

The Daily Astorian.

ASTORIA, OREGON: SATURDAY, NOV. 12, 1881

J. F. HALLORAN, Editor.

Anti-Monopoly Movement.

It is a noteworthy and significant fact that both the political parties in the State of New York during the canvass which closed last Tuesday, were explicitly in favor of supervising and regulating railroad transportation within the State. New York is the greatest railroad center in the Union, and as the pressure of this gigantic and remorseless power has been more keenly felt there than elsewhere, these political utterances may be regarded as the recognition of a public sentiment that cannot be ignored. The two parties seemed to vie with each other in voicing public opinion. The only danger to be apprehended in the movement is the demagoguery that may seek to control it for personal and selfish ends. John Kelly made advances to one of the leaders of the anti-monopoly movement, and without questioning the purity of his motives, it may be said that such men sharply observe the signals of the times, possess an acute instinct of change in the political barometer and are always ready to spread canvass to the popular breeze. There is little danger that such a movement may be switched off the track of the real issue by the use of such phrases as "anti-monopoly," "moneyed corporation," etc. Words may hide thought as well as express it, and there can be no doubt that such terms are misleading. Without associated capital employed on a large scale, it is clear that all public enterprises such as manufactories, railroads and mechanic arts would have to cease. If railroads have to be built from state to state, if commerce is expected to flourish on a scale grand enough to weld alien shores together, it is plain that capital must go forth in corporate shape, equipped with franchises and peculiar privileges as a mighty magician to work these miracles. It has become one of the indispensable factors of modern industry. The war is not against monopoly of any special business, or against "moneyed corporations," for they serve a beneficent purpose and should not be restricted in the exercise of their legitimate powers. It is against the abuse of their powers, and to cause these great corporations to use their special privileges in such a way as to not oppress the people with extortionate charges and unjust discriminations. Some monopoly champions have already used the poorly-considered language of some anti-monopoly speakers and writers in the sense that the aim of the movement was the usurpation of their franchises, and the intention of the guiders of the measure to place state and national authorities in the officers of the railroad managers. This is mendacious, but it serves a purpose. What is really proposed is to establish a commission that shall so watch over and supervise the working of railroads as to keep them within their legitimate sphere, and protect the American people from what threatens to be the most intolerable despotism on earth. The problem is a difficult one. Precisely how it will be effectively accomplished does not appear. But all legislation is experimental, and it is clear that in the East, at least, the time has come to take a decisive step. The fact that both political parties in New York have placed themselves unequivocally in the movement is a good beginning, and the example cannot fail to become continental. It is something with which Republicanism or Democracy has very little to do, but it is a question that will during the next lustrum enter largely into all political deliberations. It is a factor that cannot be eliminated.

An Unproductive Fortune.

In a cellar of the Julius tower at Spandau, the grim prison-fortress associated with so many thrilling episodes in Prussian political history, lies a mighty treasure of coined gold, equivalent in value to \$30,000,000, laid aside from Germany's gains by the 1870-1 war, as a provision of hard cash wherewith to defray the mobilization and other preliminary expenses of the next campaign undertaken by the empire. This enormous reserve fund is absolutely unproductive, and may be said to have cost the German nation half its total amount in foregone interest since it was first lodged in its subterranean repository. Actually in the custody of the military governor of Spandau, it is, from an official point of view, confided to the guardianship of the imperial commission, two members of which are annually entrusted with the keys of its dungeon and authorized to subject the millions to a rigorous inspection. On the 10th ult., the yearly "revision" took place with all the customary formalities. The commissioners, upon arriving at Spandau, found a special guard awaiting them, told off to assist in the laborious task of counting over the contents of twelve hundred coin bags, each containing \$25,000. The massive iron door closing the domicile of all this wealth, can only be opened by the simultaneous action of two keys, masterpieces of the locksmith's art, one of which is in possession of either commissioner. The exact times at which the door is unlocked and relocked, as well as every circumstance, no matter however minute, connected with the process of revision, are registered on the spot, in a protocol signed by the officials in question before leaving the fortress, and attested by the governor in person. During the inspection the tower guards are doubled; at its conclusion the commissioners turn their keys in the locks at one and the same moment, are escorted to the gates of the fortress, and take their departure for Berlin, leaving the intractable millions to darkness and seclusion for another year.

