

The Daily Astorian.

ASTORIA, OREGON:

THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 1889.

LEGISLATIVE CHARACTER.

The legislatures of a majority of the states are now in session, and for several weeks will be at work or at play, making and unmaking the laws which most concern the people. That much corruption will characterize these bodies during the discharge of their high functions, says the S. F. *Alta*, we have no doubt. With the propagation of the theory that an act of the legislature can do everything except change a woman to a man, has grown the opportunity to make "business" of legislation. The tendency to invade individual affairs by legislation is still on the increase. It has been discovered that one man's business may be invaded upon the reasonable pretext of protecting another man's rights. And it has also been discovered that very often the man who is threatened with invasion is willing to pay for immunity. These cognate facts have no doubt called into public life many who never suspected before that they had in their capacity for statesmanship. But when they try that occupation they surprise themselves and frequently astonish the public by their success. Our institutions seem to have been invigorated to the point of withstanding an immense amount of amateur and practical statesmanship, of which the state legislatures are at once the school and the theater. We use the word "practical" to distinguish the acquisitive variety of statesmanship from the theoretical, which considers a few great and simple principles of government, applies them to human affairs and there stops. This latter variety is kept greatly in check by modern political methods, and those who still hold to it are regarded as far behind the times. Principles are not regarded as the equal of convertible securities in determining the propriety or the impropriety of any proposed legislation. The people who are interested have fallen into the habit of preventing all the adverse legislation they can stop by notation and numeration, and trust to the courts to do the rest.

There should be a better state of affairs. Legislation should be more intelligent in proportion to its volume, and the opportunity to pass laws should not so often be seized by lawmakers to advance their personal fortunes; but really there is no remedy except such as must come by inducing better and busier men to take part in legislation. As things go now the newspapers support the nominees for legislative office, and during a campaign they are represented by the respective party organs as vestal in their public morals and men of high forehead. This is at a time when they are considered individually. They are elected and then they fuse into a mass. They are the legislature, and before that body meets the same newspapers daily announce it to be in an advanced state of decomposition. By the time its houses have been called to order the press has made them about as disreputable as if they were for assassination instead of legislation. The newspapers see corruption in everything from the reading of the journal to the appointment of a page, and the effect is to discourage and discountenance the men who ought to be in a law-making body, who have personal pride and self-respect to be wounded by wholesale accusations and unjust suspicions; while those who ought not to be in a legislature at all find there most efficient protection to rascality in the indiscriminate censure which is kept on tap from the opening to the close of a session.

The press has made the unfortunate discovery that people would rather read mean things than good about each other.

The genius of journalism is no longer represented by the philosopher, writing wisdom by the light of the attic lamp, nor even by Mercury bringing news, but by Ishmael with his hand against every man. And it is to Ishmaelism incarnate that we owe the progressive degradation of public character. The capital qualification for many responsible places in public life is no longer a trained mind, but a thick hide, and it is no wonder that such places are filled by men whose talents are therefore skin deep. Public duty has come to mean personal disgrace to the men who are by far the best fitted for it, and so they stay in honorable retirement.

In a majority of states at this moment the press is holding up the legislature to execration as a public spectacle, but does any one stop to reflect how long this can last without outlasting our free institutions? The laws affecting life, liberty and property, the domestic relations and the personal concerns of the whole people, are the work of these legislatures, and if they be such bodies as they are represented to be, the statutes that come through them must partake largely of the nature of sewage.

Somewhat extended opportunities for observation lead us to believe that the press overdraws the facts and unduly enlarges the shadows which they cast. But whether this or not, the Ishmaelite policy will never reform legislatures nor anything else.

PREPARATIONS have been commenced for the raising of the steam schooner *Leo*, which was wrecked at Port Houghton bay, Alaska, on November 28th. The purser, L. T. Fisher, went up from Seattle on the last trip of the *Idaho*, taking with him 150 barrels and other appliances with which to raise the vessel. The *Idaho*, which arrived at the Sound after the *Idaho's* departure, reported the *Leo* lying quite easily, only the smokestack being visible above the water.

