

A SAN FRANCISCO judge has decided that it is no slander to charge a newspaper with selling its editorial columns. Pixley of the Argonaut says that is correct. Newspapers he says are run to make money and many like lawyers become partisans for their clients. There is another side that seems to us nearer right. Instead of being a pleader, for either side that pays best, the newspaper should be as a judge able to see and hear both sides and decide according to justice. If all readers are aware that the morality of a newspaper rises no higher than the coin on the other side of the scale throws it up; in other words, that on all subjects it speaks as it is paid to speak, what respect could be retained for newspapers? But that is not yet the view of readers of some papers at least. There is a confidence that some men tell the truth. That they look on both sides of every question before they write and give an unbiased opinion. If a paper is run merely to make money, readers will be on their guard against it, they will believe nothing it may say till they know who generally buys its columns. But the judges and the Argonaut are both mistaken. There are men whose opinions are not for sale. Men who look for truth, and when it is found, tell it. And they think it is far better for the public to have a man make inquiry into current events and give an unbiased opinion of them, than to have one known to sell out whenever a purchaser can be found. There is still enough in the world at the best, but it is not quite time to say that all men are liars—if they are paid for it.

THERE is trouble in Washington, and society circles are rent into factions as to who is the "first lady" of the republic. At the New Year's reception President Arthur assigned that place to Mrs. Carlisle, the wife of the speaker, and there was a flutter among the "cabinet" ladies. At the recent cabinet dinner, President Arthur escorted the wife of the secretary of the state to the table, thereby giving her the position of "first lady" on that momentous occasion, and now the conundrum is, whether Mrs. Carlisle, having once been recognized as the "first lady," is not entitled to the position for the rest of her husband's official existence, or until such time as the wife of a president reigns in the White house. We have not heard that the estimable lady is herself interested in the matter, but society must have something to fight over. The only way out of the coil that we can see, is for the president to marry.

SOME of our eastern exchanges seem disposed to make the bloody shirt an issue in the coming presidential fight. Better not. It is every way wiser and manlier to "let the dead past bury its dead," than to keep sectional animosity alive. It is principally the men that formed the "Home Guard" twenty years ago that are now so pugnacious. Those that went to battle, on both sides, had enough of it, and now, in the afternoon of the century the embers of hate should fade to gray ashes, of the only remembrance of an unhappy past.

THE fish supply of Russian lakes and rivers is enormous. Recent statistics show how great is the catch. During the year 9,000,000 hundred-weight of fish were caught in the Caspian sea. In the sea of Azov and the rivers Don and Kuban 4,000,000 hundred-weight were caught. In the Black sea, about 8,000,000 hundred-weight; in the White sea and Frozen ocean, 500,000 hundred-weight; in the Baltic, not less than 2,000,000 hundred-weight; the total of these numbers being 80,000 tons of fish.

A MAN who pays his debts promptly is generally considered honest, but Texas has a citizen so much impressed with the command of the Scriptures, "Owe no man anything," that he stole a bale of cotton, sold it, and with the proceeds paid all his debts, only using the sum of five cents for his own personal benefit. He has been arrested for the theft, and his recent creditors will let him stay in jail.

JUDGE PAYSON of Illinois says that the public lands committee is agreed upon the legal grounds that congress has a right to forfeit the entire Northern Pacific grant, with the exception of that portion which has been earned and patented, less than 1,000,000 acres in all. Payson says there is a division of opinion among the members as to the wisdom of reporting a bill forfeiting the entire grant.

YESTERDAY'S Independent says it will advocate the principles "that were dear to such patriots and statesmen as Washington, Jefferson, Jackson, Webster and Lincoln." This is "wearing the livery of heaven to serve the devil in," with a vengeance.

Mrs. STACKPOLE, of Dannemora, N. Y. wrote to an old admirer that when she became the widow Stackpole she would like to have him call on her. Stackpole got the letter and left town for good.

An important ruling as to land claimants was recently made by the secretary of the interior, to the effect that a pre-emptor or homesteader may log the timber on his claim in the course of improvement and acquiring title to his land. Heretofore claimants were not allowed to log the timber until after proving up, or without a deposit of the value of the land, at the rate of \$1.25 an acre.