A CALL has been issued for a "Tariff Convention," to meet in New York on the 29th and 30th of November. The agricultural, manufacturing and commercial interests of the country are to be represented. The purpose of this convention is said to be to memorialize Congress for such action "as will promote domestic and foreign commerce and afford adequate protection to American industry." These are interests that are receiving much attention throughout the Union now.

It is said that the next session of congress, which meets on the 5th prox., will have an extraordinary amount of work, as upwards of three thousand bills were left unacted upon at the close of the last session. Several subjects of national importance will, necessarily, come up for consideration, in addition; among them may be mentioned civil service reform, the tariff, the improvement of rivers, the fisheries, etc.

ONE of the most singular facts in connection with the state election held last Tuesday is, that some Republican newspapers express satisfaction at Democratic victories, while such standard Democratic organs as the Brooklyn Eagle are glad that the Republicans were successful. And the beauty of it is that they are all in earnest in the expression.

THE Texas state capitol was burned last Thursday. The battle flags of the Texan republic, Alamo monument, archives, etc., were totally destroyed.

THE Star route gang have been discharged. New indictments will be made out, though it is thought that Brady cannot be reached.

NEW TO-DAY.

SCHWATKA

LIBERTY HALL.

MONDAY, NOV. 15TH.

Arctic Explorations.

Admission, 50 cents. Reserved Seats, 75 cents. Tickets for reserved seats can be procured at Adler's book store.

SELECT PARTY

GIVEN BY THE SOCIAL SOIREE CLUB OF ASTORIA.

At Liberty Hall, Thanksgiving Ev'ng, Thursday, November 24th

INVITATION COMMITTEE: F. L. Parker, E. Z. Ferguson, R. E. Przel. FLOOR COMMITTEE: Thomas H. Craig, G. C. Richardson, Frank L. Parker, E. Z. Ferguson. Tickets, \$1.50.

REAL ESTATE AUCTION SALE.

Valuable Building Lots in Shively's Astoria.

Friday, Nov. 18th, at 11 A. M.

Valuable City Property.

Lots 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12, in Block 4.

Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 in Block 6.

Lot 9 in Block 2.

Lots 4, 5, 10, 11 and 12 in block 10.

Lots 9, 10, 11 and 12 in block 55.

Regular Auction Sale. SATURDAY, NOV. 12, 10:30 A.M.

Second Hand Furniture, Brussels Carpets, Cook Stoves, etc.

Wardrobe, Chairs, Bedsteads, Spring Beds, Mattresses, 15 Pairs Blankets, 1 Dozen Comforters, Sheets, Pillows and Pillow Slips, Mirrors, Crochery and Glassware, Lamps, Kitchen Ware, and a lot of sundries.

One No. 8 Magee Cooking Stove and Furniture, only in use two months.

Two heating Stoves and 1 drum.

G. A. STINSON & CO. BLACKSMITHING.

M. D. KANT HAS JUST RECEIVED A COMPLETE STOCK OF Rubber Goods for Men's Wear.

A Fine Line of Clothes Casimere and Tweeds.

A Grand Assortment of Men's, Youth's and Boy's Clothing and Overcoats.

A Choice lot of Boots, Shoes, Hats and Caps; also all sorts of Men's Furnishing Goods.

Assessment Notice. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN assessment of fifty per cent, on the capital stock of the Old Fellows Land and Building Association of Astoria, Oregon, has this day been levied, payable within thirty days from date at the office of the Secretary, or otherwise be declared delinquent.

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