GOV. SWINERD, of Alaska, estimates the annual resources of the territory at about \$9,000,000, divided as follows: Fisheries, \$4,000,000; minerals, \$2,000,000; all other resources, \$3,000,000. He urges the development of the territory's mines, especially of coal, which he claims exists there in large quantities, naval vessels frequently coaling-up there with native coal.

MRS. BROWN of Fair Haven, Conn., told her husband to go for a doctor for their sick daughter. Being indifferent he delegated the duty to a street car driver. When Brown got back the child was dead. Two days after Mrs. Brown was on her death bed. Mr. Brown got on his knees and begged his wife's forgiveness. "No" was the last word she uttered.

A. F. PLATT, of San Francisco, is in Portland. He says that he has been furnished free with a ten-years' lease of a site and water power at Oregon city sufficient to accommodate a nail factory capable of turning out 300 kegs of nails per day. The company he represents has a capital of \$100,000 and will expend \$50,000 on buildings and machinery.

Four thousand men have been thrown out of employment by the stoppage of work by two large contractors engaged on the Panama canal. It is expected that the canal company will immediately continue the work, re-engaging the discharged workmen.

A PARIS letter says the whole of De Lesseps's fortune disappeared in Panama, and in addition he has personally accepted huge bills to keep the works going. His health has received a tremendous shock, and report says he passes all his time weeping.

UNDER the terms of a will left by an Iowa man, the same gold watch was left to thirteen different persons. He was not friendly with any of them, and he probably did it, hoping they would fight each other, which they are doing in a lively manner.

THE greatest national debt among the nations of the globe is borne by France. It is about \$6,250,000,000, Russia comes next with \$3,600,000,000; then England with \$3,500,000,000; Austro-Hungary with \$2,485,000,000; Italy with \$2,225,000,000.

IN New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Indiana, Missouri, Maine, Michigan and Illinois ballot reform bills are either pending before the legislatures or are ready for introduction.

Six thousand dollars is the figure the San Francisco supervisor is quoted at now, when his vote is necessary to the granting of special privileges. They come high, but the purchasers must have 'em.

PARNELL will be financially ruined by the London *Times*' snits, but morally and politically he will be vindicated and enriched. In the words of "Richelieu," he may safely "appeal from kings to time."

"THE WARDEN" is the title of a man in Washington who makes his living by helping home government officials who have taken too much budge. He is often presented with heavy tips by grateful inebriates.

Schooners For The Seal Fisheries.

Captain C. E. Raynor, of the schooner *Algar* arrived by the San Francisco steamer yesterday. Capt. Raynor reports that fifteen vessels are being fitted out in San Francisco for the sealing season in the north, one of them having already left. Nine vessels were fitted out last year at this time, and the increase this year shows that better treatment is expected than was experienced last season.

The schooner *Venture*, of this port, will sail north on or about the 28th inst., as all her stores have been stowed except a supply of corned beef. The entire crew and hunters have been engaged. —*Seattle Post-Intelligencer*, 22.

LAST NIGHT'S DISPATCHES.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 23.—A dispatch from the university of Pennsylvania exploring expedition says they have arrived after much difficulty. They are now not far from the site of ancient Babylon. It is expected that excavations will begin at once. The sultan's permit only allows excavations for antiquities, but does not allow them to be carried out of the country.

M'PHERSON ELECTED. TRENTON, N. J., Jan. 23.—The legislature in joint session to-day formally declared McPherson to be elected to the U. S. senate.

CULLOM ELECTED. SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Jan. 23.—The re-election of Senator Cullom was formally declared in joint session to-day.

GOFF NEEDED FOUR MORE. CHARLESTON, W. Va., Jan. 23.—The legislature in joint session took one ballot for U. S. senator. The result was Goff, Republican, 41 votes; Kennedy, Democrat, 25; with 23 scattering.

