

THE prospect for much more legislation in congress than the passage of the regular appropriation bills is very discouraging. One week succeeds another, and there is no change. The situation is still described in nothing done. A safe prophecy will be—little or nothing will be done. The block in legislation is in the house of representatives. There the Democratic party has seventy majority. If the party has a purpose, it has no leaders. Everything has been subordinated to the passage of a tariff bill, yet it has been known that no tariff bill could become a law. The programme of the dominant party has been to make a political platform; the result so far has been to develop an irreconcilable party schism. The purpose of the leaders now—if they have a clear purpose—is to induce enough of the fifty-seven Democrats who opposed tariff agitation in the caucus to permit the tariff bill to come up to be discussed. It is not certain that that consent can be secured. If thirty-six Democrats shall vote with the Republicans, either to prevent the consideration of or defeat of the tariff bill, the Democratic majority in the house will be checked. The calculations of the result are as close as three votes. The problem will, doubtless, be solved in the course of the next week. If the decision shall be that the tariff bill is to be considered, the session will of necessity be prolonged not less than one month, and an adjournment will not be possible before August. If the tariff bill be not considered, an adjournment is probable in July.

But in either event there is very little prospect that much legislation will be accomplished except the passage of the necessary supply bills. Congress has been in session more than four months, and only one of the regular appropriation bills has become a law. That is a bill as to which there is seldom any opposition—the mere routine military academy bill. There remain of the regular appropriation bills eleven, beside the river and harbor and the special deficiency bills, which are not classed as regular bills. Some of the great bills have consumed a month in a single house. They will have to be passed, or an extra session will be inevitable. Of course they will be passed. This fact makes it pretty certain that little else will be done. The committee have finished three-fourths of their work. They have practically decided that it is useless to attempt to report any more bills, as they will simply be loaded upon the calendars, without any prospect of being acted upon. There are some four thousand bills already introduced. Of these some six hundred have been acted upon and are upon the calendars. There they are likely to remain. The calendars are the sepulchers of legislation.

In view of these facts it is needless to refer to the present chances of any particular measure. All measures are involved in the same general uncertainty. Everything is sacrificed to politics. The business interests of the country are to go without consideration until a party with a majority in one house of seventy can compose its factional fight. And that this can be done there is no prospect. The bankruptcy bill, the inter-state commerce bill, the funding bill, manifold measures of great importance to the business community, are to be buried on the calendars while the factions are watching each other, anxious only to make it certain that one candidate does not get the advantage of another in the contest for the presidential nomination. In the language of practical men it is demagogic. The petitions of the business interests are pigeon-holed. The appeals of the political managers receive the most anxious consideration.

IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PRINTING PRESS.

THE evolution of the printing press has been a rapid one, and many have been the improvements in its parts. The press that could print two or three thousand newspapers an hour was outwitted by one that could turn out four thousand, and this one by another with a capacity of ten thousand; and so they were improved and grew in working power until the best presses now print twenty-five or thirty thousand sheets and hour, and, by duplication of stereotype plates, more than twice that number. There has been a change from the press fed by hand to one printing on a continuous roll of paper; and while the former presses made an impression on one side only of the sheet, both sides are now printed at once. A device of recent years, also, enables the publisher of a newspaper to cut the sheet of a quarto into two parts and to paste them together so that the four leaves of a paper may be turned over like the leaves of a book, being a great convenience to advertisers. With all these improvements taking place, newspaper publishers cannot lag behind them. Such is the sharp competition among newspapers that their

publishers seize upon every advantage, and when this is done no rival can afford to have an inferior equipment, and all rivals hasten to provide themselves with machines that are the best. So rapid have been the improvements in printing machinery that competition among the publishers of newspapers has compelled them to frequently throw out less perfect machines and replace them with those having the latest improvements. The sacrifice of capital entailed by these changes is enormous. A New York daily newspaper publisher some time ago bought from Messrs. R. Hoe & Co. presses for \$300,000; improvements since then have made those machines so comparatively unserviceable that recently they were taken out by the manufacturers and replaced by the best machines of present construction. An allowance of only \$1,250 was made for the old presses, which were not so very old, either; the amount representing hardly more than their value as old iron. A leading Boston newspaper has just ordered a new press of the best make, to take the place of a press only several years old, the old press, of course, being almost a dead loss. These instances illustrate how instrumental in destroying capital the progress in the making of printing machinery has been; the ratio being, the greater the improvements the greater the loss of capital. Such an immense loss as \$300,000 in one newspaper establishment, in a few years can be endured only upon the rapid reproduction of capital, and how this can take place in such large degree, considering the competition among newspapers, it is not easy to understand. These losses fall as well upon the printing establishments of jobbers and book publishers, though not so heavily as upon those of newspaper publishers, but the jobbers must feel them severely, such is the competition among them, and the cutting of prices.

