

that the said varieties of papers are not in the paper but are a result of the way in which the gum is applied. We have examined a number of the stamps which were apparently on laid paper, but on removing the gum from the back they were found to be ordinary wove paper variety. We do not desire to leave the impression that the stamp is not to be found on laid or ribbed paper, as we have seen it on such, but we write the above in order to prevent collectors from being misled.

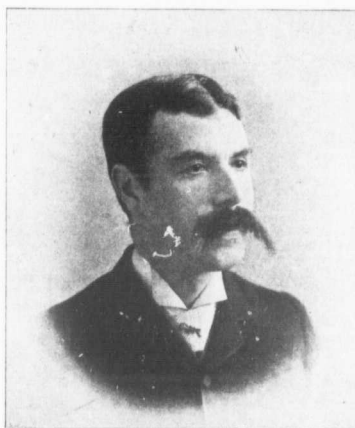
In the case of approval sheet frauds there is no way so quick to bring them to time as a letter addressed to the postmaster or the post office inspector for the district. We have found this to bring many of these pests to time. We recently had some trouble with a Brantford collector who secured a lot of approval sheets from us, and although we wrote him seven or eight times we failed to receive a reply. On the 5th inst. we placed the case in the hands of the Brantford postmaster, and on the morning of the 9th inst. we received remittance from the party accompanied by the request to "kindly take the case out of the hands of the postmaster." As yet no further developments have been made in the case of E. E. Raub, of Hyde Park, Mass., but some are expected daily. We have a small account against Mr. M. A. Thompson, of the Chicago Postage Stamp Company, of Chicago, which we should like to dispose of.

The stamps for the Republic of Nova Potuca, it is said, were furnished the postmaster of that Republic (wherever it may be) by the Standard Stamp Co., of St. Louis, Mo. We are death on issues of this sort and will show them up every time. They are valueless in our opinion, being nothing more nor less than a scheme to defraud collectors, and are not a legitimate government issue.

It seems a set of Chefoo stamps, surcharged "Postage Due" were recently prepared by some employee in the Chefoo Post Office, who sold 56 sets before discovered. The postmaster of Chefoo states: "The local stamps, bearing the words 'Postage Due' on them, having been sold without authority are hereby declared to be of no value, and holders are requested to return them to the postmaster who will refund money." Signed, JOHN L. NEVINS, Chairman Chefoo Local Post Committee.

The French Colonies and their surcharges are as bad as ever. It had been thought that a new issue for each colony would suffice, but they are at it again and as bad as ever. The only way collectors can stop this is to ignore these Provisionals all together and they will soon stop for want of support.

British North Borneo stamps are in the hands of dealers. All the remainders were cancelled to order and are in the hands of English dealers. A new issue has been prepared, and a certain dealer informed us that he could furnish us with a full supply of all values one month before they were placed on sale in British North Borneo. This beats Seebeck!



J. R. Hooper.

We deem this a suitable opportunity to present to the readers of the CANADIAN PHILATELIC WEEKLY, a portrait of John Reginald Hooper, the prominent Canadian collector, who is at present on trial for the murder of his wife. Mr. Hooper's collecting career has already been published in several papers, so that we shall give but a brief sketch of his life as a collector. He began his first collection in 1870, and his collection which was recently sold by auction in several parts realized something like 7,000. Seventeen years ago he published a stamp paper called *The Gazette*. He was founder of the Canadian Philatelic Association, and was one of the promoters of the Philatelic Society of Canada, which he was president. He was organizer and president of the Ottawa Philatelic Society, and a member of the famous Nederland Society of Amsterdam. The engraving which we present is taken from a photograph by DeLorme, of Ottawa. Mr. Hooper has for some time been prominent in the military and musical circles of Ottawa.

Brief, but to the point.

"A soiled original is better than a brilliant reprint."

"Seebeck is after the contract to print the U. S. stamps."

Used Columbians 50 cents are selling for \$1.00 each in Europe.

"A forgery is good as long as its owner believes it to be genuine."

The new French colonials are among the prattiest sets ever issued.

Speculators in Columbians are requested to look for a big drop in prices.

"A fellow don't know how few friends he has till he starts a stamp paper."

The *taxes* of the Portuguese Indies equals about 1 cent and a half of American money.

The sale of the U. S. Columbian stamps will be continued until the present stock is exhausted.

"A stamp collector is not necessarily a philatelist, nor a philatelist necessarily a stamp collector."

The Canadian P. O. Dept. have no intention of withdrawing the 20 and 50c. stamps, as has been reported.

L. S. Graham, of Merriton, Ontario, announces *The Canadian Philatelic Journal* to appear Jan. 1st.

Canadian collectors and dealers are worried about the 35% duty which they have to pay on all the stamps they import.

That peerless young people's monthly, St. Nicholas, is to have a stamp department, which will be conducted by "Crawford" a contributor to the philatelic press.

"Never gratuitously point out forgeries when inspecting a collection. You thereby inflame the owners' intelligence, and subject yourself to suspicions for ulterior motives."

"Major Evans says that the new cards of British Central Africa, with *internal and external*, remind one somewhat of the pills and ointments of the advertisements."

Mr. H. A. Fowler denies the report that the *Canadian Journal of Philately* publication. No number of the above paper has appeared since the July issue, and this is *temporary* suspension if nothing else. Mr. Fowler states that he expects to resume publication shortly.

Not long ago a student in a college distributed requests broadcast by mail, asking each person applied to for ten cents. He said that unless he received aid he would have to abandon the ambition of his life, which was to enter the Christian ministry. He got many replies and a considerable sum of money, some people sending him as high as five dollars. Clergymen read his letter to their congregations, and collections were taken up for his benefit. There is no law to punish a fraud of this kind, because nothing is promised in return.

He—"Have you finished writing the letter to your friend?" She—"It's all done except the postscript." He—"Oh, leave out the postscript; or otherwise you'll have to pay double postage."—Schalk.

Friend—"Is it not remarkable that, with the thousands of authors in the country, the price of writing paper does not go up?"

Struggling Author (gazing at the returned packages)—"No; but I should think stamps would go up."

Mr. Hooper is still confident of being acquitted. The case is one of the most interesting which has been read in the annals of crime in Canada. The evidence, from beginning to end, is purely circumstantial, for it has not been proved that the woman was positively murdered. It is said the case will cost the Province nearly \$30,000.