

# The Montreal Philatelist.

A Monthly Magazine devoted to the Science of Philately.



We come from Montreal, and go to all Parts of the World.

VOL. 3. No. 10.

APRIL, 1901.

Whole No. 34.

## How Does This Strike You ?

Costa Rica	1889 new	6 var.	2 sets	10
Antigua	1882	1d. carmine	3 for	10
Barbados	1884	1d. star	1 "	10
"	"	1d. c.c.	5 "	10
"	"	1/2d. "	3 "	10
"	1882	1/2d. c.s.	20 "	10
"	"	1d. "	20 "	10
"	"	1/2d. "	10 "	10
"	"	1d. " brown	4 "	10
"	1897	1/2d. on. qd. new	1 "	10
Br. Guiana	1882	1d. c.a.	20 "	10
"	"	2c. "	20 "	10
"	"	8c. "	5 "	10
Grenada	1882	1/2d.	20 "	10
"	"	1/2d.	7 "	10
"	1887	1d.	20 "	10
Labuan	1897	6 var.	1 "	10
N. Borneo	"	6 "	1 "	10
Newfoundland	1880	1/2c. red	5 for	10
"	1887	1/2c. black	6 "	10
"	1891	1/2c. olive	12 "	10
Cabot	"	1c. new	each	06
"	"	2c. "	"	06
"	"	3c. used	4 for	10
"	"	4c. "	5 "	10
"	"	5c. "	3 "	20
"	"	6c. "	3 "	20
Netherlands	1891	1gd. 50c.	each	33
"	1896	1gd. 50c.	"	1.00
"	1899	5 "	"	1.00
Siam	1891 on	64 new	5 for	10
Samoa	1894	1d. scarlet	each	10
Sweden	1891-2	11 var. cat	15c. 2 sets	10
Tasmania	1900	Pict. 1d.	5 for	10
"	"	" 2d.	5 "	10
Russian Levant	1892	1k.	5 "	10
"	" 1884	1k.	6 "	10
"	"	2k.	6 "	10
Packets	50 var.	"	4 "	10
"	100 "	"	3 "	10
"	300 " mounted	each	1 25	
"	1000 "	"	4.00	

Postage extra on orders of 50c and under.

**T. S. CLARK,**

189 St. James St., London, Ont.,  
Canada.

## I AM TOO BUSY

TO WRITE AN AD THIS MONTH.

If you want anything fine, drop  
me a line, or give me a call.

Several books are ready to be  
sent on approval.

I want old Canadian Coins ; I  
will give stamps in exchange.

**A. C. ROUSSEL,**

2104 St. Catherine Street

MONTREAL,

Canada.

**DEALERS**

who are short certain lines of B. N. A revenue and postage stamps  
Should write us for quotations at once.

Stock-taking is now going on consequent on the entrance of Mr. John Thomson into the Company, and odd lots of stamps that have not seen the light for years are turning up daily. Collectors will do well to rush in their wants,

Mint copy	12½c. blue /68 Canada	\$1 00
"	" 1c. brown red "	60
Used	" 1c. yellow /69 "	25
	" 2c. green /68 "	8
		10
Canada Revenues	4 varieties	10
Set of Supreme Court laws		\$3 25
Set of Quebec Laws /69 issue		50
Revenue catalogue & 25 var. laws		15
18 varieties 3rd. issue Bill stamps		45

**CANADA STAMP CO.,**

592 JOHN STREET,

QUEBEC, CAN

**CANADA ENVELOPE**

**STAMPS.**

**CUT SQUARE.**

3 KINDS PER 100

35 CENTS.

We have sold hundreds of these and have a few hundred more to sell.

See what other dealers ask.

Our ad in last month's M. P. still holds good.

**BEAVER STAMP CO.**

P. O. BOX 1025. MONTREAL CANADA.

Established 1880. London exhibition, 1897. SILVER MEDAL.

**FREDK. R. GINN,**  
STAMP DEALER, EXPERT AND VALUER,  
143, STRAND, LONDON, W. C., ENGLAND.

**BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.**

**N. B.—USED POSTALLY GUARANTEED.**

1890.	2s.	vermillion	each	\$ 1 15
"	2/6	purple	"	2 00
"	5s	orange	"	2 15
"	10s.	green	"	3 50
"	20s.	blue	"	6 00
"	£2,	rose-red	"	17 50
"	£5,	sage-green	"	20 00
"	£10,	brown	"	25 00
1894.	Unused set of four Provisionals			37 50
1896-94.	BULAWAYO PROVISIONALS—			
	1d.	on 2d., of great rarity		25 00
	1d.	on 4s., very rare		14 00
	3d.	on 5s., unused		4 00

**BULAWAYO PROVISIONALS—**

1896-97.	Full set of seven on Cape stamps, used		\$7 00
"	Ditto, unused		7 50
1896.	8d.	green & violet	each 36
"	1/-	green & blue	" 0 16
"	2/-	blue & green	" 0 50
"	2/6	brown & purple	" 0 60
"	3/-	green & blue	" 0 80
"	4/-	red & blue	" 1 15
"	5/-	chestnut & green	" 0 72
"	10/-	slate & red	" 2 00
1897.	½d.	to 8d., set of seven, used (reengraved issue)	1 25
1893.	½d.	to 1d., set of five, used	45

Quotations for all other South African Stamps given with pleasure. Wholesale and Retail. All answered by return of post. Postage free on all orders of 60c. and over.

