

Miramichi Advance.

CHATHAM, N. B., AUGUST 2, 1894.

Exhaustion of Forest Produce.

The London Timber Trades Journal of 21st ult. contains an article on the subject of alleged exhaustion of the wood supply of the British market, which is of interest in New Brunswick, where we so often meet with the exhaustion prophets, whose predictions have been and are so much like those of their class in Great Britain. The Journal says:—

The exhaustion of forest produce (or trees do not grow in a day) is a theme still occupying the attention of statisticians, and has been worn almost threadbare by this time without any appreciable results being obtained. Years ago it was prophesied that Great Britain would be seeking in vain for good jointed wood, and a pine deal here and there in 1894, thing of the past; but here we are in 1894, some seventeen years later, and the same predictions are being made, without being at all inconvincing on the score of our supplies. Prime qualities of Baltic as well as Canadian deals are as plentiful in our markets as ever. It is true in respect to north of Europe timber that values now stand higher than they have done before in peaceful times, but this is due in a great measure to the largely increased demand from the Continent and other colonies that formerly were not factors in the consumption of Baltic and other woods, not from any apparent diminution of the forests themselves. If one wood-supplying district becomes worked out there are immediately resorted to, and considering that at the present rate of consumption it will take, so those who have studied the question say, a hundred years to use up all the trees in Sweden, the supply is practically inexhaustible, as by that time the abandoned spots where the trees were too small to cut would be again covered with matured timber. In fact, the subject is one that must be left to take care of itself, for all the prophesying does not bring us a whit nearer the end, and, very likely, our successor in the next generation who takes up the question in the Timber Trades Journal will be able to put off the final exhaustion of the supply of Baltic wood for a couple of hundred years or so, even if he can get as near as that. It must not be forgotten, in the endeavour to estimate the forest destruction, that the prices are not always a guide to the scarcity of the article, but are regulated or dependent rather upon the rate of production at the shipping ports. New mills have been springing into existence, and old ones remodelled on the newest system, with all the latest machinery and power appliances that human ingenuity can devise, so that on the supposition the woods are giving out multiplying the powers of destruction ought to be the means to the end, and prices every year become higher and higher. But the contrary generally results, for if millowners manufacture more stuff than there are buyers for they must hold stock or come down in price—that is easy to calculate. With the enormous increase in the number of mills in Russia and Sweden, as well as in America, if it had not been for other countries besides Great Britain coming forward as consumers, prices by this time would naturally have been very low. The probabilities are that with a diminished production, while it can be maintained, at the timber ports, deals, &c., will be more sought after, and a consequent improvement in value will be established, to continue for awhile, say a season or so, till a fresh accumulation of stock, or what we may term an over-production, caused by the millowners forgetting to profit by the lesson of to-day, or the erection of fresh saw-mills in a country already perhaps overdone with them, and down come prices again, and so on. That the actual exhaustion of the forests, or the probabilities of it, have any influence on the values of the wood manufactured we do not for a minute believe; at any rate it is not taken into account by consumers on this side, however it may influence the manufacturers. The trade, as most others do, adapts its wants to the article produced, and if deals or timber of one size or sort cannot be obtained, they will soon get accustomed to others which are plentiful.

His Authority:—Dr. Steeves of the Provincial Lunatic Asylum is "a person in authority," but he does not appear to exercise his real or assumed power with discretion at all times. For instance, one of the keepers at the asylum was sworn as a coroner's jurymen the other day and with other members of the jury viewed the body of the deceased person, after which it was buried, with the coroner's permission—the further hearing of the case being postponed until the next day. On the next day Dr. Steeves interposed by refusing to allow the keeper to do further duty as a jurymen. This obliged the Coroner to abandon the inquest. It is well, perhaps, that the area over which Dr. Steeves' authority extends is a limited one, as he seems to be autocratic to the full bounds of his little kingdom.

The Great Railway Strike.

