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of 25 per cent discount on Cut Glass proved to be such a success, we have decided to continue it for a week. We also offer—

## Our Hand Painted China At 20 per cent Discount

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Main 711, Main 3871 Phore Main 713  
Sole agent for H. C. Fry's Celebrated Cut Glass.

## LAND GRANT TITLES

### Action Taken to Determine Status of Railroad.

### ATTORNEY-GENERAL REPLIES

Recommends That Persons Take no Action or Expense on Themselves in Regard to Matter Except on Advice of Counsel of High Standing.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—Attorney-General Bonaparte recently received a number of letters relating to the status of lands held under the railroad and wagon road grants in Oregon, which have not been disposed of by grantees, and asking if the present holders "have to sell the same to actual settlers only, at a rate not exceeding \$20 per acre." The Attorney-general has replied that proceedings will shortly be taken to determine the rights and responsibilities of the Southern Pacific company's holding title to the lands mentioned. Further than this the attorney-general says he is not authorized by law nor permitted by the practice of the department to speak. He recommends that the writers take no expense on themselves in regard to the matter except on advice of counsel of unblemished reputation and high standing.

### NEW MEXICO'S PECULIAR LAW.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—The repeal of what has been denominated by some jurists as the most peculiar law in the United States is the idea of a joint resolution introduced today by Birdsall of Iowa. The law in question is a New Mexico statute, which has been in force for five years, under which all damage suits against New Mexican railroads for personal injuries must be brought in the courts of that territory and before the expiration of 90 days from the date of the accident, failing which the railroad concerned may itself enter suit against the injured person and obtain judgment of nonliability. Representative Birdsall stigmatized the law as "the strangest monstrosity on American statute books."

### SOME WOMEN LIARS.

CHICAGO, Jan. 10.—James Hamilton Lewis, a well known figure in Illinois politics, and formerly congressman from the State of Washington, denies the statement accusing him of saying in a lecture at Northwestern University law students that all women witnesses are perjurers. He says: "After defining the method to be employed as to women witnesses generally, I concluded what last class, the few who bring suits against men for money for certain well known alleged reasons. It was of this last class of whom I said that revenge or cupidity was their purpose, and the oath a useless thing."

### COMPANIES CUT RATES.

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—Upon the refusal of the Cunard S. S. Co. to increase its second and third rates for the new express steamers Mauretania and Lusitania by \$3.75, the International Mercantile Marine announced a reduction of the amount for all boats of the American & Red Star Line of the British service. The Cunard immediately met the cut and the International Marine followed this with a second reduction of \$3.75, making its total cut \$7.50.

### TEA

New York is too far from Japan; San Francisco is nearer.

Your grocer returns your money if you don't like Schilling's Best; we pay him.

### FIREMEN MEET DEATH.

Twelve-Story Structure Burns Down in Manhattan.

NEW YORK, Jan. 10.—Four firemen went to death tonight when they responded to the fire that ruined the Parker building, a twelve-story business structure occupying the block between east 18th and 19th on Fourth avenue. Fought by half the firemen in Manhattan, the flames were never controlled and only with difficulty confined to the building in which they originated. Floor after floor gave way and dropped to the basement and beneath these no less than 30 firemen were caught and either killed outright or seriously injured. The monetary loss is estimated at \$5,000,000. The fire was one of the most spectacular as well as disastrous in recent years.

### EARTHQUAKE FREES BROKERS.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 10.—The indictments against Joshua, Jacob and Herman Eppinger, who at one time were the largest grain brokers on the Pacific Coast, were dismissed by Judge Lawlor this morning. The indictments charged them with obtaining money under false pretenses on alleged bogus warehouse receipts for grain. The cases had been set for trial April 18, 1906, but in the five of that date all of the records were destroyed and the inability of the district attorney's office to restore these records resulted in the dismissal of the cases this morning.

