

be under control. The wall of the burning building fell outward into Craig street, which was filled from sidewalk to sidewalk with debris. The "Champion" watertower, the pride of the Montreal fire brigade, was crushed like an egg shell, and hurled against the opposite buildings, a mass of twisted iron. The

firemen on the watertower had a miraculous escape from death. The big extension ladder which stood beside the watertower with 4 men on it, was twisted round and remained standing just long enough to enable the men to slide down, before it fell with a crash. The total loss was \$1,200,000.

A PHILATELIC PARODY.

How dear to my heart are the stamps of my childhood,
When fond recollection presents them to view.
The U.S., the England, the nice old Newfoundland,
And every loved stamp which my boyhood days knew.
The wide spreading revenues and the ones that stood by them,
The Turks and the French where my eyes often fell,
The horse of '69 and the engine right by it
And e'en the rude counterfeit I thought looked so well.
That old looking counterfeit, that much valued counterfeit,
That old treasured counterfeit, I thought looked so well.

That three cornered counterfeit I hailed as a treasure,
And often at night when returned from the field
I found it the source of an exquisite pleasure

The purest, the sweetest, my album could yield.
How I grabbed my album with hands that were glowing
And first to the counterfeit the book open fell.

Then my eyes with happiness overflowing
Gazed at the counterfeit I thought looked so well.
How nice on the dirty white leaf did it look
As placed in the centre it seemed on the page,
That not a good coin collection could tempt me to leave it,
Though coins should be in it from many an age,
And now far removed from that loved old stamp book

The tears of regret will intrusively swell,
As fancy often reverts to the stamps I forsook,
And sighs for the counterfeit I thought looked so well.

That old looking counterfeit, that much valued counterfeit,
That old treasured counterfeit I thought looked so well.

A. LLOYD JONES.

A Loss of Revenue.

The postal officials are in trouble. The new Mulock stamps very closely resemble some of the United States issue. A short time ago a large patent medicine concern at Buffalo, N.Y., sent into Canada a number of circulars with stamped reply envelopes enclosed. Through an inadvertence, United States 2 cent instead of Canadian 3-cent stamp were used. The cost of the stamps was not all lost, however. A great many of the envelopes bearing the United States stamps came back, the Canadian postal officials in their hurry not noting the slight difference in design in the stamps—the color being the same—and the United States postal revenue has been enriched by some hundreds of dollars, for which the Canadian postal service rendered value. A circular has, it is understood, been issued warning Canadian postal clerks to be careful in their scrutiny of the stamps on letters addressed to big advertising firms across the border.—"Montreal Gazette."

THANK YOU, GENTLEMEN.

We have received many complimentary letters, both from subscribers and advertisers during the last month. We heartily thank the writers, and assure them that we will always endeavour to keep our paper up to the standard. We especially thank the following gentlemen: C. A. Crane, Toronto, W. W. Jewett, Portland, Me., Will Paasch, Davenport, O. E. Jacobsen, Boulder, Col., and many others.

Private Postal Cards.

Washington, D.C., Nov. 8.—Postmaster-General Smith has issued an order admitting private mailing cards authorized by the act of May 19, 1898, into the foreign mails at one cent postage each for Canada and Mexico, and two cents for all other postal union countries. This permits the sending of any kind of card, in lieu of requiring the usual postal card, provided the size is the same as the official cards.