

## EDITORIALS.

## COLORED CANDY.

In another column will be found a communication from a practical confectioner, on the subject of coloring matter in candy, the injurious effects of some of which we pointed out a few days ago. The letter contains some recipes recommended by a celebrated eastern confectioner, and in extensive use in the trade. It will be seen that in the most harmless of the preparations there is a quantity of alum; in others a solution of tin, or of green vitriol, also a quantity of sal ammoniac.

However minute the particles of these substances which enter into the composition of a piece of colored candy may be, we think no careful parent desires to buy such stuff for the children to eat. The fact that coloring solutions are concocted for sale and used by confectioners, should be well understood, and the candy makers ought to learn something of the nature and effects of the ingredients with which they tint their goods. They may be unconsciously scattering the seeds of sickness and the germs of death, and while aiming to sell sweets, be unintentionally distributing grains of disease, and poisoning the delicate bodies of the little children.

We expressed our opinion in writing on this tinted poison and colored death, that some of our home candy makers have been using aniline for coloring matter, because it is cheap. We are informed that our suspicion was well founded. Also that similar adulterations to those adopted in the East are not unknown in Utah. Inferior sugar is used, the impurities of which have been explained in the NEWS. If the sugar of which candy is made is tainted with muriate of tin, and the matter with which it is colored contains more tin, besides alum, salts of tartar, etc., there is no wonder that children have been seriously injured by devouring such a mess of stuff under the name of candy.

We repeat our advice to those who buy sweets. Don't take any candy that is colored at all. Let the demand for the tinted abomination cease and the supply will fail. Get the clear sugar-hued confectionary or none. Who wants *terra alba* in the form of white lozenges, any more than aniline, or a solution of tin, or a lot of alum in a prettily colored piece of fancy candy? A moderate quantity of pure candy made from good sugar, will not, generally, injure the little folks. But the lovely violet, rich cochineal, brilliant carmine or radiant rouge colored deception, is painted pain and death disguised. Let the public stamp out the evil by rejecting the attractive but utterly useless delusion, and thus save themselves from trouble and their darlings from sickness, suffering and perhaps fatal distress.

## THE "LETTER EXPRESS" DISPUTE.

The principal papers of the Pacific Coast have been showing up the errors into which the Commission has fallen, which was appointed by the Postmaster General to examine into the operations and effect of the "letter express" business of Wells, Fargo & Co.; and the great benefit of that world-famed carrying company, to the whole region of the West in particular, and the entire country in general, is recognized by every journal of importance.

We cordially add our word to the great mass of testimony in favor of the firm, which has done immense and incalculable good by its efficient express system, the only means by which hundreds of newly formed towns and mining camps have been kept in communication with the civilized world. The business of this firm is recognized throughout the West as wonderful in its completeness and admirable in its reliability. And the very part of its system which the Postal Department seeks to abolish—the letter express carrying—is one that is recognized wherever it is in operation as an undoubted public benefit.

The report of the commission was based on a remarkable misunderstanding of the facts. The statement is broadly made that the company carries large quantities of postal matter "on which postage is either insufficiently paid or is not paid at all." So far as we have the

means of knowing, this is certainly untrue. The company is scrupulously particular in regard to this matter. The Government does not lose anything by the transaction. On the contrary, it gains much, for the company carries letters into many places where no regular mail has been established, and thus letters, invariably stamped as required by postal regulations, are conveyed in safety, which certainly would not have been sent at all but for Wells, Fargo's express system. Of course, the company carries its own letters free of postage, as we believe every other carrying company does throughout the United States.

The conclusions of the commission, that "the interests and dignity of the Postal Department demand the immediate discontinuance" of the company's letter express business, are therefore not only illogical and unwarranted, but if adopted in effect by the Department, would work great injury to the commerce of the coast and be very unjust to the best carrying company on the continent.

