

importance, more so "than gettin' a few old stamps, and used ones at that." I assumed a jocular expression when I called at the next house.

Says I, "How-do-you-do, sir. I just dropped in to see if I could get from your letters some of Uncle Sam's stamps."

The granger whom I had addressed shifted his tobacco to the other cheek and after a long wait, during which he examined me from head to foot, he replied:

"Get some of Uncle Sam's Stamps? Well, I guess not! It would be ashewin' him disrespect and him dyin' away out in Californy in '49. No sir! And you'd better drop out right away for if you don't of yourself, I'll help you."

Gentlemen, what was I to do? In a far-off land without hope or cash, I was here stranded. Among hostile inhabitants, who might be reckoned unto the Philistines of old. I became frightened. How I wished I were back home! But I had no money.

A happy thought popped into my head. I would walk! What was seventy miles to a vigorous man like myself? And walk the distance I did. To be sure I reached home minus a hat and with soleless shoes, but I was there and duly thankful therefor.

The next day I set to work to make out my bill, and this is the way it stood:

To four days work at \$3.33 1/3	\$ 13 33
To one pair of shoes	3 00
To one ticket to Phoenix, N. Y.	2 50
To one square meal upon return home	1 67
Total	\$ 20 50
Lot for \$20.00	

I waited anxiously for a settlement of the bill, for the fellow that I had borrowed the money of to go to my uncle's on, was pressing me, and I was exceedingly disappointed to receive the following letter:

356 The Strand, London, Eng.,
July 4, 1893.

To Geo. Gauthier, Esq.,

Dear Sir,—Yours received, but as you failed to secure any stamps, we cannot allow your bill.

Yours truly,
SNIPES & Co.

After this pathetic recital, Noble had the audacity to ask Gauthier if he had lost any flesh from his seventy-mile walk, and upon his applying in the affirmative, Noble said that he would have liked to have seen him before, then.

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATLIST.

NORTHWESTERN HAPPENINGS.

BY BOSWORTH.

St. Paul is a great town or changes. The collectors are as variable as the wind, and their dealers, if such they may be called, are just about as bad. The firm of Nessonson & Lambert ran about two months, then came Nessonson & Beldan, and now it is A. B. Nessonson & Co.

In your Feb. 8th issue, the correspondent who wrote the Minneapolis notes was "slightly off" when he said that the Columbian issue were not

on sale at the post office. If he will leave the girls and Harmonia Hall dances alone for awhile, long enough to trot over and see Mr. Grant, he may obtain all he wants up to the dollar values.

Friend Gurdy, formerly of Galveston, Texas, must have some attraction in Chicago. He has been there since early in the summer, and although he roars and howls at our wintry blasts, he does not seem to get any nearer to his southern home. Can it be that he intends to emulate the examples of Messrs. Deats, Aldrich, Grevning, et al, and get "tied up" in the windy city?

I had a letter from one of our old-time northwestern collectors, Bickley, now of New York city. His ardor for "the little bits of paper" is still very strong, and he says he is picking up all snaps that come his way. A little over a year ago a Minneapolis lady, who was also a philatelist, became a permanent resident at his home, and now the information reaches me that the population of Jersey City has been increased by one. It's a girl. All parties doing nicely.

The *Zenith City Philatelist*, heralded from Duluth, has as yet failed to put in an appearance. We have not heard from Mr. Burns for a month and presume he will not start the paper. The *Minnesota* is reported to be on the ragged edge and should it go under, *The Northwest* will be the sole representative "in these diggings." Yes, boys, it takes money to start a philatelic journal, and a heap more of it to keep it running.

A. P. S. of A. state branch for Minnesota is the latest venture in the society line and its chief promoter is Robt. I. Man, of Mankato, who is state vice president for the Kissenger-Fox-Ashcroft Society.

Just along this line, we are reminded that the Minneapolis Philatelic Society is a thing of the past. Messrs. Johnson, Greenfield, Achard, Van Gorder and Whitall have resigned, and the president is on the fence and contemplates a like step. Three of the members have moved from the city and the rest never come to the meetings. This isn't right. A city with as many collectors as the Flour City ought to be heard from.

Omaha is experiencing the same thing as Minneapolis in the local society line, as one of my correspondents tells me it is almost impossible to get the fellows out. Now some people might take this to indicate a decline in philately, but we hardly think it is, especially when the circumstances are all taken into account. The fellows are too anxious to accumulate a number of the 57-cent dollars and will soon see that they are missing quite a considerable by neglecting to assemble occasionally.

The Raleigh 5-cent envelope, entire in superb cancelled shape, changed ownership in 1888, at the Scott Company's 87th sale, for the sum of six dollars.