**Just Purchased.—A REALLY GREAT COLLECTION.**

Every Country and Colony well represented BRITISH, SOUTH AFRICAN, CEYLON, and ALL EUROPEANS specially strong.

Books submitted in order of Application. Prices 25 p. c. to 50 p. c. below Catalogue quotations.

**IMPORTANT!—Large Collections and Single Rarities purchased at Highest Possible Prices**

**HAWAII.** A fine stock of these Stamps to select from, including the 1, 2, and 5 cents figures issue for plating. High prices paid for fine copies of the latter-mentioned stamps.

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# The Montreal Philatelist.

A Monthly Philatelic Magazine.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE LEAGUE OF CANADIAN PHILATELISTS

Subscription 25 cents a year to Canada and the United States, 50 cents to all other countries.

All subscriptions begin with January or July numbers.

VOL. 3. No. 10

APRIL, 1901.

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## NEWS OF THE MONTH

We have to report an unusually long list of stamps this month, nearly all being changes of colors, also a large number of post cards and other stationery.

In England there is much talk about changing the present 1d from lilac to carmine, but we fancy this will not be done till the Edward VII stamps, designs for which are being considered, are issued. A correspondent in Newfoundland, Mr. H. W. Thompson writes us saying that this colony has outrun all other British possessions, in being the only colony having in use a stamp bearing the portrait of the present King of England, Edward VII. We are pleased to note that of late there has been a great demand for Canadian stamps, especially for the 6 and 8c. of the 1898 numeral set, these stamps, along with the 3c. being obsolete. It is curious to note that nearly all European countries have changed or issued new stamps within the past twelve to fourteen months. Austria, Bosnia, Crete, France, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Spain. Turkey joins the race this month. New sets are in preparation for Greece, Italy, Montenegro and Switzerland, and rumor states that we may shortly expect them from Belgium, Russia, and Great Britain; this would leave only one or two countries whose stamps will not have been completely changed from what they were two years ago.

### ENTRANCES AND EXITS.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—(12c. and 30c. in new color.) The 15c. chronicled last month having taken the color of the 12c., that value is now printed in olive; the 30c. now comes in vermilion instead of rose.

BRAZIL.—(50 reis unpaid letter stamp). The 50r., yellow green, of the new type for unpaid letter stamps, has been issued.



CRETE.—(Unpaid letter stamps).—In August last we announced the forthcoming appearance of an unpaid letter set giving particulars as to color, design, etc. In October the *Am. J. of P.* denied this report on the authority of the "highest postal authority of the island," and stated that certain fiscal stamps were doing duty for the collection of postage due. As these latter were not included in the 6th edition Scott catalogue, the editor of the *Am. J. of P.* evidently did not attach much importance to the report of their postal use. After all, in spite of the "highest authority" our first report was correct in every particular, the stamps have been issued. The set consists of eight values:—1, 5, 10, 20, 40, 50 lepta, 1 and 2 drachmae of uniform type printed in red. The design is, with the exception of the inscriptions and some slight changes in the shape of the crown, an exact copy of the current postage stamps of Norway. At the top of the oval KPHTH takes the place of NORGE, the figure of value is in the circle formed by the post horn and the denomination to collect in Greek characters is in the oval at base. The *Am. J. of P.* reports that the current adhesives set 1 l. to 5 dr. has been printed in olive bistre and used as unpaid letter stamps.

ERITREA.—(New set in preparation.) In June last we announced that an eminent Roman artist had been engaged to prepare suitable designs for an "artistic" set of stamps for this Italian colony, we now learn from the *Revista del Francobollo* that two different types have been accepted, one representing a lion and the other an elephant.

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.—(New

*permanent set.*)—A new set to take the place of the various surcharges is reported by the *London Philatelist* as follows:—

- 1c. green and black
- 3c. brown “
- 4c. carmine “
- 5c. carmine and green on yellow
- 6c. blue and black
- 10c. purple “
- 20c. black and purple
- 50c. orange and black.

FINLAND.—(*Postal stationery of Russian type.*) Stamps of the same type as the corresponding values of Russia have been impressed on the envelopes and cards. The following have already been issued.

- 20 pen blue on white, envelope
- 20 “ red on yellow, return receipt
- 10 “ red on buff, post card
- 10+10 “ “ “ “ reply card.

FRENCH CONGO.—(*Unpaid letter set in preparation.*) Figures of value in a frame of elephant's tusks is said to be the design decided upon for a new set of unpaid letter stamps.

GREAT BRITAIN.—(*½ postal cards and envelopes in green.*) As we informed our readers in our last number, future printings of ½ d post cards and envelopes are to be printed in green, there has already appeared a ½ d reply card and a ½ d envelope. From Mr. H. L. Ewen, we have received one of the new envelopes.