We have no dry-dock on Puget Sound. We have got no arsenal. We have got nothing, in short, to hinder even such a small power as Chile from capturing the whole northwest country—except of course the Columbia river bar, which is always a good natural stand-by against invading vessels.—Seattle Herald.

Those rocks off Cape Flattery seem to be menace enough for iron vessels such as our English cousins would send.

FATHER STEPHAN, the famous Catholic missionary, who is now in Washington, has had a life full of adventure. For a long time Sitting Bull was under his charge. He is the trusted counsellor of all the north-western Indians, and is said to have more influence over them than any other white man.

EDMUNDS and Lincoln is the latest presidential ticket. It has the great merit of having a great deal of brains and honesty; but it can hardly resist the fiery onslaught of Logan.

ELLA WHEELER, the wild western warbler, sings, "Love, when we met, 'twas like two planets meeting." Ella must have bumped heads with her sweetheart.

THE Huntington party, it is said, intends to consolidate the roads extending from the terminus of the Southern Pacific into one system.

COLONEL TOM OCHILTER is fond of lying under the trees in summer, and wherever he can get a chance in winter.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure. This powder never varies. A marvel of purity, strength and wholesomeness. More economical than the ordinary kinds, and cannot be sold in competition with the multitude of low test, short weight, alum or phosphate powders. Sold only in cans. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 106 Wall-st. N. Y.

Mrs. R. QUINN, GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS, Crockery and Glassware. A Full Stock. NEW GOODS CONSTANTLY RECEIVED. Northwest corner Squemoqua and Main Streets. n17-3m

CHAS. A. MAY, New Store, New Stock. Toys, Fancy Goods, Tobacco and Cigars. FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC FRUITS A FINE ASSORTMENT. Squemoqua street, next door to the Empire Store. n17-2m

Astoria Shooting Gallery. Next Door to A. G. Spearth's. Chenamus street, near Main. Try Your Skill As a Marksman, and win a PRIZE. First-class Guns - Charges Moderate. Open till 10:30 P. M. A. W. GATES, Proprietor.

"GEN. BANNING," 156 tons register, will leave Astoria, on, or about FEBRUARY 23, 1884. FOR Gray's Harbor. She will take freight at Portland, and on her return from Portland will leave Astoria. For further particulars apply to J. H. D. GRAY, Astoria, Oregon.

For Rent. A LARGE FINE STORE ROOM ADJOINING my place of business; also part of the entire upper floors if desired. For further particulars inquire of RUDOLPH BARTH, Corner Olney and Squemoqua streets.

School Notice. THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LEGAL voters of School District No. 1, Clatsop county, Oregon, will be held at the new school building in said district, on Tuesday, March 3, 1884, at 7 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of electing one director to serve for three years, and one clerk to serve for one year. By order of the Directors, J. U. BOZORTH, Clerk, School District No. 1, Clatsop County, Or. February 20, 1884.

To Lease. I OFFER FOR RENT MY FINE BUSINESS property in Upper Astoria. This is a rare opportunity for a business man. S. JOHANSEN.

Special Auction Sale THURSDAY, FEB. 21, at 2 P. M. Instructed by MR. THOS. E. WOODFIELD, I will sell at Public Auction, on the premises, at the Point Astoria Packing Co., in Upper Astoria, Two 25 ft. Fishing Boats, 7 ft. 2 in. beam, with complete outfit of Masts, Sails, Anchors, Churns, Launch Buckets, etc. Two Nets, 600 fathoms, 45 mesh deep, in use last season only for 4 or 5 weeks. One 4 roomed Frame Building, 16x26 ft. Also - A lot of House hold Furniture, consisting in part of One bedroom suit complete, Chairs, Tables, Corsets, Parlor and Cooking stove, etc., etc. One Weed Sewing Machine in good running order and nearly new. E. C. HOLDEN, Auctioneer.

SPECIAL AUCTION VALUABLE Seaside Lots

Located in the Immediate Vicinity of Already Improved Property. The Favorite, and Most Frequented Seaside Resort

Of the Elite of Portland for Many Years, and without Doubt Affording the Finest Sea-bathing

Facilities and Summer Recreations on the Oregon Coast.

