

The Montreal Philatelist.

A Monthly Magazine devoted to the Science of Philately.



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

VOL. 3. No. 3. SEPTEMBER, 1900. Whole No. 27.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY, BY W. James WURTELE.

118 St. James Street, - - - MONTREAL.

WHY CERTAINLY

We have still hundreds of bargains for dealers. Last month we advertised the 1 and 2 marks German stamps at a "giving away" price. We were overrun with orders and are sorry to say we had to disappoint several who sent for these stamps.

This month we offer several good things at very low prices.

China 1898 2c scarlet	-	-	-	-	12c	per 10
Straits Settlements 1899 4 on 5c	-	-	-	-	35c	10
" " 1892 1 on 8c orange	-	-	-	-	25c	10
" " Perak 3c	-	-	-	-	12c	10
Barbados Jubilee 1p	-	-	-	-	12c	10
Malta 1/2 and 1p	-	-	-	-	12c	10
Persia 1885 5 sh.	-	-	-	-	15c	10
1889 5 sh.	-	-	-	-	10c	10
1891 5 sh.	-	-	-	-	10c	10
1894 8 sh.	-	-	-	-	20c	10
1894 10 sh.	-	-	-	-	20c	10
1898 1 sh.	-	-	-	-	10c	10
South Australia 1899 1p	-	-	-	-	6c	10
2p	-	-	-	-	6c	10

Hereafter our advertisements will appear on pages I and II. Our front cover contract expires with this number and the publisher of the M. P. wishes to divide this desirable position amongst several dealers instead of selling it to one. Before giving up this page, we feel obliged to say that cash results from it have been most satisfactory, in part in proportion to cost we have never had an advertising contract in any paper that paid as well. We wish to thank all those who have patronized us within the past year and hope they will continue to favor us with their orders. We shall now use Page I and II and shall try to make these pages interesting to stamp buyers *A Keninder*. We want a few more, good Agents to handle our books and sheets on commission. Our stamps are fast sellers and our Agents are coining money. Send for a selection to-day giving references. We have stamps from 1c to \$500.00 at big discounts.

ESTABLISHED 28 YEARS.

INTERNATIONAL STAMP CO.,

P. O. Box 563

MONTREAL, Canada.

Please mention the "Montreal Philatelist" when answering advertisements.

CANADA . .

1897 JUBILEE ISSUE.

	Mint	used
½c black	25	25
c orange	2	1
2c green	5	2
3c bright rose	5	1
5c deep blue	8	5
6c rich brown	30	30
8c violet	15	15
10c brown violet	15	15
15c steel blue	23	20
20c vermilion	30	20
50c ultramarine	60	
\$1 00 red	1 25	
2 00 dark purple	2 25	
3 00 yellow brown	3 25	
4 00 purple	4 25	
5 00 olive	5 25	

Our Red Cloth Bound Postage Stamp Album

- - 80c by Mail. - -

THE CANADA STAMP CO.,

592 John St., Quebec, Can.

SOME GOOD CHANCES AT UNUSUAL PRICES

Siam 64 atts, cat 50c	20
Canada 1893 50c, cat 50c	18
" 1897 50c Jubilee	20
" 1897 Maple Leafsets ½c to 10c	25
" 1898 Numerals " " "	18
" 1897 Jubilee ½c and 6c new	40
Rhodesia 1896 4d used	12
" " 6d "	12
" 1898 6d "	12
Russia 1889 1 Rouble used	15
Netherlands 1 Gul. 1898 Coronation used	18
U. S. Omaha 50c	25
Fiji Islands 1893, 1d and 2d	06
" official wrapper used	15
Grenada unpaid 1d, 2d, 3d used	20
" " 1d on 6d, 2d on 6d	1 00
" 1891 1d on 3d, 2½d on 8d	25

Postage extra on orders of 50c and under.

T. S. CLARK,

199 St. James St., London, Ont.
Canada

London Exhibition, 1897. SILVER MEDAL.

Established 1880.

Fredk. R. GINN,
STAMP DEALER, EXPERT & VALUER,

143 STRAND, London, Eng.

WAR! PROVISIONALS WAR!!

Lord Robert's issue on ORANGE FREE STATE

SURCHARGED V. R. I.

	Unused.	Used.
½d orange	.060	.080
1d purple	.10	.12
2d "	.30	.36
2½d blue very rare	\$2.50	
3d "	.30	.44
4d " now obsolete	.80	.90
6d "	.66	.72
6d rose very rare	4.00	
1sh brown	1.25	1.50
5sh green very rare	4.50	6.00

Important.—Every UNUSED stamp is in mint condition, USED stamps are genuinely and postally used, in perfect condition, and bear interesting postmarks showing progress of the British Arms.

BOER COMMANDO STAMPS.

Black on yellow. Used on British Territory each \$3.00

MAFEKING SIEGE STAMPS

Of Unique Historical and Philatelic Interest and Rarity.

PORTRAIT OF BADEN POWELL.

Small stamp, 3d blue, \$10.00 each
Large stamp, 3d blue of very highest rarity \$30.00 "

CYCLIST POST.

1d blue \$ 6.25 "

CAPE AND BECHUANALAND ISSUES SURCHARGED MAFEKING BESIEGED AND NEW VALUE

	each
3d on 1d red, Cape of G. Hope	\$ 5 00
1d on ½d green, "	4 00
6d on 2d green, Bechuanaland Protectorate	9 50
1sh on 4d brown, " "	12 50
3d on 1d lilac, " "	7 50
6d on 3d lilac, 1887 issue of British Bechuanaland	10 00
6d on 3d yellow, Bechuanaland Protectorate.	
One of the rarest of the set	40 00
6d on 3d Cape of G. Hope a rarity	20 00

All used, and mostly on pieces of original envelopes. Every stamp fully guaranteed.

