

Canadian Philatelist.

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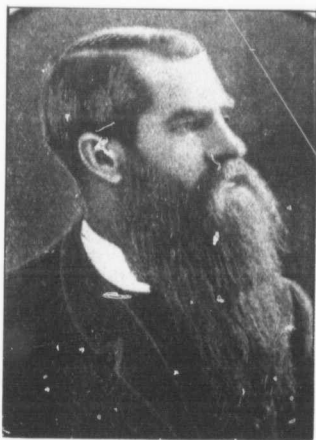
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C. WESLEY PRICE.

The Canadian Philatelist.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

IN THE INTEREST OF STAMP COLLECTING.

VOL. III. No. 1.

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 Goddes 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 celest'ial shores,
And we all are so sorry we've lost him.

C. WESLEY PRICE.

MR. 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.)

IV.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 170, Vol. II.)

CYPRUS.—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.)

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

THE HOBBY OF HOBBIES.

BY LEWIS G. QUACKENBUSH.

"The ruling fashion, be it what it will.
The ruling passion conquers reason still.—Pope.

ALMOST every man has some ruling passion: sometimes, a passion for books and learning; sometimes a passion for wine and women. Whichever it may be, it is apt to have full possession of him, and to sway him at its will. We seldom speak of interest in Philately as a passion. We call it by turns a fad, a hobby, or a science, according to the degree of our enthusiasm, but it does often become the ruling passion of our lives, taking the place of reckless amusement and dissipation.

It seems to me that it would be of some value to us to compare our ruling passion with those which govern us. Nearly every man has his fad. The bibliomaniac, the antiquarian, and the bric-a-brac collector are alike victims to a love for the rare and curious. Curiosities of all forms and all kinds are preserved by all sorts of people. The curiosity collector is almost as old an institution as the tax collector. But I leave out the question of collecting altogether; there are thousands and hundreds of thousands of other men who are entitled to the designation of cranks, that name which so easily provokes the stamp collector's wrath and indignation. There are horse-racing cranks, and cycling cranks, and dramatic cranks, and base-ball cranks. In fact, a large majority of mankind seem to be engaged in riding some pet hobby. Life and the magazine article are both too short for me to speak at any length on the various hobbies of mankind, and I must restrict myself to a comparison of several of the most prominent with our own favorite pastime. The collector of rare books would at first sight appear to have the best hobby in existence; but when we stop to consider that he buys a scarce old folio, not for the purpose of reading it, but because it is a rarity or a curious specimen of the book-maker's art, we see that he is not so far intellectually superior to the philatelist, after all. A taste for reading is one of the most valuable habits which man can acquire, and the collecting of books for the purpose of reading them cannot be too much commended; but I do not see that a love for rare first editions will prove a whit more beneficial than a similar love for unique and scarce postage stamps. The collector of old china, or pottery and bric-a-brac of any kind, like the bibliomaniac is always cultured and intelligent, and usually wealthy, but this hobby cannot claim to be of much benefit intellectually. Objects which are treasured because of any historical association are always instructive, and the china collector finds many plaques and dishes, on which are painted representations of famous events in history. Thus far, such a collection is beneficial, but the same drawback which applies to collecting of books is equally true in this case, namely that money must be expended freely to obtain any appreciable results. The philatelist, on the other hand, is often a poor man. The very fact that many stamp collectors are young men, necessarily working for small wages, plainly proves that here, at least, the millionaires do not dominate.

The hobbies of our boyhood deserve little notice unless it be for the pleasures which they temporarily afford us. Looking back, it seems impossible that

we could ever have derived any qualification from tobacco tags and cigarette pictures. The cigarette cards in particular were not over moral, being mostly adorned with portraits of young ladies, famous in that esteemed line of the drama, designated by the old maid, too modest to say "leg show," as a "limb exhibition." The collecting of postmarks was a slight improvement over the elevating pastime and yielded some geographical knowledge, but like the others was only a transient occupation. The collecting of bird's eggs recently dignified by some scientific name, which I can't at this moment recollect, has some merits, though such a collection soon languishes for want of specimens. Bird's eggs are an important aid to natural history, but this branch of collecting has never been very flourishing, probably due to the fragile and unwieldy nature of the specimens.

There is no end to the various things which might be collected; and I shall certainly not attempt to enumerate all or even half of them. The tyrant space compels me to pass over without special mention the collecting of minerals and insects, two exceedingly interesting and profitable hobbies, and attend at once to the only two dangerous rivals of Philately in the peculiar field.

Coin and autograph collecting are the only fads whose popularity is at all to be compared with that of Philately. Of course, I shall not institute a comparison between stamp collecting and the collecting of rare books or any other of the time-killing pastimes of the wealthy mentioned earlier in this article, since such a comparison would be ludicrous. Rare books appeal to an entirely different class of men from those who are reading this article, and to compare two such pursuits would be absurd. But stamp and coin and autograph collecting have a great deal in common, in fact, many persons are more or less interested in all three.

Coin collecting, which is a much older pursuit than Philately, has always been the latter's rival. It has been respectfully treated by the sceptical world when Philately was scoffed at. But Philately now has the laugh on her sister pursuit, for while Numismatics has stood still she has made a spurt and passed her in the race for popularity. Although I have never tried for myself the benefits of coin collecting, and cannot, therefore, speak from experience, we have the testimony of many who have forsaken Numismatics for Philately as to the superior charms of the latter. Nevertheless, it is a good old science, a little slow, perhaps, but it ought to be respected for age, if for nothing else.

Autograph collecting is younger, and, although a very popular pastime, engaged in to some extent by great numbers of those who burn to possess the signatures of great men, is hardly likely to ever attract many philatelists away from their hobby. Autographs are a first-rate teacher of biography, but there their merit ends; whereas Philately can boast of multitudinous attractions.

Come now, my friends; We have briefly glanced at about all the important fads of the hour, likely to prove attractive to the philatelist's heart. Would you exchange your hobby for any one of them? "No! I," cries Tom; "Not I," cries Harry; "Not I," cries Dick; and all about me I hear a chorus of negatives. "Why this enthusiasm?" asks some newcomer. The answer is not a long one. It is simply because our hobby is the hobby of hobbies.

We desire to purchase, for cash, a quantity of first-class manuscript for use in our Christmas number.

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

MY FIRST STAMP SOCIETY.

BY GUY W. GREEN.

One winter, when the evenings passed
 With dreary, dragging length,
 And when the hoary ice king came
 Among us in his strength;
 We youngsters gathered, one and all,
 In Andy Nuquist's store;
 And there we formed the "Stamp Combine,"
 Behind the close barred door.

Each member then, with due regard,
 Signed carefully and plain,
 A set of by-laws just produced
 From Andy's fertile brain;
 'Twas then we met and organized,
 'Twas thus we gained and grew,
 'Twas thus we added strength to strength
 The frigid winter through.

We came together ev'ry week,
 In conclave most profound;
 The old walls echoed gladly back
 Our boyish laughter's sound;
 And hand to hand, and heart to heart
 We passed each joyous hour;
 For each had felt the magic of
 A common friendship's pow'r.

