

THE JARVIS RECORD.

THURSDAY, MAR. 27, 1884.

POST OFFICE.

POST OFFICE.—Our postmaster appeared before the public last week in a letter in our "local rag." Here is his explanation for closing the office during the day. He says:

"My instructions from the Post Master General are to open at 8 a.m., and close at 7 p.m., with one hour for dinner, but, thinking that the public would not suffer any inconvenience, but rather be the gainers, I took the liberty of closing 20 minutes for supper."

I ask what right had he to take the liberty to close a public post office during business hours without either consulting the Postmaster General, or the public, whose servant he is? It was, I think, taking a good deal upon himself for a public official and shows the presumption of the man. Mr. Abel adds:

"Now, Mr. Editor, I have explained the hours of the office and would say that I have not since the complaint and will not in the future, close my office, but as instructed from head quarters. The government wishes all their public servants to do their duty, but I am also certain they do not wish to make slaves of them, and I am perfectly safe in their hands."

Well, we will endeavour to get him instructed from head quarters to keep our post office open during business hours the same as Simcoe, Victoria, Waterford, Jarvis and other surrounding offices are kept. I don't see why an exception should be made in his favor. Any one who can go out for constitutional, smoke his pipe when he likes, take his after-dinner nap and receive at the same time about six hundred a year out of the public funds has little reason to talk about slavery. I know a good many who wouldn't mind becoming slaves to the government. He may not be so safe in his position as he imagines. Is it this feeling of safety that makes him so independent? He says there is no argument in favor of a change. The people of Black Creek are making use of this closing of the Dover post office during business hours as an argument for having a post office located there. We may therefore, thank Mr. Abel for taking this business from the village if they are successful. Mr. Abel says:

"The JARVIS RECORD absolutely refused to allow me the privilege of replying." It is for the editor to explain this, but I will hazard the assertion that no explanation was ever sent to the RECORD. Our "local rag" thinks "the press and public have nothing whatever to do with a public man's private life." I beg leave to differ from him and I believe nine-tenths of the public will endorse my sentiments. A public official is public property and as such both his private character and his public acts are fit subjects for honest criticism. Otherwise, a public man might be a rake, a gambler, drunkard, or any thing else and no one could find fault. A man may disgrace the public more by his private life and conduct than by neglecting his official duties. The day has long gone by, when a public man can disregard public opinion as regards his private walk and conversation. Our "local rag" says our postmaster is noted for his efficiency, or words to that effect. Mr. Abel was always noted for his courtesy to the blue-bloods and people of quality. Perhaps he will explain on what principle of justice he adventured giving the town printing to the highest instead of the lowest tender. He can have a whole column in the RECORD to make an explanation. He took good care not to refer to the printing contract in his letter—not he. Is that the way they do business in the Postmaster General's department? Do they ask for tenders and then select the highest? Mr. Abel explained all about the post office, but nary a word about the printing which I also mentioned. Oh Consistency thou art a jewel!

[If Mr. Abel says he was refused the privilege of a reply in the JARVIS RECORD he asserts what is an absolute untruth. We have received no communication from him in regards to this matter at all, or in fact any other matter in the last twelvemonth. Should he wish to reply through the columns of the RECORD he is perfectly welcome to do so, as it is our motto to show fair play to everybody.—ED. RECORD.]

PETITION.—As soon as our Dominion Parliament rises a petition will be circulated and forwarded to the postmaster General requesting him to instruct our postmaster to keep his office open during business hours the same as all other surrounding offices are kept. Since there is nothing unreasonable in this demand the petition should be largely signed. When Mr. Abel was in business for himself he didn't shut his shop at noon, or at tea time, and a man should be as attentive to the public business as he is of his own, otherwise he is unfit to occupy a position of trust.

SACKED.—A couple of young gents got the G. B. at our factory last Monday.

BOHEMIAN.—The Bohemian club is about organizing again. I am told that the Chief of Police, John Stickney, and our Chief Justice have applied for initiation. The latter will relate his experience at the next meeting and it will no doubt be spiced as he has been through the mill.

