

of Philately of April 1871, this issue was withdrawn from circulation about June or July, 1851.

The Duett Philatelic Club then adjourned, it being most bedtime, and we are to meet again next week, when our president will read a paper on the issue of the United States of 1851. I've sent in an application to the Sons of Philatelia and am going to join others soon. It's a good thing. ED. BEE.

Canada's Registration Stamps

W. A. Beatty

The Government of Canada in the year 1875 issued stamps of a special character for matters of registration only. Over and above the ordinary rate to all foreign countries except the United States, the fee at that time was 8 cents; but favor was granted the United States, the fee being 5 cents, and in Canada 2 cents. Three kinds of similar designs were engraved by the British American Bank Note Co. of Montreal, on white wove paper, but some of the 5-cents have been discovered watermarked. They were narrow, oblong and scalloped at the top and bottom, with labels with value in full at the two ends. There is a small, straight label above, inscribed "Canada"; a large curved label in the centre, with "Registered"; and a small curved label with the words "Letter Stamp" in white Roman capitals. Large Arabic numerals of value are in the upper corners.

The 8-cent stamp was first issued on November 15th, 1875, and from that date to the end of the fiscal year, June 30th, 1876, 100,000 were issued, and during the follow-

ing year, 25,000, making 125,000 the total number issued.

In 1878 this stamp was withdrawn from circulation, and the remaining 75,000 were destroyed by order of the postmaster general. In a few years this will be one of Canada's rarest stamps. The 2-cent stamp was withdrawn from circulation during 1889-90, owing to the United States kicking on the account of the increase in the registration fee, and was increased from 2 cents in Canada to 5 cents, making a uniform rate; and during the year 1893 the 5-cent was also withdrawn from circulation, and the present 8-cent postage stamp was introduced, making a registration and postage stamp combined.

A Warning to Stamp Collectors

One of the most dangerous habits that exists in philately is the prevailing one of putting foreign stamps to their mouths, and the sooner the philatelic press sounds the key-note of warning the better it will be for the lives as well as the health of our collectors. A case came to our knowledge recently of a man who had contracted a disease through putting foreign stamps on his tongue, causing him untold agony and suffering. Nine hundred and ninety-nine persons out of every thousand put new stamps to their tongues when they wish to stick them upon letters, and while it may be harmless to do this, there are a number who forget that possibly 50 per cent. of those 999 may be diseased, and the germs can lie on the letter under the stamp with the gum; and if anyone is foolish enough to trust a previously licked stamp to his