JANUARY, 1834.

VOL. III, No. 5.

Canadian Philatelist.

THE

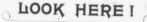
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1851/2 DUNDAS STREET,

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This book, which has just been issued, has been published This book, which has just been issued, has been published in response to the request of many of our customers. It scor-tents comprise a brief and well-written history of stamp collect-ing in Canada, twenty brief and interesting sketches about Canada's twenty leading dealers and collectors. To the above is added a chapter containing much interesting matter on Can-aday and the state of the state of the state of the state and the state of the state of the state of the state and the state of the state of the state of the state and the state of the state of the state of the state which compares the state of the state and collectors. The state of the state of the state of the valuable as well as an interesting work. You should post is a vord for as cents, copy Send us yo world for 25 cents,

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L. M. STÆBLER.

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'anadian 9 hilatelist

PUBLISHED MONTHLY THE INTEREST OF STAMP COLLECTING. IN

VOL. III. No. 5. '

LONDON, JANUARY 1, 1894.

WHOLE NO. 29.

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

A BEGINNER'S COLLECTION.

BY W. J. SABOURIN.

HERE has been much written upon the subject of stamp collecting, and how to start a collection, but we must admit that suggestions given by another on the subject will always bring more or less light,

or change the idea of those who are beginners. give below a few ideas of my own as to the best and most advantageous methods for a beginner to employ in his collection. By the beginner I mean one whose collection consists of about five hundred varieties. When I first heard of philadely I thought that it would take a large sum of money to get some old stamps from the old country, but I followed the rules given me by one who knew by ex-perience the proper way of collecting, and great benefit was derived from the instruction which he gave me

A beginner should always learn from those who have been collecting a long time, and should never be afraid to asl: quertions when in difficulty, if it is in his power to do so. It is a pleasure for an advanced collector to assist his younger collecting friends, and as a rule the older collectors are always willing to instruct you how to get along. If there are no other collectors in your town to whom you can apply for advice, a few lines written from time to time to the editor of some Philatelic paper will serve to enlighten you. Again let me urge the importance of reading your stamp magazines carefully, as much useful information can be picked up in this way. In starting, when you hear that philatelic papers are published in the interest of our hobby, you obtain the address of some publisher and send for a sample copy, and in looking over it you will invariably find offers of dealers who will send for the small amount of ten cents one hundred different stamps, or for twenty-five cents one hundred and fifty to two hundred stamps. It is needless to state that you will not get for such a small price rare stamps, yet you will secure a variety which will give you a good start. Almost every day opportunities will be afforded you to add some new varieties to your collection, and when your collection reaches a certain number you will find it to your advantage to obtain a few of the approval sheets of the cheaper class of some reliable dealer and make your purchases in this manner. Approval sheets are generally sent out marked by catalogue rates and a discount of 40% or 50% allowed from the marked price.

have met collectors to whom nothing gave such pleasure as a set of those worthless frauds the German locals. I would advise collectors to collect only postage stamps if they are making a general collection, but should they wish to specialize (that is, collect the stamps of only one or two countries), it is better to collect everything in the way of stamps ever issued by the said countries. For a beginner specialism is of little or no use, as never has a collector secured sufficient knowledge in the science of philately to decide intelligently which countries will prove the most advantageous to collect, it is therefore advisable to collect from the world at large. When a collector has obtained some two or three thousand varieties he is then in a position to judge which countries he prefers to col-

Regarding the choice of an album ; a blank book should always have the preference, when you only have a few stamps, and they should be arranged as tastily as possible. When beginning do not un-dertake to collect water marks, perforations, shades and errors. Take only the ordinary varieshades and errors. The only the dimension of a beginner you can neither profitably nor intelligently collect these sub-varieties, and at some later date will be plenty of time to employ yourself in studying your stamps and find out that which you have neglected during your early days of collecting. I do not mean to criticise those who immediately on entering the field throw themselves into the first rank, and become an advanced collector at once. There are few who have the talents or means to take such steps

It is a good idea when you have a small collection to buy your stamps in packets which can be obtained at a very low price. After having selected therefrom those which you have not in your collection the duplicates can generally be exchanged among your friends for others which you need to complete your sets. A collection of a thousand varieties can thus be obtained at the cost of a couple of dollars. Although after passing the thousandth mark a collector is no longer consid-ered a beginner, yet I would advise him to contime collecting in the same way until he reaches the two thousandth mark; then there is time enough to consider the advisability of becoming a specialist or anything else to which your mind may lead you. These few remarks, though crudely expressed and known to most collectors, may prove useful to many who are just entering in the ranks of collectors and for whom this article is written.

