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STICKERS ON GIFTS TABOOED

RED CROSS STAMPS MUST GO ON THE BACK.

Advertising or Other Matter on Address Side Makes Package "Dead"
The ban has been placed on fancy stickers by Uncle Sam. A new ruling says senders of Christmas packages are warned by the postoffice officials that if any packages are sent through the mails with any sort of advertising sticker or Christmas stamp on the address side they will be seized and sent to the dead letter office if no return address is given.

The order was issued some time ago from the postmaster general's office and accordingly many seizures already have been made. While it is unlawful to place stickers on the address side of an envelope they may be "stuck" on the back of an epistle and reach their destination unmolested, providing they do not resemble postage stamps.

Sub Train Popular.
That the new pony train is proving popular is evidenced by the large number of people who travel on it. When the train left Baker last night it carried 60 people, and brought about half that number to the city on the return trip, says the Baker Herald.

The train yesterday was in charge of a new crew which came from La Grande and will continue to handle the run. They are, D. R. Murphy conductor; G. R. Kerr, brakeman; J. L. Shubert, engineer, and F. Austr, fireman.

Tortoise Shell.
The finest of tortoise shell is said to be that which comes from the Indian archipelago, although much of that obtained on the Florida coast is of the very best quality, says the Scientific American. There are three rows of plates on the back of the animal called "blades" by the fishermen. In the central row are five plates and in each of the others four plates, the latter containing the best material. Besides these, there are twenty-five small plates around the edges of the shell, known as "feet" or "noses." The biggest turtle does not furnish more than sixteen pounds of shell. Formerly the undershell was discarded as worthless, but now it is much esteemed for its delicacy of coloring. Sometimes imitation of tortoise shell is made of the horns of cows.

A Policeman's Duty.
Some of the answers given by candidates for the Chicago police force at a recent examination were:
"The duties of a policeman are to guard the peace and limb of the city."
"If I found a man on my beat suffering with a broken leg I would ask him his name, address, age, occupation, married or single, and would then see if he would rather go home or to a hospital."
"Burglary is a crime where you crawl in a man's house with the intention of intimidating to steal."—Chicago Tribune.

His System.
"Do you count your chickens before they are hatched?" asked the visitor.
"You bet I do!" says the dealer in mining stocks and promoter of town sites. "I not only count 'em before they are hatched, but sell 'em before the eggs are laid."—Judge's Library.

A want of sympathy leads to the greatest ignorance in the intellect as well as in the heart.

A Bad Case.
The cynical man was staring through the window at the chesty man swinging down the street. "Does Chesty know anything?" asked his companion.
"Know anything!" said the cynical man. "He doesn't even suspect anything."—New York Times.

Repentance.
Sorrow for sin is not repentance. Repentance is a great volume of duty, and godly sorrow is but the front-piece or title page. It is the harbinger or introduction to it.

PAY YOUR WATER RENT TOMORROW.

CANALS IN ENGLAND.

They Had Their Origin in a Matrimonial Disappointment.

The British system of artificial inland navigation, which includes several thousand miles of canal, may be said to have had its origin in a matrimonial disappointment. The Duke of Bridgewater, the originator of the system, was engaged to be married just after he had attained his majority. A dispute arising between the couple, the match was broken off. The duke's chagrin changed the course of his life. He gave his first and last ball to the London world of fashion and then buried himself among his coal fields at Worsley. Eschewing the society of women, he refused even to employ them as servants in his manor house.

Disappointed in marrying the most beautiful woman in England, he determined to unite by means of a canal his coal fields with Manchester, then beginning its career as a manufacturing town. In those days good roads were the exceptions, bad roads the rule. The cottons of Manchester and the woolens of Leeds were conveyed from place to place on pack horses, which jogged along in single files. The freight charge from Leeds to London was \$63 a ton. When the duke's canal was finished the prices of coal and other commodities in Manchester fell one-half.

The success of this canal started the duke to build one which would connect Manchester with Liverpool. To procure the funds he reduced his personal expenses to £400 a year. So straitened was he at times that the London bankers hesitated to discount his note for £500. Sometimes when "hard up" he would send his steward upon a collecting tour among the tenantry of the dual estates. The steward would ride from tenant to tenant, getting 25 here and 10 there. When he had collected money enough he would return and pay the canal laborers their weekly wages. In a few years, however, the duke's canals paid him an annual revenue of £80,000.—New York Press.

THE WORD MELODRAMA.

Originally Meant a Play in Which Music Was Introduced.

Nowadays "melodrama" is in general use as denoting a purely sensational play, with an all but impossible hero, heroine and villain among the characters represented. Formerly the word kept more closely in its signification to actual derivation. "Melodrama" is compounded of the Greek words melos, a song, and drama, an action, a play, and was applied to two sorts of performances when it first came into use.

It signified a play, generally of the romantic school, in which the dialogue was frequently relieved by music, sometimes of an incidental and sometimes of a purely dramatic character. On the strength of his "Pygmalion" J. J. Rousseau is credited with the invention of this style. Some of the so-called English operas of the older school, such as the once famous "Burglar's Opera" and the once popular "No Song, No Supper," are in reality true melodramas.

In the second place "melodrama" was applied to a peculiar kind of theatrical composition in which the actor recited his part in an ordinary speaking voice, while the orchestra played a more or less elaborate accompaniment appropriate to the situation and calculated to bring its salient features into the highest possible relief. The merit of the invention of this description of melodrama belongs to George Benda, who used it with striking effect in his "Ariadne auf Naxos," produced at Gotha in 1774.—London Globe

Blonds Getting Scarcer.
Scientists are taking a gloomy view of the future of the blond. Not only are fair people becoming fewer, but if this is not a paradox they are also becoming darker. The future promises to bring us nothing more interesting than the "whitey browns" of humanity. To preserve our blonds is scientifically possible, but their continuance would make an end to the progress of civilization. All or nearly all the conditions of modern life tend to encourage brunettes. Before many decades have passed there will probably only be rare examples of women who are divinely fair.—London Lady's Pictorial.

Forehanded!
Little Peter had disobeyed his mother, and when, in a shocked voice, she called him to her he came running with the tears streaming over his flushed face.
"You won't," he sobbed, clinging to her hand—"you won't have to whip me, mummy, 'cause I'm cryin' already!"—Woman's Home Companion.

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