

experienced' in securing 'steady and RELIABLE' managers and editors have been 'very great and exceedingly discouraging.'"

This could be signed by each and every compositor who has been *honored* with employment by the management referred to. I positively deny that any "difficulty" would have been "experienced" in securing "steady and reliable" compositors and pressmen, were it not that its management have, hitherto, failed to pay for the work which has been done. On the contrary, I have in my mind's eye, at the present moment, the comps. who pioneered the first issues of the *Vindicator*, all of whom were both *steady* and *reliable*, and who only declined to work when it became apparent that *paying* was something the managers had not considered necessary. Scripture tells us "The laborer is worthy of his hire," and it is only reasonable to suppose that it applies to "compositors and pressmen," as well as other laborers. If employers would only consider how much more satisfactory it would be for the workmen, as well as directly beneficial to themselves, I think they would be more particular and punctual in providing for the payment of wages. "Compositors and pressmen" have rights in common with other laborers, which are as sacred to them as the rights of editors, or managers of *any* business; nevertheless, paragraphs similar to the one referred to are so frequently published by our newspapers (very often for the purpose of shielding the faults and blunders of the editors themselves), that many people consider "a printer" as something to be avoided. Is it not high time that such untruthful slurs and insults to the craft were contradicted and sent back to their authors?

FAIR PLAY.

#### Moncton "Matter."

MONCTON, March 4.

The Moncton *Despatch*, J. R. Needham, proprietor, "busted" several weeks ago. Mr. Wood, proprietor of the *Maple Leaf*, a small paper published weekly at Hopewell, Albert County, bought a portion of Mr. Needham's stock, including a press and quantity of type.

The *Times* composing-room at present employs about seven apprentices.

The *Times* bookbindery has been for the past three or four months under the management of Mr. G. S. Beverly, formerly of Fredericton, and is at present doing a good business, employing

four hands. It is reported that he intends to shortly start business here on his own account.

The *Mohawk*, a small sheet of a personal and humorous character, has been for the past three months making a hard struggle for existence.

Mr. H. T. Stevens, the enterprising proprietor of the *Times*, is running quite an extensive book store, in the premises formerly occupied by Mr. H. S. Stevens, having bought that gentleman's entire stock.

EM QUAD.

#### Advertising Rates in Halifax and St. John.

HALIFAX, N. S., April 7.

In your issue of March I notice the article headed "The Newspaper Business in Halifax," and must say that I was perfectly astonished at the revelations therein. I know for a fact that a well-known tradesman in Halifax had a three-inches (36 lines nonpareil measure) advertisement inserted in an evening paper, daily, for 12 months, for the extravagant (!) sum of \$25 (about 80c. per line).

I am sorry to say that St. John is almost as bad as Halifax in this and other respects, as it was but recently that I saw a quotation from an evening paper published in that city, two inches at \$15 per inch (95c. per line) daily insertion for 12 months.

No wonder the wages and salaries of employés on the newspapers are so miserably low. The above facts explain all away. Some country newspapers have better paying rates than the dailies in the Maritime Provinces.

Trusting to hear from other correspondents in other parts of the Dominion in reference to this all-important matter, I am, etc.,

COMPOSITOR.

#### The Use and Abuse of Italic.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 28.

Please allow me to make a suggestion. It is this: I think it high time publishers ceased to put the names of newspapers in italic. In my opinion it would be full as sensible to put the name of every book they speak of, or every hotel, store, shop, church or school-house in italic as the name of the paper. Also, in my opinion, it would be well to abandon the use of a two-line letter in the commencement of advertisements. Some papers put the names of persons they speak of in small capitals, which is another piece of foolishness. Cannot you make your monthly look far better than it now