The dxaity Astorian.

the news that it had passed so quick.
ly through one house of the legisla. ture was the sensation of the dag. Abont a month ngo Tuz Asrorins
began the agitation of the question,
"Shall the city that "Shall the city charter be amended?
It opened its columns to of the snbject and had considerable eil drew up a plan of amendment ares, and in response to a request the
chamber of commerce appointed committee of promivent citizens to drati a bill oontaining what appeared
to them to be needed amendments.
The salimut points as tast ns broached in the snb committees were published
in this paper. From present appearances it would seem that the bill
drafted by the chamber is about to become a law. It makes seme strik-
ing innovations. The prine is the requiring that a man to bo al.
lowed to vole must pay a tax on at least 8500 . siderable opposition. The question
of distrauchisement is a serious one. The possession of property, acci-
dental or otherwise, is a good thing; it is the rewand of thrift, industry, whiven it the possessor superior rights possession of property is not prima
facie evidence of intellict, of discrimnation, of business juggment. It is
thought by many to be irrational that
to take two men, A and B, one owning $\$ 1,000$ worth of property asseused
at $\$ 500$, both of equal intelligence to the house owner "you can vote,
and to the other "you can not vote" asked: "who votes, the man or then
house? If this measure be adopted Astoria, nt the next city election will poll 207
votes-provided each one pays his
taxes. This bill diatranchises several handred residents of Astoria. Doen
this look just? Is it right? We do not discuas the quastion of constitu-
tionality; It is thought by many who have giten the subject some at-
tention that no municipality nor leg. ielature can take away from the citi-
vens of a state any privilege they al ready eujoy. It may increase,
but it is questionable, at least,
can it curtail. The right to exereise the elective franchise is one of the
rights guaranteed to a citizen by the rights guaranteed to a citizen by the
commonweall. But it it mot our in-
tention to 0 present a fo $\pi$ ilens relative to The theory of the thing is is al right:
It is a eharacteristic of most all thes fies that they are "all right," but
when the theory is brought practioe it sometimes fails to wort
satistactorily. One of the principa arguinents that may be adduced in
its favor is that only thase directly concerued, only those who have to supply the money should aive a voice in suying bow that mon-
ey shall be expended. At first blush
that looks hat looks fair enough, but if 8500 is
to be the standard, then the man
that pays on 8250 conld claim half a vote; the man who pays
on $\$ 1,000$, two votes; the man who pays on $\$ 10,000$, twenty votes, and so
"But," says some reader, "yon for
get that this property qualification get that this property qualification
law works well in Rhodo Island." It is in force there but the constitation for such procedure. Our state con-
stitution does not. We stated at the stitution does not. We stated at the
time the jien was broached that the oniet argument in its favor was based plea is a strong one,
tionable it it prevail.

## Nourrovs state legislatures electing United States senators.

 Goveraor Stantord gets the prize orado; ex-Secretary Evarts, in Jonathan Chase, in Rhode Ialana, Senator Voorhees, in Indiana: SenaDemoerats, the or thers last two are In our own state a blunder has ayed the election one week. Wh he will be is still donbttul. It looknow as though the Republioan mem bers would hold something that has close resemblance to a cancos.
Dayocmarro congressmen get ap-
plications for office, it is said, at the plications for offic
rate of $4,000 \mathrm{a} \mathrm{day}$

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& \text { bistory of the country. }
\end{aligned}
$$



 land has to shake three thousan
hands a week." That's nothing, how-
ever, compared with the number
officeseekers he has to "shake." Turs is a sample of a new kind
item which begins to go around- A
old lady of 86 living in Levis count



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