

Philatelic Journal of Canada

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO STAMP COLLECTING.

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GREETING.

To our Patrons and Friends:

With this our initial number we present ourselves into the field of Philatelic journalism, and patiently await the verdict of the appreciative public on this our venture.

We must say, as reasons for our unexpected presence, that we are not only here to "fill a long felt want," but are even prompted by a far nobler motive, and far more important aim.

What! to fill a long felt want? Yes, our friends. We are fully aware of the number of philatelic journals (whether good, bad, or indifferent,) extant, but we are equally as fully aware of the very small fraction thereof which constitutes the few worthy of the name which they bear, and the cause which they represent, and especially is this true in Canada. Of the few, however, collectors cannot but deem any addition as a "long felt want." We are here to join the ranks of these few, and therefore claim the right of the surname.

Our foremost reason of presence, however, is due to an ardent desire to benefit philately, and an inherent love of our beautiful scientific hobby, a feeling, almost forcible in its nature, and almost natural in the true. The latter is more easily felt than described, and we will not enter into a lengthy topic,

but conclude by assuring the reader that this feeling assures us *long life and prosperity.*

We will end this in a few words, further assuring our readers that this, our first number, is in *no wise* up to our proposed standard, and is rather crude and imperfect, as is usual, but this objection, we trust, will be overcome by our promise to improve the JOURNAL monthly, and make it a leading factor among Philatelic journalism of to-day.

We, therefore, take this opportunity of greeting our friends, and soliciting their foremost patronage.

What Shall We Collect?

BY M. S.

The above question is so often referred to by collectors of all grades, whether advanced, young or otherwise, that a few general remarks on the subject would not be out of place at this busy season of the year, when there is a general return to albums and stamps. The question is such that when treated in philatelic journalism is liable to variations, and a study of all, coupled with common sense, is a sure means to the exact answer.

If you are a *beginner*, collect only *used specimens* and of the cheaper class, as these are the only ones not liable to counterfeit, reprint, and other means of deceit specially framed for that inexperienced collector. Collect such specimens as were used *postally only*,