GREECE.—(*New 10 l. letter card.*) A letter card with stamp of the new “Mercury” design to lepta carmine on blue is announced by *L'Essor Philatelique*

ITALY.—(*20c. letter card.*) A letter card with stamp of the type of the 20c. adhesive was issued in December, color orange on yellow card. (*New type for the lower values.*) The lower values of the promised new set are to depict the Eagle of the House of Savoy with the emblematic cross of Savoy upon his breast.

MONACO.—(*Change of colors.*) The 5c. blue has been changed to green, the 10c. brown to rose, the 15c. rose to brown, the 25c. green to blue.

MONTENEGRO.—(*Change of currency.*) From May 1st. next, this state adopts the Austrian currency, crowns and bellers, which will mean a complete new issue of stamps.

NATAL.—(*New envelopes.*) A registration envelope of the usual Colonial

style and type with a 4d. blue stamp on the flap has been issued, also ¼d. green and 1d. carmine oval type on white envelopes.

NETHERLANDS.—(*New value of unpaid letter stamps.*) Three new values of unpaid letter stamps are reported by *S. G.'s Monthly*, the 30c. green and black has been issued, and 40c. and 50c. are to appear soon. The design is similar to that of the current values.



NEW ZEALAND.—  
(*The new 1d. and 1½d.*)



We illustrate the recently issued 1d. and 1½d. stamps, and have to announce that the London print of the 1d., consisting of one million copies, have been already exhausted, and that the colonial print on “N. Z. and Star” paper, perf. 11, has been issued.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY.—(*Provisional 1d. post card.*) From Mr. James Campbell of Bloemfontein, we have received with thanks, a specimen of a new provisional 1d. card, mailed on the date of issue, February 8th. It is a Cape of Good Hope 1½d. card altered to 1d. with the stamp surcharged O. R. C., the name barred out and overprinted in two lines, ORANGE RIVER COLONY POST CARD.



PERU.—(*Commemorative 2 and 5c.*) Two other values of the set to commemorate this country's joy at entering, free and independent, into the 20th century have appeared. The stamps are of a large size, similar in design for all values, but with a different portrait for each. Last month we reported the 1 centavo, we now have to record the 2c. red and black, and the 5c. violet and black.

PORTUGAL AND COLONIES.—(500 and 700 reis. stamps.) It is announced that a 700 reis. stamp is soon to be added to the Portuguese set, and that the same value as well as 500 reis will be issued for the following colonies:—Angola, Cape Verde, Lourenço Marques, Mozambique, Portuguese-Congo, St. Thomas and Prince, and Zambesi.

SERVIA.—(New high values.) Two new values, 3 dinars pink and 5 dinars mauve are reported by *S. G.'s M. J.* in a size larger than the current issue. General design being somewhat similar.

SOMALI COAST.—(New pictorial set promised.) Our French contemporaries announce a new set in preparation, to consist of two types, one for the lower values to represent a camel carrying two native warriors, the other of a larger size will depict three warriors on guard. Besides these a set of unpaid letter-stamps is also promised depicting a native shield and sabres with the figures of value surcharged upon the shield. The inscription on all these stamps is to read: COTE FRANCAISE DES SOMALI, which would seem to indicate that they are to be used concurrently with the current stamps inscribed PROTECTORAT, etc.

TRANSVAAL.—(Stationery surcharged V. R. I.) The 4d. olive, registration envelope and the 2d. green post card were issued some time ago surcharged V. R. I.

TUNIS.—(Change of colors.) To conform to the regulations of the U. P. U. the 10c. violet has been changed to carmine, 15c. blue to grey, and the 25c. violet to blue.

TURKEY.—(Reported new issues.) In January 1900, we announced, on the authority of several Turkish correspondents, that two complete new sets were expected to make their appearance March 1st of last year; later on special commemorative stamps in honor of the 25th anniversary of the accession of the Sultan were reported as to appear in August, but so far none of these expected beautiful new stamps have materialized. The report of three new sets, which were to appear March 14th have reached us from Paris; this time the colors are given, so evidently something has been decided upon and the long expected stamps may really appear. We give the information as reported to us:—

1st. set—for postage within the Empire.			
5	paras lilac	2	piastres orange
10	" green	5	" lilac
20	" rose	25	" brown
1	piastre blue	50	" orange brown
2nd. set—for foreign postage.			
5	paras yellow	2	piastres blue
10	" light green	5	" brown
20	" violet	25	" green
1	piastre blue	50	" yellow
3rd. set—for unpaid letters.			
10	paras black on red paper		
20	" "		
1	piastre "		
2	" "		

It is said that the design chosen will be somewhat similar to that of the first issue of Turkey, but more elaborately engraved and well printed.

UNITED STATES.—(Commemorative issue of 1901.) The Pan-American sets of stamps are to be issued to postmasters on April 26th so as to be ready for sale on May 1st, the date set for the opening of the Pan-American fair at Buffalo, N. Y.

