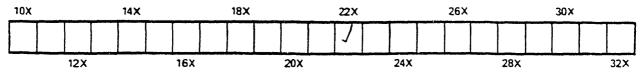
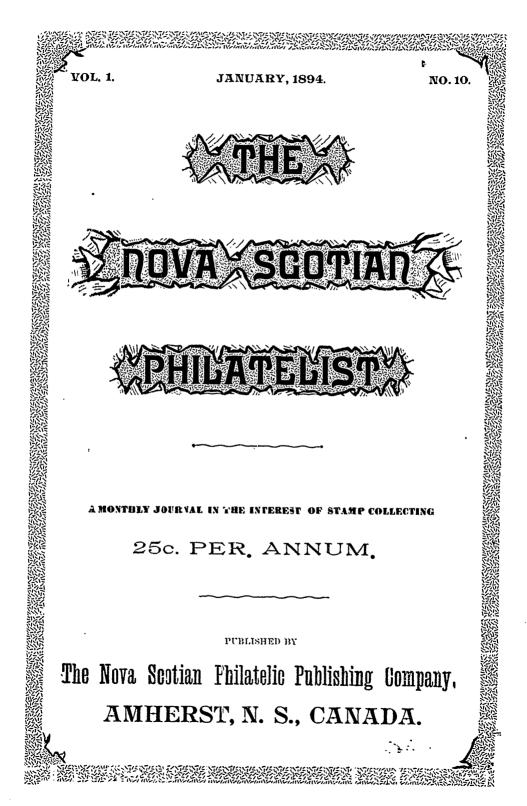
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THE Nova Scotian Philatelist

W. T. M. McKinnon, Rüitor & Mgr.

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SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO, Ltd

18 East 23rd St.

NEW YORK

The Nova Scotian Philatelist.

Vol. I.

Amherst January, 1894.

No. 10.

EVOLUTION OF A COL-LECTION.

Many are the articles that have been written on "The Proper Way to Collect," "Advice to Beginners,' etc., etc., but nearly all of these have been advice to the older, and perhaps wealthier collector, as only a person with a strong mind and a full pocket book could meet the requirements set forth.

The majority of beginners in the United States are the "Young America," many just entering their teens and many others still in their boy-To tell these collectors that hood. thay must have a standard album. complete catalogue, color chart, metric-rule, perforation gauge and numberless other articles used by the elder members of the Philatelic family, is like putting the last straw on the camel's back. Magnitude of the great beyond, the intricacies of watermarks, perforations, roulettings, engravings, lithographs and surcharges, still staggers the older l'hila. telist; but what are they to the beginner, when complicated with the ' dastardly dealings of the counterflow he longs to have a colfeiter. lection numbering in the thousands; how happy would he be, if he could distinguish, the watermarks, prints, and the many kinds of paper; but his hopes and ambitions are all dashed to the ground by the kind, but histy advice of friends, and the endless varieties of stamps set forth in his newly nurchased catalogue. If it is impossible for him to have a complete collection, he will give up all hope and not have any. Thus the hope of be-

ginner is dashed away in Philatelia's flood of discouragements; and many overburdened by the weight of catalogues, metric-rules, watermarks, etc., sink in the Ocean of Bewilderment to rise no more.

As nature requires the infant to pass through boyhood and youthhood before 'he can become a man, so, also, it is generally necessary for the collection to first pass through a scrap-album, and then a stamp album, before finally it finds its resting-place in an original self-prepared album, or on sheets of card-board made to suit the collector's taste.

When the collection is transferred to the publisher's album, the desire for metric-rules, chartes, etc., will come as naturally as did his first desire to found a collection. There is no need to press all these things upon the youthful collector, and force him under. First let him try his mettle on packets and sets, and then if he is still in the field, he will favor some dealer with an order for an album, and after this all the other things will be added in due time.

THREE POSTAL NEEDS.