Of mighty undertakings there,
 We fearlessly took hold,
 And many were the auction sales
 At which we bought and sold;
 And sometimes, just to be in style,
 With albums on our knees,
 We held a good, old-fashioned "feed"
 Of ginger snaps and cheese.

There we exchanged our surplus stamps,
 With rare and ready tact;
 And lied sometimes, I greatly fear,
 In word, or deed, or act.
 I recollect that Freddie Smith,
 One evening somehow made
 Himself a gainer off of me,
 Through some unusual trade.

But next day things were evened up,
 Because I found a tag,
 Upon some ancient vermifuge
 Put up by Bark and Wag;
 And Freddie bought it, thinking that
 The words I said were true,
 When I affirmed it found its way
 Clear up from Timbuctoo.

The boys are parted long ago,
 And wander far and wide,
 Throughout the broad earth's vast expanse,
 Wherever men abide.
 I wonder if they ever turn
 Life's many pages back;
 To all the joys they once possessed,
 The joys which now they lack.

I sometimes think that could I live
 The old, free life again;
 With all its careless boyish sport,
 So free from care and pain;
 I'd just give up my chance of Heaven,
 And revel for a while,
 In that enchanted land of youth,
 Where endless pleasures smile.

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

CURIOUS FACTS: SOME OLD,
SOME NEW.

It was not required by the postal rules of the United States and Canada, which were in existence at the time of the first issues, from both countries that postage should be post-paid by stamps. The U. S. 1847 issue only came into use in a few cities, and, indeed, all letters taken to the post office and there prepaid, as was almost universally the custom, were not stamped.

While the distribution of the pence issues of Canada was more complete, their use was exceedingly limited. It has been estimated that on only one letter in fifty was there used a stamp.

Many of the U. S. stamps, of 1847, are found accompanied by local stamps. The local posts placed boxes or stations in various portions of large cities, and letters collected from these were carried to the post office and mailed if they bore one of the company's stamps. Naturally, they either were prepaid by U. S. stamps also, or were sent unpaid, a less common procedure.

Postage stamps often bear secret marks which tend to render counterfeiting more difficult. Everyone knows of the letters in the corners of some British stamps, but few ever have been found without these having been pointed out the plate numbers which are placed literally with the lathe work in the one and two penny stamps which were used so many years and are so common. These figures are hidden so cunningly that one will look at thousands of these stamps without noticing them, though they are visible to the naked eye.

If you possess any reprints of U. S. locals or Hamburgs, taste the gum and you will never mistake it. Should you ever have trouble to decide whether an unused local is a reprint or not this knowledge will be useful. It is a mucleage, the like of which one's tongue will never taste elsewhere, and is used exclusively by the manufacturer of these things.

In the good old days, when few could tell counterfeits, such scamps as S. Allan Taylor certainly had a feast. He issued a local of his own, bearing his name, address, and the value of five cents. The writer recently saw an old album in which was a whole page of "rare" locals, all of which were either rank counterfeits or bogus stamps. In one of the lower corners was this "Taylor's Local," and well might the word "fecit" have been added, as the artist signs his name to his painting.

The Canadian stamp of the denomination of 12 pence bears that value instead of one shilling because 12d. was not 1 shilling at that time. The 6d. stamp bears the words "7½d. currency" also; therefore 12d. sterling was 15d. currency, and 12d. currency or a shilling was but 9 3/5d. sterling.

It is not a haphazard assertion to say that ninety-nine out of one hundred of the U. S. stamps sold as unperforated of issues after 1861 are perforated specimens which have been unperforated, i. e., the perforation cut off. Perforated stamps are frequently met with the margins of which are as wide as of imperforate specimens listed in auction catalogues as having fine margins.

—TIMBRE.

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

THE CAMPAIGNS.

BY O. E. KLAPP.

THE great political strife, which has been the leading topic with the majority of philatelists and philatelic papers for a considerable length of time, and especially so for the past two months, has just come to a close; and we feel safe in saying that everyone was pleased when the motion was in order for the final adjournment.

Many of our local editors have injured themselves, inasmuch as they have even gone so far as to publish articles of abuse and slurs about some of our most prominent and earnest workers; and it is true that many friends have become most bitter enemies through these different writings. Those who kept their peace proved to be the most successful.

At the convention halls, at Chicago, all of the proceedings passed off in a business-like manner, and the officers and members present are to be congratulated on behalf of their good judgment, both in the transaction of business and in the selection of good officers; ones that are worthy of office, and willing to work for the general welfare and growth of philately.

In the selection of the head officers of both societies, two men of experience and knowledge were selected for the positions, and give general satisfaction to the majority of members. All other offices seems to be filled with honest workers, which shows that none other than good judgment was used throughout the entire ticket.

President Tiffany's address at the opening of the campaign was listened to eagerly by all present, and much praise is due that gentleman for his ardent working and interest which he takes in all philatelic proceedings. John is a pleasant fellow to meet!

The leader of the *Sons* is an estimable gentleman, and one who is willing to bear his share of the responsibility. Brother Russell is an honest philatelist, while probably not so well known as his opponent, Kessinger, yet he fills all the requirements of the constitution, and the number of votes he received at the last convention proves that he was the favorite of all.

Philatelists can now look forward until the time of another convention, when a larger attendance is expected. This will necessitate a better time, and all will consider the few days profitably spent.

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

NOTES HERE AND THERE.

The current of philatelic opinion is at present setting in the right direction in regarding philately, not as a science nor a great educator, but merely as a pursuit of pleasure; an intensely interesting pastime, and a relief from other cares.

I think I recognize in "King Philip" an old school-mate, although the breadth of the Continent now separates us.

I have seen a portion of a sheet of the 6c. Columbian stamps, which had not passed out of the postoffice, turned to a handsome blue shade, between that of the 1c. and the 4c.

The Wells, Fargo & Co. have had a special imprint for the Columbian envelopes. It is now in blue, and an entirely different design from the time honored old one, which has been in use from a period

ante-dating our earliest official stamped envelopes. The *tc.* Wells, Fargo & Co. blue newspaper stamp, which is still in use, is the stamp of a private company, permitted by the government. The *We'lls*, Fargo & Co. is in fact an independent mail route, but only for papers, not letters. This concession was granted mainly for the reason that the company's mail route is older than our own postoffice.

It is greatly to be desired that the year 1894 does not usher in a new issue of postage stamps upon us U. S. collectors. I think very few collectors desire it. There is no use in our government doing so unless it has grown envious of the money-making scheme of the Central American states. We do not want any such methods employed by our post-office, and there is no reason why, since they have not been counterfeited, and the colors are good, why our present small issue should not continue in use until the plates become too badly worn for further service; let all good collectors pray for this.

The stamp collecting mania—Tasmania.

Three Coasts, each of a different nation, now issue stamps; Costa Rica, the Rice Coast, Gold Coast; and Cote D'Ivoire, the Ivory Coast. There is at least one more to be added, the Mosquito Coast.

Long before the writer heard of water mark, and long and short surcharges, he had a big tin box full of St. Helena stamps, but he traded them all but one of value, for German and French stamps; and so today he is very mournfully comparing the thinness of his purse with the fatness of the other varieties, most of which he does not possess. This lonely little island with its celebrated history, has always had an attraction for the writer, especially as it was his father's headquarters for years. Although its stamps, with only two or three exceptions, are all surcharged, yet they do not belong to that deleterious class of more modern surcharges, because the surcharge does not form the distinguishing difference.

