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The Stamp Reporter.

A monithly magazine published in the Interest of Stamp Collectors and Dealers.

BRADLEY & OSWALD, PUBLISHERS,

ST. CATHARINES. ONT.

Vol. I.

JANUARY.

1898

No. 5.

\$50.00

IN PRIZES.

\$50.00

In order to increase our Subscription List, we are going to give away the following Valuable Prizes:—

First,—Five dollars in cash or a Stamp Album and stamps valued at \$12.00.

Second.—Your choice of stamps cataloguing at \$2.00.

Third.—A fine collection of 300 varieties of good stamps, (no reprints) and Album worth \$3.00.

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From Ten to One Hundred,—the Phitatelic Messenger for one year and a twenty word adv't., in our exchange column, value \$25.00.

From One Hundred to One Hundred and Fifty.—Each one will receive 100 finely assorted stamps.

CONDITIONS.

- 1.—The competitor is to form as many words as possible from the words "Stamp Reporter".
 - 2.—Any Standard Dictionary Allowed.
 - 3.—No proper nouns, foreign or abbreviated words allowed.
- 4.—Each list must be accompanied with TWENTY CENTS, to pay for one year's subscription to this paper.
 - 5.—Present subscribers may enter by renewing their subscription for one year.
 - 6.—All words must be numbered and written on one side of the paper only.
 - 7.—All lists must be in before the 15th of March.
 - 8.—The first list received will be awarded a special prize.
- 9.—If two lists containing the same number of words be received, the one bearing the earliest postmark will have the preference.
 - 10.-Every one sending will receive a prize.

Send your list in at once.

BRADLEY & OSWALD, ST. CATHARINES, ONT.

🔀 Collectors Bargain Page. 🖊

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YOUR ATTENTION!

JUST A MINUTE PLEASE.

Your looking for a genuine Bargain (here it is)

A CANADIAN 3 PENCE

Cat. 35 and 25c. varieties of Canadian postage stamps including Ic. Rose, 5c. Beaver 1859 also 1868 issue. Canadian Jub. 1, 2, 3 and 5c., new issue 1/2, 1, 2, 3, etc., 2 and 5c. Register. 3 rare Newfoundland, New Bruns- A wick, also entire unused Canadian Envelope and Newsband, and Canadian Postcard. Entire 1st issue. A catalogued at 10c. This grand bar-Send at once this gain, only 50c. offer will not last. Offer made to introduce my new price list.

- No, 4—Contains 12 good stamps (catalogued at 2c. and over), and includes Argentine Republic Dutch Indias, Costa Rica, Turkey, Tunis, rare India, South African Republic, Brazil, Canada 8c., etc. Splendid value......Pricr 5c.
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YES! I MEAN IT!

I will give the following grand A bargains for 30c.—

1000 Excelsior Stamp Hinges, 20 very fine blank app. sheets and 100 varieties of good foreign stamps including-Canadian 5c., Beaver 1, 2 and 3c, and Jubilee entire postcard 1st issue. Rare Newfoundland also Jhind, Mauritius rare India catalogue Sc. New issue Queensland, rare Brazil, Chili, Argentine, Cuba, Mexico, Venezuela, rare U.S. and in fact the pkt. is worth more than I am asking for the whole lot which is only 30c., 3c. extra for postage. Don't delay.

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- im Revenues, including Ontario and Quebec Law stamps, etc. Catalogue value 40c.. Price, only foc.
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- No. 19—Contains 15 fine sramps from South America, Central America and Mexico, and containing many old issue stamps, Will catalogue over 40c. Try it.
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COLLECTORS, -See the EXCELSIOR STAMP ALBUMS before buying-Sent on application. Price, 6octs up. No. 2 (price \$1.00) is a dandy. AGENTS WANTED.

Headquarters for Canadian Revenues. Large new Price List Free. Address

F. WICKS, LONDON,

The Stamp Reporter.

A MONTHLY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

Vol. 1.

JANUARY.

No. 5.

The New U. S. Stamp.

For the commemoration of the holding of the Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition at Omaha this year, Postmaster General Gay has decided to issue a series of special postage stamps. The denomination of these stamps will be one-cent, two-cent, five-cent, ten-cent and one-dollar. The issue lends the Exposition the prestige of Government recognition and support.

When these new stamps are issued, the present issue will not be withdrawn as at the time of the Columbian stamps but both stamps will be on sale at once. These stamps will be supplied to every postmaster and a large demand is expected from both collectors and the public in general who will prefer them during the Exposition period in place of the regular issue.