In Luxemburg people wanting work have only Many young collectors collect, regardless of what they are collecting. Revenue and postage stamps are one and the same thing to them. I every post office in the grand duchy. Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

STAMPS ON THE STAGE.

BY ROY F. GREENE.



STAMP man in these latter days of collecting meets with stamps and stamp-collecting in some of its phases where'er he may go.

I hav oftentimes wondered if it should be a stamp collector who would locate the long looked for North Pole, if he would not find some trace of stamps thereabouts.

In spite of the fact that I had never expected to see stamps or stamp albums in at least two places. in the church or on the stage, I have recently been made to draw the limits a little closer and made it to include only the church, for but a few evenings since, while attending a comedy by a regular company of artists at cur opera hcuse, I was much surprised to see an album with stamps brought out by one of the stars, and which was made to play not a minor part in the play itself.

If it had been a music portfolio, a photograph album, or a volume of poems which was used, this article would not have been written; but the novel idea of introducing to public gaze the much abused stamp album caused ecstatic thrills of pleasure to enrapture at least one in the audience.

If I remember correctly there was a title to a valuable piece of property on which the plot hinged, and unless a certain bit of information, which had to be conveyed by letter from a foreign land, was forthcoming before a certain day the title to the land was to be made over to the villain and the hero reduced to want thereby.

Now the heroine of the play was a vivacious young lady whom the villain wished to make his wife. Her love, however, was given to a young laborer, poor but honest, and whom you will rightly guess was the hero. She was a stamp collector, and the villain had thought the way to her heart lay in securing stamps for her collection. And so the plot deepens and the play goes on.

One day the love-stricken villain gave to the lady a foreign stamp on a part of the envelope, which she placed in her album, and after a suc cession of startling events in which the villain succeeded in securing the title to the property, as the letter from the party in the foreign land failed to come. Some one appeared on the scene who had seen the villain destroy a letter which he had secured in some way, and little by little the plot cleared until the curtain raised upon a court room scene, where the villain is arraigned upon a charge of conspiracy or something of that na-

The witness is sworn who saw the defendant destroy a certain letter, and then the young lady collector is placed upon the witness-stand and introduces as evidence the portion of en-velope with stamp affixed and bearing the post mark of the foreign city, and the villain is con-victed and made to languish in a felon's cell.

Of course, there are weak points in the plot to be noticed by a collector, such as why the lady collector contrary to all rules, should hinge the portion of envelope in its ragged state into her album instead of soaking it off and making it prese table.

But the fact is proven that philately is mak.

may be made to play an important role in the syes of the same public who a short while ago would have derisively laughed at such an innovation.

And who knows but that the remaining barriers may be removed, and in days that are yet to dawn we may receive a glad surprise by seeing a stamp album displayed from a pulpit even as I did the little album and its contents on the stage but a few nights since.

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

"WHAT FOOLS WE MORTALS BE."

BY W. A. WITHROW.

Related Before the Smithtown Philatelic Club by George Gauthier, Esq.

SUPPOSE you have heard of Snipes & Co., 356 Strand, London? Well, I heard considerable of them and I guess my fame must have reached them as a philatelist of the

first water, because I got a letter from them one day; asking if I'd go on the road for them, buying up old U. S. stamps.

Of course I was willin', providing I got my price, so I wrote 'em saying I would travel for their house if they gave me my price, which I set at a cool hundred a month, and expenses, and ten per cent of the catalogue value for all specimens found, and I was somewhat surprised to find in my mail, about two weeks later, an answer accepting my offer.