## TRUSTEES' BONDS AND SURETIES.

A COUNTRY correspondent writes for information through the NEWS in regard to the sureties required for a school trustee when qualified for office. Here is an extract from the letter:

"It may save some trustee a journey of a good many miles after going to the county seat to file his bonds to learn when he gets there that he must go back to his district and get another surety, in order to make his bonds acceptable to the Probate Judge, simply because the word surety is spoken in the plural number. In a little settlement it is difficult to find sureties for all the officers if they must furnish two apiece. Is one surety that is worth thousands of dollars as good a surety as two mendicants? Must each trustee have two bondsmen? Is the penal sum of \$500 sufficient surety for one trustee?"

A careful study of the school law by trustees and county and precinct officers generally, would save much trouble and the asking and answering of many questions. However, we are always willing to give such explanations as we are able to impart on any question of public importance. The new school law says:

"Said trustees shall qualify by taking and subscribing an oath of office, and give bonds to the county in which they reside, in such sums and with such sureties as the Probate Judge of the county or the Justice of the Peace of the precinct may approve."

The sureties must be in number and probity and the amount of the bond be such as the Probate Judge or the Justice of the Peace of the precinct will accept. The provision allowing the Justice of the Peace to approve the bond meets the case referred to by our correspondent, and was made in the new law for the benefit of trustees who could not all with their sureties conveniently go to the county seat to qualify. The bond must be given to the county, but the oath may be taken and the bonds and sureties approved by the local Justice. However, it must be understood that the oath and bonds must be filed with the Clerk of the County Court; this will not require the presence of the parties at the office of the clerk.

This we think explains the matter so that all may understand, and the law obviates the difficulty complained of by our correspondent.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

He who treats when he ought to retreat lacks true moral courage.

A bride may wear a very plainly made dress at her wedding, but she wants to have it "puffed" in the newspaper.

Bishop Bedell is of opinion that if ministers would only speak the truth in funeral sermons the demand for such discourses would be rapidly diminished.

Sir Philip Sidney says: "The highest point outward things can bring us unto is the contentment of the mind; with which no estate can be poor, without which all estates will be miserable."

The disastrous explosions of dynamite that frequently occur when

that substance is used in wet holes, are explained as follows: After pouring dynamite into water the sand goes to the bottom, but the nitro-glycerine floats on the surface, and if the temperature be only to a small degree increased, explodes.

The Grand Rapids Times, a sparkling Michigan daily, says: "Masonry is being exposed at the present time—so it is said. The Masons do not appear to be troubled. The order is of age, and has survived a great many so-called exposures and very shaky people." The same may be truthfully said in relation to "Mormonism."

It is generally thought that the Atlantic cable is the longest ever constructed. This is a mistake. The largest submarine cable in the world extends along the east coast of Africa, a distance of 4,000 miles, from Natal to Aden. It is laid in four sections, so that it can be more readily repaired if damaged in any part.

John Quinn, who committed suicide by hanging, in a police station in Buffalo, a few days ago, was the leader of the Fenian invasion of Canada in 1886, and was then captured and sentenced to be hanged, the sentence being commuted to 20 years imprisonment, of which six years were served in the Kingston prison.

True charity is easily distinguished from the counterfeit article. "If you saw a poor, half starved boy in the street wouldn't you give him a part of your luncheon?" said a little girl to her big brother of nine. "No, sis," was the reply, "but I should be willing, I think, to give him some of yours." That kind of charity abounds in these latter days.

Reports from the most trustworthy sources show that the famine in Brazil, and the distress in consequence, far exceed the calamities in Ireland, which have properly excited the sympathies of the world. Reports from the famine district state that 200,000 people have died of starvation and 300,000 of pestilence. Here certainly is an occasion for the humanity of the rich and the charitable to exert itself.

The following figures are arguments either in favor of insurance or against the American fashion of erecting so many combustible buildings: The losses by fire in the United States and Canada during the past five years have been \$412,759,735. The cost of sustaining insurance companies during those years has been \$150,000,000, and the cost of fire departments is estimated at \$125,000,000, making a total of \$687,759,735, or nearly one-third of our national debt.

"One by one the roses fade." And every little while some old tradition falls to pieces. German archaeologists now assert that the Greeks possessed no wooden tubs, which are a comparatively modern invention, their washing being done in earthenware vessels; and that the celebrated so-called tub of Diogenes was undoubtedly, one of the great wine jars then somewhat in use. He must have placed it lengthwise when he wished to lie down in it, and upright if he desired to stand or sit in it.