VICTORIA.—(Provisional issue of old types.) Since 1884 the stamps of Victoria have been inscribed STAMP DUTY and have been used indiscriminately for either fiscal or postal purposes; as explained in our February number these two sources of revenue have now to be kept separate, consequently stamps restricted to postal use are necessary. To provide such postage stamps, pending the issue of a series for the entire Commonwealth of Australia, the types in use previous to 1884 have been reverted to as far as possible, but as 2½d. and 5d. stamps did not exist in any old type, for these values the words STAMP DUTY have been removed and POSTAGE inserted. The colors of these two values are not changed, but all the old types are printed in either entirely different colors or shades so marked as to be easily distinguishable from former issues. Of these temporary stamps there have appeared the following, all watermarked V. and crown. Perf. 12½:

	Reissue of	Original color.
½d. green	1874	A21 rose
1d. carmine	1883	A26 green
2d. violet	1881	A27 brown 1883 purple
2½d. blue	1891	A43 red on yellow 1892 blue
3d. orange brown	1866	A11 lilac 1869 orange
4d. liltre	1882	A28 carmine
5d. chocolate	1891	A44 chocolate
6d. green	1865	A11 blue
7s. orange	1876	A24 blue
2s. blue on pink	1881	A25 blue on greenish
5s. vermilion & blue	1863	A17 blue and rose



WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—(*The new 2½d. stamp.*) We illustrate the new stamp, announced last month.

### SPECULATIVE STAMPS AND COUNTERFEITS.

The stamps described under this heading, we would advise collectors to avoid, as they are manufactured either by official authority or by private individuals for their own gain at the expense of philatelists.

BOLIVIA.—(*Forgery of the 1897, 2 bol.*) A deceptive forgery of the four colored 2 bolivianos of 1897 (Scott A17) has been put in circulation lately. The design is ½ millimetre too small, both ways, the word CORREOS is smaller than the word BOLIVIA and the paper instead of the smooth glossy kind of the genuine, is of a rough texture.

CANADA.—(*Imitation of ribbed paper.*) We have recently been shown some imitations of the 1872 issue of Canada, ribbed paper, made by pressing the common stamps of that issue, on some corrugated surface, which almost cuts through the paper. They appear to have been pressed upon printer's rule, and the general appearance would only deceive a person unfamiliar with the appearance of the genuine article. We know of one or two cases where young collectors have been induced to buy these fraudulent varieties at about a dollar a piece and would strongly advise any of our readers to whom Canada ribs may be offered to consult an expert before purchasing. The party who has been offering this rubbish for sale is a Montreal collector-dealer who does not advertise in any philatelic paper. The same party has also recently been offering counterfeit British Columbia (very poor imitations), and scarlet pence and shilling Newfoundlands. The latter being finely imitated would deceive any one not an expert in the shades and texture of the paper of these rare stamps. This individual claims that he did not know their true character, but it seems singular that so many forgeries should be in his possession. A rigid examination of the matter is being made by a com-

mittee of Montreal Philatelists, and should sufficient evidence be discovered to warrant it, an action in a criminal court may yet be the result. In the meantime we once more advise collectors to be on their guard and to at once report to us any attempt to dispose of doubtful British North American rarities.

FINLAND.—(*Spurious errors of color.*) A number of errors of the new issue of Finnish stamps have been chronicled by several contemporaries, such as the 2 p. green instead of orange, 5 p. orange instead of green, 10 p. blue instead of red, 20 p. red instead of blue, the 1 mark with centre missing, etc. These so called errors were "made to order" as a private speculation on the part of the printers, without the sanction or knowledge of the postal authorities.

### CUBA Y ¼.

THE REAL MEANING OF THE SURCHARGE EXPLAINED BY AN EXPERT NUMISMATIST.

For over 20 years the best philatelic writers have been discussing, without coming to an agreement, or being able to give a satisfactory explanation of the surcharged letter Y, which precedes the surcharge ¼ on the Cuban stamp of the issue of 1857.

In my turn, without posing as an authority, I venture to offer an explanation which looks very plausible and which I think will convince my readers of its truth, as it has convinced myself.

Lately whilst examining a collection of coins I saw a Peruvian piece of 1835 having a countermark of a Y followed by a figure similar to the surcharge on the Cuban stamps. The analogy of the countermark with the surcharge struck me forcibly and I asked an explanation from an expert collector of coins. His answer was prompt and very simple. The Y signifies Ysabel, and indicates that this countermark was made by an act of Public Authority and gives the coin official recognition. The Y has therefore a signification, such for example as has V. R. impressed on a foreign piece of money, it would give it a value in a British country.

I submit the above to public discussion but I think, this explanation will settle the matter once for all.

A. C. ROUSSEL.

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## PERSONAL.

We are pleased to hear that our correspondent in South Africa, Mr. H. Rudd has been appointed to an important position in the accounting branch of the Post Office Department at Cape Town, and extend to him our congratulations.

The following gentlemen have been appointed a reception committee for the convention of the D. P. A. which is to be held in this city in July: Messrs Hew Wood, A. R. Magill and W. James Wurtele. A convention of the League of Canadian Philatelists will also be held about the same time, about which further particulars will be announced next month.