I didn't require cash in advance for I knew the firm to be strictly reliable, and I soon made my preparations for traveling. My wife casually suggested that it would be a good time to go down to Phœnix and visit my old uncle, for I had been hankering for a trip down there for a number of years and was only prevented from making the journey before by lack of funds. As my expenses were paid-or were to be paid-I thought it to be an excellent idea.

So to Phœnix I went. Uncle Hezekiah was very glad to see me; killed the fatted calf, etc., and we had a good time generally. I did not know how the idea might strike uncle, so I was cautious in my inquiries as to what persons had any old cor-respondence; but as you know, Yankees are proverbially curious, and as uncle was no exception, he soon had me cornered and I was forced to go over the whole rig a ma-role, as to how stamps were valuable, why, which, when and where they were collected and were worth the most. Gentlemen, before I got out of there I felt sick of the business, but I remembered the golden shekels which were to be mine and persevered.

I called upon Squire Stonan first and very solemnly stated my business, but no sooner did he know that I wished to overhaul his correspondence than he said:

"No sir ! you can't look over my letters, for the first thing I would know a note 'ud turn up with my name forged unto it," and I was compelled to retire, notwithstanding my protestations of innocence.

I went off, and thinking that perhaps I had assumed too serious an expression, making the peoing its way into public notice, and a stamp album ple believe that, to me, the result was of great importance, more so "than gettin' a few old stamps, and used ones at that." I assumed a jocular expression when I called at the next house.

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Says I, "How do you do, sir. I just dropped in to see if I could get from your letters some of Uncle Sam's stamps."

The granger whom I had addressed shifted his tobacco to the other cheek and after a long wait, during which he examined me from head to foot, he replied :

"Get some of Uncle Sam's Stamps? Well, I guess not! It would be ashowin' him disrespect and him dyin' away ont in Californy in '49. No sir ! And you'd better drop out right away for if you don't of yourself, I'll help you."

Gentlemen, what was I to do? In a far-off land without hope or cash, I was here stranded. Among hostile inhabitants, who might be reckoned unto the Philistines of old. I became frightened. How I wished I were back home ! But I had no money.

A happy thought popped into my head. I would walk ! What was seventy miles to a vigorous man like myself ? And walk the distance f did. To be sure I reached home minus a hat and with soleless shoes, but I was there and duly thankful therefor.

The next day I set to work to make out my bill, and this is the way it stood :

10	Iour	days work at \$3.33 1 3\$	1.2	99
To	one	noin of share	19	00
10	one	pair of shoes	3	00
To	one	ticket to Phœnix, N. Y		
To	-	the so a neening it. I	- 2	50
10	one	square meal upon return home	1	67

Total.....\$ 20 50 Lot for \$20.00.

I waited anxiously for a settlement of the bill, for the fellow that I had borrowed the money of to go to my uncle's on, was pressing me, and I was exceedingly disappointed to receive the following letter:

> 356 The Strand, London, Eng., July 4, 1893.

To Geo. Gauthier, Esq.,

Dear Sir,-Yours received, but as you failed to secure any stamps, we cannot allow your bill.

Yours truly,

SNIPES & Co.

After this pathetic recital, Noble had the audacity to ask Gauthier if he had lost any flesh from his seventy-mile walk, and upon his applying in the affirmative, Noble said that he would have liked to have seen him before, then.

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

NORTHWESTERN HAPPENINGS.

BY BOSWORTH.

St. Paul is a great town or changes. The collectors are as variable as the wind, and their dealers, if such they may be called, are just about as bad. The firm of Nessenson & Lambert ran about two months, then came Nessenson & Beldan, and now it is A. B. Nessenson & Co.

*

In your Feb. 8th issue, the correspondent who cance wrote the Minneapolis notes was "slightly off" Scot when he said that the Columbian issue were not lars,

on sale at the post office. If he will leave the girls and Harmonia Hall dances alone for awhile, long enough to trot over and see Mr. Grant, be may obtain all he wants up to the dellar values.

1

Friend Gurdy, formerly of Galveston, Texas, must have some attraction in Chicago. Ho has been there since early in the summer, and although he roars and howls at our wintry blasts, he does not seem to get any nearer to his southern home. Can it be that he intends to emulate the examples of Messrs. Deats, Aldrich, Grevning, et al, and get "tied up" in the windy city?

