the day, and he chose for his theme; '"Present Conditions in the Philippine Islands,'" a subject no one in Oregon is better equipped to expound than ('than,' presumably) the popular chaplain of the famous Second Oregon regiment." (The parenthesis is mine). These words are calculated to lend prestige to the address itself.

"As an American Catholic priest—true to his church and true to his country—in view of my investigations and studies, I find it difficult to concive of, not to say, believe some of the assertions made by the Revrend W. S. Gilbert, in his address before the Women's Club of this city, last Saturday afternoon. However, as I do not pretend to be well versed in Philippine affairs, I determined to investigate the subject more fully, by corresponding with persons in a position to know the facts.

'Before doing so I respectfully request Reverend W. S. Gilbert to vouchsafe the people of Astoria, as well as your humble servant, a little more information, concerning certain declarations made in his address. If his answers are satisfactory they will obviate the necessity of my writing elsewhere.

'In the 3rd column of page 4 of Sunday's article, we read the following words: "On the 22nd of last December, the Friar lands consisting of 400,000 acres, mostly rich, cultivated lands were bought by the government for $7,239,000 so that by this event of last year, we may see the day coming soon, when the lands of the islands shall be owned by the people.

"**First Query:** (a) Are we to infer from this statement, that none of the lands were owned by the people, before said date. (b) Is it a fact, that none of the lands were owned by the people simultaneously with the presence of the Friarism in the Philippines?

"I quote the next sentence: '"The great curse upon the Filipinos has been the system of land ownership and manifold taxation by the church; tax was collected for everything: to kill a hog was taxed; to marry, to be born, to die; so that the people were hopelessly poverty stricken"' Doubtless, the worthy matrons of the club must have shuddered at the recital of these heartrending conditions! Let us examine this portion of the address minutely.

"**Second Query:** (a) Concerning land ownership: Was not the land in most cases, acquired as honestly, and was not its retention based upon as good a title, as the vast possessions held by certain leading members of the various religious denominations in this country? If not why not?

'(b) Concerning taxaton by the church From the trend of the address, I infer that the Roman Catholic Church is meant. If I am wrong, I shall be pleased to learn the fact.

"The speaker said: '"Tax was collected for everything"' Does this mean, that a tax was collected by the Roman Catholic Church in the Philippine Islands for everything? Yes, or no?

'"To kill a hog was taxed."' Does the Reverend gentleman mean that the Roman Catholic Church in the Philippine islands taxed every hog that was killed within that district. Yes, or no?

'"To marry to be born, to die. Does the Reverend Mr. Gilbert mean to say, that every person, in every case was forced by the Roman Catholic church, in the Philippines, to pay a tax in order to marry, to be born or to die? Yes, or no? Does he intend to assert that no priest would assist at the marriage or at the death-bed of a person, howsoever destitute without first exacting a tax? Yes, or no?

'"So that the people were hopelessly poverty stricken."' Finally, does the Reverend gentleman mean to affirm that the Roman Catholic church in the Philippines, was the sole cause of the people being hopelessly poverty stricken, on account of the taxation imposed by the legislation of said church? Will he please furnish the church legislation to that effect?

"In the fourth column of the Astorian's account, we read: "I took the first box of Bibles into Manila." Is the Reverend genlteman certain of this statement. I ask this question, because subsequently he says: '"To be sure, each Englishman could have his own Bible."' In the third line from the top of the same fourth column, he asserts that '"There were 5000 English residents there."' Was it not possible, that some one of them may have been a pioneer in this field? But this is not the particular point, to which I wish to call attention. Here it is: Does the Reverend Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church intend to insinuate, that none of the Catholics in Manila or in the Philippines for that matter, had a bible?

"In closing Mr. Editor, permit me to say, that I write these words "with malice toward none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right." I feel that I owe it to myself and to my fellow Catholics to ascertain the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. That we demand: We shall not be satisfied with less. Thanking you, dear sir, for your patience.

"I remain, Yours Respectfully
"JOHN WATERS."