New Zealand stamps with the advertisements of soaps and patent medicines begin to appear occasionally, and one enterprising philatelist has already forestalled the catalogues by beginning a collection of the different advertisements.

In what a state of constant motion the dealers who read the newspapers for signs of advancement in stamps, must be kept. I pick up a copy of a great daily, and on the first page the following headings stand out; Revolutionists gaining strength in troubled Argentina; Liberal triumph in disturbed Nicaragua; The Franco-Siam difficulty somewhat smoothed over; Turmoiled state of Mexican provinces; Closer relations postally between Canada and Newfoundland; Quiet at Bombay; Important despatches to Hawaii; etc. etc. However, the Central and South American countries, which scarcely ever appear before the public without a quarrelsome adjective prefixed, need not worry the dealers, as Mr. Seebeck will take care of their interests sufficiently—and his own.

We are sorry to learn that a new postal card is to be issued in the place of the three now in use; in size about an average between the three. The big card is an extremely convenient one for those who wish to send a whole letter for only one cent.

—CHAS. E. JENNEY.

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

TOO LATE.

BY CHAS. E. JENNEY.

“**W**HEER looking stamps, those! Victoria; eh? Old ones, too. Must be rare?” This was a remark from my friend, Barker, who, by the way, is not a “stamp fiend,” as he designates me. The subject of his remark was one which even I considered worthy of notice. You know, as a general rule, when you show your unphilatelic friends your collection, and are enthusiastically giving them pointers on your rarities, they do not seem to be paying much attention, and all at once a bright colored stamp will catch their eye, and you will feel disgusted with the general ignorance of humanity for half an hour afterward at hearing them praise a — Heligoland or — Seebeck, as some of our non-church-going philatelists are apt to term them—I mean the blank adjective part.

But my friend Barker is, although not a philly, as I said before, a man of judgment, and when I was showing him my stamps on the original envelopes, his attention was first attracted by one certainly worthy of remark. There were three stamps on the envelope besides the postmarks *Melbourne, Liverpool and London, rec'd.* There was a yellow six pence stamp of the 1854 issue of Victoria; a one shilling, blue and red, “registered” stamp, and another one six pence in value, and on it the words “Too Late.” Barker examined the stamps and read the inscriptions. “Too late,” said he, “What is the object of that?” Barker is of an inquiring mind, and often asks questions in regard to my hobby that a ten year old collector would consider as beneath answering, and I find it hard not to snub him; but on the present occasion he had hit on a subject I was willing to dilate on.

“This letter has quite a history,” said I. He expected a yarn, and looked resigned. “All right,” said he, “expectorate it out, old fellow; I only don’t make it too fishy, and cut it short, too, for I’ve got to be up at the office at twelve, you know.” It was only eight o’clock in the evening and I felt aggrieved at his hint at my long-windedness, for everybody knows when I have anything to say I get at it at once; but I forgave him this time, and began:

“You notice the address on the envelope, — ‘Mrs. Frances Denham, — Street, London, E. C., England.’ In the early fifties, there lived on that particular street in London, in one of the most respectable quarters, the lady whose name appears here—a widow with one son, now a man. The Denhams were well-to-do, and had many friends; but a cloud hung over their house. Coming of a family never noted for strong lungs, Mrs. Denham had, as often happens, escaped the full force of the inheritance; but a constant fear of it had developed in her a very nervous character and her family physician often shook his head after his periodical visits and made a remark to himself about ‘heart disease, some day.’ The dreadful inheritance, doubtful in the second generation, had seemed to have utterly died out in the third, for young Walter Denham, the only son, had been, up to his twenty-second year, a healthy although not a strong youth. But in his twenty-third year symptoms began to appear which the anxious mother did not like, and an opportunity offering, and the doctor advising, it was thought best he should es-

cape for a while from the fogs of London and ‘rough it’ in Australia. His mother, being naturally timid, was persuaded by friends not to accompany him. So early in the year 1853 the son took a tearful parting, and sailed for the Southern Seas. Is it not necessary to follow his career for the next two years. The healthful climate of inland Victoria, and his rough experience on a great sheep farm, brought out all the latent energy in him, which in England would have been lost to the world. He became tall, strong and bronzed by exposure, and if his mother’s old physician could have seen him, he would not have required to sound his chest in order to pronounce a verdict of “good for three-score and ten, at least.”

In the fall of ‘54 the gold fever first struck him. It was rather curious that it had not earlier, but it is perhaps accounted for in that he was ranching nearer the mines at that time. So he went to the mines and went to work among the strange conglomeration of nations that had been attracted to this region. Those were rough times in the early mining days, and many a man who after months of toil had accumulated a little pile of the precious stuff, and started to return to civilization where it would do him some good, had been found dead by the wayside with a knife in his breast, or never heard from again. But Walter Denham was of the stuff all true Englishmen are made of and felt fully able to take care of himself. He had good luck from the first, and at the end of five months made such a stroke that he decided he had enough of mining and began to think of returning to England. During his life in the mines he had held himself aloof from the other men, and as the claim he worked was at a distance from the others, and he made a confidant of no one, the fact that he had struck it rich was not known, and when he set out for Melbourne it was supposed he had become discouraged with the mines. An old miner who had served his first apprenticeship to the business in California in ‘49, and there became imbued with the wandering spirit which led him to Australia, accompanied him. This old Californian, making use of his experience in America, had rapidly acquired a fortune in the mines of Victoria, and now the wandering instinct had seized him once more and he wanted to see California again. So these two set out on the long journey to Melbourne alone; but it was not such a very lonesome one, as they were constantly meeting or passing parties going to or from the mines. The two men separated when about half way, as Denham wished to make a more circuitous route. He arrived in Melbourne on the first day of March, 1855. The next morning, as he stepped out of his lodgings, two officials placed their hands on his shoulders and gave him to understand he was their prisoner. Thoroughly surprised, he tried to find out the charge, but they were as silent on that point as mutes. It was not till two days had passed in the dark prison that he learned that the old miner with whom he had started from the mines had been found with a bullet hole in his skull near where they had parted, with all his gold missing. Denham now knew why it was the police had given the exclamation of satisfaction when they found his belt full of gold when they searched him. He looked thoughtful after he heard the charge. He knew he was not guilty, but he saw clearly how much the evidence was against him.

About four weeks later the case came on trial. He had an attorney that he had put in possession of the facts; but it was evident he did not half believe his client. Witnesses for the prosecution were not lack-

ing, having been hastily summoned from the mines. Here was the case: The murdered man had a large sum of money and had been last seen in his company, in fact it was known that they intended to go together to Melbourne. The man is found dead, and a large sum of gold is found on the prisoner, who had never been known to have any. One witness even swore that a pistol found near by the murdered man was the same one he had seen on Denham; but this did not have much weight with the jury, as cross-examination brought out the fact that Denham had once threatened the witness instant death if he did not give up some property he had stolen from him, and moreover, the deceased was known to carry a pistol of that calibre, and it was found near him. But the case was looking black for Denham, and he realized it. At last it went to the jury, and in fifteen minutes they returned, took their seats, and the foreman arose and said: "We find the prisoner guilty of murder, as charged." The sentence was hanging.

