

**CENSORSHIP IN RUSSIA.**

Forging Seals on Letters and Replacing Stamps.

The modus operandi of the political postal censorship, which has for some time past been unusually active in its scrutiny of private correspondence, has not materially changed since the time when the nihilist propaganda first aroused its energies.

The boiling kettle and steam vapor application are still in vogue, except where the intercepted letter bears a wax seal or seals. To open and reclose a sealed letter without leaving any easily noticeable traces of its having been tampered with is a process requiring some little delicacy of manipulation on the part of the inquisitor.

A thin, sharply edged steel blade heated just to the requisite degree to pass under and remove the seal intact is used, but if this is done clumsily, writes the Odessa correspondent of the London Standard, then, unless the letter be appropriated or destroyed, a new seal must be made. This is effected by taking a mold of the seal with a substance whose chief ingredient is gypsum and the elaborate appliances of the cabinet now quickly furnish from the mold a new seal of the same kind of wax practically indistinguishable from the old one. It is customary in this country to attach the postage on a letter as a wafer instead of a seal—that is, the postage is placed on the reverse side of the envelope, covering the point of the joining flap.

This almost invariable custom renders the application of the steam kettle a comparatively easy matter, and if the postage be occasionally destroyed it is readily replaced by new postage of the same denomination, and the obliterating stamp of the place of origin is again applied. A suspect letter may be opened at the postoffice of its destination, but that is of no consequence, as every branch cabinet noir possesses obliterating stamps for every city and town in the empire, and should the intercepted epistle be of foreign origin the expert officials can very rapidly prepare a perfect counterfeit of the obliterating stamp.

A different process, and a very simple one, is employed when the cover of the arrested letter is of stout texture, such as the official stationery commonly used in the diplomatic and other official services, and is sealed. The upper or lower or one of the end folds of the letter is carefully cut with a narrow and extremely sharp paper knife, and the slit fold is rejoined with a special kind of very fine and strongly adhesive cement, which is of various colors to match the particular shade of envelope operated upon. The natural crease in the fold of very thick paper greatly assists the success of this process.

It was first publicly revealed some twenty years ago through a curious blunder on the part of a postmaster in St. Petersburg. A member of the clerical staff at the Quai d'Orsay had written a private letter on official paper to a friend in the French legation in the Russian capital. The envelope bore three seals and was apparently intact when delivered.

On opening the letter the recipient was astonished to find inclosed a Russian translation of the same in pencil script. The postal inquisitor had inadvertently inclosed his Russian transcript. The indignant receiver made a very strong protest in the proper quarter, and six weeks later he was politely informed that the "erring official" had been severely reprimanded and that there would be no repetition of the irregularity.

**Early Whist.**

Mrs. Hervey writes on Oct. 25, 1697, to her husband that his "four sisters have been hear this afternoon, and as they never come unattended, brought with them Mr. Ga—, Mr. Down— and Mr. Bo—. Part of them staid and played at whist (sic) tel this moment, which is past 11 a'clock."

Twenty years later (March 18, 1717) Lord Hervey, as his title was then, writes to the Rev. Mr. Thomas Foulkes, the tutor of Mad Tom Hervey, at Oxford, about that son's gambling propensities. He is to follow the example of his "good grandfather Hervey, who, pray tell Tom, never played at any game but whist, and at that only in Christmas time for sixpence a corner."

Lady Bristol was at Bath in April, 1723, and was then in the center of the world of whist. "Poor Bishop Nevell," she writes, "can scarce be reckoned among the living, being (in my opinion) worse than dead. They say he sits at Lindsey's with one to hold his cards and another to give him snuff. Paley and gont have brought him to this miserable condition." On May 1 she cheerfully informs her husband that the diversion of the evening is the puppet show. "Betty is gone with Lady Torrington. The whisksers have promised me some diversion after 'tis over."—London Notes and Queries.

**Sweets and the Disposition.**

Nothing could be said in greater praise of a people than that they like sweets. It shows a wholesome, vigorous, healthful condition, an appetite not jaded from excessive indulgence. The child whose appetite has not become polluted or calloused by false relishes, smarting sauces and burning drinks loves sweets; so does the girl of bright eyes and untainted youth, as is evidenced by her fondness for ice creams and desserts. The young athlete among men loves sweets nearly as well as does the child. But the bar-room lounge, the "cigarette fiend," the "dope fiend" and the depraved of all other classes do not like sweets. Long ago their minds and appetites lost the desire for everything pleasing to the natural palate.—What to Eat.

Notice the Pink Label.

**LOCALS.**

Wednesday was cold, rough, and snow flakes were flying.

Books, games, toys, latest novels—C. P. LONG, Spring Mills.

The Centre Hall Supply Company advertises new prices this week.

The United Evangelical church is being rapidly hurried toward completion.

Rain all Monday night and Tuesday. Snow is all gone, and the grass is green.