It is to be regretted that the people of the United States should have to recover the use of their ordinary highways at the point of the bayonet, but it is better to recover and hold them in that way than to give up the control of them, even for a moment, to people so reckless and malicious, or so unutterably base, as those who have managed this great railroad strike for the past ten years. The example of the Pullman strike shows how false and dangerous are the doctrines in regard to workmen which have gained so much credit and wrought so much misery within the present generation. According to those doctrines, a man who works with his hands is not a man, but a babe, who must be provided with a clean house, not through the process of cleaning it with his own hands, but by having philanthropic people get up a subscription to hire some one to clean it for him; who must be amused with lectures, picture shows, and other diversions, at the expense of the public, or of amiable private persons, and whom it was right to encourage in every way to think that thrift, industry, sobriety, and self-denial were no longer necessary to one so favored, and that yelling and kicking, if long enough continued, were sure to bring him everything to which he might lack a fancy. The lesson has not been lost: the babe of the nineteenth century, trained by the lullabies of the political economists, the dandling of the politicians, and the patient indulgence of the more rational part of the community, to combine the greedy helpless

ness of the infant with the strength and malice of the man, claws every day more viciously at what does not belong to him, and tramples more recklessly on the rights of other people. In the end, these rights must assert themselves, or perish in the worst of tyrannies; but a part of the harsh lesson by which they are defended should be reserved for the moonstruck philosophers and sentimentalists who have taught ignorant people that, instead of relying on their own exertions for improving their condition, looking out only to preserve and extend their freedom to use those exertions, they were entitled to trample on the freedom of others in order to get what they wanted.—American Architect.

Preaching vs Practice.

[St. John Globe July 30.]

In Trinity Church on Sunday morning, the Rev. Archdeacon Bigstock preached an effective sermon on Sabbath observance. He maintained that the Christian Sunday took the place of the Jewish Sabbath, and that the ordinances which applied to the latter applied to the former, while he enlarged upon the advantages to man of the Sabbath as a day of rest and to the Christian of the quiet calm and peace which the proper keeping of the day brought to him. He disapproved of the turning of the Sabbath into a day for railroad and steamboat excursions and other adventures. It was, perhaps, a little singular, though possibly it was not inconsistent with his views of the Sabbath, that a few hours afterwards the Venerable Archdeacon took part in a public function of a civic, quite as much as of a religious, kind. That he did so shows that there is a wide difference between theoretical views as to the observance of the Sabbath and their practical application to ordinary life. Immediately after the dinner hour uniformed men started up in all parts of the city, in blue coats and in red, and by groups of two and three made their way to the Barrack green. Great crowds of people thronged the streets and lined those through which these uniformed men passed. There was a military display with the blare of trumpets, the rattle of drums, the music of brass bands, the march of armed men. It excited the admiration of all who looked upon it, and those who did not go on a Sunday excursion but who remained in town to witness the pageant thoroughly enjoyed it. It was a fine spectacle. And the hubbub of excitement, the crowds in the streets, the marching, the music, the masses of men and women, and children more or less noisy but orderly as all St. John crowds are, were enjoyable things, but they were hardly in keeping with the sacred observance of the Sabbath, concerning which the Archdeacon had spoken a few hours before. There was a presentation to the church of the colors of a militia regiment which has ceased to exist; in the aisles of the church armed soldiers stood with their guns and bayonets or swords, or whatever their war weapons are, in fixed array; there were speeches, and arms were "presented," after which there was a religious service, including a sermon by the Archdeacon, who uttered no word of complaint, but rather approved of all that was proceeding. It may be observed that in St. John there is a tendency towards street pageants on Sunday, and during several Sabbaths this year there have been parades of societies or military, with bands of musicians and all the pomp and grandeur which could be commanded. These have been heartily enjoyed by thousands of spectators, and probably the participants as they went to church were benefited while no apparent harm is done. But of this is very unlike the code of strict observance of the Sabbath which one hears from the pulpit when that theme is in the mind of the preacher. The fact is that it is not possible under our modern civilization to observe the Sabbath as it was observed by the Jewish tribes in their tents on the plains of Asia.

Criminal Libel.

