

About Taxation.

So long as men are elected to legislatures for political purposes only there seems to be but little hope for reformation in the system of taxation. But we are pleased to see that the press of Oregon are preparing to give the public servants a few lessons in this particular. The revenue laws of Oregon are most certainly defective in two or three particulars. Especially is this true concerning exemptions from taxation. It is bad enough in our idea, to exempt churches from taxation, but the idea of exempting indebtedness seems altogether wrong to us. Of course, we do not advocate double taxation, nor do we think a man ought to pay taxes on what he has and what he owes also. But we cannot be sure that a creditor always returns a true list of the claims he holds against his debtors; and it is for this reason we oppose exemption on indebtedness. Let every man pay taxes on the just valuation of his property, and the pro rata of taxation will be perceptibly decreased. It is as fair for one as for the other.

What Drainage Does.

The Drainage Journal thus sums up some of the things that drainage accomplishes: Thorough drainage increases the depth of the soil, prevents the washing of the surface, allows the fertilizing matter in rain water to be distributed through the soil, assists the germination of seed, secures, with careful planting, a full stand, and prevents the packing of soil. Drained lands are less injured by trappings, and the soil is more easily cultivated. Drainage supplies only the necessary moisture, and admits the necessary air into the roots. Drained lands absorb fertilizing substances from the air. Drainage prevents the freezing out of winter crops, protects from damage in long continued wet weather, prevents damage from drouths, insures largely the uniformity of crops, with equal cultivation, improves the quality of products, improves the health of man and beast. Drainage is a better investment than to purchase the next farm.

Unfortunate Memphis.

There is no longer in reality such a city as Memphis, Tennessee, although the people and the buildings still remain on the site once known by that title. Becoming loaded down with debt and no visible means of becoming extricated therefrom, the legislature came to her assistance and wiped out the charter making her no longer a city, but simply a portion of the state territory. Everything of value belonging to the ex-city has been gobbled up by her creditors. It is very probable that the state itself will soon repudiate her entire indebtedness, claiming that it is impossible to liquidate.

A Boorish Journal.

"Baked Beggars," is the alliterative but heartless head-line the Chicago Times used over its report of the burning of the Louisville almshouse in which thirteen unfortunate paupers were burnt to death. This is almost as bad as its rhapsodic heading once used to describe a gallows scene, viz: "Jerked to Jesus."

Mineral Wax Mine.

The most wonderful mineral discovery yet made is that of immense beds of mineral wax in southern Utah and Arizona. This remarkable find, in the opinion of some competent experts, is of greater importance than was that of petroleum in Pennsylvania. It differs from paraffine, which name has sometimes been given to it, by being insoluble in ether, and other respects. In European countries, this curious mineral is found in small quantities; but as is usual in America, we have here found it in beds said to be as much as twenty feet in thickness, and extending many miles in area.

Japan is now manufacturing boots for sale in the United States from leather brought from American ports.

Walt Whitman lately said that George Washington Childs, A. M. is not a poet. Yet among the distinguished guests present by invitation at Mr. Childs' palatial mansion at a reception was Walt Whitman. This shows the magnanimity of George Washington Childs.

Two little children went to church alone in Westfield, Mass. They became tired during the long sermon, and the elder one, supposing that school rules held good in churches, led her sister up in front of the preacher and said: "Please, sir, may we go home?" He said "Yes," and they soberly walked out.

Bankruptcy is dangerous in Dallas county, Iowa. Dr. Slocum failed in business, and, although his creditors were not heavy losers, they dragged him out of bed at night, threw him nearly naked into a wagon, and started with him towards the woods. It is supposed that they intended to tar and feather him, but his friends rescued him before he had been hurt.

The most unkind compliment one Judge ever got from another was that received by Sir Alexander Cockburn from Sir George Jessel. "Whom are you quoting?" inquired the Master of the Rolls, to which the young counsel appealed with confidence. "The Lord Chief Justice." "Ah?" said Sir George, "a most eloquent Judge."

