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## IN THE INTERESTS OF STAMP COLLECTING.

No. 7.

## JULY, 1889.

Vol. 1

## A RAR STAMP FREE

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Scott's Philatelist, post paid - - \$0 30
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| do | do | do 2 | - | - | - |
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| do | do | do 3 | - | - | - |
| do | 00 |  |  |  |  |
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## CANADIAN CATAlOGUE.

Ketcheson's Canadian Catalogue is selling fast and soon the present edition will be sold. You intend to get a copy, so order at once. We will send this Catalogue on approval to all A.P.A. and C.P.A. members who will promise either to return the same at once, or remit the cost. Cloth bound, 50 cents; paper bound, 25 cents.

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## A BIT OF ADVICE.

I would advise all stamp collectors when in the country for business or pleasure, to visit all the small post-offices within their reach in search of obsolete stamped envelopes and adhesive stamps. It is of little use to write to the postriasters, for perhaps not one in ten could tell by the description what kinds were wanted. I have written io several postmasters but rever had any success, some not even taking the trouble to reply, although I sent return postage.

There are, without doubt, many scarce and rare varieties on sale at small and insignificant post-offices throughout the country that are only waiting for some one to hunt them up. The principal reason for this is the fact that supplies were obtained long ago, and on account of the small demand for them they remain in the offices year after year. I have found specimens that were ten years, and more, old, and there is no doubt that others can do the same.

For the scarce varieties dealers are always willing to allow a good price in exchange, and this way many additions to one's collection can be made at a sniall expense. I once purchased fifty stamped envelopes at a post-office, costing about $\$ 1.60$, and traded thirty-four of them almost immediately with a dealer for seventeen dollars worth of others that I wanted, and did fully as well with the balance. So in this case I got a profit of over twenty dollars out of an investment of less than two.

Stamp collectors in their summer vacation travels should be continually on the alert for
good or rare specimens, which may be found not only in post-offices, as I have meutioned, but in paper mills, "garret trunks of old letters" and various other places.-(Bastern Philatelist.)

## CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Dominion Philatelist :
Sir, -In your last issue I notice my esteemed friend "Acadia" falls into an crror regarding myself, which in common justice needs to be corrected. I did not have anything to do with the editorial note in the LBastern Philatelist respecting the number of C. P. A. officers in Halifax. I was astonished when I satw it in print as I personally recommended Mr. King for the office when I refused the secretaryship. I think the item was uncalled for, and simply ask Mr. Hechler or Mr. Godrich to enlighten "Acadia." As to the fact of my being in favor of Mr. King's appointment and also decidedly against the item in the E. P. Whig, "Acadia" should nominate me for "official licker" I am at a loss to know as I have not as yet seen anything in connection C. P. A. or the gentlemen belonging to it to warrant even the faintest grumble on my part. As to the note on my qualifying for membership in the A. P. A., I may simply state that after being accepted, I had good and sufficient reasons, and principles which $I$ could not see my way clear to sacrifice, in not becoming a member. I belong to the Amsterdam Phila telic Association, and in one of my "ads" the letters "A. P. S," No, 42, read A. P. A. No. 42, unfortunately leading some to think it was the American Society-an error of the printer's and not mine. When I consider a Society good enough to put the letters after my name, common sense would tell any one I could have no sufficient reason from joining it. In a nutshell it lies in this-my decided stand against the Chalmers "craze" has stirred up a mean feeling of petty spite which has as much effect on me as water on a duck's back.

## Yours, etc.

Join R. Hooper.
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## TO ADVERTISERS.

As this journal will undoubtedly be elected as official organ of the C. P. A. and that by acclamation, we take this opportunity of placing our claim as on advertisng medium before the dealers of this continent, knowing there is no better field for business than Canada. We print 1,000 copies per month and ố these 500 are sent to live wide-awake collectors in Canada; 400 are sent to the United States and the balance go to foreign countrics.

Our rates are very low but will be raised at the beginning of next year, but we are willing now to make contracts for a year at our presont rates.

Advertisers, consider your own interests and secure space before rates are raised.

## THE COMING CONVENTION.

The time is growing near when the C.P.A. will hold its Annual Conveation and we look for good results to follow this meeting.

