

DOMINION PHILATELIST

PUBLISHED MONTHLY, IN THE INTERESTS OF STAMP COLLECTING.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

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H. F. KETCHESON,

Belleville, Ont

DOMINION PHILATELIST, APRIL, 1889.

OUR NEW CATALOGUE.

Ketcheson's Canadian Catalogue, which the Philatelic public have been expecting for some weeks, has made its appearance at last. It consists of 28 pages and a cover, and catalogues 544 varieties of Canadian stamps.

One feature, of interest to collectors, is that every stamp is priced both new and used, and all who wish to have an accurate idea of the value of their Canada stamps will do well to purchase one of these catalogues.

No Canadian collector can afford to be without a copy, as it describes and prices all the Revenue stamps.

This edition is limited to 500 copies, and as more than half are already sold, those who expect to get a copy should order at once.

To members of A. P. A. and C. P. A. we will send this Catalogue on approval, on receiving a promise that they will return same or remit at once. Paper, 25 cents. Cloth, 50 cents.

Address,

H. F. KETCHESON,

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THE REPRINT QUESTION.

READ BEFORE THE BROOKLYN PHILATELIC CLUB, FEBRUARY 14TH, 1889,
BY J. W. SCOTT.

The most interesting question before stamp collectors of the present day is concerning reprints in our albums, and it really is a difficult problem to decide upon; perhaps with the exception of cut or uncut envelopes, it is about the only subject that has ever divided the ranks of Philatelic amateurs.

First let us understand what a reprint is and also what it is supposed to be.

In supplying small countries, or to speak more correctly, states using but small quantities of stamps, a plate of the desired pattern is prepared, and sufficient stamps printed to last, according to the idea of the authorities, for one or more years. When the stamps are used up a new supply is provided, and if no change in the design is necessary, reprints are made from the old plate. The ordinary collector looks upon one of the new batch as the same old stamp and takes no notice of the slight change in the tint, possibly difference in the texture of the paper, or even if a new watermark has been adopted, or the size of the perforation modified or enlarged. The advanced collector, however, notices all these slight differences and provides spaces for them on the sheets of his album, thus raising the number of stamps in his collection from five to twenty-five thousand. Both systems of collecting satisfy their salaries, and thus fulfil the main object of the pursuit. If it were understood that that every collector had to acquire from six to a dozen stamps of a kind, which it took him years of familiarity with the science to distinguish between, stamp collecting, as a popular hobby, would be a thing of the past. Turning to the single letter rate stamp of a great nation, say our own two cent green label for instance, which has only been in use two years. The demand for this is so enormous that there is a constant reprinting going on, and although it is impossible to print from the same plate two lots or mix two lots of ink to the exact shade; still skillful workmen will come very near the mark, and in the case of the two cent stamp