ASTORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

TODAY'S WEATHER.
Forecast for Oregon and Washington, occasional rain.

The Daily Morning Astorian.

The ASTORIAN has the largest LOCAL circulation; the largest GENERAL circulation, and the largest TOTAL circulation of all papers published in Astoria.

EXCLUSIVE TELEGRAPHIC PRESS REPORT.

VOL. XLIV. ASTORIA, OREGON, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 28, 1895. NO. 293.

New Year's Presents!

One of my Men's Suits in the war at $5 $7 50 or $10.

A wool Mackintosh in the war at $5 $6.50 or $10.

A wool Overcoat for men in the war, prices at $7 50, $10 or $12.50.

Boys' wool Suits in the clothing war at $1.50, $2.50, $3.50 or $4.

Boys' Mackintoshes and Overcoats in the war at $2 50, $3, $3.50, $4 or $5

Silk Handkerchiefs, Neckwear, Suspenders, Fur Top and other Gloves, and all kinds of **Furnishing Goods, Hats, Boots, Shoes, Umbrellas, etc.**

I. L. OSGOOD,
The One Price Clothier, Hatter and Furnisher.
506 and 508 COMMERCIAL STREET, ASTORIA, OR.

Souvenir of Astoria!

Have you seen it? A beautiful and artistic booklet, containing twenty pages and about fifty views of Astoria and vicinity. Price, 50 cents.

Diaries for 1896.
New Year Cards.

Would you like a nice set of books by standard authors? We will sell them to you from now until January 1st at 25 per cent discount.

Griffin & Reed.

THREE LOTS.

In a desirable location, 2 blocks from High School.
A BARGAIN.

CHOICE LOTS IN HILLS FIRST ADDITION.
On the new Pipe Line Boulevard—Just the place for a cheap home.

A Block IN ALDERBROOK
STREET CAR LINE will be extended this summer to within 5 minutes walk of this property—Will sell at decided bargain.

ACREAGE.
In 5 or 10 acre tracts inside the city limits, also adjoining Flavel.
GEORGE HILL. 471 Bond St., Occident Block
HILL'S REAL ESTATE EXCHANGE.

New Lines of

Neckties!
Suspenders!
Silk Handkerchiefs!
Hosiery!
Underwear!
Hats!
Clothing!
Umbrellas!
Blankets, Etc., Etc.

We have received an immense new stock of goods during the past week and will guarantee our prices to be at least 20 per cent lower than any other store in this city

OREGON TRADING CO.,
600 Commercial Street.

TO
Real Estate Men,
Barkers
and
Business Men
Of Astoria
Generally.

A POINTER!
Call into the Astorian office and get sample copies of our regular Commercial edition.

It Means Money
in Your Pocket.

The Resort ....

473 Commercial street, is the place where the business man and the laboring man go for what is called "BEST ON THE COAST," or a nice cool drink of the celebrated Cambrinus beer. Sandwiches of every kind made to order. Best 10c elegant free lunch served every day. Best Boston Baked Beans served every other afternoon. You are welcome.

Grosbauer & Brach

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Subscription rates $3 per annum.
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Holiday Fans

Just received today a magnificent line of Satin Fans, suitable for presents. See our new line of Ladies' and Gents' Umbrellas. If you are looking for Xmas presents we can suit you. SHANAHAN BROS.

PRAYS FOR PEACE

A Woman Petitions President Grover Cleveland.

ELIZ'BETH STUART PHELPS WARD

By the Memory of the Anguish of the Late War Her Prayer is Made.

Mrs. Elizabeth Stuart Phelps Ward, the famous writer and student of public affairs, moved, as she asserts, by the possibility of a war with England, has written a personal letter to President Cleveland, pointing out the disaster that would follow such a conflict, and urging him to restrain those who would bring such a calamity upon the country. Mrs. Ward's letter follows:

Newton Center, Mass., Dec. 19, 1895.

To the President of the United States of America:—

Mr. President: I venture to appeal to you. I am sure that I am expressing the voice of every woman and of most of the humane and thoughtful men in this country, but there is no time to collect names and sign petitions. The possibility of war with England seems at the date of this writing to be made by your message, a danger.

