

THE Niagara Falls Philatelist,

It is not the size that makes the paper.

A JOURNAL FOR PHILATELISTS.

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NIAGARA FALLS PUBLISHING COMPANY,
Niagara Falls South, Ont.

IN MEMORY.

DIED:— At its place of business in St Catharines, Ont., the *Canadian Philatelic Journal* aged 7 months.

The deceased journal was in its short career, one of the most miserable and horribly printed journals of the host of philatelic papers, published.

By its death it deprives its printer the privilege of using his old type and badly mixed pitch and mud (for ink).

The cause of its sudden collapse is doubtful, but it is supposed that Mr. French, seeing the job his printer done, sold it to C. B. Reece of St. Catharines, in order to free himself of having the thing dying on his hands. Mr. R. has failed to connect and the subscription list and advertising contracts will be filled by us.

PHILATELY.

Is not philately on the decline? By no means. To-day philately is an established institution throughout the civilized world. Trade in postage stamps forms a regular branch of business, and dealers will tell us to-day that their business was never so good before and is steadily increasing. True, a great many of the little boys who used to besiege our Post Offices, and pester

every outcomer with their "Please sir, give me that stamp," have fallen out of the ranks, and gone back to their proper sphere of amusements marbles and topspinning. True, also, that a great many persons who collected because it was fashionable, have tired of the pursuit and are now paying their most exclusive and languid attention to something more suitable to the turn of their frivolous minds; but for every one such useless soldier our army lose, we receive two earnest collectors, gentlemen and ladies, who gather stamps for the love of it, persons who take pride in their pursuit and are determined to follow it out.

When stamp collecting was in its infancy, its friends like those of every babe, cast about for a name for the newly-born child. It was decided to call it philately. It is derived from two greek words, philo meaning "lover of," and telos meaning "tax." Thus we get philately, which literally means "tax lover," or "lover of taxes." Yet very few of us admit that we are especially fond of taxes; but we *do* love the little labels which represent them.

Later philatelic writers, however, found fault with this name and offered us something, which they claim better, the word timbrophily. It is made up of the french timbre meaning "stamp," and the greek phileo meanin "to love." Thus we get "to love stamp."

Timbrophily has sunk into oblivion and it is as well so, for we never liked the word as well as philately. It does not sound as well, it is not so easily pronounced and I do not believe it would ever have been as popular. Philately was first proposed and answers the purpose very well indeed. We are quite satisfied with it and shall not discard it until its opponents offer a better substitute than timbrophily.

Then give three cheers for philately the model science of the nineteenth century—a science that instructs while it gratifies, and is useful while it gives pleasure.

Timbro.