

How It Happened.

This new law requiring the payment of postage on county papers, within the counties where published, does not act well on the public stomach, especially since they have been so long accustomed to the other way. It may be well enough to keep the fact before them, how the new law came about.

The law allowing papers to go in the mails free to all points in the counties where published, was a measure for the public good. It encouraged the masses to take their home papers, and thereby to keep posted in the matters in which they were immediately interested. It applied to every county in the United States equally, and was therefore not a privilege granted to any section or class. There was also a law, enacted at an early age of the Government, allowing members of Congress and other Government officers the franking privilege, or the sending of mail matter free, by simply indorsing with their name and position. This privilege had grown into a giant abuse, like every other privilege granted to Congressmen. Its object was to enable public servants to communicate with their constituents free of cost, and thus keep them informed of what was transpiring, and ascertaining their wants. But they had got to sending dry goods, hardware, groceries, and everything imaginable, through the mails, under their frank, thus loading down the mails, and running up the cost of carrying them enormously.

For years, Congress had been kept up for the repeal of the franking privilege, but on certain wealthy city newspapers, they were continually riding some reform hobby. For years the question was kept up without avail, until the last Congress, rendered desperate by the public outcry against their many and gigantic frauds and swindles, determined to insult and mock their constituents by apparently repealing the franking privilege, and at the same stroke, deprive the people of a cherished privilege. These servants of the people undertook to punish the men who made them and paid them, for demanding the reform of a great abuse, by depriving them at the same time of a right which they had long enjoyed. They repealed the franking privilege, but at the same stroke they repealed the law allowing the free circulation of county papers, and the law allowing free postage to the widows and orphans of patriots who had lost their lives and property in the service of the country. But this was not all these high-strung Congressmen did. They first increased their own pay \$25,000 a year, and voted themselves this increase for two years back, amounting to \$50,000 each. In this way, they robbed the people more than enough money to pay for carrying County papers free for the balance of the country.

We do not think this new law will stand long. The press and the people will raise such a clamor, that in all probability the old system will be restored by the next session of Congress. If not then, it will be within the next two years, or as fast as the terms of these increased salary and back pay thieves expire, they will be assigned to the shades of private life with a unanimity that will astonish them.

We notice in a Washington letter, the statement that A. B. Mullett is one of the dead-beat hangers-on at the White House, holding the position of Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department, and is always on hand when there is a company at the White House. We had thought this about as played out long ago. He need to be a Cincinnati third-rate politician. He appeared at Chicago, at the time of the Convention of 1860, as an unenviable bumper for Chase. He would tell of the virtues and popularity of Chase, to whomsoever he could get to listen to him—and would never let up on them until he talked them blind. When Chase went into the Treasury Department, Mullett got a fat place, of course, and has managed to hold fast to it. It time he were retired, and put to some useful purpose—for instance, cut up into tails for poodle dogs.

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**The Agricultural Society Printing.** Several weeks ago, we stated that, within the ten days past, there had been paid out of the State Treasury the sum of \$18,000 for printing the Reports of the Society. We have received letters inquiring whether we were not mistaken in this statement; and several newspapers, as usual, have undertaken to discredit it, and cite, as proof, the fact that we copied a statement relative to Low's grocery bill, that was untrue. We have, therefore, taken the trouble to procure the official figures, and find that the only mistake we made was in saying that the amount had been drawn out within ten days. The amount actually drawn within the ten days specified, was only \$12,000; but the total amount drawn since the adjournment of the Legislature is a little over \$18,000.

But our article did not set forth the facts in as clear a light as they really exist. We shall now proceed to show that the Agricultural Society is fastening itself as a leech upon the State Treasury, and that its capacity for sucking blood is enormous. In the last two years, three or four laws have been lobbied through the Legislature, for the purpose of extracting money for the benefit of the State Agricultural Society, containing what purport to be restrictions, but really got up so loosely that there is scarcely any limit to the power to draw money. The Agricultural Society has managed to fasten itself upon the State, and arrogated to itself all the dignity and rights of a department of the State Government. It drew itself into the name of the State Treasury, and put its probe for blood as regularly as the Legislature sits, until it has succeeded in literally "checking" the State into paying its printing and premium bills.