Jas. H. Crockett, editor of the Fredericton Gleaner, was arrested in Fredericton on Wednesday evening by Deputy Sheriff Foster, of Carleton County, on a warrant issued by Police Magistrate Dibble, of Woodstock, charging him with publishing a defamatory libel against John S. Leighton, Registrar of Carleton. Crockett was taken to Woodstock Thursday morning, and in the afternoon had his preliminary examination before the Police Magistrate. The libel complained of is contained in the Daily Gleaner of July 14th. The article says that Joseph Vandine, of Centreville, Carleton County, borrowed \$900 from Overton Estabrook of York County, on mortgage; that Vandine subsequently paid Mr. Leighton the full amount of the mortgage taking his receipt; that Vandine recently discovered that the mortgage was not discharged. Estabrook in reply to the demand of Vandine who he had not discharged the mortgage, wrote he would be very glad to do so when he got his money. The article further says that Estabrook, who was only fair to assume that Leighton kept the interest paid as it came due, otherwise Vandine must have learned of the true state of affairs earlier. Mr. Leighton in his evidence in court stated he never saw Estabrook's agent, nor ever received money from Vandine, and that the statements in the Gleaner were utterly untrue as far as he was concerned. He was subjected to a rigid cross-examination but nothing was brought out implicating him in any way with malfeasance. John S. Leighton, Jr., Deputy Registrar, was called by the defence. He completely corroborated his father's statements, saying his father had nothing to do with the money transaction between Vandine and Estabrook. He (the son) was agent for Estabrook as such had accounted to him for all moneys received from Vandine. The statement in the libel as to retaining the principal paid on the mortgage and paying Estabrook interest thereon was untrue if applied to him. He had in July 1890 furnished Estabrook with detailed statements showing all the money he had received from Estabrook, and the Vandine mortgage had been paid in full principal and interest. It would seem, if any one was at fault in the transaction, it would be that Estabrook neglected to discharge the mortgage as soon as he should have done. Crockett was committed for trial in the Supreme Court which will be held at Woodstock in October. Bail was fixed at \$500, and two securities for \$250 each, and Crockett was released. S. B. Appleby appeared for the prosecution and A. B. Connell for the defence.—Herald.

American Anglers in Canadian Waters.

(New York Times.) Comment among anglers who learned of the new Canadian law was that, as a rule, there are too many fishermen at the Thousand Islands and too few anglers. In other words, any legislation that hampers the catch-for-count hog and relegates those

who consider it the aim of sport to yank our game fish without thought of ultimate ruin to fair fishing, to the surveillance of authority is wholesome. Angling among those who live cleanly, and who delight in the sentiment that it is not all of fishing to fish, consists in catching a reasonable number of properly matched pike in a manner worthy of a sportsman, in the open season, and always under conditions that will result in not a pound of fish food being wasted.

May 8 the Canadian revenue cutter (Patrol), seized off Pelee Island, and took to Amherstburg two iron passenger boats, "Visitor" and "Leroy Brooks," because their passengers were catching black bass in the close season. Another boat, the "Ina," was warned and escaped. A great fuss was made about the seizure and international complications were talked of, although it was established that the seized boats had before this violated the ethics of the gentle art, and that their passengers had defied the fish inspector to hinder their illegal recreation.

Commenting on the seizures the New York Times said: "The forty gentlemen from Cincinnati, Dayton, Springfield, and Decatur, who were the victims of this seizure, were having the forty each in fishing for black bass out of season.... and their seizure was proper and commendable."

The Canadian Government, in charging \$5 for a fishing license for three months, and restricting the number of black bass to be caught in a day, has done nothing that should make an angler grieve or rebel. The sum is small, and a precedent for its being a restriction and deterrent tax is to be found in the state of New Jersey. Formerly the Government laid a tax of 10 cents on the fisherman's rod and reel, and on Adams' view and practice, not to be expected to stand on the order of his going or coming, and to use his own expression, it is nobody's business, anybody's.

When the late Mr. Vandy was postmaster prompt attention to the duties of the office was the rule. Mail matter properly addressed always found its way to the persons for whom it was intended.

Now, it is necessary for box-holders to examine the mail matter closely, at the post office, as they take it from their boxes, in order that they may return what belongs to other people, but has, to all appearances, been carelessly thrown into the box most convenient to the postmaster when distributing.

If a citizen mails a town letter over night, by dropping it into the slot at the street door of the post office, the person to whom it is addressed does not receive it with his other mail matter at eight or nine o'clock the next morning, because Mr. Adams does not distribute town matter of that kind until 10, 11, or 12 o'clock, so that, for purpose of prompt local delivery, the Chatham post office has been practically useless since the death of the late postmaster Vandy and the advent of the present \$2,000 incumbent.

In like manner, when the mails for the Canada Eastern Railway were made up here, letters and other mail matter dropped in at the Chatham post office door during the night were not sent away in the bags which left Chatham after eight o'clock the next morning. That was too early an hour for our \$2,000 postmaster to attend to such business. What he did to make up those mails every evening and they went to the train in the morning as if freshly made up. So insignificant an amount as \$2,000 didn't pay Mr. R. B. Adams, either by himself or a clerk, to get up early enough in the morning to properly attend to his duties in connection with the mails on that railway.