Our Canadian postal service is one of which the country may well be proud, yet there are some improveme -nts still to be made before the service can be considered wholly satisfactory. It may as well be admitted that for many years to come there is little probability that the postal revenue will equal the postal expenditures, and a self-supporting service is not even to be aimed at at present. It is, however, possible to

reduce the annual deficiency, and in order to achieve this result it may be necessary that cheaper postage In the United States shall prevail. the iwocent letter rate has been found most satisfactory. It is true that the territory of the Dominion is larger, and that our population is smaller and more scattered, and the postal expenses therefore greater.vet we are confident that if a cheaper rate were granted the number of let -ters sent by mail would be so materially increased that there would be little increase in the annual deficit. Another cause forjust complaint is the postage rate on drop-letters. Α note which has but a block to travel costs as much to deliver as would one sent from Florida to British Col-This should not be. The old umbia. rate of one cent for drop letters was fully enough, and when that rule was in force the letter boxes for city notes were used to a much greater extent. The third and last grievance is with that illogical department of the service where letters are regis A fee of five cents is charg tered. -ed for registering a letter, and in return for the expenditure the citizen has only the guarantee that a little extra care will be taken by the department to ensure the safe keeping of the letter. If the letter is lost or delayed, the sender, and not the P. 0., is held responsible for the inclosure. In other words the letter is insured for safe delivery, the premium is paid, but no insurance is guaran reed. The service would not be weakened, if instead of demanding the fee for unfulfilled services, an arrangement were made by which postal orders for small sums might be obta-In the near future we must ined. either be supplied with postal currency or be provided with postal orders for small amounts. -Critic.

SUGGESTIONS ABOUT YOUR COLLECTION.

A collector cannot be too careful in selecting stamps for his or her col-Before selecting a stamp lection. note that it is evenly centered, lightly cancelled and perfect in every res-Sometimes it is necessary to nect. put stamps in your album that are imperfect but as soon as better specimens can be obtained, they should be substituted for the poor ones. 115 placing stamps in your album be sure to put them in square and straight, as nothing offends the eye more than to see the stamps put in irregularly. Be sure that all pieces of paper, e.c., are removed from the backs of the stamps and hinge them in neatly and squarely with the hinges at the top. so they can be laid back without trouble. Underneath each stamp put the date when you received it. from whom and the cost, also, if desirable, and in a short time your collection will be one of pleasant memories.

Should a blank album be preferred to a printed one, the stamps may be arranged to best suit the owner's taste.

A very pretty and attractive manner is to arrange the stamps in the form of some emblem, or of the flag of the country which you desire to put in. For instance the stamps of Cape Colony might be arranged in the form of an anchor, etc. A collection so arranged would be a pleasure to look upon. Again I wish to say, be carcful with your collection, and the rcsults will more than pay you. I sincerely hope this article may prove of benefit to some at least.

25 cents pay for a year's subscription to this paper.

THE NOVA SCOTIAN PHILATELIST.

EDITORIAL NOTES: .

our thanks for his price list.

prepaid by a 5 cent green New Brunswick stamp; it was post marked St. John, Jan. 15th '94.

Will the person who send us a sufscription to the N. S. P. from Wilkes Barrie, P., Dec. 28th please send us his name.

Canadian Collectors and dealers are worried about the 35 per cent. duty which they have to pay on all stamps and albums they import.

A daily stamp paper is announced to appear from Denver, Col., shortly with Mr. C. W. Flummer as business manager.

The sale of U.S. Columbians will be continued until the present stock of several hundred millions are exhausted.

The Mekeel Co, have our thanks for a copy of that valuable work "A Stamp Collector's "Souvenir." This work should be in the hands of every collector; the price is only 25 cents.

Mr. H. F. Moders, of Kingston, Ont. informs us that the Ichilatelic society mong dealers only." of Canada is defunct. Dealers are talking of forming another society to take its place.

We have received Nos. 1 and2 of the Canadian Philtelic Weekly, published by Mr. L. M. Staebler, London, Can. It is sure to be a success with this enterprising gentleman at the helm.

Pressure is being brought to bear on the Canadian government to re-

duce the rate of postage from 3 cents to 2 cents. Pletitions have been sent J. H. Parr y, Sydney, N. S. W., has to Ottawa by the Boards of Montreal and Toronto. This would undoubtedly be a great saving to Cana-We received a letter on Jan. 17th dian dealers as postage is quite an expensive `item. ٠

> The Hooper trial is drawing to a close and Mr. Hooper is still confident of being acquitted. The case is one of the most interesting which has been recorded in the annals of crime in Canada. The evidence, from beginning to end. is purely circumstantial, for it has not been proved that the woman was positively murdered. It is sad the case will cost the Province near: \$30,000.

We have received the advance pages of "Our Catalogue" which is being published by some American dealers. The catalogue will be very complete. but is somewhat crowded. Owing to the extent of the book, and not to keep collectors waiting, it will be issued in three parts, the first part inciuding all the U.S. will be ready for delivery shortly.