INSTRUCTED BY Messrs. BOZORTH & JOHNS,

I WILL ON Saturday, February 23, IN THE AFTERNOON, At 2 P. M. AND IN THE EVENING, 7 P. M.

At My Auction Rooms, Continue to Sell At Public Auction LIMITED NUMBER OF LOTS, Each 50x100 feet In the First Addition to Ocean Grove.

Immediately Adjoining the Property on which is located the Well and Favorably Known GRIMES' SUMMER HOUSE.

OCEAN GROVE. AS AN INVESTMENT Which must eventually prove highly remunerative in case present purchasers buy on a speculation, it is only necessary to state that lots in close proximity to those now offered for sale, have been sold for not less than \$100 each, and will be improved and occupied this season by many of the purchasers, among whom are such well-known gentlemen in this state as M. S. Burrell, (Knapp, Burrell & Co., Portland), J. B. Congie, Esq., Portland, Geo. C. Sears, (sheriff Multnomah county), H. Johnson, the well known cattle dealer, Portland, Hon. Geo. H. Durham, Hillsboro, Charles Knowles, Esq., J. O. Hanterson, Esq., Geo. Shaw, Jr., Hon. J. R. Kellogg, C. E. Nelson, E. D. McKee, Esq., of Rodgers, Meyer & Co., C. P. Horne, Cashier Northwestern Savings Bank, Portland, and several equally prominent Oregonians.

For further particulars enquire of Messrs. Bozorth & Johns, real estate agents, or E. C. HOLDEN, Auctioneer.

FURNISHED ROOMS TO LET. AT Mrs. GEO. HILLER'S, NEXT DOOR TO Wes on Hotel.

DO YOU OWN A HORSE? THEN DON'T LET HIM SUFFER THESE cold nights when you can keep him comfortably warm with a No. 1 New Horse Blanket that you can get for a dollar and a half at E. C. HOLDEN'S Auction Rooms.

Executors' Notice. THE COUNTY COURT OF CLATSOP County, Oregon, having appointed the undersigned executors of the last will and testament of Truman P. Powers, deceased, all persons having claims against said estate are requested to present the same with the proper vouchers, at the office of G. Leitenweber, Upper Astoria, within six months from this date. C. LEINENWEBER, Wm. WADHAMS, Executors, December 14, 1883.

Dissolution of Partnership. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE firm of Warren & Thompson is dissolved by mutual consent, and all parties indebted to the late firm will please make immediate settlement, and all parties having claims against the firm of Warren & Thompson will please present the same to H. C. Thompson, at the old stand, WARREN and THOMPSON, Astoria, February 1st, 1884.

TAX NOTICE. RESIDENTS OF SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 9 are hereby notified that the taxes for the year 1883 in said district are now due and payable at the office of Badollet & Co., Upper Astoria. J. E. HIGGINS, Acting School Clerk. Astoria, February 6, 1884.

You Are Sure to be Suited AT THE Leading Furniture House OF ASTORIA. CHAS. HEILBORN.



FOR THE Hall, Office, Library, Parlor, Chamber and DINING ROOM, in WALNUT, CHERRY, ASH, AND MAPLE. We are without a doubt showing the Largest and Most Complete line of CHAMBER SUITS in this city, unequaled in Design, Workmanship and Finish. CARPETS. We Carry an IMMENSE STOCK OF CARPETS of All Designs and Colors in Body, Roxbury, and Tapestry Brussels, Three Plys, Extra Supers and Ingrains.

FOSTER'S EXCHANGE. THE Billiard Parlors and Club Rooms

Are not excelled by any north of San Francisco. Nothing but the best dispensed, and every convenience for the comfort of guests.

Imported Wines, Liquors and Cigars. The Most Complete Establishment in Astoria. AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE O. R. & N. DOCK.

THE NEW YORK NOVELTY STORE! Opposite the Parker House.

THE New York Novelty STORE!