The daily mails, also, on the Tracadie route are neglected. It is true, we are told, that the postmaster sometimes put mailed matter over night in the bags next morning, before despatching them, but it is also true that merchants can place no dependence in this being done, and the same may be said of the mails going down towards Ecoumance. It all depends on Mr. Adams' disposition from day to day and sometimes he don't feel like getting up early in the morning.

Mr. Adams, may, and doubtless will, answer all these statements respecting his neglect of duty with his usual form of denial, and personal abuse, but if he will ask for an official investigation we will undertake to prove them all, to the satisfaction of any one who wishes to ascertain the truth. There is not a person in Chatham who has had occasion to use the mails we refer to with any appreciable degree of continuity, but already know the unreliability with which they are handled.

It is now several weeks since public attention was directed through the ADVANCE to the matter of the incompetence of the put upon the people of the town who were compelled to come and get at the post office without being able to get their mails because of the delivery window being so frequently and irregularly closed. The facts had up to the present writing, been for nearly as long a period, known to the Postmaster General and also to the Post Office Inspector. The respect entertained, however, for the rights of the public and the reputation of the postal service by those charged with its administration may be judged by the fact that there was no reform at the office complained of, while the postmaster, who is his official signature, was allowed—perhaps authorized—to publish letters in a local paper, not to answer as to or explain why the duties he was paid to perform were neglected, but to personally abuse and vilify the editor of the paper making the complaint and remonstrance in behalf of the people.

Readers of the letters of the postmaster, while amazed, perhaps, that a person of his record should drag the ladies of the W. C. T. U., clergywomen and others into the controversy and hold them up as shields before himself and his neglect, and also, also wondered why he did not make some attempt to either show that our statements respecting his connection with the post office were untrue, or else apologise for his neglect of duty. Neither the ladies nor clergywomen to whom he refers could, for instance, endorse his conduct in closing the post office when it was his duty to keep it open; they could not approve of his going about the town a few months ago and, by stating the falsehood that he was getting less pay as a postmaster than the late Mr. Vandy had received, getting merchants, clergywomen and others to petition the government for an increased allowance; they might have been pleased when he was taken from his former occupation as proprietor and tender of a bar-room in the town, where the law was openly violated, and promoted to the position of postmaster, but it would be because there was thereby one less such place in Chatham, and the new environment might be expected to have an improving effect upon his character. His letters, like his conduct in office, however, discourage the hope that he is capable of improvement, and we are quite sure that when ladies or clergywomen are in need of a champion they will hardly seek the assistance of such men as Mr. R. B. Adams. He seems to be one of the class of demagogues who having no regard for anything save their own selfish interests and no regard for the rights of the people, will bring about a reform to account, by either domestic or social considerations from defending themselves by the vile methods to which he resorts in the columns of the World. More than that—no public officer would dare so outrage decency as Mr. Adams has

done in his letters, after so scandalously neglecting his duties, unless he were in a position to also defy the minister, inspector and others above him in the department, as well as the government itself. The fact that he defies public opinion and neglects his duties as a postmaster, and demonstrates the lengths to which men of this class will go when they think their superior in office will not dare to bring them to account. It is apparent that evils similar to those which caused a revolution in a small way in Gravesend, N. Y., and culminated in the notorious John Y. McKane being sent to Sing Sing a few months ago, and which have placed the great Tammany political organization of New York city, and also on its present trial, are now threatening to get a foothold in Chatham. New York is practically ruled by Tammany, whose leaders have created hundreds of public scandals by elevating to the best and highest offices some of the greatest thugs that have immigrated to the city, promoting them from the low saloons in which they started business and acquired the training which fitted them for the favorite methods of Tammany warfare. It is the policy of these men to grow rich on the people's money. They secure to themselves offices to which only nominal duties are attached, and others the duties of which they scandalously neglect, running fast horses, faster women and indulging in all kinds of debaucheries, meantime, and paying therefor with public money which they do not earn. When protests are made in the public interest against their mismanagement and misconduct, those who make them are subjected to the vile abuse and heartless persecution, until it has come about that they are not one of the citizens of New York city in a thousand who dare to raise his voice against the prevailing official corruption and neglect of public duty, because of the dread of the punishment with which the guilty ones will visit him. Mr. "R. B. Adams, postmaster" shows by his writings in the World that he has learned something of Tammany methods, and possesses sufficient effrontery and lack of moral decency to adopt and parade them in his official capacity, in the hope that the stench they will cause more cleanly of the community to abandon efforts to effect reform in his administration of the post office. We believe, however, that there is a sufficiently strong determination behind the complaints we have voiced in behalf of the people of Chatham, to influence Mr. Adams' employers to compel him to give a better service than he has been rendering for the two thousand and more dollars of public money that he receives. He may continue to answer the demands made upon him with the low and accustomed vilification which are his natural and accustomed weapon of defence, but in the end, he will be forced to abandon such tactics, and do the work for which he is so well paid, for he receives a much greater sum for his services than is paid to any postmaster in Canada in towns having the revenue and work of the Chatham office.