### TRAFFIC RESUMED.

SAN JOSE, Cal., Jan. 10.—Traffic that had been blocked on account of the wreck of the Sunset express of the Southern Pacific Railroad last night was resumed at 9:30 o'clock this morning. By that hour all the debris had been removed. A Saunders is thought to have been the name of the man who was killed while stealing a ride on the train and that his home was in Chicago. The injured are reported to be resting comfortably today and no further fatalities are expected. The cause of the wreck has not been learned.

### BOOZE SELLER SENT TO JAIL.

EUGENE, Or., Jan. 10.—Charles Mayhew was fined \$200 and sentenced to 60 days in the city jail by Police Judge Dorris yesterday afternoon, having been found guilty by a jury of violating the city ordinance which declares a place where liquor is sold a nuisance. He will take the case to the circuit court on writ of review. Mayhew was fined \$200 a week or two ago in the justice court for violating the local option law, but this case, too, has been taken to the circuit court.

### BANK OFFICIALS CAPTURED.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Jan. 10.—James W. Harper and Wiley T. Smith, alleged to have stolen more than half a million dollars from the First National Bank of Hattiesburg, Miss., were arrested here today, after having been traced through many cities of the country. They were the assistant cashier and paying teller of the Hattiesburg Bank.

### WILL COST MORE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—Because of changed conditions since 1905, it is now admitted, in responsible quarters, that the estimate for building the Panama Canal is probably too low, and that it will cost approximately \$200,000,000. The previous estimate was \$139,765,000.

### TAKAHIRA CHOSEN.

TOKIO, Jan. 10.—It was officially announced today that Baron Takahira had been chosen ambassador to the United States to succeed Viscount Aoki.

### BATTLESHIP NEBRASKA.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 10.—The battleship Nebraska arrived here yesterday from San Diego to await the coming of the governor of Nebraska who is coming here to present, on behalf of that state, a magnificent silver service to the ship which bears its name.

So many emigrants have left Sicily that the pay for a day's work there has gone up from 30 to 70 cents. Nevertheless, the returning Sicilians will miss the American scale of wages.

It is predicted that the Klondike dredging companies will soon turn out \$20,000,000 gold annually. The steam shovel is making a great record all the way from Panama to the Yukon.

## CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.  
The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

## BUYING GOLD ABROAD

Methods Employed in Its Purchase and Shipment.

### NOT A COMPLEX TRANSACTION

The Simple System by Which Foreign Bullion or Coin Arriving by Ship in New York is Turned into American Money—The Loss by Abrasion.

Buying \$10,000,000 worth of gold from the Bank of England, says the cashier of the subtreasury in New York, is no more complex a transaction than buying a piece of real estate. Whatever difference there is in the two is in favor of the gold purchase. In it you are pretty sure to get the value of your money.

Much of the gold bought by the large banking houses of New York and other American cities is purchased from the Bank of England or the Bank of France. Its purchase is arranged for by the English or French agents of the bank that wishes to secure the gold. The price that will have to be paid depends largely upon the demand. In panic times, when every dollar of gold that can be secured is being eagerly sought by bankers here, the price is as high as 5 and 6 per cent.

The shipment of the gold is accompanied by comparatively few extra precautions. An extra detective or two from Scotland Yard, perhaps, and as many other private detectives employed by the Bank of England furnish all the protection needed.

All gold imported into this country comes in one of two forms. It is either in gold bars or in coin. If in coin it is usually American money that has been sent abroad in some previous year, for a comparatively small amount of foreign gold coin is brought here. Whether in bar or coin, however, it is all shipped in small steel cases. The bars are of an exact length, so as to permit them being packed tightly in the cases, while the coins are in bags, irrespective of denomination, that hold just 500 ounces.

The arrival of a gold laden ship at her pier in the North river is no different, so far as precautions for the gold itself are concerned, from that of any other vessel. There are always government officials, city police and private detectives to meet each ship, and the arrival of a boat with \$10,000,000 in gold aboard will result in no more than one or two extra men being present to ride on the wagons carrying the gold away from the pier.