Following is a list of the names and ages of the aspirants to the presidential chair: Charles Francis Adams is seventy-three; Horatio Seymour, seventy; Mr. Tilden, sixty-six; Senator Davis, sixty-five; ex-Governor Parker, of New Jersey, seventy-four; Senator Thurman, sixty-one; Mr. Hendricks, sixty-one; ex-President Grant, fifty-eight; Secretary Sherman, fifty-seven; General Hancock, fifty-six; General McClellan, fifty-four; Senator Bayard, fifty-two; Senator Conkling, fifty-one, and Senator Blaine, fifty.

A Philadelphia special to the Chicago Tribune says: "Catherine Carson was murdered to-night by her drunken husband. She was preparing some food for him, when he threw a coal oil lamp at her. It exploded and the woman was burned to death. While the woman was writhing in agony the fiend was dancing in glee. The deed was committed for the purpose of getting possession of money secreted on the woman's person." Now just suppose—if it were possible—that the drunken fiend had ever been a "Mormon." What a howl would go up all over the country about the "diabolical tendencies of the polygamic system"! But this case is under monogamic influence, and of

course has no bearing on any principle or doctrine.

John Bull has put a block in the way of the transportation of American live stock to England for British consumption, by exaggerating the proportions of the cattle disease and procuring the passage of laws to obstruct the traffic. But Brother Jonathan has always a way out of a difficulty. The beef will go all the same. The favorite form of exportation will be that of dressed beef in refrigerator steamships. It is claimed that meat thus sent, because of its age, is more juicy and tender than that obtained from a fresh-killed animal. Then, too, the saving in freight is large, for dressed meat occupies but one-third of the space needed for cattle, which also are liable to meet with accident or contract disease on the way. So Johnny will be circumvented, and Jonathan will reap bigger profits than ever.

A man is not always upright because of being brought up right. All rules have exceptions.

A man who doesn't know anything will be sure to let you know it, the first chance he gets.

Never ridicule sacred things, or what others esteem as such, however absurd they may seem to you.

Choose the course you intend to adopt with calm deliberation; and when you have thus adopted it, persevere in it with firm continuance unless convinced that you have taken a misstep.

Alaska has a great navigable river, like the Amazon. It is named the Yukon, and rises in British America. At a point 600 miles from the sea the Yukon is more than a mile wide.

An eastern periodical asserts that in Spain it is quite common to preserve grafts or scions for nearly, or sometimes quite a year, by placing them in a bottle, filling it with strained honey, sealing up air tight, and keeping in a dark, cool place. This might prove to be advantageous when grafts are to be sent a long distance.

The last report of the statistics of the population of Sweden, published by the Centennial statistical bureau of that kingdom, gives the population at the close of 1878 at 4,531,863, being an increase of 1.06 per cent. for the year. The great numerical excess of the female population has been for many years on the decrease, the present ratio being about 1,055 women for every 1,000 men.

The appointment of Secretary Thomas, as Supervisor of Census for Utah in place of Register O'Neil who resigned the office, should be understood by all who desire to apply for the position of enumerator. Those who have not sent in their applications in the form published in the NEWS should address Secretary Thomas. The gentleman is in every way qualified for the position to which he has been appointed.

This is how the Harrisburg (Pa.) Patriot cruelly alludes to a performance which is to come off at Chicago in the early summer:

"In the great moral drama to be enacted by the Republican party in Chicago, next June, the *dramatis personae* will be as follows:

Father.....Mr. J. D. Cameron  
Pradigal Son.....Mr. U. S. Grant  
The Household.....Delegates to the Convention  
Fatted Calf.....Mr. James G. Blaine

The grand climax in this unusually fine programme will be the killing of the fatted calf."

There is a bill before Congress to punish adulteration of food and drink in the District of Columbia and the Territories. We hope it will pass. Among the adulterations cited in the report of the committee in charge of the bill are: White clay in candy; chloride of tin, a poison in twelve out of fourteen analyzed samples of sugar and syrup; "good gunpowder tea," bought in Washington, composed largely of Prussian blue; coffee bought in Baltimore, in which more than half the berries were colored, "to improve their appearance," with a substance yielding, on burning, chromate of lead, phosphate of calcium, and insoluble sulphate of barium. All nice articles for family consumption, are they not?