The new stamps will be of a marked artistic order, symbolical of the far West. Third Assistant Postmaster General Merritt who who is in charge of the selection of subjects has written to various artists, asking for suggestions in regard to the designs.

Some designs which would be sue was surcharged 1c. The survery suitable for the stamps are charge was two black bars, one those closely connected with the at the top, the other at the bot-west. As the aim of the Post-tom and one cent across the face.

master General is to give the Exposition a series of stamps which will not only be artistic, but also to appeal to the people, one of the stamps might have on the face a reproduction of a celebrated painting, Fremont Hoisting the Flag on the Rocky Mountain. Another might be the well-known statue of the distinguished Western statesman, United States Senator Thomas H. Benton at St. Louis.

The colors of the new issue will be different from the regular. In shape they will be like the Columbian and will be twice the size of the regular issue. As was shown by the sale of Columbian stamps, the Government expects to make a nice sum out of these stamps. They calculate that about halt a million collectors will seek for these.

When the Cabot issue appeared some speculators decided to buy up the 1c stamps. When this was done no 1c stamps were left to supply the business demand. To bridge over this difficulty, a 3c stamp of the old issue was surcharged 1c. The surcharge was two black bars, one at the top, the other at the bottom and one cent across the face

FOREIGN STAMP SWINDLE.

This Worker Supplies the Post Mark so Dear to the Hearts of Collectors.

Recently I visited the workshop of a foreign stamp-faker. His rooms, situated in an obscure court in the city, looked like the abode of a waste-paper merchant, from the number of sacks of paper and old envelopes stowed in every corner. After a satisfactory explanation as to my business, I was permitted to enter a small room behind the shop.

The first thing noticeable was the extraordinary number of rubber and brass stamps hung on racks round the wall. These were used for post-marking stamps which had been placed on telegrams. Although these stamps are very good and clear specimens, they are practically valueless to most collectors without a post-mark. This our worthy friend supplies.

I was then shown a parcel containing about 600 sixpenny Gold Coast stamps, which had been used on bills of lading for the stamp duty and cancelled by writing the date in ink across them, as we do receipt stamps. These our dealer had bought for a nominal sum (about four a penny), and which in the course of a day or two he hoped to sell —all bearing a post-mark, and in every wav identical to the legitimate postage stamps—at 4d. each showing a handsome profit of £9. 7s. 6d. on the parcel.

His process of converting the fiscal stamps to postal is extremely simple. By means of an acid

used on a fine gold pen he carefully removes the ink marks, then with a hand stamp the postmark, date, etc., are applied, and this, when done neatly, covers any trace of the acid manipulation, and thus the stamp is ready for the unsuspecting buyer. By this means some really valuable stamps, which when used on telegrams would only realize a few pence, are converted into specimens worth several shillings.

Our dealer then showed me with pride two of the penny black English stamps, one of which had a Maltese cross in each corner, and the other V. R. in the top comers, the former being worth to-day 1d. and the other £5; yet he assured me they were both the same stamp, and before he had removed the top crosses with chemicals and etched the V. R. in their place were worth only 1d. each. The transformation had been so cleverly done that in spite of a powerful hand glass I was unable to detect any alteration.

He then showed me an old Australian stamp catalogued by the dealers when a perfect specimen at £20. This appeared in excellent preservation, and after a careful examination I pronounced it perfect. He then wetted it, when a fine line was observed running across its face. This, he explained, was caused by its being joined, or pieced together from two damaged stamps cut into pieces to fit. The joins were so accurate as to be unoticeable until wetted.—Tit Bits.

Read the Standard Stamp Co's. Ad. on page 8.

Varieties of Perforation.

Written for the Stamp Reporter.

The following is an abbreviated list of the methods that have been used for separating postage stamps.

- 1. Machine peforations, made by punching round holes out with a machine, and measured by the number of holes in space of two centimeters (see Great Britain, France, etc.)
- 2. Square perforations, like the machine but square holes instead of round.
- 3. Pin perforations, in which the holes are merely pricked in the paper and not punched out, as in some of the older Antigua, Grenada, Natal, New Zealand, etc.
- 4. Rouletting, done by passing a roulet wheel over the paper which makes a succession of cuts as in the Prussian, Chili, Brazil, etc.
- 5. Serpentine perforation, is caused by cutting a wavy line into the paper so that the little projections on the edge of one stamp fit into the hollows of the other. When separated the stamps look as though they had been machine perforated but are without the holes when joined together.
- 6. In the Perce-en-arc, the perforations are similar to the serpentine but differ in the shape of the curve. They form a series of small curves concave on one edge and convex on the other.
- 7. In the Pere-en-points the edges form a series of regular triangular points.