In those days there was no appeal to any higher Court in the Colony or England, and, moreover, sentences were not long delayed. In about two months Walter Denham was to meet his fate. He could not demur at the course justice had taken, for he saw that the evidence had all been against him. The powerful hand of fate had drawn the circumstances tightly around him. He knew there was no chance to escape, and finally resigned himself. One thing caused him more emotion than any thought of the pain or shame of the terrible death he was to meet—the thought of the effect on his mother. How could he break the news to her? He was all she had left to love in the world, and the shock would be terrible to her. But he must write to her and tell her all about it. She would believe him innocent, he knew, and that would be a comfort to both. The painful duty was at last performed and the letter sealed and mailed in time for the only steamer that sailed before his execution. Then his thoughts were busied in the manner which all men's must be with death facing them. Thoughts of all his past life, thoughts of the life which he would soon know of, and internal ragings at the helplessness of his condition. Two or three days later the jailer opened his cell and admitted the lawyer who had defended him and several other men, who all appeared excited. The lawyer addressed him: "You are free. Only a few technicalities, and you can continue your journey homeward. I congratulate you on your narrow escape." Denham, thoroughly surprised, asked what had occurred, and was told that a man brought in that morning, mortally stabbed in a quarrel, had confessed the murder of the Californian for his money, and his statement had been corroborated by finding the money on his person. Denham was free. Can you imagine a man who had resigned himself to death, suddenly relieved? It was like rising from the grave. In his imagination he had been already buried and forgotten.

But in the joy of his deliverance a thought suddenly came to him of the letter he had mailed. He knew the steamer had not sailed yet, and he could yet repair the damage it might do. So he dashed off another letter and rushed down to the post office. The clerk said that the regular mail had closed, but by paying an extra fee of six pence it could yet be sent by a special messenger. So he willingly paid the fee, and registered it besides that there could be no chance of its miscarriage. So the letter, this letter with the regular postage, the registered and the

"Too Late" stamp, was sent by a special carrier to the steamer, which sailed that night with both letters on board. We will take passage, too, as we have staid long enough in Australia.

"The steamer comes in to-day; I hope I shall get a letter from Walter," Mrs. Denham was saying to herself. She looked paler than she did two years before. The good old doctor used to shake his head in a still graver manner.

The postman's whistle that evening brought Mrs. Denham to the door to meet him. Yes, there was a letter, and from him. He did not look at the stamp as you and I would. She knew every curve of the hand-writing. A hundred other letters could not have pleased her as this one did. In the privacy of her room she read it. It is well that its curtains can shut out the anguish. When the servant knocked at her mistress's door at her usual hour for retiring that night, she got no response, so after a few moments' pause she entered. Her mistress was lying white and motionless on the floor in the moonlight.

The physician was summoned, but the heart had beat its last stroke. "Heart disease, caused by a sudden shock," said he, and his eyes caught sight of the letter, which lay at one side. He picked it up and read it. His long friendship for the family warranted it. He cleared his throat when he was through reading. "The young fool," said he, "why didn't he write to me and let me break the news?" Then he coughed and muttered, "Sad case, very sad case." The next morning the doctor called at the house to offer his services, and as he entered the postman stopped. He had a registered letter. The doctor said, "Let me see it," and then explained the bereavement in the house, and said he would sign it, which the man allowed, as he knew him well. The doctor had noticed it was from Melbourne, and he did not hesitate to break the seal and read. There was a moisture on his spectacles when he was done. All he said was, "Very sad case."

The letter, true to its motto, had arrived *too late*.

"Very interesting," said Barker, as I finished; "but how do you account for the two letters not arriving at the same time?" "The letter that arrived too late was registered, and had to be entered on the books both at Liverpool and London post offices, and so was not delivered until one mail later. You will find," said I, "that it always takes a registered letter longer to go than an ordinary one." "Yes," said he, "I have noticed it; but," looking at his watch, "I must go now. I shall have to postpone listening to the history of your other stamps until another time. Good night."

A WELL FILLED POSTAL CARD.—At the Dusseldorf exhibition a few years ago a gentleman showed a postal card upon which the whole of the first three books of the Odyssey were written, the remaining space being filled with the transcript of a long debate which had taken place in the German parliament a short time before. The whole card contained 33,000 words.—*Boston Commonwealth*.

Collectors who have not as yet seen the new price-list of the Standard Stamp Co. should send for a copy at once. It consists of 64 pages, fully illustrated, with a handsome cover. A copy will be sent free upon application by addressing above firm at 925 LaSalle street, St. Louis, Mo. (Advt.)

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

TOO ZEALOUS BY FAR.

BY ROY F. GREENE.

THE United States Government authorities have waged a war on every philatelic publisher who has been using cuts of United States stamps or coins. Even the parts of stamps and stamped envelopes which were once used to distinguish die varieties, and appeared in old editions of Standard catalogues, are no longer permissible.

Every imitation, from a half-tone plate to a wood-cut, has been suppressed, yet the public press, the large metropolitan dailies, are free to use anything in the way of an imitation of United States coins or stamps that they may see fit.

When the new Columbian issue was put upon the market, our philatelic journals could only give a description of them, their colors, the scenes depicted, etc., while the New York and Chicago dailies illustrated each one of the types, and so far as I know were not interfered with by the government officials.

This government of ours seems to ignore the services rendered to it by philatelists, who might be aptly termed the watch-dogs of the postal service, just as Senator Sherman is called "The Watch-dog of the Treasury."

Philatelists have been the means of protecting the government against counterfeit issues; they have ever been on the alert towards the elevation and betterment of the United States postal service. Yet we have exemplified the old saying that "republics are ungrateful."

The United States government, through the customs branch of its service, has compelled philatelists to pay a duty on importations of cancelled stamps which should have been admitted free of duty under the existing tariff laws; because the same are not produced here, and the tariff levied thereon can in no wise protect home labor; because these cancelled postal issues, the products of foreign labor, in no wise serve to antagonize home productions, or lessen the wages of home labor.

The United States, through its revenue service, has seized all cuts used in illustrating catalogues of dealers, and in various other ways shown its enmity to the stamp collecting fraternity. We do not think the government itself is wholly responsible for these indignities, but that it is the work of petty officers who by these manoeuvres hope to gain recognition of their untiring (?) devotion to governmental work.

We feel that they are too zealous by far, when they pounce upon small fry, and leave the large and powerful newspapers to do just that which they prohibit us to do. If the use of cuts to illustrate the stamps and coins of our glorious commonwealth is contrary to law, and future productions of this kind are prohibited, and past productions are seized and destroyed, it is but fair that the mighty corporations controlling the daily newspapers should forfeit their right to produce illustrations, as well as the insignificant stamp vendor, whose use of them would not be half as public nor gain near such a wide circulation as the daily newspaper gives.

