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# The Acadian Scientist.

Institute of Science

Published in the Interests of the Acadian Science Club.

HALIFAX, N. S.

Vol. I.

WOLFVILLE, N. S., MARCH, 1883.

No. III.

A. J. PINEO, EDITOR.

OUR February issue calls for an apology both on account of its tardiness and the large number of errors that it contained. We feel disposed to cast the blame of both on the printer. The copy was in his hands in season, but owing to some unfortunate circumstances the printing was delayed for nearly a month; and then the printer in his haste neglected to send proof for correction. The second part of Dr. Dawson's interesting article was omitted, and some matter inserted for the second time, which we wished left out. All this must be more vexing to ourselves than to our readers, and we have taken precautions in order that it may not happen again. We have changed printers and employed one upon whose promptness we can rely. This number is necessarily a little late, but henceforth if subscribers do not receive the SCIENTIST by the 25th of each month they should inform us of the fact

But for the change in the appearance of our little journal we have no apology to offer. Its size has been somewhat diminished, it is true, but we think that that is more than compensated by increased neatness in style and mechanical execution, and as we shall next month add an advertising cover, even

the decrease in size will then be but slight. We were led to select this size and form as it offered an excellent basis for future enlargement and improvements, which we hope to make when our subscription list shall have sufficiently increased.

THE late Congress of the United States passed a law reducing the rate of postage on letters to two cents. The results of this change will doubtless be a large increase in the number of letters carried and a smaller proportional decrease in the number of postal cards used. We hope that our Dominion Government will not be slow to follow this example, and not only reduce the postage on letters, but make some other desirable changes. For instance, while our rate of book-postage is as low as could be expected, we are unfortunate in not having an equally cheap parcel post by which small articles could be sent at a reasonable rate. At present the collector, sending by parcel-post minerals or shells, must pay the exorbitant tax of *twenty-four cents per pound* — a rate which practically excludes such mailing. We can see no sufficient reason why such specimens should not be sent at the same rate as botanical specimens and insects, namely, four cents per lb.