

# THE OTTAWA PHILATELIST.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF  
STAMP COLLECTING.

VOL. I.

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NO. IV.

## EDITORIAL COMMENT.

THERE are two papers which have arrived here lately, and it is a hard thing to tell which is the worst—the New Jersey *Philatelist* and the *Reporter*—the latter hailing from Norwich, Conn. The *Reporter* is evidently a small boy's attempt, and he is aided by a Canadian correspondent who signs himself "Leap." The number of errors in this sheet is a caution to snakes, and if he will only get our friend "Curley" to give him a pointer on proof-reading he might yet beat the New Jersey *Philatelist*. These sheets are a vile disgrace to the fair fame of Philately and cause people to laugh at stamp collecting.

WE will publish every month the names of our advertisers who pay their bills regularly. So be on your guard, and if you owe us anything you had better send us a remittance at an early date.

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WE shall be glad to exchange two copies with any publication devoted to stamp collecting. Books, pamphlets, etc., relating to stamps which may be sent us will receive proper notice in our columns.

THIS paper is in favour of amalgamation of the P. S. of C. and the C. P. A. There is no reason why there should not be harmony. At the next conventions, to be held in Montreal and Quebec, this subject will be brought up and voted on.

IF you have not subscribed to the OTTAWA PHILATELIST you should do so at once. Only 25 cents per year and an exchange advertisement free. See our great offer elsewhere.

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#### THE INVENTOR OF PENNY POSTAGE.

The engraving we produce in this issue of one of the world's greatest benefactors, Sir Rowland Hill, is taken from an excellent electrotype, kindly loaned by Mr. J. R. Hooper, who received the original from Mr. Pearson Hill, a son of Sir Rowland. The latter states that it is the best likeness extant of his father. All the older philatelists know the wonderful work of this great Englishman; we simply produce the picture in

order to give the rising generation a chance to revere the memory of



the originator of the Uniform Penny Postage System and inventor of the adhesive post stamp. The following lines were written on his death:—

What if the wings he made so strong and wide  
 Bear burdens with their blessings? own that all  
 For which his bold thought we oft hear decried  
 Of laden bag, too frequent postman's call,  
 Is nothing to the threads of love and light  
 Shot, thanks to him, thro' life's web dark and wide,  
 Not only where he first unsealed men's sight,  
 But far as pulse of time and flow of tide!  
 Was it a little thing to think this out?  
 Yet none till he had hit upon the thought;  
 And the thought brought to birth came sneer and flout  
 Of all his insight saw, his wisdom taught;  
 And his reward came late, but sweeter so,  
 In the wide sway that his wise thought had won:  
 He was as one whose seed to tree should grow,  
 Who bears him blest that sowed it 'gainst the sun,  
 And now that he is dead, we see how great

The good work done, the good life lived,  
 how brave,  
 And through all crosses hold him blest of fate  
 Placing this wreath upon his honoured  
 grave !

#### A PHILATELIC MOCKING BIRD.

Our readers will have to excuse us this month if we devote a large space to a very *small* man. Many probably know that in the backwoods of Maine, somewhere near a place called Portland, is a party going under the name of W. W. JEWETT. He is the so-called editor and publisher of a third-class stamp paper (which, however, travels as second-class) and it is called the *Philatelic Era*. Now, unlike most stamp papers, this particular one is printed by Jewett himself, who personally ought to put out a decent paper. We have never been a printer's devil, nor even yet a proof-reader, so like the majority of other philatelic sheets, we leave ourselves to the tender mercies of other publisher's intelligent proof-readers and typesetters. Such papers can reasonably be excused errors, but with this man Jewett it is different. He claims perfection; he thinks he is the best on the continent, and with the aid of a very *small* man, or rather boy, he actually has the cheek to attempt to criticize scores of papers much superior intellectually and otherwise. We presume Jewett is the whole office, and reads his own,

proofs, for he is personally responsible. After glancing over the pages of the *Era* one is suddenly struck with the numerous typographical errors, the utter lack of knowing how to spell the commonest words, and even the most flagrant ungrammatical constructions ever put into a sheet. The latter are more particularly noticeable in the *review* section, where Mr. Small is supposed to show his intelligence. All we can say is that Mr. Jewett and Mr. Small should take a preliminary course in a grammar school, or a night school might do. Their early education has been sadly neglected.

Just why the philatelic press of America tolerate these would-be critics it is hard to say. Probably some are afraid of the *review* that will be given them, while others only laugh at Mr. Small's attempt to pose as a *critic* by cutting out the best part of other papers' articles, tacking on some coarse remarks, murdering the Queen's English, and then calling it a *literary review*. Of all the gall we have ever seen this team of worthies beats them clear out of sight. We are going to prove our assertions right here. The boy *Small*, who poses as the critic, has actually tried to steal the style of his writings from the *Review of Reviews*, a very able English magazine. He has made a dismal failure in his

## THE OTTAWA PHILATELIST.

W. J. SABOURIN, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

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attempt to APE other people's ideas, and has brought the collectors of this continent to dub the *Era* as the *Philatelic Mocking Bird!* The name is appropriate and needs no explanation. Small appears to have captured two words out of some dictionary, and from the liberal way he uses them, by dragging them in, like Mark Twain's ghost in "Innocents Abroad"—he leads one to believe he has them chained up in his father's woodshed. These words are "puerile" and "egregious." Curious enough they apply as a boomerang to Master Small and his vaporous utterances.