Our membership has nct increased, during the past year, as we would have liked, but we are pleased to see that many of the old collectors who, at the beginning, held alocf from us are gradually realizing that our Asonsiation has come to stay and one by one they are joining us.

## REVIEWS.

We have received R. R. Bogart \& Co's. price catalogue of post cards, 1st edition. It is a very complete list of post cards of the world and should be in the hands of every collector. Price 25 cts. Address, R. R. Bogart \& Co., Tribune Buildings, New York.
-We have before us "Hand-book of Coins, Stamps and Relics" published by E. W. Statesman, Bunker Hill, Ind. It contains a lot of useful information and may be obtained from the publisher for 10 cts.

## C. P. A. ELECTIONS.

Judging from the official ballots, one would think that all the officers, except the President, were to be elected by acclamation, but such is not the case, as there are canidates for nearly every office whose names do not appear on the ballot and who are going to make lively contests for those whose names do appear.

We feel confident that the ticket as nominated by us will, without exception, be elected.

We especially call the attention of all C. P. A members to our candidates for President, Secretary and Treasurer. They are private collectors and men of integrity, ability and push, three very essential qualifications to make good officers.

## NOTES.

Remember, all subscriptions to this paper must commence with current number. Back numbors 3 cents each.

Pence issues of Canada are becoming very scarce especially 1858 issuc. The 6 pence perforated is rarely met with.

Dealers, try our blank approval sheets; they are acknowledged to be the best and cheapest. 100 only 32 cts. post paid Address this office.

We wish to call the attention of our readers to the ad. of Mr. Chas. A. Townsend, of Akron, Ohio. He is one who will give you your money's worth every time.

## SOME REMARKS ON THE CANADA TWELVE PENCE.

BY DONALD A. KING.

In the January number of the Stamn Coljector Mr. H. S. Harte has an article on the Postage Stamps of Canada, and in which he speaks of the 12 -pence as follows;
"This latter stamp is a peculiar one, amongst other things, is that the value is expressed as 12 pence instead of one shilling. It is without doubt, one of the rarest stamps in existence, for, although 51,000 of them were prepared, only about 820 of them were issued to postmasters, and but a few of these ever passed into the hands of the public, or were used to prepay postage on letters. This stamp was intended for the prepayment of postage on letters to the United Kingdom; but, owing to the fact that the letter rate to that country was soon reduced to 10 pence, it enjoyed but a brief existence, for all copies of it were called in and destroyed as soon as the ten pence stamp was issued."
"It has been thought by many, a strange thing that if this stamp was in use from 1851 to 1855 , that so few copies of it should be met with now. Various have been the reasons given for its rarity. Some have supposed that owing to the small number of copies of it that were distributed to postmasters, that its existence was not generally known to the public at large; others, that tro six pence stamps were as a rule used upon letters to England, and others again have advanced the theory that whilst the stamp was prepared in 1851, conies of it were not issued to the postmaster until some time in 1854. This latter theory I have seen stated by reliable authorities, and it would in some measure account for the extreme rarity of the stamp. However, whatever view one may be inclined to take of this matter, it still remains an uncontrovertriju fact that happy is the man who has the luck to have his collec. tion of Canadian stamps graced by the presence of this rarity."

In this article I wish to try and show some of the crrors into which Mr. Harte has fallen in relation to this stamp; but in order to do this I have to give a quantity of, to some, dry
extracts and figures from Post Office Department reports and accounts.

To start with, we find in the report of the Canadian Postmaster-General, for the year ending April, 1852 :
"Postage stamps for the prepayment of letters of the respective values of 3 pence, 6 pence and 1 shilling, were procured and issued immediately after the transfer, and have been kept for sale to the public at all the prinnipal Post Offices in the province; the demand, however, has not been great, as will be seen by the following statement, and the sales of the last quarter of the year would seem to demonstrate that the use of these stamps in prepayment of letters is rather diminishing than gaining ground in the community."

The transfer alluded to was the handing over of the Post Office Department by the Imperial authorities to the local government, July let, 1851.