- 8. Imperforate, that is, not perforated.
- 9. Susse, a term used when referring to certain French stamps of 1853-62 perforated unofficially by Susse Bros. of Paris in 1861. The perforations are large numbering but two to seven centimeters
- 11. Compound perforation is when the perforation at the side of the stamp is of a different size than the top and bottom and viceversa.

12. Double, a stamp perporated with two rows of holes on one side. (See some U. S, stamps.)

- 13. Irregular, stamps perforated with different sized holes.
- 14. Part Perforate, stamps not perforated on all sides.

News in Brief.

A collector in Denver has his bathroom papered with stamps.

The division of China will likely bring forth some new stamps.

A Revenue Stamp Exhibition will likely be held at the Collection Club in New York in the near future.

There is at present on the market a fluid soap which will remove dirt and grease from stamps, without removing the cancellation. It would be a very good thing to have about.

Teacher:—"For what is the province of Cashinere noted?"

Bright Youth:-"For its stamps being awful hard to get."

Wicks has some great bargains for you. See second page of cover.

THE STAMP REPORTER.

GEO. BRADLLY Editor. R. A. OSWALD. ... Business Manager.

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BRADLEY & OSWALD, St. Catharines, Ont.

Editorial.

In the December number of the "Philatelic Advocate" we noticed an article in the editorial column taken from the Wesley Era which explained how the controversy between the Halifax Philatelic Magazine and the Advocate was stopped by no less personage than the Hon. Wm. Mulock, Postmaster General. We think. Mr. Starnaman that this is too much of a boast on your part. Your paper, surely, is not so good that even the Postmaster General has fallen in love with it. It is likely it would need a little stitching and better printing before that took place.

The editor would be pleased to receive for publication letters of interest to collectors from our readers.

Nebraska Notes.

Mr. S. W. Hacker of Auburn, Neb., was married recently. Mr. Hacker is the honorary-president of the Nebraska Philatelic Society. We extend to him our congratulations and best wishes.

Mr. B. C. Smith is business manager of a stamp company recently organized in Beaver City, under the head of the Nebraska Stamp Co. We hope the company will succeed in every respect.

The Kid, Beaver City, has been given the office of official organ to the Nebraska Philatelic Society. Mr. Shephard, publisher of the Omaha Philatelic, resigned about three months ago.

The Nebraska collectors have secured room in the Nebraska building at the Trans-Mississippi Exposition to exhibit stamps.

Special Postage Rates.

Mr. Mulock, Postmaster General, announced some time ago that it was his aim to reduce the postage rates. Lately he gave out that the rate, after Jan. 1st, 1898, to Great Britain would be three cents in place of five. However, when he communicated with the British Parliament they told him that by the Treaty of the Universal Postage Union he could not change the rate of postage without first obtaining the consent of all the nations named in the Treaty.

Dhar, a native Indian State, which has a population of 170,000 and an area of 1775 square miles, has issued a set of stamps.

Forgeries.

Written for the Stamp Reporter.

Thanks to the concerted influence of all honest dealers, forgeries have practically become things of the past, yet there is still an immense deal of rubbish in the market, with which the young and inexperienced collector is deceived. Cenerally speak ing, all colonial stamps of any value have been forged. (It is seldom, if ever, that stamps of no great value are forged.) In most cases. however, the imitations are very poor lithographs of the original fine engravings. Every collector should learn to tell a lithographed stamp from an engraved one, he will then be able to test four out of five forgeries that come in his way.

Another important point is the Beware of study of postmarks. obliteration, consisting of paralell bars, generally placed in one corner only; also of small black dots, as these, owing to their facility of execution, are tavorites with the forges. All very light postmarks are suspicisos—especially faint arcs bearing no letters. Collectors should try and find out what postmarks genuine stamps of a certain issue have.

The Mulready Envelope.

Written for the Stamp Reporter.

The Mulready envelope was designed by W. Mulready, R. A., for Sir Rowland Hill, for postage

Buy your Perfumes and Gifts from WALKER THE DRUGGIST.

