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WHOLE No. 19.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

BY CHAS. JENNEY.

From the North there came a message to a distant, sunny clime,
'Twas a message from the icebergs to the fig tree and the lime;
Others followed, bringing tidings, causing silent joy or mirth,
Or perchance they told of sorrow, of some dear one gone from earth.
Times it seemed as if warm currents from that far Atlantic isle,
Had swept southward, brightening nature, bringing to her face a smile;
Then it seemed as if its bleak wind, flying fast o'er dale and hill,
Sought to pierce the golden tropic with a gruesome sense of chill.
From the date of fifty-seven, every message came in state,
And each bearer of a message, wore the livery of its date.
First the shamrock and the thistle blazoned on a field of white,
And the name, St. John's, Newfoundland, circling round from left to right;
Then there came a page who bore the coronet in octagon,
Quartefoil, with the same motto as its brothers, elder born.
Later there came new devices, whispering of Atlanta's tanks,
Cod and seal with iceberg background, and a schooner off the banks.
In all colors of the rainbow, were these pages who were sped,
With their tidings from Newfoundland, to a land with sunlight wed.

Many years have faded in the dimming memories of the past,
Each new generation rising, scarcely thinking of the last;
Long-forgotten are the tidings which those messages once told,
And the writer and the reader long have changed from life to mould.
But those little bits of paper, that as passports served them then,
Still are treasured and hold places of great honor among men.
While the thoughts they served to carry, over sea and over land,
May have gone from us forever, by stern fate's unjust command,
Still we see the seal and cod-fish, and the full-rigged fishing-smack
On the pages of our album, and they bring old memories back.

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

NOT ALWAYS TRUE.

DO-DAY note the magazines that are published for the benefit of fraud exposure; will you not notice names in the fraud list that will surprise you? Probably you will find the name of some intimate friend with whom you are personally acquainted. This alarms you, and you begin to inquire into it. No doubt you will speak to him regarding this, and he is, more astonished than you. Is he a fraud? He may be, but after inquiring into it, we find that some inexperienced youth, we might say, who started into business with a few thousand continentals, sent him some of these worthless stamps on approval, unsolicited, and expects him to buy them at a high price. If he doesn't do so and fails to make returns in due time, he is notified with threatening letters several times and finally publishes him as a dangerous fraud.

In the first place, the stamps are not, as a general rule, worth the postage it takes to carry them, and a party receiving stamps in this way should not so much as think of returning them, unless the necessary amount of postage is sent for their return. Any

reasonable, intelligent dealer will not call you a fraud for retaining stamps that were sent without order. This is noted as one of the drawbacks of philately, and, as a general occurrence, is practised mostly by the younger dealers with the big "Co." affixed to their name, but we will not confine it entirely to this class of persons, as I know of a similar instance where one of our would-be prominent dealers was working just such a scheme, sending out approval sheets to different collectors, trying to build up his broken-down trade.

It is right and proper for every collector to be honest and to promptly return all stamps to the dealers with whom he is dealing, and if you send for an extra fine selection of stamps, it would be a good plan (when you receive them) to notify the dealer of their safe arrival. This will not only relieve him, but he will feel much more like allowing you to retain them longer. But, on the other hand, pay no attention to the parties who send you stamps unsolicited, and, if you are published as a fraud, explain it to the public through the columns of some strong journal, and the philatelists in general will think much more of you for your just dealing than of the dealer, as it shows good judgment on your part.