

## EDITORIALS.

## POSTAL CARDS.

ACCORDING to the *Journal of the* (Philadelphia) *Franklin Institute*, the idea of postal cards is attributed to Dr. Emanuel Hermann, professor in the Vienna Military Academy.

They were introduced in England in 1870, price one half-penny. Their average circulation has risen to 1,500,000 a week. The number of letters posted has increased notwithstanding. In 1870 863,000,000 letters were carried in Britain, and in 1871 the number was 915,000,000.

The cards were first used in Germany in July, 1870, at one groschen (2½ cents), the same as letter postage. The price of the cards was reduced one half, July 1, 1872. The letters posted in 1870 were 205,000,000, those in 1871 numbered 240,000,000.

In Switzerland the cards were introduced Oct. 1, 1870, at five centimes (one cent). In 1871 the cards sent were 1,713,710. The letter post increased from 20,478,844 in 1870 to 25,563,351 in 1871.

Belgium had cards July 1, 1871, at the same price as in Switzerland. The system was first local, afterward general. The letter post has steadily increased.

Germany, Switzerland and Belgium have double postage cards, or the single card with another prepaid card attached for the answer.

Norway has had cards since Jan. 7, 1872, first sold at nine skillings (2.9 cents), afterwards at two skillings for use in the same postal district. Results generally satisfactory.

In Sweden the cards were first sold at twelve ore (3½ cents), afterwards at ten ore (2.8 cents).

In Denmark the cards were adopted April 1, 1871. Price of general card four shillings (2.4 cents), of district card half that price.

The cards were introduced in Russia Jan. 1, 1872. Price of general card five kopecks (4 cents), of district card three kopecks (2.4 cents).

In Austria the cards were adopted in 1869, and sold at two kreutzers (1 cent.) the first year 8,000,000 cards were sold.

Spain, Greece, Portugal and Italy are to have postal cards. Of the powers of Europe, Turkey alone cannot see the advantages of the postal system.

Postal cards were introduced in France about two years ago. They are sold at five centimes (1 cent).

## A PHASE OF CRIMINAL EPIDEMICS.

AN eastern exchange, commenting upon the presumed epidemic character of crimes, suggests that just now personal outrage to females seems more frequent than any other crimes of similar heinousness, notwithstanding the frequent lynching and other methods of summary punishment which follow many of the offenders.

It is a questionable point whether or not there are crimes as heinous as these criminal assaults upon "females," that is, women and girls. So long as purity and honor are considered dearer than life, many persons will hold these outrages to be the most heinous of crimes, and will be apt to visit the perpetrators of them accordingly. As to the prevalence at this time of such crimes, it is what might have been expected. The newspapers are full of details, highly suggestive to a prurient imagination, concerning the nasty Brooklyn business, and a large portion of humanity take their cue or their license from the actions or supposed actions of those who, in some sort or other, are considered pillars or leaders of society. These facts are sufficient to account for any such epidemic of these gross cases, as well as the unwonted prevalence of lapses from virtue not characterized by violence.

A HUMAN WHIPPLE TREE.—As Mr. Mosher was driving "Joe Ripley," on the last day of the races at Lowell, and had reached the half-

mile pole, one of the traces broke. The driver reached down and secured the end of the trace, keeping his horse down to its work, acting as the other end of the whipple-tree throughout the heat, and winning it in 2.39.

## INPECUNIOUS KANSAS.

BLEEDING Kansas goes a begging for a few rifles and cartridges to defend herself from the Indians. She asks her venerated uncle for a small advance on account, a mere trifle of 2,000 carbines and 100,000 cartridges, and uncle looks serious, closes his teeth firmly, and says no, because the applicant has not paid for the last 500 carbines and 50,000 cartridges he supplied. So poor, poverty-stricken Kansas must defend herself as best she can with the 500 carbines already drawn but not paid for, or apply to some other quarter for a loan.

