

THERE were three suicides in San Francisco so far last week. San Francisco has the distinction of producing more suicides than any other city in the United States. This may be considered as merely an example of San Francisco's superiority, but there is a special reason for pre-eminence in this particular. There is still a widespread idea that if a person who has failed elsewhere can raise the price of a ticket to this coast his fortune is assured. This is supposed to be a region to which the ordinary laws of supply and demand have not reached. When a man lands in San Francisco, buoyant with the confident expectation of a revolution in his worldly affairs, and finds the same inhospitable streets, the same cruel alternative between work and starvation from which he has fled across the continent, the disillusion is complete and crushing. There is no time for a gradual awakening—the victim drops at once from fairy land to the hardest kind of earth. San Francisco has been overrun with penniless eastern people reduced to a despondency that seems to leave no room for hope. As the influx of invalids generally gives health resorts a high death rate, the steady drift of social wrecks gives that city a high rate of suicides.

Suicide is often a foolish and worse than useless thing. Of course, people of intelligence will not agree with the unthinking assertion, so often made, that all self destruction is cowardly. Not to speak of the cases in which national sentiment has made suicide, under certain circumstances, a point of honor, as among the Romans and Japanese, so many men of undoubted courage have chosen that method of leaving the world that we should need a new definition of cowardice before we could apply such a term to them. The simple truth is, that in this, as in everything else, we must consider each case on its own merits.

One benefit of suicide which is often overlooked, is that it frequently plays the same part as drunkenness in promoting the survival of the fittest. The ardent young man, who, after shooting at the girl who has had the good taste to reject him, ends by shooting himself, could put himself to no better use. The wealthy idiot who throws away his fortune, and himself after it, could make no improvement in his conduct, except by jumping into the bay a little sooner. The world can easily spare such people. Indiscriminate suicide is no more to be recommended than indiscriminate matrimony, but, like the drama, self-removal should be reformed, not abolished. San Francisco is an excellent field for this reform. As Beecher remarked of Brooklyn, "There are lots of people who ought to kill themselves, but few of the right kind do." However much the individual is to be pitied who finds life too hard to live, there can be no question that San Francisco has not suffered as a whole by the tendency of the discouraged to take the dark leap. While brave men sometimes kill themselves, it is oftentimes the weak who desert from the battle. And every weak spirit lost to any community is a gain in strength. This is the practical view. The religious aspect of the question of self-slaughter must be left to the decision of each human creature who has a life to keep or throw away.

If the legislature will pass a bill granting a bounty for killing seals and sea lions off the mouth of the Columbia river and in the stream, a bounty of \$2.50 for each seal and \$5 for each sea lion it will do about as sensible and requisite a deed as any proposition that has yet come before it.

SEDUCTIVE as may be the idea of regulating all work and wages which is offered by the scheme of a universal union of all workers for wages, the gift cannot be accepted without also accepting the burdens it would impose. On the one side are individual liberty, competition and suffering, with social progress; on the other are the merging of the individual in the mass, deliverance from struggles and anxiety, but at the same time, the arrest of all social development, and of all ambition and hope for improvement in the future.

A GALVESTON woman compositor, who belonged to the Printers' Union, married a non-union compositor not long ago, and then tried to get him to join the order. But he refused, and the union voted a boycott, in which the wife participated, having left her husband and begun proceedings for a divorce.

THERE are only two editors in the legislature and each of them illustrates by his actions what a monumental mistake he made in going there.

Rapid Beating of the Heart.

Whenever you feel an uneasiness in the region of the heart, a slight pain in the shoulder, arm, or under the shoulder-blade, or when you find yourself short of breath when exercising, or your heart has periods of beating fast, you have heart disease, and should take Dr. FLEMING'S HEART REMEDY. At druggists, \$1.50. Descriptive treatises with each bottle; or address J. J. Mack & Co., S. F.

Syrup of Figs.

Manufactured only by the California Fig Syrup Co. San Francisco Cal. is Nature's Own True Laxative. This pleasant liquid fruit remedy may be had of W. E. Dement & Co. at fifty cents or one dollar per bottle. It is the most pleasant, prompt and effective remedy known, to cleanse the system; to act on the Liver, Kidneys and Bowels gently yet thoroughly to dispel Headaches, Colds and Fevers; to cure Constipation, Indigestion and kindred ills.

