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THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

VOL. I.

QUEBEC, MARCH, 1872.

NO. 3.

REVENUE AND TELEGRAPH STAMPS!

At the present time, it is scarcely necessary to advocate the collection of Telegraph Stamps, for they are now included in the album, which has, perhaps, a larger sale than any other, namely that of Mr. Moens. The only magazine which still holds out against them is the Stamp Collector's, but even it will have to change its sentiments, to keep up to the popular opinion. We are not aware what ground the Philatelist's Journal will take, but should suppose that it will run with the tide. Now, why should Telegraph Stamps not be collected? a simple question but one for which it is hard to find a simple reply. The usual reply is, that they are only semi-postal, but if all that is semi-postal is to be rejected, how much smaller will our albums become; all the locals, all the official stamps, all the returned letter stamps, all the unpaid letter stamps, and most of the newspaper stamps are semi-postals. Why should Telegraph Stamps be collected? another simple question, to which we think we can find a satisfactory reply. Our reply is, that they are in reality postal, to prove this we have only to shew how the stamps are used. In most foreign countries all the telegraph wires etc. are owned by the government, and not, as in Canada, by private companies, the superintendent is usually the postmaster, and the office is usually the post-office. When a person wishes to send a telegram, he places a telegraph stamp on the envelope, drops it into the box, and the message is forwarded in due course; now whether the message is forwarded by mail or by wire is of but little consequence, in both cases the stamps are cancelled, and the letter dispatched by the post-office authorities. What messages are dispatched? a difference might just as well be made between stamps used on letters forwarded by railway and those on letters forwarded by steamer. Telegraph stamps are in fact postage stamps used for telegrams, and the ordinary stamps might just as well be used (they are in England) if it were not, that telegrams cost more, than ordinary letters, and consequently the stamps have to be of higher values.

REVENUE STAMPS.—Of course the argument used in favor of telegraph stamps, will not hold here, as revenue stamps have nothing whatever to do with the post, and therefore cannot be collected as even semi-postal. In America there is a certain class of collectors, who collect anything that is a stamp, always provided it is not a humbug, for these, revenues have as much attraction as postals, but of course have to be kept in a separate album. There is no argument that can be used in favor of the collection of revenues, except that they are stamps, and should be collected, just as much, as any other kind of stamps. The collection of revenue stamps is a very simple affair, there being but little difficulty in obtaining the stamps, and none whatever in arranging them. One of the arguments that could be used against them is their number, in Canada we have no less than 89 distinct varieties, besides law stamps surcharged with various letters, bill stamps for Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and we believe there is a distinct issue of the new law stamps for each province. In the United States the revenue stamps are innumerable, and a complete set would fill an album of itself. We are surprised that no dealer has issued a complete price catalogue of the revenue stamps of all nations, such a catalogue would, to use a hackneyed phrase, supply a want long felt, at least by American collectors.

Whilst we would not entirely recommend revenue stamp collecting, we think that a well arranged album of them, would be a source of much pleasure to the owner, presenting, as they do, a great variety of well engraved, and finely colored specimens; this matter however should be left to the taste of the collector, but not so with telegraph stamps, for, in our opinion, no collection can be complete without them.

Of course there are parties who think differently but when our reasons are examined, we are certain, that but few will be able to contradict them, much less bring decided proof, against them.

NEWLY ISSUED STAMPS.

Prince Edward Island.—On the first of January last the old currency was changed to the decimal, and with the change a new issue of stamps was emitted. We have as yet seen but two values the 1 cent, orange and 3 cents, rose. Head of queen in circle, inscribed above "Prince Edward Island" below "Postage." Value in straight line beneath circle, figure of value in small squares at each angle, the ground is composed of small dots, and the whole, as in the previous issue, is very poorly engraved.

Canada.—The 2 cents small size has just appeared, it resembles very much the 6 cents described in last number. It is unlikely that the 12½c. small size will issued, as they are very little used, and can now be bought at the post-office for 12 cents. We have never heard it mentioned before, that the 3c. large, exist on laid paper, we have seen several specimens lately, on which the lines were very plainly visible.