CURE ALL.—Another remarkable instance of the almost miraculous powers of Dr. Bingle's "Cure All" was mani-

fested last week. A man came to the Dominion hotel on crutches to consult the now famous Doctor. After a single application of the "Cure All" he went away rejoicing and the next night he threw away his crutches and took part in a dance. A well-known literary gentleman has also vouched for the effects of the "Cure All." A few agents wanted for Haldimand and Norfolk. This is a grand opening for a few pious young men. Don't too many speak at once.—OBSERVER.

INCORPORATION.

To the Editor of the JARVIS RECORD.

DEAR SIR,—Pardon me for again troubling you on this proxy question; for proxy indeed it must be to your readers outside of ourselves who are immediately concerned. We were quite confident that the temperance cry was the herring trailed across the track to put us off the scent, and succeeding events prove the correctness of this allegation. When we see men carrying the prayers of our citizens before the County Council and representing us praying in the interest of temperance and righteousness, it were a fitting at least that they should come home sober. The "Incorporation party" admit having so bungled the whole matter that the Council would take no notice of it; but these bunglers still persist in forcing upon us their noxious petition, and pleading for powers and privileges that are dangerous to place in the hands of such incapables. Facts and arguments are unavailing. Fair play is denied; and as fast as possible they are filling up their cup of iniquity. If we were to be fairly treated, why have the pure good-minded men not given us time to fairly discuss this question, and allow a vote of the citizens to be taken. The Council wisely laid the matter over to give time for mature thought and reflection on the question; but, like a set of political tricksters, nothing will do but break-neck haste. We do not care, however, for the petitions now signed, as the good sense of our citizens will lead them to reverse these petitions before the next session of the Council. I have no doubt but that a few tenants, who do not own a foot of land, will work hard to bring about all these very desirable things in order to make their landlords clean up their back yards and if the steam ferry does not pay they will utilize the coal ashes so freely deposited on the streets by some of our law and order men, to fill up the channel and have an overland route. In regard to improvements, we have the power to tax ourselves under our present police organization to whatever extent is necessary, and we have already received money from the Council to assist us. My motto is to keep my expenditure within my income, and this should be the policy of the village. Once we place ourselves under incorporation laws the public outside of ourselves will have demands on us, and uncontrollable expenditure will be forced upon us. There is not an incorporated village in Ontario whose expenditure has taught them that it is a cheap machine to run. The very opposite is the case. The advantage of incorporation in large towns has been chiefly in giving them control over certain branches of outside taxation, by which persons coming to the town were taxed, and if we were about twice as large as we now are and were a market town and able to gather revenue from various sources other than direct taxation there might be some reason in the claims of those "would-be" benefactors; but they have a zeal not according to knowledge, and their cry is "incorporation or death." This sounds like a zany or fanatic. Such men are not to be reasoned with; they always boast of being in the majority; they infect every community, and have lived in every age; they are a kind of parasite that live on destruction; they were in the majority in the days of Noah; they were in the majority in the days of Lot and they are in the majority all over this Dominion of ours. The substructure of almost all our political systems is honey combed with them, and the honest community little dreams of their ways of darkness. A raging volcano may be burning out the very vitals of a village, town or country without creating any alarm except when it accidentally breaks through the upper crust as it did at Toronto the other day. And we can hardly expect less from human nature in our village, save that they lack the capacity and opportunity. I would call upon all the thoughtful to withhold their hand from all petitions until they know they are doing right. Be not deceived; if incorporation be forced upon us, it will be both "incorporation and death."

Yours, etc.

PRO BONO PUBLICO.

Hagersville, March 25th, 1884.

WOODHOUSE.

To the Editor of the JARVIS RECORD:

SIR,—In my communication last week you made one, or two errors. I said:—"How many times did Stickney get paid for purchasing the Law property? You put it the Low property. Again, in Stickney's account I gave four items of \$1.50 each, making \$6.00. You published only three, making \$4.50. The resolution reads as follows:—Moved by Mr. DOUGLAS, seconded by Mr. TRINDER. That the account of John Stickney amounting to six dollars be paid, viz. To one day engaged in selling gravel road \$1.50. To posting bills to sell toll houses \$1.50. For selling toll houses \$1.50. For making out Report to Bureau of

of Industries \$1.50. Total six dollars. Since one of the toll houses only for six dollars they might just as have let John take it. This gravel road is a pretty expensive concern to the township and Stickney is proving a pretty dear rogue; leastwise then's my sentiments. I would like to know whether John Stickney really did sell the toll houses, because I have been told that Mr. Murphy, the auctioneer, sold them and that the township paid him two dollars for selling them. This surely must be a mistake, for the council would surely never pay two men (one two and another one and a half dollars) for a half an hour's work. Will the council not look this matter up at their next meeting?