We have trusted this administration to preserve the amity of our foreign relations. We have not expected it to bring us as near national bloodshed as that of your predecessor did, in the case of a little South American state. We have rested upon the belief that, whatever else befell, you would wear to the end the honors—the greatest that any chief executive can wear—of confirming the peace of the land he serves.

I cannot bring myself yet to believe that you personally wish or mean an thing else, but I am moved so deeply that I cannot refrain from begging you, by the memory of the anguish of our late war, not yet forgotten nor outlived by this country; and by all the possibility of suffering which a war to come involves, to calm, rather than to stir the restless, superficial elements in congress and hold them back with a firm hand from taking a step in the direction of so terrible an iniquity and shame.

War at best is but legalized murder. Civilization now is far beyond it. We have outgrown the time when it should even be considered as a solution of even serious difficulties. The morality of war is superceded. The statesmanship of the future must rest absolutely upon this principle, as that of the past has rested upon the principle of brute forces. If Bismarck found the whole of Bulgaria not worth the life of one of his Pomeranian grenadiers; if, even in a case of humanity, Emperor William II holds aloof from interference in the Armenian question, because he believes that happy security at home is worth more to his country than bloody philanthropy abroad, then surely the life of one American citizen is at least worth 100,000 or even 1,000,000 acres of disputed wilderness more than 1000 miles from our borders; and the peace of this republic is worth more than the questionable application of a doctrine which may have not been originated for such purposes as that to which it is now put.

The whole of South America is not worth one day of war in the United States. An aggressive and entangling policy is not worth one week of the ruin, the death, the torture, the lifelong heartbreak involved in the slaughter of battle.

Dogs cannot arbitrate; nor tigers. Men can. "Because they can, they ought." Civilized nations should settle disagreement by mutual concession or arbitration as individual gentlemen do. Why should a nation commit murder—a crime for which it executes a citizen? Such a war as this towards which men of irascible temper, and deficient imagination are hurrabing us, would be the greatest crime in modern history.

I am but one of seventy millions of possible sufferers, but I have the right common to all who endured the havoc of our last war, to entreat you—as thousands of "the Voiceless" would, if they could—to do your uttermost to spare us the chance of another. The men who voted you into the office you hold believed you strong enough to preserve the peace of this country. Power and the prevention of suffering are equivalent and ought to be identical. Anyone can challenge. Anyone can fight. National self-possession requires a master. Invitation to war is an obsolete order of statecraft. But to sustain peace is the modern art. That calls for the highest and finest type of administration. You have an opportunity for that executive originality which is all that lives in history.

You have, sir, a greater chance than President Monroe had. He created the doctrine. It is for you to submit it to an advanced christian age, which has outrun the belligerent conditions and ideals under which he formulated it. It is left for you to rise to the heights of your times, and to say boldly, "Nothing (short of the ultimate emergency of national life or death) in our day and in our land justifies a war." I beg you to be great enough to do this grand thing. The men whom war would slaughter as sportsmen slaughter game, the women whom war would bereave, and whose anguish it may be still in your power to prevent are watching you with oppressive anxiety.

Pardon me if I say—for the crisis does not admit of soft words—that your name will be held in reproach or honor according as you smite or save the land.

Mr. President, I have not delayed for the formalities, which are petty things. Because you are my chief executive, I address you—not without trust—sure that you will find yourself above misunderstanding my motive, or misreading my text, or thinking that I am in any sense deficient in the respect due to your high position and to your strong personality.

With that respect, I am, sir, your petitioner,
ELIZABETH STUART PHELPS WARD.

ONE OF THE COMMISSION.

San Antonio, Tex., Dec. 27.—Associate Justice Brewer, who has been spending several weeks here for the benefit of his daughter's health, left for Washington last night. The suddenness of his departure strengthens the belief that he has been offered a place on the Venezuela boundary commission.

BRADSTREET'S WEEKLY

Record of Failures and Liabilities.