A ten weeks old son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hettinger, of Farmers Mills, died Tuesday of last week.

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Puff are visiting Mrs. Puff's brother, Rev. M. S. Derstine, near Lock Haven.

Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Boozer and son Shannon are attending the funeral of Mrs. John Boozer, at Osceola Mills.

Progress, Grange was represented at the State Grange by Christ D. Keller, present master of the local organization.

Messrs. George L. Goodhart and Daniel Daup are attending the funeral of Mrs. Joseph Gilliland, at New Bloomfield. They were neighbors for many years.

The local temperance wave has apparently busted. Too many pew holders are too much mixed up in the business to permit the ministers to take a free hand without danger of treading on toes. In the mean time devil will be berated for leading the sinner into less evils. Has any one a word to say?

While wheat has tumbled from the dollar price farmers are asked to consider the prices paid for butter, eggs, poultry and produce by the Howard Creamery Corporation. Remember, too, that it is a home institution, and handles your product no matter whether the price is high or low.

Elsewhere in this issue is a notice referring to an injury received by Benjamin Emerick. After suffering great pain for several days, Mr. Emerick called in Dr. P. H. Dale, who upon examination discovered that the bone had been split near the ankle to some extent, necessitating the placing of the limb in a plaster paris cast. It will require some time, even under the most favorable circumstances, before the full use of the injured member will be restored.

Rhoneymede has been leased for cash rent by Hon. L. Rhone to Cloyd Brooks, who, by next spring will have finished a two years' lease on the farm of Prof. H. F. Bitner, located on the Boalsburg road above Earlstown. Mr. Brooks is one of the young and successful farmers who began tilling the soil three years ago, and it is predicted that he will continue this success throughout the five years covered by the lease of Rhoneymede, one of prettiest homes in Penns Valley, and also one of the most productive.

**Marriage Licenses.**

- John C. Rowe, Bellefonte.
- Mary E. Armstrong, Altoona.
- G. W. Blatt, Phillipsburg.
- Nellie Moriarty, Hawk Run.
- Peter Boyer, Tylertown.
- Louisa Shearer, Tylertown.
- John L. Houtz, Spring Mills.
- Carrie Weaver, Aaronsburg.
- William B. Krape, Spring Mills.
- Margaret Stiver, Centre Hall.

Subscribe for the Reporter.

**FORREST THEATRE.**

George Fuller Golden the Blue Ribbon Headliner Week of December 26

Another bill even more attractive than last week's great offering will be introduced at the Forrest Theatre, Philadelphia, Monday, December 16, and will be headed by George Fuller Golden, who has attained more meritorious mention than any monologist on the American stage today on account of his brilliancy of speech, great conception of comedy and unequalled method of entertaining great audiences. He ranks highest amongst the vaudeville stars of the Klaw & Erlanger Branch, and this year his conversation on the happenings of the day are said to excel anything he has heretofore attempted. Liane D'Eve, pronounced by the Parisian press to be the most beautiful and best dressed singer in the land of the Fleur de Leds, makes her first appearance in Philadelphia in a complete and new transformation act of exceptional excellence. Winston's seals, the wonderful circus act with their famous riding seal, is another headliner.

Hill and Sylvan are sensational bicyclists who introduce new feats. Froisini is styled the wizard of the accordion and he has made the playing of this peculiar instrument an art. Ricoaboni's horses will be the spectacular offering. Cinquevalli, the great juggler, and the famous blackface comedian, George Evans, the real "Honey Boy" of comedy, remain another week to add to the strength of this remarkable vaudeville bill.

**Spring Mills.**

Robert Kennelly and lady drove to Tusseyville Sunday evening to attend the revival meeting held in Zion church.

Owing to the ministers of town being away holding revival meetings, the Y. M. C. A. had a very interesting meeting on the topic "Adoption."

Mrs. Lizzie Houser, wife of Howard Houser, is obliged to remain in bed, as she is suffering from a complication of diseases.

The Sunday schools of town are preparing for Christmas.

It is time that our citizens awake to the necessity of street lights and pavements. Some of the side walks are equal to the middle of the street.

The merchants are endeavoring to make this Christmas exceed all others in the display of goods.

Merchant J. R. Rishel has installed a new heater in his store.

The school bell purchased from subscription solicited by Rev. Haney has not been put up, as there seem to be no carpenters to perform the work.

Rev. Haney was the first one of our town to make use of the snow, going two evenings last week to Tusseyville. The people here are almost through butchering.

Wm. Haney was home on a visit to his parents, Saturday.

Trapping is very profitable this year. The trappers here have caught a few muskrats.

Owing to the wreck at Penn Cave station, Station Agent Campbell was kept at work very late last Wednesday evening.

Miss Annie Renninger called at the Evangelical parsonage one day last week.

Presching in the Evangelical church Sunday, 2.30 p. m.

