

THE CANADIAN Philatelic Magazine.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

[Entered at the Toronto Postoffice as second-class mail matter.]

VOL. 2.—No. 3.

TORONTO, NOVEMBER 15, 1894.

PRICE, 5 CENTS.

A Philatelic History.

BY JEP.

CHAPTER II.

IT is my intention to trace as nearly as is possible in this chapter, the earlier history of philatelic journalism. Stamp collecting was probably nearly ten years of age before anybody thought press representation necessary. The publication of the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* in England in 1863 was followed the next year by America's first philatelic magazine, *The Stamp Collector's Record*, of which S. Allan Taylor was editor.

The first number of this paper was issued in February, 1864, from Montreal, Canada. This proved a very hardy pioneer as it lived twelve years, a truly remarkable livelihood when the history of later years is shown. Prior to 1864 the matter of issuing a paper had been under discussion for some time, and in fact two papers were announced before this date but never materialized. This year however saw the establishment of a philatelic journalism that has been growing slowly but surely ever since.

For the first twenty years this growth was rather slow, as the end of the first decade saw only fifteen papers in circulation, and the year 1884 saw two less than that. This was not on account of any lack of attempts, as these thirteen monuments of enterprise were reared on

the graves of no less than one hundred and fifty of their less fortunate companions, this being the number of papers started and discontinued in these twenty years.

During the past ten years matters have been considerably improved. In 1885, twenty-three papers were in circulation and among others *The Philatelic Journal of America* was started. This magazine has since filled a place occupied by no other stamp-paper in America, and is by all odds the best philatelic journal in America to-day. Toronto was for the first time represented in this year by the *Toronto Philatelic Journal*. The end of the following year saw one survivor less in the field although some thirty-five starts were made, some to success however, the *Quaker City Philatelist* being a notable example. In 1887, about twenty-seven papers were in circulation. The first number of the *Eastern Philatelist* was issued in this year. During the last six years there have been between forty and fifty philatelic journals published all the time, although the most of them have never completed more than one volume, but these have always seemed to have successors to fill their places.

In the earlier part of 1891 the C. H. Mekeel Co. started the first *Weekly Stamp News*, all former papers being issued monthly. This venture proved an

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