

**The Daily Astorian.**  
 ASTORIA, OREGON:  
 D. C. IRELAND, Editor.  
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**Shipping Wheat as Flour.**  
 The views of THE ASTORIAN expressed very fully when endeavoring to work up the flour-milling interest here, of shipping our wheat in the shape of flour, is coming about again, from other quarters. A late New York commercial sheet says:

The packing of flour in sacks instead of barrels is growing in favor in the east, and ultimately will be generally adopted here beyond question as the freight is less, the packages handled with greater ease, and the sacks can be utilized after being emptied, while the manufacture of flour in this country on a sufficient large scale to export our surplus wheat crop in that form, would be a great and valuable addition to the revenues of this country, and incidentally benefit the cotton interest. H. Kains Jackson, the distinguished English writer on agriculture, advocates the substitution, and for these cogent reasons:

The transit-charges of 10,000,000 quarters wheat has to be reckoned on 2,000,000 tons as ship freights, whilst the produce of 10,000,000 quarters of wheat reduced to flour, requires a much less number of ships to bridge the Atlantic, fewer hands to haul, load and unload it, and reduces therefore the cost very materially.

A few advantages doubtless remain with the old system of moving the wheat and grinding it up where wanted, but those advantages appear to be getting more inconsiderable every year. It is added that the sale of flour instead of wheat cannot fail to change the basis of trade and to convert the American wheat-seller into the flour-consignor. The charges will also have an important bearing upon collateral interests, especially cotton, cooerage and freighting.

**The Terrors of Perihelion.**

It may not be criminal in the eyes of the law, but certainly it is only one step from it for public journals to herald with display headlines, and in high colored sentences, the terrible calamities to follow the coming perihelion of the planets. One would think that science itself had decided that the two years immediately in the future were destined to be filled with famine, war, fires, plagues and general destruction, whereas all this talk is the sheerest nonsense, in which no man of science would for a moment indulge. It was started by a lingering faith in astrology, and making a startling paragraph, it has gone the rounds of the press, nowhere meeting with the condemnation it deserves. It is a discouraging sign when journalists (whose high calling is to teach the people, who look to them for daily mental food) sacrifice the truth to the love of the wonderful and startling.

Singular enough the "spirit messages" of many public mediums are colored by this wide-spread prophecy. It is, however, to be remarked that ecstasies and trance speakers in all ages, are prone to follow the example of Jeremiah, and prophesy of war, famine and pestilence. It is the easiest of all methods of gaining attention, and as no one can successfully dispute that the future may not be revealed with a kind of undefined awe. Such prophecies have been made since the advent of Modern Spiritualism, and we have yet to see their fulfillment. I do not refer to such prophecies as are made calmly, relating to the continuous order of events, many of which have been fulfilled to the letter. There is no doubt of the ability of certain intelligences being able to foresee the future. I more especially allude to what may be called "blood and thunder" prophecies, which are so constantly put forth.

Now, it may be said that the statement that wonderful and unusual changes occurred at the time of preceding perihelions, is utterly without foundation, or that any planet has ever been demonstrated to have more decided influence at one time than another over mankind. That the planets have such influence I do not dispute, but that it is so great as to cause mighty organic or spiritual changes, is baseless assertion. That a passing planet may influence the earth may be quite possible, for the earth is much less in size than any of the exterior orbs, but their influence on the sun, and thus indirectly on the earth, is quite another consideration, and when we regard the insignificant size of the planets in comparison with the sun, we perceive that the cause is wholly inadequate to the effect. Besides the fact that at perihelion it is always possible for the planets to be at their furthestest from the earth, renders the idea of their greater influence on our orb untenable.

The planets are usually balanced in their orbits around the sun, as their periodic times of revolution are various, and rarely ever reach their perihelion, or in other words, the nearest point to their orbit to the sun at the same time. The reader will better understand this subject if he will remember that the planets do not revolve around the sun in circles, but in slight ellipses, and the sun is placed out of the centre towards one end of the elliptic orbit. This brings the planets at one point of their revolution nearer the sun than at any other. Jupiter, the largest of the planets, revolves around the sun in eleven years and ten months and nine days, and once in that time approaches 45,894,000 miles nearer than at the other half of its long year, when instead of being 452,735,000 miles, it is 408,639,000 miles distant.

Now the influence of Jupiter, whatever it may be, is more than that of all the rest of the planets combined, for if we take the mass of the earth at 1,000, that of Jupiter is 300,800, and that of all the remaining members of the solar system, except the sun, is only 121,243.

But when we compare the combined mass of the planets and asteroids with that of the sun, it will be seen that it forms a very insignificant factor, for while the masses of the sun, taking the earth as 1,000, is 315,000,000, that of all the planets and asteroids is only 422,103. This proportion, expressed in popular terms, would be about that sustained by a pea to a good-sized orange.

In case of the earth, it is seen that although in perihelion it is about three millions of miles nearer the sun than in aphelion, and as this takes place every year, it certainly should have been observed to have some effect on organic beings. That none such has been observed is almost conclusive proof that no sensible influence is directly exerted.