Only last evening I noted a descriptive article of the new Isabella quarter-dollar of the United States, which gave a true illustration of the obverse and reverse of this coinage. The article appeared in a leading St. Louis paper, and there was no more stir over it than if it had been a cut of a Confederate bill, or a bit of continental scrip. The St. Louis daily is

unmolested, yet a San Francisco dealer is visited by a government official and all his coin cuts of United States issues are confiscated.

Any manufacturing firm, an opera company, in fact any large corporation that sees fit to present in an advertising souvenir a representation, in the proper colors of a United States stamp, or a postal card, are unmolested, while a petty stamp dealer is "drawn over the coals."

I trust the time is not far off when our government will awake to the fact that they have powerful allies in postal reform in the philatelic fraternity, and if they do not grant us especial favors will at least give us the same privileges that are accorded to others.

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE.

BY T. G. SUTHERLAND.

ONE of the most pleasing methods of adding to one's collection, and at the same time obtaining a large number of duplicates, is by exchanging with collectors in foreign countries. Having considerable experience in that line, I give a few rules and suggestions for carrying it out successfully. If you look into the columns of any good philatelic journal, such as the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain*, *Philatelic Journal of America*, etc., you will probably find enough exchange notices from collectors all over the world to keep you engaged for some time in answering. It also pays to insert a notice of your own occasionally. In an American paper a correspondent says that he has always been swindled when he tried foreign exchange correspondents, and advises collectors to exchange with persons as near home as possible, as they will get their returns much sooner, and will be better satisfied in every way. My experience has been quite the reverse. I have only been swindled in one instance, and I think that it is a pretty good guarantee of the honesty of foreign collectors; as I have done a great deal of exchanging. I append a few rules which may prove useful to you when sending stamps to foreign collectors for exchange.

1. Never send stamps to anyone who promises to give you twice as much as you send, or something of that nature, unless you are sure of his reliability. He is very apt to be a fraud; as a rule it is only safe to exchange with such collectors or dealers that will give you the same quantity and quality in exchange.

2. Don't send too many of the commoner class of stamps, but send as good an assortment as possible. It aggravates a collector to receive a worthless lot of common stamps. Never send common stamps to a dealer unless he so requests.

3. Always employ enough postage on your letters; a double postage is charged the party receiving the letter for any deficiency which exists. Write your letter on thin paper, confining yourself to one sheet if possible. Use a stamped envelope if you can get it, or the better class of adhesives.

4. If you have special wants in any countries, let your correspondent know them. He will generally oblige you by either getting the stamps for you, or telling you where you can obtain them. Foreign collectors are generally very obliging.

5. Never try to cheat your correspondents. It is as mean as it is wrong, of all things be honest.

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EDITORIAL.

Vol. III. We start our third volume with this issue, and with excellent prospects, as we have an excellent past to look back upon. We cannot complain in any way of the liberal support the philatelic public have given us,—far beyond our greatest expectations,—for which we thank our patrons heartily. We must admit we have not had the magazine up to the desired standard in the past, but henceforth we lay claim to the honor of being the best 25 cent philatelic paper published, and shall amply verify our claims, and the opinions of our patrons we believe will support us. A few words as to our intentions. We do not believe in asking \$3 a year for a magazine, and illustrating the stamps in original colors; we deem it better to use plain black ink, pure and simple; charge 25 cents for our paper, and give equally as good reading matter as is given by some journals whose subscription prices are much in excess of our own. The leading feature of this magazine during the next twelve months will be our work on "The Postage Stamps of the U.S.," which will contain superior half-tone illustrations of all varieties of

U. S. postage stamps. We had expected these cuts for this issue, and held it back in consequence, but failed to get them in time for this month's paper. The first installment will appear next month, and thereafter regularly till completion. The portraits of prominent dealers and collectors will appear monthly. The series of papers on Counterfeit Stamps will be continued monthly. Besides this, we have a first-class assortment of articles on various subjects by the best writers. We will, during the present volume, give our readers the best class of reading matter ever given by a publication at our subscription price. If you are not a subscriber, we feel confident we can please you.

California Philatelic Press Club. Some aspiring philatelists of the Pacific slope recently met in San Francisco, and formed what is known as the California Philatelic Press Club, their main object being to elevate the standard of philatelic literature—to purify it, as it were. We do hope they will not fall short of their aim,—for should they be able to do away with many of these small, worthless papers, we would admit their career had not been in vain. The Club is, however, not content to endeavor to reduce the quantity and improve the quality of our papers, but, on the other hand, seem determined to increase the quantity. They now announce that *The Philatelic Californian* will appear on October 1st, and will fill a long felt want. We all know that! The business manager is Mr. O. L. Blackman, 2520 Sutler St., San Francisco, Cal. While from the announcement we gather the information that it will be a high-class magazine; yet we believe if the Press Club would use their talent and influence in improving the magazines we already have, it might be productive of more good. The fact of the matter is, there are far too many papers at present, no one denies that, and if fewer philatelists would take this method of accruing (?) fortune and fame, it would be the means of giving more support to the publishers of our older journals, and enable them to raise their standard to such an extent that we could not view them without feelings of pride.

Regarding Mr. Hooper. Our readers are all doubtless aware of the grave charge that has been brought against Mr. J. R. Hooper, the President of the P. S. of C., and one of the leading Canadian collectors. His portrait and biography appeared in *The Canadian Philatelist* of Feb., 1892. Mr. Hooper declares his innocence of the serious charge, and expects to be fully and honorably acquitted. We sincerely trust that such may be the case. As yet the government have secured no direct evidence to the end that he was responsible for his wife's death.

Mr. Hooper's Mr. H. F. Mooers sends us the following:—"Members of the P. S. of C. and others have no doubt heard of the calamity that has befallen our President, Mr. J. R. Hooper, who is confined at Joliette, Que., with a grave charge against him, and who is lacking in the means necessary to give him a fair trial. Now, will all those who feel as if they could help him a little in this case, kindly send in the amount, however small, to H. F. Mooers, of Kingston, who will forward it to the above."

Lewis Bishop, A. B. Quickley, alias A. Burmeister, alias Horace Stone, alias John J. Morgan, alias Lewis Bishop, has again added additional proof to his character of Philately's greatest swindler. He has caused collectors and dealers more loss than any other philatelic black sheep known. It is said his swindling operations, under the name of Lewis Bishop, were the most extensive he has yet attempted. He is again at liberty, and it is not unlikely his next schemes will be on a still more extensive plan. A dozen (more or less) detectives (amateur and otherwise) are on his track, and all expect to capture him, which fact speaks well for his chance of escape. We, ourselves, are more fortunate than most of his correspondents, for we find we owe him a small amount, and if he will present himself at our office, with proper proof of his identity, we shall be pleased to settle our account.