Not more than 1,000 of any one of the surcharged stamps were issued, as few as 50 to 250 of some. Prices of all other varieties sent with pleasure.

Cash with orders for all stamps quoted above.

Remittances may be made by Post Office Orders or Draft on London, Express Orders on Bank Notes.

FREDK. R. GINN,

143 STRAND LONDON, ENGLAND

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The meagr item, b tiful a Kingd our O comple issued. illustra philate the ar charge Indian from A part of Englis as to t still on begins ation an art subjec eviden see it, Journ Fortu comm appear Contin troub is mos and g increa as sha MONT Ameri exten its ar letters mail ; we ten celerly promis positio condu staff c organ

The Montreal Philatelist.

A Monthly Philatelic Magazine.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE LEAGUE OF CANADIAN PHILATELISTS

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

Entered at the Montreal Post Office as second class mail matter, April 23, 1898.

VOL. 3. No. 3

SEPTEMBER, 1900.

Whole No. 27

NEWS OF THE MONTH.

The list of new issues is somewhat meagre this month, the most important item, being the fore-runners of the beautiful artistic set in preparation for the Kingdom of Greece. We anticipate ere our October number appears, that the complete series will have been issued, and we hope to be able to illustrate it in that number. The first philatelic indication of war in China is the announcement of a specially surcharged set for the use of the British Indian troops in the field. War stamps from Africa are still absorbing the greater part of the space in the columns of our English contemporaries, the discussion as to the status of the Mafeking locals is still on. From evidence so far to hand it begins to look as if the issue was a speculation pure and simple. We reproduce an article from *Ewen's Weekly* on the subject. Our English contemporaries evidently know a good thing when they see it, besides *Ewen's Weekly* the *Phil. Journal of G.B.* and the *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly*, reproduce and favorably comment on much of the matter that has appeared in our columns, some of the Continental papers have also taken the trouble to translate our articles. All this is most gratifying to our editorial staff, and gives to each member thereof an increased zest to produce only such items as shall be worthy of reproduction. The MONTREAL PHILATELIST is the only American paper that is quoted to any extent by the European authorities, and its articles reprinted; congratulatory letters are showered in upon us by every mail; to one and all of our kind friends we tender our heartfelt thanks. We sincerely reciprocate their kind wishes and promise to endeavor to maintain the position we occupy as a stamp paper, conducted on journalistic principles, by a staff of philatelic experts. As official organ of the League of Canadian Phil-

atelists we represent a body second to none in the stamp world, many of the members of the League being scientific collectors known the world over. We have their honor and credit to maintain as well as our own and shall perform our task to the best of our ability. We are pleased to note the position taken by our publisher in regard to admitting to the advertising columns only dealers of recognized standing. We want to print nothing but what we can vouch for.

ENTRANCES AND EXITS.

BRAZIL.—(*Postage due 20 reis in current type*). The 1895 set of unpaid letter stamps (Scott U 2) has received an addition by the issue of a 20 reis green. Perf. 13.



BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA. — (*New 4d stamp*). An addition to the set of annexed design has appeared the 4d bistre.

CHINA. — (*10c. color changed*). The color of the 10c has been changed from dark green to lilac.

(*German P. O. provisional 5 pf.*) During a temporary exhaustion of the supply of 5 pf stamps, during the month of May last, a number of 10 pf were converting into that value, by a black surcharge of "5 pfg." at the office of Kiachow.

(*French P. O., 2 franc stamp*). The new French 2 fr. has received the surcharge CHINE in black.

COREA.—(*Provisional 1 poon stamp. New card, etc.*) The 25 poon stamp is reported with a black surcharge covering the old value in Chinese and Korean, and a small vertical stroke signifying "1"

over the figure 25. This new value was required for printed matter. A post card impressed with a circular stamp 1 cheun blue on white has also been issued. It is also reported that the 1c adhesive stamp of the new set has been issued in green.

CRETE.—(*Italian P.O.*) The current 25c Italy has been issued surcharged in red "1 Piastra 1" for the use of the Italian offices on the island.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.—(*Reported new set*). It is said that a set of nine values from 1/4c to \$1.00 is in preparation. The design to consist of a map of the Republic.

EGYPT.—(*French offices, 2 fr stamps*). The new 2 fr French stamp has been issued bearing the surcharges "Alexandrie" and "Port-Saïd" in black ink.

FRENCH LEVANT.—(*2 franc stamp*). The 2 franc France has been surcharged in black "8 Piastres 8". The *American Journal of Philately* also reports the same value with additional surcharges of the names of the places for the offices at Cavalle, Dedeagh and Vathy.



GERMANY.—(*Completion of new set*). We illustrate the new 3 and 5 mark stamps, completing the set of 1900. The 3 mark is now in use, it is printed in a violet black shade, and the 5 mark we hear has also been issued, but so far we have not seen them.

GREECE.—(*New stamps and cards*). The first to appear of the new designs, reported as in preparation in our June number, are the post cards. Of these there have appeared single and reply cards of the values, 5 lepta green on yellow

and 10 l. carmine on blue grey. The design shows a figure of Mercury upon a globe. Adhesive stamps of the same design 5 l green and 10 l carmine are also said to have been issued.

GUATEMALA.—(*5c in new color*). The 5c in blue has now made its appearance, thus completing the set already reported in detail.

INDIA.—(*Surcharged stamps for troops in China*). We clip the following paragraph from the *Philatelic Journal of India*, by which it will be seen specially surcharged stamps have been issued for the service of India troops in the field:

"A difficulty has arisen in the matter of the sale of stamps in the field post-offices attached to the China Expeditionary Force which has been sent from India. For the purposes of official calculations the dollar has been taken at 15 1/2. This makes 1 anna equal to 4 cents, plus a considerable fraction. It has been decided to sell stamps in the field at the rate of 4 cents to the anna. As this would undoubtedly lead to the purchase of every stamp in stock by the wily Chinaman to remit to India, it has been decided to surcharge all stamps sold by the China Expeditionary Force field post-offices with the letters "C.E.F." so that they may not be available for use in India. The 1/2, 1, 2, 4, 8, 12 annas and 1 rupee values are to be so treated."

