

and graduated in 1882, when he accepted a commission in the 8th Royal Rifles and served with them ever since, five years as Adjutant and then as Captain. Besides the above he is also the Sec.-Treas. of the Royal Military College of Quebec; and the Treasurer of the Q. M. & C. Ry. of the same city.

In short, in this gentleman, we have a devotee much to be proud of, and we will conclude by wishing him long life and prosperity in the folds of Philatelia.

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### A Plea For Our Better Philatelic Societies.

BY CLEVE SCOTT.

AS years fly by in the course of a Philatelist's career, he looks back to the blooming days of some of our greatest Philatelic societies. He well remembers how much persuading and coaxing it took him to scrape up a dollar, or even twenty-five cents, to join one of the Philatelic societies of the day. It was without the least hesitation as to which of those to join when he had the means to do so. That undoubtedly was due to the scarcity of such at the time, but more likely to the common opinion as to the best and most beneficial. But not so now, when the number of Philatelic societies is legion; when none has a *universal* claim of superiority, and when none is without its qualities nor faults.

But right here, let us say that our duty is nevertheless to patronize the old and well-established society and avoid the good-for-nothing and small one that is organized ever and anon. In mentioning the latter, we, of course, do not mean the *young collectors' societies*, as these have a different scope from the ones previously mentioned, but it is the society that is trying to be run on the same basis as our large national and incorporated ones, that we should put down.

Now, some will inquisitively ask the reason of this war against these societies. Our answer is prompted by several reasons. *Firstly*,—We should patronize the old and well-established society which we know is *bound* to stay, and whose benefits can be appreciated. *Secondly*,—The so-called other national society is principally organized for its founders' benefits only, and not for that of the community at large, and cannot offer one-fourth the inducements that the larger one can. *Thirdly*,—What goes to the small ineffective one of course takes away so much members and material from the large one. *Fourthly*,—The old should be patronized in preference to the new.

Studying the above facts, we cannot but come to the conclusion that the old one can benefit us more than the newly-organized one, and we are in duty bound to assist the former in its work. So that if you wish to join a good one you must make your choice accordingly.

In speaking of Philatelic societies it would not at all be out of place to mention a few of the better and greater ones. Of these the United States has the following:

- ' American Philatelic Association."
- " Western Philatelic Union."
- " Philatelic Society of America."
- " Sons of Philatelia."
- " United Philatelic Association."

Canada also supports two large reliable ones, as follows:

- " Canadian Philatelic Association."
- " Philatelic Society of Canada."

In speaking of societies, we would mention the fact that a person holding an office in one society cannot do full justice to that one if he hold any other offices in other societies. A good rule, we believe for the Constitutions of such would be "that no person holding offices in others can legally hold such in it."

This would result in that an officer would work exclusively for the one, and keep strictly out of the affairs of all