

upon two persons since I left the city, and one of these was from pain from the bite of a dog; the other from over exertion and loss of strength;—they were immediately relieved. How different from times at Nauvoo!

GEO. A. SMITH.

*Cheap Postage triumphant in the House of Representatives.*—

We are happy to have it in our power to inform our readers, this morning, that postage reform has at length been carried in the house of representatives. The reduction on the rates is not so much as we were in favor of; but we are satisfied, for the present, with the reform that has been made. There is no doubt but that the house bill will be sanctioned by the senate. The bill directs that the postage hereafter shall be as follows:

On letters, irrespective of distance, weighing half an ounce, 3 cents; and every additional half ounce, or fraction of half ounce, to be charged 3 cents additional. On printed matter of no greater weight than two ounces, one cent is to be charged; bound books, weighing no more than thirty ounces, to be deemed available matter. Newspapers, delivered within the state, are to be charged with half of the foregoing rates. No postage is to be charged on newspapers delivered within the county in which they are published, nor within thirty miles of the place of publication; and a deduction of fifty per cent on the postage of magazines is to be made when it is pre-paid. In order to furnish a convenient coin for post office purposes, three cent pieces, to be composed of three-fourths silver and one-fourth copper, are to be made at the mint, to counterfeit which will be punished by fine and imprisonment. There is also a change made in the publication of uncalled for letters. The new law directs that letters that may be uncalled for two weeks shall be published but once, instead of three times as at present. There is another feature of this law which will commend it to general favor, viz: the establishing of penny post offices in the large cities, on the English plan.

This will be a great accommodation. The present bill appropriates the sum of a million and a half of dollars to provide for any deficiency that may arise in consequence of the reduction of postage. On the whole, the bill is very good, and we have no doubt it will be acceptable to the public generally. It was carried by a vote of 130 to 75.—*N. Y. Herald* January 18.

✍ The National Intelligencer of the 8th Jan., says:

We have had put into our hands a copy of a work just published in London, entitled, "*Britain redeemed, and Canada preserved*," by F. A. Wilson, K. L. H., G. S., and Alfred B. Richards, Esq, barrister at law at Lincoln's Inn. It is a handsome octavo of 556 pages, with illustrative plates, and a map of North America down to the 40th degree of north latitude, on which is delineated the project of a railroad, across Nova Scotia and the Canadas, from Halifax to the Pacific, terminating at Puget's Sound, opposite the Island of Vancouver, the estimated length being 2,800 miles, of which 400 miles, from Halifax to Quebec, is already surveyed and in course of execution. The remaining 2,400 miles is marked out in nearly a straight line from Quebec to the Pacific terminus, meeting, as alleged, with no other obstacle but the Rocky Mountains, which, it is claimed, may be passed by detours through the defiles, or tunnelled where it may be necessary. The ability of the work is transcendent and the plan, bold, impressive, and imposing. It will, no doubt, command the earliest attention of British statesmen.

✍ AERIAL NAVIGATION.—Mr. John Wise, of Lancaster, Pa., well known through the *Scientific American*, has presented a memorial to Congress, asking an appropriation of some twenty thousand dollars, to enable him to construct a balloon, 100 feet in diameter, which shall have the power

of elevating 16 tons. He states that he has demonstrated to his own satisfaction, and is prepared to demonstrate to the world, that balloons may be made useful and practicable for the transmission of mails and the transportation of passengers. That they can be made even more servicable in war than in peace. He will elevate a balloon at any place designated, above the reach of gun-shot, from whence he can discharge missiles of such a destructive character, as to annihilate any fleet, fort, or army which may be beneath it. —[*Scientific American*.]

Henry M. Paine, at Worcester, has received by the last steamer from England, his letters patent, which secure to him and his associate the benefits derived from his grand discovery by the people of Great Britain.

✍ There is greatly increased agitation in England and Scotland in regard to the anti-Popery movement, and the *London News* asserts that the Attorney General is preparing a bill to make penal the holding of English titles by the Catholic clergy, and the *Times* significantly remarks that Dr. Ullathson is the first, as he will assuredly be the last Bishop of Birmingham.—[*N. Y. Herald*.]

STOVE CEMENT.—Cracks or joints in a stove may be easily closed in a moment, with a composition consisting of wood-ashes and common salt, made into a paste, with a little water, plastered over the crack. The effect is equally certain whether the stove be hot or cold.

SIGNIFICANT ITEM.—The report of the postmaster general states the whole amount of revenue in that department, from fines, for one year, as thirty-eight dollars.

An Irishman, who was night-sighted, about to fight a duel, insisted that he should stand six paces the nearest his antagonist.