

Most of these in a more or less modest way a library, and do exchanging with other collectors similarly inclined. There is a certain fascination about building up a library of philatelic papers which, to a collector, is second only to that of the stamps themselves. Philatelic journalism has, by some cynical persons, been regarded as a disease. The cynical persons aforesaid have gone so far as to give it a name "Philatelic Cholera" and to make up prescription for it. This disease, which tends to add another paper to our philatelic journalistic plentitude, is very contagious and consequently the collector of stamp journals is particularly liable to the malady. This may be proved by observation.

This is the only drawback incident to forming a philatelic library and now a brief summary of the advantages pertaining thereunto may not be out of place.

The collector, who has a library, necessarily learns more concerning stamps than others. Again a library is a great reference article, fairly stowed with matter, valuable and interesting to the philatelist, which may at any moment be consulted and which is always "on the spot." Some collectors bind their volumes whenever they complete them. This is the neatest and best way, but you will find it very expensive, providing you are no relation to Creosos. You might try a little amateur book-binding yourself if your purse is not as plethoric in greenbacks as you would desire. If you would have your library complete you must subscribe to all papers regularly published, keeping a sharp lookout for back numbers and for transient papers. In conclusion I would say persevere, do all the exchanging you can and keep your library in order.

#### THE CANADIAN SONS OF PHILATELIA.

We are progressing favourably. Since last month we have enlisted the forces of W. S. Weat'erston, of Toronto, who promises to get us at least 15 members. Mr. W. is a friend worth having! All collectors in Canada should apply to the secretary for application blanks. Initiation fee is 10c., dues 25c per year, all members get this paper free. Rev. A. Sims, of Uxbridge, Ont., is nominated for president, and C. Della Torre, of Halifax, for vice-president. All interested should write. A full list of members will appear next month. Address A. M. Muirhead, Sec. *pro tem*, Halifax, N. S.

Written for C. P. M.

#### PHILATELIC SOCIETIES.

BY KING PHILIP.

I am not going to bias the reader's opinion at the very beginning of this article by declaring the nonsense common to a few contemporary writers about the tyrannizing editor, etc., forcing it from me. The readers would not believe it and the editor might feel like kicking himself for such an act of indiscretion as asking for it. My subject is one which has been much written on in the philatelic journals of the past year. It has been presented in all its possible forms. It has been dinned into our ears until seemingly, everyone has been convinced that there are too many philatelic societies, but just the same, every now and then a new society springs into existence with the same old cry, "We are here to fill a long felt want." In some cases it dies out after a brief struggle and is heard from no more.

[To be continued.]