



## MONTHLY GAZETTE.

VOL. 1. NO. 7.]

ST. JOHN, NEW BRUNSWICK, DECEMBER, 1865:

[PRICE 5 CTS.]

WITH this number we begin the second half year of our existence. Six months have elapsed since we—to use a common expression—first saw the light; and during the brief space of time that we have been amongst our friends, numerous changes in the postal arrangements of the various countries employing stamps throughout the world have taken place. We have long and anxiously awaited the coming of that new issue of Prince Edward Island, of which we have heard so much. Perhaps the Post Office department of that colony mean to give their loyal countrymen a surprise, and send forth their new stamps when they are least expected; or they may intend them for a New Year's gift for the benefit of collectors. We think that they are waiting until confederation is accomplished. Whatever their purpose doing, however, they are long enough about it. We were promised a new issue for the United States, but these also are behindhand. In regard to our own province, we have a suggestion to make which we hope our government will take in hand as soon as their broken ranks are filled and they can do so conveniently. Canada, as many of our readers are aware, employs envelope stamps of the denomination of five cents for colonial use, and ten cents for postage to the United States. The color of the former is vermillion, and of the latter, chocolate. They are both printed on *white* paper, and present a fine appearance. These two stamps we have seen on *buff* paper, but, according to the best authorities, these have been pronounced forgeries. In our last we quoted from an exchange that the set of essays of envelopes which were intended for Nova Scotia, were out. Is New Brunswick going to be beaten by Nova Scotia and Canada? We hope not. Then, why cannot we have envelopes? They are very useful to merchants and those having large correspondence, who would, we feel confident, purchase large quantities of them, as much time and trouble are saved by their use, and no little inconvenience. The plan has been found to work well both in Canada and the United States, and, in fact, in every country that uses them. Immense numbers would likewise be sold to collectors of postage stamps, which is pure gain, as those disposed of for that purpose will never be used for postage. When our present two cents stamp was issued, (1863,) innumerable quantities of

them were eagerly bought up and sent to England, from which place they were exported all over the world where stamp collecting exists. Even now, so great is the demand, that orders are being constantly sent to be filled, and nearly every mail that leaves for Great Britain and Europe carries with it large packets of them. When Canada and Nova Scotia in turn issued their two cents stamps, the same result followed; for there are vast numbers of collectors throughout the globe who greedily grasp hold of every new stamp that is issued, and still pant for more. Much in the same manner as a miser hoards up his gold, does a *philatelist* treasure up his coveted album of "useless bits of paper," as they are very improperly called by the persons to whom the point of stamp collecting is not very perceptible.

Some people are uncharitable enough to suppose that frequent issues are made by the petty governments of Europe for the purpose of helping their exchequer from extra sales to collectors. But we do not wish it to be understood that our government should issue envelope stamps for that purpose. No. We want them for their extreme usefulness alone. If we ever have them—and we hope the day is not far distant WHEN WE WILL.—we hope that the engraving will equal in every respect our present beautiful and much admired issue of postal adhesives.

THE PRESS has our thanks for their many kind notices of us on our enlargement. We should like to publish a few of these opinions just to let our readers know what outsiders think of us, but want of space compels us to relinquish the idea. However, we may have room some of these days, and then look out for something startling.

THE *Coin and Stamp Journal*, of Chicago, has not ceased to exist, but is out as usual. Its November number is printed on fine paper, and its whole typographical appearance has been changed. We take this opportunity of congratulating Mr. Mason upon the great improvements he has made.

THE *Stamp Argus* has been enlarged. Its editorials are well written, and altogether it reflects credit upon its talented editor.