-

I had a letter from one of our old-time northwestern collectors, Bickley, now of New York city. His ardor for "the little bits of paper" is still very strong, and he says he is picking up all snaps that come his way. A little over a year ago a Minneapolis lady, who was also a philatelist, became a permanent resident at his home, and now the information reaches me that the population of Jersey City has been fincreased by one. It's a girl. All parties doi g nicely.

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The Zenith City Philatelist, heralded from Duluth, has as yet failed to put in an appearance. We have not heard from Mr. Burns for a month and presume he will not start the paper. The Minnesota is reported to be on the ragged edge and should it go under, The Northwest will be the sole representative "in these diggings." Yes, boys, it takes money to start a philatelic journal, and a heap more of it to keep it running.

*

A. P. S of A. state branch for Minnesota is the latest venture in the society line and its chief pro moter is Robt. I. Man, of Mankato, who is state vice president for the Kissenger-Fox-Ashcroft Society.

\$

Just along this line, we are reminded that the Minneapolis Philatelic Society is a thing of the past. Messrs. Johnson, Greenfield, Achard, Van Gorder and Whitall have resigned, and the president is on the fence and contemplates a like step. Three of the members have moved from the city and the rest never come to the meetings. This isn't right. A city with as many collectors as the Flour City ought to be heard from.

*

Omaha is experiencing the same thing as Minneapolis in the local society line, as one of my correspondents tells me it is almost impossible to get the fellows out. Now some people might take this to indicate a decline in philately, but we hardly think it is, especially when the circumstances are all taken into account. The fellows are too anxious to accoundate a number of the 57cent dollars and will soon see that they are missing quite a considerable by neglecting to assemble occasionally.

The Raleigh 5-cent envelope, entire in superb cancelled shape, changed ownership in 1888, at the Scott Company's 87th sale, for the sum of six dollars.

The Canadian Philatelist :

A JOURNAL FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

Entered at London P. O. as Second-class Matter.

L. M. STAEBLER, . EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

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THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

1851 DUNDAS STREET,

CANADA.

VOL. 3.

LONDON.

LONDON, ONT. No. 20.

EDITORIAL.

The Jubilee issue of Shanghai are purely speculative.

The 1894 issue of Salvador is out. Seebecks' for ever !

We have received the 1894 price list of the Bogert & Durbin Co.

The reprints of Natal are causing quite a sensation among the South African collectors.

We see in a contemporary that Switzerland has issued a lc. and 4c. adhesive of the current type.

The New York Stamp combines its December and January issue as one in order to catch up with Father Time.

It is said that the current 11., 21., 51., 101. and 201. unpaid letter stamps of Greece exist unperforated. The 1894 issue of the Ecuador both of the regular type and official are out. The design is very poor.

The first edition of 8,000 copies of Scott's 54th edition catalogue has been exhausted and a second edition is being printe ...

The latest Portugnese colony is Lourenqo Merquez, which place has issued a $2\frac{1}{2}$ reis stamp of the current colonial type.

We received the new issue of British North Borneo and they are without a doubt the prettiest set of stamps that have ever been issued.

According to the *Philatelic Journal of Great* Britain a $2\frac{1}{2}$ reis of the colonial type has been issued bearing the name of Portuguese Congo.

The 2 pence Queensland, surcharged 24 pence, is reported to be a fraud. As this information was derived from an official source it should be correct.

At a recent meeting of the National Philatelic Society Mr. George H. Watson was elected president, Henry L. Callum as treasurer, and Mr. C. W. Grevning as secretary.

It seems that the first issue of Tunis has been reprinted and that they may be had at the general post office at Tunis where a separate window is being devoted to their sale.

Since selling the *Eagle Philatelist* Mr. P. M. Wolsieffer is issuing a small pamphlet semi-occasionally, which he calls *Wolssiffer's Specialities*, and supplies free of charge to all regular customers.

We have seen the new issue of Roumania and find a design of the same about as tame as ever. They all contain the king's head in oval, except the $1\frac{1}{2}b$ and 25b., in which the head is in a square.