We deliver our goods to all parts of the city; a trial solicited. Mrs. Clarke's bakery, cor. Court and St. Paul Sts.

purposes, in April 1840. It represented "Brittannia" sending messengers to all parts of the world with news. Before its issue to the public it was regarded very favorably by the Royal Academicians, to whom it was first presented when assembled in council. The public however received it with great disfavor, and it was mercilessly ridiculed by the papers, in consequence of which it had to be withdrawn. The rejection was so complete as to necessitate the destruction of nearly all the vast number prepared for issue. A machine had to be constructed for the purpose, the attempt to do the work by fire in close stoves (fear of robbery forbade the use of open ones), having failed. There were two values, 1d. black and 2d. blue. Mulready was born in Emmes. County Clare, England, about 1786, and died July 7th, 1863; made R. A. February 1816.

The Homeworker for January arrived. The principle article is the 5th chapter of the story, "A Romance of Philately." We cannot tell much about this story because we did not see the first three chapters. The "Press Review" is very lengthy this month. Under this heading we notice a mistake in the name of a paper, but taken altogether the paper is very good.

Mrs. Clarke's Homemade Bread, Pies and Cakes are first-class. Bakery cor. Court and St. Paul Sts.

As a Blood Maker, try Dr. Mack's Pills, 35c. a box. WALKER the Druggist.

Did you read our prize contest on the front cover?

PRESS REVIEW.

All magazines desiring to be reviewed under this column must send two copies to the publisher, and one to WM. A. NICHOLSON, St. Catharines, Out.

The Omaha Philatelist arrived as usual with its good notes and articles.

The Evergreen Philatelist arrived with its usual good notes and articles.

The January number of the Herald Exchange has all its usual letters and notes which makes it interesting reading.

The International Stamp is one of our latest exchanges. This month we received the November and December numbers. It is notbad but lacks reading matter.

We reviewed the Holiday number of the International Philatelist. It is indeed well worthy of mention. The articles are good, the principle being "Reprints" by "Rozeas."

We have received the "Philatelic Bulletin" for December. The publishers have went to the expense of having cuts made for the cover and first page, but they are amply repaid by the beauty added to their paper.

The Eastern Philatelist is a large journal well filled with good articles. The November number contains an article on "German Cancellation," "How to improve a collection of postage stamps," and Part II of Mr. Franklin Smith's trip abroad.

STAMP COLLECTORS' DIRECTORY.

Stamp publications and dealers will please send sample copies and price-lists to the addresses below.

- F. Healey, St. Catharines, Ont.
- C. Williamson, St. Catharines, Ont.
- F. Read (care R. O. Read), St. Catharines, Ont.
- H. Smith, Box 992, St. Catharines, Ont.
 H. Lewson, Lock Box 28, St. Catharines, Ont.
- Joe F. Beard, Muscatine, Iowa.
- C. Crumpton, 1441 King St., Toronto.
- H. E. Deats, Flemington, N. J.
- R. G. Widdicomb, St. Catharines, Ont.
- B. Kergin, St. Catharines, Ont.

The Philatelic Literature is a new paper (to us) devoted to Philatelic Literature collecting. It is a very good one of its kinds and is published by Kirby & Benton, of Tounton, Mass.

The Stamp Edition of the Kid, Beaver City, Neb., arrived the latter part of last month. With this number the paper begins as a stamp journal: It is the official organ of the Nebraska Philatelic Society.

The Advocate appeared this month with a neat cut on the cover. It is a great improvement to the paper. The articles are all very good The "Inside history of the Advocate" made some startling revelations?

The January number of the Perforator has been received. Mr. Chapman, we cannot help help congratulating you on the improvements of this last number of you paper. Your aim to be the best magazine in the U. S., will soon, if not already, be obtained.

Local Items.

Stamp trade continues good, according to the reports of our on the Canadian Jubilee stamps. dealers.

Hamilton was chosen by a vote of 17 to 14 as the convention seat of the D. P. A. for 1898.

The new issue continues to arrive but slowly, the latest being the three-cent stamp. This is a pink in color.

Some collectors are laying in a stock of the old issue. The 1-2, 6.8 and 10 cent seem the most likely to become valuable.

Stamp collectors here must be getting anxious over the prices of Jubilee stamps, according to the number of questions asked.

Mr. R. G. Widdicombe has bought out the interest of the Ontario Philatelist, and expects to start publishing it about the 1st of March. He is at present getting out a price list of packets, etc.

The Postmaster-General has removed the restriction forbidding business men to print advertisements on the front of post cards. He thinks this will do much to advertise the country, and also to increase the postal revenue. The cards will be issued in sheets, where so desired, for the convenience of printing.

WALKER'S LUNG BALSAM will cure your cough. Price 25c.

Try our Homemade Bread. One trial will convince you that it is the best. Bakery cor. Court and St. Paul St.

American Notes.

BY STAMPS.