## THE MONTREAL PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

At the annual meeting held on March 21st the following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year:

President,	F. W. Wurtele.
Vice-President,	G. W. Cornish.
Secretary-Treasurer,	W. James Wurtele.
Librarian,	A. R. Magill.
Ex. Supt.	A. C. Roussel.
Committee:	E. Barbeau, Jas. Sutherland, Colonel A. E. Labelle, and P. N. Breton.

The annual reports were read and adopted. This society is now affiliated as a sort of local branch of the League of Canadian Philatelists, and an effort is now being made to extend its sphere of action to embrace all active Montreal Philatelists. We hope to be able to report good results of their efforts to advance local philately.

## CREAM OF THE MAGAZINES.

## DANISH WEST INDIES DANISH STILL.

The Danish Government has suddenly broken off all dealings with the United States of America for the sale of the Danish West Indian Isles. The reason of this is a very satisfactory offer made to the Danish Government on the part of a rich Danish East-Asian steamship company, who offer to assist, and in future to

administer the islands. The opportunity has been seized to keep the islands under the Danish Crown, and the American Government has been informed of the decision.—*S. C. Fortnightly.*

Colonial Postage Stamps as issued by the various Mother Countries are very often higher up in price used than in the unused state; more so when on entire letters. Following this, the manner in which certain dealers for their own benefit manufacture "used" varieties, for instance of the German or French Colonies, is a rather doubtful practice, and I feel called upon to venture a few remarks on the above topic.

A goodly number of collectors prefer their Colonial stamps cancelled, being captivated by the idea that those many-coloured proofs of an advanced culture in a perhaps out-of-the-way Colony have at their respective places fulfilled the duty allotted to them. Out of this sentiment sprang the modern abomination, lamentable and objectionable, viz., the "cancelled-to-order" variety, and we have now the question confronting us: What difference is there between a cancellation "to order" and the business dodge to engage someone in a certain colony to stick whole stamp series on empty envelopes printed with the dealer's address, and then hand these sham letters in large quantities "Registered" to the Post Office?

Viewed from a moral standpoint the answer can only be. There is *no* difference whatever; *honestly* used are none of the two. Afterwards the recipient and vendor of those parcels of missives has the coolness to offer the empty envelopes *unopened* as "used on entire." Had he, at least, taken the trouble to cut them open there would have been the pretence that a certain envelope really served its legitimate purpose of containing a communication, though the much too high postage of an entire set would give the lie at once. Well, and if the buyer winks at this, and takes the stamps off the "letter," then one and the same cancellation on all the different varieties composing the set, and the identical date on the whole lot unmistakably betrays the fact that here for hard cash *used* stamps have been manufactured.

(Continued on page 110.)

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W. James Wurtele, Publisher,  
118 St. James St., Montreal.  
F. W. Wurtele, Editor.

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1 page.....	5.00

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**PLEASE RENEW** If this paragraph is marked, your subscription has expired. A prompt renewal is requested. If a renewal is not desired please notify us at once, otherwise the paper will be sent to you and payment of subscription expected.

## SPECIAL NOTICE.

In order to simplify our book-keeping we have decided to date all subscriptions in future from the January or July numbers.

Back numbers will be sent to all new subscribers who remit between those dates.

In regard to renewals if your subscription expired :

In January remit 11c for 5 mos. to June 30	} and 25c for 1 year from that date,
In February " 9 4 " "	
In March " 7 3 " "	
In April " 5 2 " "	
In May " 3 1 " "	

## Editorial.

**Next Number out May 15th  
Copy must be in by May 4.**

### POSTALS AND FISCALS.

In our January number, we replied to an article which had appeared in a Toronto journal, in which the author took it for granted that Philately comprised the collection of fiscal stamps, and we endeavored to show that their collection is not philately at all, but something, no matter how interesting it may

be, that must come under another title, and not try to crowd itself into the family of postage stamp collectors, who alone have a right to the name of PHILATELISTS. A name we postal collectors have invented and adopted for ourselves with the intention of excluding interlopers, as we must consistently regard fiscal collectors to be.

We naturally expected a protest from the other side; but did not imagine that the only rejoinder from so able an exponent of fiscal stamp collecting as Mr. A. Preston Pearce, Fiscal editor of *Stamps*, would be to pick out one or two "printer's errors" and pass over the subject matter as quite unanswerable. It is true that this gentleman, in another journal, *The S. C. Fortnightly*, also resorts to that last defence of a poor case the "*Tu quoque*" argument and paraphrases part of our article, attempting to apply it to postals, with what success may be judged by the following extracts. "We can only define a postal as a "receipt for the payment of a service." Exactly; it is because it represents a service and not a tax that its collection and study is called PHILATELY.

"Many kinds are not even sold to the "public, but like the Postage due, Official, etc., are affixed to letters by the officials, and are intended only to "serve as a check on remittances." Official stamps are not affixed by POST OFFICE officials, but by the officials of the departments whose correspondence they frank, and are in the strictest sense postage stamps; postage due stamps have been objected to by many philatelists, as also have returned letter labels, official seals, etc., as not being strictly speaking postage stamps; however as they are few in number, they are generally collected as examples of part of the various systems of transacting postal business. A collection confined to them alone, could not be called a philatelic one.