—That Hacking Cough can be so quickly cured by Shiloh's Cure. We guarantee it. Sold by W. E. Dement.

Good For One Week.

The Columbia Transportation Company will sell round trip tickets in bunches of five, good for a trip to Portland and return from January 30th to February 4th. The tickets will be good to and including Sunday February 6th. The round trip tickets will cost \$2 each.

—SHILOH'S CURE will immediately relieve Croup, Whooping Cough, and Bronchitis. Sold by W. E. Dement & Co.

—All the patent medicines advertised in this paper, together with the choicest perfumery, and toilet articles, etc., can be bought at the lowest prices, at J. W. Conn's drug store, opposite Occident hotel, Astoria.

—Croup, Whooping Cough and Bronchitis immediately relieved by Shiloh's Cure. Sold by W. E. Dement.

The only perfect remedy for habitual constipation, dyspepsia and kindred ills, is the famous liquid fruit remedy Syrup of figs. It strengthens as well as cleanses the system, it is easily taken and perfectly harmless. For sale by W. E. Dement & Co.

NEW TO-DAY.

Red Fir Wood, Dry. 40 CORDS SEASONED FIR WOOD FOR sale at \$4 per cord. H. B. PARKER.

Notice

IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THERE IS \$1000 in the county treasury to pay outstanding county orders presented and endorsed by the county treasurer up to and including the 1st day of August, 1897, and "bonds of land" "B," up to and including Oct. 15th, 1897. L. BERGMAN, Co. Treasurer. Astoria, Ogn., Jan'y 21st, 1897.

Sheriff's Sale.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT BY virtue of the writs request and command of Wm. Loeb endorsed upon a certified copy of a certain chattel mortgage given by John Johnson and Sarah Johnson to said Wm. Loeb, dated December 5th, 1896, commanding me to levy upon and sell the personal property in said mortgage described, I did on the 28th day of Jan'y, 1897, levy upon all the right, title and interest of the said John Johnson and Sarah Johnson or either of them in and to one certain fishing boat now at the Columbia Canning Company's cannery in Astoria, Or., more particularly described as follows: One fishing boat 25 feet long, 7 feet 3 inches beam, painted lead color and numbered 41, together with sails, spars, an-hor onars and rowlocks complete, and shall on the 4th day of February, 1897, at the hour of 2 o'clock p. m. of said day, at the Columbia Canning Company's cannery in Astoria, Oregon, proceed to sell the same, at public auction, to the highest bidder, cash in hand, to satisfy the sum of one hundred and forty-eight dollars and twenty-nine cents with interest thereon, together with the costs and expenses of sale.

W. G. ROSS, Sheriff. By T. G. BOELLING, Deputy. Astoria, Jan'y 29th, 1897.

Ho, for The Opera!

During the Emma Abbott Opera week, commencing January 30th, and continuing until February 5th.

THE O. B. & N. CO.

Will sell Excursion Tickets to parties of 5 or more to Portland and return at the extremely low rate of \$2.00. Tickets good to return until Monday, Feb. 7th. E. A. NOYES, Agent.

F. E. SHUTE, Ticket Ag't.

\$7,000 TO LOAN ON CITY PROPERTY.

MRS. ELLA POPE. THOS. O. TRULLINGER, Agent.

MURRAY & CO., GROCERS

And Dealers in Cannery Supplies! Special Attention Given to Filling of Orders.

A FULL LINE CARRIED And Supplies furnished at Satisfaction Terms.

Purchases delivered in any part of the city. Office and Warehouse

In Hume's New Building on Water Street. P. O. Box 152. Telephone No. 57. ASTORIA, OREGON.

Frank L. Parker, Dealer in—

Fancy and Staple Groceries.

Flour Feed & Potatoes

Headquarters For ASTORIA WOOD YARD.

FRESH CLATSOP EGGS

Can be had of L. M. Shaffer at Water St. and Wherry & Co.'s market opposite Occident Hotel. I don't claim they are fresh as some do who have but a few chickens and it takes them a month to get a shipment, but because I have the largest Chickens raised this side of Portland, you by experienced hands pick up the eggs every day and bring them to town 3 times a week. And don't you forget that every egg bought from the above parties is guaranteed by them to be fresh. S. K. STANLEY.