MOROCCO.—(*French P. O., 2 Pesetas Stamp*). The 2 franc of France has also been surcharged for use at these offices 2 PESETAS in black.

MOZAMBIQUE CO.—(*Provisional 25 r and 50 r.*) The *Stamp Collector's Fortnightly* publishes an interesting letter dated May 12th from Mr. J. E. McMaster, British Consul at Beira, announcing the issue of two provisionals, necessitated by the African war. Mr. McMaster says: "The passing through of so many thousands of British troops entirely exhausted the stock in hand of the usual 25 and 50 reis stamps, and 22,000 of the 25 and 15,000 of the 50 (provisionals) have been printed." The 25 r is surcharged in red on the current 5 reis, and the 10 reis is perforated vertically through the center and each half surcharged "50 reis" in violet.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY.—(*2 1/2 Cape G. H. stamp used provisionally*). Our South African correspondent Mr. Rudd under date of August 16th informs us

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that the Cape of Good Hope stamp 2½d blue has been surcharged :

ORANGE RIVER and is being used in that colony. COLONY.

This stamp has no doubt been surcharged to take the place of the 2½d. O. F. S. surcharged V. R. I. The supply of which was exhausted shortly after the occupation of the Free State by the British.

PERAK. — (*New 4c. Provisional 1c.*) The *Am. J. of Philately* announces a 4c tiger type lilac and carmine and a 1c surcharged in black on 2c.



PERU. — (*New value, 22 centavos*) *Mekeels Weekly* is the first to announce a stamp of the design illustrated herewith, value 22c green and black, portrait of D. Eduardo L. de Romana.

Two new post cards are also reported each 2 centavos, one printed in brown has a stamp giving a view of the post office dated 1900 above, the other in red lilac has the embossed portrait of the president.

SAMOA. — (*Provisional Post cards*). In addition to the adhesives reported in our July number the old type German post cards 5 and 10 pf, single and reply have also appeared surcharged in black "Samoa."

SARAWAK. — (*Post Cards 4 x 4*). A reply card carmine on buff has made its appearance. The surcharged 4c single card listed in February is still in use, but we presume the regular issue will soon be put in circulation.

URUGUAY. — (*Official 1 centavo*). As anticipated in our March report the 1c green of 1899 has received the surcharge OFICIAL.

Vaal River Colony. — (*New name for the Transvaal*). This is according to the press despatches the official title of the new British possession acquired by conquest from the late South African Republic.

ZANZIBAR. — (*French P. O., 20 annas stamp*). The French 2 fr seems to have been a value badly needed, it comes surcharged also ZANZIBAR 20 ANNAS.

SPECULATIVE STAMPS AND COUNTERFEITS.

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

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE. — (*Making Locals*). The *S. C. F.* gives a photographic illustration of four Cape stamps with a counterfeit surcharge and post mark. They are numbers 2, 3, 4 and 5 of our August list; it also states that No. 1 has also been imitated. In the forgeries the central horizontal stroke in the first letter E. of "Besieged" is merely a misshapen dot unconnected with the rest of the letter. It is thought the forgeries originated in London.

ITALY. — The latest Italian counterfeit is an imitation of the surcharged postage stamp of 1890, 20c on 50c lilac. It is easily recognised by the dull, almost grayish colour of the surcharge, which the original is of a brilliant, shiny black. The counterfeit surcharge is printed with a handstamp and is nearly always slanting, while the original is perfectly straight. The "mi" of the surcharge "Cmi" is very badly printed and quite different from the originals.

NEW SOUTH WALES. — How clever some of the counterfeiters work is evidenced by the details brought out in the trial of the engraver Jonoski Takuma at Sydney, Australia. He was convicted of counterfeiting scarce watermark errors of the issue of 1853, mainly the 2d. with the watermark "8" and the 3d with the error "2." He employed various methods to obtain the desired results. In some cases his counterfeits consisted of triple layers of paper; the back of the stamp had been shaved; a thin sheet of paper into which the watermark had been cut was pasted on it and another piece of paper was used as the "cover." The three were no thicker than the original stamp. In order to produce the watermark "2" he took genuine stamps from which the front had been carefully "ground" off by machine. This left the body of the paper with the watermark intact, and this he pasted on the back of a 3d stamp scraped similarly on the back, the two papers together having the thickness of but one. In this case two stamps

worth about 5/- are made into one catalogued £15.

SPAIN.—*Madrid Filatelico* calls attention to a new counterfeit of the Don Carlos postage stamp of September, 1874, the one bearing the inscription "Espana Valencia" catalogued in Scott under Spain, No. 505. The principal points of difference, according to our esteemed contemporary, are:—The genuine is printed in rose on white paper, the stamp is 21 mm. high and 17½ mm. wide, the oval is 15 mm high and 12½ mm wide and has 31 lines across in the background. The counterfeit is more scarlet on yellowish paper, the stamp is 20½ mm high and 18 mm wide, the oval 14½ mm high and 12½ mm wide and the groundwork shows 43 lines across. Still this counterfeit is dangerous when an original is not handy for comparison.

The above three items are copied from the English *Philatelic Chronicle*.

