

Concerning letters from the American side we have two things to say. 1st. As a general rule we feel free to pay all communications from our friends in the United States. 2d. Many of our correspondents there, and more than two-thirds of the Post Masters on the other side, are unacquainted with the late international postal law. Letters come to us marked  *Paid*. and the money might as well be in the purse of the generous writers and agents who send them. Why? For the very simple reason that our Canadian Government and the American Government have arranged that *the postal charge of both countries shall be collected at one office—either at the office where the letter is mailed or at the office where it is delivered.* Formerly, each Government collected its own charge; but since July, 1851, each Government has collected the charge of both Governments *at one and the same time and place.* When the law went into force, the sum of 5cts. was the postal rate on the American side, and 5cts. also our Provincial rate—10cts. the united charge, or the charge of the two Governments. Hence, then, the American writer sending to Canada, or any writer on this side sending to the United States, pre-paying 3cts, 5cts, or anything less than 10cts, may as well scatter his money on the streets, *for neither Government takes any notice of it.* The Post Master therefore who receives from our American correspondents 3, 5, or 8cts. as pre-payment of a letter to Canada, is either ignorant of a postal law in force in his own country for more than twelve months, or otherwise must be desirous of a little extra change for private use. To our correspondents on that side we therefore say—Pre-pay 10cts. or none. Send us the letters—we will pay them.

D. O.

POPULAR FAITH.—“A religious professor boasting to Roland Hill that he had not felt a doubt of his safety for many years, was answered by Mr. Hill, ‘Then, sir, give me leave to doubt for you.’”

Mr. Hill made a sharp and happy reply—strictly applicable according to popular belief; but he was nearly if not fully as far wrong as the professor he rebuked. It is not good to *boast* of having no doubt, neither is it very wise to make doubting a test of faith. To boast is bad—to doubt is bad also.

D. O.

OUR LETTER TO MR. TAWS.—The expediency of publishing our Letter to Mr. Taws, minister in King, is fully justified by a few facts. Mr. Taws, previously to its publication, was misrepresentating said Letter to ‘his flock’ and to others—since its appearance in print the honest men of King can read and interpret it for themselves. All the ministerial grace of our friend, therefore, will not save him from just exposure in attempting to put a false color upon the lines we sent him. We expected him to be profoundly silent upon the affair so far as concerns an effort to give us a word of reply. It is the business of “clergymen” to rebuke a ‘messenger of satan’ only in private and with words very like backbiting! Why is it that so few of Mr. Taws’ cloth are manful, open, and frank? Do they love “darkness rather than light” because their deeds are so good?

D. O.