The Avant Courier.

THURSDAY, : OCTOBER 2, 1879.

NEW POSTAL REGULATIONS.

A Cheapening of Mailing Facilities Which the Commercial World Will Appreciate and Avail Itself Of.

From the Pioneer Press.

One of the most remarkable features characterizing the present century is its greatly improved and cheapened facilities for the transmission and delivery of letters and other mail matter. This is the outgrowth of a proposition made as late as 1837 by the late Sir Rowland Hill, of England, whose death occurred quite recently, although his plan was not adopted by the British Parliament until 1839, and did not come into operation until 1840, and then only after the most violent opposition. But the wisdom and forethought of the originator were abundantly demonstrated by the practical results. In 1837 the number of letters sent through the British mails was 82,000,000. Twenty-two years afterward, or in 1859, the number had risen to 545,000,000, while the post office department, from being a dead loss to the government, had become a large source of revenue, which has since been very sensibly applied to public education in Great Britain. The principal provision of the reform introduced by Sir Rowland Hill merely consisted in the introduction of a uniform and cheap rate of postage for all letters of a certain weight, or multiple thereof, independent of the distances they were transmitted within the British Isles. In 1849, the transmission of books by post was granted, and this feature of the postal service also proved successful. Since then the gradual tendency has been to further cheapen the mail rates and to increase the variety of articles admissible to the mails, until now mail matter is of the most heterogeneous description, and its cost of transmission is a marvel of cheapness and certainty. Britain's example in its postal service is only quoted here, because other nations have done little else in this direction than to copy her example.

One of the concomitants of the great exposition in Paris, last year, was a convention having for its object the adoption of rules for a universal postal union, and the influence of the action of that convention is now beginning to be felt in this country, as well as in those of Europe.

One of the main questions before the Paris convention was the distinct division of mail matter into classes with the view of cheapening the transmission of the lower grades. The distinction which formed the original dividing line between first-class and other mail matter consisted in the easily recognized difference that all first-class matter, or that on which the highest rate was demanded, consisted of letters actually written in whole or in part by hand. The Paris convention, however, took a broader view of the situation, and classified that only as first-class mail matter which consisted of personal correspondence or papers of value, and that test has been adopted by the United States government in the act of March 3, 1879. The provisions of the act are but very little understood by the public, although the law became operative last May. To elucidate its principles the following sections from the United States postal laws and regulations for the current year are appended:

PERMISSIBLE ADDITIONS TO OTHER THAN FIRST-CLASS MATTER.

Section 231—Mailable matter of the second class shall contain no writing, print, mark or sign thereon or therein, in addition to the original print, except as herein provided, to wit, the name and address of the person to whom the matter shall be sent, and index figures of subscription book, either written or printed, the printed title of the publication, the printed name and address of the publisher or sender of the same, and written or printed words or figures, or both, indicating the date on which the subscription to such matter shall end. Upon matter of the third class, or upon the wrapper including the same, the sender may write his own name or address thereon, with the word "from" above and preceding the same, and in either case may make simple marks intended to designate a word or passage of the text to which it is desired to call attention. There may be placed upon the cover or blank leaves of any printed matter of the third class a simple manuscript dedication or inscription that does not partake of the nature of a personal correspondence. Upon any package of matter of the fourth class the sender may write or print his own name or address, preceded by the word "from," and there may be also written or printed the number and name of the articles enclosed, and the sender thereof may write or print upon or attach to any such articles a tag or label, a mark, number, name or letter, for purpose of identification.

PERSONAL CORRESPONDENCE NEGATIVELY DEFINED.

Sec. 232. The character of personal correspondence referred to in the preceding section cannot be ascribed to the following, viz: 1st. To the signature of the sender or to the designation of his name, of his profession, of his rank, of the place of origin, and of the date of dispatch. 2d. To a dedication or work of respect offered by the sender. 3d. To the figures or signs merely intended to mark the passage of a text, in order to call attention to them. 4th. To the prices added upon the quotations or prices current of exchange or markets, in a book. 5th. To all printed commercial papers filled out in writing, such as papers of legal procedure, deeds of all kinds, way-bills, or bills of lading, invoices, and the various documents of insurance companies, circulars, hand-bills, etc. 6th. To instructions or requests to postmasters to notify the sender in case of the non-delivery, of other than first-class matter, so that he may send postage for its return.