These were procured from the manufacturers, Messrs. Rawdon, Wright, Hatch \& Co., of New York, during the year ended April 5th, 1852.

|  | $f$ | s. | d. |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 250,300 | 3-pence ................. 3,127 | 0 | 0 |
| 100,400 | 6-pence ................2,510 | 0 | 0 |
| 51,400 | l-shilling ..............2,550 | 0 | 0 |

Of these have Deen issued to postmasters, for sale, to the same date:


In the statement of sales for that period of the 12 pence probably originated the common error that only 820 stamps were ever issued. That the 12 pence was especially intended for the postage to the United Kingdom is not possible, as the rate to those countries was 1s 2 d sterling, equal to ls 4 d Canadian currency, and that rate could not be made up by any combination of the then Canodisn stamps. It was more than probably intended for heavy provincis! and United States letters. If the intention had been to issue a stamp for use to England only, it would have likely have issued it of the exact value of the postage required, as was done later on with the 10 d and $7 \frac{1}{2} d$, not such a nondescript value as the 12 pence was in relation to the postage for the United

Kingdom, bearing as it does, however, a perfect proportion to the interior postage, it seems much more reasonable to believe that it was issued as such, and if it were possible to get the views of the old Canadian post office officials, it would be found that it was issued for this purpose, and that English letters were prepaid in cash and stamped so with a hand stamp. It is only reasonable to believe that if this stamp represented the ocean rate to England, that it would be in more demand than it was, as the correspondence between the two countries was always very large.

The theory that the stamp was prepared in 1851, but that it was not issued to postmasters until 1854 is untenable, as sce Postmaster General's report for year ending March 31, 1853: "Postage stamps for the prepayment of letters have been issued for sale to the amount shown by the following statement:"


It will be seen by the above that 100 more 12 pence were issued, and that for the whole only 2,5756 -penny stamps, which shows that not a large number of double rate letters were prepaid by stamps in that year.

The small number of stamps used was due, no doubt, to their being new, and people not being used to them, and, as well as that, they could prepay in money, or have their letter forwarded unpaid.

That the use of stamps was on the increase will be seen by the Postmaster-General's report for the next year, that ending Marel 31st, 1854.
"The use of stamps in prepayment of postage has materially increased in the last year, and the issue has been as follows:"

|  | 3d. | Gd. | 12d. | Total value |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| On hand March 31, ${ }^{\prime} 33 . .$. | 119,900 | 34,425 | 50,080 | £4,863 7 |  |
| Since received from Mnf'rs. | 250000 |  |  | 3,125 0 |  |
| Total | 369,900 | 34,423 | 50,080 | £7,9SS 7 |  |
| Issued for sale during year | 240,700 | 10,820 | 325 | 3,295 12 |  |
| Bal. on hand, March 31 :3 | 129.600 | 23,600 | 40,755 | £4, 692 LJ |  |

We thus see 325 more of the 12 -penny stamps issued for sale, showing that there was some little demand for them, but, still, bearing to the quantity that would be required for English letters, as the year was especially noted for the quantity sent, and a reduction of postage was asked for on those grounds, and granted, as will be seen by these further cxtracts from same report.
"In March, 1854, the charge on packet letters betmeen Canada and the United Kingdom and most foreign countries was reduced by the Imperial Government from 1s 2 d sterling to 8 d sterling per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, when sent in the closed mails through the United States, and from $1 s$ to $6 d$,. when sent direct from a provincial port-Quebee and Halifax."
"Should no change be likely soon to take place in the charges on the correspondence with England, it would promote the public convenience to procure postage stamps of the
value of 10 d and $7 \frac{1}{2} \mathrm{~d}$, respectively, to correspond with the present packet letter charges."

That part of this recommendation was adopted, will be seen, as the report for the year ending March 31, 1885, says :
"To promote the general convenience in prepaying letters to the United Kingdom at the new rate, postage stamps of the value of 10d, currency, equal to 8 d , sterling, were procured and issued to the public."

This 10d stamp was probably issued before the end of the year 1854, as in the Departmental accounts for the quarter ending 31st December, 1854, we find :
' Rawdon, Wright \& Co., making stamps, $E+2,18.6, "$ and this item ver', near the top of the list of accounts, which were made un by date, beside that in the statement of ac. count of stamps sold up to March 31, 1855, we find that there was $16,20010 \mathrm{~d}$ stamps, which would be too great a quantity for only one four'h of a year, which would be the case if they were not issued until 1855. They were probably issucd about October, 1854, although all catalogues give 1855 as the date.
(Continued in next issue.)

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