VICTORIA.—(*War stamps*). The 1d and 2d stamps, sold at 1s and 2s for the benefit of the War Fund, have now made their appearance, and are on sale at the London agency of the Colony as well as at Victorian post offices. As they have practically no Philatelic interest, we think it waste of space to devote more space to their description. We learn that the sale of these labels has been far less than anticipated by the concoctors of the scheme.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

STANLEY GIBBONS PRICED CATALOGUE, PART II, *Foreign countries, 1900*. After a delay of some months this work made its appearance early in August, a copy reaching us a day or two too late for notice in our last number. The same features as characterized Part I, to which we drew our readers attention last April, are prominent in Part II. Many countries have been entirely re-written and re-arranged. Enlarged photographic illustrations of minor varieties of such stamps as the Paris and Athens prints of Greece, are an important and useful feature of this work. The pricing represents the actual selling prices of the publishers' own stock, no attempt being made to fix a "standard" market valuation for such things as the publishers cannot supply. United States stamps being fully illustrated, a feature forbidden to the publishers of the American Standard catalogue, and the stamps of United

States colonial possessions, being in this work priced for the first time, there has been an unusually large demand for the book in America. It should be in the library of every careful philatelist.

AFRICAN STAMP NEWS.

BY H. RUDD.

Oudtshoorn, Cape of Good Hope,

August 1st 1900.

Some of the post offices in the Orange River Colony have been supplied with new obliterating date stamps in which O.R.C. has been substituted for O.V.S. Stamps obliterated with the O.V.S. date stamp will no doubt be more valuable than those obliterated with the O.R.C. one.

The following O.R.C. V.R.I. have gone up in price. The 2½d are fetching 12/-6 each, the 4d blue 2/-6 and 6d rose 7/-6.

The Transvaal V.R.I.s. are as yet very uncommon on account of postal communication to the Transvaal colony having been cut off shortly after the fall of Johannesburg.

I have seen several letters posted at Kuruman, C.C. the stamps on which have been obliterated by the "Chief Distributor of stamps" date stamp. The chief distributor is an official in the magistrates' office. The date stamp in question is an India rubber one of an oblong shape and is used for obliterating the embossed stamps on licences; but never, except in this instance, has it been used for postal purposes. As Kuruman was one of the places in the Cape Colony occupied by the Boers, they no doubt on their evacuation did away with the date and obliterating stamps of the Post office in some way or other.

MONTREAL LOCAL STAMPS.

During the past few months we have had several enquiries from our readers about the so-called local stamps of Montreal. We thought these labels were dead and buried years ago, but as one advances in years he seems to overlook the fact that a younger generation is constantly growing up, to whom the old familiar discussions of his own youth are unknown, and as there is no philatelic encyclopaedia for our gallant young students to consult, it is not surprising that

old friends should be constantly turning with new features.

The publisher who will undertake to index and print in cyclopaedic form all the topics that have been discussed in the philatelic press, since we had a press, will confer a lasting benefit upon stamp collectors for all time.

In the *Canadian Philatelist* Vol. I. No. 3, printed in Quebec, December 1872, we published the results of a careful investigation made by the present editor of the MONTREAL PHILATELIST into the standing of all Canadian locals we could then hear of. We cannot do better than reproduce in a somewhat condensed form, the facts given in that article, as it embodies all the essential particulars about which our correspondents have made enquiries.

No genuine locals have ever been used in Canada, the labels that are passed off for such, are merely the work of speculating dealers. The first issued of these stamps was "Ker's City Post" 1d, which appeared in 1864, this was soon followed by other values—3d, 2 cents and 5 cents all manufactured in Montreal and they are supposed to have originated from the fertile imagination of S. Allan Taylor, who was then a stamp dealer in this city. The design of the first mentioned consisted of the arms of Great Britain in centre; above KER'S CITY POST; below ONE PENNY; oblong oval; printed in black on blue, rose and green papers. The second issue was similar in design but had the Prince of Wales' plume and motto in centre instead of the British arms and consisted of the 1d orange 3d, green, red, yellow and orange. The third issue was a rectangular stamp, with portrait in oval, same inscription above; value below; printed first in blue and afterwards in black on white paper, and consisted of two values 2 cents and 5 cents. There was a quite a large sale of these fraudulent stamps at the time but they are rarely met with now. Shortly after their appearance Mr. Taylor removed to Albany N. Y., and from that city introduced a stamp, purporting to be used to pre-pay letters forwarded by "Bell's Dispatch" of Montreal, this was for a long time believed in, and had perhaps a much larger sale than any other Canadian local. It is often seen in old collections. The design consists of the arms of the city of Montreal in centre; above BELL'S DISPATCH; below on

ribbon MONTREAL; beneath ribbon CENTS; figure 2 in circle at each corner printed in mauve on white paper. In those days Mr. J. A. Nutter was the largest stamp dealer in Montreal, this gentleman still lives here, but has long since given up the stamp business. He originated the scheme that afterwards made Mr. Seebeck's name famous. He arranged with Mr. Bancroft proprietor of the "City Express Co." to supply him gratis with stamps of the annexed design,



to be used on parcels delivered by the express. A few may have been used for that purpose, but that they could never have been employed for the payment of letter delivery is self evident, for the cost (5 cents) was in excess of the post office charge for the distribution of local letters, which then was 1c if delivered at the post office or 2c when delivered by carrier. There are three different varieties of this stamp, the first was a wood cut, which not proving satisfactory was rejected, not however, before S. A. Taylor had obtained a copy and struck off an imitation; the third variety was printed from copper plate and is finely engraved. The Nutter stamps were printed in dark blue on white paper, while the Taylor stamp was in light blue; it represents an individual with long Dundreary whiskers and the inscription reads STRT instead of ST. In the advertising pages of the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* of 1865 and 1866 the stamps were offered by Nutter at 25 6d per dozen, and must have been quite extensively sold. The City Express Co., was afterwards known as Bancroft and Sharpe's express, and the business is still in existence as "Sharpe's City express" but their charges for delivery have never been collected by means of stamps.