"Who first invented this system, or how long it has been in use, are questions lost in the early history of civilized government. Therefore a postal collection can have no starting point." This assertion is incorrect. The inventor of the postage stamp is well-known, when it first came into use is a matter of history; the starting point of a philatelist's collection is May 6th, 1840. Such prehistoric evidences of the attempt to supply cheap prepaid postage, as the New South Wales letter sheets of 1838, or the Sardinian wrappers of 1819, or even the 17th century French envelopes are well-known and their history is far from lost, should a philatelist wish to include them; can anything like so accurate a starting point be given for the introduction of fiscal stamps? "A very large number of postal marks have been impressed on envelopes at various times, which are practically unattainable etc." The collection of post marks may be interesting, but it is no more a branch of philately than is the collection of fiscal stamps.

"Many others can hardly be legally obtained by any but the most wealthy individuals thus forming another large class of unattainables." Because a stamp is of extreme rarity it does not follow that it is unattainable; besides those known to be in existence, which it would require considerable wealth to buy, many more specimens may yet remain to be unearthed from their hiding places which will cost their finders perhaps absolutely nothing; this is a very different position to that of many kinds of fiscal stamps, which are common enough, but which it is unlawful to collect or even to remove from the place to which they were originally affixed, without destruction. The remainder of Mr. Pearce's paraphrase is unimportant, it refers to the fact that some philatelists do not collect post cards, stamped envelopes and wrappers, but for those who do not collect these things it is only a matter of taste and convenience;

no one has attempted to make adhesive postage stamps the standard of what can be scientifically collected and what not, as the writer, we had under review, did in regard to adhesive and unadhesive fiscals.

We have perhaps given to this subject an unnecessary amount of space, as we are convinced that fiscal collecting will never take the place, so firmly established, of postage stamps; the reason is not hard to find. Postage stamps have been one of the chief factors in human progress and happiness, they represent a service of world-wide importance and extent, and hence are of international interest. On the other hand fiscal stamps are of merely local or internal interest, they represent taxation and nothing but taxation. A postage stamp is generally accepted everywhere as a paper currency for small remittances, revenue stamps are not. A postage stamp will prepay a letter from one end of the world to the other; the majority of revenue stamps are rarely seen, except by collectors, outside the country of their use, or if as in the case of those employed on bills of exchange they do go abroad, they are of no legal value to anyone outside the country of their origin. It is for this reason that fiscal collections have little popularity elsewhere than in the countries where the stamps are used. Let those collect them who have a taste in that direction, just as some people collect view cards, posters, or railway tickets, but let not, such harmless fads usurp the time honored place of scientific philately.

A journal hailing from Indianapolis, asks us if we know the definition of a "philatelist," and wisely refers us to Webster's Dictionary for a definition! What profound erudition! A journalist is supposed to know something of the science of which his journal treats, our Indianapolis adviser, has learned all he knows of philately from the dictionary and yet presumes to be a philatelic editor.

Why not consult Webster's dictionary for the meaning of the word "ignoramus," and then apply it to this would be teacher of philately?

### Y. Y.

We add a chapter by Mr. Roussel to the discussion on the Cuban stamps of 1857. We are sure that many collectors will be convinced that his reasoning is by far the best explanation that has yet been given about the celebrated Y. We wonder if future generations of philatelists will discuss so long and so seriously the meaning of V. R. I. on the stamps of the late South African Republics.

(Continued from page 107.)

Now, people might say, collect "unused" varieties only, and in connection herewith one could almost hail with pleasure the action of the Postal Authorities in Paris, Berlin, and elsewhere, to open offices for the sale of Colonial stamps and stationery at face value. But I say intentionally "almost." For although by this step the coloured scraps of paper so welcome to us stamp-lovers can now be had at the cheapest rate, yet this Government's business to plunder the pockets of collectors is also a very doubtful one; it opens wide the door to practice further on the purses of philatelists by sundry surcharges and overprints, wherewith to keep up the steady flow of money.

Undoubtedly the best course would be to leave alone the one (unused stamps), as well as to boycott the other (used to order), and to admit only honestly used varieties of an unquestionable repute. Although such a proceeding would probably leave some sets incomplete, this will be amply compensated for by the satisfaction to possess stamps only which have accomplished their intended mission in every respect.—*The Stamp Collector*.

*Postal administration* in the Transvaal proves to have been well managed even in times of war.

In the month of July last an Antwerp gentleman named Arthur Rotsaert wrote

a letter to his brother who was serving as a volunteer with the Boers. The letter was addressed: "M. Achille Rotsaert, Irish brigade, Transvaal." It went to Lorenzo Marques, from which place it was forwarded to Nelspruit, but as the Irish brigade was not there, it was returned to Lorenzo.

The mail clerk there believing that an Irish brigade should belong to the British army, sent the letter to Durban; the British mail clerk, then takes charge of it and makes it travel for some time; finally after reaching Bloemfontein, it was sent to Johannesburg and thence to Pretoria. There it was opened by the "Provost-Marshal," as proved by the special stamp attached to the envelope, bearing the letters O. H. M. S. (On Her Majesty's Service). Finally as Mr. Achille Rotsaert was not to be found, it was decided to send the letter back to the writer whose address was printed on the envelope as follows: "Arthur Rotsaert, Antwerp."

