

HON. W. D. KELLEY.

This gentleman, who has been elected to Congress from his District (4th Pennsylvania) for five successive terms, has recently intimated his intention not to again become a candidate for re-election.

"But, my dear sir, permit me to remind you that, since my first election to Congress, in 1850, the population of Philadelphia has increased not less than sixty per cent., and that of the Fourth District has more than doubled. My correspondence and general duties have thus been greatly increased. Of this I do not complain. It is a natural incident of the office; but, meanwhile, my constituents, and, to a considerable extent, the people of the city at large, have superadded to the duties of a Representative the impossible one of finding places for all unemployed persons of both sexes known to them, and promotion for all ambitious or discontented employees of the Government."

"I assure you, my dear sir, I appreciate most profoundly the honor done me by your letter. I regard the frequent re-election of a citizen to Congress by the people among whom his life has passed as intrinsically the highest honor that can be conferred upon a man under our Government, and would be willing to make great personal sacrifices to be its recipient."

Mr. Creswell's Statement.

The official statement made by Postmaster-General Creswell to the Senate, as published some time ago in the daily papers, respecting the franking privilege, is certainly conclusive, and very plainly shows the Senate what its action should be in regard to the abuse. Mr. Creswell's figures prove that there passed free through the mails, in January last, matter that should have paid \$150,700 postage. This amount only represents the partial returns of four hundred and fifty-four post-offices. If full returns had been made from all the post-offices, the Postmaster-General thinks the amount would have exceeded \$200,000, or at the rate of \$2,400,000 a year.

A Beautiful Comparison.

Rev. T. Dewitt Talmage, now of Brooklyn, closed a sermon as follows: Seated at a country fireside, the other day, I saw the fire kindle, blaze, and go out, and I gathered up from the hearth enough for many reflections. Our mortal life is just like the fire on that hearth. We put on fresh fagots, and the flame bursts through, and up, and out, gay of sparkle, gay of flash, gay of crackle—emblems of boyhood. Then the fire reddens into coals. The heat is fiercer, and the more it is stirred the more it reddens. With sweep of flame it clears its way till all the hearth glows with the intensity—emblems of full manhood. Then comes a whiteness in the coals. The heat lessens. The flickering shadows have died along the walls. The fagots drop apart. The household hover over the expiring embers. The last breath of smoke has been lost in the chimney. Fire is out. Shovel up the white remains. Ashes!

A VICTIM OF INTEMPERANCE.

Comical Demonstration by an Inebriate Dog: A prominent saloon keeper of this city amused himself a few days since by giving a favorite dog a glass of whiskey and then watching it in its antics. The dog, which is named Jim, drank the liquor with an apparent relish, and about five minutes later was in a beastly state of intoxication. Jim tried to walk across the room, but his short, chubby legs became entangled, the tail hung lifeless about the hinder parts, and the drunken brute staggered about the same as would a two-legged drunkard under the same circumstances. But the most ridiculous action on the part of the dog was when it tried to pick up a small cracker which had been thrown on the floor. The cracker lay about seven feet away. Jim saw the cracker, and like other drunken brutes, supposed there were two crackers. When he endeavored to go for the coveted morsel, his shaky legs took him to the left and about four feet out of the way. Recovering himself, Jim managed to again point his nose toward the cracker, and elevating his tail and bracing himself up, once more started, as he supposed, in a straight line; but instead of reaching the bait, landed head first against a large spittoon, standing at least three feet to the right of the cracker. Nothing discouraged, and remembering the old saying which had been taught him when a pup, that "perseverance conquers all things," Jim tried it again, but in a different manner. He shut one eye, and with the other satisfied himself as to the exact whereabouts of the cracker. He looked up at the ceiling, looked sideways at the bar, and then jumped for it. Alas! for Jim's good intentions! he tumbled all to pieces; that is to say, he went down, and instead of reaching the cracker, struck on the head, rolled over on his back, and made two or three desperate attempts to get up, rolled over once more and under a chair, and in less than a minute was the sickest looking specimen of caninity that ever barked at the moon.—Chicago Times.