BORN. In Astoria, April 14th, 1884, to the wife of E. D. Curtis, a son.

NEW TO-DAY

"Br. Bk. ITATA." GODDARD, Master. FROM LIVERPOOL. THE ABOVE VESSEL WILL COME DISCHARGING at Flavel's Dock, on Tuesday, the 15th instant. Parties having goods on board will please take delivery as discharged, as all goods are to be warehoused at 5 o'clock on day of discharge will be at their risk and expense. MEYER, WILSON & CO., Consignees.

Br. Bk. "ITATA." GODDARD, Master. FROM LIVERPOOL. NEITHER THE MASTER NOR CONSIGNERS of the above vessel will be responsible for any debts that may be contracted by the crew. MEYER, WILSON & CO., Consignees.

Notice of Application. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE undersigned will, at the next meeting of the Common Council of the City of Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon, apply to said Council for a license to retail wine, malt and spirituous liquors in less quantities than one quart, for the period of one year, in the building situated on Lot No. 5, Block No. 15, in the city of Astoria, as laid out and recorded by John M. Shively, and which said building fronts on Water street and is known as the Columbia Bar. REIPPE & GRAB. Astoria, April 14th, 1884.

Notice. THE CLATSOP TIDE LAND RECLAMATION Meeting, called for April 12th, is postponed to meet at same place on Friday, April 25th, at 10 o'clock A. M.

Notice of Application. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE undersigned will, at the next meeting of the Common Council of the City of Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon, apply to said Council for a license to retail wine, malt and spirituous liquors in less quantities than one quart, for the period of one year, from April 30th, 1884, in the three-story building situated on Lot No. 1, Block No. 2, and fronting on Squemoqua street in the city of Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon, as laid out and recorded by John McCullough. EDOLPH BARTH, Astoria, April 12th, 1884.

Notice of Application. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE undersigned will, at the next regular meeting of the Common Council of the city of Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon, apply to said Council for a license to retail wine, malt and spirituous liquors in less quantities than one quart, for the period of one year, from April 30th, 1884, in the three-story building situated on Lot No. 1, Block No. 2, and fronting on Squemoqua street in the city of Astoria, Clatsop County, Oregon, as laid out and recorded by John McCullough. EDOLPH BARTH, Astoria, April 12th, 1884.

Jordan & Bozorth

The Only Exclusive CROCKERY STORE IN ASTORIA.

N. B. Have Sole Right to the Patent Lamp Filler, BOAT BUILDING, R. M. LEATHERS

Has reopened his boat shop, over Arndt & Ferchen's, foot of Lafayette street, and is prepared to turn out FIRST-CLASS BOATS. ALL WORK GUARANTEED. FURNISHED ROOMS TO LET By the Night, Day, Week or Month WITH OR WITHOUT BOARD. With use of Parlor, Library and all the comforts of a home. Terms reasonable. Apply to MRS. E. C. HOLDEN, Cor. Main and Jefferson Sts.

A. V. Allen,

Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Groceries, Provisions, MILL FEED.

Glass and Plated Ware, TROPICAL AND DOMESTIC FRUITS AND VEGETABLES.

Together with Wines, Liquors, Tobacco, Cigars

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Instantaneous Photographs! The late and new style dry plate Photographs are made daily at the Astoria Photograph Gallery, Cor. of Benton and Squemoqua Streets, Opposite the Court House.

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First Class Blacksmithing AT LOW RATES AT Gilbert Christiansen's HORSESHOEING

Done on Scientific Principles by an AI Horseshoer who guarantees GOOD WORK. General Blacksmithing Done AND SATISFACTION ASSURED, at His Shop, in rear of Aug. Danielson's Saloon.