The city of Mexico is a lazy place, according to a Chicago Times correspondent who accompanied the visiting committee from the United States. "The hotels are languid," he says, "so are the restaurants, the theatres, the public offices and the barber shops. The business houses have an air of perpetual waiting upon providence. The clerks act like weary anglers looking patiently for a 'rise.' A generation of American enterprise might revolutionize all this, and rouse the metropolis from her trance."

There used to be a legend concerning the frightful passion in which Horace Greeley was found on one occasion, smashing chairs and making the atmosphere sky-blue with profanity. "What is the matter, Mr. Greeley?" asked a friend, and Mr. Greeley piped a reply, "Matter? Why the --- that edits the Almanac has made out that Calaveras county, Cal., gives a democratic majority of 4, and every --- in the American Union knows that it never went democratic by more than 2." It is, perhaps, well for Mr. Greeley that he died when he did, for the Almanac of the paper he "founded" has of late become a volume of the most exasperating sort.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

DISSOLUTION NOTICE.—The following telegram is self-explanatory: SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 21, 1879. To D. C. Ireland, Astoria, Oregon: Advertise the firm of Leveridge & Prindle dissolved, on account of serious misconduct of Leveridge, by order Thornton, Judge. R. D. HUME.

OLD PAPERS.—We have a valuable lot of old papers on hand, just the thing for making scrap-books, or what housewives need for shelf covers. Will be sold in lots to suit purchasers at 50 cents per 100. First come, first served. ASTORIAN OFFICE.

DR. I. M. SEVERN. PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON. EXAMINING SURGEON OF PENSIONS. Owing to office requirements I will hereafter confine myself to office practice, except in surgical accidents, or emergent cases. Specialties—Chronic Diseases, Acute and Chronic Skin Diseases. Office.—Larsen's building. Office Hours.—9 A. M. to 12 A. M. and 3 P. M. to 9 P. M.

NEW TAILORING SHOP. (In A. W. Cone's Building.) WATER STREET, ASTORIA, OREGON. THOMAS CURRY, (Late of Tacoma).

BEGS LEAVE TO INFORM THE PUBLIC that he is now prepared to make all kinds of clothing to order, or to renovate or repair clothing. Having had an experience of 25 years, I defy competition in the art of making old clothes look like new. My system is known only to myself, by which I can lengthen pantaloons without piecing, etc. For particulars see small cards. THOMAS CURRY, Tailor, steam-scourer and Repairer.

NOTICE. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, THAT Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express for San Francisco Will hereafter Close Every Saturday Evening, AT 7 O'CLOCK. A. VAN DUSEN, Agent.

Fishermen's Meeting. PURSUANT TO A RESOLUTION passed at a meeting of Columbia river fishermen, held in this city on Monday evening last, a meeting will be held in Astoria on

TUESDAY, MARCH 4th, AT LIBERTY HALL, To make arrangements to oppose the license law passed at the last legislature, and all fishermen on the river are cordially invited to be present. By order of the meeting. J. G. BOBSON, B. A. SEABORG, Committee. Astoria, Oregon, Feb. 12, 1879.

Fish Commissioners Notice. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the undersigned, having been duly appointed deputy for Clatsop county, by C. Lienenweber, Fish Commissioner, under the laws of the State of Oregon, will be in readiness from and after this date, to issue licenses, at his office up stairs, corner of Cass and Squemoqua streets, Astoria, Oregon. Persons sending in applications for licenses will please send No. of boat and the name of the fisherman or captain of the boat. H. B. FERGUSON, Deputy Fish Commissioner. January, 14, 1879.

CITY BOOK STORE, MAIN ST., ASTORIA.