The letter was then sent to the Cape Town post-office thence to England, from there to Brussels and has just reached Antwerp. This shows that the English postal department was well organized even in time of war. In some countries even in times of peace an ordinary letter would not travel such a distance before it found its way into the dead-letter office.

But a postal clerk of this perfect department could not help expressing his regret at having to thus give his attention to the correspondence of enemies; for on the envelope under the words "Irish brigade," some jingo hand had written the word "Damned."—*La Revue Postale*.

### PUBLISHER'S NOTICES.

Several subscribers have sent in a change of the Wants and Offers ad. to which they are entitled to three times free. No change can be made unless paid for at usual rates.

I am pleased to see the large increase in our Wants and Offers columns. Several of these are from foreign countries.

As my readers will see by a paragraph in this number, the Danish W. I. will not fall into the hands of Uncle Sam. Nevertheless, there has been a very large and unusual demand for the stamps of these

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In additi securing at M. P. will I d. free.

Islands. I am informed from a very reliable source, that many large dealers have no stock whatever of these stamps, and are trying hard to get them, however by reading Mr. Smith's ad. (Chapman, Ala.), you will see that he sells them at very reasonable prices.

The Century Stamp Co., Montreal, evidently believe in "Quick Sales, Small Profits". Their ad. this month contains some very good offers at exceedingly low prices.

For African stamps, write Mr. F. R. Ginn, he can supply your wants at very low prices.

New issues, are supplied by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd.

The International Stamp Co. wishes me to inform the readers of the M. P. that some time ago, they sold out their entire stock of Malta, 1901, 1 farthing, consisting of about 600 copies, which they had advertised exclusively in this paper. Quite a few collectors had to have their money refunded but the I. S. Co. have received a further supply, and unless there is another big rush for this pretty and popular stamp, they can fill all orders by return mail.

T. S. Clark, London, Ont., offers some money-saving inducements this month. Write him when you want some good stamps, his stock is very complete.

Mr. J. T. Bolton, a new advertiser from England, has some good things to offer the readers of the M. P. this month. Do not forget to send him an order, as you will certainly require some of the stamps he advertises. His prices are very reasonable.

If your subscription has expired or if you are not already a subscriber remember, that in sending your 25 cents you are helping yourself, helping the other readers, by helping the Publisher to get out, a first-class, reliable journal.

#### SPECIAL TO AGENTS.

In addition to the commission, all those securing at least 5 subscriptions to the M. P. will have a right to insert an inch **free.**

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## SECRETARY'S REPORT.

MEMBER ADMITTED:

- No. 196 G. C. Cuenod, Galveston.  
 APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP.  
 No. 197 R. B. Brown, P.O. clerk, New Westminster, B.C. Ref: James Keary, H. H. Wilson.  
 No. 198 J. H. Jost, Accountant, 98 Wellington St., Halifax, N.S. Ref: International Stamp Co., G. E. Wavenfort.  
 No. 199 H. D. Feast, 1213 F. St. N.W., Washington, D.C. Ref: Wel-lard P. Colman, H. Smith.  
 No. 200 William Nofall, Accountant, Box 121 St. John's Newfoundland. Ref: A. R. Magill, W. J. Allen.

WITHDRAWAL.

- No. 180 Leonard M. Coyne, Detroit, has withdrawn his application for membership.

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

- No. 113 J. F. Johnson, from 5 Cedar St., Roxbury, Mass., to 383 Lexington St., Auburndale, Mass., U. S. A.

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS.

Nominations for Officers to be elected at the first Convention of the Society to be held in Montreal, in July 1901 should reach the Secretary at once for publication in next issue of official organ.

Members who have not yet paid their dues are requested to do so at once.

H. SMITH.

Sec.-Treas.

Medford, Mass., 3rd April, 1901.

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I have 5 months N. Y. story paper, also books and novels to exchange for stamps. Send for list Canadian Revs. wanted. W. WELCH, Jr., Wamego, Kans., Box 0. (Member D. P. A., & J. P. S.) 83-9-11

For sale back numbers of this paper. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 out of print; Nos. 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 cents each. Vol. II complete 60c. Nos. 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 10c each. Address, THE PUBLISHER 83-9-11

**H. RUDD, OUDTSHOORN, Cape Colony,** desires exchange with collectors in the following countries, only Cook Islands, Falkland Islands, United States Colonies, British West Indies, Hayti, Indian Native States, Straits Settlements, and Australian Colonies. In exchange I offer unused Cape, Natal, V. R. 1, O. R. C., and other British Africans. No common stamps wanted.—Basis KINGS.