We shall just take up the November issue of the *Mocking Bird Era* and see what it contains. We find that Editor Small writes "amatuer" in no less than five or six places and "wellfare" in two or

three places. This goes to prove that it is no mere typographical error when it occurs in so persisting frequency. When we went to school AMATEUR and WELFARE were correct, not *amatuer* and *well-farv*. Here are a few of the choice ways of spelling adopted by the Jewett-Small combination:—

Conjections	for	Conjectures.
Recipocate	"	Reciprocate.
Verification	"	Verification.
Degarding	"	Degrading.
Consumasion	"	Consummation.
Supurb	"	Superb.
Guilahall	"	Guildhall.
Loose	"	Lose.
Corrrctly	"	Correctly.
Coased	"	Coaxed.
Accumalated	"	Accumulated.
Bhor	"	Bhore.
Sorruth	"	Soruth.

We have a marked copy of these errors in spelling, and at a meeting of our local society it was really a sight to see the school boys laugh at the list we presented to their gaze. Small and Jewett use such childish sayings as "had to ante," "adoing," "stubbed his toe," "a snide," "blink the fact out of sight," "encourage this idea overmuch," "a dollar looks as big as a cart-wheel," "dollar-ner-half," "he skins his advertising," "I went for them and got pulled as usual," "get there," "what hit me was," "the skultch box," "not in it," etc., etc. Jewett divides *jubilee* "jub" and

runs the "ilee" over. He might try "ph" and run over "ilatelic." Small writes the following choice sentence: "I find *that* by some combination *that* is unexplained *that*"—yes, that !!

Jewett is pretty *sharp* in some things. On page 79 he says all notices (advertisements) will be set in solid brevier type, yet he deliberately has them set in solid nonpareil! The two *heavy* articles in the November issue is a lie about how a Brattleboro was found, and the yarn that there are a million stamp collectors in the United States, but on page 92 he tries to redeem himself by telling how his second-hand press broke down and delayed the number. Mr. Pinkham, of the *Eastern Philatelist*, one of the honest men in the philatelic press line, nails Jewett about lying over the amount the latter has lost (some \$400) by publishing the *Mocking Bird*. He will lose more than that.

We recently dropped a polite note to the *Era*, before we knew them, asking them to exchange. In reply we got a printed post card with the following on it, received November 17th, 1892:—

"PORTLAND, Me., Oct., 1890.

"DEAR SIR,—We offer you a special deal on Lorillard's Sensation Cut Plug, etc., etc., etc."

We were at a loss whether to regard this as a joke or not, par-

ticularly as there was written across the face of this printed card an illegible note signed "W.W. Jewett." We replied that we did not chew tobacco, and therefore had no use for the "Cut Plug," even if it was guaranteed to create a sensation. We hold the card for future developments. Should anyone care to look at it they are welcome to do so.

It is to be hoped that the philatelic press of America will give this parasite his deserving due, and then he will drop out of existence without loss to anybody.

On page 108 Jewett has the following: "Back numbers of the *Era* can be supplied at the following prices: Vols. I. and II. we cannot supply neither single numbers nor complete volumes!" What does he mean? Mr. Critic Small speaks of typographical errors in other papers. These other papers do not profess to publish it themselves; most of them, like ourselves, publish the paper for the love of philately; we do not lie to steal the bread out of another's mouth.

In conclusion, we advise Jewett and young Small to take some of the liver regulators they advertise. It may purify their blood, but it can never make them spell correctly. We leave this article to the tender mercies of our printer and his intelligent proof-reader. If he

makes any errors in it other than those I have written about the *Era* we—well, we will next month give the second instalment of the doings of this leech in our ranks—*The Philatelic Mocking Bird*.

### WANAMAKER'S DEFENCE OF THE COLUMBIAN ISSUE.

BY CANADENSIS.

Then there grew a clamor of the reddest fight  
That every man beheld, and all outside  
Were stayed in awe to see that one man fight.

Unlike the "Defence of the Bridge against the Tuscan Army," the defence of the late Postmaster-General Wanamaker regarding the issue of Columbian stamps has been bloodless warfare. The dauntless ex-M.P.G. takes up the challenge of Secretary Walcott, and handles the latter without gloves. He first of all states that people are free to take their choice of either kind (the old or new issue), and states that there is always a certain number who decry every new issue. He goes on to say:—"For example, two years since, in superseding what was known as the series of old green stamps by the new series of smaller size, (the former being but a trifle less in size than the present Columbian stamps) there was no little complaint at the beginning, because the Department had adopted a smaller size, which it was claimed was unhandy. Any change of the design or size of stamps seems to make an occasion for fault-finding, which is sometimes

utterly without foundation, as in this particular instance, when considerable complaint was made against the quality of the paper and gumming, requests being not infrequently made for the use of the same paper and gumming as in previous use, when, as a matter of fact, there had been no change whatever in these particulars. It is perhaps true that in sixty-five millions of people there will be some who will find fault with any change, no matter what it be, even if for the better."

We herewith give a few of the many comments on this issue. To those who keep a scrap-book these clippings will be of interest in times to come:—

"They are so large that in order to make them serviceable they must be given almost as big a lick as the G.O.P. got last November.—*Louisville Courier Journal*.

"The 30-cent is one of the poorest specimens ever turned out of the U. S."—Zobel.

"They are not only hard to *beat* but their size also renders them difficult to lick."—*Boston Herald*.

"Take it for a blanket."—N. Y. *Recorder*.

"A fake to get the dollars from deluded collectors."—Mr. Sawyer.

"Is the United States seebeck-tized."—*Canadian Philatelist*.

"Oh, for a thousand tongues to lick them."—*Press*.

"I don't think them at all nice."—*Kate Field*.

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