

THE MORNING ASTORIAN

Established 1873.

Published Daily Except Monday by THE J. S. DELLINGER COMPANY.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

By mail, per year, \$7.00
By carrier, per month, .80

WEEKLY ASTORIAN.

8, mail, per year, in advance, \$1.00

Entered as second-class matter July 30, 1896, at the postoffice at Astoria, Oregon, under the act of Congress of March 3, 1879.



Orders for the delivery of THE MORNING ASTORIAN to either residence or place of business may be made by postal card or through tele. boxes.

TELEPHONE MAIN 661.

Official paper of Clatsop county and the City of Astoria.

WEATHER.

Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Rain.

NO TIME TO LOSE.

Tomorrow night the Astoria Chamber of Commerce is going on record as a newly equipped, strong-handed, resourceful organization...

This is a splendid basis and the city is to be heartily congratulated upon it. The day is at hand for the doing of things, new things, large whole-some compensating things...

Let there be no lingering no du-biousness, about going before the people on the Port of Columbia out-rage. The declaration of the Cham-ber must be unequivocal, emphatic, straightforward in its rejection of that imposition...

There is no time to lose. The sooner the people of the State know of our just indignation and our purpose of righteous resistance, the easier the course of that contention will be.

The Chamber of Commerce can do nothing so conspicuously appropriate, and altogether popular, as this one thing.

VALE! LEGISLATORS!!

The Oregon legislature has adjourned; the people of the State breathe freely once again, and, casting critical eye on the sum of the work of ninety men in forty days, devoutly thank God that affairs are no worse.

The acquisition of a railway com-mission endowed with fairly liberal authority to correct many, and abate some, of the transportation evils, is the one thing of value out of the inter-mingled mass and mess. There has been some pretence made to minify the appropriations with the illogical result that the sum of them exceeds anything in her history.

There has not been an atom of statesmanship evinced in any direc-tion; politics of the rankest sort have prevailed always, save when that cult gave place to sectional domination; and one of the most conspicuous re-sults will come with the new elections, when republican prestige in Oregon will be found to have suffered irre-trievably from the blunders and worse than blunders, of the past forty days.

"LEST WE FORGET."

Ex-President Grover Cleveland to the contrary withstanding, this coun-

try is all right. We are forgetting much, nearly all, the heroic lessons and standards and men, that made us really and honorably great. Commer-cially, we are the greatest on this wide earth, but at what catalytic sacrifice are we achieving even that!

We know this doctrine is scorned in lofty places and condemned of the comfortable, pleasure seeking crowd; but it is brooding, silently, deeply, bitterly and upon levels higher yet than were ever known before; and the warn-ing is writ plainly, daily, so that all may read, upon the public prints of the nation. If you doubt it, take up your pet paper some morning or even-ing, and soberly analyze its each news item for cause, effect, relation and bearing, to human conditions, using your own best standards of the vir-tues, moral and civic, as an honest gauge!

EDITORIAL SALAD.

Lots of war talk is emanating from Central America. The wet season is over.

Poultney Bigelow's voice, after such long silence, has a sort of sepul-chral sound.

"The backbone of winter has been broken." "Ah, then, I suppose it will take two or three months for the poor crippled thing to crawl away."

Being too young at the time to re-member distinctly, Mrs. Thaw could not testify as to the exact date of her birth.

What is the difference between fin-ished and completed? The Thaw jury is likely to finished before it is com-pleted.

proud, when a government inquiry or a salacious murder case is likely to come along and drag his name into the limelight.

In case of the government own-ership of railroads will the distribu-tion of free passes equal the postal frank-ing privileges?

Bob Taylor's pleasant ways will be a boon to the senate, but it has less need at present of a first violin than of a new end man.

It isn't very flattering to the auto-mobile that the horse is now com-manding a higher price on market than ever before.

After Congress has adjourned, those senators can get out and further grat-ify their speech making tendencies among their constituents.

It's a safe bet that the man who introduced a bill in the Wisconsin leg-islature forbidding chorus girls to wear tight, isn't bald headed.

The actress who failed to be inter-viewed in the Thaw case must have a very unenterprising news agent.

London woman suffragists like to march about in muddy streets, yet doubtless they would resent it if any one insinuated they practice "dirty politics."

The latest ocean liners include flats for passengers who want more room. Even a flat, it seems, can be made to convey the idea of luxurious spacious-ness.

Bills to the number of 33,000 have been offered in the present congress. There is no chance to get them into an omnibus—it will take a steamship this time.

Mr. Rockefeller doesn't insist that any of the money be used in "educa-tion" for the people to the uses of elec-tricity and wood alcohol for lighting and heating purposes.

"Now," says the lawyer to the wit-ness, "will you tell the court if you noticed anything peculiar about the people in the flat next to yours."