Drugs and Chemicals J. E. THOMAS, DRUGGIST AND PHARMACIST, ASTORIA, OREGON. HOMOEPATHIC REMEDIES. Prescriptions carefully compounded Day or Night.

FOR FINEST GROCERIES, FOARD & STOKES. A FULL LINE OF HARDWARE AND Ship Chandlery. NEW SLIP Just Finished in Rear of Store.

Fishermen's Headquarters. THE GENUINE Cape Ann Oiled Clothing, OVERALLS, COATS, HATS, SHIRTS, GUM BOOTS, ETC. And a Complete Outfit, of Best Quality, and at the LOWEST PRICE of any Establishment in the city.

P. A. STOKES & CO. Have opened a New Stock of A1 Goods in the store next door to Foard & Stokes, and Guarantee Satisfaction TO ALL CUSTOMERS.

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.

Wood Yard. UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE THE ASTORIA Wood Yard, Gray's Dock, foot of Benton street, will sell wood at the following prices and deliver wherever the streets are planked, between Trullinger's Mill and O'Brien's Hotel, back to Astor street: Green Alder, 2-cut \$4.50 per cord, load \$3.75 Dry do do 4.75 do do 4.00 Green Hemlock do 4.75 do do 4.00 Dry do do 4.75 do do 4.00 Green Fir do 4.75 do do 4.00 Dry Fir do 5.00 do do 4.25 Extra Maple do 6.00 do do 5.25 Pine and S. Limes do 5.75 do do 5.00 Wood of All Kinds By the Saw load at REDUCED RATES. J. H. D. GRAY Astoria, February 13th, 1884.

You Are Sure to be Satisfied AT THE Leading Furniture House OF ASTORIA.

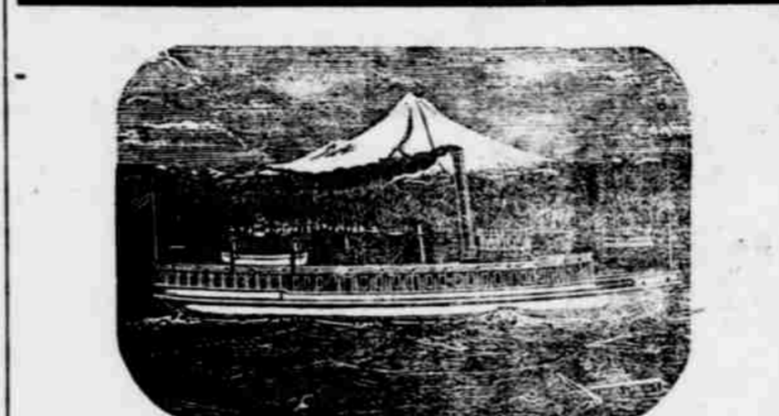
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We are without a doubt showing the Largest and Most Complete line of CHAMBER SUITS in this city, unequalled in Design, Workmanship and Finish.

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.



Columbia Transportation Company. FOR PORTLAND.

FAST TIME! THE POPULAR STEAMER FAST TIME! FLEETWOOD Which has been refitted for the comfort of passengers will leave Wilson & Fisher's Dock every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6 A.M. arriving at Portland at 1 P.M. Tuesday and Thursday at 6 A.M. arriving at Astoria at 1 P.M. An additional trip will be made on Sunday of Each Week, leaving Portland at 9 o'clock Sunday Morning. Passengers by this route connect at Kalamazoo for Sound ports. U. B. SCOTT, President.

THE NEW YORK NOVELTY STORE! Opposite the Parker House.

PETER BLANKHOLM, Dealer in FINE CIGARS, IMPORTED AND DOMESTIC. THE BEST BRANDS OF TOBACCO. SMOKERS' ARTICLES. Cor. Squemoqua and Olney Streets, Astoria. 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 2,240 lbs. For Steam use, average, \$8.50 per ton of 2,240 lbs. For Steam use, screenings, \$4.50 per ton of 2,240 lbs. Also constantly on hand First-class Cumberland Coal. For Blacksmith use, at market rates. E. A. NOYES, Agent. Jan 20-3m

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 Clazions, the latest novel of mechanical ingenuity.