The S.S.S.S. has put its ban

Mr. Dodge seems to be trying to get control of philatelic magazines in the United States.

Messrs. Bradlev& Oswald must mean business for their Stamp Reporter is improving wonderfully.

I notice that the western Philatelists are talking secession! Wait a little, and don't be headstrong.

The 90c orange, 1890 issue, is stili on sale at the Boston post office, and it is claimed by good authority that enough are on hand to last a year or more.

Unused orange special delivery: stamps and almost any value of Columbians under 15c. can be purchased at most of the small post offices in the south-eastern part of the United States.

It is said that the U.S. Post Office department will issue a set of stamps to commemmorate the trans-Mississippi Exposition. seems to me that the S. S. S. S. should put its ban on these, as well as on the Canadian Jubilee stamps, at the reign of Queen Victoria is certainly more important than an exposition of a few weeks or months' duration.

A fine way to increase your collection with less than the usual cost is the following:—Say 10 collectors each wish a set of unused Nicaragua, 1869 issue. This set sells at 25c at retail, but at wholysale about \$1.50 per 10. Det these 10 collectors each put in 15c. and order the 10 sets in tee name of one of the collectors. By doing this each collector saves 40 per cent.

Standard Stamp Co.

Incorporated. Capital Stock \$25,000, paid up. H. Flachakamın, Manager No. 4 Nicholson Place, St. Louis, Mo. Established 1885.

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WE OFFER A SPLENDID COLLECTION OF
250 varieties of GOOD stamps, no reprints or rubbish of any kind, including many
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ALBUM, 100 FOR ONLY \$1.00 FOST FREE.

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RARE STAMPS listed at from \$1.00 each upward to \$100.00 and over. We frequently come into possession of rarities through acquisition of old collections, and solicit correspondence from advanced collections.

WE BUY STAMPS and old collections, for which we pay LIBERAL prices. STANDARD STAMP CO. ST. LOUIS. MO.

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THE LITTLE WAVE, and Stamp Collector's Directory, 15cts, per year. Name in directory and free use of Exchange Column.

SAMPLE FREE.

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\$1,50 FOR 50 CENTS.

7 Labuan, 1894, lith., 2c to 40c., \$1 10 Philatelic Mesenger, monthly 1 yr 25 Ex. Notice 20 words besides address 15

ALL FOR 50 CENTS.

Remit in unused current stamps, and send stamped addressed envelope. M. R. Knight, Oak Hill, Char. Co., N.B., Can.

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The Perforator and Scott's 58th Cat., 58c, 73c.
Both Journals and the Catalogue, 73c.
Handsomest Journal in the North, and the handsomest Journal in the South, Address THE PERFORATOR, Box 123t. Hartford, Conn.

DEALERS. I desire to handle your Approval Sheets. I have had experience in this line and can give satisfaction WM. NICHOLSON, ST. CATHARINES, ONT. Reference—the Editor.

Snaps in Foreign Stamps.

50 Varieties\$.05					
100 "	.IO					
500 well assorted						
1000 "	25					

Stamp Hinges, per 1000, 6cts: Approval Books, blank, will hold 120 stamps, per doz., 20cts. Foreign stamps to catalogue \$1, for 25c.

ALL FOST FREE.

R. G. WIDDICOMBE,

St. Catharines, Ont., Can.

Collectors of Souvenir Cards, Attention:

Join the American Souvenir Card Society Liberty, for the purpose of exchanging American Souvenir Cards with foreign collectors. Dues, 75cts, per year, including a year's subscription to the official organ,

The Herald Exchange,

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We are Sailing Along and Making Sales,

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A nice collection of 200 VARIETIES and a CLOTH BOUND ALBUM for 50 cts.

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Our Bargain Column.

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	70C	do		dc	I oc				
	Soc	do	,	do	oSc				
	IOC	Canada	Law st	ircharged	FFoic				
	20C	do		do					
	30C	do		do	02C				
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	Бос	do		do	FF03c				
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	5c Green								
	2c Rose, Hawaii 1882orc								
	IC C	Freen Ha	waii 18	83	oic				
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c'3c	Rose Unperforated	lc
(3c	Rose Perforated	lc
c	Postage Due 1891 Issue.	
clic		lc
ci2c		lc
cl	Present Issue.	
c lc	•	lc
	c 3c 3c 3c 3c 3c 2c 2c 2c 2c 2c 3c	c 3c Rose Unembossed c 3c Rose embossed c 1851 Issue. c 3c Rose Unperforated 3c Rose Perforated c Postage Due 1891 Issue, c 1c c 2c c Present Issue.

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