Our New Paper Currency. In July, 1869, letters patent were issued, through the Scientific American Patent Agency, to James M. Wilcox, bank-note paper manufacturer, near Philadelphia, for an improvement in paper, to prevent counterfeiting. As this peculiar paper has been adopted by the Treasury Department for United States securities, and reaches the hand of everybody in the shape of greenbacks, a few words in explanation will be useful to all handlers of money.

Protection in paper, as in engraving, consists in peculiarity and in difficulty of imitation; nothing else. Many years ago, bank-note paper was made peculiar by the mixing of red, blue, and other colored silk shreds in the pulp before converting it into sheets of paper. This peculiarity was considered a test of genuineness, and was so to a certain extent. Paper made in that way, however, came into the open market, and could be bought by counterfeiters as well as by bank officers and engravers. Mr. Wilcox has added a new feature to the introduction of colored shreds, which makes a paper so peculiar that it cannot be made by hand process, or by cylinder machine, but only by the better class or Fourdrinier machine. Even here special machinery is required to locate the colored shreds in certain parts of the notes and not in others.

As this machinery exists only in his own mill, and the process is protected by patent, the paper is kept out of the market, and the Government and the public have the benefit of its exclusiveness. The mill is guarded night and day by an armed force in the pay of the Government, to prevent robbery, and there is every reason to believe that this paper will be kept out of unlawful hands.

It will be observed that a line of blue shreds cross the left hand end of all legal tender notes (new issue) of the denominations of one, two, five and ten dollars; and a similar line crosses the right hand end of all notes above ten dollars. As these lines are in-grain, the alteration of a low note to a high one would be at once detected by the position of the localized shreds. As these shreds are interwoven with the fibers of the paper, care should be used to make sure that they are neither under the surface nor entirely on the surface, but both.

In the United States currency a double process is carried out. In the first place, a red fiber is mixed indiscriminately through the pulp, and consequently through the sheet. This is done in the grinding engine.

A second process (with special machinery) is carried out in the Fourdrinier paper machine by the localizing of a blue fiber as the pulp is changed into paper. All is interwoven together, and when the sheets are cut into notes the blue fibers find their position as described. The new fifty cent note which the Department is preparing to issue, will be upon paper of this description; the localized blue fibers occupying one end only of the notes, while all the remainder will have the indiscriminate red. The double process of manufacture will be shown and the exclusive feature will be prominent.

The thanks of the community are due to the Secretary of the Treasury for his earnest and well-directed efforts to protect them from counterfeiters; and their attention is called to a proper understanding of this new feature in protection.

As it has been placed under the guardianship of the Department, it is believed to be effectual, and we are glad to have had an agency in bringing it into use.

Agitation in Salt Lake on the Polygamy Bill.

SALT LAKE, March 27.—A meeting of merchants and professional men was held in Masonic Hall last night, to adopt a memorial to the Senate of the United States praying for the expurgation of those sections of Mr. Colton's bill, which punish by fine and imprisonment the continuance of the patriarchal family relations. The meeting was addressed by Messrs. Kelsey, Harrison, Stenhouse, Marshall, Jennings, Shearman, Tullidge, Chislett, Walters, and Lawrence, who argued that a liberal policy toward the offenders of the past would be of advantage to the government of the whole country, and that such action would arrest polygamy in the future. Messrs. Robertson, Marshall, Carter, Hussey, Kahn, Walker and Hollister, non-Mormons, were appointed a Committee to prepare a memorial to be telegraphed to the President of the Senate. The interest on this subject here is intense. If the Senate pass the House bill in its present shape, the Territory of Utah, it is claimed, will become "a desolation."

The Funding Bill.