New York, Dec. 27.—Bradstreet's tomorrow will say:

The business failures in the country for the year were 13,013, an increase of more than two per cent, notwithstanding this is the second year following the panic in which, as shown by the records, it is usual for the number of failures to decline. The increase of two per cent is accompanied by a gain of six per cent in liabilities of those failing, and the commercial death rate, which averaged 1.20 in every 100 engaged in business during the five years from 1890 to 1894 inclusive, and ranged as high as 1.50 in the panic year of 1893, down to 1.21 in 1894, has risen to 1.23 this year. The increase in the number of failures are at the West, Northwest and in the middle states, decreases being shown in New England, at the South and at the Pacific coast. The per cent of assets to liabilities has risen from 53 per cent one year ago to nearly 56 per cent, as contrasted with 65 per cent in 1893.

VENEZUELAN BOUNDARY.

The Text of the Bill as Passed by Congress.

A bill making an appropriation for the expenses of a commission to investigate and report on the true divisional lines between the Republic of Venezuela and British Guiana.

Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America, in congress assembled, that the sum of $100,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary, be and the same is hereby appropriated for the expenses of a commission to be appointed by the president to investigate and report upon the true divisional line between the Republic of Venezuela and British Guiana.

THE BOND BILL

Opposed by Both Democrats and Populists.

An Amendment Finally Added by the Committee Which Will Probably Put It Through.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The house today entered upon the consideration of the bond bill. The bill aroused the united opposition of the Democrats and Populists, the gold Democrats being arrayed against as they claimed it did not give the secretary authority to issue the gold bonds with which he desired to replenish the reserve, and the silver Democrats in their opposition to the bond issues contended that the raids on the treasury could be stopped if the secretary would use his discretion to redeem the notes in silver when the reserve was threatened. In the Republican ranks there developed such bitter opposition to the bill as originally drawn, and to the proposition to force the bill to a vote today that the Republican members of the committee on ways and means incorporated in it an amendment specifically declaring that nothing in the act should be construed as a modification or repeal of the act of 1878 for the re-issue of greenbacks when redeemed, and the committee on rules extended the limit of debate until tomorrow at 2 o'clock, but declined to give the members of the house an opportunity to offer amendments. Henderson, of the committee on rules, presented the rule for the consideration of the bond bill. It provided for debate until 10 o'clock tonight, with a recess from 5 to 8 p. m., and its continuance tomorrow until 3 o'clock, when a vote should be taken separately. The rule was then adopted, 15 to 101. It was not a strict party vote. The Populists voted with the Democrats against the rule and the following Republicans voted in opposition to the majority of their party: Cutcher, New Hampshire; Conelly, Illinois; Dayton, West Virginia; Huling, West Virginia; Kirkpatrick, Kansas; Linney, North Carolina; McCormick, New York; Shafroth, Col.; Pearson, North Carolina; Mondell, Wyoming; and Miller, Kansas.

The bond bill was then laid before the house and Dingley opened the debate.

WAGES ADVANCED.

Workmen in the Coke Region Get Ten per Cent.

Uniontown, Pa., Dec. 27.—Following the notice to the coke workers employed by H. C. Frick & Co., of a ten per cent advance in wages after the first of the year, the announcement was made by W. R. Rainey today, that he would also advance the wages of his 2,000 employes ten per cent to take effect next week.

The past three months have been the busiest in the history of the coke trade. The advance of wages will enable the men to make the highest wages ever paid in the coke region.

MONEY WITHDRAWN.

Dallas, Tex., Dec. 27.—English loan companies doing business here and representing hundreds of millions of dollars, have cabled their agents to discontinue loaning money in Texas. The fear of war with the United States is said to be the cause.

UNCLE ALLEN MORALIZES.

"Never curse either your ill-luck or your bad management, my boy," said Uncle Allen Sparks. "Get to work and do something. If you make a bad break, or if things don't go right, or if you forget important matters you ought to have remembered, don't go out and kick yourself. Go out and hump yourself."

USELESS QUESTION.

"Dis ting's got to go t'rough," said one of the aldermen at the committee meeting. "Dere's money in it."

"Fur de city?" asked a member of the council.

And the only reply he got was the glassy stare.

THE CANDIDATES

McKinley is in the Lead, Says Mark Hanna.

