

**Rural Free Delivery.**

The question of rural free delivery of the mails has recently been brought to the front again by the annual report of the Postmaster-General of the United States. The system was introduced in the United States on a small scale in 1896, but it has since been gradually extended until now \$2,000,000 per annum is appropriated by the United States Congress for the service. The Postmaster-General states that rural free delivery could be established in all parts of the country at an annual cost of \$14,000,000. He believes that this amount could be made up without the necessity of additional taxation if a class of mail matter, largely of an advertising character, which is now carried by the department at less than cost, were made to pay increased rates of postage.

Rural free delivery is established in the United States in response to petitions presented to the Postmaster-General, who requires that it be shown that at least one hundred families can be brought within accessible distance of the service. Those asking for the service are expected to meet the government half way, by mending roads, building bridges over unbridged creeks and streams, and putting up boxes in which the carrier can deposit or from which he can collect the mails without alighting from his vehicle. Under ordinary conditions the route traversed by a carrier averages twenty-five miles a day, though some carriers, where the roads are smooth, cover thirty-five miles. The pay received by each carrier for a full route is \$500 per annum.

In the districts covered by the routes the small post-offices are abolished, and in this alone a considerable saving is effected. It has also been found that free delivery has led to the freer use of the mails, and the receipts have thus been increased. In many districts the service is now self-supporting. It is anticipated that with the larger use the mails a more liberal parcel post will be rendered possible. It is shown that in many cases the value of farms on the free delivery routes has been enhanced.

The conditions governing rural free delivery in Canada are much the same as those which prevail in the United States, and free delivery can be made just as successful here as there. The great obstacle in the way is the cost. But here, as in the United States, that can be largely met by making the bulky matter that now cumber the mails pay the full cost of carriage. There are also opportunities of retrenchment in other lines. Every year we pay out millions of dollars in the form of donations to railway promoters and iron smelters. These donations are largely made up by the farmers. How much better it would be if this money were spent in promoting their own convenience rather than in swelling the fortunes of the millionaires.—Toronto Weekly Sun.

**SEA-SICKNESS, NAUSEA.**

and maladies of this type yield quickly to the almost magical power of Nerviline, and if you suffer periodically from any of these troubles, just keep Nerviline at hand. A few drops in sweetened water will give almost instant relief and in the course of half an hour the cure is completed. Your money back if you do not find it so.

**He Knew His Rights.**

"Say, you let go of that!" shouted the driver.

"Don't you try to run over me!" retorted the pedestrian.

The conversation took place at a muddy crossing on Western avenue yesterday morning between the driver of a delivery wagon and a man with a basket on his arm. The latter, to avoid being run over, had seized the horse by the bridle and stopped the animal with a suddenness that nearly threw the driver off the seat.

"Keep out of the way if you don't want to get run over!" yelled the jeku.

"My friend," answered the man on the crossing, still holding the horse by the bits, "don't you know that this crossing belongs to the people of Chicago?"

"You let go of that horse!"

"Now, be reasonable, my dear sir. This crossing is merely a continuation of the sidewalk. It belongs to the pedestrians. I have the right of way, and—"

"If you don't let go of that I'll—"

"Hold on a moment. Don't get excited, my friend. The law is perfectly clear on this point. The courts have decided time and again that a person who is on a street crossing—"

"You let go of that horse or I'll break your head!"

"Be calm, my friend. Reserve your equilibrium. It is a case of Varner vs. Neber, 44th Ill., page—"

"The what?" roared the infuriated driver striking at him with his whip.

"Once more I ask you not to get excited," answered the man on the crossing, dodging the whip. "You will find, by referring to the well known case of Skean vs. Dockruss, 47th Ill., page 33—"

The driver landed his whip this time squarely on the shoulders of the argumentative citizen.

"Now will you let go of that horse?" he fiercely demanded.

"Certainly," was the answer. "If you won't listen to the law, I shall have to try another kind of argument."

