

The Daily Astorian.

ASTORIA, OREGON: SUNDAY, DEC. 18, 1881

J. F. HALLORAN, Editor.

"Wards" of the Government.

THE commissioner of Indian affairs is about right when he says the policy of the Government toward the Indians is to create a race of thieves and paupers. And it certainly is. Rascality and treachery are rewarded and any effort at industry is left to take care of itself. The standing asserion is that the Indians are the wards of the government. This is splendid in theory but shaky in practice. The Indians have no claim on the Government sufficient to warrant Government aid. The trouble seems to be that we have been all along asked to look upon the Indian as being different from the same nature and intellectual grade of whites. Let it be understood in San Francisco that all the thieves and cut-throats and vagabonds of the coast are the "wards of the Government" and how long would it be safe for a respectable citizen to walk the streets. The way to do with these "wards" is to treat them as we would any other class of citizens—according to their conduct. If they work, reward them; if they make disturbance, punish them; stop fooling with them and make them stop fooling with the Government. Let them learn by experience that the industrious and peaceful are cared for and the lazy and criminal are outlawed and punished.

The way things are running now and have been for many years, any one can foretell with as much certainty as Gen. Hazen predicts a rainy day, just when there will be another Indian outbreak. The law is as infallible in the one case as the other. About the time a Federal appropriation is exhausted the Indians at that particular agency become restless, and by the time the aboriginal gets a good rifle, plenty first-class ammunition and a sharp tomahawk, he is ready to be just as mean as his white brother under the same general circumstances. He has learned that nothing will hurry up flour and blankets and other needed things, quicker than a little rapine and murder, and is pretty certain that our government only keeps faith with Indians that carry good rifles. He sees the peaceful Indian neglected and suffering, and in his simple form of faith, seeing is believing. It pays to kick up a fuss and he does it. If there is anything in the transcendentalism that enunciates the "Fatherhood of God and brotherhood of man," then it might be well to apply it to this case. Abolish all race distinctions and treat the red man or red devil just as the white friend or fiend.

Confiding.

If the views of the "London committee of Confederate bondholders" are correctly reported, their confiding trust in the gullibility of human nature is to be admired, and at the same time to be regretted. It is stated that by steady and persevering appeals to win over, first, the American public, and then the American Congress to the opinion that the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution should be repealed. When they succeed in securing such repeal the hopeful London speculators are to try their persuasive powers on certain of the Southern states, inducing them to compromise their war debt to the amount represented by what they hold in England. The little obstacles in the way should, and doubtless will, only serve as additional incentives to the enterprising committee. Such action must, of course, commend itself to the favorable attention of any one who has confederate bonds to sell; and if those who want to invest in such securities can be got to look at it the same way, we may

be able to note increased transactions in these pleasant little mementoes of the past.

Washington Gossip.

UNDER date of Dec. 6th, "Don Pedro" writing from Washington, says: President Arthur has at last gone into the White House to live. Everything is as neat and bright as a new pin since the old house has been fixed up. The President will occupy for a sleeping-chamber a room that has rarely been used for that purpose by his predecessors, though Gen. Grant occupied it for a short time. It is very spacious, measuring about thirty by twenty feet, and is over the private dining room. It is fully as large as the Red Parlor down stairs. During General Grant's two terms this room was known as "Miss Nellie's room," being usually occupied by his only daughter. The chamber is on the north side of the house and with the smaller room adjoining occupies the northwest corner. The sun never shines on the large room. The small one will be so to speak, the President's boudoir and communicates with the larger one by a mahogany door. The question that has lately agitated our society circles is, "what lady will 'preside' at the White House, and assist at the receptions, etc?" But it has been settled by the President, who says that the wife of a member of "his Cabinet—whose name is not yet made public—will assist him in dispensing the hospitalities of the Executive Mansion. In fact he expects all ladies of his Cabinet to come to the rescue in doing the honors. His married sister has cares enough of her own and the unmarried one is not physically able to perform the duties. There will be none but formal entertainments given at the mansion this winter—that is to say dinner parties and public evening receptions. No one will be there on whom the ladies can call sociably as they have been in the habit of doing heretofore.

HONG KONG exchanges to Nov. 15th are to hand. The fresh and sparkling brilliancy of these papers is noticeable. The one last opened has a column article on the difference between "styles of mummies in the 18th and the 20th dynasties." It fearlessly takes the position that "three cases and mummy of Queen-Ast-em-af, daughter of Masahiri, married to her uncle Menkheperra. The inscriptions show her to have been a grand-daughter of Pinotem and the mother of Pinotem III."