NEW YORK Novelty Store

Headquarters For STATIONERY, BOOKS, MAGAZINES, TOYS, JEWELRY, SOLID GOLD AND SILVER.

NOVELTIES OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS CANES, Perfumery, Toilet Articles, Etc.

—ALL THE— Latest Styles on Exhibition.

Agents for Will & Finck's Sporting Goods.

BEWARE OF Imitations.



D. L. BECK & SONS, Agents.

American News Depot —ON SALE— The latest Magazines and Illustrated papers of the day. Swedish, Danish and German papers, Books and Dictionaries. Lovell and Seaside Libraries, School Books, Stationery, etc. A BALMANNO, Chenamus St. near Main.

NEW STUDIO.

Mrs. Jas. A. Davidson Has opened a studio in the Kinney Block, Room 7, over Adler's, and will give lessons in Landscape and Flowers in oil, also Drawing, etc. Terms 50 cts. a lesson. Hours, 8 to 12 A. M., and 1 to 5 P. M.

Boat Building.

JOE LEATHERS Is on deck and prepared to build boats that he will guarantee us to work and durability. Refers to all who have used boats of his construction. All work guaranteed.

Strike It Rich!

—BUY YOUR— Groceries & Provisions

Foard & Stokes

Their largely increasing trade enables them to sell at the very lowest margin of profit while giving you goods that are of first class quality. Goods Delivered All Over the City. The Highest Price Paid for Junk.

VALENTINES, Comic, Long Jokers, Fault Finders, Hit 'Em Harsh, Trade Comics, Sharp Darts.

New Lace Valentines, Gems of Love, New Sachet, Love's Arrows, Cupids Darts, Satin Novelty Valentines and Valentines of all descriptions in large variety AT

The Crystal Palace. CARL ADLER, Manager.

Pacific Fisheries!

We beg to renew our notice to the Fisheries of the upper Pacific, of the full preparation we have made and are making to manufacture good wares for their use, of every kind, except double knotted Salmon Nets: Pounds and Traps, Gill Nets, Seines, from sardines to porpoise.

Purse Salmon Seines

For outside fishing. One can be made very strong and very light, and can be handled QUICK—LOW IN COST. In the New England waters are over four hundred large Purse seines for mackerel, herring and menhaden, 200 fathoms long, 25 fathoms deep, any fish that move in compact bodies can be taken in these seines.

Stow Cotton Salmon Twine

with a full belief that its strength is ample for the hardest service, of more durability than flax, and no more expensive. Our energies, with a long experience in netting, and a desire to send good wares to our patrons, we hope will not disappoint any reasonable expectations. GLOUCESTER NET & TWINE CO., Gloucester. Boston Office, 96 Commercial Street.

A. V. ALLEN. Wholesale and Retail Dealer in

FANCY AND STAPLE GROCERIES, PROVISIONS AND MILL FEED.

Crockery, Glass and Plated Ware. Teas, Coffees, Spices, &c., &c.

Fresh California Butter,

Swiss, Holland and New Cream Cheese; Smoked Herring, Holland Herring, Caviar, Anchovies, Tongues and Sounds, White Fish and Mackerel, Schrimps, Lobsters, French Sardines and Oysters.

Shrewsbury Ketchup, Chili Sauce, Tobacco Sauce, Celery Salt, French and German Mustard, Leibig's Ex. Beef, Sea Foam Wafers, Van Houghton's Cocoa.

Triticum, Germea, Epicurean Food, Oat Porridge, Rolled Oats. Oranges, Lemons, Nuts, Figs, &c., &c.

Furniture and Upholstering,

Mattresses Made and Repaired. Paper Hanging, Carpets Sewed and Laid. Furniture Sold on Commission. Stor. corner Main and Jefferson Streets. MARTIN OLSEN.

C. E. BAIN. DOORS, WINDOWS, BRACKETS, Mouldings, Window Frames, etc.

A Full Supply of Material. Bids Furnished: Contract Work a Specialty. Mill and Office on the Old Site.

BOOTS and SHOES.

