

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

THE CAMPAIGNS.

BY O. E. KLAPP.

THE great political strife, which has been the leading topic with the majority of philatelists and philatelic papers for a considerable length of time, and especially so for the past two months, has just come to a close; and we feel safe in saying that everyone was pleased when the motion was in order for the final adjournment.

Many of our local editors have injured themselves, inasmuch as they have even gone so far as to publish articles of abuse and slurs about some of our most prominent and earnest workers; and it is true that many friends have become most bitter enemies through these different writings. Those who kept their peace proved to be the most successful.

At the convention halls, at Chicago, all of the proceedings passed off in a business-like manner, and the officers and members present are to be congratulated on behalf of their good judgment, both in the transaction of business and in the selection of good officers; ones that are worthy of office, and willing to work for the general welfare and growth of philately.

In the selection of the head officers of both societies, two men of experience and knowledge were selected for the positions, and give general satisfaction to the majority of members. All other offices seems to be filled with honest workers, which shows that none other than good judgment was used throughout the entire ticket.

President Tiffany's address at the opening of the campaign was listened to eagerly by all present, and much praise is due that gentleman for his ardent working and interest which he takes in all philatelic proceedings. John is a pleasant fellow to meet!

The leader of the *Sons* is an estimable gentleman, and one who is willing to bear his share of the responsibility. Brother Russell is an honest philatelist, while probably not so well known as his opponent, Kessinger, yet he fills all the requirements of the constitution, and the number of votes he received at the last convention proves that he was the favorite of all.

Philatelists can now look forward until the time of another convention, when a larger attendance is expected. This will necessitate a better time, and all will consider the few days profitably spent.

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NOTES HERE AND THERE.

The current of philatelic opinion is at present setting in the right direction in regarding philately, not as a science nor a great educator, but merely as a pursuit of pleasure; an intensely interesting pastime, and a relief from other cares.

I think I recognize in "King Philip" an old school-mate, although the breadth of the Continent now separates us.

I have seen a portion of a sheet of the 6c. Columbian stamps, which had not passed out of the postoffice, turned to a handsome blue shade, between that of the 1c. and the 4c.

The Wells, Fargo & Co. have had a special imprint for the Columbian envelopes. It is now in blue, and an entirely different design from the time honored old one, which has been in use from a period

ante-dating our earliest official stamped envelopes. The 1c. Wells, Fargo & Co. blue newspaper stamp, which is still in use, is the stamp of a private company, permitted by the government. The Wells, Fargo & Co. is in fact an independent mail route, but only for papers, not letters. This concession was granted mainly for the reason that the company's mail route is older than our own postoffice.

It is greatly to be desired that the year 1894 does not usher in a new issue of postage stamps upon us U. S. collectors. I think very few collectors desire it. There is no use in our government doing so unless it has grown envious of the money-making scheme of the Central American states. We do not want any such methods employed by our post-office, and there is no reason why, since they have not been counterfeited, and the colors are good, why our present small issue should not continue in use until the plates become too badly worn for further service; let all good collectors pray for this.

The stamp collecting mania—Tasmania.

Three Coasts, each of a different nation, now issue stamps; Costa Rica, the Rice Coast, Gold Coast, and Cote D'Ivoire, the Ivory Coast. There is at least one more to be added, the Mosquito Coast.

Long before the writer heard of water mark, and long and short surcharges, he had a big tin box full of St. Helena stamps, but he traded them all but one of value, for German and French stamps; and so today he is very mournfully comparing the thinness of his purse with the fatness of the other varieties, most of which he does not possess. This lonely little island with its celebrated history, has always had an attraction for the writer, especially as it was his father's headquarters for years. Although its stamps, with only two or three exceptions, are all surcharged, yet they do not belong to that deleterious class of more modern surcharges, because the surcharge does not form the distinguishing difference.

New Zealand stamps with the advertisements of soaps and patent medicines begin to appear occasionally, and one enterprising philatelist has already forestalled the catalogues by beginning a collection of the different advertisements.

In what a state of constant motion the dealers who read the newspapers for signs of advancement in stamps, must be kept. I pick up a copy of a great daily, and on the first page the following headings stand out: Revolutionists gaining strength in troubled Argentina; Liberal triumph in disturbed Nicaragua; The Franco-Siam difficulty somewhat smoothed over; Turmoiled state of Mexican provinces; Closer relations postally between Canada and Newfoundland; Quiet at Bombay; Important despatches to Hawaii; etc. etc. However, the Central and South American countries, which scarcely ever appear before the public without a quarrelsome adjective prefixed, need not worry the dealers, as Mr. Seebeck will take care of their interests sufficiently—and his own.

We are sorry to learn that a new postal card is to be issued in the place of the three now in use; in size about an average between the three. The big card is an extremely convenient one for those who wish to send a whole letter for only one cent.

—CHAS. E. JENNEY.