The next instant the driver found himself, jerked out of the wagon and rolling over and over in the street. He was dragged through a mud puddle on his back, turned over and pulled through it again on his face, and when he was permitted to get up his most intimate creditor wouldn't have known him.

"You may climb in and drive on again, my friend," said the citizen, picking up his basket. "You don't look quite so handsome as you did, but you know a good deal more about the law."—Our Dumb Animals.

**Bright's Disease of the Kidneys**

Mr. Andrew Duffin, Aultsville, Ont., writes:—"I was troubled with Bright's disease of the kidneys for five years. I tried a number of doctors and preparations, but got no relief. My son advised the use of Dr. Chase's Kidney-Liver Pills. I got a box, and, to my surprise, I got relief at once, and am now thoroughly cured." One pill a dose, 25c a box.

**Farming in Russia.**

The Slav of Russia is today, the most primitive kind of farmer in methods and in spirit. His farm consists solely of isolated patches of ground scattered around his village, and he must travel miles to reach one field after the other. In Russia, among the peasant farmers there is no sign of improved agricultural implements, and no desire and no means to purchase them. The government not only does not aid, but generally hampers him in his development. He is good only for paying taxes, and in whole Russian provinces I have not seen one effort made to aid him in the slightest way. He is, as a rule, averse to physical exertion, and that is disastrous to good farming. The word "hustle" is not in his dictionary of life, but the word "nizhevny" which means "it matters not," is. To come from a Slavic village into a German one is like stepping from a wilderness into a paradise; and the traveller from Russia into Germany does not have to be told when he crosses the border. He sees it at once.

Wanted—A case of Neuralgia that Bentley's Liment will not instantly relieve. All dealers 25c.

**Two Different Points of View.**

"We heard you whipping your boy in the woodshed last night," said the spokesman of the party.

"Yes," replied the indignant parent, "the youngster played hooky from school, ate up two jars of his mother's jam, tumbled his little sister out of her high chair and tried to build a bonfire in the barn."

"No matter," returned the spokesman; "it is government without the consent of the governed, and we cannot permit it."

"Besides that," went on the indignant parent, "he broke three windows in my basement."

"What!" cried the spokesman; "is he the boy who did that? Why, he ought to be licked within an inch of his life! I'd like to have the handling of him for a day or so and I'd teach him to behave himself."

"But government without the consent—"

"Is a theory, nothing but a theory—a measly little impossible theory!"—Albany Post.

**CATARH NOW SURELY CURED.**

"Catarrhzone has worked marvels in the case of my little girl." Mrs. Lorenzo Orchard, Toronto, Ont.

"There is no remedy equal to Catarrhzone for Catarrh." Wm. J. Runnit, Morrisburg, Ont.

"Catarrhzone for catarrh of the head, throat and Bronchitis—has given me perfect satisfaction." Miss Dinsmore, Shuberecodiac, N. S.

"It has done more good for me in one week than other remedies have in years." E. P. Taylor, Smith's Falls, Ont. Thousands more like this for the asking; Druggists sell Catarrhzone, or we will send full treatment for \$1.00 or trial treatment 10 cents. N. C. Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont., Hartford, Conn.

**The Depopulation of France.**

M. Bertillon, the well-known French statistician, in an article on the population statistics for 1899 in France, declares that they show the country to be in the same position as a man dying under the influence of chloroform. It is painless, but still it is death. The figures from which this gloomy prognostication is drawn prove that the births for the year were 10,000 less than the average for the preceding decade. The excess of births over deaths was no more than 31,394, although the number of marriages was the largest recorded since 1876. The rate of increase of the French population has been steadily diminishing for some time, and will apparently soon have disappeared altogether. The population of the country does not now exceed thirty-eight millions, whereas that of Germany, which is rapidly growing, has now reached fifty one millions.—(St. James's Gazette.)

Kumfort Headache Powders are made to cure headache and they do it, or so many people wouldn't use them. Four in a packet 10c. One usually does the work.

**13 Running Sores.**

Mr. Stephen Wescott, Freeport, N.S., gives the following experience with Burdock Blood Bitters.

