

IF..... THE WEATHER MAN

Should have it turn suddenly cold and snow you would need heavy shoes. We have them in all styles and at prices that have had all the frills taken off. Before we move to our new store we have special inducements in all lines of boots and shoes.

O. C. STEVENS.

114 South Court.

Semi-Weekly Courier

Subscribers wishing their address changed will please give the name of the Post Office to which the paper has been sent as well as the Post Office where they desire it to be changed to.

LOCAL NEWS ITEMS.

From Monday's daily. New line of bracelet bangles, at Scott & Co.

The engagement of Mr. Charles S. Slaughter, of this city, and Miss Clara E. Vogelsang, of St. Louis, has been announced, the marriage to occur some time in the spring. Mr. Slaughter is one of Ottumwa's best known young men. He is a traveling representative of Geo. Haw & Co., and prominent in society circles. His engagement will be learned with great interest by his many Ottumwa friends.

The Ottumwa high school football team was defeated by the Centerville high school team in this city Saturday afternoon by a score of 17 to 11. This is the second time within the past two weeks that the visiting team has played in this city, but the game Saturday was victory No. 1. Two weeks ago last Saturday the Centerville team was defeated by the team of the East End Athletic association, the score in that game being 23 to 0. Centerville's victory yesterday was one of the hardest fought games ever witnessed on the home grounds. The teams were evenly matched in weight and in turn set the spectators wild with their excellent line-backing and individual long runs. The attendance was good, being much larger than is usually witnessed at similar events in this city.

From Tuesday's daily. A marriage license was issued yesterday to E. S. Holland and Miss Dena Ornduff.

A daughter was born yesterday to Mr. and Mrs. Ben P. George, of East Court street.

Mrs. N. J. Peck, of Blakesburg returned this morning on the Milwaukee after a visit with her sister, Mrs. C. W. Derby, of 305 Willard street.

Mrs. Thomas Murray died at her home at Bladensburg last evening, after an extended illness. The deceased was a daughter of J. M. J. Allen, of near Agency.

A. B. Phelps & Son, of Hedrick, have sold to George Triggie, of Kansas City, 8 head of choice registered Hereford cattle, 4 bull calves, at \$75 each and two cows with young calves for \$425. This is an excellent price paid for hooded cattle.

Joel B., the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Gus Swanson, of 515 West Mill street, died at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The funeral services were held this afternoon at 2 o'clock from the residence, and were conducted by Rev. S. G. Younger, pastor of the Swedish Lutheran church.

The coroner's jury empaneled yesterday to inquire into the death of Mrs. Delphia Jones, rendered a verdict that she came to her death by heart failure, or clotted blood in the heart, on Nov. 1, 1899, between the hours of 9 a. m. and 12 p. m. of the same date. The jury consisted of Nate Sunley, Jas. Sample and C. C. Wilkinson.

Mrs. Mary Emerson received a letter yesterday from her son, John, who recently returned from Cape Nome, Alaska, and who is at present in San Francisco, Cal., saying that he had secured a position with the Union Iron Works of the city and would spend the winter there. Mr. Emerson intends to return to Cape Nome in the spring.

At an adjourned meeting of the city council last evening an ordinance was introduced by which the tax of the wholesale liquor dealers of the city will be reduced to \$600 instead of \$1,800 as at present, and at the same time levying a \$500 tax annually on all storage houses where beer liquors are kept, and limiting the quantity of liquor a wholesaler shall sell. Hereafter the wholesaler has been permitted to sell any quantity larger than a drink, but according to the new ordinance he cannot sell spirituous liquors in less quantities than one gallon, and fermented in less quantities than one quarter of a barrel or two dozen quart bottles in a case or one and one-half pint bottles in a case at one time. The ordinance was presented by Alderman Keefe, who merely stated the object of it, without reading it in full, and on his motion, the ordinance was referred to the council as a committee of the whole.

Alderman Hoglund in referring to the financial condition of the city, reported that the total indebtedness had been reduced \$26,875.29 since April 1, and on motion of Alderman Hoglund the city auditor was authorized to destroy all canceled warrants and bonds of the city from that date.

From Wednesday's daily. Mrs. E. Dorothy went to Blakesburg this morning on the Milwaukee to visit her daughter, Mrs. N. Comous.

