

# The Daily Astorian.

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### DEBASING JOURNALISM.

A more repulsive or disgusting being does not exist than a journalist who considers it legitimate to ransack his neighbor's closet and parade all the dirty linen he can find before the public eye. To such a man nothing is sacred from publication if it will sell. Of course it will sell. For the same reason that indecent pictures sell faster than works of pure art; it will sell, even as ardent spirits commands a more active market than the revised edition of the New Testament. But because there is a quick sale and desirable profit in this sort of blackmail journalism, is not a justification for its publication; if its only effect is the demoralization and corruption of public taste and feeling, then it is not legitimate, but inhuman journalism. The keyhole spy, the eavesdropper, the petty mailer, the local blackletter and scandal-monger, who prints all the bad smells his inquisitive nose catches on the sidewalk, is not an enterprising journalist nor editor in any legitimate understanding of the word; he is only a dirty scavenger who decks out a dinner table for the public with the filthy collections of his calling; he is a reckless public enemy, an indefatigable incendiary of the basest and vilest sort. Read the public report of certain sorts of city papers; they are elaborately prepared and bristle with sarcasm and low wit, discharged at the lowest, most forlorn, friendless, feeble and needless of God's creatures of both sexes. How a human being with a spark of soul can write day after day in a police court, shooting satire and ridicule at some wretched inebriated woman or pauperized man, whose ignorance, weakness and wretchedness call for solemn reflections rather than for jeers and ridicule, is outside of our comprehension; and yet it is this sort of wretched brutal stuff that is widely relished and called "spicy" by a great many people, who are never so happy as when somebody else is miserable. Journalism may be a public blessing, but journalism whose enterprise consists in printing the irrepressible stench and smut of the sidewalk is a curse; it is as lively as a snake and as stupid as sin.

A writer in an English paper says: "By the way, speaking of water-proofs, I think I can give travelers a valuable hint or two. For years I have worn india-rubber water-proofs, but will buy no more; for I have learned that good Scottish tweed can be made impervious to rain, and, moreover, I have learned how to make it so; and for the benefit of readers, I give the recipe: In a bucket of soft water put half a pound of sugar of lead and half a pound of powdered alum; stir at intervals until it becomes clear, then pour it off into another vessel, and put the garment in, let it be in twenty-four hours, then hang it up to dry without wringing it. Two of my party, a lady and gentleman, have worn garments thus treated in the wildest storms and rains without getting wet. The rain hangs upon the cloth in globules. In short, they were really waterproof. The gentleman walked nine miles in a storm of wind and rain, rarely seen in the south; and when he slipped off his overcoat his underclothes were as dry as when he put them on. This, I think, a secret worth knowing; for cloth, if it can be made to keep out wet, is in every way better than what we know as water-proof."

The Mormons have been thirty years building a granite temple in Salt Lake City, and it will take at least ten more to finish the work, in case it is ever carried to completion, which is now considered doubtful. There is difficulty in gathering the taxes levied upon the believers for this purpose, and the Gentiles already count on turning the structure into a state house when Utah is admitted to the Union.

Since January 1st, 1882, 225 miles of Northern Pacific track have been inspected and received by the government on the eastern side of the Rocky mountains, and 100 miles in addition are now ready for inspection, making the completed line, from Duluth westward now 1,004 miles long. On the Pacific coast 125 miles of road have been inspected and accepted, and 25 more are ready for inspection. By the time the commissioners are able to inspect the section recently completed on the Pacific coast, it is expected that 25 or 50 miles more will be ready for them to look at, making the grand total of construction work during the present calendar year aggregate 450 miles. The officers of the company feel assured that by the end of the present year not more than 250 miles will remain to be constructed to complete the through connection between the Mississippi valley and Lake Superior on the east and Puget Sound and the valley of the Columbia on the Pacific coast. No doubt is now felt as to the ability of the company to connect the eastern and western ends of the track by the first of July next.—*W. W. Statesman.*

"Hamlet," it now appears, was a liar of the first water. He speaks of an "undiscovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns," and that, too, just after he has had a windy interview with his father's ghost, that had but recently arrived from the said undiscovered country.—*Exchange.* "Hamlet" is neither a subscriber to nor an advertiser in *Texas Sittings*, hence we will not be accused of undue partiality when we take up for him. The apparent discrepancy is susceptible of a very satisfactory explanation. The reason no traveler ever returns from the undiscovered country is self-evident. If the country is undiscovered no traveler ever found it, and, of course, it is impossible for a traveler to return from a country he never reached. If a traveler ever did get to that country of course it would no longer be an undiscovered country. It is with Shakespeare as it is with the Bible. The most difficult problems are solved by studying them in the proper spirit.