THESE does not appear to be any cause of present anxiety to slave traders of Northeastern Africa and Egypt, as their business is good and constantly improving. The statistics for the commerce for 1880 shows an appreciation of fifteen per cent. Nubian boys are quoted at from \$45 to \$75; Abyssinians, fair to choice, \$50 to \$90. Some small lots are held at \$100 and \$125 each, but those, we notice, are outside figures.

NOW THAT 1881 is nearly ended and the old stock of worries about used up, a fresh lot of scapers are being fixed up. The first in the field is, of course, an Ohio man, who predicts that in 1884 it will be intensely warm all over the United States. Very likely—there will be a Presidential election, you know, in '84.

THE most convincing proof of President Arthur's sagacity that we have noticed, is the fact that he absolutely succeeded in keeping his Message and its statements and recommendations a secret from everyone. For the last twenty years the New York editors knew the principal points of the message long before Congress had heard it read.

FIVE thousand men are at present engaged in laying the track of the Northern Pacific railroad. It is thought that if fine weather continues, the gap of 700 miles between Montana and Oregon will be closed next year.

An effort is being made in California to re-organize the Workingmen's Party. It did some harm and more good while it lived, but any reorganization of it now would simply amount to a piece club, at the services of the last and best political purchaser.

NEW TO-DAY.

1882. Harper's Magazine. ILLUSTRATED.

"Always varied, always good, always improving."—CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, Jr. Harper's Magazine, the most popular illustrated periodical in the world, begins its sixty-fourth volume with the December Number. It represents what is best in American literature and art; and its marked success in England—where it has already a circulation larger than that of any English Magazine of the same class—has brought into its service the most eminent writers and artists of Great Britain. The forthcoming volumes for 1882 will in every respect surpass their predecessors.

HARPER'S PERIODICALS.

Table listing Harper's Magazine, Harper's Weekly, Harper's Bazar, and other publications with their respective prices.

Postage Free to all subscribers in the United States and Canada.

The volumes of the Magazine begin with the Numbers for June and December of each year. When no time is specified, it will be understood that the subscriber wishes to begin with the current Number. A Complete Set of HARPER'S MAGAZINE, comprising 62 Volumes, in neat cloth binding, will be sent by express, freight of 82 1/2 per cent. Single volumes, by mail, postpaid, \$2.00. Cloth cases, for binding, 50 cents, by mail, postpaid. Index to HARPER'S MAGAZINE, Alpha to Omega, Analytical, and Classified, for Volumes 1 to 60, inclusive, from June, 1856, to June, 1880, one vol., 8vo. cloth, \$4.00. Remittances should be made by Post-Office Money Order or Draft, to avoid chances of loss. Newspapers are not to be used for advertising without the express order of HARPER & BROTHERS. Address: HARPER & BROTHERS, New York.

For Yaquina Bay, Tillamook and Cray's Harbor, Direct.

The new Coasting Steamer YAQUINA, JAMES E. DENNY, MASTER. Will leave Astoria for the above ports THURSDAY, Dec. 22, 1881. For freight or passage apply at the office on dock. C. J. TREMBAIRD, Agent.

School Tax Notice. TO THE TAXPAYERS OF SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 1, Clatsop county, Oregon: You are hereby notified that the assessment roll for the school tax in district No. 1 for the year 1881, is completed and will be in my hands at my office at 11:00 A.M. on the 15th of the next month. It is your duty to pay your taxes in time and save costs. J. J. HUSTLER, Clerk of School District No. 1, Astoria, Oregon, Dec. 16, 1881.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

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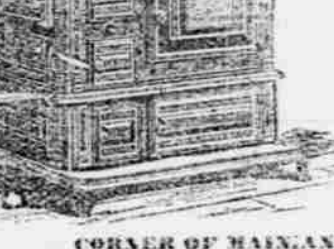
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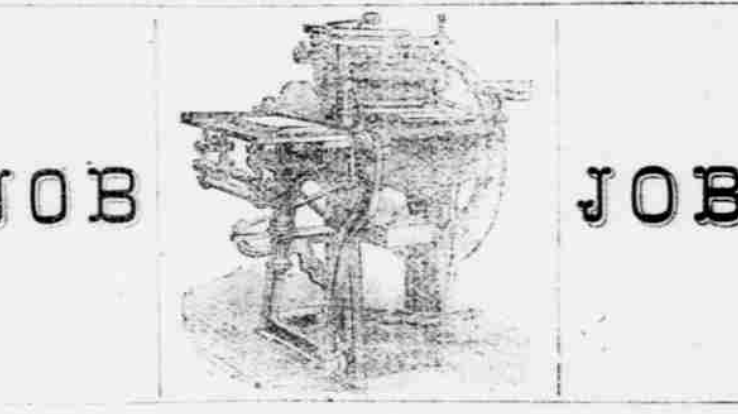
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