CHAS. STEVENS & SON. Invite the attention of purchasers to their stock, just laid in. The Finest Selection! The Cheapest Prices! The Greatest Worth! RECEPTION POCKETS; LADIES' DIARIES AND PURSES COMBINED; COMB AND BRUSH POCKETS; CUTLERY, JEWELRY, CHARMS, ETC., ETC.; LADIES' FANCY BOARD, ETC.; GOLD PENS AND PENCILS. PAINT PENCILS, GUTTA PERCHA GOODS; EXCELSIOR DIARIES, BLANK BOOKS, STATIONERY, ETC. All goods sold at lowest cash prices. CHAS. STEVENS & SON. City Book Store to Main street, two doors from the Pioneer Restaurant, opposite the bakery of Mrs. C. Binder.

SEAMING GLASSES, All sizes and shapes from Plate or 20 oz.

DOORS, WINDOWS, AND WINDOW GLASS.

Sash, Weights, Etc.

Address all orders CLIFFORD COGGINS, (Successor to Jason, Springer & Co.) PORTLAND, OREGON.

CHARLES HEILBORN, MANUFACTURER OF And Dealer in FURNITURE and BEDDING. ALSO IMPORTER OF CARPETS, OIL CLOTHS, WALL PAPER, SHADES, ETC. All kinds of repairing promptly attended to, and furniture made to order. A full line of picture-mouldings and frames, brackets, window cornices, etc. Full stock and lowest prices, corner of Squemoqua and Main street, Astoria.

MISCELLANEOUS.

I. W. CASE

IMPORTER AND WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN

GENERAL MERCHANDISE,

A FULL ASSORTMENT WHICH WILL BE SOLD AT THE

LOWEST RATES FOR CASH

Corner Chenamus and Cass streets.

ASTORIA - - - OREGON.

A COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF Fresh Garden Seeds,

BOTH OREGON AND CALIFORNIA

JUST RECEIVED.

I. W. CASE,

Corner Chenamus and Cass Streets,

ASTORIA, OREGON.

BUSINESS CARDS.

DR. J. W. OLIVER, HOMEOPATHIST. OFFICE.—In Shuster's Daguerrean building. Entrance—Second door above that of the DAILY ASTORIAN, Cass street. Residence on Jefferson street, corner of Main.

B. F. DENNISON, F. J. TAYLOR, DENNISON & TAYLOR, ATTORNEYS AT LAW. ASTORIA, OREGON. OFFICE—Up stairs in Parker's building, corner Chenamus and Benton streets.

O. F. BELL, A. MEACHEN, BELL & MEACHEN, Attorneys at Law and Notaries Public. Commissioner of Deeds for California and Washington Territory. Astoria, Oregon.

J. W. ROBB, C. W. FULTON, ROBB & FULTON, Attorneys-at-Law, Collecting and Real Estate Agents. Rooms Nos. 1 and 2, Dr. Welch's new building, Squemoqua street, Astoria.

F. D. WINTON, ATTORNEY AT LAW. Office in City Hall Building. ASTORIA, OREGON.

DR. F. CRANG, PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON, ASTORIA, OREGON. Office—Room No. 7 over C. L. Parker's store, Opposite Dement's drug store.

OTTO DUFNER, WATCHMAKER AND JEWELER. HAS REMOVED TO Main street, Parker's building. ASTORIA, - - - OREGON.

CHAS. A. MAY, DEALER IN Foreign and Domestic Fruits, Nuts, Candies, Yankee Notions, Toys. Finest brands of CIGARS AND TOBACCO. Chenamus street, - - - ASTORIA.

W. E. DEMENT, DRUGGIST. ASTORIA, - - - OREGON. Carries a full Assortment of Drugs, Patent Medicines, PAINTS, OIL AND GLASS.

Prescriptions filled with care Day or Night. Manufacturer of Fishermen's Relief. A pure preventative of Chapped Hands, and cure for Fish Wounds. LEE LUT, LEE HONG POI.

LEE YUNE CHUNG, DEALER IN CHINESE MERCHANDISE. Chenamus st., - Astoria, Oregon. Give us a call.

