

DR. FOOTE'S HEALTH MONTHLY.

ISSUED THE FIRST OF EVERY MONTH

FOR THE PROPRIETORS BY

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Editors:—E. B. FOOTE, Sen., M. D. and E. B. FOOTE, Jr., M. D.

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"The time has come when scientific truth must cease to be the property of the few; when it must be woven into the common life of the world."—Prof. Agassiz.

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A Happy New Year.

WE wish all our readers a Happy New Year, and we fondly hope they will earnestly wish us a Happy New Year. A large portion of the past year has not been very agreeable to our tastes. We have an innate aversion to contention. Still, ever since the 20th of April, we have been in more or less conflict with the postal department. We cannot believe that this is due to any unfriendliness on the part of the Postmaster-General or any great number of those in subordinate positions. It is self-evident, however, that there is an influence in the Postoffice Department bitterly opposed to our paper. We think we know where it is, and we feel confident that Anthony Comstock is the one who instigates it. We feel sure, however, from the letters we receive from all quarters, that the HEALTH MONTHLY is appreciated, and that it is doing good work in spite of all obstacles. We would be thankful if our subscribers would be more prompt in keeping up their subscriptions, and we would also be greatly obliged to all our readers if they would do what they can to extend the circulation of the HEALTH MONTHLY, and its usefulness. This is the beginning of our 7th Volume. It is a good time for a subscription to begin. In no way could the meddlesomeness of the Vice-Society and its agent be more signally rebuked than by giving to our paper a circulation, say, of 15,000 or 20,000, all paid-up subscriptions. We leave the matter in the hands of our friends.

Where is the November Number?

THIS question has been asked repeatedly, and we must confess that we are unable to answer. It was sent out promptly, but about the middle of the month we began to receive complaints from our subscribers, and these grew more and more numerous until it became evident that something was wrong. Finding that none of our New York subscribers had received their papers, the manager of the Publishing Company saw Mr. Blakeslee, auditor of the postoffice in this city, and inquired why our New York subscribers had failed to receive their papers. The strange reply was, that if any of them came to the city they would be thrown into the waste-paper basket. Further conversation satisfied the manager that nearly or quite the whole edition had been disposed of in some way by the United States postal authorities as soon as they were sent across the line. Our representative reminded Mr. Blakeslee that the postal authorities were the servants of the people, and should fulfill their duties in the distribution of postal matter. Mr. Blakeslee replied that there were two opinions on that point. It is evident that there is. While the American people suppose that the postal authorities are appointed to fulfill their functions as the servants of the public, they imagine that they are the "bosses," so to speak, and that the American people are simply their subjects. We at once telegraphed to our printers in Whitby, Canada, and they in turn immediately telegraphed to the postal authorities at Ottawa. Our issue for December had already been deposited, and we were fearful that that too might go into the waste-paper basket. From all that we can learn the December number has been delivered.

We need not say here that we should have been pleased to have our printing done in New York, rather than in Whitby, had it not been for the continual persecutions which we have reason to believe were set in motion by the agent of the Vice Society. Finding that we could not get our rights here as publishers, we arranged to have our HEALTH MONTHLY printed in Canada. Printing is somewhat cheaper there, and we trust that the postal authorities of the Dominion will treat us better than our postal authorities have done. Time only can determine.

Had not our report of the Institute of Heredity taken up so much of our space, we should have presented a page or two of letters from our subscribers who have justly felt incensed at the arbitrary, illegal course taken by our postal authorities. Under the circumstances we will simply offer one or two as samples, omitting the names, as we have not permission to publish them. Here is one from a prominent clergyman:

"Have not received the HEALTH MONTHLY for November, but have received lots of useless trash, such as lying political documents, also papers with bogus advertising supplements, etc. When the United States becomes so 'paternal' as to exclude the HEALTH MONTHLY it acts like a huge idiot."

We will copy one other from a prominent literary