

To the Honourable
The Postmaster General.

Sir:

I find myself compelled to make a complaint with regard to the Post Office at Buffalo ~~in fact~~ ^{and} ~~the~~ ^{the} Postal Post Office at Buffalo and in fact ~~in~~ general, the uncertainty of ^{to points} ~~an~~ ^{of that city is} ~~an~~ ^{from this point to New York City.} ~~an~~ ^{of that city is} ~~an~~ ^{from this point to New York City.}

I am an author and send or receive either manuscript or proof-sheets almost daily from my residence here to the city of New York and have done so for six years or more.

I am ~~always~~ very careful in the enclosure and direction of either manuscript or proof. Always sending it as first-class matter in strong sealed packages, clearly addressed and fully prepaid.

I have never had any ~~trouble~~ loss and no serious delay in such transmission until during the past three or four months. Now it seems next to impossible to get my matter to ^{go from} New York in any reasonable time or with any reliability unless a special ^{service} ~~delivery~~ ^{is} ~~sent~~ ^{within} ~~two~~ ^{two} months. ^{service} ~~sent~~ ^{within} ~~two~~ ^{two} months manuscript and proof has been wholly lost in transmission from this point to New York involving not only great in-

conditions. The man who is termed
 practical being very often only another
 one whose narrow vision focuses only
 the difficulties in the way and is
 quite unable to apprehend the certainty
 or measure of success. The larger
 practicality that foretells results, even
 though it leaps over interceding ob-
 stacles is often found in the studious
 and inexperienced observer, who sits
 beside the great river of trade and
 notes its currents from the shore
 rather than learned them from the pilot
 house. At length, however, there came to
 his knowledge ~~an~~ an invention of almost
 universal application. Rich and poor
 and high and low had need for it. Econ-
 omy and comfort were subserved by
 its use. It required only to become known
 to consumers to command a ready and
 extensive sale. It commanded its peculiar
 field. There could be no serious rivalry
 competition and it did not appear
 susceptible of improvement. Warston
 Hollingworth studied the matter very-
 thoroughly. He had no doubt of the certainty
 of profit. He was quite ignorant of the time
 or capital required to turn the general
 consumption from its ordinary channels
 and fix a new article in the public
 mind. He said to himself, vaguely, "For
 so much money I can bring it to the atten-
 tion of such a number of people. Of
 them such a proportion will buy. So that
 in ~~one~~ so many months, I shall be able
 to pay the expenses of the business out of
 its receipts." So far as one could

inconvenience but serious loss to me and ^{several} ~~many~~ times delayed from one to ^{three} days. Of course a man having regular work and a journal must be able to rely with reasonable certainty upon the mails. One miss a year will do, but one a month is fatal to the writer.

~~I am~~ I am fully satisfied that there is no fault with the Postmaster at this point. I know his habits of business, faithfulness and reliability. He is one of the most efficient postmasters I ever knew. There is, however, almost universal complaint of the Buffalo Post Office and the postmaster at this place informs me that he has more trouble with it than with all others.

~~There is sent from this office to Buffalo in the morning at 10.30~~
 I do not know how much of the New York Mail from this place goes through that office but I have considerably business with a well-known ^{legal} firm of lawyers in ^{Buffalo} ~~that city~~ and have found that there is no certainty of transmission or delivery unless a special delivery stamp is affixed. The distance is about sixty-five miles continuous mail-route without change. Get the following instances as samples of experience of my own during the

served to awaken him from the state of lethargy into which he had fallen after the unusual activities of war, and he began to look about for something in which he might engage with a reasonable expectation of profit. He was perhaps as far removed from the adventurous commercial spirit whom we call a speculator as one could possibly be. To make money by mere betting on the chances of a rise or fall in the market would have seemed to Marston Hollingsworth a degradation both of himself and of commerce. He did not ever think of getting something for nothing — of acquiring wealth without giving an equivalent in money or ^{labor} care. He only thought of transmitting his energies into cash. He did not desire to be a mere laborer either with hands or brain but to engage in some business where with a limited capital and his own oversight a steady profit might be secured.