ONLY TWO AGGRESSIVE MEN

Reed is the Other—Harrison Will Not Engage in a Scramble for Office.

Cleveland, Dec. 27.—Mark A. Hanna, Governor McKinley's political lieutenant, who has just returned from a four weeks' tour through the East, in the interests of his candidate, today discussed the chances of the various candidates as they now appear. He said:

"I hold McKinley to be the leading candidate. People want him and people generally demand him. His chances were never better or brighter than they are today and in my opinion he easily leads. Really, the only aggressive candidate besides McKinley is Reed. Both of these men are candidates and very much so. Reed is the only strong opponent McKinley has, generally, throughout the country. Allison is not to be regarded, at present, as much of a candidate as he is a factor. Morton is strong in his section, but I do not regard him as a candidate. Of Harrison I know no more than what I see in the papers. In my opinion he is not a candidate; that is, an aggressive candidate. I feel sure he would engage in no scramble for office or do any thing that would not be in strict keeping with his dignity and the dignity of his position."

IN TROUBLE.

Strathnevis Libeled for a Salvage Claim.

Port Townsend, Dec. 27.—The steamer Strathnevis was ordered to proceed to Tacoma this afternoon to land her passengers and cargo preparatory to going on the dry dock for repairs. Two large tugs took her in tow, and as she was about to round Point Narrowsten, bound up the Sound, a squall came up and for a few moments the vessel became unmanageable.

Just as the Strathnevis was leaving Port Townsend the United States marshal arrived from Seattle and libeled the vessel in behalf of the management of the rescuing steamer Mineola. The libel is said to be for $150,000. The Canadian Pacific Steamship Co., owners of the Mowera, will ask for $250,000 salvage, one-third of the value of the vessel and cargo.

IMPORTANT DECISION.

State Sovereignty Sustained in Wisconsin by the United States Court.

Milwaukee, Dec. 27.—Judge Seaman, in the United States court, today upheld the jurisdiction of the state court over the soldiers' home grounds. In his decision Judge Seaman distinctly stated that he had not the least doubt as to the power of congress to assume exclusive jurisdiction but this had not been done, and state sovereignty could not be taken away by implication.

The opinion of Judge Seaman is of considerable moment to the inmates of soldiers' homes, inasmuch as it assures them the undoubted right of suffrage, which has often been in question.

ANOTHER EXPOSITION.

Omaha, Dec. 27.—The Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition, of 1898, is fairly launched, the manner in which it will be accomplished having been decided upon today. It was decided to organize a company, with an authorized capital of $1,000,000, with shares at $10. The company will be authorized to begin business when $100,000 is subscribed, and will have a life of ten years from January 1st, 1896. The probabilities are that congress will be asked to contribute.

CONGRESS AS A MIMIC SHOW.

When ex-President Harrison Says It was the Butt of Jealousy and Ridicule.

Practically there was no union of the states, and certainly nothing that could be called a national government until the constitution was adopted in 1789, writes ex-President Harrison in January Ladies' Home Journal. Before that we had a congress consisting of a single body of delegates. All votes were taken by states—a majority of the delegates from the states casting the vote of the state. There was no senate, no president nor any separate executive department, and practically no judiciary. The congress, either by the whole body, or by committees, performed the necessary executive functions; commissioned officers; raised and disbursed revenue; conducted our diplomacy; audited accounts; and exercised certain judicial functions. It was a weak attempt to organize a government, but it answered so long as the common peril of British subjugation lasted. When that threat was withdrawn by the peace of 1783, the selfishness and jealousies of the states became intense and threatened to snap the feeble bonds that held the states in union. The congress became the laughing stock of the country, and the best men shunned it. It had contracted debts in the prosecution of the war; and, the states neglecting or refusing to pay their quotas, congress was protested and dishonored, for it had no power to lay and collect taxes. It had made commercial treaties with foreign powers, and the states refused to allow in their ports the privileges guaranteed by the treaties. Congress was a mimic show, the butt of jealousy and ridicule. Great things were demanded of men who could do nothing.