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Taylor went to Chariton yesterday afternoon to visit at the home of Mrs. Taylor's brother, J. M. Boyles.

Mrs. E. Doty, of Blakesburg, arrived on the Milwaukee last evening for a visit at the home of her son, Chas. C. Doty, 610 West Second street.

Mr. and Mrs. N. L. Calhoun, of Birmingham, were in the city this morning, and departed on the Milwaukee for Keosauqua Springs, Mo., for an extend-

ed pleasure trip. Mr. Calhoun is a stock shipper, of Birmingham, and is well known in this city.

Mill White, Morgan Griswold, Church Porter and several other sportsmen went on a hunting expedition today, but it is said around the court house that the main object was to invite themselves to dinner with Norman Reno, near Agency.

Mrs. H. H. Caughlan met with a painful accident this morning from which she will be confined to her home several days. She stepped on an open knife with her bare foot, the blade penetrating the member one and a half inches, producing a most painful wound.

The death of Eunice E. Shrieve, wife of J. S. Shrieve, now deceased, occurred at her home, two miles west of Ottumwa, at 10:30 o'clock this morning, of heart disease. The deceased was born near Bridgeport, Ohio, and was 58 years old. Five children are left to mourn their loss.

Though it frequently happens that the joke is on the newly married, the tables were turned this morning, when Dr. and Mrs. Sim Chaney Brown, who were married at 10 o'clock at the home of the bride's father, Dr. C. C. Warden, quietly drove to their home at Eddyville, while a party of young people were waiting at the train, armed with rice and old shoes, for the bride and groom to appear. As the Courier goes to press it is reported that some of the party at the station are waiting yet.

At the home of the bride's father, Dr. C. C. Warden, on East Court street, at 10 o'clock this morning, occurred the marriage of Miss Martha Virginia Warden and Dr. Sim Chaney Brown, of Eddyville. This was a quiet, simple wedding, witnessed only by relatives and near friends. The ceremony was performed by Rev. J. Hollister Lynch, of Trinity Episcopal church. The mantelpiece in the parlor, before which the bride and groom stood, was banked with white chrysanthemums and ferns. White ribbons were stretched from the hall arch, forming an aisle through which the bridal party passed. These ribbons were held by little Miss Charlotte Jane Warden and Master Frank Warden Racine, the only attendants. The bride wore a tailor-made gown of rich dark brown camel's hair, with front of white taffeta and real old lace. She carried pink roses. After the ceremony two-course refreshments were served. The dining room was done in pink and white. In the center of the table was a large vase of pink chrysanthemums, on a centerpiece of pure white. White satin ribbons extended from corner to corner and crossed in the center. Strewed over the white cloth were sprays of ferns. Throughout the room were vases of chrysanthemums, and ferns and palms. Mr. and Mrs. Brown left for their future home in Eddyville on the noon train.

The bride is the youngest daughter of Dr. C. C. Warden. She has lived in Ottumwa all her life, where she has many relatives and any number of friends. She is a member of Trinity Episcopal church and is well known in musical circles. She comes of one of Wapello county's best known and oldest families, her father being the first physician to come to Ottumwa and settle here. Dr. Brown is well known in Ottumwa, having many friends here. He is a dentist at Eddyville with a large practice.

From Thursday's daily. A. W. Duncan, of Batavia, was in the city last evening enroute to San Francisco on a pleasure trip.

A marriage license was issued today to John Barnes and Miss Jennie Watson, both of Blakesburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gardner, of Lucas are visiting at the home of J. T. Pierce, on East Second street.

Mr. and Mrs. Alma Tinsley, of Batavia, are visiting in the city at the home of H. F. and Z. T. Tinsley, on Adella street.

Mrs. R. Williams, of Foster, was in the city this morning enroute home from Keokuk after a visit with her sister, Mrs. Abe Long.

Misses Mary and Hanna Murphy went to Lockridge this noon to attend the silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. J. Pohren.

D. L. and Miss Chert Bunten, of Drakeville, were in the city this morning enroute to Bedford to attend a reception which will be given there this evening in honor of Company I, Fifty-first regiment Iowa volunteer infantry, with which Mr. Bunten served in the Philippine war.

The fire department was called to No. 717 Cherry street at 8:20 this morning, by a burning fire in the brick residence occupied by J. H. Lundborg and owned by Mrs. George. The fire was imperfectly constructed and smoke from the fire filled the attic but fortunately the latter did not catch on fire. No water was thrown and no damage resulted.