Genuine English Porpoise Shoes For Gents. Ladies' Flexible Sole Shoes in French, Kangaroo and Dongola Kid Boys and Youths Shoes of all kinds, Misses and Children and Infant heels, and Spring heels. WE DEAL IN BOOTS AND SHOES ONLY. P. J. GOODMAN.

Just Received. 1,500 Rolls Wallpaper and Decorations

Of the Latest Designs and Shades. Also to Arrive THIS WEEK. 50 Leather, Plush and Carpet Rockers.

In Elegant New Styles: Just the thing for A Holiday Present. Call and See Us. CHAS. HEILBORN.

CITY BOOK STORE.

A Full Line of Staple Goods now in Stock

BLANK BOOKS, SCHOOL BOOKS

Fine Stationery a Specialty. Musical Instruments and Merchandise, Notions, etc.

—AGENTS FOR— PACIFIC COAST CHARTS AND TIDE TABLES. GRIFFIN & REED.

Shoes! Shoes! Shoes! At The

EMPIRE STORE

Fall and Winter Stock Complete IN ALL STYLES AND GRADES.

No more need to send away for a Fine Shoe, as we have a Full Line of the Celebrated DRIAL & CO.'S FRENCH SHOES, and LAIRD, SCHOBBER & MITCHELL'S FINE SHOES of which we are Sole Dealers in Astoria.

We also handle BOOTS and SHOES from all the Leading Factories in America.

Men's Heavy Boots and Shoes a Specialty. LOWEST PRICES and SATISFACTION Guaranteed. W. T. PARKER, Manager.

H. B. PARKER, DEALER IN

Hay, Oats, and Straw, Lime, Brick, Cement, Sand and Plaster. Wood Delivered to Order. Draying, Teaming and Express Business.



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

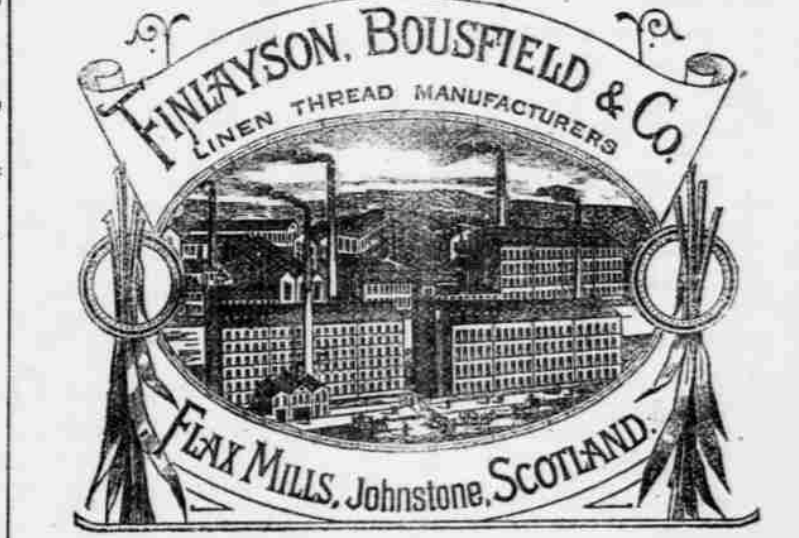
Established 1876. 45-100 SHARPS SPECIAL

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Duck-shooting Powder, 50 Cents a Pound. A Good Double Barrelled Breech Loader for \$12.50

J. C. ROSS, COUNTY CORONER,

First Class Undertaking Establishment A FINE HEARSE, Newest style Caskets and Funeral Material, Everything Neat and Well Arranged. Coroner's Office, Undertaking Rooms next to Astorian office, (R. B. Franklin's old stand.)



J. R. LEESON & CO., BOSTON,

—SOLE AGENTS AND IMPORTERS— The Johnstone (Scotland) and Grafton (Mass.)

Prize Linen Threads Salmon Net Twines.



The only Linen Threads awarded a Prize Medal London 1851 and New Orleans Worlds Exposition 1881. Did not exhibit at Philadelphia 1876 or Paris 1878.

First Prize Awarded Wherever Exhibited!!

References for the Scotch Salmon Net Twines: EVERY CANNER or FISHERMAN who bought it last season. IT GAVE UNIVERSAL SATISFACTION.

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