Several gentlemen who signed the petition circulated last winter by postmaster Adams' praying for an increased government allowance, say they did so because he told them that he was receiving less pay than postmaster Vandy had, while his work had been much more increased. They express surprise that a man in Mr. Adams' position would deliberately take a falsehood for the purpose of obtaining their signatures, for they all appear to think that even one of his well known recklessness would hardly dare to go to such a length in dishonesty when detection and exposure might be counted on at any time. As we have before stated, we fully believed Mr. Adams when he furnished us at that time with memoranda of the relative incomes of himself and the late Mr. Vandy, together with a statement of the contents of the water meter which he had been put upon the Chatham office after he took charge of it. He stated that the salary of the office in Mr. Vandy's time, including allowances, was \$133 a month, while at the time he was circulating his petition, with increased revenue and the addition of eighteen daily mails to be forwarded, he received only \$119 a month. In other words, while Mr. Vandy had received \$1,396 a year, Mr. Adams was receiving only \$1,428 a year. What it is known that at that time Mr. Adams was receiving nearly \$1,900 a year, those who were deceived by him will have a fair idea of the kind of person it is who has really been paid over \$2,000 in the last year for the miserable service the public has received at his hands as postmaster.

At the time Mr. Adams was circulating his petition, his income from the Dominion government was as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Salary \$1,300.00, Forward allowance \$25.00, Mileage \$25.00, Loss Store Box \$7.34, Gum on money orders \$7.00, Rent of office \$130.00, As caretaker of building \$896.94.

The above sum has since been augmented by the receipt of \$150, which had been withheld on his forward allowance, and which made his receipts from the Dominion government in cold cash last year \$2,046.94. But, without reckoning the \$150, it will be seen that Mr. Adams was circulating his petition he deliberately understated his salary and allowances by no less a sum than \$468.

It is fair to say that, out of his receipts as stated, he had to pay far and away twice as \$10, \$24 for cleaning the building and \$300 to his assistant, but the late postmaster Vandy was under similar expenses. Mr. Adams had, for himself, after paying his clerk and other expenses nearly \$1,600, or including the restored rebate, which he has since received, no less a sum than \$1,712.94. Having a clerk, however, enabled him to be interested as a silent partner in at least one large Dominion contract, while he was also free to attend to his law practice, and these, it may be assumed, yielded him sufficient, at least, to recoup him for all he parted with of his income as a Dominion official.

We have reason to believe that we have underestimated Mr. Adams' receipts from the post office boxes and that the amount realised by him from that source is nearer \$100 than \$75.

But, then, more money even than we have stated has come from Ottawa to Mr. Adams, for on April 20 1893—last year, remember—he received \$180 as caretaker of the old building in which he so miserably serves the public, besides the \$130 paid for the same services up to 30th June of that year. Mr. Adams' pickings, therefore, from the Dominion treasury have been excellent, and in view of their amount the deception he practiced upon his fellow-citizens for the purpose of inducing them to sign his petition is simply a scandal which ought to be a source of shame to every honest friend he has. That such a man, after being exposed, should continue to brazenly neglect his duties at the post office by closing both the delivery and money order department against the public several times a day during business hours—as Mr. Adams is now doing—ought to cause our people to ask what kind of men they are to whom, as administrators of the public service, he is responsible!

Whatever may be the cause of blanching, the hair may be restored to its original color by the use of that patent remedy, Hall's Vegetable Sillian Hair Renewer.