"Why no. They had a piano they kept going most of the time, and when the piano wasn't going their phono-graph was."

CONFLICTING TALES

McDonald-Guerrin Tragedy at Chicago.

MURDERESS WAS A POETESS

Mally In Love With Her Victim Since His Boyhood and Despair At His Approaching Marriage Given as Cause For Shooting.

CHICAGO, Feb. 22.—With her mind almost completely wrecked, Mrs. Flora McDonald, who yesterday shot and killed Webster S. Guerrin, was removed last night to the annex of the Harrison Street Police Station, where her husband, Michael C. McDonald, spent most of the night with her.

After her removal her condition be-came gradually worse, and she could neither recognize McDonald nor others who had questioned her earlier in the day.

When quieted by her husband and attending physicians she would declare that she was suffering from pains and aches all through her body. At other times her hallucination was that she was on a voyage across the ocean in the midst of a storm.

At another time she imagined that the annex was crowded with children. McDonald was deeply affected by his wife's condition and frequently sobbed. For a time she imagined she was on the summit of Pike's Peak praying, and in her prayers she ap-pealed to God to tell her what the trouble was she had dragged her hus-band into. All the while McDonald sat near her, striving to hold back his tears, as he stroked her hands.

From the time of the tragedy until a late hour last night, Mrs. McDonald talked in a rambling disconnected way and little was obtained from her con-cerning the motive of the crime. From other sources and also from pieces of crudely composed verse that were found in her handbag it was learned that Mrs. McDonald had been possessed of an absorbing passion—a love for some one.

The object of her affection was not disclosed in the verse, but develop-ments after the tragedy led to the be-lief that it was Guerrin. The verses were written on sheets of white paper in an uneven hand and the writing is believed to be that of Mrs. McDonald.

Treachery, death and undying love are among the subjects touched upon in the verse.

Mrs. McDonald's explanation to the police as to the motive for her crime seemed exploded by the statements of her husband.

Mrs. McDonald declared that Guer-rin had been levying blackmail on her and that repeatedly he had obtained sums from her on threats of exposure. She declared he had followed her to California after she had fled to escape his attentions and renewed his de-mands.

This explanation however, was con-tradicted by the words of Mr McDon-ald. He said he had never given his wife large sums of money, thus prac-tically having only sufficient for house-hold expenses.

The reports from Guerrin's relatives seem to place a far different light on the tragedy. They declare that since Guerrin had been a boy in school Mrs. McDonald had been enamored of him and that she had continued her atten-tions even after he had used every in-fluence to break his relations with her.

It was said last night that Guerrin recently became engaged to a West Side young woman. This situation was considered as significant inasmuch it may have meant that he had served notice on Mrs. McDonald that her re-lations with him must cease.

A STITCH IN TIME

will save nine. So will a bottle of Ballard's Horehound Syrup always kept on hand save many a spell of sickness. A sure cure for Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, and Whooping Cough. Mrs. S., Hot Springs, Ark., writes: "I keep a bottle of Ballard's Horehound Syrup in my medicine chest and thank my forethought many times. It has prevented many severe spells of sickness." Sold by Hart's drug store.

POPE WILL NEGOTIATE.

ROME, Feb. 22.—In vatican circles it is stated that communication has been sent to Cardinal Ricard, arch-bishop of Paris, that he must conduct negotiations with the French govern-ment according to the instructions of the Pope.

What To Do When Bilious.

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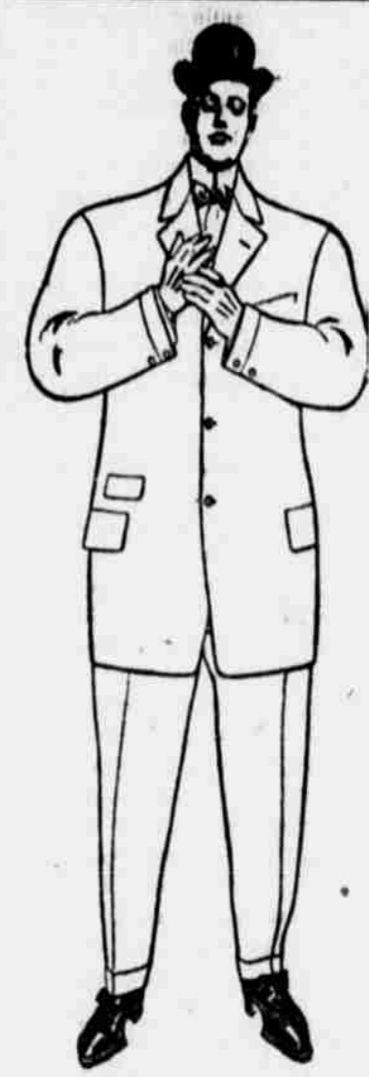
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