PLUMB ELECTED. TOPEKA, Kas., Jan. 23.—The legislature to-day unanimously re-elected Plumb U. S. senator.

GRAVE RECOMMENDATIONS. CHICAGO, Jan. 23.—Supt. Waldheim of the cemetery in which the executed anarchists were buried has written to the trustees that it will be necessary hereafter to exclude anarchists from going there in bodies on anniversaries of the execution on the ground that lot owners seriously object. He recommends that hereafter only relatives of dead be allowed admittance.

The Site For The Naval Station.

In a few days the United States commission to report on the best location for a first-class naval station on this upper coast will arrive, and before its tour of inspection is over, no effort should be spared to place before it every argument in favor of the Columbia being preferred to Puget sound. The chief objection that the bar presents a serious obstacle should be met with the response, that before long it will be so much improved that vessels of the largest size will easily be able to enter without any fear of danger. The advantages of a naval station that can be so easily defended in case of war need not be pointed out, and deep fresh water will do away with dry-docking for freeing the bottoms of vessels from barnacles. On the Sound the only way to obtain fresh water would be to have two canals cut between it and Lake Washington, at an estimated expense of nearly \$5,000,000. As England holds the key to the entrance to Puget sound, there will probably be a naval station up there of some kind, but the headquarters of the American squadron on the upper coast should be on the mighty Columbia. —*Portland Journal of Commerce*.

Help, Wants, Business Notices.

TWO YOUNG WOMEN want washing.

WILL THE GENTLEMAN who left his stomach for analysis please call and get it, together with the result?

WANTED, a young man to take charge of horses of a religious turn of mind.

FOR RENT, a fine, airy, well-furnished bedroom for a gentleman twelve feet square.

WANTED, a woman to wash, iron and milk one or two cows.

TICKETS, 25 cents; children, half price, to be had at the captain's office.

JUST RECEIVED, a fine lot of live rabbits. Persons purchasing the same will be skinned and cleaned while they wait.

A Sound Legal Opinion. E. Bainbridge Munday Esq., County Atty., Clay Co., Texas says: "Have used Electric Bitters with most happy results. My brother also was very low with Malaria Fever and Jaundice, but was cured by timely use of this medicine. Am satisfied Electric Bitters saved his life." Mr. D. I. Wilcoxson, of Horse Cave, Ky., adds a like testimony, saying: "He positively believes he would have died had it not been for Electric Bitters. This great remedy will ward off, as well as cure all Malaria Diseases, and for all Kidney, Liver and Stomach Disorders stands unequalled. Price 50 cents and \$1, at Jno C. Dement's."

NEW TO-DAY.

U. S. Government Auction Sale. Tuesday, Jan. 29, 11 A. M.

At Capt. J. C. Hustler's Wharf. Instructed by Capt. U. Seabree, I will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash in hand on day of sale, the following described public property no longer required for Light House purposes: Lot 1, Yellow metal nails, &c. (about 6,728 lbs.) Lot 2, Rope, (about 12,000 lbs.) Lot 3, Sails, &c. (about 1,570 lbs.) Lot 4, Cast iron, (about 2,400 lbs.) Lot 5, Wrought iron, (about 3,300 lbs.) Lot 6, Pipe, &c. (about 2,300 lbs.) Lot 7, Brass and Copper (about 650 lbs.) Lot 8, Life Preservers, (cork), (about 120) Lot 9, Empty 5-gal. mineral oil cans, (about 800) Lot 10, Empty 10-gal. oil bbls. (about 120) Lot 11, Lard oil, (about 50 galls.) Lot 12, Circulating pump. Lot 13, Steam boiler. Lot 14, Whale boat. Lot 15, Row boat. R. C. HOLMES, Auctioneer. N. B. The property is now located at Capt. Hustler's Warehouse and can be examined by intending bidders.