Other stamps that have been offered as Canadian locals, are "Winslow & Co's Express" between Montreal and Portland, Me., "British American College Stamp," "Grand Trunk Railway" newspaper stamp and "McLachlan's Post". These are merely advertising labels except the G. T. Ry stamp; the latter was an imitation of the English railway newspaper stamps got up probably by Taylor, but was never used by the G. T. Ry.

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A Monthly Magazine devoted to the science of Philately.

SUBSCRIPTION.

To Canada and the United States, 25 cents a year
To all other countries 50 cents, a year; postage paid
with 1/4c. stamps.

W. James Wurtele, Publisher.
F. W. Wurtele, Editor.

ADVERTISING RATES.

1 inch.....	\$0.50
2 inches.....	90
Half column.....	1.50
1 column or half page.....	2.75
1 page.....	5.00

Discounts of 5, 10 and 20 per cent. on contracts of 3, 6 and 12 months respectively.

Terms:—Positively cash in advance.
Wants and Offers, 1/4c a word. No ad. of less than 15c. taken. 3 insertions for the price of 1.

Dealers' Directory, 3 times, 50 cents; 12 times, \$2.00

Entered as second class mail matter at the Montreal Post Office, April 23rd, 1898.

EXCHANGE. We earnestly desire to exchange two copies with all philatelic publications.

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

AUTHORIZED AGENTS.

Australasia.
Vivian Gosset, Ponsonby, Auckland, New Zealand.
Austria.
J. Oberlander, Tax Controller, Troppau.
Cook Islands
Ralph Gosset, Rarotonga, C.I.
India.
Mahendraia Mitra, Beliaghata P.O., Calcutta.
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Newfoundland.
Harold W. Thompson, Brigus, C.B.
Point St. Peter, P. Q.—Jack Fauvel.
More agents wanted in Canada and United States,
Good commission. Write for particulars.

Editorial.

Next Number out Oct. 15th
All Copy must be in by Oct. 4

REMINISCENCES.

Quoting our August editorial on "the Album difficulty" *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* criticizes as follows:—

"The following sensible lines suffer

"some by the illiberalism that dismisses the study of minor varieties, water-marks, paper and perforations with so 'curt ceremony.'"

Our critic evidently misunderstands our position, we do not dismiss the study of these variations, we merely put them in their proper place. When the writer assumed control of the editorial management of the MONTREAL PHILATELIST, in our first editorial (December 1899) we briefly outlined the position we took on this question and stated the principles that would underlie all our writings on philately, again in our April and June numbers we have had occasion to refer to it. We now refer our critic, and our readers in general to those articles, from which may be gathered our conception of what is the end and aim of the Science of Philately.

In preparing an article for this number, at the request of several correspondents, on Montreal local stamps, we had occasion for the first time in many years to refer to our writings in the *Canadian Philatelist* of twenty eight years ago. Old friends, old familiar faces, came back to us, as we once more read the effusions of the olden time; this train of thought induces us to inflict our readers with a few personal reminiscences, which we trust they will pardon us for, seeing they are not unconnected with the topic now discussed.

In the early days of stamp collecting, all varieties except those of the printed design and color were ignored; then perforated as distinguished from unperforated stamps began to be collected; watermarks were first noticed and listed in 1865 by the Parisian philatelist Dr. Legend writing under the *nom de plume* Dr. Magnus. A translation of his articles was published in the *S. C. M.*, of 1866. Those who have access to these most interesting papers, will notice that, the constant thought of their author seems to be that watermarks indicate an epoch in the history of the stamps of a country. The historical point appears every where,

Short began Magi vation tion, and I of th great: was philat all a: were ton. was t Engli Frenc Euroj In ing w journs absur doubt lost s Philat was th pean Ameri of 18 y L. Pe with l New Louis na to pean f dian l idea, labora REAL l editor. our tir too few and a publish wanted with a one to positio price, vented York, sight.

Shortly after this gauging perforations began, the idea also originating from Dr. Magnus. The introduction of these innovations at once raised a storm of opposition, philatelists divided into the French and English schools. In every number of the 1868 volume of the *S. C. M.* the great *Pendragon* controversy raged, it was participated in by every English philatelic writer of note, but dominating all as a shrewd and careful philatelist were the opinions of Edward L. Pemberton. The result of this protracted debate was the acceptance by all prominent English collectors of the ideas of the *French* or as it began to be styled the *European* school.

In America the new system of collecting was unknown, not a single stamp journal defended it, it was laughed at as absurd, ridiculed as trivial, and so no doubt it is if the end to which it leads is lost sight of. The *American Journal of Philately* then the property of J. W. Scott, was the strongest opponent of the European and the valliant champion of the American school. In 1872, a young man of 18 years, an ardent admirer of Edward L. Pemberton, a close correspondent with him, and with Chas. H. Coster of New York and John K. Tiffany of St. Louis formed the idea of starting a journal to introduce and propagate the European principles of philately. The *Canadian Philatelist* was the outcome of that idea, the gentlemen named were its collaborators and the editor of the MONTREAL PHILATELIST was its founder and editor. We were however in advance of our time, scientific philatelists were then too few to support even so small a journal and after a few months we ceased to publish. Mr. Coster and Mr. Tiffany wanted to found a paper in New York with ample capital, but they could get no one to undertake the editorship. That position was offered to us, at a tempting price, but business and family ties prevented our removal from Canada to New York, and the matter dropped out of sight.

A perusal of these facts will we think absolve us from the charge of illiberally dismissing with curt ceremony a study that we were the first to publicly propagate on the American continent.

Philately rises above the rank of a hobby or a fad, because of its historical importance, because it commemorates events in the progress of mankind, and thus contributes to the advancement of humanity. To reach the end sought after its study in the minutest details is a necessity, but these details are the means not the end. We cannot better close our remarks than by quoting from our old friend Pemberton, who taught us what stamp collecting really means.