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The Recreation Echo is a monthly paper which devotes a considerable amount of its space to philately. It is published at Knoxville, Tenn., and poorly printed although its reading matter is fair.

The International Philatelic Press Agency, of 86 Leadenhall street, Forest Gate, Eng., who for some time were well known through the publication of the *Stamp Collector*, have left their former office for parts unknown.

We have received the and tall issue of The American Philatelist and year book of the American Philatelic Association, for the year ending Feb. 5-184%. We consider that this form of the publication is far more sensible than a monthly issue.

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Mr. N. F. Seebeck, the controller of the Seebeck issues, referring to the cancelling of the contracts with the Honduras Government, \*states that the cancelling of the said contracts is simply a black-mailing scheme on the part of the Government.

The officers for 1894 of the New York branch of the Sons of Philatelia are as follows: President, Dr. P. Allen; Vice President, W. Wurts; Treasurer, J. E. Brevont; Secretary, D. W. Leeper; Librarian, A. G. Rich; E. Lachange Superintendent, C. W. Grevning.

The new triangular stamps of Liberia have appeared and are very pretty. The regular issue is printed in black with a scarlet center, and the official stamp is printed i. Illac with a green center and surcharged "O. S." Both stamps are of the 5c. donation.

It would seem as if there was no law in Belgium against illustrating the current issues of that country. We notice that all our contemporaries in the country illustrate the new Sunday stamps. If this is allowed how easy it would be for unscrupulous parties to forge the stamps.

We have received from Mr. A. B. Merrill, of Everett, Mass., a copy of his *Fraud List* which is a very useful book, containing as it does the names and addresses of a large number of philatelic frauds. A large number of pages are left blank for additions. The book is sold at 25c and may be obtained at the above address.

A Portuguese collector writing to *The Monthly Journal* assures the editor that the government is not printing fresh editions of its obsolete stamps for the purpose of surcharging them, but he does not doubt that all the values of the new issue will be brought out before the old stocks are exhausted, and we may consequently expect to see surcharged specimens of the whole set.

The forthcoming work of the *Philatelic Society of* London is being looked forward to with interest. It is to deal with the British Colonies and Possessions in Africa; but it is not known when it

will appear. This book will contain the result of the labors of the society during the past year, and, as all other works published by the society, it will be greatly in demand and be a very useful work.

We see by Stanley Gibbons' monthly paper that Mr. D. A. King writes them to the effect that the Canadian Pacific railway employs a sheet stamped with a current 1c. wrapper die, upon which is printed the monthly receipts and expenditures for transmissions to shareholders; the paper is bluish grey, but this is hardly an official variety, although it is well that its existence should be noted.

In a recent issue of the Canadian Philatelic Weekly, when referring to our Hand Book No. 5, we mentioned the fact that the said book would be ready on the 31st of February. We are now glad to announce that we shall not have to keep those who have ordered the book waiting that long; most of our readers will notice that this was an error and that it should have been Feb. 28th.

The Melilla military stamps are pronounced by Der Philatelist to be frauds. According to this paper some speculator had these stamps engraved and printed and then delivered them to the soldiers, whom he supplied free of charge. All letters of the soldiers that are cancelled with the regimental cancellation stamp are entitled to free delivery, and consequently no stamps are required. It seems probable that this is the correct explanation of this issue.

The annual banquet of the New York branch, Sons of Philatelia, was held on the 26th of January; the following report of the same is taken from the New York Standard: "The second anniversary of the New York branch, Sons of Philatelia, was celebrated by a banquet at the Columbia restaurant on Jan. 26th. There was, unfortunately, a smaller attendance than expected, and those who failed to be present missed a fine evening's pleasure. The dinner, which consisted of eight courses, was of excellent quality, and the service was up to the high standard of the Columbia. After the guests had partaken of the dinner, speeches were called for from the vice president, W. Wurts, who presided in the absence of the president, and Messrs. J. B. Brevoort, Chas.

From our Special Correspondent.

#### CHICAGO NOTES.

#### BY CHRIS PETERSON.

The case against George J Byrnes, which was put into the hands of post office inspector Fleming, is still being worked up, and chances are that the accused party will learn a new trade in prison before long. By the number of letters which are now being held at the post office, directed to accused party, it seems that quite a number were taken in, dealers and collectors alike. The case was, however, in the hands of the secret service before the party got much cash.