Donahoe's for August. "Ladies and gentlemen," said Artemus Ward, pausing suddenly in one of his lectures, "there will now be an intermission of fifteen minutes, during which the lecture will proceed as usual." That is the way with the ceaseless stream of printed matter that flows from the presses of the world—it proceeds as usual during the intermission, only to be swallowed up in a speedy oblivion. Now and then some strange, true word is uttered which goes straight home to the people. In this month's Donahoe's there are many such, and they are such as to provoke thought and discussion. Henry Lathford has something brilliant and forcible to say about a barbarous and brutal feature of Class Day exercises at Harvard; P. O'Neill

Larkin throws a flood of light on the real workings of some American monopolies; Haworth, the actor, tells the pathetic story of John McCallough's last days; there are four delightful short stories, each with a lesson; the "Talks to the typewriter" are brilliant as usual, and the series of articles on women's occupations continued. A production of pictures makes the August number one of the most beautiful yet issued.

The Chatham Post Office Scandal.

It might, reasonably, have been expected, after our exposure of postmaster Adams' neglect of his duties, and falsehoods of last winter respecting the pay he has been receiving for his services, that he would have made some attempt at explanation or manifested some sign of regret. Instead, however, he has practically acknowledged the neglect and also the deception by which he secured a large number of signatures of merchants and others to statements that were false, and devised another characteristic utterance in Saturday's World mainly by personal abuse of the editor of the ADVANCE.

Meanwhile, our \$2,000 postmaster continues his practice of official neglect of months past, much to the regret of the people. Persons going to the post office to purchase money orders, or have money orders paid, find the door locked. Many—dozens at a time—who, perhaps, come far for mail matter find the delivery window closed, and that not once or twice a day, but oftener. Where the postmaster might be called easily to be learned. He comes and goes as he pleases. He is in receipt of \$2,000 a year and a gentleman with such an income would not be expected to stand on Adams' view and practice, not to be expected to stand on the order of his going or coming, and to use his own expression, it is nobody's business, anybody's.

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It is now several weeks since public attention was directed through the ADVANCE to the matter of the incompetence of the put upon the people of the town who were compelled to come and get at the post office without being able to get their mails because of the delivery window being so frequently and irregularly closed. The facts had up to the present writing, been for nearly as long a period, known to the Postmaster General and also to the Post Office Inspector. The respect entertained, however, for the rights of the public and the reputation of the postal service by those charged with its administration may be judged by the fact that there was no reform at the office complained of, while the postmaster, who is his official signature, was allowed—perhaps authorized—to publish letters in a local paper, not to answer as to or explain why the duties he was paid to perform were neglected, but to personally abuse and vilify the editor of the paper making the complaint and remonstrance in behalf of the people.

Readers of the letters of the postmaster, while amazed, perhaps, that a person of his record should drag the ladies of the W. C. T. U., clergywomen and others into the controversy and hold them up as shields before himself and his neglect, and also, also wondered why he did not make some attempt to either show that our statements respecting his connection with the post office were untrue, or else apologise for his neglect of duty. Neither the ladies nor clergywomen to whom he refers could, for instance, endorse his conduct in closing the post office when it was his duty to keep it open; they could not approve of his going about the town a few months ago and, by stating the falsehood that he was getting less pay as a postmaster than the late Mr. Vandy had received, getting merchants, clergywomen and others to petition the government for an increased allowance; they might have been pleased when he was taken from his former occupation as proprietor and tender of a bar-room in the town, where the law was openly violated, and promoted to the position of postmaster, but it would be because there was thereby one less such place in Chatham, and the new environment might be expected to have an improving effect upon his character. His letters, like his conduct in office, however, discourage the hope that he is capable of improvement, and we are quite sure that when ladies or clergywomen are in need of a champion they will hardly seek the assistance of such men as Mr. R. B. Adams. He seems to be one of the class of demagogues who having no regard for anything save their own selfish interests and no regard for the rights of the people, will bring about a reform to account, by either domestic or social considerations from defending themselves by the vile methods to which he resorts in the columns of the World. More than that—no public officer would dare so outrage decency as Mr. Adams has