The great size of Jupiter is urged as a more potent cause, yet this argument is superficial. True his volume is 1233 times that of the earth, but he is formed of lighter material, and this means proportional diminution of gravitation, or attractive influence. His density is only about one-fourth that of the earth, so that he really exceeds the earth only 301 times. Again, as every body in nature attracts every other body with a force directly as its mass and inversely as the square of its distance, the power of Jupiter is still further greatly diminished. Thus as Jupiter is more than five time farther from the sun than the earth, it follows that its attraction is twenty-five times less, so that if the attraction of the earth for the sun be represented by 1, that of Jupiter will be only 12, notwithstanding his enormous size.

**SATURN.**  
 All that has been said of Jupiter holds good in regard to Saturn, only in a greater degree, for Saturn, although 700 times the volume of the earth, is only 90 times greater in mass. Its greatest distance from the sun is 920,973,000 miles, and least 823,301,000, or 49,000,000 miles less. Its mean distance, therefore, is nearly ten times greater than that of the earth. It is thus evident that although Saturn would, if placed in the earth's orbit, exert ninety times greater influence than that orb, yet at its remote bounds it exerts no more on the sun than does the earth. In this case as in that of Jupiter, the difference in attraction between aphelion and perihelion would not be sufficient to cause any alarming changes either in the earth or the sun. Certainly if we find no change in the earth directly referable to its own perihelion, we should not expect to find changes produced by other planets.

After thus disposing of the two titans of the solar system, it is needless to mention the others, which form altogether an insignificant portion.

Why there should be any great changes on the earth during the period of perihelion of any planet, than aphelion, no one attempts to explain, or why because several enter perihelion at nearly the same time, should let loose war and the plague.

**THESE MILLERITISH PREDICTIONS** of the "end of the world," of convulsions and misery, belong to another age than the present; to an age when the laws of nature were illy understood, and a tyrant was supposed to manage the universe for man's discomfort and his own selfish pleasure. Now, we have faith in law, the result of knowledge, and these prophecies are like those of the weather in the almanac of the quack.

Furthermore, why should the influence be for evil instead of for good? Why not the disturbances caused by this slight approach to the sun, redound to the benefit of man, instead of his destruction? There is nothing certain in these wild prophecies. They have not the least foundation in science, and whether given by mortals or spirits, are simply wicked in the effects they have on the credulous and ignorant.

If a pestilence is to come next year from the scowl of Jupiter, no better preparations can be made than such predictions which, if believed, unnerve the system and make the victim ready for the slaughter.

In 1456, more than four centuries ago, the Pope issued a bull against Hally's comet, which from the zenith to the horizon swept its direful tail of flame, shaking therefrom, war, pestilence and famine, bending the knee of all Europe in agony of fear.

Now we have a repetition of the same ignorance of man's relations to nature, and a catering press prostituted to feeding credulity!

Wherever the planets may be, there will be countries at war, and others where food will be wanting, and others still smitten with disease; and on the other side nations at peace, nations abounding in prosperity, and rejoicing in more than average health.

—Hudson Tuttle.

**DIED.**  
 At Stony point, W. T., on the 8th day of June, 1879, of diphtheria, ELLSWORTH E., youngest son of W. B. and Mary L. Clark, aged 5 years, 1 month and 18 days.

**NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.**  
**FOURTH OF JULY AT GATHLAMET.**  
 The Anniversary of our Independence will be celebrated at the above named place.

**First Class Music Furnished.**  
**An Oration Delivered During the Day.**  
 All Kinds of Refreshments to be had on the Grounds.

**DANCING THROUGH THE DAY AND A Grand Ball at Night.**  
 Every arrangement made for the entertainment and comfort of the public. All are cordially invited to attend.  
 H. HALLETT, Proprietor.

**SPECIAL NOTICE.**  
 Owing to a reduction on Refined Sugar in San Francisco, I take pleasure to state that I will give  
**Half Pound More Sugar FOR ONE DOLLAR.**  
 Than heretofore, to strictly cash customers.

**Other Goods at Red Rock Prices.**  
**Large Invoices Just Opened.**  
**VEGETABLES**  
 —AND—  
**Fresh Fruits a Specialty.**  
 E. S. LARSEN.

**Mrs. H. A. DERBY.**  
 Has just returned from San Francisco with the finest selected stock of  
**MILLINERY GOODS,**  
 Ever offered in Astoria. Embracing every novelty in the line.

**Dr. Warner's Health CORSET**  
 Can only be purchased in Astoria at Mrs. Derby's, Main street, between Squemoque and Jefferson. Astoria, Oregon.

**Desirable Homestead Property FOR SALE.**  
**ON ACCOUNT OF REMOVAL FROM the city, we are instructed to sell**  
**Five Acre Block No. 22,**  
 ALSO:  
**Five Acre Block No. 25.**  
 On the south side of Astoria Peninsula, fronting on Youngs bay. These lots will be sold cheap for cash. Title is perfect. For particulars inquire at this office for thirty days.  
 D. C. IRELAND.

