

POSTAL ISSUES OF CANADA.

ONE of the fascinating pleasures in collecting the postal issues of the United States is the portrait gallery of great men one possesses in these stamps. To understand them, their motives, ambitions, characters, the struggle for the leading position they occupied is to find oneself close to the many question which move men to-day, did in the past, and will in the future, for heroic lines will always inspire. This is one of the reasons why the United States will always be popular.

The history of Canada is now looming out and it cannot be long ere some of her earlier scenes will be represented on postal issues. The past five years have seen the dying of four Premier—Sir. John A Macdonald, Sir John Abbott and Sir John Thompson on the Conservative side and of plain Hon. Alex. Mackenzie, leader of the Liberals while in power in 1872. Here are four men who will always live in Canadian history, and in days to come their work recognized more fully than now. While Canadians love their Queen, yet should not the men who received the highest honor their country could bestow on them, also have their portraits on the postal issues? It has been said that Canadians are not a vain-glorious people, and in adopting the above idea, they are not losing their heads: but surely some honor is worthy of our leaders in the past, and slight as the portrait on a stamp may seem, no greater honor could be bestowed. Children of to-day are men of to-morrow, and through these portraits dormant ambition may rise, and at any rate the world would know that Canada honored her statesmen. Postage stamps to-day are not empty things, but a pleasure to millions strange as it may seem, and Canada could speak to these people and also of the past by her postal issues. Since 1871 our present 1, 2 and 3 cent values have been in use, and the five cent not much latter, and these

should be retired and the Premiers of the past be printed thereon. For precedent we refer our readers to Australia who adorns her stamps, not with her leaders of men, but emblems of the country.

J. B. SIMPSON.

THE PHILATELIC PRESS.

WE have been favored with a copy of Albrecht's Auction Edition giving figures realized at twenty-nine sales held under the auspices of Messrs. R. F. Albrecht & Co. For the library of a Philatelist it is indispensable. Its pages show the growth of Philately—the prices recently realized and those of a few years ago being side by side, and as the auction-market to-day is the determiner of stamp values, and this firm, in many cases, realizing high prices, this Edition possesses an added interest that would otherwise be lacking. The publications issued by this firm are not only a credit to themselves, but to Philately.

Scott's advance lists, now being published in the "Era," make interesting reading for many collectors. While the paper was always newswy, at present it is better than ever. Were it not on the exchange list willingly would we pay fifty cents for fifty-two visits—one cent a week.

The December issue of "American Journal of Philately" contains many morsels for the advanced collector. Mr. John N. Luff's paper on "The One-Cent 1851-57 of the United States" read before the National Philatelic Society is published and the recent stir over the Hawaiian stamps will receive further consideration when Mr W. J. Gardiner's article is read.