

The Daily Astorian.

ASTORIA, OREGON:

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1884

INNOCENT IGNORANCE.

As eminent president of a western state institution argues vigorously against national aid to education, on one ground, among others, that the illiteracy of the south, not being essentially immoral, involves no real danger to society, although it may constitute an economic and political disability where it exists. We fear that this authority has taken his facts upon trust, or is a victim of the pleasing illusion of European origin, that ignorance in the masses is generally accompanied with a child-like simplicity and an almost saintly observance of the cardinal moralities. Within the past fifty years history has torn away this lovely mask of rural virtue and simplicity from the lower side of the old European civilizations, and revealed to us the pandemonium of human iniquity and misery, whose logical outcome was the explosion of the French Revolution, a century of war, a reconstruction of the map of Europe, and the hideous reality of the communism, nihilism and general discontent that under mines the whole surface of society abroad. Even more dangerous is ignorance in this republic, because invested in the person of every ignorant with all the powers, and exposed to all the temptations of sovereign citizenship. So far from being true that the illiteracy of the south involves no moral danger, the very opposite is the fact. The illiterate classes of all colors in those states are so undermined with every vice that imperils society that thoughtful and religious southern men stand appalled at the spectacle. Unchastity, all-pervading; untruthfulness, dishonesty, in dealing; a prodigal wastefulness of the means of living; stupid insensibility to the common duties of life; reckless disregard of the rights of childhood; the most odious oppression of womanhood; a general separation of religion from morality; eye-service in industry; all these and their accompanying vices and moral defects, are so common that the average southern man adjusts himself thereto as to any chronic nuisance in daily life. It is this moral inferiority of the illiterate classes that is the most fearful problem of southern society. Let it be understood that we speak almost solely of the blacks. In addition to all this, there is now coming in a new class of the temptations that beset the ignorant voter everywhere—the exposure to boundless bribery, hypocrisy, and slavish following of blind impulse exalted to a political platform. If every ignorant man in the south could vote freely, to-day, a reign of corruption would set in with such results as would make us forget the existence of the venerable Tweed in the boundless abominations of a new bossism. Even were there no other danger, the moral peril to the superior side of society from the presence of an illiterate and often semi-barbarous class, sometimes numbering half the population, and always a decisive element in public affairs, is enough to refute this strange delusion. History shows that no superior class ever did resist the manifold temptations that steam upward from an ignorant, childish, and morally infirm "common herd." The most fearful pages in the annals of humanity record the inevitable moral collapse of the most illustrious upper class under this temptation. Even the Christian priesthood in every land has gone down this ladder of moral decadence under the subtle influence of this demoralization. Grant that the upper class in the south is the peer of any similar body in Christendom; even a state full of New England deacons, Pennsylvania Quakers, Methodist class-leaders, or Catholic Fathers, could not stand firm on the brink of this awful, seething gulf of ignorance, superstition, shiftlessness, vulgarity, and vice that rolls its gloomy waves through a realm as large as Europe, with vast rivers, bays, and havens of beastliness threatening every region of the favored north. Our northwestern friends who, seated on Uncle Sam's broad school acres, rejoicing in their wealth of educational opportunity, are talking down the proposition to send the same venerable patriarch to the relief of southern society in its present death-struggle with the barbarism of illiteracy, must present some reason more cogent than the sweet simplicity, rural felicity, and "godly poverty" theory of the lower side of American society if they would dissuade the people from this crowning act of political wisdom and justice and Christian statesmanship.

*It is said that St. John is to be appointed governor of Washington territory. Whew!

Of course you can't always tell, but then they do say that Hank Beecher is to be appointed governor of Utah. Just the place for him.

Occidental Hall! Friday, December 12th, SPECIAL SOCIETY NIGHT THE GREAT COMEDIAN, JOHN S. LANGRISHE Eastern Comedy Company.

Lady of Lyons. Or, Love and Pride. A Special Performance of the OCTOBER... Notice of Application.

Change of Agency. We have appointed MR. O. F. MORTON Our Selling and Collecting Agent at Astoria.

Notice. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT Wong Wah and Wong Fung Chang have this day associated themselves together as partners under the firm name and style of the New Company.

Street Light Contract. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT bids will be received at the office of the Auditor and Clerk until Tuesday, December 16th, 1884, at one o'clock P. M.

Fifty Dollars Reward. THE ABOVE REWARD WILL BE PAID for the recovery of the body of Ches. C. (alias), second mate of the cutter "H. L. Ingle," which was lost at the entrance to the Columbia river, Dec. 2nd, 1884.