**WILSON & FISHER**  
 DEALERS IN  
**HARDWARE.**  
 LUBRICATING OILS, COAL OIL, PAINTS AND OILS.  
 Sheet, Round, and Square Prepared Rubber Packing.  
 PROVISIONS, MILL FEED, GARDEN SEED, GRASS SEED.  
 Which will be exchanged for country produce or sold at lowest prices.  
 Corner Chenamus and Hamilton Streets  
 ASTORIA, OREGON.

**Arndt & Ferchen.**  
**THE BEST BLACKSMITH AND Machine Shop**  
 In the city.  
 All kinds of Engine, Cannery and Steamboat Work promptly attended to.

**I. W. CASE,**  
 IMPORTER AND WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN  
**GENERAL MERCHANDISE,**  
 Corner Chenamus and Cass streets, ASTORIA, OREGON.

**Kid Gloves of Every Kind.**  
**3 BUTT'N KIDS.**  
**JOUVINS. PEERLESS,**  
 And other best grades.  
 Would invite special attention to this stock.

**WE STILL TAKE THE LEAD!!**  
 —IN—  
**SPRING DRY GOODS.**  
**Best Stock and Lowest Prices!**

To which we call particular attention.  
**OUR FANCY GOODS ARE COMPLETE.**  
 In Hosiery, Lace, White Goods and Embroidery,  
**WE ARE THE BOSS.**  
**OUR CLOTHING AND FURNISHING GOODS**  
 Are all of the Latest Styles and Designs.  
 We offer extra inducements this season to purchasers, and although we are not selling AT COST, we defy any house in this city to compete with our prices. We mean it! Come, give us a call and see for yourself what we can do for you.  
**B. HAMBURGER.**  
 MAIN STREET, ASTORIA, OREGON.

**NEW SPRING and SUMMER STOCK JUST OPENED.**  
**A. VAN DUSEN & CO.**

Have just received a full line of Spring and Summer goods of the very finest quality, which were bought during the recent tumble in stocks, when cash commands a premium, and are therefore prepared to sell the same at less rates than the same quality goods can be purchased elsewhere. These goods consist in part of  
**Clothing, Gent's Furnishing Goods, Hats and Caps, Ladies Dress Goods, Muslins, Prints, Hosiery, Boots and Shoes, Rubber Boots, Oil Clothing.**  
 In addition to the above have laid in a full stock of  
**BUILDERS MATERIALS, NAILS, PAINTS, OILS, ETC.**  
 The quality of our  
**CROCKERY AND GLASSWARE, LAMPS, ETC.,**  
 Cannot be excelled and our prices defy competition.  
**Family Groceries and Provision a Specialty. Oregon City Imperial Extra Flour at 85 50 per Barrel.**  
**WARDS CLATSOP BUTTER ALWAYS IN STORE.**  
 Agency for Singer and White Sewing Machines. Wells, Fargo & Co's Express office, corner of Cass and Jefferson street.

**LOOK HERE!**  
 The **I X L**  
**ONE PRICE CASH HOUSE OF ASTORIA,**  
 IS THE PLACE TO PURCHASE YOUR  
**DRY GOODS, CLOTHING, BOOTS, SHOES, ETC., ETC.**  
 —AT—  
**EXTRAORDINARY LOW FIGURES!**

Our stock cannot be surpassed in Price, Variety, or Quality by any store in the city, and we can, and WILL, undersell all competition.  
 We are now receiving NEW GOODS per every steamer, and have just laid in an extensive line of  
**LADIES LINEN SUITS,**  
 Which will be closed out cheap. Remember these are no mere assertions, and ask you to call and satisfy yourself. **We Mean Business.**  
**COHEN & COOPER.**  
 I X L STORE.

**AN IMMENSE STOCK —OF— CLOTHING,**  
**OF THE LATEST STYLES And Patterns OF ALL SIZES. AT N. LOEB'S,**  
 Main Street, Astoria.

**Ice Cream, Strawberries and Cream.**  
 I have always on hand all kinds of Fresh and Pure  
**FRENCH AND AMERICAN CANDIES.**  
**MOLASSES TAFFEE, CHOCOLATE CARAMELS,**  
 AND ALL KINDS OF  
**FRESH CAKES.**  
 Also, Fresh Fruits, Such as  
**STRAWBERRIES, CHERRIES, PEACHES, ORANGES, LEMONS AND LIMES.**  
**WEDDING CAKES**  
 Made to order, and all kinds of Wedding Cake Ornaments at  
**S. SCHMEER'S CONFECTIONERY,**  
**OPPOSITE THE BELL TOWER.**

**COLUMBIA BREWERY.**  
**JOHN HAHN, . . . . . PROPRIETOR,**  
**ASTORIA, OREGON.**  
 Manufacturer of and Dealer in Lager and Bottled Beer.  
 The Columbia Brewery has every facility, and using none but the best materials and employing experienced brewers, will warrant satisfaction in filling all orders. Orders from abroad promptly attended to.

ARCTIC SODA WATER.