

The Daily Astorian.

ASTORIA, OREGON: FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 1881. D. C. IRELAND, Editor.

Defense of Gen. Brady.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—While Gen. Brady is under the fire of enraged men, who have failed to use him or to displace him from his position as second assistant postmaster-general, it may not be amiss to call attention to some of his good work in the department. He found gangs of adventurers securing contracts and sub-letting them, and then cheating the sub-contractors out of the pay for their work. They would go on and pay up to the last quarter, because, if they did not, the sub-contractor would cease performing the service. But when the last quarter's work was finished the swindling gang made no payment. To remedy this Gen. Brady's recommendation caused the enactment of a provision of law whereby the filing of the sub-contract in the department became a lien upon the contractor's compensation, and the latter could draw no pay until he produced the former's written assurance that he had been paid, or was satisfied. The head of one of these pestiferous gangs is now throwing mud at the author of this provision. Again, at the session of last year, congress enacted a provision, which had been previously recommended more than once by Gen. Brady, restricting the amount to be expended in expediting the service on any given route to fifty per cent. in the original contract price. Before the passage of this law there was no limit to the amount that could be so expended. Another improvement—When congress establishes new postal routes, which it does at every session, the postmaster-general has authority to make contract for temporary service on every one of them until the next advertised contract-letting, at whatever terms he deems best. Gen. Brady urged upon congress that this temporary service ought not to be let until advertised at each terminal station of a given route and at the post-office department. This was to prevent the government from being left at the mercy of the few knowing ones lying in wait in Washington for such contracts. The committee of congress changed it from newspaper advertisements to the bulletins, and now no temporary service can be contracted for until it is advertised by bulletins posted as above. These are most important and practical reforms, and we choose to call attention to them just at this time to show that there has been a strong man with a clear head in charge of the postal contract system. The advertising should again be changed to the newspapers, we submit this suggestion to Postmaster-general James.

In the house of lords, at London, Earl Spencer stated that the wharves at which foreign cattle are landed would be divided into sections so as to facilitate isolation of cattle which may arrive afflicted with the foot and mouth disease. He added that Lord Granville had communicated with foreign governments urging them to prevent the embarkation of diseased cattle.

A dispatch states that in London to-day, when Mr. Morwell will discuss the matter of American importation, he will introduce a bill amending the adulteration act so as to specifically include American butter. There is much clamor over the sending of bogus butter to Great Britain, and a strong effort will be made to put an end to it. The amount of butter going there annually from America is over \$50,000,000. There is a determination that only the good article shall be admitted.

New York Gossip.

LONDON started in business as a Welsh village, and New York began as a Dutch town. Never can tell what a place will come to from its start.

The venerable John C. Gray, of Boston, who died a week ago, left \$25,000 to the Massachusetts hospital, and \$25,000 to Harvard university. A rich Bostonian would doubt whether he could get into heaven if he didn't leave a handsome legacy to Harvard.

They had a gloomy time at the World's fair committee meeting yesterday. It is a hopeless task to try to galvanize life into that scheme. It is now stated, almost authoritatively, that Gen. Grant will resign the presidency, as his friends state, his Mexican engagements do not permit him to have anything more to do with the scheme. He goes to Mexico on Monday.

Greenwood cemetery is truly a city of the dead. According to the report printed at the annual meeting of the lot-owners, yesterday, the total number of interments in the cemetery has reached 206,237, of which 5,278 were made during the past year. There are 45,283 monuments and headstones, thirty vaults above ground, 237 in side hills, and 325 below ground, in addition to which is the Mausoleum, including thirty underground vaults and two receiving vaults, one of them including forty separate vaults. These are remarkable statistics of the city's dead, and when it is remembered how many other cemeteries there are in the vicinity of the metropolis the appositeness of the title of "the silent majority" can be readily seen.

The Star twits the Sun on contradicting one day what it solemnly said the day before. The Star is unreasonable. Mr. Dana follows the elder Bennett's precepts to the letter, and the Herald built up a great circulation and business in spite of its contradictions, people buying the paper to see with what skill its editor would turn somersaults. The story is told of one of the Herald's editorial writers waiting on Bennett for orders. "Write the strongest article you know how against secession," said the old man. "But, Mr. Bennett," timidly expostulated the young man, "I write as strongly as I could in favor of secession last night, and the article is our leader to-day." "But no buts," exclaimed Bennett. "Consistency has no place in journalism. You've written the—thing up, now write the—thing down, and let the stupid public take its choice." And Dana patterns after old Bennett, foibles and faults.

The hold Clara Morris has on the public is phenomenal in its way. Nobody on the stage disappoints her audience as frequently and, as often seems, as capriciously as Clara Morris; and yet she is again and again forgiven, and her eccentricities of action excused, without so much as a harsh criticism. On the day when she last broke down, an immense throng had gathered to see her performance; nevertheless, when they found there would be no matinee, and they could exchange their tickets or receive back their money, only twenty persons asked for the money. It is generally accepted that Miss Morris is an invalid, and, therefore, much must be tolerated in her that would not be endured in a healthful woman. And in her peculiar invalidism lies much of her attraction to the public. That she is a great actress, probably the greatest of living emotional actresses, must be conceded by the most captious critic. But the living tragedy of a sick woman acting the characters of other sick women on the stage, has a morbid intensity of attraction for the general public. And that Miss Morris is a very sick woman, nobody can doubt who has seen her this winter. On the occasion

of her first performance of Camille after her late illness, it seemed as if she really could not get through the part. The waits between the acts were longer than the acts themselves, being prolonged to give her a chance to recuperate. Every moment it was expected the manager would appear and say that the play could not go on; and when the entr'acte between the third and fourth acts was extended to more than half an hour, the audience was well-nigh convinced that the feigned illness of Camille had become a living reality. The tragedy within the tragedy held the throng spellbound to the very end, although the play was not over till after six o'clock; and when the curtains finally dropped, no one could have told whether it was the suffering of Camille or the suffering of Clara that had saddened and interested the more.