Each state made its own tariff law. If one, with a view to raising money to pay its pressing debts fixed a high rate on foreign goods imported, another would adopt a lower rate to attract commerce to its ports. It was hence impossible for the states to make a beneficial use of the power to levy duties on foreign goods. And, besides, commerce between the states was hindered and had blood engendered by duties levied by one state on goods coming from another. New York levied a duty on firewood coming down the Sound from Connecticut, and upon garden truck crossing the river from Jersey. Out of these and many like things grew the conviction in the minds of our statesmen and people that "a more perfect union" was necessary; that we must have a national government, to which should be entrusted all those general powers affecting especially our relations with foreign countries, and the relations of states with each other, and including such as were necessary to the general defense and welfare.

TRADE REVIEW.

Dun Says There Will Be No Improvement Until After January 1.

New York, Dec. 27.—R. G. Dun & Company's Weekly Review of Trade will say:

The failures of the fourth quarter of the year 1895, not yet finished, cannot yet be definitely stated, but the aggregate of deferred liabilities for the year, while much smaller than in 1893, will vary but little from that of 1894. The year's aggregate of commercial liabilities will probably be about $170,000,000 in manufacturing, over $73,000,000, or ten per cent, more than last year, but in trading about $88,000,000, or nine per cent, less than last year. The foreign and financial messages of the president suddenly checked business in many departments and industries cannot be expected to show signs of improvement until the new year begins. Orders have for months been so much smaller than they were in summer, when production was expanding, and prices mounting rapidly, that the new causes of uncertainty have more influence.

The failures for the past week have been 322 in the United States against 235 last year, and 25 in Canada against 41 last year.

RECORD BREAKERS.

Denver, Dec. 27.—N. A. Pippin and A. B. Hughes, Class A tandem team, today rode a quarter, unpaced, in 0:27¾, breaking the old record by two-fifths of a second.

HIS RELATIONS

Senator Sherman and His Railroads.

He Also Has Somewhat to Do With Sleeping Car Companies Agitation Might Consistently Stop.

It is a curious and rather interesting fact that Senator John Sherman is a director in the Fort Wayne road. There is no reason on earth why Senator John Sherman should not be a director in the Fort Wayne road. It is a good railway, and Senator Sherman is a good man. They both do each other credit.

It happens, however, that the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago, like other Pennsylvania lines, is one of those roads which has an option in regard to its sleeping cars, an option to put in capital to the amount of three-fourths the cost of the cars on its line, and to take a three-fourths share in the net revenue from the operation thereof. The road does not take advantage of that option.

It also happens that Mr. Sherman's name has been somewhat associated in the public mind with the agitation to reduce sleeping car fares. I doubt if the senator has much personal enthusiasm for the bill which bears his name, and (though I know that the public opinion as expressed in the daily press runs in the other direction) I shall not be surprised if the bill fails to cut much of a figure in the present congress.

But the point is this: If the senator believes that sleeping car fares are now too high, he, of course, thinks that the profits under the present rates must be excessive. It is not supposed that the senator would countenance any agitation for the reduction by legislation of the profits on any business if he did not think that that business could stand it, and was at present earning too much. Senator Sherman is too good a constitutional lawyer as well as too much of a man to assist in any process of confiscation of private property. But how comes it, if the profits in the sleeping car business are so enormous, that the senator does not persuade his fellow directors in the Fort Wayne road to take advantage of that option? It is his plain duty to the stockholders in the company. If the profits are not so large the senator ought to stop any attempt to assist in reducing them. The dilemma is a plain one. Looking at it from a purely business standpoint, I should recommend the senator to stop the agitation. On ethical grounds also it would at least be more consistent for his to do so.—Railway Age.

NOT IN DANGER.

Seattle, Dec. 27.—William Brown, manager of the Canadian Pacific Australian Steamship Co., owning the Miowera, said tonight the company had no misgivings as to the safety of the ship. He believed her captain had left the Strathnevis, owing to a terrific storm, and so for fear of further endangering his own ship, he had proceeded for Honolulu.

BIG FAILURE.

Lexington, Dec. 27.—Leslie Combs Jr., the largest tobacco grower in the world, has assigned. Liabilities, nearly $300,000.

