

The Daily Astorian.

ASTORIA, OREGON:

THURSDAY, DEC. 5, 1881

J. F. HALLORAN, Editor.

How Not to Do It.

PUBLIC attention is at present being directed to the unfortunate course of misinstruction pursued in many of the common schools of the country. Despite the efforts of many conscientious instructors, despite the protest of nature itself against the system of cramming adopted and maintained in numberless cases, the fact exists that tens of thousands of youth are yearly ruined by the system of overeducation carried on. Here is a sample of school work given a ten-year-old girl to memorize, "Rule for Short Division Rule dash one write the divisor at the left of the dividend: semicolon, begin at the left hand, comma, and divide the number denoted by each figure of the dividend by the divisor, comma, and write the quotient beneath, period. Paragraph.

"2. If there is a remainder after any division comma, regard it as prefixed to the next figure comma and divide as before period. If any partial dividend is less than the divisor, comma, prefix it to the next figure, comma, and write a cypher in the quotient period." "Paragraph Proof period dash multiply the quotient by the divisor, comma, and add the remainder, comma, if any, comma, to the product, period." It reads more like a rule for producing idiocy than the correct result in short division, and is a fair illustration of the "cramming" process. If a census of mortality among school children were taken which would correctly include the cause of death, "crammed to death" would embrace a large percentage. Nor would it be any wonder. The immature mind is required under the penalty of personal disgrace, to perform tasks that an adult would refuse to do. The work done being an undue exercise of the memory, while the reason and judgment are left almost wholly unemployed, the tendency inevitably is to disarrange the plan of nature. One capacity is gorged; the other starved. The result is a deformed mind, without balance or self-control, and this deformity prepares the way for disease which is but the preface to death. The real and designed purpose of our schools is to prepare the coming man or woman for the practical duties of life. Discipline of the mind lies at the base of our scheme of education, and the question is "How may the greatest degree of mental discipline be attained?" The processes of mental discipline when properly pursued are a delight to children, and the happiest hours of a child's life are passed while under the kindly tutelage of an intelligent and conscientious teacher, who really "teaches young ideas how to shoot." But that cannot be done by making parrots out of them. No intelligent boy or girl is content to know that a thing is so without knowing why it is so, what makes it so, but these processes become dry and distasteful drudgery when pursued through false and unnatural methods. The remedy lies in the reversal of methods, in throwing out of doors about two thirds of the text books, of going more in accordance with nature, of making the acquisition of knowledge an incident of a disciplinary course; the means to an end, and that end the power of independent thought.

The first session of the Forty-Seventh Congress convened in Washington last Monday. In the Senate, David Davis, of Illinois, is President pro tem. In the House, Keifer, of Ohio, was elected Speaker and took his seat. S. J. Randall, of Pennsylvania, received the complimentary vote of the Democratic Representatives for

Speaker. In the Senate a large number of bills were introduced, among them being one by Slater, authorizing the secretary of the interior to segregate 640 acres from the Umatilla Indian reservation, adjacent to the town of Pendleton, Ogn., lay it out in blocks, have it appraised and then offer it for sale in single lots at not less than the appraised value.

It is rumored, says the S. F. Bulletin, that at the next annual meeting of the shareholders of the Pacific Coast Steamship company a new Board of Directors will be elected in the interest of the Villard combination. It is also stated that a segregation of the property belonging to the company is possible, and that the southern route, with the steamers running on it, the San Luis Obispo and Santa Maria Valley railroad, docks, etc., will be disposed of, and that Goodall, Perkins & Co. may become the purchasers. It is believed that Villard will not care to hold the route south of San Francisco, as it forms no part of his great northern combination scheme. The coasting business of the southern part of the State has for several years past been very profitable, and if disposed of will bring a good price.

The Rev. O. B. Frothingham, whom the winds of doubt long since blew into the stormy waters of religious disbelief, announces that he has cast anchor, and says that while in no way a believer in Christianity, he is not so much of a disbeliever as he has been hitherto. He says: "To sum up the whole matter, the work which I have been doing appears to lead to nothing, and may have been grounded on mistaken premises. Therefore it is better to stop." It looks like a case of death-bed repentance, as O. B. is getting pretty well stricken in years, and mayhap concludes that he'd better begin to pay assessments again if he expects to get a dividend. Bob Ingersoll will come in at the eleventh hour some day, just as his distinguished collaborer has.

For the first time in two and a half centuries an English Catholic sits in the House of Commons. 'Twas in 1829 that O'Connell succeeded in removing political disabilities from members of that faith, and now, fifty-two years after, a gentleman named Twiningham has been elected to represent Berwick-on-Tweed.

MARRIED. In Astoria, Dec. 6th, by Rev. J. V. Milligan, Miss Frances A. Arrington and Mr. Daniel J. McVicker. All of Astoria.

NEW TO-DAY.

LAND OFFICE NOTICE.—Land office at Oregon City, Oregon, September 5, 1881. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before H. R. Spedden County clerk at Astoria, Clatsop county, Oregon, on Tuesday, December 7, 1881, viz: Beverly W. Gilmore homestead application No. 2575, for the N 1/4 of N E 1/4 and Add. Hd. entry No. 324 for S 1/2 of N E 1/4, all in Sec. 2, T 5 N of R 7 W. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land: viz: Joseph L. Moore, John Deneke, John W. Slaughter and Wm. H. Lewis, of Jewell, Clatsop county, Oregon. L. T. EARR, Register.

