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The Canadian Philatelist.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

IN THE INTEREST OF STAMP COLLECTING.

VOL. III. No. 2.

LONDON, OCTOBER 1, 1893.

WHOLE No. 26.

NOTES BY THE WAY

BY WHIRLS FARE.

Messrs R. F. Albrecht & Co. will hold their 17th annual sale on the 14th and 15th of December.

We are all anxiously awaiting Scott's new catalogue, whether it will appear this year is a matter of conjecture.

A good step among publishers to keep frauds from their papers is that of making their advertising rates strictly in advance. No reliable dealer should object to pay in this way.

The firm of W. Sellschopp & Co. has been dissolved, Mr. Gesvret retiring; Mr. Sellschopp will continue the business under the old firm name.

I hear that Mr. R. Bogert failed to sell the famous New Haven envelope, owing to the high price demanded by the owner.

The Philatelic Argosy, of Buffalo N.Y., has become the *People's Argosy*, and is now devoted to the interests of young people.

The foremost question among philatelists is at present, whether the Government will sell "specimen" sets of the Columbian issue, next year.

I noticed that a certain U. S. stamp paper is criticising the small dealers rather severely. "Despise not the day of small things."

Nassau St., New York, still retains its reputation of being the stamp centre of America. Two new firms have opened up there recently.

It looks as if the *Canadian Journal of Philately* had given up the ghost. Although a subscriber to that paper, I have received no number since July.

It is reported that the Columbian post cards are now selling at \$1.00 for ten cards. Those who visited the fair will remember that these cards could be had at 30 cents per set.

If ye scribe has made any wishes lately, his principal wish has been, that he might have attended the Martindale sale, recently held in Philadelphia. I believe that those who attended are none the poorer from the results of their purchases.

The well known Philatelic writer, Guy W. Greene, is again winning fame as an athlete at the second annual field day of the Stromsburg athletic club. Mr. Greene won first prize in eleven events, and came in second in two others.

It is said that at the coming session of the Canadian Parliament a bill will be introduced to lower the rate of postage to two cents. The general opinion is that nothing will result from it, as the Parliament has already rejected similar bills.


That bright little sheet the *Weekly Philatelist* has entered into its second volume. Notwithstanding this a certain -L. Louis Weekly is still claiming to be the only weekly philatelic paper in the world. This should not be, it is nothing more or less than deception.

We see by the *Philatelic Era* that Mr. W. M. Campbell of Brooklyn, Ont., advertises a new Philatelic paper, the first number of which will have a circulation of 10,000 copies, in which advertisements will be free. I should judge that this would suit many of the small dealers.

Some collectors seem to object to the publishing of philatelic stories or tales. I can see nothing objectionable in these if they are not fairy tales and are within the limit of reason. A good tale well told adds flavor to a paper.

The new issue for the Hawaiian Islands, which will appear next year, will be an interesting one, such as these islands generally present us with (bearing surcharges). The sets consists of five denominations: The one cent will be oblong in shape, yellow in color, and for design will have the Hawaiian coat of arms; the two cent is of the same shape, and illustrates the harbor of Honolulu, and is sepia in color; the five cent will be dark red in color, and about the same size as the current issue, and for design will have the Kamelameha Statue; the ten cent denomination will be green in color, and bears an illustration of palm trees, sugar cane, etc.; the twenty five cent is a little smaller than the previous denominations, and bears the head of President Dole in an oval. This last stamp is blue in color.

ALVAH DAVIDSON.

E take pleasure in presenting to our readers this month the portrait of Mr. Alvah Davidson, a prominent New York Philatelist. Mr. Davidson possesses a very fine collection, and takes a very keen interest in all matters pertaining to stamps. He has always taken an active interest in the American Philatelic

Association, and through his efforts to secure the amalgamation of the smaller societies with that body, he is well known to society members. He has, for some time past, occupied the editorial chair of the *Post Office*, which capacity he has aptly filled. He is an occasional contributor to our philatelic papers. Our portrait of Mr. Davidson is not the latest, as we are informed that, during the last week or two, he has acquired what may be termed the beginning of a full-fledged beard.

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

PHILATELY.

BY CHAS. E. JENNEY.