The foregoing provisions have been so lucidly explained by the Postmaster-General that his language is also added:

I would say that a printed promissory note or an insurance policy filled out ready for signature, may be mailed as third-class matter, but when they have been finally executed or countersigned by the person who finally approves them, so that they become the representative of a money value, they are subject to letter-rates of postage, as being in the nature of personal correspondence between the two parties interested. The same rule will apply to other printed commercial papers, such as drafts, checks, etc., and as to deeds, bonds, etc., whether drawn by public functionaries or private parties. A partly written bill filled out in writing may be sent as third-class matter, but when receipted can only be admitted to the mails at letter rates of postage. The written matter under the head of remarks upon the various documents of insurance companies must be confined strictly to the subject-matter of the document.

The effect of all this reduction will be readily understood when it is remembered that third-class mail matter is transmitted at the rate of one cent for each two ounces or fractional part thereof, which must be fully prepaid and placed in unsealed coverings. To the commercial world this decreasing of the postal rates must be of immense benefit, as the rates on much of the mail matter now transmitted in the regular order of business will cost two-thirds less than formerly. A careful perusal of the foregoing quotations will readily enable correspondents to avail themselves of these cheapened facilities now in operation.

Brain Sauce.

"There were two men in a fight in front of the store to-day," said a North-end man at the supper table, "and I tell you it looked pretty hard for one of them. The biggest one grabbed a cart stake and drew it back. I thought sure he was going to knock the other's brains out, and I jumped in between them."

The family had listened with wrapt attention, and as the head paused in his narrative the young heir, whose respect for his father's bravery was immeasurable, proudly remarked:

"He couldn't knock any brains out of you, could he, papa?"

The head of the family gazed long and earnestly at the heir, as if to detect evidences of a dawning humorist, but as the youth continued with great interest to munch his fourth tart, he gasped and resumed his supper.

The Sort of a Girl to Get.

The true girl has to be sought for. She does not parade herself as show goods. She is not fashionable. Generally she is not rich. But, oh! what a heart she has when you find her! so large and pure and womanly. When you see it you wonder if those showy things outside were women. If you gain her love your two thousand are millions. She'll not ask you for a carriage or a first-class house. She'll wear simple dresses, and turn them when necessary, with no vulgar magnificent to frown upon her economy. She'll keep everything neat and nice in your sky parlor, and give you such a welcome when you come home that you'll think your parlor higher than ever. She'll entertain true friends on a dollar, and astonish you with the new thought how little happiness depends on money. She'll make you love home (if you don't you're a brute), and teach you how to pity, while you scorn, a poor, fashionable society that thinks itself rich, and vainly tries to think itself happy.

Now, do not, I pray of you, say any more, "I can't afford to marry." Go, find the true woman, and you can. Throw away that cigar, burn up that switch cane, be sensible yourself, and seek your wife in a sensible way.—*Oliver Wendell Holmes.*

How Habits Affect Prosperity on the Farm.

There is not, taking the country over, a very good understanding as to how the habits of a people affect their condition, as to worldly thrift. The English are by many supposed to be the most pains-taking, among foreigners, as to industry and economy, working early and late, and saving their earnings.

But in these things the French working-people excel them greatly. While the French working man gets on an average a trifle more than 25 per cent. less in wages than the English, for the same kinds of work, his savings are greater, and he makes it a rule to adapt his outgoes to his income, that his savings account may constantly show an increase upon the right side of the ledger. Wearing apparel is lower in France than in England, and the almost universal working dress of the French workman, is the blue blouse, a very inexpensive rig indeed. The English working man, as a rule, is a renter, while it is the highest ambition of the Frenchman to own the house he lives in, and his weekly savings go into land or bonds, and sometimes both. The French are somewhat noted for the amount of wine they consume, but their wines are generally very mild, and are used by the larger portion in moderation, whereas the English laborer gorges himself with beer, and becomes sluggish and gross.

An American laborer would come to want upon the wages that would enable a Frenchman to live quite to his liking, and from which he could lay up something for a rainy day. There is a large class who live by speculating off the products of the farmer and the daily labor of the common laborer, who themselves live extravagantly, yet continually harp about "the extravagance of the farmers as a class." This kind of cant is not very becoming, and still, when a pressure comes such as that we are now passing through, it is well to pause and see if by imitating some of the studied frugalities of the better class of foreign peasantry, we may not better our condition, while at the same time we hold on to a fair share of the comforts of life.—*Western Farm Journal.*

Learn a Trade.