The Report which we spoke of having been printed, was not the lack report from the organization of the Society, but simply the report for last year, of the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies, and cost the enormous sum of \$12,267.79, or about \$17.75 per copy!

Next, we have the appalling sum of \$4,272.82 for printing Premium Lists for the next State Fair, on stated paper, costing about \$22 per bundle, or double the amount that very decent paper could get for.

Then, we find the sum of \$1,926.35 for Statistical Rolls with paper covers, and \$244.65 for the same done.

There are a number of little items like these: Statistical Blanks, \$2.83; Circulars, \$1.77; more Statistical Blanks, \$15; Catalogue of Kansas Plants, \$62.78; Constitution of the State Agricultural Society, &c., \$17.92; Climate of Kansas, \$61.70; various blanks, too numerous to itemize, \$165.75.

Then come several items, which we call the particular attention of the Farmers' organizations: Circular letters of Call for Farmers' State Convention, \$12.86; Form for Organization of Farmers' Clubs, \$15.16; Proceedings of Farmers' Convention, \$438.17—making almost \$500 taken out of the State Treasury, to pay for the Farmers' Convention held at Topeka, last Spring. Under such a law as this, who can tell? We can not believe that the farmers desire to meet to consult their own interests, and make the taxpayers foot the bill. The Editorial Association would have had the same right to take their expenses out of the State Treasury. What would the farmers say, if a Convention of Bankers, or Railroad men, or Speculators, or the Republican or Democratic party, had held a State Convention, and made the State pay for it, from the issue of their call to the publication of the proceedings? Yet it would have been no more unfair than drawing upon the State Treasury for the expenses attending a Farmers' Convention.

The expense above enumerated foot up \$18,128.54—and that is not the end of it. The sum of \$5,000 was appropriated for the payment of premiums at the next State Fair, and is yet to be drawn. Then, those back Reports of the State Agricultural Society, heretofore spoken of, comprising a mass of rubbish of no earthly use to anybody, are in the hands of the printer, and will be handed over and completed by the new State Printer. The cost of those will probably be ten or fifteen thousand dollars more. So that we think we may safely say that from \$30,000 to \$40,000 will be wrung from the tax-burdened people of Kansas, during the year 1873, so account to the State Agricultural Society.

And by what right does this Society impose itself upon the State, and reach into the Treasury for its running expenses, from the printing of Premium Lists to the paying of the Premiums in Ohio, Indiana and other States, and that are grand successes, they have never asked the State to carry them, but have been prosecuted by private energy and enterprise. These State Fairs are of no interest to the masses of the farmers. Not one in a hundred goes to them. They are attended by the owners of fat hogs, breeders of fine stock, men who make specialties of certain products, farmers in the immediate vicinity of the Fairs, and the wealthier class of farmers from a distance. Yet the whole people are made to pay for them.

This is a subject that needs the attention of the Farmers' Association, the very first thing after attending to the matter of railroad freight. This State Agricultural Society, operating in the name of the Farmers, is becoming one of the greatest impositions and squanders of public money in the State. A twin imposition is the Agricultural College, also operating in the pretended interest of the farmers. Let the farmers show that their movement has been started in good faith, and that they are away by neither prejudice nor partiality, by giving a quietus to these two blood-suckers that hunt in couples, dressed in the farmer's garb.

We met our old friend, Jake Skoobendyke, three or four years ago. He used to run a book-board, and was one of the most groaning men in the business we ever knew. Jake may not have so much hair on his breast as some folks, but he has a mighty good appetite. He is one who gets on his hands and feet, and is regular old calamity on a single to those who do not ask him up to drink. You always know where to find him at meal times, and can depend upon his empty goods box in the front of a grocery, and the business seems to agree with him, as he does with it.