An Evening Party. Mr. and Mrs. George F. Clayton pleasantly entertained about thirty of their friends at their home, north of the city, last Friday evening. The evening was spent in an enjoyable manner and refreshments were served. Those present were:

Messrs. and Mesdames John H. Spry, Frank Baker, W. A. C. Brown, Geo. A. Wilson, John H. Fugate, Hamilton Wilson, Jos. Cothen, Luther Carpenter, H. N. McElroy.

Mesdames Wm. Shepherd, Arnold, Misses Lettie Shepherd, Alice Brown, Elizabeth Neil.

Messrs. F. H. Brown, Harvey Armstrong, Frank Mast, Roy Smith.

Do you want to save money, buy your clothing at the Palace, 219 E. Main.

Pure Gum Rubbers. Made by the celebrated Wales Good-year Rubber Co., the kind that fit and wear. Latest shapes. See Famous ad on 7th page.

Follow the crowd to the Palace clothing house big sale, 219 East Main.

YOUNG MAN INSANE.

Charles Ryan Begins Breaking Furniture in His Home.

TOO MUCH LIQUOR WAS THE CAUSE Mrs. Vanderpool, Residing Northwest of the City, Becomes Mentally Aberrated - She Was Taken to Mt. Pleasant by the Sheriff.

From Wednesday's daily.

Last evening about 8 o'clock the police were called to the residence of Michael Ryan, residing at 308 Hamilton street, by excited neighbors, where they found Mr. Ryan's 18-year-old son, Charles, breaking the furniture and otherwise deporting himself as a demented person would. He was put into the patrol wagon and taken to the county jail, and today appears to be more quiet. The facts in the case as nearly as they could be learned are as follows: The boy had been working on the section with his father yesterday, and when he came home to supper in the evening it was noticed that he was acting strangely. After finishing his supper, without a moment's warning, he began to demolish the furniture. The father was unable to restrain him, and called the police with the result as aforesaid. It was learned that the boy had drunk a quantity of liquor yesterday evening, and that is probably the cause of his demented behavior. He was in the police court a few days ago, and in no event is the boy to be released that amount. The private property of members is exempt from corporate debts and until the first regular meeting of the order the affairs of the lodge will be in charge of C. C. Powell, W. N. Ballard and J. H. Finley.

GAME WARDEN IN TOWN.

Geo. W. Delevan, Fish and Game Warden, Talks.

From Wednesday's daily.

G. E. Delevan, state fish and game warden, with headquarters at Estherville, was in town this morning to attend the meeting of the Bonaparte dam case, but found that the trial of the same had been postponed until the 27th.

Mr. Delevan in speaking of the litigation between the state and the Meeks, said that while the latter people had a deed to the dam from the state, yet he holds the title to the dam, and that the dam could regulate the fishway, and the same as had been done in other parts of the state. He also said that the Meeks had entered into a contract with the state at the time of the purchase to keep the locks in working order, and in case that were done there would be no need of a fish-way, but the part of the contract had not been complied with.

"Another thing," said Mr. Delevan, "that is an outrage is the Illinois game law, which compels the Iowa sportsman to pay a license of \$10 for each county in which he hunts. Iowa has no law of this kind and Illinois has hunted into our territory and poach upon our preserve with impunity, while the Iowa hunter must be arrested and fined. Last Saturday, Judge Kohlsaat, of Chicago, held that the Illinois law is constitutional, in a test case brought from Burlington. The Burlington sportsmen have a clubhouse on the Illinois side, and having been determined to make a test case, one of their number shot a duck in the club preserves and was immediately arrested. Judge Kohlsaat held the law constitutional and the Burlington sportsman had to suffer. Wisconsin, Minnesota and the Dakotas have the same kind of a law, and should be protected from foreign shooters."

"I have received many letters from different parts of the state," said Mr. Delevan, "in regard to the operation of fish-ways, and in all cases it works to a charm. It does not deplete the store of water above a dam, and consequently does not impair it for the propulsion of machinery. You folks up this way are entitled to make a test case, which come from the Mississippi, but which are now being stopped at Bonaparte and the state proposes to see that you get what you are entitled to."