"I never look at my old steel composing rule," said a printer who became something more, "that I do not bless myself that, while my strength lasts, I am not at the mercy of the world. If my pen is not wanted, I can go back to the type-case and be sure of work; for I learned the printer's trade thoroughly—newspaper work, job work, book work, and press work. I am glad to have a good trade. It is a rock upon which the possessor can stand firmly. There is health and vigor for body and mind in an honest trade. It is the strongest and surest part of self-made men. Go from the academy to the printing office or the artisan's bench, or, if you please, to the farm—for, to be sure, true farming is a trade, and a grand one at that. Lay thus a sure foundation, and after that branch off into whatever profession you please."

You have heard, perhaps, of the clerk who had faithfully served Stephen Girard from boyhood to manhood. On the twenty-first anniversary of his birthday he went to his master and told him his time was up, and he certainly expected important promotion in the merchant's service. But Stephen Girard said to him:

"Very well. Now go and learn a trade."

"What trade, sir?"

"Good barrels and butts must be in demand while you live. Go and learn the cooper's trade, and when you have made a perfect barrel, bring it to me."

The young man went away and learned the trade, and in time brought to his old master a splendid barrel of his own make.

Girard examined it, and gave the maker two thousand dollars for it, and then said to him:

"Now, sir, I want you in my counting-room; but henceforth you will not be dependent on the whim of Stephen Girard. Let what will come, you will have a good trade always in reserve."

The young man saw the wisdom and understood.

Years ago, when the middle-aged men of to-day were boys, Horace Greeley wrote:

"It is a great source of consolation to us that, when the public shall be tired of us as an editor, we can make a satisfactory livelihood at setting type or farming; so that while our strength lasts, ten thousand blockheads taking offense at some article they do not understand, cannot drive us into the poor-house."

And so may any man become truly independent.

The Wrong Orator.

The actual ignorance of some people is surpassed by their *ideal* ignorance. The innocent passenger who saw and heard the boiler burst during his first steamboat ride, and supposed it was only part of the regular performance, was not more obtuse than the woman who "heard Dr. Bacon" last Decoration Day. The New Haven *Register* gives her account of him:

It was nearly sundown, as wearily she walked into the house, settled herself on the sofa, and began swinging her palmleaf fan to cool her heated brow. "Well, I got well paid for going down to the green. I'd no idea that Dr. Bacon was ever out among the Indians."

"Well, he never was to any great extent, I guess," said her husband.

"Well, he said so, anyhow. I should think he ought to know something about it."

"Why, Miranda, you must be mistaken. Dr. Bacon has lived in New Haven forever, almost."

"I guess I heard what he said, and was n't it interesting, though! Why, when he was a boy he ran away from home in the dead of night, stole one of his father's horses, and before sunrise he was a hundred miles away, and had joined the Cheyennes. That's what he said, and I'll believe him before I will you."

"Now, now, you must have heard with your elbows. Dr. Bacon never stole his father's horse. Why, bless your soul, he's a minister. He isn't a horse-thief."

"And he lived with the Indians eight years, until they fought the whites, and then he went back home, and found his mother and father scalped on the cabin floor, and he said on his bended knee, with his bowie knife uplifted, that he would kill Indians the rest of his natural life."

"Oh, fudge! you are 'way off the track. The whole story is impossible. Why, I know something about the doctor myself; he——"

"And he has kept that vow, and has got forty scalps in his trunk at the hotel, that he took with his own hand. Why, I had no idea that he had such interesting experiences."

"Where was Dr. Bacon when he told all this?"

"Why, right on the sidewalk, and there was a big crowd listening to him, almost breathless. He was real eloquent."

"Oh, I see," said John, as a sudden light flashed across his mind. "You were listening to the wrong man. That man was a silver-polish peddler, telling a big yarn to draw the people together. Dr. Bacon was speaking over on the stand in the center of the green."

A Few French Translations.

From the Chicago Times.

They were talking before X. of the recent disaster to the captive balloon. Said he:

"Just my confounded luck! It the accident could only have taken place ten minutes sooner!"

"The devil! Are you aware that at that moment the balloon, with all its passengers, was five hundred yards above the surface, and—"

"And my mother-in-law was in the basket!"

In the art gallery. Young girl of thirteen, with her mother, before a marble group representing "Psyche and Cupid." The figures are nude—absolutely nude, with all that the word implies.

"Mamma," asks the young lady, plaintively, "which is Psyche and which is her lover?"(!)

Two Germans passed by a field in Alsace where a peasant was sowing seeds.

"Sow away," said one of the Germans; "when it is ripe it will be for us."

