

and this we certainly cannot omit when The HEALTH MONTHLY is published primarily for advertising purposes! Suffice it to say that just as quickly as we answered one objection another would arise. Every one of them was just as weak as those which are presented in the official paper. There was no difficulty in answering them, and at once it would be thought that our wrongs would be redressed. Over and over again our attorneys have assured us that we were just on the point of getting a satisfactory decision from the postal department, and just so many times have new objections been sprung upon us, or else a hash served up from the old ones. It reminded one of looking into a kaleidoscope; no end to the changes that can be made with each turn of the instrument. It was evident from the first that there was a determination to handicap The HEALTH MONTHLY with burdensome postage. The law in reference to the publications which might be admitted to the second class was seized upon as an instrument to effect that purpose. When, one by one, the reasons given for such action were answered, new ones were presented or old ones were revived in a slightly changed form, but the determination to exclude us remained. *The question was settled at the outset* and it only remained to present some plausible justification of the act. We respectfully submit to our readers that that justification has not been furnished.

When our New York postmaster, Mr. James, was promoted to the Postmaster Generalship, we, in unison with many other New York business firms, freely expressed the opinion that this was an appointment under the civil service reform which was a credit to the administration. We shall be sorry to be compelled to change this opinion, but if Postmaster General James approves of this petty example of official tyranny having its origin in the post-office detective department and aimed against a publication which has been inimical to the methods of one of the post-office detectives, we shall certainly be compelled to reverse our judgment.

When our government and its laws can be used for such personal purposes how long will it be before we shall become as degenerate as Russia? There, we are informed, all manner of favoritism exists, and the appointees of the Czar can grant favors or inflict punishment according to their own sweet will.

Let no one for a moment imagine that the attitude of the postal department toward The HEALTH MONTHLY has any connection whatever with the question of economy or with the efforts of the new postmaster to lessen the expenses of the department. In an interview of the *Truth* reporter with Mr. Pearson, the New York postmaster was reported as having said that the department did not propose to pay for Dr. Foote's advertising! It will be quite time enough to say this when he is requested to do any such thing. We have never asked him to; we have never asked the department at Washington to put its hand in its pockets on our account. When a publisher pays two cents per pound he pays to the department \$40 per ton for delivering his publications. A ton of such matter can be

transported to San Francisco, Cal., from the city of New York for \$35. How few papers issued in New York or in any other city send any large number of their issues to a point so remote? The editions of any newspaper will mostly stop within the boundaries of its state where published; some would pass over the boundaries of adjoining states; and if they be papers of general interest a few copies may find their way into distant states and territories. The postal department therefore does not pay the postage on those papers. The Harpers would hardly like to have it charged against them that the postal department pay for their advertising, or indeed for transporting or delivering their publications. In addition to what we pay on The HEALTH MONTHLY we purchase postage stamps to the amount of \$2000 or \$3000 a year. If the circulation of The HEALTH MONTHLY increases the circulation of our books to any great extent the post-office is benefited. We pay a fair price for circulating The HEALTH MONTHLY; if that circulation brings orders for books the books have to be prepaid with stamps at the third class rate. As a mere business transaction, therefore, the postal department is greatly benefited by the periodicals issued by all publishing concerns, our own included, for by no just or impartial decision can we be excluded.

Ho! for Canada!

It must be not a little humiliating to the patriotic American that it can be said that the Dominion of Canada presents a strip of land above our northern boundary which is, after all, about the best ordered and freest on the American continent. Nevertheless, it seems to be so. It was found so in anti-slavery times when the underground railroad had its terminus there. Then the black man flying from chattel slavery in our southern states did not feel safe from his pursuers until he crossed the Canada line. It looks very much as if in the struggle for free thought in the future the Liberal may be compelled to look to Canada as an asylum for personal safety. Descending from stock which penetrated the wilds of America so far back as 1620, and from an ancestry which suffered greatly from the early Indian wars as well as in the struggle of the revolution of 1876, which was supposed to have won liberty to the states, we regret to be compelled to entertain these reflections, and we have hesitated not a little in committing them to paper. Under the new struggle for freedom the first fugitive seeking a new home across the border is our own pet baby, that we have been carefully nursing for the past six years—THE HEALTH MONTHLY.

How long our magazine may be in exile must depend upon circumstances. Canada has not yet been contaminated with the Comstock blight. If it ever extends across the border our neighbors will be more than punished for having sent us the Canada thistle. The law-makers and postal authorities of the Dominion would do well to keep a sharp lookout for this miasma which has so suddenly arisen in the states and which has seemed to act as a moral anæsthesia upon a people