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Canadian Stamp Literature.

By D. O. MINION.

II. THE STAMP REPORTER.

The first number of the Stamp Reporter appeared in August 1897, published by Bradley & Oswald, St. Catharines, Ont. For a first number it made a splendid showing but like most beginners it was printed on rank paper. It contained mostly reprinted matter, and by the way, I consider that good reprinted matter would far better fill the space than poor original "stuff" meted to us by certain stamp papers now being published.

The Reporter in the early stages of its existence was not too profuse in its self-praise and this I think is the reason it succeeded so well. It evidently believed in the proverb, "By their works ye shall know them."

In its issue for January 1898, it showed evidence of having caught the prize contest fever; this was however dropped a few months after when Mr. Oswald withdrew from the paper leaving it under full control of Mr. Geo. Bradley. The July num-

ber contained twelve pages and cover. It was illustrated with cuts of prominent philatelists and I consider it the best number of the Reporter ever issued. With the July issue it became the official organ of the Toronto Own Philatelic Association and served it faithfully ever since.

In September 1898, the paper became the property of W. A. Nicholson of St. Catharines who controlled it for one month when Mr. Bradley again took the helm. For a few months after this the Reporter seemed to be sickly, but I am now pleased to state that it is now in a convalescent state and we can expect it to appear promptly as of yore. In the issue for January last, Raymond S. Baker, who is one of the most brilliant philatelic writers of the day, gives some sound advice to Canadian philatelic associations under the title of "An Old Mistake." If Bro. Bradley continues to present articles from the "easy flowing pen" of Mr. Baker, his paper will soon find a place amongst the leader.

(to be continued)

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