Among the Societies. At their recent convention, the Canadian Philatelic Association chose *The Canadian Journal of Philately* for their official organ. They better had retained the *Dominion Philatelist*, as the last number of the *C. J. of P.* that has appeared, up to the present, is that of July. An official organ should be prompt. Whatever else may be said about the *Dominion Philatelist*, it is one of our promptest exchanges. London, England, has at last formed a stamp club, which fills a long-felt want, not being so exclusive and aristocratic in its membership as "ye old time" Philatelic Society of London. It starts with a good membership, some of the foremost London dealers and collectors among its supporters, and will, in all probability, be a great success and fulfil its end. Great Britain does not, as a rule, copy from or follow the agitation of Americans. A year or so ago we had a great deal of talk here respecting the amalgamation of our philatelic societies, and nothing came of it. Great Britain evidently believes she can do better, as we notice the *Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* has started an agitation on foot to secure the amalgamation of all the small English Philatelic Societies and stamp clubs with the International Philatelic Union, one of the leading

philatelic societies of England. We cannot tell what measure of success they will attain, but our candid opinion is that, as we philatelists are not all "birds of a feather" in many respects, we, therefore, do not seem to flock together, although union might prove advantageous. Regarding the Chicago Convention, nothing need be said; the results are known by all, and we are a little too late to allow of discussion.

The Press. Several new papers are announced from Canada — one by Mr. Wm. Campbell, of Brooklyn, Ontario.

The *International Philatelist*, formerly published by Geo. A. Lowe, of Toronto, has passed into the hands of Henry A. Fowler, and the first number after the change is certainly a creditable one. The *Philatelist* ceased publication when Lewis Bishop left Denver for parts unknown! The *Philatelic Era*, since its debut as a semi-monthly, comes around as regular and as promptly as clock-work. We cannot but notice the decided improvement in *The Philatelic Journal of America* during the last two months. Henry Gremmel's *Post Office* is 500% better than formerly. The editor of *The Southern Philatelist* is still aspiring to be a Mark Twain in his own quaint way. Mr. Percy Bishop has retired from the editorial chair of the *Philatelic Review of Reviews*. Alvah Davidson has resumed the duties of editor of *The Post Office*.

Are you a Subscriber? If not, we would urge upon you the advantage of at once having your name placed on our books. Every subscriber who places his subscription in our hands has the assurance of 12 numbers, or his money refunded. Gradual and steady increase in both size and quality is our aim. To make the magazine attain a high standard of excellence is our determination. We have made, and shall make every effort to secure the best and most interesting reading matter that can be procured. It will be to your interest to subscribe.

Our Subscription List. Our subscription list is not nearly so large as it should be. We are well aware that many of our patrons are interested in the success of THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST, to such an extent that they would not object to assist us in the matter of securing subscriptions. We have therefore decided to offer any person who will secure us the subscriptions of four of their friends, and forward same, together with \$1, we will send the paper one year to each of the names sent, and also send you the paper one year for your trouble. If you are already a subscriber, you may have your subscription extended a year, or have the paper sent to some friend. Take advantage of this offer.

Stamps for Collectors. One of the best editorials we have seen for some time past on the matter of surcharged stamps is that which appeared in the *Philatelic Record*, of

Oct., 1893. As the editorial is one of interest, and may prove acceptable to our readers, we have taken the liberty of quoting it entire: "We believe that to Louis XIV. must be attributed the origin of the phrase 'a nation of shopkeepers,' which that magnificent sovereign applied to the Dutch, and which was subsequently borrowed by Napoleon I., and used as a complimentary description of the British nation. The shopkeeping, however, does not seem at present to be confined either to Holland or Great Britain, for its principals appear in many countries to invade some of the business of the state itself. The administration of the post office is supposed to occupy itself solely and exclusively with the transaction of social and commercial business for the benefit of the community, but of late, in very many cases, it has started a fresh line, that of manufacturing postage stamps, not for the benefit of the community, but for sale to stamp collectors; and the qualifications of a Postmaster General appear, in many cases, to be considered in the eyes of his superiors as weighed, not so much by his successful administration of his office, as by how much he is able to make in the way of profit. We are aware that in some countries the post office does not pay its way, and that there is a deficiency which has to be met out of other sources of revenue; but that is no excuse for taxing collectors to make up the deficiency, though this appears now to be the ruling idea with certain postal administrations. From the great republic of the United States down to the principality of Montenegro, and at the insignificant station of Nossi-Bi there is the same readiness to accommodate collectors and provide them with palatable food. Not long since, the Governors of the French Colonies ordinarily prefaced their decrees by lamenting the non-arrival of supplies of stamps of a certain value, say 1 centime and that it was only on account of their anxious desire for the public convenience that they were induced to order a certain number of stamps of 1 franc, to be transformed into stamps of 1 centime. Speculators knew how many there were that had been so treated, and bought the lots up. We lately, however, saw a decree of the Governor of a small colony, who, we suppose, considered this joke about the public wants had become rather stale, and who had the honesty to say that he had ordered the stock in hand to be over printed in order to get rid of it, and so the old stamps were furnished up with new trimmings. But this was honest and honestly done to assist collectors in filling up their albums. To look, however, nearer home, what an extraordinary number of 2 cent rose, of the Straits Settlements must be found in the collections of those who have been diligent enough to collect

all varieties of overprint and surcharge which that unfortunate stamp has been subjected to. In some cases it appeared to be hopeless, unless the collector took the whole sheet of 60. The Indian Native States that have issued postage stamps are an example of another kind. What a first-rate trade the post office of Her Highness Nawab Shahjihan Begam, of Bhopal, must have carried on, for which H. H. is much indebted to the engraver, who could not spell correctly, twenty times running; while in Sirmoor, the postmaster has been so tormented by collectors, that it appears he has been obliged to have the stamp of 1879 imitated, not from an original, but from an imperfect wood engraving, which first appeared in the *Timbre Post* for August, 1879. This state of things is anything but an agreeable one to collectors who desire to collect postage stamps, and not those made specially for them. They find their gems smothered in a heap of rubbish. The late Mr. Tapling never did a wiser thing than when he drew a line and would have none of the modern stuff, concentrating his energies on collecting stamps made for use, and not manufactured or dressed up for sale to collectors. We do not quarrel with states surcharging their stamps, when an alteration in the rate of postage either finds them without the value required, or with small states, which have a stock on hand that would otherwise become useless, because these latter cannot probably be able to put up with the loss consequent on destroying it. These are legitimate, but it is with the manufacture of the overprints and surcharges, that have no earthly purpose except to get rid of the stock to collectors, that we are at war. For instance, we recently chronicled a post card of Portugal, overprinted with 'Valido, 1893.' The card has never been demonetized, and was available for postage purposes before the overprint, and yet they must gild the gold. The Portuguese Government appears to have been in such a hurry to get money somehow that they issued values of the new series long before the old stock was exhausted, and now, in order to make the old stock saleable, they dress it up with all the talent a French cook could have displayed, instead of making a clean sweep of the whole lot. We always exclaimed against the mistake that our Government made when they allowed the old stock of Inland Revenue stamps to be used for postage purposes. The innocent framers of the clause, in the Act of 1881, had only the small Inland Revenue stamp in view, and little thought what a lot of old ones would be rummaged out to the bewilderment of the stampers, who, in despair, stamped anything and everything, for the draft and receipt stamps of 1853 and 1855 were not available for postage under the terms of the Act—*Philatelic Record*, Vol. 5, page 169. But the framers of the notice to the public, who possibly are the authors of that bind guide called *The Postal Guide*, in their omniscience, thought to

improve upon the phraseology of the Provisions Act, and opened the door to the admission of stamps, the use of which had not been contemplated by it. If our readers have determined to collect stamps overprinted for their special benefit, let them, at any rate, see that they have genuine specimens. Every day we read of unauthentic surcharges and overprints. We have written these few words, not with a view of deterring our readers from collecting legitimate surcharged stamps, but to relieve our minds of the indignation we feel, in common with them, at the growing system of turning the Post Office into a trading shop, in which it looks to them for custom."