German Empire.—The 10 and 30 gr. registration stamps have appeared, they are identical in design with the former ones, except that the inscription is changed to "Deutsche Reichs-Post."

New Zealand.—2d. changed from blue to vermillion.

Fiji Island.—Crown over letters "C. R." in circle, above "Fiji" below "Postage" and value, on thin unwatermarked paper.

One penny, blue.

Three pence, green.

Six pence, rose.

There is also a second series surcharged 2, 6, and 12 cents respectively.

Western Australia.—A new and finely engraved stamp can be added to the set for this colony; value, three pence, color, dull brown.

Sweden.—Envelope and post card, on right hand upper corner, transverse oval, in centre three crowns, at sides in ovals, two post horns, "Sverige" above, "Tolf ore" below, color blue. The post card is white, with inscription and border in mauve, which forms a very bad contrast with the blue stamp.

Egypt.—A new issue will shortly appear, values the same as previously, with the addition of a 2½ piastre; the design and colors will be changed.

Russia.—Post card, arms on left, inscription in Russian characters above, no stamp impressed.

Bavaria.—Returned letter stamps for Nurnberg and Augsburg have been issued. They resemble the Regensburg.

Luxemburg.—The color of the 4 centimes stamp has been changed to green.

Sierra Leone.—A new series consisting of the 1d, 2d, 3d, 6d, 1s. is announced.

Cuba.—Will give us another set this year.

THE PRESS.

"*The Postage Stamp Reporter.*" Is published monthly by Arthur H. Wheeler, Lowell, Mass. In the February No. we find an article on that well worn subject "The C. S. Provisionals," a notice of the celebrated Boston dealers, a list of new issues, an article on the Hayti swindle, and a review of the magazines. In the latter we find that the editor, when speaking of ourselves, does not approve of lotteries; we cannot say that we do ourselves, and the one advertised in our preceding numbers, was mentioned by our publishers, not by the editor. We refer our readers to an explanation in another column.

"*The Stamp Collector's Guide.*" For February contains its usual amount of news, comprised in "C. S. Locals," new issues, and counterfeits. It also gives us a short notice.

"*Postage Stamp*" is published by the proprietors of the Philadelphia monthly, all it contains are new issues, and advertisements.

The Collector's Criticism, very amateur in style, the December and January numbers have each a very sensible article by a party named "Juria Japon."

"*Le Timbre-Poste.*" is now issued on the first of the month instead of the fifteenth. More than half the January number is occupied with an article on "The penny post"; the remainder consists of a list of new issues, and an article on the 1860 British Guiana. In the February number. Dr. Magnus continues his article on envelopes, this fills up three of the eight pages. Four pages are devoted to new issues, and the remainder is occupied with various short articles.

"*A. Moschkau's Magazin,*" is a German paper published by Alfred Moschkau, Oybin, Saxony. We have received the January number, but from our ignorance of the language in which it is printed, we are unable to review it.

"*The Philatetical Journal.*" We are happy to have this really excellent magazine among our exchanges. The first number for January contains a history of forgeries by the editor, an article entitled "Cream of the Magazines" new issues in which the illustrations are printed in color, "The Stamps of La Guaira" written in a very pleasant, chatty style by the Rev. R. B. Earée, "Our Black List" in which no less than sixteen dealers in forgeries are exposed, reviews, an amusing account of a visit to a "Bung and Gargle Label store," and a most remarkable letter from Boston. If this magazine continues as it has begun the S. C. M. had better look out for its colors.

"*The Stamp Collector's Magazine*" for February is well up to the standard, among the many valuable articles it contains, we would mention "A Plan for mounting Envelopes," "Fiji and the Fijians," and "Papers for Beginners" No. 17, Mr. Overy Taylor well deserves the thanks, of not only beginners, but of all philatelists, for the able manner in which these papers are written.

We would draw our readers attention to an advertisement of a stamp collector's directory, in another column; we are not personally acquainted with Mr. Troy, but have no doubt as to his *bona fide* intentions. Such a work is much needed.

THE CANADIAN POST.

FROM THE EARLIEST TO THE PRESENT TIME.

By F. N.