It was not easy for a man unused to the activities of the business world to find such an opportunity as he sought. He was a careful man with not a little confidence in his own ability to determine the merits of any proposed enterprise. While he lacked the technical knowledge that comes only from experience, in regard to the methods of business his preparation and mental equipment had been such as to enable him to judge more accurately the chances of ultimate success or failure than he would perhaps have been able to do under other ~~circum-~~

Feb	29	1.36
"	22	2.45-
Jan	14	3.49
Feb	13	6.65
Jan	25-	2.50
Feb	5-	2.28
"	12	35-
"	23	8.73
"	31	35-
		20.98

Part past few months.

Saturday March 29th. I mailed an important letter ^{to ~~William~~ ^{James} ^{of the} ^{Buffalo} ^{office} ^{which}}

I was informed by letter dated the April 3rd had not yet been received.

The letter in reply was mailed was mailed at 4.30 p.m. of the 3rd and received at this office at 6 p.m. of the 4th. I enclose the envelope with post office stamps. It was torn in two before I decided to make this complaint.

I do not care very much whether a Democrat or Republican ~~has~~ ^{is} ^{to} ^{take} ^{any} ^{part} ⁱⁿ ^{the} ^{dirty} ^{agitation} which has been going on so long over the plunder of Buffalo offices that ^{every} ^{one} ^{living} ⁱⁿ ^{this} ^{region} who is compelled to take daily doses of the nauseating or 2 parts as to which side is up and which down, is sick and ashamed of the whole matter.

now see that only a further investment
of capital was required to assure the
investors an ample return

I do not object to paying for a
 special delivery, unless when the time is
 short and with the very sure of delivery
 but to turn to do it regularly is a business
 that amounts to little or nothing of a
 business.

But I would like to know that
 the man who handles my mail
 had knowledge and capacity
 enough ~~to handle~~ ^{to get the packets, etc.} to ~~handle~~
~~it~~ as often at least as Gen.
 Greeley lists the weather.

The whole matter tends to
 bring the service and the Admin.
 intention into disrepute among
 the people of this region and I
 would respectfully suggest that
 if the ^{condition of things} cannot be amended
 or a change determined upon
 soon, it ^{might} be well to ap-
 point a Receiver to manage the
 business during ^{the remainder of the} ~~the~~ ^{incumbent's}
 term, ^{if he is an innocent victim of fraud or =}
^{shrewdly, clear out the conspirators.}

I have no interest in any
 candidate; do not know the
 incumbent and am fully com-
 mitted to the principle that no
 demerited official should be
 ousted before the close of his
 term unless he himself took the
 unexpired term of a Republican.

But the thing is getting too in-
 conv- I do not know whose
 fault it is, but while no for-
 tible is found with western
 mails, matter going even in the
 direction of Buffalo, ~~from~~ beyond
^{that city, instead} ~~there~~ seems to be afflicted with
 an uncertainty that is not only
 irritating to the sender but highly
 discreditable to the Service.

I have the honor to be
 very respectfully

welcome he had expected to receive. ^{it}
 Those who had dealt in the old product
 for years were loath to form
 new connections. The old stocks on
 hand were mill-stones about the neck
 of his new enterprise. He discovered that
 the apparently simple act of advertising
 was in truth, a most complex and dif-
 ficult affair. Yet despite all discour-
 agements his confidence grew stronger
 and stronger every day. He saw more
 clearly every day its possibilities, as he
 recognized how much ^{than he had supposed} more it was re-
 ally worth, & with this knowledge came the
 conviction that his own means were quite
 inadequate to the development of the busi-
 ness he had undertaken. Yet he did not
 hesitate. What it required he supplied
 while his own funds lasted. After that he
 turned his credit to supply what was
 needed. He had no doubt that
 when he could once demonstrate its
 capacity he would find capitalists
 ready to engage in it with him.
 That time came at last. The public
 had finally taken hold of his specialty.
 Month by month his business had ex-
 tended. Those who once began its
 use were in no haste to go back to
 the old substitute. It was well spok-
 en of in all markets & the press re-
 cognized it as a step forward.
 It had a distinct and ~~new~~ established
 position. Any one who would study it
 as Weston Hollingsworth had studied
 it — ~~any~~ any one who would but
 give it a tithing of that attention might