

of the Department may be inferred from the statement that for the year 1880 the number of letters received was 8,222 and the number sent 9,100, a total of 18,132, while for the year 1912 the numbers were 1,224,316 letters received and 1,304,904 sent, making the enormous total of 2,529,220. The handling of such a vast volume of correspondence is certainly a strenuous undertaking, and these figures indicate how little is known to the outside world of the amount of business transacted in some of the leading Departments of the Dominion Government.

The Honourable Dr. Roche is being heartily commended for his selection of these officials for well merited promotion. Consideration by the Government of this kind, in recognizing long service as in these worthy cases and the recent case of Mr. Fortescue, will have an excellent effect in elevating the morale and esprit de corps of the service.

TRIBUTE TO A MINISTER.

The exodus of the Postal Stores branch of the Ottawa service has been accomplished. For years this branch of the service lived in exile, servitude and squalor in the Rat Cellar of the Langevin Block. Protests from the officials have been unavailing until a Moses appeared on the scene and led them across the Red Sea of troubles into the land of Canaan in the Robinson Building. The name of the deliverer is the Hon. Mr. Pelletier, Postmaster General, who on account of this and other similar cases of action, instead of promises and procrastinations, has established for himself a credit with the service which will take something more than mere gratitude to requite. The Postal Stores officials have expressed their feelings in a communication to the minister to the following effect:—

“Honorable L. P. Pelletier:

“Dear Mr. Pelletier,—It affords me very

great pleasure to transmit to you herewith, and to cordially endorse, a communication (which I may say is perfectly free and spontaneous) from the staff of this branch, expressive of their satisfaction with the new quarters in the Robinson building to which the branch has recently been removed from the Langevin block, and their heartfelt appreciation of the fact that the greatly improved conditions in their daily official life are entirely due to the kindly, humane and practical interest which you have shown in the matter. (Sgd.) SIDNEY SMITH, Controller of Postal Stores.”

The communication signed by all the members of the stores branch and addressed to Mr. Pelletier is as follows:

“As members of the postal stores branch of your department, we desire to thank you for procuring for us more sanitary quarters than those in the basement of the Langevin block. Our new offices in the Robinson building are very satisfactory with the exception of the room space which is somewhat congested. Apart from this, we find our new quarters a happy contrast with the old conditions which prevailed for so many years. Not only do we expect to be able to do better work, but we also hope to enjoy better health under the improved conditions; and it will be our earnest endeavor to do our duty to the best of our ability that we may merit the confidence you have shown in us since you became Postmaster-General.”

Personals.

Appointments.

The following list includes changes that have taken place in the service up to Dec. 31st, 1912.

Post Office:—C. E. Mongenais, P. O. Insp. Office, Ottawa; R. Dubreuil, 3rd class, Grade B; B. H. Gibson, Ry. M. S., Toronto; M. Sullivan, Ry. M. S., Ottawa; C. E. Scantlebury and D. L. Moor, Ry. M. S., Calgary; D. Macpherson, 3rd class, Grade A, Toronto; P. E. Bernier, law clerk, Div. 1B; E. Lucas, Ry. M. S., Calgary; A. J. Macdonnell, A. Goulet, Geo. Chattaway, J. A. Kearney, E. Beggs, J. H. G. Lemieux, Ry. M. S., Ottawa; H. R. Daly, Halifax Ry. M. S.; Arch. Wright, Winnipeg, 3rd class, Grade B; A. H. Lightfoot, Toronto, 3rd class, Grade B; L. C. Chapman, Moose Jaw, Ry. M. S.; H. O. Williams, R. J. Armstrong, H. R. Mason, O. T.