

## Why were Certain Canadian Stamps Issued?

BY R. C. YATES.

It is in order to present an answer to the above query. I give the following information which is accurate, being taken, in its main points, from the Postal Information furnished by the Canadian Almanac in its issues from 1853 to 1875.

The 3 pence of the first issue, 1851, popularly known as the "three penny beaver," was used for postage on letters between any place in Canada (now Ontario and Quebec) and any place in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Cape Breton.

The 6 pence, 1851, was used for postage on letters to the United States, except Oregon and California.

The 12 pence, of the same issue, the rarest of Canadian stamps, only about 1500 of which were issued, was used for postage on letters to Great Britain, via Quebec and Halifax. (Sec. 62 Postal Regulations, Canadian Almanac, 1853, page 33.)

The 10 pence, 1855, was used for postage on letters to Great Britain via Cunard packet from New York and Boston.

The 7½ penny, 1857, was also used for postage on letters to Great Britain but via Canadian packet from Quebec.

The ½ penny of the same issue, was used for postage on drop letters.

The 5 cent beaver was used for postage on ordinary provincial letters.

The 10 cent, 1859, was used for postage on letters to the United States, except California and Oregon.

The 2 cent, 1860, was used on soldiers' letters to Great Britain.

The 12½ cent of the same year, was used on letters to Great Britain via Canadian packet from Quebec.

The 17 cent of the same issue was also used on letters to Great Britain but via Cunard packet from New York and Boston.

The 1868 12½ cent was used for postage on letters to Great Britain via Canadian packet.

The 15c of the same issue, was used for postage on letters to Great Britain, also, but via Cunard packet.

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## Items of Interest.

BY H. P. WOODSTOCK.

One of the regulations of the Customs is that all books or papers of a scientific and educational nature can be imported from the U. S. duty free. Stamp collecting is a science. Why not all albums, catalogue:, etc., "duty free," also.

Let all persons sending stamps, either used or unused, to foreign countries, mark their packet, parcel-post. If not so marked they are liable to letter rates. A parcel of postcards sent to a foreign country is liable to letter rates under the plea that it contains written matter. At least that has been the experience of the writer.

Many of our engravers would be in want of a position if it were not for the situations held out to them by the government for the engraving of postage stamps. The men employed are for the most part master mechanics and receive a good salary. Hence the benefits of new issues, in giving engravers work, besides advancing education in the study of geography and history.