#### SOME PHASES OF LIFE

Is an interesting article written by C. E. Severn in *The Chicago Evening Journal*, Saturday, Feb. 17th. So has our philatelic bother graduated from an evateur to a professional newspaper writer?

The C. P. S. held their regular meeting Thursday evening, Feo. 15. A large number of members and visitors were present. Quite anumber of applications were posted, and the society is rapidly rising, as well in growth as good standing After the regnlar routine of business, the 29th auction sale took place. The bidding was very spirited and the department stamps especially brought good prices.

A Philatelic Circular is published by P. M. Wolsieffer, 75 State street, Chicago, and is railed free to all applying for it. It is published to advertise Mr. Walsieffer's specialtics, and also gives some very valuable information on United States envelopes.

The editor of the *Paritan Philatelist* wishes to thank his many friends and patrons for their kind wishes and congratulations on the appearance of the paper. Next number will appear in May, in which some gréat improvements will be made. It will be printed in three languages.

Your correspondent had the pleasure of an introduction to Mr. E. B. Powers, the other evening. Mr. Powers hails from Denver, Colorado, but has engaged quarters in the Masonic Temple to carry on the wholesale business of imported cigars. He makes a specialty of British Colonials. He put in an application to the Chicago Philatelic Society and was quite an extensive buyer at the last auction sale.

An article appeared in the Mekcel's Weekly Stamp News that Columbians had taken quite a drop in this city. However, the correspondent who furnished the news was offered a good price for his whole stock of Columbians, but refused to sell. The firm of Pierce & Peterson have been offered greatly advanced prices for their whole stock of Columbians, but the demand is very large for them, and in a very few weeks they will be worth double.

The resignation of one of the Board of Trustees of the P. S. of A., has been accepted with regrets. Mr. Kissinger, president of the Philatelic Sons of America, has appointed Mr. J. A. Pierce as Mr. Glass' successor. Mr. J. P. Glass is sending in his resignation to all *Philatelic Societies*, and he says it is his intention to relinquish *Philately* entirely. We shall very much miss him as a brother of the cause, but still more so as a writer His Philatelic writings are interesting and instructive.

Mr. Wm. Rowley, agent for the Scott Stamp & Coin Co., of New York, has removed his stock of coins and stamps to 107 Clark street, in the rear. Mr. Wendt is also back at his old quarters on Clark street. This makes Clark street the stamp town and the centre of attraction for stamp collectors.

On the 12th of February, Chicago was visited by one of the worst blizzards ever known in this city, and after this the 12th day of this month will be known as *blizzard day*. The snow was piled up mountains high and all transit stopped and mail greatly delayed, which made business rather dull for a couple of days, but the last of the week business was good considering the hard times.

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

#### COLLECTORS VS PHILATELIC WRITERS.

#### WALL BALD.

#### BY W. SABOURIN.

HILATELIC merature has advanced wondefully arring the past three or four years, and we now have in our ranks many writers who are constantly giving to the collecting world useful hints per-

to the concerning worth usern must pertaining to the study of philately. We must venture the assertion that the articles of to-day have reached the highest standard, not only in the eyes of those who are interested in our hobby, but also to outsiders. Never before have we seen so many take an interest to further the study of stamps as at the present time, and also to the surprisingly large number of names which are being added to the already overflowing list of the different philatelic societies. The science of stamp collecting has come to stay, and its devotees are increasing by thousands every year.

Have publishers been idle in their work? Take a glance over all the philatelic papers which have been published during the last fifty years and you cannot but say that each has done his best to promote and push forward the interest of philately. It is the next thing to impossible for a publisher who has pluck enough to enter iso the publishing of a stamp paper, to do otherwise than work hard and insure the interests of his followers and supporters.

In every philatelic paper published in the present day we have a great deal of reading matter from the pens of our most prominent collectors in all parts of the world. America stands first, for the number of writers of philatelic subjects, and the amount of work brought out; while the publications of the Old World, though not so numerous, are usually of a more important nature, and the result of considerable scientific research study and investigation.