Ask any "JAP" that you may see,
"What the Czar, With Bear behind,"
had to climb a tree.
The Yanks, God bless the Yanks, says he,
They gave us Rocky Mountain Tea.
Frank Hart, druggist.

MORE COMFORT THAN EVER.

On Sunday, December 17th, the Denver & Rio Grande railroad will inaugurate a daily line of standard and tourist sleeping cars between Denver and Los Angeles in connection with the new Clark road. Both cars will leave Denver daily at 9:30 a. m., and arrive at Salt Lake City at 1:35 p. m., the next day. At this point the cars will be held over until midnight, thus allowing through passengers the privilege of a stop-over of ten hours and a half in Salt Lake City. Eastbound, these cars will leave Los Angeles at 8 p. m., and arrive at Salt Lake City at 6:30 a. m., second morning where they will remain over until 3:50 p. m., thence to Denver where they will arrive at 4:20 the following afternoon. This stop-over at Salt Lake City of the regular line of sleeping cars promises to be an attractive feature for transcontinental travelers.

WATERFRONT ITEMS

Rough Bar Makes Marine News a Rarity.

SHIP SARGENT IS WAITING

Steamer Cascades Arrives from San Francisco—Senator Due Down This Morning—Roanoke Should Also Be Down—Notes from Wharf and Slip.

It is said the ship C. F. Sargent would have been to sea several days ago, but that some disagreement has arisen in relation to her present captain, . F. Gammons, and orders were sent down holding the ship until the arrival of Captain McCloud, who will navigate her around the "Horn." No one seems to know anything about the differeces that have caused the change, and this report is made on the basis of waterfront rumors and is given for what it is worth.

The French bark Jean Baptiste is the only square-rigger in the lower harbor just now. She is awaiting towage to Tacoma, and as the news from that section indicates a heavy stress of weather it is problematical when the Sea Lion can get over after her, probably not until next week.

The steamship Senator is due here at 3 o'clock this morning on her way to San Francisco. The only passengers booked out of Astoria are the 'Cycle Whirl" people who have been filling an engagement at the "Star."

The steamer Alliance is still in Portland, undergoing annual inspection by the federal authorities and will probably be there until Monday next, when she will leave out for Eureka and Coos Bay.

The steamer Cascades from San Francisco came in yesterday morning and will dock, for a partial load of lumber which will be completed at Portland.

The steamer F. A. Kilburn is due to arrive at this port this morning from San Francisco.

The steamer Czarina is billed to enter this morning from the Bay City.

The Columbia bar was pounding in heavy fashion yesterday and but little traffic passed its uncomfortable area.

The three masted schooner Beulah from San Diego, arrived in port yesterday evening on the hawsers of the Wallula.

The steamer Whittier came down from Portland yesterday afternoon and went to the lower harbor, but it is not known whether she got out or not.

APPEAL STANDS PAT.

Friendly Statement in Behalf of Dr. James Withcombe.

From the time his name was first mentioned as a candidate for Governor on the republican ticket, Dr. James Withycombe of Corvallis, has been gaining in public favor, and today there seems to be little or no doubt as to his success in securing the nomination.

A man who has been successful in all his undertakings throughout life, as Dr. Withycombe has, cannot help being an efficient executive officer if elected.

Dr. Withycombe is in this contest at the urgent request of his friends in the state, for a clean honorable campaign and does not merely aspire to the executive office of the state of Oregon to gratify a personal ambition, but to do what he can for the entire interests of the state; and if he is elected to fill that honored position will be a credit to himself and his friends, and will rebound to the honor and dignity of the state.

We not only heartily endorse Dr. Withycombe as a candidate but we urge our readers to give him a hearty support at the primary election, believing him to be the right man for the executive chair.—Silverton Appeal.

Common Colds are the Cause of Many Serious Diseases.

