

## Pithy Philatelic Points.

Sayings and articles of noted writers carefully condensed

By REGINALD KINNERSLEY.

Many a man now among the lights of Philately would never have become interested had it not been for his meeting in his school days with some boy-agent with approval sheets of enticing specimens of postage stamps. To talk of doing away with the approval system is pure unadorned nonsense. There is really little fraud. The value of approval sheets stolen is probably not one per cent of the value of all the stamps sent out that way. The rife of philatelic frauds is dying out. Dealers are becoming more wary and better able to cope with the philatelic parasites. — John Devereaux Kirke.

As matters now stand it is a good thing that a large part of the boys drop off collecting every year or so, or the prices would soon get so high that we could not even afford to specialize. — H. P. Boyle.

The word "philately" has been defined as 'the love of stamps,' and necessarily a philatelist must be one who loves stamps. The person who collects with the sole object of pecuniary gain, of realizing a profit on his investment cannot lay claim to the title of philatelist, for it is a love of money, not stamps. — Roy F. Greene.

Even to many philatelists the news that a single stamp had been auctioned for \$1010 was a great surprise. Judge then of the amazement of the non-philatelic public at the reports of the sale in the newspapers. This emphasizes the fact that money spent on philately

is not gone, as it would be if spent in a luxury, but is safely invested in a class of merchandise which sells for ready cash in the auction marts of Europe and America — Lewis G. Quackenbush.

Some of our dealers have been acting as intermediary of some God-forsaken colony in the Atlantic or some never-heard-of island in the Pacific, whose ruler is desirous of replenishing his empty treasury at the expense of the philatelic world. This is worthy of nothing but the severest condemnation. For too many unscrupulous individuals are in the habit of disposing to inexperienced collectors, speculative postal issues. — Joseph F. Courtney.

There is a splendid forgery of the Nova Scotia 6 pence. It is lithographed and the original is engraved. The lozenge in the counterfeit is larger than in the genuine at the left side between "Nova" and "six-pence" containing the figure '6'. The 8½c counterfeit as well as the 12½c are smaller in size than the genuine. The forgeries are perforated 14, the originals 12 — Henry Collins.

Russian rural stamps are issued by municipal ties to aid the service of the Imperial posts where the districts have no regular posts. They have an official status, and are more worthy of notice than U. S., Danish or Norwegian locals. — Wm. Herrick.

The Chinese locals are midway between purely local, such as U. S., and government issues. They are not sanctioned by the government, yet they carry mail to any part of the Empire having a P.O. of its own therefore they are not exactly 'locals'. — Lewis G. Quackenbush.