"An examination of any one series, will prove to the student that little order or system can be attained if watermarks are ignored; and any so-called arrangement, based alone on external appearances, however admirable the results may appear to the eye, will be in reality, what is vulgarly termed a jumble. It has been therefore, with the view of inducing recent volunteers to the rank of Philately, into the higher mysteries of the art, my aim, to clearly define all distinctions of watermark, all perforations, and, where practicable, the leading shades. If I have succeeded, and can induce more and more interest on the part of the collector on this points, essential to the very production of each individual stamp, I shall be amply repaid."

STAMP CUTS AGAIN.

We notice that our Berlin Ont. contemporary the *Philatelic Advocate* is taking credit to itself for "a victory" in the recent decision of the Postmaster General not to interfere with the illustration of stamps in the philatelic press. The *Advocate* is welcome to what ever credit it can extract out of its action in this matter, though we think its lengthy correspondence with the P. O. Department has not influenced the decision by a hair's breadth. In its January number the following item appeared.

"Ottawa, 22 Dec. 1899.

"Gentlemen:—With reference to your

“letter of 18th inst., I am directed to say that under section 86 of the Post Office act the imitation of any postage stamp issued or used by this or any other country is a criminal offence.

“I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

“W. D. Le Sueur Secretary.

“This law is very strict; so strict in fact that we have been compelled to remove the very poor imitation of a Canada stamp which appeared on our cover design. Some of our Canadian papers publish cuts of new issues but this will now have to be stopped.”

A similar notification was received about that time by the publisher of the MONTREAL PHILATELIST, we declined however to stop the publication of our illustrations of new issues, taking the ground as outlined in our editorial in July that section 86 did not apply to the legitimate illustration of stamps. We undertook the risk of a prosecution, rather than relinquish what we felt to be an undoubted right, and wrote to the department in that sense. Finding that we were prepared to stick to our guns, the P. M. General, no doubt consulted the law officers of the Crown, and probably finding that his departmental interpretation of the act would not stand if tested in the courts, came to the wise conclusion not to further interfere with the stamp papers. There is not much of a “victory” to boast of, in maintaining a position legally secure, and we make no such boasts, but it does seem to us a trifle out of place, for our esteemed friend the *Advocate*, to pride itself on winning a battle, from whose field it precipitately fled at the first sign of danger. However

“He who fights and runs away
May live to fight another day.”

THE ADHESIVE'S RESERVE FORCES.

In its July number our valiant friend, or opponent if it prefers the title, threatened us if we did not stop exposing

its blunders with certain murderous weapons concealed up its sleeve. It called them “reserve forces” but we were at a loss to know, whether we were to guard against Mauser rifles, butcher knives, revolutionary bayonets from Colombia, Indian daggers from ‘Punch’ or razors from the Tenderloin. Our period of suspense is over, the secret is out, we know the worst,—the *Adhesive* is to present itself as our opponent in a contest “for the nomination for official organ of the League of Canadian Philatelists in 1901.” Well! Well! The ambition of the philatelic magazine that has no philatelic editor, to represent an expert philatelic society is sublime. We know our friends of the League, and we have doubts about their wanting that kind of a representative.

MAFEKING SIEGE STAMPS.

(From *Ewen's Weekly Stamp News*.)

While in Kimberley some little time ago it seemed to me that the town had gone mad on war relics of all descriptions. At any rate if the “man in the street” was not enthusiastic “the man in the shop” was. Chemists, grocers, drapers, ironmongers, jewellers, &c. all had some relic or other to offer. In fact, I should think, at the time I speak of, every tradesman in the town was a relic-dealer. Doubtless selling relics paid much better than ordinary business when they could get jays to pay the astonishing prices they were asking; prices, in my opinion, out of all proportion to the interest or rarity of the specimens offered. These relics may be divided into three groups *i.e.* (1) Kimberley coinage, (2) Kimberley shells and (3) Mafeking relics. The last group one or two of the tradesmen were booming for all they were worth. Being full of variety it was by far the most interesting. Amongst the things included were stamps, notes, vouchers, letters addressed to ‘B.P.’ and odds and ends of all sorts.

A short description of some of the stamps offered may be of interest to readers.

In a large chemist's shop there was

an extensive assortment of relics and amongst other things two sets of 19 different "Mafeking Besieged" stamps. These stamps as my readers are doubtless well aware from the frequent notes that have appeared in *E. W. S. N.*, consist mainly of Cape and Bechuanaland stamps over-printed in two lines "MAFEKING BESIEGED" the face value in each case being raised and denoted between the two surcharged lines. One thing I don't like about these sets is that they have been postmarked to order. The stamps were stuck on a piece of paper and then all cancelled at once, the date being MAY 12TH. The postmark is the ordinary single line circular date mark with "MAFEKING C-G-H." arranged round the inside. In the centre of the circle is the date, "MY. 12-1906," in two lines. In a clothier's shop there was an exactly similar set for sale at the same price. These all appear to have been genuinely used on letters, though I could not say for certain. In a small jeweller's shop I noticed three stamps for sale, price 20/- each.

WERE THEY GENUINELY NEEDED ?

After reading the above, one cannot help wondering whether the various siege surcharges were really necessary. At first, it was put forward in their favour that they could not be obtained unused and were attached to letters by the postal officials. This evidence is now greatly weakened, as the "Mafeking Id Besieged" stamp on ½d green Cape is comparatively common unused, and most of the Cycle and Baden-Powell locals are in this state. Our publishers recently purchased an undoubtedly genuine unused specimen of the 1d on ½d Cape, with full gum.

Writing on the same subject, a correspondent of the *S.C.F.* states:—"Mr. Turner, by the way, is quite wrong in saying that unused "Mafekings" donot exist. I have several myself, I have been shown others by the *Times* correspondent, who was in Mafeking during the siege, and Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, have a number in their books."