Notice. BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED UNTIL Tuesday, January 29th, '89, for the driving, or setting up, or both, as may be required, for 400 spikes—more or less; the right to reject any or all bids is reserved. For particulars, etc., apply to J. W. Conn, or F. W. Newell. ASTORIA, ST. RY CO.

Wanted. 400 SPIES, MORE OR LESS, TO BE delivered at Astoria. ANT. RIA ST. RY CO.

For Rent. FURNISHED ROOM. INQUIRE AT THE Bazar, one door south of THE ASTORIAN Office.

For Sale. ONE TUBULAR BOILER, 36 INCHES diam., 12 ft. long, with smokestack, etc. Seven Fishing boats, with gear complete. One Sloop 32 ft. long, 10 ft. beam, with cabin built in 1888. Can be examined at my cannery in Upper Astoria. WM. D. SMITH. Astoria, Jan. 22, 1889.

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VARIETY GOODS,

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PIANOS and ORGANS.
Musical Goods of All Kinds.
Griffin & Reed.

A. V. ALLEN.
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN
Groceries, Provisions and Mill Feed.
Crockery, Glass & Plated Ware.
The Largest and finest assortment of
Fresh Fruits and Vegetables.
Received fresh every Steamer.

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FOR SALE.
CANNERY MACHINERY!
ALL IN FIRST-CLASS ORDER. In use one season.
1 Horizontal Steam Engine, (2x10 cylinder.)
1 Cameron Pump, No. 1.
1 Large Soldering Machine,
1 small
150 Large Coolers, perfect order.
1 West Crimper,
3 or 4 Square Shears,
1 Tin Former,
1 "Bliss" Press.
Apply to
ELMORE, SANBORN & CO.

Theo. Bracker.
Wholesale and Retail Dealer in
CIGARS, TOBACCO,
MEERSCHAUM,
Wood and Clay Pipes, Playing Cards,
CUTLERY AND NOTIONS.
This being a branch of the *Stouffville*,
Smith Company, Importers and Wholesale Dealers in Portland, I can sell to the Trade and other customers at Portland and San Francisco rates.

Seaside Bakery.
Best Milk Bread and
CAKES OF ALL KINDS.
Manufacturers of Fine Candles.
—AND—
Ornamental Confectionery
And Ice Creams.
Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Candles.
JOHNSON, BROS.

The Oregon Bakery
A. A. CLEVELAND, Prop'r.
Good Bread, Cake and Pastry
None but the Best Materials Used.
Satisfaction Guaranteed Customers
Bread delivered in any part of the city.

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DEALERS IN
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Pure Oil, Bright Varnish,
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Machines, Paints, Oils,
Groceries, Etc.

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We are Selling Cheap

For Sale—Seaside Lots.
CHOICE LOT IN MULKEY'S ADDITION to Ocean Grove for sale upon reasonable terms. Now is the time to buy before the boom. Apply to
GEO. NOLAN,
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Net Floats
IN LOTS TO SUIT AND OF THE
BEST QUALITY,
AT
WILSON & FISHER'S

To Cannors.
Jensen's Patented Can Capping
Machine.
Will Cap and Crimp 95 CANS per MINUTE.
It has proved to reduce the Leakage more than 50 per cent. 1 ss than hand capped.
Price, \$600. Orders complied with by
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Next Door to Postoffice.
Good as the Best
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Strike It Rich!
—BUY YOUR—
Groceries & Provisions
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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.
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New Goods Arriving Every Steamer
THIS WEEK.
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Irish Flax Threads
HAVE NO EQUAL!

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GRAND PRIX PARIS 1875.
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They received the
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For FLAX THREADS at the
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And have been awarded HIGHER PRIZES at the various
INTERNATIONAL EXPOSITIONS,
Than the goods of any other
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IN THE WORLD.
Quality Can Always be Depended on.
Experienced Fishermen Use no Other.
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