What a thing it is to have neither carbines nor cartridges in sufficiency, nor money nor credit to procure more with? No wonder that the Benders are still at large. No wonder that sons of insolvent and creditless Kansas run over to solve it and creditless Utah to endeavor to make a raise, and, if they can't raise money or credit, to "raise h—l." But if the majority of the Kansans are of no better a class of humanity than certain of them that have stolen over here, there can be no wonder at all why Kansas does not pay her debts, and why she can't have any more credit extended to her, not even in the exigency of an Indian invasion. Some of her representatives here cannot be trusted out of sight, and they need to be sharply looked after while they are in sight. If people wish to have credit, they must do things worthy of credit.

SCANDAL CATCHING.—In addition to the Glendenning-Pomeroy business, a St. Louis paper contains a St. Joe sensation about a fall from grace and from practical celibacy by a tall, fine-looking Roman Catholic priest, in charge of a church of that religious society. The "victim" is said to be a farmer's daughter residing in the vicinity, and twenty-one years old, the evidences beginning to reveal themselves. Some of the members want the priest to leave, but "a wealthy, high-toned lady," who is one of the principal members, puts her veto upon that suggestion, and the handsome priest remains before the altar. A contemporary is anxious to know whether the erotic gentleman will be cast out or whitewashed, and hints that this is an unlucky year for wolves in sheep's clothing, and there is no telling how many more are hanging to the "sharp and ragged edge of despair," and "even wishing they were dead."

Germany also can boast a scandal of the Brooklyn type. The Rev. August Kapff, an eloquent and famous preacher of Stuttgart, and president of a Protestant diocese, is accused by Frederick Amann after the Tilton style, Amann urging that his wife "is a poor, religion-struck creature, who fell not knowing what she did," and having immense confidence in Kapff. Fraw Armaun, becoming insane, has been sent to an asylum, while Parson Kapff first was silent, then he denied the charge, then asked and obtained an investigation. As in America, the papers and the public are divided in opinion upon the subject. Verily, in too many instances, woman is weak and man is wicked.

TOUCHED BOTTOM.—There are reports, both by telegraph and mail, of indications that in England the dull times have reached the dullest point, and that a change for the better is naturally the next change. The *Economist* says that no further reduction in values is looked for, the iron and coal trades excepted; but, even in these trades, causes are said to be in operation which will be likely before long to reduce the prices of

the commodities named to the general average, and thus afford adequate relief to the industrial and commercial world.

It may be reasonably expected that the revival of business in England will correspondingly affect the commercial interests of this country. There has been here, as well as over the water, a serious shrinkage in material values the last year, and one can at least reasonably hope that an improvement in business and a consequent increase of many values in this country will not be long behind the indicated early improvement in these things in Europe.

McCULLOUGH IN THE SURF.—The New York *Sun* of Aug. 17 says that the day previous John McCullough, the tragedian, Harry Palmer, the manager, and Col. Geo. H. Butler, visited Coney Island to take a surf bath. The surf was heavy, and the undertow took McCullough off his feet and plunged his head into the sand. Mr. Palmer "managed" the rescue by screaming from a sand hill, "A thousand dollars to any one who will save McCullough's life!" Col. Butler helped McCullough to place himself right side up and walk out of the sad sea waves to the beach.

THE WOOLWICH BIG GUN.—The eighty-ton gun, in course of construction at Woolwich, England, is expected to cost about \$42,000. It will be a fearful engine of destruction. Its powers are thus stated—"With a sixteen-inch projectile, weighing 1,650 pounds, and a maximum charge of 300 pounds of powder, it will pierce the best iron plates, twenty inches thick at 500 yards, sixteen-inch plates at 5,300 yards, and will pitch a sixteen-inch shell into a ship or fortress at a distance of 10,300 yards." Five thousand three hundred yards is three miles and twenty yards, and 10,300 yards is 260 yards less than six miles.