"Very likely," said the peasant; "it's hemp I'm sowing."

The charming Mme. de G. the other night realized a dream which she had long cherished—she went to the Mabille. Next day one of her friends asked her how she enjoyed it.

"Oh, splendidly!" answered the young woman, rad'antly; "I was insulted twice!"

Fragment of a letter from a nephew to his uncle:

"I assure you, my dear uncle, it is impossible to live in Paris on five hundred francs a month, at the prevailing high rates of vice.

Newspaper Decisions.

1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether directed to his name or another's, whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

2. If a person orders his paper discontinued he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount, whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

3. The courts have decided that refusing to take the newspapers or periodicals from the Postoffice, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is *prima facia* evidence of intentional fraud.

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Associate Justices	H. N. Blake	Virginia City
	Judge Galbraith	Deer Lodge
U. S. District Att'y	R. S. Anderson	Helena
U. S. Marshal	Alex. C. Botkin	Helena
Supreme Court Reporter	C. Hedges	Helena
Clerk Supreme Court	I. R. Alden	Helena
Clerk 1st Dist. Court	T. Mully	Virginia City
Clerk 2d Dist. Court	O. B. O'Bannon	Deer Lodge
Clerk 3d Dist. Court	A. H. Beattie	Helena

Bozeman Land Office.

Register, Davis Willson	Bozeman
Receiver, J. V. Bogert	Bozeman

Helena Land Office.

Register, Jas. H. Moe	Helena
Receiver, F. P. Sterling	Helena

Territorial District Attorneys.

First District, R. P. Vivion	Virginia City
Second District, A. H. Mayhew	Deer Lodge
Third District, J. A. Johnston	Helena

United States Commissioners.

George Clendenin, Jr.	Carroll
James M. Arnoux	Benton
Isaac R. Alden	Helena
Joseph J. Williams	Helena
Theophilus Maffley	Virginia City
Wm. P. Burchard	Sun River
George F. Cowan	Rattlesnake
John Potter	Hamilton
George W. Irvine (2d)	Deer Lodge
Orville B. O'Bannon	Deer Lodge
Frank H. Woody	Missoula
Massena Bullard	Butte
A. D. McPherson	Bozeman

United States Assay Office.

Assayer, Russell B. Harrison	Helena
Melter, M. A. Meyendorf	Helena

Registers in Bankruptcy.

Clarence Ewing (2d District)	Helena
Theophilus Maffley	Virginia City

United States Examining Surgeon.

Thomas Reece	Helena

GALLATIN COUNTY OFFICERS.

Commissioners.—James P. Martin, Charles Sweeney and John M. Robinson.

Sheriff and Assessor.—W. S. McKenzie.

Clerk and Recorder.—S. W. Langhorne.

Treasurer and Supt. of Public Instruction.—J. D. McCaman.

Judge of Probate.—A. D. McPherson.

Coroner.—J. C. Switzler.

Justice of the Peace.—J. Dedlwick.

Constable.—A. P. Clark.

Times of Holding the Courts of Montana for the Year, A. D. 1879.

SUPREME COURT.

In HELENA, first Monday in January, and Second Monday in August.

FIRST DISTRICT—HENRY N. BLAKE, Judge.

In Madison County, at VIRGINIA CITY, second Monday in March; second Monday in October.

In Gallatin County, at BOZEMAN, first Monday in May; second Monday in November.

In Jefferson County, at RADERSBURG, first Tuesday in April; first Tuesday in October.

In Custer County, at MILES CITY, third Monday in September.

SECOND DISTRICT—JUDGE GALBRAITH, Judge.

In Deer Lodge County, at DEER LODGE CITY, second Monday in April.

First Monday in September, (for all cause that can be tried without a jury, except in cases where the parties consent that a special venire may issue to try the same.)

First Monday in December.

In Missoula County, at MISSOULA, fourth Monday in June; second Monday in November.

In Beaverhead County, at BANNACK, first Monday in June; second Monday in October.

THIRD DISTRICT—D. S. WADE, JUDGE.

In Lewis and Clarke County, at HELENA, first Monday in March; first Monday in November.

In Meagher County, at DIAMOND CITY, fourth Monday in April; third Monday in October.

[NOTE.—United States Courts are held at Virginia City, Deer Lodge, and Helena, at the times the Territorial District Courts are held at those places.]

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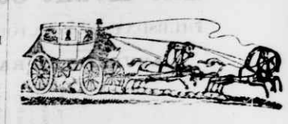

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