

The Canada Stamp Sheet.

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QUEBEC, DECEMBER, 15th, 1900.

THE LEATHER CHAIR.

Before the Stamp Sheet will again greet its readers, the festivities of Christmas shall have held full sway, and the year 1900 with all its changes, joys and sorrows shall have given place to the New Year, 1901.

The year now about completed has been, speaking from a philatelic standpoint, an unusually eventful one.

On the one hand, war has been the means of giving birth, if not to many new stamps, to such a flood of surcharges as to make the hair of the specialist stand on end when he comes to contrast the sum total cost of the same with the slim lining of his much abused pocket book. The average collector, however, laughs at the fun and lets the stamps go.

On the other hand an odd stamp issuing country has been absorbed by a stronger or more lively one, thus making its contributions to philately a thing of the past.

Larger conventions of stamp men have been held during the year than usual, and more important business transacted.

A host of new stamp papers have come to the fore, some of course only to make their initial bow and then disappear forever, but many to stay and with no uncertain sound discuss the questions of the hour.

The various exhibitions which have been held have also done much for our hobby, and the large space which the Press through-

out the world has given to matters directly or indirectly connected with this branch of science, indicates the general interest which is now taken in the collection of stamps.

That the year 1901 will see a wonderful accession to the ranks of the present great army of collectors can not be doubted, and such a state of things will naturally effect prices. Where there are 1000 stamps of a given issue and denomination and but a hundred or two collectors, specimens are apt to be little thought of and prices rule low, but should the number of collectors swell to 5000, a different valuation naturally follows.

While wishing every one of our readers a right Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, we would strongly recommend to them the motto "Buy now. Tarry Not."

We wish to direct special attention to our advertisers this month. Mr. Jack Thomson, the revenue stamp specialist, is one of our most popular and best known Quebec men. Unlike Zaccheus of old, he is a man of long stature, standing head and shoulders over most of his friends on the street. His straight dealing and honesty are beyond question, and every reader should send him a trial order and find this fact out for himself.

The Canada Stamp Company has its usual attractive stamp exhibit on our front page. The great success which has followed the publication of the Canadian Stamp Album by this Company speaks well for the book. Orders accompanied by sixty cents should be sent in at once before the edition is exhausted. No more handsome or useful present for the coming holidays could be desired.

In referring to Messrs. Starnaman Bros. (The Philatelic Advocate) F. I. Weaver. (Energy) E. R. Elliott, (International Philatelic Review) S. E. Moisant, (Stamp Exchange) L. D. Brodstone, (Philatelic West & Camera News) we have only to say that these publishers and stamp papers are first class.

Mr. Richard R. Brown, of Keyport, is still open to receive large wholesale consignments of stamps, and from our business experience with him we are confident that sellers as well as buyers will receive most satisfactory treatment.

Space will not allow reference to all the names on our advertising list, but we bespeak liberal patronage all around.