A history has been published lately of the Roman Catholic archbishops of Tuam, from which it would seem that the prelates of the diocese long had a hard time of it. Here is a description of the celebration of mass there in Cromwell's day. "On a Sunday morning a portable altar and a vestment box, generally painted red, were brought into some convenient sand pit, round which multitudes gathered. The priest, without cap or soutane, hurried on his vestments. The lights on the improvised altar were rushes dipped in grease, stuck in raw potatoes, and placed in lanterns, which served as candlesticks. Scouts were stationed around, and mass was hurried through as quickly as possible. One of these mass sand pits still exists near Tuam.

The soldiers of Boston have sent a letter to General Grant, regarding the vindication of General Fitz John Porter, which says: "No act, whether of valor, or of policy, which has marked your great career, should bring you more honor than your moral courage and spirit of fairness and justice exhibited in the defence of a gallant Union soldier, condemned on insufficient or mistaken evidence."

The duty on a hundred-dollar diamond is \$10. The duty on a hundred dollars' worth of blankets is \$88. The author of our tariff must have begun life as a hotel clerk.

Mr. M. Goodin, Belmont Park, Va., recently wrote to correspondent of the Philadelphia *Times* as follows: I have given St. Jacobs Oil a trial on sore and fresh wounds of horses, and find it to relieve the soreness in a few hours. It is invaluable to all owners of horses, especially of fine stock.

"Be you Dr. Hamilton?" asked a man who had dropped in at the office of the eminent New York surgeon. "That's my name," responded the doctor. "Well, I thought, as I was in town for a day or two, I'd just call round and thank ye." "You're very kind, but I was not aware that you were under any obligations to me." "That's what I came to tell you about. It's this way: I'd been sick for mor'n three year with the rheumatiz, all the time a-go'in' and a-cussin' and a-growin', but the very munit I see your bill for hoverin' round our late president, Doc, I got well. You can't spare no time to come out and take a drink, can ye?"

There lives a man in Baker who claims to be the Joss swapper. Ten years ago he bought a pocket knife for which he paid \$2. He swapped this for a pistol; he swapped the pistol for a shot-gun, the gun for a cow, the cow for a horse and sold the horse for \$500. He invested the \$500 for the first five years and drew out \$2,000. He had the \$2,000 out at interest for five years at ten per cent. and he now has the result of his knife trade—\$3,000.

The boobies of Northfield college, Minn., were having a great deal of fun in changing a physician's sign for that of an undertaker, when a big kettle of warm tar was emptied on them from the roof of the house.

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An Oswego young lady made 700 words of the letters contained in "conservatory," while her mother wrestled with the week's washing unaided. Education is a great thing for those who seek it.

**MOTHERS, READ.**

GENTS—About nine years ago I had a child two years old and almost dead. The doctor I had attending her could not tell what ailed her. I asked him if he did not think it was worms. He said no. However, this did not satisfy me, as I felt convinced in my own mind that she had. I obtained a bottle of Dr. C. McLANE'S CELEBRATED VERMIFUGE, and I gave her a teaspoonful in the morning and another at night, after which she passed seventy-two worms and was a well child. Since then I have never been without it in my family. The health of my children remained so good that my husband and I gave her a teaspoonful in the morning and another at night, after which she passed seventy-two worms and was a well child. Since then I have never been without it in my family. The health of my children remained so good that my husband and I gave her a teaspoonful in the morning and another at night, after which she passed seventy-two worms and was a well child. Since then I have never been without it in my family. The health of my children remained so good that my husband and I gave her a teaspoonful in the morning and another at night, after which she passed seventy-two worms and was a well child.

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Please give me a call.  
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Ship Chandlers and Grocers,  
Ropes and Cordage of all kinds, Blocks, Patent and Metaline of all sizes.  
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