Headquarters for the Young and the Old. Books, Musical Instruments, Toys, Stationery, and Novelties of Every Description. All the Leading Publications of the Day. Ask to be shown the Clarions, the latest novel of mechanical ingenuity.

STONE & DAVIDSON (HUME'S BUILDING.) AGENCY Red Crown Flour. Guaranteed a Superior Article. DEALERS GRAIN, MILL FEED, POTATOES, Country Produce, Etc. Consignments Solicited, and Advances made on same.

PETER BLANKHOLM, Dealer in FINE CIGARS, IMPORTED AND DOMESTIC. THE BEST BRANDS OF TOBACCO. SMOKERS' ARTICLES. Cor. Squemoqua and Olney Streets, Astoria.

Just Received Ex Walla Walla 500 Tons Seattle Coal. COAL! COAL! The Oregon Improvement Co. Now have for sale at the new Bunkers. SEATTLE COAL For Domestic use, clean, \$7.50 per ton of 2,200 lbs. For Steam use, average, \$6.50 per ton of 2,200 lbs. For Steam use, screenings, \$4.50 per ton of 2,200 lbs. Also constantly on hand First-class Cumberland Coal For Blacksmith use, at market rates. E. A. NOTES, Agent. Jan 20-2m

FRANK L. PARKER. Fresh Fruits and Vegetables FANCY GROCERIES.

STEAMER CLARA PARKER Eben P. Parker, Master. For TOWING, FREIGHT or CHARTER apply to the Captain, or to H. S. PARKER.

EMPIRE STORE RE-OPENING! Fine Goods at Reduced Prices Ladies desirous of procuring Goods unequaled in Style and Finish will take pleasure in examining our Stock of

SILKS, SATINS and DRESS GOODS. IN THE GENTS' FURNISHING DEPARTMENT, Everything is Complete and of the best. PRAEL BROS.

John A. Montgomery, DEALER IN Tin, Sheet Iron and Copper Ware. A General Assortment of HOUSEHOLD GOODS. Agents for Magee Stoves and Ranges The Best in the market. Plumbing goods of all kinds on hand. Job work done in a workmanlike manner. PLUMBING, GAS FITTING, AND CANNERY WORK Attended to Promptly on Reasonable Terms. Chenamus Street, Next to C. L. Parker's Store. ASTORIA, OREGON.

THE NEW MODEL RANGE CAN BE HAD IN ASTORIA ONLY OF E. R. HAWES, AGENT CALL AND EXAMINE IT. YOU WILL BE PLEASED. E. R. HAWES is also agent for the Buck patent Cooking Stove And other first-class stoves. Furnace Work, Steam Fittings, etc., a specialty. A FULL STOCK ALWAYS ON HAND. E. R. HAWES, Two doors east of Occident Hotel, ASTORIA, OREGON. M. OLSEN, J. GUSTAFSON, A. JOHNSON. MARTIN OLSEN & CO. DEALERS IN

FURNITURE AND BEDDING. Corner Main and Squemoqua Streets, Astoria, Oregon. WINDOW SHADES AND TRIMMINGS; WALL PAPER ETC. A Complete Stock. PRICES AS CHEAP AS QUALITY WILL AFFORD. ALL KINDS OF FURNITURE REPAIRED AND VARNISHED.

YOU CAN TAKE THE CAKE! And by Buying it at F. B. ELBERSON'S SEASIDE BAKERY You will be sure that it is worth taking. Every Variety of Fine Cakes and Confectionery

Special Inducements For the Holiday Trade. Candies, Christmas Tree Trimmings, Etc. The Best Quality of Fine Bread Delivered every Morning SEASIDE BAKERY, F. B. ELBERSON, Proprietor. -That Hacking Cough can be so quickly cured by Shiloh's Cure. We guarantee it. Sold by W. E. Dement.

California Exchange The best of California and Foreign Wines and Liquors Kept Constantly on Hand Domestic and Foreign Cigars of the best Brands. NATIONAL BREWERY BEER. On Consignment between Benton and Lathrop streets. GEORGE GORLIER. I. W. CASE, IMPORTER AND WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN GENERAL MERCHANDISE Corner Chenamus and Cass streets. ASTORIA, OREGON