Editors have and will continue to do their duty towards giving their subscribers only such reading

matter as they deem would interest them. The poor author has also passed many a lonesome night trying to compile something that will be acceptable to the troublesome editor; and then what benefit is it to him. He will sometimes receive for his pay an advertisement in the paper he is writing for and throw himself open to the criticism of some scores of writers who do not happen to agree with him in his studies. Do our writers practice what they teach, or are they only writing to fill space in papers? Upon reading many of the articles which are thoughtlessly accepted by our publishers, I am inclined to the opinion that a good many authors do not write for the good they may do, but as I have before said, to fill space. The publisher sends out his sample copies. A great many collectors who are not subscribers to any publication will cast it away into the waste basket, or lay it aside on the shelf without so much as looking through it. A collector who has at heart his hobby will not do this, but will look it through to find out what is interesting, and no matter how advanced he may be, there is always some new things to learn.

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The majority of our writters have done all they could towards benefiting the collecting world in the past, and if they continue their labor of love, we may expect to enter into even a greater era of prosperity than that of the past few years. What encouragement have they received from us for their good work, and what benefit have we derived from it? If all the articles written were read twice, collectors would not be ignorant of so many important questions as they are.

In concluding, I would urge every collector to subscribe to several good philatelic publications and read carefully the articles which are written in the interest of our hobby.

If collectors would do this there is no doubt but what a great change would take place; if they would but consider the rights of those who are anxious to prove useful to philately; and I cannot think of any who are doing more to advance our interest than our philatelic writers and publishers.

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

#### "MY MONKEY."

#### BY CAPT. MILDMAY.

HERE'S nothing that's half as splendid as a real live monkey, and I have always thought I'd rather be a monkey than a millionaire philatelic publisher.

I have got the loveliest and most beautif little monkey that ever lived, and if you don't believe me you can just come and see him. This is bow I got him. One day a woman with a monkey and an organ came in our yard. I guess she was an Italian, but she could speak a sort of English. I asked her what she wanted for the monkey, and she said, "The murdlerin' scalpeen of a monkey: begorn its three dollars Td be selling him fur." I said I hadn't the money but tbat I would see if I couldn't get her something that she would take instead.

I went up-stairs to Sue's—that's my sister— boy, or a room and got a lot of things : first I got Sue's seal cap and her two best dresses, then I hunted together.

around and got all the gloves and collars that I could fine, I also took some of the rings that Mr. Smith gave Sue. I thought this was not enough to give for the monkey, so I got ma's best bonnet and coat. I took all the things down to the woman and she said I could have the monkey for them. You just bet I jumped at the cifer.

The woman did not stop and play the organ as I thought she would, but went away as fast as she could. I suppose it was because she thought the monkey might want to follow her.

Sue gave an awful shriek and fainted right a way when I told her how I got the monkey. Any other girl would have been pleased and thanked me for all the trouble I had taken. Sue says she will perfectly die if I'm in the house another week. I wonder what people look like when they perfectly die.

when they perfectly die. Father's been away for a week, but he is coming home in a few days, and won't he be delighted when he finds a monkey in the house?

It was on Monday I got the monkey, and by Wednesday everybody began to treat him coldly. It began with Sue, she was sitting in the parlor with Mr. Smith. Jocko-that's the monkey-was there too, but they did not see him. Sue was showing Mr. Smith ier stamp book, but they soon forgot all about stamps. The first thing I knew, Jocko was on the back of the chair and pulling Mr. Smith's hair out. He thought he was doing right for he had seen the cook pull the feathers out of the chickens. I never got such a fright in my life, for, as true as I write this, Mr. Smith's scalp came off in Jocko's hand. I thought Mr. Smith had been killed, but he was not, for he jumped up grabbed his scalp, stuffed it in his pocket and ran out.

When Mr. Smith jumped up, he knocked down Sue's stamp book, but I don't suppose he meant to ; when Sue picked it up she was awful angry for the cover had been knocked off.