QUILZ.

LITTLE BILLY.

To the Editor of the JARVIS RECORD.

DEAR SIR,—I agree with your correspondent of last week that our school question has occupied space in your valuable paper and the attention of your many readers quite long enough, therefore, with a few remarks this week I will yield up the ghost and cry quits. Your correspondent says he is an outsider, and that although a voter he did not vote for either party. The man who penned that article is not a voter, and has not half as much right to stick in his gash as the railroad man had. And he signs himself "a friend of both." Yes, he is a friend of both parties with a vengeance. His whole production savors of friendship for Little Billy and his party. If he belongs to either party, which I very much doubt, he is the biggest hypocrite in the section. Friend, forsooth! I would despise myself forever if I could not boast of a better friend than the individual who wrote that article. Again he misrepresents facts when he says that all the articles written on the subject had signatures attached to them. With the exception of two written in the interest of the defunct party and the one written by myself a few weeks ago none bore signatures to them. His repetition of the arguments wore thread-bare by others is not worthy of notice, in fact it was with a sickening feeling of disgust that I read his whole article, and I am not the least bit astonished to see that he is anxious to crawl back in his hole along with his colleagues and help them gnaw at the bone of contention, and my advice to him is to stop there and nibble away until our next school meeting. Why this fellow wished to wound the feelings of the man with the lavender pants I know not, and care less, but I will wager my dilapidated old hat against Hugh's ancient blouse that the owner of the same lavender pants has more shirts, be they clean or dirty, than he has. And now, Mr. Editor, farewell.

LITTLE BILLY'S FRIEND.

[Little Billy's friend is right about the first article which appeared in the RECORD on this subject being editorials, as none of them had a signature attached.—ED. RECORD.]

Bobby Dutton was heard singing the following lines last Sunday night as he stood and gazed vacantly at the front of a certain house in S. S. No. 10, Townsend:—

"I'm not monarch of all I survey,
My right there is one to dispute,
From me to the 'Kitchen' she flees,
And I feel worse than any damned brute.
Oh, Barbara! where are the charms
That once I could 'reid' in thy face?
Better dwell in the midst of alarms
Than stand in this horrible place."

Conundrums.

Why did Hugh and Ed. follow the procession to Jarvis? Because they weren't "Both well."

Why didn't Andrew vote for either party? Because he was in a "Hough."

Why are Hugh and Angus such excellent farmers? Because they took lessons from the "model."

Why is Bobby Dutton looking so thin this winter? Because he has not had his usual supply of cream since the cheese factories shut down last fall.

What makes the young lady who taught Bobby Dutton how to "reid" so happy lately? Because she hears a "Russel" at the front gate every Sunday about 7 p.m.

What is the occupation of the persons who were most desirous of defeating Little Billy? They are "Yeomen."

Why is "Daniel Moody" like a balky horse? Because you cannot depend on him.

What is the best thing to take the fuzz off Bobby Dutton's upper lip? Put some sweet cream on it and let a cat lick it off.

Why didn't Russel vote for Youmans? Because he can "reid."

Why did that "butcher" come all the way from Simcoe to attend the school meeting? Because he wanted to "Barr" Joe's vote and slaughter Little Billy's party.

Who pays two dollars school tax to any of the defeated party's one and does not send a child to the school? Little Billy.

Why is Little Billy's party like a well-regulated farm house? Because it has two "Kitchens" attached to it.

Woodhouse.

To the Editor of the JARVIS RECORD.

DEAR SIR,—Please give space in your paper to reply to "Old Gentleman's" falsehoods of last week. He didn't deny what was said about him, but simply says what he don't do, and I might say what I don't do and not stretch the truth so shamefully as he did. I did not ask the Council to pay for sheep that my own dog killed, for I had no dog at that time. I never killed my neighbor's geese for spite. I never drove a man's hogs to pound for finding their way through an open gate into his woods. I never signed a bill against my will. I never helped a man beat his wife out of her property. I