In addition to unused specimens, we now have evidence of sets cancelled to order. If we further take into consideration the fact that most of the letters sent were franked with 2, 3, 4, or even 6 stamps when one would have done, there seems no room for further doubt that the

stamps were issued purely as a memento of the siege, and restrictions were placed on their sale so that no one should get more than his fair share. That Mafeking to a man was alive to the advantages of issuing special stamps is clear, when we are told that none of the siege notes have been presented for payment. It is unlikely that many of the stamps have been lost to collectors either.

Many readers are apt to blindly mix up justice with patriotism and anything that Mafeking may have issued in the stamp line is promptly accepted as a bona-fide issue. Doubtless most readers will be ready to overlook the absence of any postal necessity for the Mafeking Siege provisionals, but such willingness does not establish the bona-fides of their issue, from the strictly postal point of view.

From the *Philatelic Chronicle*.

In our June issue we protested against the Mafeking Besieged stamps being regarded as a serious issue. In a disturbed time like the present, excitement and patriotism might and do lead people to accept as gospel truth what, in their more sober moments, they could reject with incredulity if not with contempt—hence our protest and warning. Since we published our article the most strenuous efforts have been made in various interested quarters to bolster up this commercial issue and every tittle of evidence possible to produce has been heaped into the balance in order to give it weight. Having carefully read all that has been written we again warn our readers to have nothing to do with the over-printed issue while offered at the fancy prices asked at present even if they buy them eventually as relics, or as interesting locals issued—no matter with what ulterior object—at a critical and historical moment.

Among the evidence adduced in favour of the Mafeking stamps is a manifesto published by a leading firm of dealers setting forth with great circumstance the why and wherefore of the issue. It appears that a gentleman from Mafeking waited upon this firm with a complete set of all the stamps made and used during the siege—our readers will remember we foretold this in June—and a guarantee of their genuineness signed by Lord Edward

Cecil. Here, indeed, we have business forethought combined with despatch! Immediately the siege was raised this gentleman must have started off with his stock and credentials to get first on the market—and how many more philatelic commercial travellers have gone elsewhere with similar appointments? We certainly hear of sales being effected in various quarters simultaneously.

The business-like method of procedure would be sufficient to convince the ordinary mind of the commercial nature of the whole transaction, but, should any doubt remain, the circumstantial account, if read between the lines, quickly dispels it. For instance, we are told, presumably to pave the way for the asserted increase in postage rates, that a number of the runners were caught and killed and the despatches were found afterwards—by whom or where or how does not transpire—with the stamps “removed by the ‘slim’ Boers.” There is a distinct touch of irony in this description. The Boer outside should not, of course, have stolen stamps worth pounds. Surely the common or garden unsurcharged stamps were good enough for him—and after all the trouble taken in making them! Yes, it was undoubtedly wrong of the Boer outside to rob his enemy— but what about the Briton then inside and who, at this moment, is asking hundreds of pounds from his fellow Britons for a few labels which cost him a less number of pence? It is quite possible that both Briton and Boer looks upon his action as “business.”

To resume, it is certain, if the above account be true, that the runners who carried the letters imperilled their lives—therefore the sum of £25 as quoted in the Mafeking gentleman's carefully prepared account was not extravagant. Later on it is stated that “it was found necessary to practically double the ordinary rates.” Let us suppose the ordinary rates were 6d a letter. Let us also suppose that the postal authorities desired to make a profit on the journey. Let us also note that “no bags were allowed to be carried” and then let us find out where the native runner was to store his stock of letters for which it was necessary to charge double postage in order to make up the £25 cost of the journey. The natural supposition is that he would go in for an extra large loincloth—but no, we are gravely informed that the letters were

“concealed about their clothing” and, *mirabile dictu* “in the soles of their boots!” The idea of a kaffir or other native running fifty or sixty miles in boots is distinctly edifying and new. It is rather lucky that “no person was allowed to send more than two, or at most three letters by any one runner” or the thickness of the boot soles might have caused him to receive the bullet aimed at a supposititious giraffe.

Upon the authority of the *Cape Argus*, a recent passenger for England refused £250 for his stock of Mafeking stamps. Since the account referred to appeared a firm of dealers is reported to have sold several complete sets at over £50 each. It is therefore all the more interesting to read in the apologetic manifesto that “no stamps were sold to the public” and that “letters were taken to the post office and the military postal officials stamped them.” In face of these authoritative statements, which are issued in connection with Lord Edward Cecil's guarantee, one wonders where these £250 stocks and these sets sold in London, Cape Town, Manchester, and elsewhere originate from. The logical conclusion is that the poor Boers were falsely accused of shooting the runners, who must have been waylaid by the parties that supplied the bagmen now pushing the sale. This is the conclusion honesty and logic would arrive at, but both these qualities, we fear, are foreign to the “Mafeking Be-seiged” stamps. Still there is a moral to be deducted from these inaccuracies and contradictions.

These labels may be everything that is claimed for them—in fact, we have the written guarantee of Lord Edward Cecil, sent by express traveller, to that effect—but we would advise our readers to refrain awhile from purchasing, as the most recent information describes a rival brand of surcharge which, by the holders of the original type, is stigmatized as a forgery. It may be that the new brand is all right and it, also, may have the written guarantee of some high official—perhaps of the officer who accidentally double surcharged one sheet—so would-be purchasers should wait until the claims of the rival brands are settled. For our own part we consider the one about as good as the other—and we refrain from recommending either until we have got some to sell.

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The Canada Stamp Co. of Quebec, are offering Canada Jubilees at very low prices. Although these stamps are getting scarcer every day, their prices are still very low. The C. S. Co. are the publishers of a very fine album for British North American Postage stamps. The only album of the kind ever brought out. It should be in the hands of every collector. If your subscription to the M. P. has expired send us 75 cents and you will receive this album and your subscription extended one year.