Pink Label this week.

**...The Index...  
Bellefonte, Pa.**

**Our Big Toy Room Is Now Open With The Finest Line of Good Toys We Have Ever Shown.**

Don't be deceived by buying cheap Toys. They are expensive at any price. A toy is cheap if it gives you good service for the money. Our Toys will serve you well in this line. They look good and are good.

A Big Room full. Be sure to see them. Our other lines for Holiday Gifts are on display too. Pay a visit to the "Holiday Gift Store" as many people choose to call The Index.

**...The Index...**

**Xmas Gifts...**

**Christmas Time Means Christmas Gifts**

The saying is "Nature fits all our wants, but when it comes to Christmas Gifts we can help you out with a better and more complete line of Christmas Gifts than ever before.

A special show of Hemstitched Table Linen, Napkins, Fancy and plain Linen Towels.

**We think our China Display is a treat to all Lovers of Fine China.**

**H. F. ROSSMAN  
Spring Mills - - - Penn.**

**SHOES!!**

We are now ready to supply your needs in Footwear for school gents and ladies, boys and girls, and for the little ones. There will also be some left for the older ones to make you comfortable and happy.

**C. A. Krape  
Spring Mills - - - Pa.**

**Wanted**

**Lard, Side Meat, Onions, Chickens, Fresh Eggs.**

**Highest Cash prices paid for same delivered to Creamery.**

**Howard Creamery Corp.  
CENTRE HALL, PA.**

**Christmas Cards.**

A beautiful and varied collection of embossed and colored Christmas cards are now on hand at this office. Price five cents each, when sold singly. Six cards, no two alike, twenty cents; twelve cards, no two alike, thirty cents. These cards will be sent postage prepaid to any address. Home view cards, all different, twelve for forty cents.

**PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD**

**Bulletin**

**THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS ON THE RAILS**

At no other period of the year does home-hunger grip the human heart with such an eager yearning as at Christmas time. The lasting memories of the old homestead, the tender welcome of the older and the merry greetings of the younger dear ones, the happy reunion about the festal board, the pungent odor of the cedar, the witchery of the holly, the lurking sentiment of the mistletoe, all combine to make a lure well nigh irresistible.

It is the season of reunions and foregatherings, of meeting and parting.

The zest of travel is rife, for apart from the home-goings and social exchanges it is a holiday time for many and there are pleasant excursions to be made, where sightseeing has an added relish from the prevalent gaiety and good cheer.

The Pennsylvania Railroad is always popular at holiday times. Its system is so far-reaching, and at the same time so closely interwoven with the needs of the traveler; its trains are so numerous and so well equipped for the accommodation of every class of travel, and its ticketing arrangements so satisfying that it might be termed the Santa Claus route.

Its Limited trains carrying the highest grade of travelers, completely appointed in every detail, offer exceptional advantages to the children going home from school for the Christmas vacation. The boys naturally gravitate to such trains; the girls will find every comfort and safeguard, as well as a maid at their command.

No matter whether bound it is wise to consult a Pennsylvania Railroad Ticket Agent as to trains and rates. He can start you right; the rest will be easy.

**SHOES SHIRTS**

We have on hand a large number of the celebrated Keith's Konqueror Shoes for Men. Price \$2.50 & \$3.00

A full line of Men's and Boys' Shirts at 50 cents and \$1.00.

**Kreamer & Son. Centre Hall.**

**Lend Us Your Ear, Mr. Farmer!  
You will never regret it.**

**TELEPHONE SERVICE IN YOUR HOME  
A Protection  
A Convenience  
A Necessity.**

Rates very reasonable. Let us explain our Co-operative plan to you. Telephone, write or call upon the manager.

**PENNSYLVANIA TELEPHONE CO  
Contract Dept., Bellefonte, Pa.**

**We can suit you in Rubber Goods...**

**Men's and Boys' Felts and Overs. The Ball Brand and the W. H. Walker Goods—Best Found Anywhere. Also a complete Line of Men's and Women's Storm Overs**

**F. E. WIELAND, Linden Hall**

**THE CENTRE HALL SUPPLY CO.  
WM. F. COLYER, Manager**

**WANTED-WANTED-WANTED**

Christmas market is near at hand. Have you anything in the produce line to offer? When you are ready to sell don't forget we pay the highest cash prices, as follows:

APPLES, per bu.	60 cts.	HIGGS, per dozen	28 cts.
POTATOES "	50 cts.	CHICKENS, per lb.	7 cts.
WALNUTS "	50 cts.	DUCKS, per lb.	8 cts.
HICKORY NUTS, bu.	\$2.00	GERSE, per lb.	10 cts.
ONIONS, bu.	60 cts.	VEAL CALVES, lb.	6 1/2 cts.
LARD, per lb.	8 cts.	PORK, dressed	6 1/2 cts.

CASH PRICES AT CENTRE HALL