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Halifax Philatelic Magazine.

PUBLISHED ONCE EVERY MONTH.

Vol. I.

Halifax, N. S., June, 1897.

No. 6.

An Open Letter.

To the Members of the Dominion
Philatelic Association:—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

On the occasion of this, the annual election for officers of our Association, it has been considered well that we should issue this Manifesto, in which we shall endeavour to point out, in a brief manner, some of the principles upon which our candidature is based, together with particulars of some of the acts of our opponents which cry aloud against them.

This election we are led to believe, forms a crisis in our Association's history, and the fact that our opponents are resorting to every means, fair and foul, to ensure our defeat, is sufficient proof that they are fully aware that the whirlwind they have sowed so constantly in the past is, at last, getting into shape to sweep them into oblivion. The grotesque farce of the Convention of 1896, and the Official Organ Deal, are things that weigh as millstones round their necks. Never, in the History of our Association, have matters been run in so notor-

ious a manner as in the past year, and the bickerings and disputes, the grabs, the deals and the corruption exhibited on the part of a certain officer and his paymasters, have put back the progress of the D. P. A. to an extent that is almost irreparable. All differences of honest opinion and all errors of judgment, we are willing and glad to make the widest provision for, but when the acts of other officers are set at naught, and where no quarter has been shown those who opposed the predominant party, it points to the existence of a coadhesive clique, and of an organized machine to run the Association for its own benefit and glorification.

Several of the candidates issuing this Manifesto have held office during the past year, in coalition with officers forming part of the machine.

THE CONVENTION OF 1896.

In the initial stage of the campaign which culminated in September, 1896, foreseeing defeat if fair and above-board measures were taken our opponents *denied the members the right to vote*, and instituted the villaneous form of balloting that had been found un-