NEW TO-DAY.

For Sale. THE SCOW "HATTIE" WILL BE SOLD on reasonable terms. For particulars apply to JAMES BELL, Upper Astoria.

Notice. THE STEAM TUG "MARY TAYLOR" will be sold at auction at Astoria on Thursday, April 7th, at 10 o'clock A. M. by J. M. WATERMAN, Auctioneer.

Notice. TAXPAYERS OF CLATSOP COUNTY will take notice that this is the last call for taxes due Clatsop county for the year 1880, and additional taxes will be added after the first of April, 1881. A. M. TWOMBLY, Sheriff and Tax Collector.

Do you imagine what is the Finest and Best Enjoyment and Recreation?

TEN PIN ALLEY OF MAX WAGNERS ON CONCOMLY STREET. Is better than all the gymnastical and sport exercises in the country. THE TEN PIN ALLEYS Are in great vogue in Europe just now, and why should Astoria stay behind, as THE TEN PIN GAME Is the Cheapest, Healthiest, and most enjoyable amusement to be found. THE VERY BEST OF SAN FRANCISCO National Brewery Beer, AND FREE LUNCH Will be served, and the grand Concert Organ playing sweet strains to enter to your ear. Come, try it, and enjoy it.

LIBERTY HALL.

F. W. STECHHAN, Lessee and Manager GRAND CONCERT. ONE NIGHT ONLY! SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 1881. ESPINOSA CONCERT COMPANY EUGENE SCHUTZ, Business Manager PART I. 1. Duo, two Pianos, Rondo op. 73.....Chopin Aug. Zech and M. Espinosa. 2. Cavatina, "Faint".....Gounod Miss Jenny Landsman. 3. Piano Solo, First Tarantelle.....Mills M. Espinosa. 4. Violoncello Solo, Berceuse.....Schroder Earnest Schmidt. 5. Song, "Once Again".....Sullivan Miss Sylvia Gerrish. PART II. 1. Piano Solo, Canzone op. 64.....Ketten M. Espinosa. 2. Duet, Hunter's Song.....Kucken Miss Landsman and Miss Gerrish. 3. Violoncello Solo, Nocturne.....Davidoff Earnest Schmidt. 4. Song, Si tu savais.....Balle Miss Jenny Landsman. 5. Trio-a. Andante-b. Presto, Mendelssohn (For Piano, Violin and Violoncello.) Messrs. Espinosa, Cotswen and Schmidt. Reserved seats One Dollar. Box Sheet will open at Adlers Music store.

MAGNUS O. CROSBY,

Dealer in HARDWARE, IRON, STEEL,

Iron Pipe and Fittings, Plumbers and Steam Fitters

Goods and Tools, SHEET LEAD STRIP LEAD, SHEET IRON, TIN AND COPPER.

Cannery and Fishermens Supplies Stoves, Tin Ware and House

Furnishing Goods. JOBBING IN SHEET IRON, TIN, COPPER, PLUMBING and STEAM FITTING Done with neatness and dispatch. None but first class workmen employed. A large assortment of

SCALES

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GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, LUMBER. ETC., ETC., ETC.

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ANCHORS, OARS, FLOATS, MAULS, HANDLES,

MURIATIC ACID, LACQUER, VARNISH, TURPENTINE, BENZINE,

COAL OIL, GUM BOOTS, RICE, ETC., ETC., IN QUANTITIES TO SUIT.

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DEALER IN MILLINERY GOODS

Dr. Warner's Health CORSET Can only be purchased in Astoria at MRS. DERBY'S. Masonic Hall Building, corner of Main and Squemoque streets.

Barbour's

IRISH FLAX THREADS Salmon Net Twine.

Cotton Seine Twine, Cork and Lead Lines, Cotton Netting, all sizes.

Seines Made to Order, Flax and Cotton Twine, Fishing Tackle, etc.

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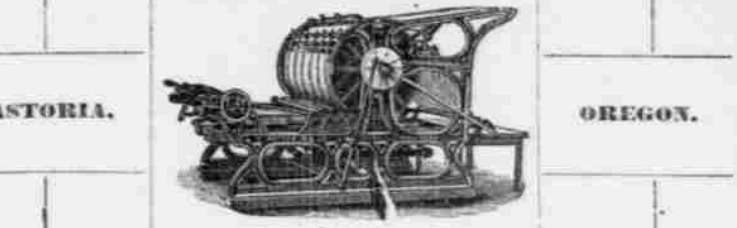
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Orders left at the Occident Hotel, or at my Warehouse, foot of Benton Street, promptly attended to. TIME, SAND, BRICK, PLASTER, LATH, Cement, and all materials in my line, furnished to order. Special attention paid to Furnace work and Ranges. Custom work warranted good or no pay. Agent San Juan and New Tacoma Lime.

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