The process for making artificial stone, discovered by Ternikoff, is thus described: "A mortar consisting of equal parts of lime and sand is exposed for a few hours to a temperature of 150 degrees centigrade in the presence of water vapor. The paste having been taken out of the furnace is now passed under the cylinders of

a machine like that used for molding bricks; and it comes out in the form of cubes which, on being exposed to the air, become dry and hard. In the course of eight or nine hours these cubes are as hard as good building stones, and are fit for use. This artificial stone is, in fact, a sort of brick of mortar baked at a low temperature, and the cost, too, is about the same as that of bricks."

The late George Peabody immortalized his name by a magnificent donation, for building houses for working people in London. The number of separate dwellings occupied by them is 2,355, containing 5,170 rooms, and sheltering 9,905 people. The average rent for each room is forty-eight cents per week, which includes the free use of water, bath-rooms, laundries and sculleries. The average earnings of each head of a family residing there is \$5.95. The income of the fund is constantly increasing. At present the trustees have on hand \$870,000 to be re-invested in other buildings, for which six plots of ground have been bought, at a cost of \$500,000. This will give accommodation for about 10,000 more tenants. The whole invested capital now amounts to about \$5,000,000.

## COLORING MATTER OF FANCY CONFECTIONERY.

SPRINGVILLE, April 1st, 1880.

Editors Deseret News:

I observe a leader in your semi-weekly issue of March 27th, on Colored Candies. As this matter is of importance to candy consumers, as affecting the health of our children, a few items on the subject may be in season. I quite agree with the writer that coloring in candy is no benefit, except its attraction to the eye of the consumer, and in this the consumer is more to blame than the manufacturer, so long as it is in demand. On the other hand, advancing science is demonstrating the fact, that the most beautiful colors can be made or extracted from various plants and shrubs in the vegetable kingdom, superseding the use of the old school destructive mineral drugs. City corporations in the eastern States are taking cognizance of this fact to prohibit manufacturers from using certain colors by candy makers if found detrimental to health. Cochineal has been long in use as an article of commerce by dyers and confectioners; if there is anything poisonous in the insect itself I am not in a position to say, but will give the recipe for its preparation in candy coloring from the pen of one of the most advanced in the art as a confectioner and candy maker said to be in the United States:

For making a rich cochineal color, in answer to a correspondent, he puts it: 2 ounces cochineal, 2 ounces of cream tartar, 1 ounce salts of tartar, half an ounce of alum burnt and pulverized, one pint of water, 12 ounces of pulverized sugar; pound the cochineal to a very fine powder, then boil it with the cream of tartar in one pint of water, in an untinned copper pan, then add the sugar and salts of tartar; allow these to boil up for a few seconds, next add the alum, prepared as above, boil three minutes longer, then remove to a less hot place and let it slowly evaporate until it is reduced to the desired thickness, (this is for a paste preparation not a liquid); by preparing the above in a tin vessel, or by inserting any tin implement in the mixture, the red color will be changed to a violet. A violet tint may also be obtained by admixing an excess of alum.

To produce a carmine, reduce in a mortar one ounce of cochineal to a very fine powder, add to it three quarts of filtered water. Put this into a tin saucepan or a copper one tinned; place it on the fire and let it boil for three minutes, then add 25 grains of alum and let it boil for two minutes longer; take it off the fire to cool, and when blood warm, pour it into shallow vessels and set aside to settle for two days, covering them up to keep out dust. In case the carmine has not separated properly, add a few drops of a solution of tin, or a solution of green vitriol, which is tin dissolved in muriatic acid, or as a substitute for the above, one ounce and a half of spirits of nitre, three scruples of sal ammoniac and three scruples of tin dissolved in a bottle, and use a few drops as required. When it has settled, decant off the clear, which is liquid rouge. The first layer of sediment is Florence lake, which remove and dry the carmine for use; it produces