J. W. RUDDOCK, Practical Plumbing in All its Branches. Steam and Gas Fixtures. A Complete Stock of First-class Material. All Work Guaranteed. Office and Shop in Hume's building, rear of Wheeler & Robb's, Astoria, Oregon.

THE BEST IS THE CHEAPEST! Royal Brand Flour Manufactured by the OREGON MILLING COMPANY Is of Superior Quality, and is Endorsed by all who use it.

THE HOUSEKEEPER'S FAVORITE Of Superior Rising Quality. Guaranteed to Give Satisfaction. WYATT & THOMPSON Sole Agents for Astoria.

ASTORIA LIQUOR STORE, AUG. DANIELSON, Proprietor. Rebuilt and Restored Throughout. The Best of WINES, LIQUORS, AND CIGARS For a Good Glass, call for one of "Danielson's Best." Corner West 9th and Water Streets, Astoria.

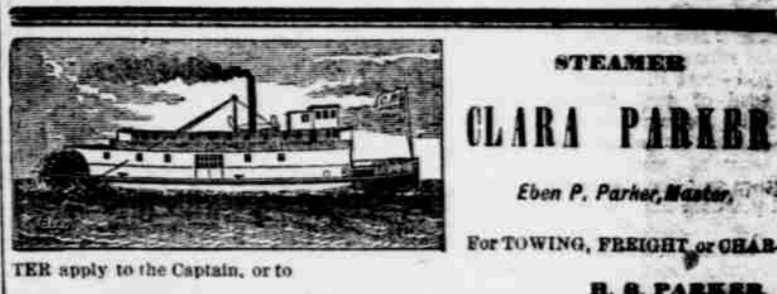
Stop That Horse! From Slipping. USE THE PATENT SHOE. George McLane HAS JUST RECEIVED A PATENT Horsehoe from the Patent Office, for the purpose of preventing all classes of horses from slipping on plank, or steep roads. Horses shod with this shoe WILL NOT SLIP. A trial will convince anyone. I keep Two First-class Shoes in my shop. Try the NEW SHOE. Mr. Corran and Contracted Hoof cure a specialty. No satisfaction no pay. GEO. McLANE.

HOUSE TO RENT AN EIGHT ROOMED HOUSE, ELIGIBLE FOR BOARDING. Furniture to be sold. Inquire at ASTORIA office. The Gem Saloon. The Popular Resort for Astorians. Finest of Wines and Liquors Go to the GEM SALOON. ALEX. CAMPBELL, PROPRIETOR.

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FRANK L. PARKER'S Family Grocery and Provision Store,

Corner Benton and Chenamus Streets, Opposite Custom House Square.



EMPIRE STORE RE-OPENING! Fine Goods at Reduced Prices

Ladies desirous of procuring Goods unequalled 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.

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. Furnace Work, Steam Fittings, etc., a specialty. A FULL STOCK ALWAYS ON HAND. E. R. HAWES, ASTORIA, OREGON.

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. 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.

Magnus C. Crosby Dealer in HARDWARE, IRON, STEEL, Iron Pipe and Fittings, STOVES, TINWARE AND HOUSE FURNISHING GOODS. SHEET LEAD STRIP LEAD SHEET IRON, Tin and Copper. THE LATEST STYLES IN WALL PAPER AT B. S. FRANKLIN'S, NEXT DOOR TO ASTORIAN OFFICE. A very large Stock from which to select. Window curtains made to order. My patent Trimmer to cut Wall Paper will be found convenient to my patrons. Wm. Edgar, Dealer in Cigars, Tobacco and Cigarettes. Meerschmum and Brier Pipes. GENUINE ENGLISH CUTLERY. Revolvers and Cartridges. CORNER MAIN AND CHENAMUS STS. Delinquent School Tax. THE DELINQUENT SCHOOL TAX LIST of School District No. 1, is now in my hands for collection. Parties interested will govern themselves accordingly. A. M. TWOMBLY, Sheriff Clatsop County. Astoria, Or., March 12th, 1884.

B. F. STEVENS & CO., CITY BOOK STORE. Have just received a mammoth stock of Books. The young and old, rich and poor can all be accommodated. AGENTS FOR THE Kranich & Bach and Handsfeldt & Notel Pianos and Western Cottage Organs. Orders for all kinds of Music or Instruments will be promptly filled. B. F. STEVENS & CO.