Mr. Delevan has been busily engaged in catching minnows in the bayous along the Mississippi river to be used in stocking Iowa's rivers, and the importance of the enterprise with regard to the people along the Des Moines river was the only thing that induced him to cease his work at this time of year.

Announcement of Opening of New Line of the R. C. & N. Ry. Between Armstrong and Estherville, Ia.

On and after Oct. 18th, trains on this new line will run between Armstrong and Estherville as follows:

Going west—Passenger No. 701 leaves Armstrong 4:40 p. m., arrives Estherville 6 p. m.

Freight No. 741 leaves Armstrong 4:30 p. m., arrives Estherville 6:20 p. m.

Going east—Passenger No. 704 leaves Estherville 8:30 a. m., arrives Armstrong 10:00 a. m.

Freight No. 796 leaves Estherville 3:20 a. m., arrives Armstrong 5 a. m. All trains daily except Sunday.

These new trains are a continuation of the regular trains on the Fort City division and will run between Down and Estherville. The distance from Armstrong to Estherville is 19 miles, and the new stations between these points are Maple Hill and Luzon.

This new line offers splendid inducements for merchants and professional men who wish to secure suitable locations in a new country. For particulars address Jno. G. Farmer, A. G. P. & T. A., Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Palace clothing house big sale.

WEATHER FORECAST

Rev. Ir J. Hicks Predicts the State of November Weather.

A BLIZZARD IS DUB NEXT FRIDAY.

The Reverend Forecaster Says a Cold Wave Will Strike These Parts on November 19 and Continue Until the 23rd.

Rev. Ir Hicks, whom many people believe to be gifted with second sight in the matter of weather predictions has just issued his "almanac." It is a combination of prophecy, sermons and fairy tales that makes entertaining reading even if the prognostications are shrouded in mystery just a trifle at the beginning of each "prognosticate." The matter is fully explained, however, at the ending of the paragraph in which he jingles with the astronomical terms. "That is they may be astronomical or may not for all we know, and when he says the moon "is in apogee" on a certain date he undoubtedly means it but it is hard to believe. Readers who live on other planets will readily recognize the meaning of "a Vulcan perturbation, blended with Mercury and Mars," but we who live close to the ground are somewhat skeptical. He then says, "the preacher forecaster has a reputation among people as a weather prophet and its one that is hard to beat. The following is what he says will happen during the latter part of November:

"A November blizzard of sleet and snow over the northern half of the country about the 17th to 19th need not surprise the people. A general cold wave should be looked for about this time lasting up to about the 23d. All perishable products should be put in readiness for prompt protection before this time. Means should be had for the shelter of tender plants and shrubbery even far toward the south." It is well that the last was added as we generally bring our geraniums in the house along about this time of year. Continuing the article says: "During the Vulcan storm period, extending from the 23d to the 27th, the average precipitation and all the conditions of precipitation and storminess will return. Moon is in apogee on the 24th, at last quarter on the 25th and on the equator on the 26th. The low barometer and warmth will culminate, especially southward, in lightning and thunder on and next to the 26th, after which the high barometer, high winds and cold will rush down from the north and west. It should be remembered that marked meteoric showers are due on or about the 27th. The last two days of the month will bring return of falling barometer, higher temperature and tendency to general rain and snow."

The weather we have had from the first of the month to the present time he foretold in this way. "Falling barometer, warmer, southerly winds, ending in cloudiness and rain may be expected from the 1st to the 3d, reaching a crisis of high temperature and storminess about the time of the new moon on the 3d. Close meteoric showers are due on or about the 27th. The last two days of the month will bring return of falling barometer, higher temperature and tendency to general rain and snow."

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It is not necessary that the South Side shoe store advertise a \$4.00 shoe for \$2.48, the people have enough of that kind of shoe and are coming to our store and getting what we advertise—the best shoe for the money.

IOWA'S BIG CORN CROP.

Director Sage Estimates the Yield at 300,000,000 Bushels.

Des Moines, Nov. 15.—John S. Sage, director of the Iowa weather and crop service, predicts that the Iowa corn crop for 1899 will be 300,000,000 bushels or more. Mr. Sage gave this estimate in correcting the estimate of a prominent Chicago commission house, which gave Iowa 225,000,000 bushels. The average yield per acre is 35.5 bushels as against 34.5 last year.

Mr. Sage says ten more days of fair weather will see the whole magnificent crop in crib. The weather in October was six degrees above normal temperature and was a hummer for corn.