"I was very much run down in health and employed our local physician who attended me three months; finally my leg broke out in running sores with fearful burning. I had thirteen running sores at one time from my knee to the top of my foot. All the medicine I took did me no good, so I threw it aside and tried B.B.B. When one-half the bottle was gone I noticed a change for the better and by the time I had finished two bottles my leg was perfectly healed and my health greatly improved."

**The Tables Turned**

"We air here tonight," said the deacon "to make good resolutions for the new year, which has fell foul of us in the twinklin of an eye. Now, I want to start the ball a-rollin. You all know that I've got a high temper, an I've done considerable fightin in the year that's past and gone like a man that owes you \$10. What I want to do is to swear off from nghtin in the new year, which, as I have said before, has fell foul of us. But I can't stop till I lick brother Jones, cos its in me to lick him, an I wants to ease my conscience. Ef he'll just step outside with me fer five minutes, I'll lick him an then swear off for good."

They retired to outer darkness, but in less than five minutes the deacon returned, much the worse for wear.

"I can't swear off this time, brotherin," he said. "He licked me."

DON'T RUN CHANCES by taking whiskey or brandy to settle the stomach or stop a chill. Pain-Killer in hot water sweetened will do you more good. Avoid substitutes, there's but one Pain-Killer, Perry Davis'. 25. and 50.

**Dirty Weather.**

An Englishman has summed up the meteorological year of his island as follows:—

Dirty days hath September,  
April, June, and November;  
From January up to May  
The rain it raineth every day.  
All the rest have thirty-one  
Without a blessed gleam of sun;  
And if any of them had thirty-two  
They'd be just as wet and twice as dirty.

In roasting meat turn with a spoon instead of a fork, as the latter pierces the meat and allows the juices to escape.

Sportsman (to Smith, who hasn't brought down a single bird all day)—"Do you know Lord Peckham?" Smith—"Oh, dear, yes; I've often shot at his house." Sportsman—"Ever hit it?"—[Fun.]

A Sad Story.—"My boy," said the great man, "I used to shine shoes myself." "Well," replied the bootblack, "dey's a hull lot of de guys what is led astray."—[Philadelphia North American.]

Missed the Spread.—Parson Primrose—"How was it you didn't have a turkey dinner this year?" Weary Wrangles—"Cause dis wuz de first Christmas I didn't spend on de island."—[Leslie's weekly.]

Couldn't Rely on him.—"He's a most unreliable man," she asserted. "Why do you say that?" asked her dearest friend. "He asked me to marry him, and I said 'No,' and the mean thing never asked me again."—[Chicago Evening Post.]

**Heart-Sick People.**—Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart is a heart tonic that never fails to cure—is swift in its effects—goes closer to the "border land" and snatches from death's grip more sufferers than any other remedy for any family of diseases and ailments in the category of human sufferings. Gives relief in 30 minutes.—75

Sold by Garden Bros.

**BRISTOL'S BIG STORE.****JUST RECEIVED:**

Men's Suits, Top Shirts, Underwear, Jackets and Overalls.

My stock of Fall Dry Goods is nearly all in and will be complete. A nice line of Ladies' Wrappers and Skirts expected at once.

My stock of Groceries, Hardware, Lime and Brick, Boots and Shoes, Rubbers, Crockery and Glassware is very large and will be sold at right prices.

FRED. A. PHILLIPS,  
Bristol.

**DISPATCH VOTING CONTEST.****VOTE FOR YOUR MINISTER.**

The Minister receiving the most votes receives a  
**\$65 ROAD WAGGON.**

Open to all ministers of all churches in York, Carleton, Victoria and Madawaska Counties. Contest opens January 2nd and closes April 30th. Each copy of THE DISPATCH during this period will contain a coupon which counts one vote. Every dollar paid in subscription, whether paid in renewal, or paid on arrearage due, or paid by a new subscriber, counts 100 votes.

In sending your money on subscriptions be sure to give your own name and post office address and also name and post office address of the minister for whom you cast your votes.

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