* *

Our Christmas Number. We shall issue a special Christmas Edition of the CANADIAN PHILATELIST, on or before December the 15th. This will be the largest number

that we have yet issued, and will consist of about 50 pages, besides several very fine supplements. We shall issue 10,000 copies of this number, and advertisers desiring space should notify us at once. There will be no advance upon the regular advertising rates.

* *

Regarding the New Catalogues. We are thankful that there is at last going to be a keen competition for the first place for the Standard Catalogue, which will be used by collectors of this continent. It is resulting in many much-needed additions being placed therein. We notice, that in addition to their previous field, the forthcoming catalogues will price Mexican and Canadian Revenues, and contain a complete catalogue of post cards. The catalogues of both Mekeel and Scott will be issued in a pocket edition. As to which catalogue will be best we cannot say, but at any rate we may reasonably expect a high-class work from both of the firms referred to. The catalogues are almost ready, and we expect to review the same at an early date.

* *

Our Illustrated U. S. Catalogue. As will be seen from the announcement on the last page of cover, our illustrated catalogue of U. S. Stamps is now ready for delivery. This much talked of work is, we believe, the most needed work of our entire series of hand-books, and should have a very large sale. The paper used is the very best obtainable, and half tone cuts used are considered the very finest workmanship that it is possible to secure. The book is about ready at the time that this number is issued, and will be ready for mailing by the time the orders reach us. Only 2000 copies were issued, and as the demand for the book will be very great, parties desiring a copy of the work would do well to order at once, thus avoiding disappointment. For further information, we refer to the last page of cover.

R. E. Pentecost. We desire to warn our readers of Aurora, Ill. against one, R. E. Pentecost, of

Aurora, Ill., who has been securing stamps from dealers, for which the only settlement he makes is his thanks and a promise to return in a few days. After writing him several times, we had all of our letters—excepting the one containing the stamps—returned marked "uncalled for." We have lost a considerably quantity of rare U. S. by this party, and other dealers have informed us that they have suffered likewise. We should be pleased to enter into correspondence with dealers or collectors who have been swindled by this party.

* *

Albrecht & Co's 16th Sale. We have before us the catalogue of a fine lot of stamps, which Messrs. R.

F. Albrecht & Co., 90 Nassau-St., N. Y., are offering in their 16th sale, which will be held on the evening of Tuesday and Wednesday, 21st and 22nd. The stamps offered include some exceptionally fine U. S. and Mexican stamps. We believe that, without exception, the stamps are listed in their catalogues more accurately than by any other firm that holds auction sales.

* *

Right of Possession. The Post Office Department, at Washington, has ruled that the writer has a right to gain possession of a letter, providing he can prove, to the satisfaction of the postmaster at the office from which it is sent, that he was the writer of it. Even if the letter has arrived at its destination, and before it has been delivered to the person to whom it is addressed, it may be recalled by the writer by a telegram through the mailing office. The reason assigned is that the U. S. is only the agent of the writer while the letter is in transit. This decision is important to business men and to private individuals.

* *

Queensland Philatelic Society. A meeting of Philatelists was held in Mackay, North Queensland, on Saturday, August 26th, as a result of which

we have the formation of The North Queensland Philatelic Society, which has the following objects in view: 1—To facilitate the interchange of stamps, and open communication with various parts of the world. 2—To assist members in detecting forgeries, new issues, varieties, etc. 3—To promote friendly intercourse between philatelists in North Queensland. 4—To form Branch Committees of philatelists throughout North Queensland. Some twenty members were enrolled at the first meeting, and officers, and a committee of three, to hold office until first annual meeting in January next, were appointed as follows: Patron, Hon. W. H. Wilson, M. L. C., Postmaster General; President, J. V. Chataway, M. L. A., Vice-President; A. Ulcoq, Esq., Manager] Queensland National Bank; Hon.

Secretary and Treasurer, T. Brand; Committee, F. Black, T. D. Chataway, F. Myddleton. The dues were fixed at 6s. per annum, which money will be devoted to the purchasing of philatelic literature, and cost of postage and stationary. This Society has inaugurated what we believe to be a new system of managing the Exchange department. Members placing their exchange in the hands of the Central Committee will be credited with their value (according to Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue) in a ledger to be kept for that purpose, and from the stamps ordered in bulk or collected, such members will be entitled to stamps to the full amount of their credit. By this means it is anticipated that members will get better value for their exchanges than if they dealt separately direct with individuals in small amounts. Collectors desiring further information may obtain it by writing to the Secretary who resides in Mackay, North Queensland.

Correspondents' Column.

[This column is open to all, and we hope you will take the opportunity to express yourself on any Philatelic question. Those who want any information should send in their queries, which will be answered in the following number.]

H. W. H., Corydon, England.—Accept our thanks for clippings.

Quebec, Canada, August 24th 1893.

Dear Sir,—At the Sixth Annual Convention of the "Canadian Philatelic Association," held in this city on the 23rd instant, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Ernest F. Würtele, Quebec, Que., re-elected; Vice-President, W. Kelsey Hall, Peterboro, Ont.; Sec.-Treas., T. S. Clark, Belleville, re-elected; Ex Supt., C. C. Morancy, Quebec, Que.; Librarian, A. E. Labelle, Montreal, re-elected; C. Director, Henry Ades Fowler, Toronto, Ont.; Trustees, Dr. C. E. Cameron, Montreal, Chairman, J. E. Schultz, Montreal, W. Patterson, Montreal, Official Organ, *The Canadian Journal of Philately*.

Yours very truly,

ERNEST F. WÜRTELE, President.

Are your Files

Of THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST complete? If not, now is the time to complete them. The supply of back numbers is small. While they last they can be had at the following prices: Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24, at 10c. each. Nos. 7 and 16 are 25c. each. Complete your files before it is too late.

THE FUTURE U. S. POSTAL CARD.—Postmaster-General Bissell has decided to abandon the three sizes of postal cards now in use and to substitute one size for single and reply cards. The specifications which have been sent to prospective bidders for the contract for furnishing the postal service with cards for the next four years call for single cards of the uniform size of 3½ by 5½ inches. This is what is known as the international size.

Clippings.

All Clippings from newspapers thought by the Editor to be of interest to Collectors will be published in this column. Subscribers are invited to send clippings, which always prove acceptable.

The Duke of Cambridge is the only member of the English royal family who does not pay letter postage, he being exempted on account of his military rank as commander-in chief.

An estimate of the extent and value of the existing postage stamp collections, based largely on the showing of a census taken for the purpose, places those existing in England at a total market value of £125,000, and those in the rest of the world at £100,000.

1st Collector—"What are you putting all those blank pages into your album for? Locals and revenues?"

2nd Collector—"No, these are for my varieties of Columbian envelopes, cut square."

1st Collector—"Oh! that's it, I've bought me a new blank album for them."

