

The Daily Astorian.

PUBLISHED BY
Astorian-Columbia Publishing Company.
ASTORIA, OREGON.
ASTORIAN BUILDING, - - - CASS STREET

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THE ASTORIAN guarantees to its advertisers the largest circulation of any newspaper published on the Columbia River.
In future all items of local interest forwarded to this office must be addressed to the
CITY EDITOR.

TODAY'S WEATHER.

Portland, April 6.—For Oregon and Washington, occasional showers.
Local weather for the twenty-four hours ending at 5 p. m., yesterday, furnished by the U. S. department of agriculture, weather bureau:
Maximum temperature, 48 degrees.
Minimum temperature, 40 degrees.
Precipitation, .35 inch.
Total precipitation from July 1st, 1892, to date, 67.71 inches.
Excess of precipitation from July 1st, 1892, to date, 2.55 inches.

The good work goes on. It will be seen in our local columns that last night Sheriff Smith and his deputies did some conscientious work that caused still one more shake-up in Swilltown. We commend the officer heartily for his action. The opponents of our license proposition want total prohibition. They shall have it, but we beg to tell them that the prohibition will not stop within the borders of Swilltown. Allow us to say that, today, complaints will be lodged for the arrest of every owner of a lawdy house in this city. Every law on the statute books will be rigidly enforced.

We intend to hold to our promise to back up and urge on every act of the authorities, and we can't help thinking that it looks as if we were keeping our word.

Among the many excellent propositions discussed in the maritime conference, which convened in Washington early in President Harrison's administration was one to district the Atlantic ocean, and to assign to each of the great powers one of the divisions, to be kept free of derelict ships. These floating wrecks are constantly increasing in number and are a constant menace to navigation.

The finding of the boats of the White Star steamer Naronic leaves very little doubt remaining that this vessel has gone to the bottom. No proof exists that a collision with a derelict was the cause of her untimely taking off, but anyone who will scan the latest charts of the Hydrographic office, received by the Astorian from Senator Dolph yesterday, will observe that an unusually large number of derelicts have been floating about. These abandoned ships are almost all loaded with lumber, and thus they keep afloat for a long time. The American schooner Wyer B. Sargent, floated about the ocean for eighteen months, loaded with mahogany, and no one can tell how many good ships she was the means of sending to "Davy Jones' locker."

The actual fate of the Naronic may never be known, but her disappearance with precious lives on board is a forcible reminder of the necessity for joint action by the great maritime powers, looking to the adoption of more efficient measures for ridding the ocean of floating wrecks. The United States government has, at various times, detailed vessels to destroy these wrecks, but where so many exist, a united effort by all the great powers is absolutely necessary.

Floating icebergs are another danger which constantly menaces shipping, and no one will probably ever know whether these, or a derelict, or a broken shaft, or some other accident, sealed the fate of the good ship Naronic.

The Evening Bucket is out in its true colors at last, and the exposure is complete. In a filthy screeled last night the alleged man whose blackmail sheet reeks with his personality, dared to bring Deputy District Attorney Curtis to task for his prompt and vigorous action of the

night before in arresting every gambler found plying his traffic. For weeks, this Evening Bucket has been screaming in company with its companions, the blacklegs and crooks of Swilltown, for "reform" and "prohibition." A day or two ago they were given a pretty broad hint by their owners that it was time to put on the brake before they went any nearer the precipice. This hint, however, they dared not heed, and the result is that the raid of Tuesday night has killed them with their only supporters and patrons—the dive keepers who have been accorded columns of space for the publication of their "views."

And now, when they are taken at their word, when an officer arrests the crooks and brings home to them a dangerous feeling of personal disaster, they throw off the mask of morality—assumed a fortnight ago as a blind—and attempt to revile him for daring to do his honest duty.

They were given all the rope they wanted, and the cowardly liars have hanged themselves.

The American Grocer sees the true inwardness of the Hawaiian annexation project. The Astorian saw it when the commissioners came trooping into San Francisco harbor with the news of the "revolution."

It is surprising that the plea should be entertained for a moment by sensible people that the islands are necessary for our national defense when it is evident that it would require enormous outlay and effort to protect this outlying territory if we should ever have a foreign war.

It is becoming apparent to everybody that when the sugar planters "hurrah for the stars and stripes!" they include 2 cents a pound bounty on every pound of sugar produced in the islands, and that this is all there is to the "popular uprising" in the islands in favor of annexation.

It is not quite certain that there will be wild and screaming joy in England to see Mr. Bayard, even as an august ambassador. Lord Sackville, for one, will not care to look him up and fall upon his neck. When his lordship wrote a note in 1888 approving the candidacy of Grover Cleveland from a British point of view, it became the painful duty of Mr. Bayard to save the Irish vote, and he did it by insulting the British minister and driving him out of the country. We suppose there was no help for it. Still his lordship might be inclined to remark: "Tis true, that you had to dissemble your love; But why did you kick me down stairs?"

The prize fight the other night was a job of the republican "ring," the mysterious disappearance of Sheldier, yatch game sharp, president of the blue jays, absconder, and manager of the Evening Bucket, was a "ring" job; he suspension of four pilots was a "ring" job, and now the gambling disturbance is a "ring" job too.

This ring is a fearful thing. It ought to be attended to.

Romance for April is the eighth in that magazine series of special numbers, nearly half its contents being from the Italian. The most famous Italian authors are represented in this collection, and the selections embrace a powerful war story, an alms house sketch, a tale of King Humbert's kindness, two sparkling love stories, and thrilling incidents, legends and adventures. Besides the Italian stories, there are strong and beautiful tales by Harriet Prescott Spofford, Eva Wilder McGlasson, Mary C. Hungerford and others; an Australian April Fool story, a very funny ghost story by Oscar Wilde, and one of the most charming of French love stories, by Henri Cheneviers. This interesting periodical comes from Romance Publishing Company, Clinton Hall, Astor Place, New York. Twenty-five cents a number; \$2.50 a year.

Mr. Nick Kersarge says the Oregonian of Tuesday, who for some time has tried in vain to remove five salmon fishermen who have taken up their abode in the deserted cannery buildings at Tree Point, came down to obtain the assistance of Major Handbury. Previous to 1885 a portion of the military reservation at that point was leased to a cannery company, with the understanding that the company might occupy it until "military necessity" would compel the government to again reclaim it. The term "military neces-

sity" was afterward found to have a very wide range of meaning, and in 1885, a dispute having arisen in regard to a reservation in the East, the government issued a general order for the vacation of all its reservations in all parts of the country. The "military necessity" had occurred and the cannery company had to "get out." The deserted buildings came into the possession of Mr. Kersarge in 1888, and three years later he was granted the privilege of removing them. Five years ago the present squatters took up their abode in the empty buildings, and a few weeks ago, when Mr. Kersarge attempted to remove them, they produced a shotgun and threatened the rightful owner with bodily injury. Mr. Kersarge swore out a complaint against the men and they were arrested and held for trial, but afterward, giving bonds, were released. Major Handbury furnished Mr. Kersarge with written notices for each of the men, ordering them to leave the reservation at once. If they do not comply, it is probable that a detachment of troops will have to be sent down to drive them out, and if they show fight, bloodshed may follow. Mr. Kersarge is an old friend of Hon. George T. Myers, who has rendered him valuable assistance in the matter.

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Handley & Haas, 150 First street, Portland, have on sale the Daily Astorian, so that you can read it when they are here.

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