England is a great bulldozer, but Uncle Sam is altogether too good a poker player to be bluffed by any one.—Boston Globe.

DEATH IN A PANIC

Lost Footing and Perished Under a Struggling Mass.

TWENTY-FOUR PEOPLE KILLED

A Hebrew Opera Drew a Large Crowd—The Panic Was Entirely a Senseless One.

Baltimore, Dec. 27.—In a senseless panic, caused by a defective gas burner, and a foolish cry of fire, at the old Front Street Theatre tonight, twenty-four people were killed, two fatally injured, and ten seriously hurt. Almost all of the victims are of Polish nativity and Hebraic extraction, and many of the injured were taken to their homes by friends.

The theatre, which is probably the oldest in the city, was filled from pit to dome with people who had assembled to listen to a Hebrew opera. The ticket office receipts show that over 2,700 tickets had been sold when, at 8 o'clock, the sale of tickets was stopped because there were no more left. General admission tickets were sold, however, after this, and it is supposed that there were at least 3,000 people within the walls. The capacity of the house is less than 2,500.

Ten minutes after the curtain rose one of the attendants went up into the second tier to light a gas jet which appeared to have been extinguished. As he turned the cock and applied a match the light flared up and it was seen that there was no tip to the burner. The jet was well down toward the stage on the left side of the house, in plain view of the greater part of the audience, but as the glare from it showed against the wall, some one in the gallery shouted "Fire! Fire! Fire!"

In an instant there was a wild scramble for the doors in which the whole audience took part. The vanguard of the terror stricken multitude reached the entrance on Front street, pushed on by the mob behind them. There, those in the foremost rank were compelled to turn to the right and to the left to reach the double entrance way. Passing through these doors they reached a flight of steps leading from each door downward to a landing, from which a broad stairway of moderate height would have carried them into the street and to safety. As the crowd reached the landing, one to the right and one to the left, they met. There was a brief struggle, and then some one lost footing and fell. In a moment the landing was packed twenty or thirty deep with a panic stricken multitude and hundreds behind them were struggling over them to reach the street. When the mass on the landing had been cleared the frightened mob on the inside were quieted down sufficiently to enable the police to clear the theatre. Then it was found that there had been no danger and not a soul would have been injured had the audience remained in their seats.

Nine bodies were taken to the morgue, all of them dead from suffocation. Of those taken to the city hospital, seven are dead. Two more will probably die before morning, as they are badly injured. The confusion at both places is indescribable and up to midnight four of the dead had been identified.

BICYCLE RACES.

Hotel del Coronado, Cal., Dec. 27.—Three world's records were made by the Syracuse racing team. Hamilton went a third of a mile, standing start, paced in 0:34¾; William Taylor and Canby Hewitt, on tandem, paced by Sanbrough, Washburn and Terrill on quad, made two thirds of a mile, flying start, in 1:08. For a half mile, the same team made it in 00¾.

WHO HE WAS.

Cheerful Moments.

One day in my missionary work in the Cumberland mountains, said a minister, I rode up to a much better looking house and hillside farm than was customary in that section.

"Good morning," I said to a tall, thin man working in a patch between the house and the road.

"How d'y?" he responded.

"Very nice place you have here," I remarked.

"Right peart," he returned.

"Can I see the man of the house?" I inquired.

"Thar ain't none."

"No? Does a widow own the place?"

"No; a married woman."

"Who is she?"

"Lige Jackson's wife."

"And there ain't no man of the house?"

"That's what I said."

"Well, can I see Mrs. Jackson, then?"

"No; she's gone down to the store to sell some truck."

"When will she be back?"

"Ain't no tellin'. She does purty much er she pleases 'round here."

"Mr. Jackson does not cut much of a figure, does he?" I laughed.

"Not much."

"Are you working for him?"

"Course not; fer her."

"Who are you?" I ventured, for I was bound to see somebody who could give me the information I sought.

The man smiled a little.

"Oh," he said, "I ain't much. I'm only Lige Jackson's wife's husband."

Tommy—Papa, there is a large black bug on the ceiling. Professor (very busy)—Step on it and leave me alone.—Fliegende Blatter.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder
ABSOLUTELY PURE