Pa came home that day and seemed quite pleased with the monkey. In a little while he caught him lathering himself with the mucilage brush and with a paper-knife all ready to shave himself. Pa just laughed and told me to take good care of him. I was dreadfully pleased to find that father fiked Jocks ; but I was only deceiving myself for his liking did not last long.

It all happened in this way. Father is a post card collector, and has three big boxes full of post cards. In the evening he had been looking at them when some one called him. It was half an hour before he got back, and when he did he found Jocko sitting on his desk; Jocko had torn up a lot of post cards and thrown them all over the floor, and was covering a lot of others' with ink, making believe he was writing. Father was just raging, he caught Jocko by the neck and threw him in a closet and locked him up. I don't know what became of my lovely monkey for I never saw him after that night.

l haven't any monkey now, and I don't suppose I'll ever have another. I don't care what becomes of me, it seems as if everything beautiful must disappear and I suppose I'll go next.

Some of these days when I am dead, they will begin to understand they are just wasting away a boy, or a monkey, who always tries to do his best; then let them find the monkey and bring us together. Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

#### "HE SPECULATED."

#### BY LEO. WAGNER.

SRED STAMPSY was standing at the corner of Beaumont and Olive streets, impatiently waiting the arrival of a car that seemed to come down the street at an

exasperatingly slow rate. He wanted a ride on that car, and wanted it badly, if his restlessness indicated anything.

Jack Leeward came down Beaumont, and tapping Fred on the shoulder, greeted him with :

Hello, Fred ! What are you doing ? Watch-

"Heato, rect: what are you using : watch-ing the cable to see if its going to break ?" "No," said Fred, "better than that," at the same time flashing a set of Executive stamps before Jack's eyes. "I'm going to make a bundle off these.

"Ah I see," replied Jack, "buy low and sell high is the game.

high is the game. "I'm going better than that, too Here's my scheme," said Fred, confidentially. "Lavish runs to the third race at Guttenburg. I've got a sure tip on him to win and it's a splendid chance to turn one set of Executive into a half dozen. I'm on my way to M-, the dealer, to get the necessary cash."

"Didn't know you had turned gambler," said Jack.

"Gambling," said Fred, "why there's no risk at all. It's a regular lay down. Get your tickets and cash them is the size of the whole job. Come along.

"Don't care if I do go along, just to second you and see fair play," assented Jack.

The stamps were realized on and the pair got into the pool room in time to see the odds posted on the third race. Among the entries was Lavish, quoted at 10 to 1. If Lavish wins the race, Fred will win \$10 for every \$1 he puts up. Fred bought a ticket which read \$100 to \$10.

Jack took the opportunity to do a little talking while Fred got his ticket.

"What do you think of Lavish?" he asked a young fellow in striped collar and cuffs.

"Don't mention that dog to me," came the re-y. "Of all the skates that ever ran around a ply. race track, Lavish lays over all of them.

Sidling up to a fellow with a cape overcoat and a Roman nose, Jack remarked:

"Not hard to pick the winner in this race."

"Easy mit a pig E, mein frent. Shack Rose has got dees race in a walk. I have got my spark up on it."

"Fred, I'm afraid your in the tureen," said Jack when they got together again.

But Fred's confidence could not be shaken. He seemed to have some mysterious information.

Above the hum of the crowd came the cry of the man at the telegraph instrument:

' They're off at the Gut, to a good start, Lavish in the lead.

"What did I tell you," said Fred.

"Lavish at the quarter, Kirsch second, Jack Rose third."

"Talk about a lay-down," said Fred, triumphantly.

"Lavish leads at the half by a length, Jack Rose second, Woodchopper third."

"Where do I get my money ?" asked Fred.

"Lavish in the stretch, Lucy Clark second, Jack Rose third.

"Easy money," Fred says, as he nudges Jack.

wins, Lucy Clark second, Lavish third." "They're coming under the wire.

When Fred got over the dreadful shock, he re-marked: "Jack, I'm going to abjure this kind of speculating for ever. Hereafter I will speculate only in the stamps of Roman States, Bergedorf and Monaco. It is safer.

And this is why Fred's department pages are marked by five blank spaces, adorned with cut hinges.

Moral: A stamp in the hand is worth two in the bush.

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