So far November has been of the same kind. The state is badly in need of rain chiefly to fill up farmers' wells and to store the earth with moisture for spring and facilitate winter plowing.

Iowa's corn yield, as estimated, will be 23,000,000 bushels higher than any other state, Illinois being second, Iowa ranks third in the average yield per acre. Wisconsin is first in that, with 57 bushels for its record. In Iowa the yield ranges all the way from 20 to 70 bushels.

Pratt's Colic Tablets.

To cure Colic or Summer Complaint, for impure drinking water, use Pratt's Colic Tablets. Finest remedy known. Easy to take; no breakage in your use. Price, 25c per box, at Clark & Mollison's drug store.

All clothing at wholesale prices at the Palace C. H. sale, 219 East Main.

Union Label Shoes. Bearing the union stamp, latest fall styles. See Famous ad on top of 7th page.

Big sale, Palace C. H., 219 E. Main.

CENTRAL PULLS OUT

Its Service Into Ottumwa Will be Discontinued Soon.

OFFICIALS SUBSTANTIATE REPORT.

A Special From Marshalltown to the Courier Says the Trains Will be Taken Off in the Near Future.

Marshalltown, Nov. 16.—(Special)—The Iowa Central officials here substantiate the report that the service of that line will be discontinued into Ottumwa in the near future.

[L. W. Patten when shown the above telegram said: "I know of no reason why the Iowa Central should leave this place. It costs them practically nothing to get into Ottumwa and their business is worth at least \$25,000 a year to them. No, we have heard nothing of it and if it were true we would certainly have heard something of the matter."]

I. O. O. F. ANNIVERSARY.

Old Fellows Will Celebrate at Bloomfield November 30.

The Bloomfield lodge, No. 23, I. O. O. F., will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary, on Monday, Nov. 20, by giving a public reception at that place. It is anticipated that a large delegation from Ottumwa will attend. Hon. R. L. Tilton, of this city, will deliver an address in the evening. N. S. Johnson will preside as master of ceremonies, and T. D. Duke will be marshal of the day. A banquet will be served by the members of the order at Bloomfield at 12 o'clock m., for visiting members and their wives.

The program for the day is as follows: Reception of visitors from 8 to 11 a. m. Parade from hall to court house, 1:30 p. m. Invocation—Rev. T. B. Hughes. Music by Eldon band and orchestra. Address—Jerry S. Green, Maquoketa. Response—R. L. Tilton, P. G. M., Ottumwa. Recital, "Bishop Potter"—Miss La Rue Pavne. Music. Recitation, "Shaker Ague"—Miss Garnet Taylor. Music. Recitation, "My Soldier Lover"—Miss Ella Tomey. Xylophone duet—Profs. Ethell and Hazelwood. Declaration—Blanche Souger. "The Flower Song"—Helen Owsley. Xylophone duet—Profs. Ethell and Hazelwood. Music. Quartet—Garnet Taylor, Eva Walton, Eunice Bryce and Ruth Allender. Benediction—H. R. Tickett.

Graham Defeats Ford. Des Moines, Nov. 14.—Jimmie Graham, of Des Moines, knocked out Eddie Ford, of Davenport, in the fourth round, at midnight last night. Graham did not do any of the leading in the first two rounds. He was extremely cautious, but was simply studying his man. In the third round Ford butted his head into Graham's stomach and winded him. Graham's friend cried foul, but the referee paid no attention. In the fourth round Graham did his first decided offensive work, and soon had his man going. He planted a left and right in the groin, followed quickly by a left and right in the upper chest, which sent Ford to the floor. He was unconscious for 10 minutes. The Ministerial association had employed an expert to say when the contest ceased to be a scientific sparring exhibition and became a prize fight, but Ford had been completely knocked out before the expert saw anything wrong. The principals, who had been placed under \$500 bonds to keep the peace, were not molested by the police.

Becham's Pills cure Sick Headache.

Given Free. With every cash purchase of \$1.00 or over we will present you with a piece of artificial fur. Come and see it at the Palace clothing house, 219 E. Main. Something that will please the ladies during our big clothing sale.

Crack Proof Gum Boots, \$2.48. Always wear, \$3.00 quality, for \$2.48. Men's felt boots, with crack proof over, only \$2.25. See Famous ad on 7th page.

