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JNO. REGINALD HOOPER,

PRESIDENT OF CANADA'S NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION.

The engraving we present this month will, no doubt, be recognized by many prominent philatelists in Canada and the U. S. as that of Mr. J. R. Hooper, the first President of The Philatelic Society of Canada. The engraving is copied from a photo by De Lorme, Ottawa.

Mr Hooper's life has been published in no less than five or six papers, both in Canada and abroad, so we will be content to give a small sketch of his philatelic career. Beginning at a time when stamp collecting was generally laughed at, and regarded as a harmless craze, he is one of the early collectors who foresaw great things ahead, and has made the hobby a "science." His first collection was made twenty-three years ago, when stamps now classed as unobtainable were to be had for a few cents. He steadily increased his collection, and made a study of counterfeit and watermark specialties. Sixteen years ago he published a stamp paper called *The Gazette*, and advised collectors of coins to give up that pursuit for philately. "Scott's" American album of 1868 was his first stamp book, and the beginning of a collection valued at seven thousand dollars. He has sold close upon four thousand dollars' worth, and at the sale of his "Part I" in New York he realized nearly *one thousand dollars* for his British North American stamps; the latter is his specialty, and he possesses at present a very fine collection, rather inclining to the idea of amassing rare stamps, and paying particular attention to minute varieties of paper, perforation, watermarks, color, etc.

Mr. Hooper was the founder of the C. P. A. of which he was No. 1, also one of the promoters

of the present Canadian National Association, and organizer of the Ottawa Philatelic Society, which claims to be the largest local branch on the continent. He is a member of the Nederland Society of Amsterdam, No. 42. He also belongs to the following powerful organizations, some of which extend to all parts of the globe:—Carleton Lodge, I. O. O. F., No. 240; Derby Lodge, No. 30; Oddfellows Encampment, No. 52; Past Commandant Canton, No. 9; Patriarchs Militant; Foresters; Past Supreme Grand Lodge, Representative Sons of England; Audobon Society of America; St. George's Society; Clarendon Lodge, No. 1; White Rose Degree, etc., etc.

Of Mr. Hooper's military service, nearly everybody is acquainted, the fact that he is the possessor of Queen's medals for active campaigning, and also that he is the owner of several championship trophies for athletic feats won ten years ago. He has published two professional papers, and acted as parliamentary correspondent in the House of Commons. Outside of his stamp collecting he finds a chance to display his musical talent in St. Cæcilia Glee Club; The Arion Quartette and the choir of St. Alban the Martyr, in each of which he is a member. Since 1886 he has been a permanent government official in the Post Office Department, Head Office, Ottawa. Mr. Hooper is President of the Ottawa Philatelic Society, and at the Capital he is the recognized leading authority on Philately. Notwithstanding the recent sale of his collection, Mr. Hooper is again engaged in the formation of another collection. Mr. Hooper is also a well-known contributor to the Philatelic press, under his familiar *nom de plume*, "Canadensis."

L. M. S.