done in his letters, after so scandalously neglecting his duties, unless he were in a position to also defy the minister, inspector and others above him in the department, as well as the government itself. The fact that he defies public opinion and neglects his duties as a postmaster, and demonstrates the lengths to which men of this class will go when they think their superior in office will not dare to bring them to account. It is apparent that evils similar to those which caused a revolution in a small way in Gravesend, N. Y., and culminated in the notorious John Y. McKane being sent to Sing Sing a few months ago, and which have placed the great Tammany political organization of New York city, and also on its present trial, are now threatening to get a foothold in Chatham. New York is practically ruled by Tammany, whose leaders have created hundreds of public scandals by elevating to the best and highest offices some of the greatest thugs that have immigrated to the city, promoting them from the low saloons in which they started business and acquired the training which fitted them for the favorite methods of Tammany warfare. It is the policy of these men to grow rich on the people's money. They secure to themselves offices to which only nominal duties are attached, and others the duties of which they scandalously neglect, running fast horses, faster women and indulging in all kinds of debaucheries, meantime, and paying therefor with public money which they do not earn. When protests are made in the public interest against their mismanagement and misconduct, those who make them are subjected to the vile abuse and heartless persecution, until it has come about that they are not one of the citizens of New York city in a thousand who dare to raise his voice against the prevailing official corruption and neglect of public duty, because of the dread of the punishment with which the guilty ones will visit him. Mr. "R. B. Adams, postmaster" shows by his writings in the World that he has learned something of Tammany methods, and possesses sufficient effrontery and lack of moral decency to adopt and parade them in his official capacity, in the hope that the stench they will cause more cleanly of the community to abandon efforts to effect reform in his administration of the post office. We believe, however, that there is a sufficiently strong determination behind the complaints we have voiced in behalf of the people of Chatham, to influence Mr. Adams' employers to compel him to give a better service than he has been rendering for the two thousand and more dollars of public money that he receives. He may continue to answer the demands made upon him with the low and accustomed vilification which are his natural and accustomed weapon of defence, but in the end, he will be forced to abandon such tactics, and do the work for which he is so well paid, for he receives a much greater sum for his services than is paid to any postmaster in Canada in towns having the revenue and work of the Chatham office.

Several gentlemen who signed the petition circulated last winter by postmaster Adams' praying for an increased government allowance, say they did so because he told them that he was receiving less pay than postmaster Vandy had, while his work had been much more increased. They express surprise that a man in Mr. Adams' position would deliberately take a falsehood for the purpose of obtaining their signatures, for they all appear to think that even one of his well known recklessness would hardly dare to go to such a length in dishonesty when detection and exposure might be counted on at any time. As we have before stated, we fully believed Mr. Adams when he furnished us at that time with memoranda of the relative incomes of himself and the late Mr. Vandy, together with a statement of the contents of the water meter which he had been put upon the Chatham office after he took charge of it. He stated that the salary of the office in Mr. Vandy's time, including allowances, was \$133 a month, while at the time he was circulating his petition, with increased revenue and the addition of eighteen daily mails to be forwarded, he received only \$119 a month. In other words, while Mr. Vandy had received \$1,396 a year, Mr. Adams was receiving only \$1,428 a year. What it is known that at that time Mr. Adams was receiving nearly \$1,900 a year, those who were deceived by him will have a fair idea of the kind of person it is who has really been paid over \$2,000 in the last year for the miserable service the public has received at his hands as postmaster.

At the time Mr. Adams was circulating his petition, his income from the Dominion government was as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Item and Amount. Salary \$1,300.00, Forward allowance \$25.00, Mileage \$25.00, Loss Store Box \$7.34, Gum on money orders \$7.00, Rent of office \$130.00, As caretaker of building \$896.94.

The above sum has since been augmented by the receipt of \$150, which had been withheld on his forward allowance, and which made his receipts from the Dominion government in cold cash last year \$2,046.94. But, without reckoning the \$150, it will be seen that Mr. Adams was circulating his petition he deliberately understated his salary and allowances by no less a sum than \$468.

It is fair to say that, out of his receipts as stated, he had to pay far and away twice as \$10, \$24 for cleaning the building and \$300 to his assistant, but the late postmaster Vandy was under similar expenses. Mr. Adams had, for himself, after paying his clerk and other expenses nearly \$1,600, or including the restored rebate, which he has since received, no less a sum than \$1,712.94. Having a clerk, however, enabled him to be interested as a silent partner in at least one large Dominion contract, while he was also free to attend to his law practice, and these, it may be assumed, yielded him sufficient, at least, to recoup him for all he parted with of his income as a Dominion official.

We have reason to believe that we have underestimated Mr. Adams' receipts from the post office boxes and that the amount realised by him from that source is nearer \$100 than \$75.

