

look like huge embankments, or the large mounds of clinkers seen in a manufacturing district. The advancing end of the mass is often much steeper, creeping onward like a great wall or rampart, down which the rough blocks of hardened lava are ever rattling.

Showers of dust are a conspicuous feature of volcanic eruptions, and in many instances a vast column of exceedingly fine dust rises out of the crater, sometimes to the height of more than a mile and then spreads.

Sometimes this dust cloud is so dense that the sun is obscured, and for days together the darkness reigns for miles around the volcano. On one occasion utter darkness prevailed over a circle of seventy miles in diameter, the ashes falling so thickly that at a distance of twenty-four miles, the ground was covered to the depth of ten feet.

Besides lava and dust, large quantities of water and mud accompany volcanic eruption. During the eruption of Vesuvius in 1662, a torrent of water and mud poured down, overthrowing the houses and burying the inhabitants of villages. In 1691, one of the volcanoes of Equador threw up mud and water so filled with dead fish, as to cause a pestilence. Gases and vapors are the earliest developments of volcanic action. Steam is most abundant of all, which condenses and falls as rain.

Volcanic action is either constant or periodic. Stromboli in the Mediterranean, has been uninterruptedly emitting steam and lava from the dawn of history. But the general rule is that a volcano has periods of greater or less fury, followed by intervals of quiescence.

The cause of volcanoes, like that of earthquakes, is a matter of conjecture, though scientists generally adhere to the theory, that the great moving power is the expansive force of steam.

The principle of right or wrong involved in using a postage stamp the second time should not be a difficult point to decide whatever the practice may be.

What is an uncanceled postage? It is virtually a receipt from the Government for payment of their charges for carrying a letter from one place to another.

Why is it attached to the letter? As a convenient method of showing to all parties concerned that the charges of transmission have been paid.

Why is it defaced when being used? To make it worthless to the receiver on delivery of the letter, and is more expeditious for the postal authorities than removing the stamp.

Have the postal authorities a right to deface the stamp? Yes. Having performed the work for which the stamp is a voucher of payment, they have a right to take means to prevent it from doing duty a second time when it passes out of their hands.

Have I a right to an uncanceled stamp delivered to me through the mail? No. My right begins where the Government's right ends and their right embraces the cancellation of the stamp.

If a letter is delivered to me through the post-office with the stamp uncanceled, how am I affected by it? I have then in my possession that which does not belong to me and to which I have no right. The voucher belongs to the Government after it comes into their possession on the letter, until they release their right to it by cancelling it.

If a creditor sends me five hundred dollars by special messenger, and gives the messenger one dollar for his trouble, and he unwittingly places the five hundred and one dollars in my hands, am I justified in retaining the extra dollar if I know it, and he does not appear to miss it? No. If I knowingly hold in my possession anything except what I have received as a gift, bought and paid for, bought with the intention of paying for, or borrowed with the intention of returning in as good condition as I received it, I am stealing.

Is there any difference between my using for my own benefit the dollar or stamp above referred to? Yes, in degree, but not in principle—it would be a theft in either case.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Mr. Lawson, of the Machine Shop, met with a serious accident some days since by which he had two ribs fractured. Glad, however, to see him out again.

We regret to hear that Mr. Robert Virtue and Mr. W. M. Dalton, both of the moulding shop, have had their feet very badly burnt while pouring off. Mr. Virtue's being the most serious—we hope by the time they read this, their wounds may be healed.

All our patients are recovering, we are glad to say. Mrs. Garvin, Mrs. Harmer and Mrs. Harris, thanks to the care and skill of their physician, Dr. W. W. Ogdén.

A little boy and a little girl only a few days ago—she in short clothes, and he with a face as smooth as the face of any other good little boy. To-day he walks the earth bearded like the pard, the father of a family! She, the little girl in short clothes a few days ago, now holding confidential conversations with her son, having reference to "mamma's itty tootsy wootsy—and did it tick a ittie darly parly," etc., while that individual pokes his fist in his eye and "hollers." We have not yet had the pleasure of being introduced to the young gentleman, but we are assured that he is a person of the most lofty and dignified character, whom it will be a privilege and honor to know. He is said to be of a meditative turn of mind, and frequently indulges himself in reveries of the most solemn nature, the purport of which he has not yet made public. He has on several occasions made incoherent remarks to himself, when he thought he was alone. Possibly he is trying to solve the question as to "whose baby he is." He has heard himself spoken of as "George's baby," and the next moment some one has called to see "Lizzie's baby"; and when he has bewildered himself trying to understand how this can possibly be, he has been reduced to the brink of idiocy, by a good looking middle aged lady, who bounced him up and down in a most violent manner, and called him "gamma's baby, so it was." In such circumstances of course, the only correct thing for a baby to do, is to "holler." We wish him "more power."

NOTICES.

WILLIAMS.—At 20 King St., Parkdale, on Wednesday, Nov. 18th, 1895, the wife of G. Williams, of a son.