

# The Ontario Philatelist.

A MONTHLY FOR COLLECTORS.

VOL. II.

AUGUST, 1898.

No. 6.

## Historical and Postal Matters of the Ionian Islands.

BY F. P.

CONTINUED FROM LAST NUMBER

On October 15th, 1861, a second set of postage stamps appeared. They are 1 obolos yellow, 2 oboloi blue, and 4 oboloi wine red, with the same design and the same description as the preceding issue, but the color of the 2 oboloi value is darker, and the 4 oboloi value is more carmine than wine red, as the same values are in the 1859 issue. The quantities of this second issue are: --45,000 stamps of the 1 obolos value, 120,000 stamps of the 2 oboloi value, and 30,000 stamps of the 4 oboloi value. The post-offices of the Ionian Islands handled during 1861 mail pieces in number of 154,000, in 1862 a number of 171,000, in 1863 a number of 192,000, and in the year 1864 a total of 104,000 mail pieces. As mentioned in the historical part, the Republic of the Ionian Islands became Greek territory. On May 15th, 1864, the kingdom of Greece took in hand all the Ionian Island post-offices, and the circulation of the Ionian Islands postage stamps was discontinued. What has become of the large stock of Ionian postage stamps? The royal Greek government sold the remaining stock to stamp dealers in London, England, and Trieste, Austria.

Now a word about the cancellation of the Ionian Islands postage stamps. Partly they were cancelled with a cross (written), seldom with the word FRANCO. Some European collectors reported also to possess stamps cancelled with the year, date and month. There are plenty of counterfeits made of the Ionian stamps, but they are lithographed and without watermark and a serious collector easily finds them out. The genuine unused stamps are very high priced, but the genuine used stamps are much higher, and all are very scarce.

---

## Over the Border.

### NUTMEG GRATINGS.

#### Some Views Concerning the Omaha Stamps.

There is no doubt in my mind that issues like the Columbians, the Canada Jubilees and the Omahas help the business of philately in spite of the speculative taint that clings to them, and many collectors are made by the putting forth of such issues. The opinions as to the Omahas differ a good deal. I do not pretend to be an expert in any way as to the merits of this or that design. I do know what I like, however, and I have my ideas. It seems to me very queer to compare the workmanship with