

OCEAN PENNY POSTAGE.

Let England apprehend her destiny and duty now, when world-wide measures are requisite for the well-being of mankind. Unless some great physical revolution supervene, to arrest or check the propagation of the English race, in 145 years it must number 800,000,000 souls—outnumbering the present population of the globe! Shall England be the centre, the soul, and seat of moral and commercial legislation of this mighty race, at such an epoch of its history? Then let her establish an OCEAN PENNY POSTAGE *now*. Rowland Hill has stated, publicly, that nearly half of the entire correspondence of the United Kingdom passes through the city of London. Let him expand the Penny Post to the compass of the ocean, and he may live to say that half of the entire correspondence of the world passes through England and England's ships to all the sea-divided habitations of men. Let the testimonial of England's debt to his beneficent genius be deferred, until the people of every clime, color, and country, beyond the sea, and the inhabitants of the far-off ocean islands, may add a world's tribute of gratitude for an OCEAN PENNY POSTAGE.

London, May 6, 1847.

ELIHU BURRITT.

"SEND THE LETTERS, UNCLE JOHN."

BY H. G. ADAMS.

Uncle John is stout and sturdy,
Uncle John has gold in store,
Mighty fleets upon the ocean,
Merchandise upon the shore;
Land and houses, sheep and oxen,
Corn in granaries and fields;
All that giveth ease or pleasure,
Or to man subsistence yields.

Uncle John has many children,
Scatter'd widely here and there,
And the language that he speaketh
It is spoken everywhere.
Wheresoever foot hath trodden,
There the sons of Uncle John
Travel, trade, and preach the Gospel—
Earnest workers every one.

On the burning plains of India,
In the far-off South Sea isles,
'Mid the sand-waste, where but rarely
Bright the green oasis smiles;
In the forest dark and pathless,
On the prairie without bound,
Ocean, lake, and rushing river,
Are these sons of Britain found.

Torrid, temperate, or frigid,
Be the climate what it may,
Daring dangers, overcoming
Difficulties, there are they.
Savage creatures yield unto them,
Or before their steps retire;
Nought can damp their spirit's ardor,
Nought their energies can tire.

Uncle John, he hath a brother,
Younger, yet a well grown man,
In the west he is located,
And his name is Jonathan;
And he, too, has many children,
Roaming some o'er all the earth;
Many more are fixed and settled
Round about their place of birth.

Sturdy fellers of the forest,
Sturdy tillers of the land,
Ploughers of the deep, and hunters
'Mid those regions wild and grand,
Where the red man built his wigwam,
Many thousand miles away
From the track of the "pale faces,"
Who now daily pass that way.

Uncle's ships are ever passing
And re-passing o'er the wave,
And our yearning hearts do ever
Tidings of the absent crave—
News of relatives who travel,
Of the friends afar who dwell;
We would know how feel they, fare they,
How they prosper—ill or well.

Greetings e'er should pass between us,
And the heart's fond interchange,
But, alas! we're needy, therefore
Distance must our thoughts estrange;
And the white-wing'd heralds, as they
Plough the waves to either shore,
Must be dumb unto the many
Watchers, desolate and poor.

Uncle John! do send the letters
By your ships that go and come,
Friends abroad would fain be writing
Unto anxious friends at home;
We would wish the absent loved ones
In our joys and woes to share;
Send them for a penny, Uncle!
It is all we have to spare.

Free as air, and free as sunshine,
Intercourse 'twixt man and man
Should be render'd, howe'er sunder'd;
You can do it, Uncle, can!
Will, we know it; see how smiling
Is your face, the while we pray
You, with hands in pockets, asking—
Calculating—will it pay?

Will it pay?—why, Uncle! Uncle!
Can you doubt it? Look at home;
See how, from all parts, your mail-bags
Daily weightier become;
Hear how all your children bless you
For the boon they here enjoy;
Oh! extend it o'er the waters,
And our eager peas employ!