P. S. We should have written this puff long ago, but forgot it, until Jake reminded us of it.

On Omaha, Nebraska farmer went out to his barn, to get a horse, and found a horse standing in a hole in the wall. He was very much surprised, and called to the horse, and he answered him in a low, hoarse voice, as if he were a man. The farmer was very much surprised, and called to the horse, and he answered him in a low, hoarse voice, as if he were a man.

The latest severe hit by the White Cloud Leader, is calling us the "Pagan" editor. A Pagan is supposed to be a poor, benighted creature, who is ignorant that he doesn't know a mule from a bolt of muslin. We are worse off than that—we don't know a jackass from a yard.

The recent leaders of the Tenth House, at Topeka, have used Senators York and Johnson for \$250,000 bill during the last Senatorial campaign. Perhaps these two worthies, while composing that nefarious Pomeroy, imagined they could sponge their heads as his apices.

George E. Pugh, of Ohio, was a new deal for the Democratic party. We thought they would come armed with the Old Doll, by the way they have snuck in here.

A person who was recently admitted to subscribe for the Wyandotte Gazette, replied that he could not read the dead language.

**BYLL ANOTHER.**—One thing we like about D. R. Anthony, is that he is bound to have a story to tell him, if he has to tell it fifty different ways before he can get it to stick. He now tells a story of staff that he says Gov. Carney told him, relative to that \$7,000 of Mrs. Anthony's. Considering that Anthony has been one of Carney's bitterest enemies, and lied on and abused him on every occasion, it sounds the least bit bit that he intimates that Carney had any confidential talk with him on that subject, and then acknowledged to him that he had committed perjury. Very reasonable, is not it? But Anthony has a right to amend his story as often as he chooses, until it suits him. All we are anxious about is to be certain that we got that money. Say, Daniel, didn't Len. Smith tell you that he gave it to us?

The Grasshopper Falls New Era and the Grasshopper are having an unpleasantness. The editor of the Grasshopper, driven to the dernier resort, has taken to sending charges to the New Era in which are conveyed atrocious accusations. These he mails from one office, under an assumed name, then posts his cronies, who at once discover the sharp trick when the New Era appears, after having innocently published them. The other party enjoys himself, and raises up against the editor of the New Era. It would be an excellent idea if they would next conceal themselves in some dark alley, and throw night-soil upon the power to draw money. The Agricultural Society has managed to fasten itself upon the State, and arrogated to itself all the dignity and rights of a department of the State Government. It drew itself into the name of the State Treasury, and put its probe for blood as regularly as the Legislature sits, until it has succeeded in literally "checking" the State into paying its printing and premium bills.

Now, here is something that looks white, compared with the course of some of the big State House, and puts in its probe for blood as regularly as the Legislature sits, until it has succeeded in literally "checking" the State into paying its printing and premium bills.

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State News.

Last week was signalled in the vicinity of Wakarusa, Shawnee county, by broken and mangled limbs. A son of Mr. David Vanan was arrested on the 19th inst. by Sheriff Vanan on the charge of the late borderer than any other paper. Those visiting to subscribe for a good paper, will make a note of this fact.

Seventeen violent deaths in Miami county within fifteen months, and the Borders didn't live there either.

The wheat crop is reported to be an exceeding good one in Southern Kansas that every straw has a shobler or julep at the end of it.

From the Oswego Journal we learn that the chinch bug is making fearful ravages in the late wheat crop. While some fields are entirely exempt, in others the insects, often are mown down in spots. The joint weevil is also working in some fields.

Mrs. Wood, of Oswego City, died on the 19th inst., from the effects of burns received while attempting to kindle a fire with kerosene oil. Mr. W. had lighted the fire, but to make it burn more rapidly attempted the dangerous experiment of pouring on a little oil, which exploded, and she was severely injured.

The Holton Express learns that Mrs. Charline Bateman, living in the village north of Holton, while milking a cow, Wednesday morning last, had her left hip partly dislocated by a cow running against the cow she was milking, and throwing her over her side.

