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EDITORIAL.

We are a few days late this month, owing to a delay occasioned in receiving the plate for our illustration. We feel sure that in presenting these superior half-tone portraits of prominent Canadian Philatelists we add a point to this magazine that will meet with the approval of all our readers. We shall present the portraits sent occasionally, as the occasion demands it. We believe in gradual improvements, and shall month by month continue to make additional improvements, which we trust dealers and collectors will, by their continued patronage, show their appreciation of.

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At last, action has been taken in the United States in regard to the duty on stamps. A bill has been introduced in the U.S. Senate and passed

its second reading, and has been ordered to be printed. The bill provides that all used and unused foreign postage stamps, postal cards and stamp envelopes shall pass free of duty. The removal of the duties will be of great benefit to the larger U.S. dealers, as it also will be to foreign dealers, who export stamps to the United States in large quantities. These latter lost much of their United States trade through the heavy duties levied. The United States dealers who started a movement to abolish these duties, and then dropped it because of its apparent difficulty, cannot justly claim to have been the means of assisting the movement a particle. The success of the movement is, we believe, due to private collectors, who, instead of publishing lengthy articles on what they *intended* to do, set to work quietly, *determined* to succeed; hence their success. In all probability the bill will successfully pass its final reading.

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While speaking of duty on stamps, we might mention the state of affairs as regards this matter in Canada. In the United States, if the dealers in one town have their stamps stopped for customs duty, those in all other towns in that district will suffer likewise, for they all come through the one entry port of that district where they are stopped. Here in Canada it is different. Every inland city or town, large or small, has its custom-house. The packages are stopped at the border, and then forwarded to the town or city for which they are designated, and the customs officials of that town set the duty—not at the entry port, as it is done in the United States. Dealers and collectors in some cities and towns complain heavily of the outrageous duties levied on their stamps, but in the majority of cases the Canadian customs officials levy no duty whatever on stamps, but pass them through marked "not for duty." The publisher of this magazine imports more foreign stamps than any other dealer in Canada, yet up to the present date has never been called on to pay a single cent duty on the stamps imported. The charging of duty on stamps by their market value is sheer nonsense. What home industry is protected in so doing? None whatever. The only *lawful* way that duty may be charged on stamps is as printed matter, and if they are classed as such the duty on the rarest of stamps would only amount to a few cents a thousand.

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Postal-card collecting is slowly but surely taking a hold on certain of the Philatelic public. The adherents of this branch of our hobby increase daily, and there is no reason why it should not continue to increase. Postal cards, it is true, are not, on the whole, to be obtained as cheaply as stamps; but this latter fact only gives the collector more satisfaction after having obtained them. It is that which