Grand Concert AT OCCIDENTAL HALL! Dec. 16th, 1884. To be given by the Congregational Church Choir, assisted by some of the Leading Musical Talent of Astoria.

H. B. PARKER DEALER IN Hay, Oats, and Straw, LIME Brick, Cement, and Sand. Wood Delivered to Order.

Assignee's Sale. J. E. THOMAS, OFFERS AT PRIVATE SALE ALL THE STOCK OF Drugs, Toilet and Fancy Articles, Medicines, etc.

Important Notice! Oregon Improvement Co. Great Reduction in Price of Coal. On and after December 1st until further notice the price at the bunkers will be a few cents less.

THE BEST IS THE CHEAPEST! THE HOUSEKEEPER'S FAVORITE OF Superior Rising Quality.

Royal Brand Flour OREGON MILLING COMPANY Is of Superior Quality, and is Endorsed by all who use it.

Notice to the Public. THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT I WAS sick for four months and that Dr. Jim Ford cured me. I am now in perfect health, and it is to his skill that I am indebted for my recovery.

The Northern Pacific Express Co. FURNISHES The Shortest, Quickest and most Reliable Route between ASTORIA AND ALL PORTS.

For Rent. TWO FRONT ROOMS: SUITABLE FOR OFFICE; centrally located; apply at ASTORIAN office.

For Sale. FINE NINE-ROOMED DWELLING. Apply to SAMUEL ELMORE.

Notice to Stockholders of the Columbia Canning Co. THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE Columbia Canning Company will be held at their office in the City of Astoria on the 15th day of December at 10 o'clock A. M.

Public Auction. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO WHOM it may concern that the public goods of the late Par or Home in Astoria, Oregon, on Saturday, the 27th day of December, 1884, the following articles of personal property, to-wit:

GREAT REDUCTION OF Subscription at Adler's BOOK STORE. Price List of Periodicals for 1885:

Table with 4 columns: Periodical Name, Price, and other details. Includes Harper's Bazar, Weekly, Monthly, Frank Leslie's Chimney Corner, etc.

Adler's Crystal Palace Book Store. Will only hold Good Until Dec. 30th, when my List will be sent to the Publishers.

Carpets! Carpets! Carpets! We beg to call the attention of the public to our latest importation, direct from Eastern manufacturers, of the largest invoice of CARPETS ever offered for sale in this city.

Furniture and House Furnishing Line. We can show you the very BEST GOODS AT BOTTOM FIGURES, and shall be pleased to receive a call for inspection whether you purchase or not.

New Establishment! NEW PRICES!! FURNITURE, FURNISHING GOODS, Carpets, Matting, Pictures, Mirrors, PICTURE FRAMES MOULDINGS, ETC., ETC.

Builders & Carpenters MATERIAL. SASH DOORS AND MOULDING First Class Work at Prices to Suit the Times.

C. H. Bain & Co.'s Steam Planing Mill and Sash Factory Boat Building a Specialty.

B. B. Franklin, Upraker and Cabinet Maker, SQUEMQUA STREET, NEXT TO THE ASTORIAN BUILDING.

To Whom It May Concern. ALL PERSONS KNOWING THEM- selves indebted to the late E. M. Newbury & Co., or H. F. Lewis & Co., are notified to make immediate settlement of accounts at the City Book Store, without further notice.

Wilson & Fisher Ship Chandlers, HEAVY AND SHELF HARDWARE Paints, Oils, and Varnish. LOGGERS' SUPPLIES, PROVISIONS AND MILL FEED.

Notice. ALL MEMBERS OF THE ASTORIA Workingmen's Protective Union are requested to meet at their regular meeting on Saturday, Dec. 13th, 1884, at 7:30 o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of nominating officers for the ensuing year.

For The Finest Groceries. For The Freshest Vegetables. For The Most Complete Assortment. For Absolute Satisfaction.

FRANK L. PARKER'S Family Grocery and Provision Store, Corner Benton and Chenamus Streets, Opposite Custom House Square.



Fall and Winter Campaign Opened AT THE EMPIRE STORE

Having mustered all our forces for the coming event we are fully prepared to present in splendid array, an almost irresistible army of New and Stylish Goods in all our Departments.

John A. Montgomery, HOUSEHOLD GOODS. Magee Stoves and Ranges. The Best in the Market.

THE NEW MODEL RANGE CAN BE HAD IN ASTORIA ONLY OF E. R. BAWBS, AGENT.

MARTIN OLSEN & CO. DEALERS IN FURNITURE AND BEDDING. Corner Main and Squemoqua Streets, Astoria, Oregon.

FOR Finest Groceries, GO TO BOARD & STOKES. HARDWARE AND Ship Chandlery. NEW SLIP