L, G. Quackenbush writing on Philatelic crooks in the Canadian Philatelic Weekly says : "In order to outwit the philatelic crooks stamps dealers should organize and publish a weekly black list to circulate a-

"It seems to me that it would be a good thing if there were in America. an organization similar to the Philatelic Protection Association of England; and I should like to see such a body formed. Money spent on such a society would be a profitable investment. All that is needed to bring about the much needed change is to prosecute a few culprits and make an example of them, and this could

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he done much better by an association than by any private individual One reason why the philatelic crooks are so bold is because they believe themselves to be absolutely sale Once let them learn that the stealing of approval sheets, or stamps of any kind, will be punished to the full extent of the law, and they will seek fields and pastures new. I can see no reason why the leading dealers of the country could not form such a protection association. The time and money used on it would be nothing compared with the large sums which could be saved annually through the society's efforts. Why can't some-thing of this kind be done? Awake, ye dealers, from your lethargy, and hestir yourself in this matter. By organization you can drive the philatelic crooks from their chosen working place. Why not do it?"

We agree with brother Quackenbush, and think that it is high time that the dealers of this continent had a protection association. In England they have a society for the protection of dealers against frauds and it is doing good work. Wont some one make a move.

MY FAVORITES.

Nearly every collector has some favorite set or country among his stamps, and to these he pays more attention than to his other stamps though he does not neglect tle others for The stamps of the United St. them. ates have always taken more of my attention than those of other countries though I do not claim to be a However, I specialist upon them. have studied them more than my oth -er stamps and find that there is always something new to be learned about them.

One reason for this special interest in them is the fact that they are the stamps of my own country, and who does not think that the productions of his own country are better than those of all others on the face of the earth? Patriotism is almost the first thing we learn and it is almost the last one that we forget. It is part of the composition of all from the smalest boy who runs about the st^{**}eets to the most distinguished statesman who helps to make the nations laws at Washington.

Of course my collection is not complete. Far from it! But who has a complete one! Or who having one of that character would be satisfied with it? That the interest is kept up by the hope of adding from time to time, new specimens to the collection, is another reason for having special interest in the Uni ted States stamps.

Then too, we see upon them the por -trates of the most distinguished men of the country and in studying the stamps a desire comes to study the lives of the men whose portrates are found upon them. And who could study the lives of Washington, Lincoln, Garfield, Grant, or in fact any of the others without having his own life broadened and made better by the study? Incidental to this study of the lives of our best men comes the study of the history of the country, which has been in a great measure influenced, yes made by them.

Then when we consider the less important considerations of coloring and engraving our own stamps are to my mind still in the lead, for whet country has or can produce anything superior or even equal to our 1869, 1890 or 1893 issues in these respects? Other countries have beautiful stamps Of that there is no doubt. But they do not surpass our own either in beauty of design, harmony of color or varity of subject.

PERFORATIONS.

By W. J. Plows.

Not so many years ago a perfor led stamp was not considered by ollector to be very different from one not perforated, and certainly no col- tion makes all the difference in the ector ever thought of counting how value. nany holes there were between two ward Island 2d. perforated 12 is stamps on a sheet, but now nous avons worth 3d., perforated 9 it is worth change tout cela. hre everything, a few years ago they were merely considered as a conven ience in separating the labels.

The ordinary perforation is that we are so used to in our English stamps tween the engraved stamps, but, besides this method, there have been and are several others.

The principal differences are perfor ted-, rouletted and serpentine. This ist method is sometimes designed by the French Perce en scie. There is merely a succession of small holes bebesides species of perforation which is kin to rouletting, insomuch as the holes are straight and thin, but being placed at angles to one another the stamps, when separated, shew a saw-like edge: this method is called l'erce en arc. Another variety the pin perforated shews small ragged holes, as if they had been made with a pin. The roulette is simply a succession of minute straight cuts made with я. toorhed wheel-hence the name.

When we say that a stamp is perforated 14 we mean that there are 14 perforations in the space of two centimetres that being the space in which perforations are counted. This is the most frequently used gauge, nearly al our British stamps are perforated 14 and our colonies, except those in Oceania, have followed the example cf the Mother Country.

take for Perce en scie, the 1861 issue of Bremen or 1866 issue Finland.

Mexican stamps of the 1868 issue may be found imper., Perce's en arc and pin perforated. The stamp of Chili are rouletted.