It is stated that a special department in the Hamburg Stock Exchange is devoted to transactions in the Columbian stamps which were issued by the United States Post Office for this year only. The stamps are exquisite productions; but to carry on bull and bear transactions in them is introducing philately into finance with a vengeance. Still, the craze provides innocent amusement for a not too innocent class, and it might be a pity to stamp it out.

A Mayville, N. Y., lawyer, in search of a missing heir, became satisfied at last that the man he wanted was somewhere in Canada, but not knowing where, addressed a letter to him at every post office in Ontario and Quebec—nearly 2600 of them in all. One of the letters reached the addressee, and, as his inheritance was more than \$100,000, he probably won't object to the item, "Postage, \$92," in the lawyer's little bill.

A SEALED LETTER IS SACRED.—"The sanctity of a sealed letter is so well secured in this country," said Mr. Nash, the superintendent of the railroad mail service, "that if a letter were received at the city post office in Washington, or at any other post office in the country, that was absolutely known to contain the evidence of fraud, the proof of the improper use of the mails, the postmaster general himself would not dare to break the seal. A letter passing through the mails cannot be opened by anybody until it reaches the dead letter office, after every effort has been made to deliver it in vain."

The man who introduced the first cancelling machine in the New York general post-office is employed there now, but he has lived to see his machine surpassed. His invention would cancel 4000 stamps in an hour, or less than the average number for a skilled man working by hand. Three or four other machines, each a little faster than its predecessor, were introduced in turn and discarded. One was invented that far exceeded the speed of the swiftest hand worker, and it was used until the discovery was made that it sometimes cut through envelopes and damaged their contents. Then the present machine, which cancels 48,000 stamps an hour, was introduced.

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It is a first-class bargain. Try it. Kickers get their money back on return of packet. A U. S. catalogue at 10c. free with each packet.

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CANADA AND PROVINCIAL

Is my specialty, and if you are at all interested in these stamps, I will be pleased to send you selections. Judging from advances in late catalogues and auction prices, now is the time to complete sets. My stock—postage and revenue—is almost complete. Send list of wants.

CANADA—

1857—4d. unused	83 00
1851—3d. laid paper, used	09
1851—3d. ribbed paper, used	75
1858—3d. perforated, used	2 00
1851—6d. wove paper, used	3 00
1852—6d. laid paper, used	3 50
1859—7c. ribbed paper, used	50
1868—3c. red, laid paper, used	1 50
1868—1c. red brown, watermarked, used	1 50
Officially Sealed, unused	1 00

NEW BRUNSWICK—

1, 2, 5 and 17c. set of 4 unused	30
1857—3d. red, used	2 25
CConnell (proof on India paper)	4 00

NEWFOUNDLAND—

1863—Set of 6 varieties, unused	2 75
1864—5c. black, used	3 75
1870—5c. black, used	1 75
1870—3c. vermilion, used	90

NOVA SCOTIA—

1857—1-l. red brown, used	4 00
1857—3d. blue	1 00
1857—6d. green	4 60

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—

2-l. perforated 9, on original envelope	1 50
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REVENUES—

British Columbia Law, 1st issue, 4 varieties	1 00
Canada Bill, 1st issue, 82, unused	2 00
Canada Bill, 1st issue, 83, unused	3 00
Canada Supreme Court, set of six	5 00

APPROVAL SHEETS of Canadian and Provincials at 20% from catalogues. Canadian Revenues at 33½% discount. United States at 2½% discount. Foreign at 33½ and 50% discount. Sent to reliable parties only. Reference from some dealer required. Dealers' lots of Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Canadian Revenues and Foreign (for sheets) always on hand at reasonable prices.

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(26)

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*New Brunswick, 2 and 5c., a bargain	10
*New Brunswick, 1, 2, 3 and 7c., a bargain.....	40
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*Samoa, 1877-82, 8 var., complete, reprints.....	10
Mexico, 1884, 50c. green, cheap.....	10
Angola, 3 varieties.....	10
Kenyon, Provisional, 3 varieties.....	10
Western Australia, 4 varieties.....	08
New York, 3c. blue, glazed paper, fine.....	15 25
*Sardinia, 11 varieties.....	10
*Supreme Court of Canada, 85 blue.....	3 50
Canada, 6d. violet, fine	3 25
*Hollivar, 1c. black.....	03
*Ecuador, 1c. to 50c., 7 varieties.....	10
*Ecuador, 1c. to 50c. and 1 peso, 10 var.....	35
Mexico, 20 and 25c. scarlet.....	05
Portugal, 13 fine varieties.....	10
*Sarawak, 1c. on 3c. brown on yellow.....	06
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Canada, Weight and Measure, \$2, cheap.....	13
Canada, 1868, 1c. red brown	10
*U. S., 1893, 1c. to 50c., 18 varieties.....	18 00
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South America, 25 varieties.....	18
U. S., 1861, 5c. yellow, fine	4 00
Victoria, Postage Due, 2d. carmine and blue.....	07
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Native Indian States, 13 varieties.....	15
Tunis, 1, 7, 5, 10, 15 and 25c., 6 var.....	25
Spain, 1889, 15, 20 and 40c., 1, 4 and 10 peseta.....	25
*Seychelles, 1893, 3 on 4c.....	10
Uraguay, 3 varieties.....	10
*Honduras, 1st issue, 2 var. complete.....	10
*U. S. Interior Dept., 1, 2, 3 and 6c.....	20
Jamaica Official, 3 var.....	08
*Confederate States, 10c. blue.....	03
*Confederate States, 20c. green.....	06
*Confederate States, 2c. rose.....	20
*Mauritius, 1893, 1c on 2c. violet.....	05
*Belgium Sunday Stamp, 1c. slate.....	03
*South African Republic, 1893, 1d. on 2d. olive.....	10
*Central American Steamship Co. Postage 1, 2, 10, 50, and 5 on 1c., 3 varieties, the set.....	1 00
*Salvador, 1892, Provisional, 2 varieties.....	10
Transvaal, 5 varieties.....	10
*Hailgoand, 21 varieties.....	25
Zuluand, 2 varieties.....	12
U. S. Rev., 2nd issue, \$20.00, blue and black, fine.....	85 50
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1000 very fine varieties.....	7 50
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Cape of Good Hope, triangular, 4d. blue.....	13
Portugal, 150 and 300 reis.....	10
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Canada, 1870, 3c., laid paper.....	1 20
Canada, Gas Inspection, 25 and 50c.; \$4, \$1.50, 4 var.....	20
Canada, 1859, 1, 5, 10 and 1 1/2.....	35
1000 South American stamps, assorted, for.....	3 25
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And unquestionably the fairest and most equitable one known, and cannot fail to impress any thoughtful unprejudiced man as being the correct system of Life Insurance.

This Company is doing its principal business in the State of New York—its home State. Its growing popularity with the public is best evidenced by the large amount of insurance written. During the year 1892, after adopting the Adjusted Rate Plan, its

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To all sending for my large New Price List I will send 3 varieties of unissued foreign stamps FREE.

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or more stamps from your country, and receive the same number of Canadian and the Provinces in exchange.
I also desire to buy from and sell to you. Write me at any rate, and I feel sure I can make a proposition that
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