To all sending for my sheets at 50 per cent commission and enclosing 12 cents, will receive 50 different stamps and 1000 Omega hinges. Columbian 50c. OSCAR W. EPPEL, Box 343, Delano, Minn., U.S.A. 83-10-12

Wanted stamps of British Colonies and foreign in exchange for Canadian and United States stamps, &c. Address, CHARLES J. ARBON, Lachine Locks, Prov. Que. 83-10-12

**OFFICIAL CRESTS** of British Army, embossed, beautiful colours, relief, all different. 99 1/2 cts. 358 1/2 cts. 624 88. 301. postage extra. THOMAS GREAVES, Craignook, Handen Road, Lee, Kent, England. p10-3

**FREE** to every one sending a postal for our circulars, relief, all different. U. S. Rev. stamps Souvenir cards. Mail week. Write for prices, PHILIDUS & CALDWELL, Java St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 83-10-12

Have large variety, Belgium, Congo, Zululand, Swaziland, Japan, etc., for rare and medium stamps and entires. Basis, Senf, Melin, Yvert. Common stamps refused. I never send first. Wanted Philatelic Journals, Madame L. HOORNAERT, Regencie Street 6, St. Nicholas (Waes) Belgium. p6-10-3

Whoever sends me 32 different stamps in good condition from his country receives 32 different stamps from France Reply always. Docteur JOLON, Brain-sur-l'Authion, Maine et Loire, France. p1

Will ex. copies of my paper, "The Juniors Philatelist," with any other amateur papers. Will also ex. ad. space for same space. S. C. MERWIN, New Britain, Conn., U. S. A. 83-8-10

Send me 20-100 stamps of your country, specially British Colonies, but no United States, and receive same number of Canada. C. V. ALLAN, 105 Dorchester St., Montreal, Canada 83-8-10

Exchange desired with medium advanced collectors, have many good duplicates in stock; send on your approval sheets or books and receive mine. "Best reference given, Basis Scott's or Gibbons's," SAM. C. BURFORD, 89 St. Patrick St., Quebec, Canada. n3-8-10

To my Correspondents. Owing to the very unsettled state of affairs out here I was unable to give my immediate attention to all letters received at the time, but have managed to do so now, and trust the replies have been duly received. I also desire to thank the Philatelic Publishers for the numerous specimen Journals received in reply to my advertisements. W. S. HOAL, OUDTSHOORN, Cape of Good Hope. 83-8-10

Collectors send me your duplicates and receive good exchange and a set U. S. Doc. Rev., 9 var. free. C. W. ARNDT, 332 Park ave., Chicago, Ills., U. S. A. 83-8-10

The Latest Novelty for a Stamp Collector to have, is one of my Stamp Buttons, made with a genuine stamp. Price is only 12 cents each, postpaid; while the supply lasts. OTTO ZEPF, Jr., 777 City Hall Avenue, Montreal, Canada. 83-9-11

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Wish to open correspondence with medium to advanced Collectors with a view to exchange. Can give superb copies of West Indian and African stamps for first class copies Canada 1853 issue, also 8c blue registration, and good used stamps of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Vancouver. Basis, Gibbons or Scott, first class references exchanged. London Bazaar reference ticket lodged with proprietor of this journal. H. B. BACKHOUSE, 8 Vicarage St., Hollinwood, Oldham, England. p3-9-11

Microscope, students size, or a pair of Opera glasses in exchange, for old silver coins, U. S. only. State what you have. All letters answered, R. K. YATES, 514 Artie ave., Atlantic City, N. J., U.S.A. 83-9-11

Send me 25-100 stamps of your country, specially British Colonies, no U. S.; and receive same number of Canadian postage and revenue, F. E. BENNETT, Blue Bounets, P.Q., Canada. 83-9-11

I wish to open exchange relations with Collectors in North and Central America and the West Indies. CARLOS DA SILVA E SOUZA, Box 71, Bahia, Brazil. p2-9-10

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83-10-12

I wish to exchange stamps with collectors in any part of the globe. Basis, Scot.'s or Stanley Gibbons' Catalogues. Value for value. JAMES WHITE-SIDE, 1020 Jackson St., Philadelphia, U.S.A.

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"Exchange desired with collectors in all parts of the world. Send 50-150 stamps of your country and receive same of mine and European. Approval sheets sent on application, against references. Will reply per return of mail. F. ANDERSON, Port-holme Cottage, Selby, England." pt

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SPECIAL OFFER IN 1893.  
*Columbus issue.*

We have purchased from an American client a UNIQUE set of colors and shades of this interesting issue. The stamps were selected from many thousands of sheets of each printing as they came from Washington in 1893. Among these sheets one only was found of a rare error, namely the 4c. printed in *dark blue* instead of in the bright to pale blue color of the 4c. Half of this sheet of error of color was sold in New York some years ago. This error was sold at first for 25 dollars, each stamp, and is now priced by American holders at 60 to 70 dollars. As we have been fortunate to secure the second half of the sheet we are now able to offer these stamps in the following form only.

14 shades of	1c. blue
15 " "	2c. purple
3 " "	3c. green
2 " "	4c. pale blue
6 " "	5c. brown
6 " "	6c. mauve
4 " "	8c. claret
3 " "	10c. brown
2 " "	15c. green
2 " "	30c. brown orange
1 " "	50c. steel blue
1 " "	\$1.00 scarlet,

AND 1 4c. ERROR OF COLOR.

(Only 100 of which are in existence.)	
Price per set incl. error	\$ 36.50
" " " " in pairs	73.00
" " " " blocks of 4	146.00

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