Notice of Copartnership. WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, HEREBY give notice that we have formed a copartnership under the firm name of Letourneau & Co., to transact the business of tailoring, in Astoria, Oregon.

Notice to Creditors. IN THE PROBATE COURT, COUNTY OF CLATSOP, TERRITORY OF OREGON. In the matter of the estate of Chas. Post, deceased. The undersigned having been by the Hon. Probate court of county of Pacific, Territory of Washington, appointed administrator of the estate of Chas. Post, deceased, all persons having claims against said deceased are hereby notified to present the same with necessary vouchers; also those indebted to same will please come to my residence and make immediate settlement within six months from the date hereof.

Mrs. P. M. Williamson, DEALER IN DRESS TRIMMINGS. All kinds of WOOLS, ZEPHYRS, LADIES UNDERWEAR, ETC. Corner of Cass and Jefferson streets, Astoria.

SPILERS. The undersigned is prepared to furnish a large number of Spilers and Spilers at place on short notice, at reasonable rates. Apply to C. G. CAPLES, Columbia City.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

TIME ENOUGH! NO HURRY!

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CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S GIFTS

Wholesale Dealers on the Pacific Coast are Overstocked Altogether this season with HOLIDAY GOODS! Consequently there is NO NECESSITY any longer TO PAY 200 PER CENT PROFIT

On every thing you have to purchase in keep up the good old custom. Referring to the above facts, the undersigned respectfully announces that he has received a consignment made to him of an extensive and carefully selected assortment of FIRST CLASS HOLIDAY GOODS AND TOYS, which are to be offered at private sale for a few days at

Prices which will Astonish the Astorians. After which on Saturday, December 24th. All the stock remaining on hand will be sold At Public Auction

And the consignment closed out WITHOUT RESERVE. E. C. HOLDEN, Auctioneer.

M. D. HANT, MERCHANT TAILOR. Has just received the latest novelties in FINE OVERCOATS, CLOTHING FOR MEN, YOUTHS, AND BOYS. Also, a complete line of Furnishing Goods.

HILL'S VARIETIES. GEO. HILL, PROPRIETOR. CHAS. KOHLER, STAGE MANAGER. Devoted success, standing room only. A very large audience assembled Monday, Dec. 5th, to witness the opening performance of Hill's Varieties. The entertainment commenced with a brilliant and new feature, keeping the audience in a continuous roar of laughter. Mr. Harry Cleary sang "Little Empty Cradle" with great feeling, and was heartily received. Miss Lynton specialized "Red Skinned" which was well received. Last, but not least, Mr. Kohler contributed his many sayings. The whole concluded with the late finale.

"The Skids are Out To-Day." The also consisted of the comical act of "Robt" mingled with songs and dances. Johnson in his great character of SAMUEL THE GREAT.

Punch and Judy, Poison Milk and Dutch Justice. All of which were well rendered. The musicians are, without any exception, the best on this coast and have few superiors anywhere else. Performance every night, commencing at 8; open air concert at 7; entrance to theatre on Union street; private boxes on Chebanus street.

THE SINGER SEWING MACHINE. The undersigned respectfully notifies the public that having been appointed agent for the NEW IMPROVED SINGER. He is now prepared to offer these unrivalled Sewing Machines on such terms as cannot fail to meet the wants of everybody in need of this indispensable article of household furniture. Liberal discount made on cash sales. To those desiring it I will sell on the installment plan. Five dollars a month, 17 cents a day, (less than it costs a smoker for cigars), will soon purchase your wife a Singer. The Best Sewing Machine Ever Put Together.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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INDORSED BY PHYSICIANS, CLERGYMEN, AND THE AFFLICTED EVERYWHERE. THE GREATEST MEDICAL TRIUMPH OF THE AGE. SYMPTOMS OF A TORPID LIVER. Loss of appetite, Nausea, bowels constive, Pain in the head, with a dull sensation in the back part, Pain under the shoulder-blade, Indigestion after eating, with a disposition to exertion of body or mind, Irritability of temper, Low spirits, Loss of memory, with a feeling of having neglected some duty, weariness, Dizziness, Fluttering of the Heart, Dots before the eyes, Yellow Skin, Headache, Headiness at night, highly colored Urine.

IF THESE WARNINGS ARE UNHEEDED, SERIOUS DISEASES WILL SOON BE DEVELOPED. TUTT'S PILLS are especially adapted to such cases, one dose effects such a change of feeling as to astonish the sufferer. They increase the Appetite, and cause the body to take on flesh, thus the system is nourished, and by their Tonic Action on the Digestive Organs, Regular Stools are procured. Price 25 cents. 35 Murray St., New York.

TUTT'S HAIR DYE

Gray Hair or Whiskers changed to a Glossy Black by a single application of our DYE. It is a natural color, acts as a beautifying agent, and is sold by all druggists. Price 25 cents. 35 Murray St., New York.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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IS STILL RECEIVING CONSIGNMENTS OF HOLIDAY GOODS

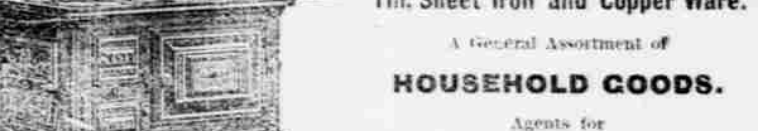
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MRS. DERBY. DEALER IN New and Choice MILLINERY, Desires to call the attention of the Ladies of Astoria to the fact that she has received a large assortment of the LATEST STYLES OF Hats, Bonnets, Trimmings, AND FANCY GOODS. Corner Main and Squemoque Streets.

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