But, then, more money even than we have stated has come from Ottawa to Mr. Adams, for on April 20 1893—last year, remember—he received \$180 as caretaker of the old building in which he so miserably serves the public, besides the \$130 paid for the same services up to 30th June of that year. Mr. Adams' pickings, therefore, from the Dominion treasury have been excellent, and in view of their amount the deception he practiced upon his fellow-citizens for the purpose of inducing them to sign his petition is simply a scandal which ought to be a source of shame to every honest friend he has. That such a man, after being exposed, should continue to brazenly neglect his duties at the post office by closing both the delivery and money order department against the public several times a day during business hours—as Mr. Adams is now doing—ought to cause our people to ask what kind of men they are to whom, as administrators of the public service, he is responsible!

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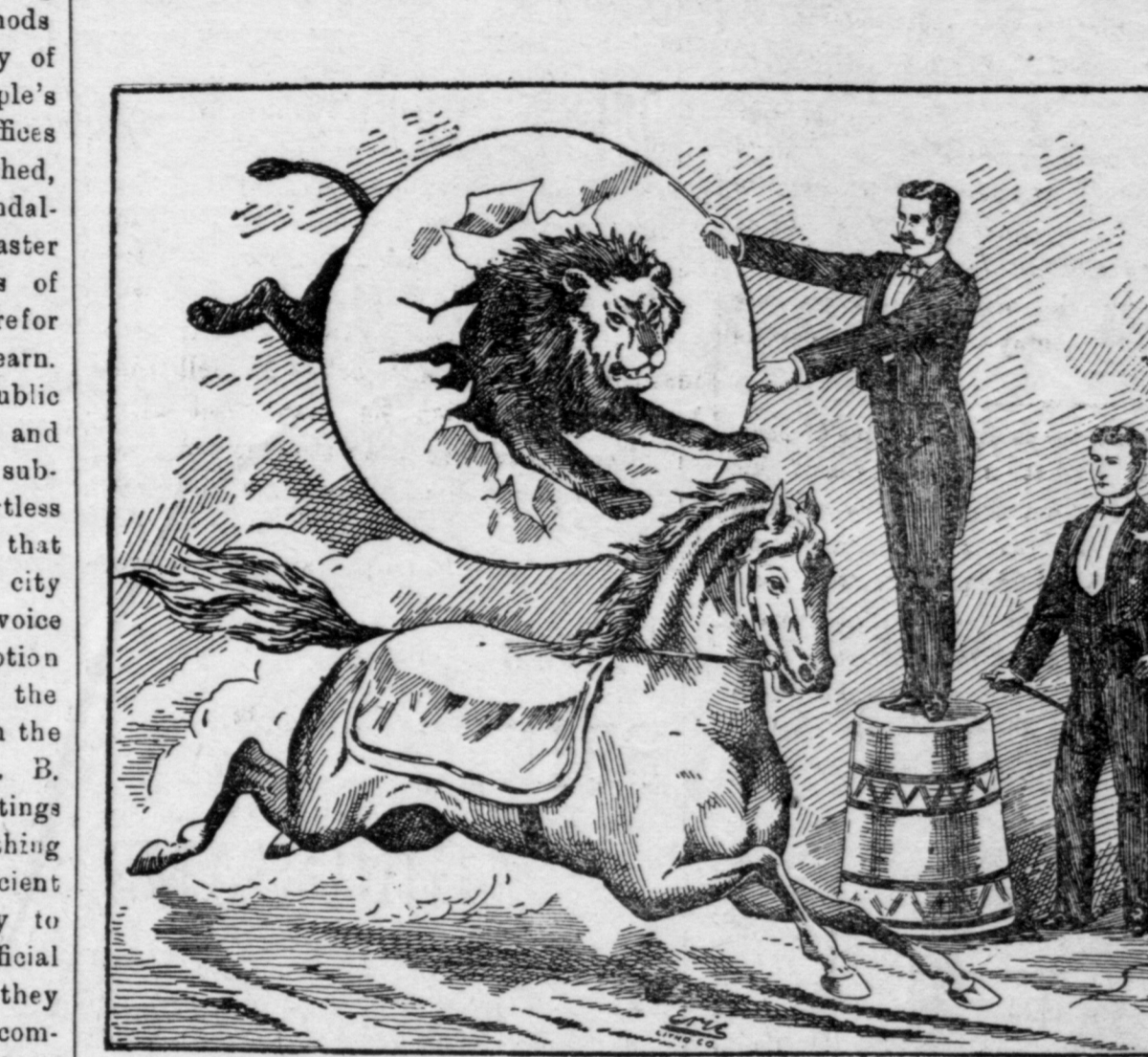
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