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Membership cards will be sent to above on payment of dues.

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REPORT OF SALE DEPARTMENT.

FOR 10 MONTHS TO 31ST AUG.

176 Books received value....	\$2513.11
Total sales from these to date	441.84
82 Books retired value.....	\$666.00
Sales from these	243.46
(or nearly 37%)	
No of Circuits sent out.....	27
“ returned.....	19
Still out.....	8
No of Members participating in department.....	50

Exchange Notices.

Every Subscriber has the right to insert a thirty-word exchange notice free. Notices offering articles for sale will not be inserted in this column. All notices must be written on a separate piece of paper. Regular rates, 5 cents per line of seven words. No advertisement of less than 15 cents taken. All ads. set in Nonpareil, no display.

WANTED.—Back numbers of this paper, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, will give good stamps, or advertising space in exchange. Address the PUBLISHER.

WANTED.—To exchange advertising space with all first class philatelic papers. Address the PUBLISHER, Montreal Philatelist.

Manitoba Law Stamps to exchange for other Canadian revenues or foreign adhesives. S. A. REDFORD, Brandon, Manitoba, Canada. 7-10-4

Exchange wanted all over the world. Rare for rare, common for common. Send 50-200 stamps, and receive same number and value old U. S. Columbian, Omaha, department, and postage due. Exchange by sheets preferred. Want Canada Maple Leaf and numeral 5c up, and Jubilee in quantity for foreign stamps from sheets, your selections by Scott's catalogue 50 edition. MARTIN H. BITTL, 86 Berry St. Brooklyn N. Y. p 3-1-3

EXCHANGE.—Anyone who sends me better class stamps, duplicates if possible, will receive equal value in new and used stamps of Austria-Hungary, Bosnia, etc., by return mail. EMERICH KOHN, Wien XI/2 Autriche. 2-3-4

Exchange desired with all the world. Whoever sends 50-100 different English colonies, Newfoundland, Canada, Barbados etc., etc. will receive same number of South American. Letters registered: prompt satisfactory answers. C. HANS SEIFERT, Casilla Correo 595, Buenos Aires, Argentine Republic. 2-2-3

Exchange.—The undersigned is always pleased to exchange none but better postage stamps of all countries with serious collectors. He does not send first. Trash sent to him will be returned unfranked. Address, REV. R. VON FIRCH, Berlin, Canada. 4-2-5

Address separately to me the different entire of your country, and you will receive South American stamps or entire. Desire also exchange in stamps. WALTER HOFFMAN, Buenos Aires, Rodriguez Pena 128, Argentine Rep. s 3-2-4

To exchange 5c. yellow br. (Jefferson). Alsace 25 cent, New York hand stamps red and black, fine cancelled copies, against U.S. 1869, and Canada 12½, 17 cent. THEO. KOERNER, Zapp, Texas. s 3-2-4

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I have U. S., British colonies and foreign to exchange for Haiti, S. & C. America, Omahas, Newfoundland, Columbians 6 Br. colonies, etc. Correspondents wanted in all countries. Send stamps. E. M. ATMORE, Parkhill, Ont. s 3-2-4

Souvenir Cards, used or unused, exchanged with collectors in Canada and U. S. Can give also addresses of foreign collectors. A. ANTON, 14 Florence Street, Yonkers, N. Y. (U.S.A.) s 3-2-4

WANTED.—U. S. unpaid and adhesive postage, current type, on cover showing post mark 1894. Will give greater value in exchange. THEODORE C. MANN, 1416 Hickory St., St. Louis, Mo. s 3-2-4

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A two or three-line ad, in this Directory, once 200 three times, 50c. Extra lines, 10c. each. Payable in advance.

Advertise IN THIS COLUMN.

Beaver Stamp Co. P. O. Box 1025, Montreal, Can. Stamps on approval to parties giving good references.

Brown, Wm. P. 13 Ann Street, New York City. Stamps on approval. Prices below Scott's 1900 catalogue and 50 p.c. commission. 6-1-5

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Labelle, A. E., 85, Cherrier St., Montreal, Canadian Postage and Revenues bought and sold. Correspondence solicited. 6-6

Lohmeyer, A. 922 N. Gilmot Street, Baltimore, Md. U.S.A. Postal Cards only, at cheap prices.

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has been given to the production of enlarged illustrations of many minor varieties, which can more easily be distinguished from a large print, but which are difficult to describe, especially to the younger collector, such as the two dies of **Argentine** 5c. ; the **Bulgaria** unpaid 5st ; **France**, two dies of the 1876 issues ; **Bremen**, three types of the 3 grôte ; **Greece**, enlarged heads of the Paris and Athens prints ; **Portugese Colonies**, the various dies of the Crown issues.

OWING TO THE CONTINUAL PRESSURE ON SPACE

it has been found necessary to exclude entirely all "Official Seals." These are not stamps at all, but merely gummed labels applied by officials to close packets that have come open or broken while in transit.

MANY IMPORTANT COUNTRIES

have been thoroughly revised and rewritten, such as **Belgium**, 1869-81 issues ; **Brazil**, 1894-99 ; **Dominican Republic** ; **Ecuador** ; **Dutch Indies** ; **Japan**, 1876-99 ; **Liberia** ; **Luxemburg** ; **Portugal and Colonies** ; **Roumania**, etc., etc.

Orange River Colony (late Orange Free State) and **Transvaal** (late South African Republic) have been rewritten and brought up to date, and removed from the body of this volume and placed at the end as a SUPPLEMENT to PART I., BRITISH EMPIRE, to which volume it will be transferred in the next edition.

The **Mafeking Seige Stamps** have also been included in this Addenda, with the prices at which we supply many of the varieties.

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