Will it pay?—why, fifty letters
Will be sent instead of one;
Fifty pence for one poor shilling,
Think of that, good Uncle John!
Think, too, how 'twill foster commerce,
And all friendly ties increase,
Binding nation unto nation
In the bonds of Love and Peace.

THE COTTON MANUAL.

R. MORRIS, Esq., of Mount Sylvan, Mississippi, has issued proposals for a work on the subject of Cotton, embracing its cultivation, transportation, and manufacture. It will be divided into three parts, and form an octavo volume of not less than six hundred pages, and furnished to subscribers at \$5 per copy. The author solicits aid from public-spirited men of every profession, who can afford him information upon any of the topics treated of in this work. Devoting his time entirely to travelling in the cotton-growing States, he will be enabled to collect a vast amount of useful matter on the subject; and, from our knowledge of his industry and ability, we have no hesitation in saying that he will produce a most valuable work, and one that every planter and manufacturer will be glad to possess. The plan of the work, which is more fully set forth by Mr. Morris, may be gathered from the following extract from his prospectus:—

“In the first volume will be embraced the practical experience of the most successful planters in every section of the cotton States, from Carolina to Texas, relative to the most approved agricultural implements, soils, manures, seasons, preparation of the ground, and general progress of the planter’s business, from planting to ginning. This volume will include engravings and descriptions of farming tools, gin and press; botanical sketches of the cotton plant in the various stages of its growth; drawings and descriptions of the different worms and insects which infest it, and a mass of practical statistics highly useful to the planter.

“In the second volume will be exhibited matters relative to the transportation of cotton, whether by land or water; statistical tables of the exports of raw cotton from the United States, and other cotton-growing countries, from 1790 to 1849, and tables of prices to correspond. This volume is particularly designed to give the commercial bearings of our great staple, and will be found equally useful to planter, merchant, and manufacturer.

“The third volume, being chiefly devoted to manufactures, will contain model drawings and description of machinery for spinning, weaving, &c.; historical sketches of the progress of cotton manufactures in our own country and in others; custom-house statistics; tariff laws, home and foreign; tables of prices for manufactured cottons, and such other parts of this diversified subject as may be of practical benefit to all classes.

“A pamphlet of references will accompany the book, containing names of authors consulted, and a complete list of those persons whose practical knowledge has assisted, or may assist the author in the preparation of this work.

“The advantages of a work like this to guide the planter to the most economical method of production, and the merchant to the soundest basis for commercial dealing, will appear obvious to those who give the subject a consideration; while the statesman, the manufacturer, the literary man, and the general reader, may find mental profit and entertainment in tracing out the connection of this important staple with all the industrial arts, the comforts and civilization of man.

“The author’s qualifications for this work consist in a faithful attention to the subject for a number of years, an accumulation of important facts in regard to it, considerable zeal in literary pursuits, and a lengthy connection with the newspaper press. Personal intercourse and correspondence with planters will make up a most valuable part of his materials.

“While all have granted him every facility in completing his plan, they unite in an opinion of the advantages to be expected from such a work, and encourage him to complete it.”

 OLD-FASHIONED COMMERCIAL LAWS.

It is curious to look back upon the early history of commerce, and see the crude attempts of legislation in regard to it; and it is instructive, too, to note the tardy movement of the past towards the adoption of a more liberal and rational system.

As an example of the spirit of that period, we may refer to the portage and other duties charged in the port of London on the goods imported and exported by aliens, or by persons who were the sons of aliens. Whether it was in British or foreign ships that aliens in London carried on their commerce, the duties were higher than were laid on similar goods when imported or exported by natives.

It was only by very slow degrees that this law was modified and ameliorated. Even so lately as under the 3d George, it was with difficulty that the law was so far changed as to limit its application to trade carried on in foreign vessels by aliens, but at the same time the statute expressly re-affirmed the right of the Londoners to tax their fellow-citi-



Biblioteka Candesiana.

PHILATELIC SECTION.