(Continued from page 8)

OUR LETTER BOX.

A. P. S., Franklin. N. H.—Wishes to know the value of a collection of 1200. We have seen collections of 1200 for which we would not give \$5, and others which were worth \$500; it is impossible to value a collection without seeing it.

J. A. E., Rockford. Ill.—We are not in want of any match stamps.

J. A. P. Elizabeth. N. J.—We are well supplied with Confederate States, what other rarities can you let us have?

W. H. B. St. John. N. B.—We find your prices very high, can get the stamps for much less, what others have you?

EXPLANATION.

Having been requested by our editor, as well as numerous correspondents, to give up our idea of having a stamp lottery, we have willingly consented. We say willingly, as we find that so many parties disapprove of the matter.

Wishing to please, as many of our patrons as possible, we beg to state that the subscription price will be continued at 50 cents, but will include the right, to a share, in an annual distribution of premiums for subscribers only.

We will on receipt of postage forward to each of our subscribers a cheque, which is to be retained by them until the end of the half year, and is not transferable. Only subscribers for the year will have any right to a cheque.

Hoping that the above will prove satisfactory to all parties, we would further state that we have been making arrangements to have our paper illustrated, and should we receive sufficient support, we hope soon to be in a position, to enlarge it to double its present size.

All parties wanting further information, or specimen copies, will please address, with stamp for reply,

BIRT, WILLIAMS & Co.

POSTAL DELAYS IN INDIA.—A good story comes to us from Kashmir, and, we are sorry to say, a true one. One day no letters were distributed at Srinngur, and anxious inquirers at the post office could obtain no information or redress. At length an official circular came round to all the residents, stating that as an English officer had severely thrashed the postmaster that morning, this functionary was disabled by his wounds from discharging his duties, and no letters would be issued until his recovery.—*Calcutta Englishman.*

In the following year (1852) the rate of postage to England, *via* U. S., being reduced to 10d., the 12d. became obsolete, and a stamp to represent the new rate was issued in the month of June. At the same time the $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and $7\frac{1}{2}$ d stamps were issued, so that the 1852 emissions were as follows:—

$\frac{1}{2}$ penny, rect, Queen Victoria, rose.

$7\frac{1}{2}$ pence cy. 6d. stg, rect, Queen Victoria, green.

10 pence cy. 8d. stg, rect, Jacques Cartier, blue.

All the stamps of the pence series appear in various shades, usually from dark to light. Mention is made in some catalogues of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d surcharged 8d and 1 but such stamps are purely fictitious.

In 1855 the money order system was introduced, followed in 1856 by the registered letter system, in the same year the Grand Trunk Railway was completed as far as Toronto, so that in connection with the Great Western, there now was an unbroken line of railway communication, between Rivière du Loup, a village about 100 miles below Quebec, and Windsor in Canada West.

Towards the end of the year 1857, the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. 3d. and 6d. stamps were issued perforated, and no doubt the $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 10d. would have also undergone this improvement, had not the decimal currency been adopted in 1859, when of course it was necessary to prepare a new issue. This series, which appeared on July 1st 1859, was engraved by the American Bank Note Company, and consisted of the following:—

1 cent, rect, Queen Victoria, rose.

5 cents, oblong, beaver, vermilion.

10 cents, rect, Prince Albert, lilac and brown.

$12\frac{1}{2}$ cents, rect, Queen Victoria, green, light and dark.

17 cents, rect, Jacques Cartier, blue.

On unwatermarked paper, perforated.

These are almost identical in design with the preceding issue.

In 1861 Messrs Nesbitt & Co., of New York, received the contract for a supply of stamped envelopes, these were issued in the same year, and consist of only two values as follows:—

5 cents, oval, head of Queen to left, vermilion.

10 cents, oval, head of Queen to left, brown.

On white, laid paper, watermarked CA. P.O.D.

In 1864 a 2 cent stamp was issued, for the postage on soldiers letters, it is similar in color and design to the 1 cent, with the addition of the figures of value, in the angles.

(To be continued.)

PUBLISHER'S NOTICES.