Bargains, bargains, after bargains at the Palace C. H. sale, 219 East Main.

On the merit of selling clothing cheaper than all other stores The Hub expects to build up a good trade. They are making it a success, too.

The ministers of Marshalltown have strongly condemned the opening of the opera house there last Sunday.

Read the Courier for news.

Table with 4 columns: Uneeda Blacuit, 10c Sack Table Salt, 3 lbs Hominy Corn, Grape-Nuts, per package, 12c. Includes prices for Funk Bros. Cash Grocery, The Price Regulators, and other items.

as to show the branch of the service to which sender belongs, and to be countersigned by a commissioned officer or a postmaster; and that when sent from the United States to said islands each package shall show the branch of the service to which the addresses belong.

"This order shall go into effect immediately, and rescinds all previous orders so far as they are in conflict with it."

Postmasters are directed to advise senders of such packages of the provisions of this order and otherwise see that full instructions are given for its proper execution.

"Chas. Emory Smith, Postmaster General."

SOUTH OTTUMWA NEWS.

From Tuesday's daily. Mrs. Fagerstrom and children, of Chillicothe, have returned home after a visit at the homes of relatives and friends.

Miss Agnes Smith, of Lockridge, returned home Sunday evening after a pleasant visit at the home of A. L. Waters south of town.

Ed. Hogland and Miss Lena Orngoff were united in marriage this morning at 6 o'clock at St. Patrick's Catholic church, Rev. Father Ward officiating.

Mr. and Mrs. Melle Chisman, of South Willard street, are rejoicing over the arrival of a par excellent boy, which came Sunday to gladden their home.

Mrs. Nell P. Liden, formerly of Oregon, is visiting her sister, Mrs. Myra Peppers. Mrs. Liden is enroute to Joplin, Mo., which is to be her future home.

Mrs. S. L. Woods, of Des Moines, returned home this morning, on the Rock Island, after a visit with her daughter, Mrs. Thos. Eyre, of 110 North Willard street.

From Wednesday's daily. Alice Goodall is quite ill at her home on Charles street.

A. B. Williams is building two cottages in the south part of the Dain addition.

Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Adams, of 111 North Ransom street, left Monday for Des Moines to make that place their future home.

Mrs. N. J. Peck returned to her home at Blakesburg yesterday after a visit at the home of Mrs. C. W. Derby, 305 Willard street.

From Thursday's daily. Mrs. Rachel Jones is quite ill at her home on Church street.

Mrs. Fair, of Agency, returned home yesterday after a visit with relatives and friends on the South Side.

Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlain have returned to their home at Agency, after a short visit with old acquaintances here.

Chas. Ryan, who suddenly became violently insane Tuesday evening, was taken to the asylum at Mt. Pleasant this morning by Deputy Sheriff Slaven.

G. E. Sharp, of 106 South Ward street, received a telegram yesterday from Sandwich, Ill., stating that his sister, Mrs. Maria Miller, was not expected to live. Mr. Sharp left last evening for that place.

NEW POSTAL ORDER.

Pertaining to Mailing Gifts and Souvenirs and Postal Packages.

Postmaster A. W. Lee is in receipt of order No. 718 from Postmaster General Charles Emory Smith, relative to mailing gifts or souvenirs by persons in the United States service, military, naval or civil, in Porto Rico, Guam, the Philippine Islands, Hawaii or Cuba, to members of their families in the United States and unsealed packages of mail-matter of the same personal character sent from the United States.

The Order. "Office of the Postmaster General. "Washington, D. C., Nov. 10, 1899. "Order No. 718.

"In pursuance of the President's order of November 4, 1899, unsealed packages and parcels of mail-matter containing only articles designed as gifts or souvenirs and with no commercial purpose and not for sale, sent by persons in the United States service, military, naval, or civil, in Porto Rico, Guam, the Philippine Islands, Hawaii, or Cuba, to members of their families in the United States; and unsealed packages of mail-matter of the same personal character, sent from the United States to officers, soldiers, sailors, and others in the public service in said islands shall be transmitted through the mails and delivered subject only to domestic postal rates and regulations, provided, that no such package shall exceed four pounds in weight, and each shall be endorsed on the outside in a conspicuous place, with the word 'Gift' or 'Souvenir' or the equivalent thereof; and that when sent from said islands to the United States each such package shall be so marked