Of course the gauge of the perfora-For instance the Prince Ed--Perforations now 6 shillings: a South Australia 1867 four-penny is worth 2d. perforated, 5 shillings rouletted, and I might quote such examples without end.

> In some cases what is known as compound perforations exist, that is the stamps are perforated different gauges horizontally and vertically, as in the 1862 issue France perforated 13,1-2 x 14. This issue was also per Susse with a large size gauge for their own use. What was thein pre cise object in so doing is not known.

> Curiosities of perforations may be found also curiosities of surcharge, but, to my mind they are more worthy of acceptation as they arise arise involuntarily, which cannot always be said of the latter. Ihare a two cent Canada perforated horizontally across the middle as well as round the edges, and a penny red Engfish similarly treated vertically.

> Stamps perforated horizontally and imperforate vertically, or co converso may be found, and some such varieties are catalogued as in the Transvoland British Guiana, and in the Austral ian colonies, which have tried almost every guage, many curiosities in irregular perforations may be found.

The ordinary perforation, about 10 to 16 guage, seems now to be the general thing, and the goal to which the stamp maker is working, and will As examples of the various kinds of no doubt in a short time be the only periorations and roulette, we may way used in preparing stamps for di-

CHANGES IN STAMP COL-LECTING METHODS.

(By C. E. Severn.)

Within the confines of philately, one of the most pleasing subjects to consider, is the favorable reception that has been accorded to innovations in collecting lines, and departures from the established modes of stamp collecting.

The fact of this being true, is a tribute to the broadness of view and liberality of mind of collectors. Of course, there are some who are opposed to change of any sort and begrudge anything that is new, a change to demonstrate its merits or, for that matter. its defects. The world of philately is not altogether free from these well intentioned people of contracted vision.

In the infancy of stamp collecting, collectors gathered the issues of all countries of the the postal issuing Water marks were comparglobe. atively an unknown quantity, and only two or three methods of severing were recognized; either perforated and imperferated or perferated, rouletted and imperforate; while the texture of the paper of which the stamp was manufactured was not taken into consideratioon. Later an innovation came,, which noted the different sizes of perforations etc., and the quality of the paper, such as wove, laid, quadrille, etc., on which the stamp was impressed. The slighter varieties were begun to be collected and this had the tendency of inspiring and accelerating research, with the result that philately was enriched by the addition of many collectable stamps.

When specialism first came in vogue it was welcomed by many collectors as a great improvement over genera

collecting. A large number of those who gave specialism a trial were so well pleased with it that they continued to collect in special fields; but, too, others who for a time essayed specialism, were content to take up general collecting again. The value of specialism was a, once seen and appreciated by all collectors, including confirmed general collectors.

Now-a-days, even the one beginning to tread philatelic paths is wise enough usually to examine the stamps of certain countries for water marks, as the various "Standard" catalogues list the varieties of water marks.

Distinction is made also, in the case of the paper of which a stamp is made so that most collecters cannot help but notice the different varieties of paper.

It is not a great while since the grilled stamps of the United States had no spaces allotted for their reception in stamp albums, and the Standard catalogue as a rule, made no mention of their existence. Soon dealers, here and there, began to catalogue them and collectors with practical unanimity decided in favor of their collectibility.

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There is an ever increasing tide. flowing to the advantage of the more general collecting of the revenue stamps of the United States, Canda and Mexico. Collectors, especially of the younger class, were wont to regard the revenue stamps of these coun tries with disfavor, although the Un ited States revenues always enjoyed some slight prestage in their eyes. It is noticeable that the collecting of the revenues of Canada and Mexico especially has received a great impetus the last few years. The signs of the times certainly adduce sufficient evidence to convince one beyond the possibility of a doubt that philatelys followers are progressive, fair-minded and ever alive to assist the onward march of improvement and advancement in the domain of philately.

A FEW REASONS WHY.

By Angelo. _.__•

Did you eve ask a stamp collector why he collected stamps? If this question was put to one hundred different persons, of a philatelic tenden cy, how many would give the same reason?

For this query to be answered correctly a trial would be necessary, and decision could be arrived at.

that collectors have are as varied in character as the stars of heaven are in brilliancy.

Our ten-year-old enthusiast begins to gather the little curiosities because out why, and besides, they tell him he sees his older companions do it: and besides, the different colors attract his attention, and to see how many he can get together, regardless of design or value, is the height of his Each day his little colambition. lection is increased by the kindness of a neighbor or perhaps, through his good fortune and perseverance to trade one of bright color for two or more of a darker shade that does not suit the taste of his fastidious companion.