The steel boxes, with their precious contents, as they are carted down from the ship to the wharfs might from their appearance contain only ordinary merchandise. If any unusual precautions be taken, however, it is during the brief moments that the boxes with their millions are lying on the pier waiting to be lifted into the wagons and carried away. Then they are watched by a good many pairs of eyes, and not a stranger is allowed to approach anywhere near them.

The final act of the purchase of gold differs in times of panic and at ordinary times. In times of panic, when the necessity for gold is so great that every moment is precious, its real value in relieving a situation comes only when it is piled high on the counters of the banks and trust companies awaiting the demands of the creditors of those institutions.

The gold that arrives in bars goes direct to the assay office. Before any attempt is made to analyze it and ascertain its real value the purchaser receives a certified check from the assayer for 98 per cent of the value supposed to be contained in the bars. The check can be converted into cash immediately, and the delay of two or three days necessary to make a complete assay of the shipment is avoided. Whatever additional sum is due the purchaser after the assayer's report is made he receives in a day or two.

Much the same process so far as expediency is concerned is gone through with the gold coins. They, instead of going to the assay office, go direct to the subtreasury. Each bag is weighed unopened and if found to tip the scales at 500 ounces \$9,300 in cash is immediately advanced. That process saves many hours, for each bag has to be opened, the coins assorted into their several denominations, counted and weighed for loss from abrasions. After that is done the money is returned to bags containing \$5,000 each, and the balance due the purchaser, whatever it may be, is forwarded to him.

The only other class of gold shipment that has to be handled is that of foreign gold coins. They are not even counted, but are placed immediately in a crucible, melted and then sent to the assay office, where they are treated as were the gold bars. The extra time necessary to secure actual American money for the gold coins of foreign nations is the chief reason for the small amount of gold imported in that form.

As between shipping gold in coin or bars there is little difference. It is said that the motion of the ships causes a loss of about \$200 in every shipment of \$1,000,000. It is a fact, however, that the coins do lose considerably more in weight than the bars.—New York World.

### A Political View.

"I call it bribery and corruption. Our member's wife's doctor, and she attends voters free!"  
"Get away! That ain't bribery and corruption. It's nursin' a constituency!"—London Opinion.

H. B. Parker, Proprietor

Manager E. P. Parker,

## PARKER HOUSE

EUROPEAN PLAN  
First-class in Every Respect. Free Coach to the House. Bar and Billiard Room. Good Check Restaurant. Good Sample Rooms on the Ground Floor for Commercial Men  
ASTORIA, OREGON.

J. Q. A. BOWLBY, President. FRANK PATTON, Cashier.  
O. I. PETERSON, Vice-President. J. W. GARNER, Assistant Cashier.

## Astoria Savings Bank

Capital Paid in \$100,000. Surplus and Undivided Profits \$80,000  
Transacts a General Banking Business. Interest Paid on Time Deposits  
FOUR PER CENT PER ANNUM  
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IRON AND BRASS FOUNDERS' LAND AND MARINE ENGINEERS  
Up-to-Date Saw Mill Machinery. Prompt attention given to all repairwork  
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HENRY SHERMAN, Manager  
Hacks, Carriages—Baggage Checked and Transferred—Trunks and Furniture  
Wagons—Pianos Moved, Boxed and Shipped.  
433 Commercial Street. Main Phone 127

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We are setting a merry clip for shoe sellers to walk to. The quick-step prices we have put on winter shoes should quicken their going.  
It should also quicken the steps of everyone who cares for a bargain in fine shoes.  
OUR SPECIALTY LINE of Loggers' shoes guarantee satisfaction to the wearer. None better, but a leader of all.  
643 Bond St., opp. Fisher Bros. Co.

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JOHN FOX, Pres. F. L. BISHOP, Sec. ASTORIA SAVINGS BANK, Treas.  
NELSON TROYER, Vice-Pres. and Supt.

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