STEAM CANAL BOATS A SUCCESS.—Steamboats for canals appear to have become established institutions, and in New York State are said to be driving horses from the canals. Although freights as a rule are dull, "the canal steamers are embarrassed with freights offered." A Utica paper gives the following statement of the time and profit of the steamers *City of New York* and *Baxter* on their first round trips for the present season—*City of New York*, 14 days, profit, \$445.29; *Baxter*, 14 days, profit, \$314.17; *City of New York*, 15 days, profit, \$319.75; *Baxter*, 16 days, profit, \$385.73.

The Baxter Company are building new steamers for canal work, as freights yield a profit to steamers, although they are too low to pay the expenses of horse-power boats.

THE ARKANSAS TRAVELLER.—Most of the papers we lay hold of have something about the "Arkansas Traveller," so we say a word about him to get rid of the subject, that it may not be poked in our face all the time.

According to the Little Rock *Gazette*, Col. Sandy Faulkner died at that place Aug. 4. He was born at Georgetown, Scott County, Ky., March 3, 1804, went to Arkansas in 1829, settled in Chicot County, on the Mississippi, as a cotton planter, and took up his residence at Little Rock in 1869.

Col. Faulkner was the original personator of the "Arkansas Traveller," of which fact he was proud.

The *Gazette* says—

"The story, it is said, was founded on a little incident which occurred in the campaign of 1840, when he made the tour of the State in company with A. H. Sevier, Governor Fulton, Chester Ashley and Governor Yell. One day, in the Boston Mountains, the party approached a squatter's, for information of the route; and Colonel 'Sandy' was made spokesman of the company, and it was upon his witty responses the tune and story were founded. On the return to

Little Rock, a grand banquet was given in the famous 'bar-room' which used to stand near the Anthony House, and Colonel 'Sandy' was called on to play the tune and tell the story. When he subsequently went to New Orleans the fame of the 'Arkansas Traveller' had gone before him, and at a banquet, amid clinking glasses and brilliant toasts, he was handed a violin by the then Governor of Louisiana, and requested to favor them with the favorite Arkansas tune. At the old St. Charles Hotel a special room was devoted to his use, bearing in gilt letters over the door, 'Arkansas Traveller.'"

A NEW USE FOR GLASS.—The Wheeling, Va., *Standard* reports a new use for glass. It says, "The Kirkwood glass works are getting up a plane for coopers' use, which gives promise of being a success. Other kinds of carpenters' planes and tools are to be made and they expect to substitute glass in many which have formerly been made of wood."

AN INDIAN APPLE ORCHARD.—A correspondent, from Lee County, Iowa, of an eastern paper gives an account of an apple orchard growing in the midst of the forest, on the bank of the Mississippi, above Montrose. An old settler, who resided in this locality before Black Hawk and other noted Indian chiefs left, says—

"The honor of planting these trees lies between the Chiefs Black Hawk and Keokuk, and their respective tribes. St. Louis being the central trading point of the 'Far West' at that time, these tribes of Indians had to go there to procure supplies of General Clark, who was acting as agent of Indian Affairs at that point.

"Between the year 1795 and 1798, Red Wing, then a famous young chief, on his return from St. Louis, spent a few days at St. Charles, Mo., then a small settlement, now a flourishing city. While there he was given a few apples to eat, which he seemed to enjoy very much, and asked for some of the trees. One of the settlers procured some twenty-five young sprouts, and carefully covered the roots, and gave him the necessary instruction in planting them. These he carried a distance of one hundred miles to his home and planted around his wigwam. Black Hawk gave this as the 'true origin of the trees.' They are one hundred years old, and from present appearances will live the balance of this century."

HOW TO DRAW BONDS.—A New York paper says that it is alleged with respect to a certain railroad in Arkansas, that in order to realize the State aid the company built a section of ten miles, drew the bonds thereon, took up the rails and re-laid them on the next section, and drew another installment of bonds, and so on, till its whole quota of bonds had been drawn, and no road built—the venal State authorities conniving at and probably participating in the fraud.