A nine-year-old daughter of Alex Newman, living four miles west of Holton, had her left thigh bone fractured by accidentally stepping into a gutter on the side of the road, about a week since.

There is a fellow in Wichita who eats thirty-three pieces a week. He is discharged cook gives the reason the following account: "He would sit down to the table and grab a pie the first thing. But when he got to the stove, he would see a centre shot with his fist—presto, it disappeared, and except a slight swelling of the neck, there was no indication of the course it took. She asked me to shoot a fork in the last cake, and I charged her with putting hair-pins in the pie, and sent her off."

Thomas McArthur, alias David Campbell, has been charged with the murder of a woman named Mrs. H. He did the deed in the town of Tippecanoe, near the young lady's residence, borrowed \$400 from the widow Harbison, and jumped the county.

The Fredonia Journal gives the particulars of the death of George Jackson, a son of G. F. Jackson, Esq., of that vicinity. At the time of the accident he was assisting some companions to load a wagon with gunnysacks and other things on the ground, only one gun and a few iron rods remaining. In passing two of the guns from the wagon to one of the men, he was struck on the head by the muzzle with his left hand, saying, "Here is a good one for you." The gun was a double-barrelled, and the bullet struck him in the forehead, and penetrated to the top of his head, lodging against the skull and producing instant death. Mr. Jackson was a resident of the A. T. & S. F. Railroad, at Camp Wilder, Colorado.

The Wichita Eagle learns that Fred Bettis was badly wounded on last Sunday morning by the accidental discharge of a gun. Mr. Bettis had started for the field near Charleston, and was upon the Neumacher when the accident happened. The charge entered his forehead, just above the ear, ranging upward through the forehead and skull, and finally striking the brain. The last words he uttered, for which retaining his weapon, (a six-shooter carbine), it was discharged, two charges going out of the cylinder in addition to the one that killed him. Mr. Bettis was standing on the side track awaiting a western bound train. Mr. Heath, the conductor, says that he had got on the main track and was starting up when the shot was fired. Mr. Bettis did not know who did it. Nothing appearing to be the matter, they moved on.

The passengers who they heard a shriek, and started for the engine, but as they were on the main track, they were unable to do so. Mr. Heath, who was on duty at the time, was very much surprised, and was unable to do anything. The train was stopped, and the conductor, Mr. Heath, was unable to do anything. The train was stopped, and the conductor, Mr. Heath, was unable to do anything.

The Lawrence Journal gives the names of persons who have taken the fever to Texas and other parts of the country, and to go, when everybody was anxious for to stay here and hang on.

An exchange says that Lowe is building a hotel with the \$5,000 that he stole from the taxidermy people. Now we begin to understand what he intends going with all that snar and tea.

"Do not cook vegetables in iron pots, unless they are enameled," says an exchange. That would exclude all enameled in this country, for none of them are enameled.

The Republican will have to enlarge again. An exchange contained an article abusing us, which last week's Republican was compelled to omit, for want of room.

Senator B. Anthony is said to be the only individual living, who was personally acquainted with John Milton.

THE OLDEST PAPER.—The Troy Chief enters upon its seventeenth year with the number for this week. The first number of the Chief was issued in the latter part of May, 1857, and during that time it has met with but few regular issues, and they were all during the first two years and a half. There is no other paper in existence in Kansas that is as old as the Chief made its first appearance; and there is no other man now editing a paper in the State that was engaged at that time. The Chief and its friends in Kansas, and its friends in the State that are older than the Chief, and who have had the same proprietor for a longer time than the Chief.

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LETTER FROM TOPEKA.

TOPEKA, June 30, 1873.

My dear friends, I am in the city of Topeka, and I am very much interested in the result of the election. I have been very busy lately, and I have not had time to write you as often as I would like to. I have been very busy lately, and I have not had time to write you as often as I would like to.

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LETTER FROM TOPEKA.

TOPEKA, June 30, 1873.

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