Physicians who have gained a national reputation as analysts of the cause of various diseases, claim that if catching cold could be avoided a long list of dangerous ailment would never be heard of. Every one knows that pneumonia and consumption originate from a cold, and chronic catarrh, bronchitis, and all throat and lung trouble are aggravated and rendered more serious by each fresh attack. Do not risk your life or take chances when you have a cold. Chamberlain's Cough Remedy will cure it before these diseases develop. This remedy contains no opium, morphine or other harmful drug and has thirty years of reputation back of it, gained by its cures under every condition. For sale by David Ingram.
sale by Frank Hart and leading druggists.

"THE MILWAUKEE"

"Pioneer Limited," St. Paul to Chicago; "Overland Limited," Omaha to Chicago; "Southwest Limited," Kansas City to Chicago.

No train in the service of any railroad in the world equals in equipment that of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Ry. They own and operate their own sleeping and dining cars and give their patrons an excellence of service not obtainamle elsewhere.

Berths in their sleepers are longer higher and wider than in similar cars on any other line. They protect their trains by the Block System. H. S. Rowe, General Agent, 134 Third street Portland, Ore.

EXTRA QUALITY
DUNLAP & CO.

Invitation

Your are cordially invited to attend our Hat opening; beginning Feb. 17, when we will show the Dunlap Hat in all its new styles and colors for Spring and Fall.

This day is set aside by the makers and all over the United States and Canada the Best Stores will show the new shapes for the first time.

You who are good dressers and wish to be dressed right will do well to consult our hat man about your Spring hat—Come in and see them. They are worth looking into. They will interest you.

P. A. STOKES,
THE STORE THAT LEADS.

FLOWER SEEDS

We have received our new pack of Flower & Garden Seeds. Order Early and get Your pick.

ASTORIA GROCERY
Phone Main 681
523 Commercial St.

AUCTION! AUCTION!!

By request we will have special
AUCTION SALE
Saturday, Feb. 17

Furniture, Carpets, Glassware, Crockery and other Articles to Numerous to Mention

COME EARLY AND PROFIT.
Private sales during the week.
MAX STRAHL, Auctioneer.

Astoria Commission & Auction Co.
365 Commercial St.

NEW ARRIVALS

Spring and Summer Waistings

CONSISTING OF A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF MERCERIZED WAISTINGS, PIQUE, DIMITY, LAWNS, ALLOVER EMBROIDERIES, AND OUR LATEST IS THE COTTON GRENADINE. PRICES FROM 10 CENTS TO 50 CENTS THE YARD.

Big Values in New Spring Mohairs.

A SUGGESTION FOR YOUR EASTER GOWN, NOBBY AND UP TO DATE. PRICES FROM 59 CENTS TO $1.49 THE YARD.

Lace Curtains

WE ARE OFFERING THIS WEEK LACE CURTAINS, 75 CENTS VALUE FOR 45 CENTS, THE PAIR.

GROCERY DEPARTMENT

SPECIAL ITEMS FOR Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and and Saturday Quality Groceries for Economical Buyers.

Start the day right by drinking a cup of our Macoma Coffee, a special Mocha & Java blend. Regular 35 cents lb., special for the four days, 29 cents lb.

Radio Laundry soap, hard and well seasoned, 32 bars $1.00
Western Corn, 2-lb. standard, 3 tins, 25c; dozen ..... .95
Rolled oats, 10-lb. sacks ..... .35

THE FOARD & STOKES CO.
ASTORIA'S GREATEST STORE.
Where the New things Make Their Debut.

The BEE HIVE

SPECIAL SHOWING

New embroideries and shirt waists.

New white shirt Waists.

New ginghams, percales and domestic wash goods.

The BEE HIVE

WE ARE SHOWING

Some of the most beautiful pieces of

Chinaware

in the city.
Tea Sets, Chocolate Pots, Cups and Saucers, etc., etc., etc.

Yokohama Bazar
626 Commercial Street, Astori

Accordion, Sunburst and Knife Pleating To Order

STEAM PROCESS.
No Hot Irons. No Burning of Goods.
Miss O. Gould
Eighth Floor, Marquam Building.
PORTLAND.
Prompt and Careful Attention Given to all Out-of-Town Orders.