That is a strange statement, but it seems to be fairly indicative of the corruption in high places that is gnawing like the canker at the vitals of the nation and eating out its life. It is the sort of thieving trickery we should be likely to see in Utah if the carpet-baggers had their way.

TOO INTIMATE.—The Cleveland *Leader* has a dispatch from Washington that says the new secret service system will require its chief to be located in Washington, that agents of the service will be assigned to certain districts in which to operate, and that from time to time they will be transferred from one district to another, so that they may not become too friendly with counterfeiting gangs, as an intimate acquaintance with counterfeiters leads to bad results.

This is a deliciously cheerful confession. It really does seem that American official life has become peculiarly susceptible to corrupting influences, that this susceptibility very often leads to bad results, and

that if all these things be not effectually checked the decline and fall of this great republic is not very far distant.

WHIPPED BY WOMEN.—The following, from a western paper, is too good to lose—

"NEWARK, N. J., August 23.—At 10 p. m. last night Miss Teresa Tighe, accompanied by her mother, on her way home between East Newark and Kerney, was knocked down by a man, McGrath, whose intentions were obvious. A determined resistance by both women prevented him accomplishing his purpose, but ten minutes later a cry was heard further up the road, and on hastening to the spot it was found that he had violently assaulted a Mrs. Ritter. She successfully resisted him until the arrival of Mrs. Tighe and her daughter, when the women gave him a sound thrashing and then handed him over to an officer."

That is a good way to serve rascals of that class. Mercy or leniency is thrown away upon them. They richly deserve all the punishment they get for their villainy.

OFFICE-SEEKING PRESSURE.—An exchange says that a strong pressure is being brought to bear upon Gen. Spinner for the appointment of five ladies in his office as assistants, and that some members of Congress have hinted to the General that unless he appoints their proteges, he will find it difficult to obtain appropriations for his office.

That's the way, Mr. Spinner, unless you give your appointments to our friends, we will stop your supplies. That's the language of political corruptionists, carpet-baggers, and like scum.

A RICH MINE.—The Arizona *Miner*, of August 22, reports a claim of Storer Bros., on a ledge in Sacaton District, south of the Gila River, a specimen of which, as large as a billiard ball, was composed mainly of silver. The streak from which it was taken is eight inches thick and has yielded at the rate of \$15,000 of silver to the ton. Storer Bros. were sending a ton to San Francisco, which ought to yield \$20,000.

WHAT TO DO WITH THEM.—Our fellow-citizens east of the mountains, who have been afflicted with the grasshopper, should read the following hints, as to what to do with the insect, from Packard's "Half-hour Recreations in natural history"—

"The inventive genius of our farmers will easily suggest methods of gathering these insects by the bushel, when they can be thrown into hot water and fed to the swine. An entomological friend has found by his own experience that roasted grasshoppers are excellent eating—'better than frogs.' Only let some enterprising genius of the kitchen once set the example of offering to his customers roasted grasshoppers, rare done, and fricasseed canker worms (for we have it on the word of an entomologist that caterpillars are pleasing to the palate of man), and these droves of entomological bees will perchance supplant their vertebrate rivals at the shambles, and instead of cattle fairs, we shall have grasshopper festivals and county caterpillar shows."

A California exchange does not approve altogether of these suggestions, and thus remarks upon them—

"The unfortunate part of the business is that the swine would not be fit to eat afterwards. No insectivorous bird or beast is good until it has been fattened upon a purely vegetable diet. The eggs of the common barn fowl becomes uneatable if the hens be fed chiefly upon insects, although indeed they are mightily fond of them, and will clear a ploughed field of all kinds of larvae in no time. The turkeys that ate up the army worms at Sacramento the other day will not be rid of the flavor for two months clear—a lease of life, by the way, which they have richly earned; and all birds fed upon in-