The funding and banking bill, introduced by Senator Sherman, provides the following: 1. That \$400,000,000 five per cent. ten-year bonds be issued at par for gold or for present five-twenty year bonds. The gold to be used for redemption of the twenty bonds. 2. That \$400,000,000 four and a half per cent. fifteen-thirty year bonds be issued at par for gold or any Government debt bearing a higher rate of coin interest. 3. That an unlimited amount of four per cent. twenty-four year bonds be issued, as the Secretary of the Treasury may decide necessary, in exchange for any indebtedness of the United States, including legal tenders. 4. Total exemption from taxes. 5. That coupons be paid abroad as well as here. 6. Agents to be appointed here and abroad to sell and negotiate the loan, and not more than 1 per cent. to be paid them. 7. Reserves \$150,000,000 each year out of import duties for payment of interest and reduction of principal of public debt. Bonds now, or hereafter to be held by the Treasurer in the "Sinking Fund" and "Special Fund" shall be canceled and destroyed. 8. After October 1, 1870, no other bonds than those under this act shall be received as security for National Bank circulation. And two-thirds of such bonds must be of the 4 per cent. issue. Existing National Banks must withdraw their securities and substitute bonds as above. 9. No bank can receive over 80 per cent. of the par value of bonds deposited. 10. Any bank can pay legal tender notes to any amount to the Treasurer, and receive circulating notes therefor, based on the 4 per cent. bonds, without limitation, and said legal tender notes shall be canceled and destroyed.

Random Reading.

Godliness has the promise of and secures the blessings of both worlds. A ship should not be made to depend on one anchor, or life on one hope. God warms the earth with snow; can he not also warm the soul with grief? There is no salvation of the soul, no hope of everlasting life but in the Cross. There is no real use in riches, except it be in the distribution; the rest is but conceit. Shall I grudge to spend my life for Him who did not grudge to shed his life-blood for me? Man must have occupation, or be miserable. Toil is the price of sleep and appetite—of health and enjoyment. The very necessity which overcomes our natural sloth is a blessing. Our trying to love an object is like our trying to laugh when we are not pleased; the more we try, the less we shall succeed. The trying part of the process implies it is a thing we do not prefer. Bad thoughts are worse enemies than lions and tigers; for we can keep out of the way of wild beasts, but bad thoughts win their way everywhere. The cup that is full will hold no more; keep your hearts full of good thoughts, that bad thoughts may find no room to enter. With all the lessons that humanity has to learn in life's school, the hardest is to wait. Not to wait with the folded hands that claim life's prizes, without previous effort, but, having struggled and crowned the slow years with trial, seeing no such result as effort seems to warrant—nay, perhaps, disaster instead. To stand firm at such a crisis of existence, this is greatness, whether achieved by men or women. Most young men consider it a great misfortune to be born poor, or not to have capital enough to establish themselves, at their outset in life, in a good and comfortable business. This is a mistaken notion. So far from poverty being a misfortune to them, if we may judge from what we every day behold, it is really a blessing; the chance is more than ten to one against him who starts with a fortune.

An English paper tells the following anecdote of South American origin: A rich merchant at Valparaiso, being challenged by an officer to fight a duel, wrote to his adversary the following simple letter: "I have no desire whatsoever to kill you, and still less do I desire to be killed myself. Here is what I propose: Go to the nearest wood. Choose a tree about as stout as myself, place yourself fifty, thirty, or even fifteen steps from it—just as you like, and then fire bravely on the tree. If you hit, I will admit that I was in the wrong, and will offer you an apology. In the contrary case, I shall be ready to receive yours." The officer laughed, and was disarmed. He invited his adversary to dinner, and—bumper in hand—the reconciliation was agreed upon.

A physician residing in Andover, Massachusetts, gives the following instance of canine sagacity: "On Wednesday of this week I was called to see a patient living some distance from town. During my visit a daughter of the sick woman drove up, whereupon her husband exclaimed: 'The dog did reach her, after all.' On asking for an explanation he told me that, having no one to send for his daughter, he had sent off at noon, on that same day, his little black and tan terrier dog, with a note fastened to his neck, simply saying: 'Go, sir, to Elmira's.' At 3 o'clock, the little fellow arrived at the daughter's house, having traveled a distance of over seven miles over an exceedingly tortuous route. The daughter recognized the dog, read the note, and reached her mother's house at 5 o'clock."

An Illinois undertaker sent the following entertaining note to a sick man: "DEAR SIR—Having positive proof that you are rapidly approaching death's gate, I have therefore thought it not imprudent to call your attention to the inclosed advertisement of my abundant stock of ready-made coffins, and desire to make the suggestion that you signify to your friends a wish for the purchase of your burial outfit at my establishment."

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