

RUBBING DOWN MR. CORWIN.

Editor Dominion Philatelist.

SIR,—The following comments are suggested by the very unseemly and disagreeable discussion now being conducted through the columns of the *Philatic Gazette*, of Chicago, resulting from Mr. C. B. Corwin's attack upon the officers of the A. P. A.

As we have many members of the A. P. A. in Canada it may not be out of place to give the article referred to some attention.

To say that Mr. Corwin is aggressive in his inclinations is putting it mildly, for he certainly seems to be spoiling for a fight, and to judge by the way the friends of the A. P. A. and its various officers have sprung to the rescue there is every probability that he will get his belly full of it.

He must certainly be a plucky fellow if he has started this row alone. If he has friends and "fellow kickers" he had better summon them to his aid without loss of time or he will soon be lost to sight in the mass of confuting testimony that will come pouring in.

Can anyone tell us just what Mr. Corwin really wants?

It seems to me that he would like to be unanimously elected Grand, Royal, High Chief *Muck-a-muck* of the A. P. A., if such an office existed, with power so absolutely autocratic that he could make and unmake all the officers of the A. P. A., from the President down to the "head kicker" just as he pleased.

I am afraid that no position inferior to that in power and resources would satisfy him.

I will touch upon Mr. Corwin's complaints as they appear in regular order in his all round growl.

First he strikes out from the shoulder at the official board, but he falls very short as his chief cause for dissatisfaction with it will probably turn out to be merely printer's errors.

He says "they are slow," yes verily, even unto stagnation.

Has it ever occurred to Mr. Corwin that the A. P. A. may be getting too big, too unwieldy, that it may outgrow its usefulness as an association, I think there is a prospect of it.

There are too many conflicting opinions in its councils, too many interests that clash, too much jealousy between east and west, too much suspicion between dealers and collectors in its ranks, too much power in the hands of a few. In fact too much of everything, even kickers not excepted.

If I am not mistaken a few more such brawls will result in a big split in the A. P. A., and there is a possibility that it might be as well for all concerned.

About Mr. Corwin's appointment to the position of first purchasing agent, I do not see any just cause for him considering it such a deadly insult.

Possibly Mr. Corwin is one of those men who often say "No" in such a hesitating, uncertain manner that they sometimes leave their hearers under the impression that only a little coaxing is necessary, differing in this from the man who comes out with a great big emphatic negative that is a whole sentence in itself, and carries conviction with it.

The next official to be run through the threshing mill is the devoted secretary, Mr. I. Adford, whose greatest crime seems to be his youthfulness. Well, Mr. Corwin need not worry about that, as time will remedy it if the poor fellow has vitality enough to withstand such cold snaps.

Possibly if the rosy dawn of manhood was not so far in Mr. Corwin's past, he might show a little more consideration for the feelings of others.

It may be that in rubbing up against a cold, hard, unsympathetic world Mr. Corwin's sensibilities have become blunted and his temper soured.

Evidently he does not realize the mischief he is doing and the trouble that may follow it.

The next poor unfortunate who is dragged up to be knocked out is the Exchange Superintendent, Mr. E. B. Stirling, who comes in for a big share of abuse.

I think Mr. Corwin goes out of his way in the attempt to humiliate Mr. Sterling in the eyes of the Association, by saying that he "begged" for the position he holds. I have not the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with Mr. Sterling, but if I can judge by a correspondence which has ex-