We have lately had the good fortune to purchase at the post-office, a few of the old pence issue of Canada unused. Below we give our prices and number we have of each. Warranted genuine original impressions.

Face value.	No of each.	Price.
$\frac{1}{2}$ penny unperf.	5	30 cents.
$\frac{1}{2}$ " perf.	4	50 "
3 pence unperf.	1	25 "
6 " "	9	80 "
7 $\frac{1}{2}$ " "	1	1.00 "
10 " "	3	1.25 "
12 $\frac{1}{2}$ cents.	3	25 "

Also 1c. rose for 4 cts. 5c. vermilion for 10 cts. 10c. violet for 15 cts. all unused.

REVENUE STAMPS.

Try our unrivalled packets of revenues.

No. 10, contains 12 foreign bill stamps, including Prussia, North Germany, France, Great Britain, Belgium, etc. Price only 10 cents.

No. 11, contains 15 Canada bill stamps, including some of each issue. Price only 10 cents.

No. 12, contains 25 Canada bill and law stamps many very rare. Price only 20 cents.

No. 13, contains, 30 Canada bill, some of each issue, Canada law, Prussia, North Germany, U. S., Austria, Great Britain, etc. Price only 25 cents.

Samples of our prices.—

Mexico set of 5	for	20 cents used.
Java 50 cents	for	5 cents "
Spain Official set of 8	for	20 cents new
Cashmere black	for	10 cents "
Finland set of 4	for	15 cents used.
New Brunswick 1c.	for	4 cents new
South African Republic 1d.	for	6 cents "
Turkey 2 piastre red	for	8 cents used.
Alsace, 1-2c.	for	2 cents new
Belgium, 1870, 10c.	for	1 cent used.
" " 20c.	for	2 cents "
Confederate States, 2c.	for	5 cents new
" " 10c.	for	2 cents "
St. Thomas 3c.	for	5 cents used.
Hungary newspaper	for	2 cents new
Sauwich Islands 1c.	for	5 cents "

French Telegraph stamps 50c. and 2 fr. 6 cents each.

All others equally cheap.

We have just purchased a large collection of rare foreign stamps, will give a list of them in our next number.

Wanted; all kinds of rare stamps, best prices given.

Address

Birt, Williams & Co.,

Quebec, Canada.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

A limited number of advertisements will be inserted in this column, at the rate of \$1 for 8 lines or less. 1 cent for every word over 8 lines.

NOTICE.

D. CAMERON & Co., beg to request that those parties who are still indebted to them, for stamps furnished two years ago, will make immediate payment. Should this request not be complied with, D. C. & Co. will be obliged to publish the names and addresses of all such parties.

QUEBEC, MARCH 1872.

CHEAP CONTINENTALS.

15c. per 100, 80c. per 1000.

Cheap packets. Send for Circulars. Stamps on approval on receipt of Postage. Address,

THE INTERNATIONAL STAMP COY.

QUEBEC, CANADA.

To Stamp Dealers and Others.

The undersigned, wishing to publish a STAMP COLLECTOR'S DIRECTORY, would like to hear from all dealers in a very part of the world. Please send full particulars regarding length of time in the business, etc.; also copies of all stamp publications. Prominent dealers and Philatelists will please send Biography and portraits. Also would like to obtain all information regarding deceased dealers, suspended papers, &c. The directory will be printed on tinted paper, and will contain the biographies and portraits (if possible) of all distinguished philatelists. Send in your orders early, as but a small edition will be printed.

PRICE TWENTY-FIVE CENTS.

Address THOMAS H. TROY,

No 71 FIRST PLACE,

Brooklyn, N. Y., U. S. A.

WANTED.

No. 5 of the Stamp Collector's Magazine. We will give 50 cents or 2s sterling for a clean copy of the above.

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

Published monthly by Birt, Williams & Co., Box 309, Quebec, Canada. Terms 50 cents a year, only in advance, post free. All subscriptions for the year will commence with the first No.

TO PUBLISHERS.

Parties publishing stamp journals are particularly requested to send them in exchange. Any publication we receive will be duly noticed in our columns.

E. VINCENT, Printer & Book-Binder.

No. 18, St. John Street, Without.