AUCTION SALES.

E. C. HOLDEN, Notary Public for the State of Oregon. Real Estate Agent and Conveyancer. Agent for the FIREMEN'S FUND INSURANCE COMPANY of San Francisco. COMMISSION AGENT and AUCTIONEER. Rents and Accounts Collected, and returns promptly made. Regular sales day, SATURDAYS at 2 P. M. N. B. Parties having real estate, furniture or any other goods to dispose of either at auction or private sale should notify me soon as convenient before the day of sale. No storage charged on goods sold at Auction. E. C. HOLDEN, Auctioneer.

Furniture for Sale. AT AN EARLY DATE THE FURNITURE of the late George Duncan of this city will be sold at auction. This furniture is nearly as good as new, and consists of Parlor, Dining-Room, -AND- Bed-Room Sets. For particulars, until further notice, address J. W. Duncan, care of R. D. Home & Co., 221 Front street, San Francisco.

A RARE CHANCE. I WILL SELL ANY OR ALL OF THE following described property, viz: 160 Acres, Sec. 22, T. 8, N. of R. 9 west, southeast quarter. Also, in Olney's Astoria Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4, in Block 79; Lots 3, 4, 5, and 6, in Block 160; Lots 2 and 4, in Block 120; and Lot 3, in Block 132; North half of Block 8, - 2 1-2 acres. DAVID INGALLS, Astoria, Oregon, Dec 1878. 85-8m

MISCELLANEOUS.

J. H. D. GRAY, Wholesale and retail dealer in OYSTERS, by the SACK. Hay, Oats, Straw, Wood, Etc. General storage and Wharfage on reasonable terms.

HUGH STOOP, CARPENTER AND JOINER, AND GENERAL JOBBER ASTORIA, OREGON. Houses built to order, and satisfaction guaranteed. Shop on Squemoqua street, next door to the Episcopal church.

ASTORIA CANDY FACTORY -AND- OYSTER SALOON. HAVING ENLARGED MY STORE I have now on hand the largest and best assortment of plain and French candies in town, also, all kinds of CAKES, CRACKERS AND BISCUITS. All of which I offer for sale at the lowest cash price, wholesale and retail at SCHMEER'S CONFECTIONERY. Opposite the bell tower. Retail candy from 25 to 75 cents per pound.

Fresh Eastern and Shoalwater bay oysters served in every style.

WILLIAM TURNER, BOOT BLACK, OCCIDENT SHAVING SALOON. ASTORIA, OREGON.

SMITH MAYNES, CRYSTAL SALOON, On the Roadway, - - - ASTORIA, OREGON.

The very best quality of wines, liquors and cigars at wholesale or retail.

G. T. REID, CALEDONIA SALOON. Corner of Front and A streets. PORTLAND - - - OREGON. Late butcher in the Central Market.

Astoria Liquor Store. AUG. DANIELSON, Proprietor. Water st. Roadway, - - - ASTORIA, OREGON. Importer and dealer in WINES, LIQUORS, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC CIGARS.

Sole agent for the celebrated STONEWALL WHISKEY.

Branch of MAERX & JORGENSEN, Portland.

GEORGE ROSS' Billiard Room. The only Billiard Room in the city where no liquors are sold.

NEW TABLE JUST PUT UP. GEORGE ROSS has a cosy place and keeps on hand the best brand of Cigars. Also, soda, candy, nuts, etc. Opposite Altona Chop House. 85-11 GEO. ROSS, Proprietor.

THE ASTORIA BREWERY DEPOT. RUDOLPH BARTH & MICHAEL MEYER, PROPRIETORS. Corner of Olney and Water streets. ASTORIA, OREGON. Best quality of LAGER BEERS etc. per glass. Choice Wines, Liquors, and Cigars always on hand. The patronage of the public is respectfully solicited. Orders for Lager or Bottled Beer in any quantity promptly filled. The best lunch the season will afford furnished day and night FREE.