Our attention is next directed to the youngster who has a particular aste for mathematics and begins to work out his problems and fully appreciates the facinations of a transaction where a profit is to be made and the capital to bare its fruits. He wonders what he can undertake in his small way that will be productive of a slight increase of his limited allowance, for the purchase of a week's supply of chewing gum.

At recess, or possibly on his way from school, his attention is attracted the other boys who are standing in a group for the examination of a few scraps of paper which are being handled as though gems from an isolated mine of wealth.

A few pennies and stamps change hands, and the youthful observer is charmed with the idea, and is found at school next day with his pockets overflowing with Continentals that he trades off with the boys, keeping. of course, one of each kind just for fun, to see how many he can get.

The smart boy in the History class perhaps several, before a satisfactory passes through the school yard and espies the effigy of the queen on a It is true that the different motives bright Canadian stamp, and borrows it in order to see how she looks, and wonders why her picture should be circulated around so freely.

> By asking the other fellows he finds that there are other kinds that would please him, for they, too, had pictures of great people on, and would assist in making up his photograph gallery and tend to impress upon his mind the people he reads about, and what they were noted for.

> So, with the boys, the reasons for their taking up the fad are innumerable, and if they were all obliged to give a common reason for thier desire to gather these little parcels of his tory, the verdict, nine chances out of ten, would be because the other fellows do.

> The geographical student enjoys a collection because he is reminded of almost very island and country of the world, by glancing over the pages or his album, and fancy takes possession of him so that before the book is laid aside a journey of interest has beer travelled without the slightest. eifort.

· Our philatelist who enjoys this stamps because of the different engraving and ithographin processes put to use in their preparation, originally acquired his fancy for stamps

on account of some peculiar design that had been beautifully executed and presented a fine piece of work manship. It was compared with oth er kinds until a collection for comparison was thought to be of passing interest. It is commenced, and the method as of providing the stamps of every nation is studied up, and our scholar is familiar with every class of work known, and the manner in which it is rendered.

The business man assists his chil dien in arranging the stamps they secure from the grand-mother's lecters, together with a small packet; sent in answer to some advertisement; and the rest he derives from such an hour spent, besides the satisfaction of pleasing the little ones, has its effect. and each night the programme takes place until the parent has found that the stamps suggest to him many things that the younger members of the household do not understand, and he is taken up with their study, while mechanically, he is arranging them for the youngster.

The fever finds him a fit subject, and for an hour each evening is whiled away in this occupation until our devotee is an acknowledged crank, and is not ashamed of it, but begins a collection of his own and soon learns the inducements open to a stamp collector when he has once started to collect

The naturalist finds many subjects illustrated on the stamps of various countriesthat have their special interest for him, and he begins principally on this account, and makes a special study of these stamps and the various objects that they suggest.

Almost everyone can find some particular point in looking over a quantity of miscellancous stamps that has a peculiar interest for him, and for this reason, together with many others, can we attribute the steady increase of stamp collectors the world over.

It is a worthy indulgence, and only when carried so far as to interfere yith your daily obligations is it to be considered time wasted or energy lost.

OFFICIALLY SEALED.

A few words regarding the "Officially Sealed of 1889 issue." There are many dealers still offering these labels for sale to the philatelic public. I have seen a number of articles. both propand con, in the philatelic journals, but have failed to yet find one giving all the facts and particulars regarding this issue. These lab els (they cannot and should not justly be called stamps) are manufactured by Morrill Bros. of Fulton, N. Y., for the convenience of country postmas-I copy the following ters. from their catalogue :

"Officially Sealed Labels same as this sample (gives illustration) printed on gum paper, for sealing letters opened by mistake. One of the many little conviences that are always handy to have in an office. 'l rices: 50 for 25 cents, 100 for 40 cents, 250 for 55 cents, 500 for 75 cents, postpaid." It can be readily seen that the profits, especially as many are sold at 25 cents apiece, made by the dealers who handle these labels is ratherl arge.

l wrote to both the First and Thira Assistant l'ostnaster denerals at Washington, D. C., enclosing one of these labels in each letter and they each replied that they had never been duthorized by their department. Consequently I fail to see how tmey can be called stamps, such as those issued by authority from the Fost Office Department.

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It will he'p us to enlarge and make improvements.

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