

The Canadian Philatelist.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

IN THE INTEREST OF STAMP COLLECTING.

VOL. III. No. I.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 1, 1893.

WHOLE No. 25.

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

THE PHILATELIC POET.

BY ROY F. GREENE.

He sits there alone in his dingy back room,
And paper and pen he will seize;
His life is o'er clouded with sorrow and gloom,
And his trousers are patched on the knees;
Yet he fills up the paper with jingles and rhymes,
Nor stops to grow moody and fret,
He tells of his album, of far sunny chimes,
He pays for the praise he will get.

Through want, grim and stolid, walks forth by his side,
And the cross that he carries bears down,
They'll expect him to smile and laugh as a bride,
And never look sullen or frown;
Though the praises he sings of his Goddess so fair,
And the pleasures that gaily surround,
He sighs for one breath of the deep-scented air,
In the heart of the city ne'er found.

He may hear the deep praise that is sung of his worth,
And by compliments covered with glory,
But that's about all he'll get on this earth,
'Tis the same, oft-repeated old story;
Yet he smiles as he writes of the stamps he adores,
Nor thinks of the pain that it costs him,
But at last he departs for celestial shores,
And we all are so sorry we've lost him.

C. WESLEY PRICE.

 R. C. WESLEY PRICE, whose portrait we present to our readers this month, is personally known by some of our readers, especially those who are Canadians. Mr. Price is a resident of Plymouth, Michigan, and is a commercial traveller, representing D. M. Ferry & Co., the well-known seed house of Detroit. We scarcely know whether to term Mr. Price a collector, or a dealer, or both; probably the latter will best describe what kind of a philatelist he is. Mr. Price is a frequent visitor to our office, and we cannot but state that he is a true gentleman and a philatelist in all respects. Mr. Price is one of the most fortunate of collectors, and we cannot begin to enumerate his many "finds," any one of which would be a bonanza to us ordinary mortals. The last time that Mr. Price called upon us, we may say, that among other gems, he had with him a strip of three Nova Scotia shillings, and some single specimens of the same, strips of five and six, N. S., 3d, and 6d., and an abundance of similar rarities, which space will not permit us to mention. If reports can be depended upon, Mr. Price has a small fortune in such stamps resting securely within the walls of a certain Detroit vault.

CHATS ON COUNTERFEITS.

BY THE EDITOR.

(Compiled from various sources.)

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(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 170, Vol. II.)

 YPRUS.—To the best of my knowledge, the only stamps of this country that have been counterfeited are the first issue, which it will be remembered were made by surcharging the then current issues of Great Britain "Cyprus." Many of the Cyprus stamps of the early issues have the forged surcharge. There are two ways by which the counterfeit may be detected: First—Most of the forged surcharges are found on stamps having different plate numbers to those used in Cyprus; second—The forged surcharge is not as clear and bold as the genuine. Little trouble should be found in detecting these.

DENMARK.—The counterfeits of Danish stamps are easily distinguished from the genuine, which are engraved and watermarked, while the counterfeits are lithographed on unwatermarked paper. I have noticed stamps of the issues of 1853-58 with fraudulent rouletting; the 4s. of this issue, rouletted, is quite a common stamp, and any suspicious specimens may be compared with this stamp and the difference in the rouletting will be readily seen. The size of the rouletting also aids detection. In the genuine there are 11 indentations in 2 centimetres, while in the counterfeits there are generally more.

CHINA.—We have never heard of any counterfeits of Chinese stamps.

CHILI.—These stamps have been seen counterfeited, but being poorly lithographed are easily detected.

CEYLON.—Counterfeits of most of the Ceylon stamps are easily distinguished, being lithographed on unwatermarked paper; we, have, however, heard of the watermarks on these stamps being forged. Some very dangerous counterfeits are said to exist of the provisional issues, and great caution is required in purchasing these, especially the rarer varieties, as none but experts are able to distinguish the genuine surcharge from the counterfeit, although in some cases the counterfeit can be told by the watermark. There are also in existence some very dangerous counterfeits of the official stamp made by printing forged surcharges over genuine stamps; the surcharge on the genuine official stamp is a bold black type and printed straight like all surcharges made by De la Rue & Co. In the counterfeits the printing is not so black, and is irregular; the letters are not of a height and the spacing will be found to vary.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)