'Tis now the winter eves draw near,
 And may they bring to all good cheer;
 For though the winds blow bleak and cold,
 They will but make our hearts more bold;
 In ice and snow you e'er can trace
 The footsteps of a hardy race;
 Where Jack Frost's banner is unfurled,
 There flows the blood that rules the world.
 'Tis now each day of honest work
 Earns well, for him who does not shirk,
 The cheer and mirth of fireside glow,
 When all without is sleet and snow;
 Not that the dipping western sun
 Should put an end to outdoor fun;
 For Luna casts her silvery sheen
 On many a lively, jovial scene;
 Where merry laughs with sleigh-bells ring;
 Where coasters on the hillside sing
 The cry of warning—"Clear the way!"
 Drop on their sleds, and dart away;
 Where on the ice the skater feels
 The keen delight of glittering steels.
 But nights there come when wind and sleet
 Upon the roof and windows beat,
 And cold north wind howls, shrieks, and roars,
 When man seeks comfort within doors,
 With music—games, some while the hours
 Defying Nature's fiercest powers;
 Of all the pleasant scenes I see,
 Before me in my reverie,
 Is one that every home will know,
 Where stamp collectors come and go;
 A room well lit by lamps and fire,
 With all the comforts we require;
 And sitting by the friendly blaze,
 Two stamp collectors friendly gaze
 Upon their albums' checkered page,
 On rarities of every stage;
 A table sits beside the two,
 On which the ancient pot of glue,
 By hinges gummed is now replaced,
 A credit to our later taste;
 A glass of water, blotting pad,
 Pencil and paper for each lad,
 Scissors to trim their envelopes;
 Some stamps, a pair of microscopes;
 A catalogue, price lists a few,
 A stamp paper, and more stamps too;
 In answer to the postman's ring,
 Two fat stamp letters in they bring;
 A packet and some sheets they hold,
 And what a pleasure they unfold!
 With careful glance each sheet is scanned
 For stamps that spaces blank demand.
 The packets also are looked through;
 They compare stamps, then trade a few;
 Until the evening is well spent,
 Over their albums they are bent.
 The pleasant evening that has passed
 No shadow of regret can cast.
 If you want moral, moral take;
 If boys would stamp collectors make,
 Why let them; you will find it pays;
 Your son will gain much by its grace.
 No more at night the street he roams;
 'Twill empty bar-rooms and make homes,

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

WHO ARE PHILATELISTS?

BY O. E. KLAPP.



HE above question is one worthy of notice and consideration, although it is given very little attention or discussion by our prominent Philatelic writers. I see no reason why it should not be given its share by the Press, as few persons are able to comprehend what a philatelist is.

Real philatelists are rare, and when once seen it is not difficult to make his acquaintance. It is a true saying that "Philatelists are never found in knee pants," and are rarely found under age. A few exceptions to this may be found, and proper credit must be given, as the present young collectors are billed for the future philatelists. Our poets mostly are in their minority, and to these philatelists must honor and show signs of appreciation. Only a few of our many prominent dealers from the great philatelic centres of New York, Chicago and St. Louis are under age; this is very easily determined by noticing their manner of doing business, their customs, etc.

A gentleman, knowing that I was a stamp dealer, and who was evidently very much taken up with his boy's new idea, walked up to me a short time ago and began talking about his son who had lately made up his mind to collect postage stamps. He said that his "Frankie" had lately taken to collecting stamps, and was very much pleased he had decided to be a philatelist. Upon asking him how long his son had been collecting, he hesitated, and said that he believed it was last spring when he commenced. I then asked him if he had a specialty, and how many varieties his collection contained. "Oh!" he exclaimed, "Why, he isn't trying to get all the varieties, but only seeing how many he can gather together; I believe he is aiming at a million, however." I then explained to my friend that his son was merely a collector, and that he had no knowledge of philately—not even in its first stage. He at once became quite indignant, and before I could get out of hearing distance he made the atmosphere fairly blue with profanity; this, with his gymnastic gestures, showed signs of his great anger. However, I passed on out of his sight and left him talking to himself, only fearing that I had made an enemy by so nobly defending our hobby. But, thinking that the Supreme Being and all wise Father would forgive that one, who had become a bitter enemy by my defending such a cause, my mind at once became easier, and I do not now regret having spoken the words which I did on that occasion.

This is a class that are of little benefit to philately, and I have reasons for believing that it is those persons that are swelling the already large numbers of several of our national societies, more especially the one known as the "Sons of Philatelia." A "boy will be a boy," and he has no right to term himself a philatelist unless he has philatelic principles in him. Noah Webster is regarded by all as a man that had a great mind and a superior education, and it is justly right that every person should speak of him as such, as his works prove. But still he, in defining the word "Philatelist" failed to make it broad enough, and by his definition alone many young, and no doubt some aged ones, are led to the belief that they are and have the proper right to term themselves a philatelist. Those who are philatelists know that they have become such by no other way than by long study and earnest work. Thus we say that a philatelist is not merely a stamp collector or dealer, but one who has devoted his time and labor to that cause

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

TO THE "BEAVER" STAMP.

BY CHAS. E. JENNEY

'Tis a Canada five-cent—a "beaver,"

In the parlance of philatelists ;

Very common—worth 12 cents a dozen,

As you learn from the dealer's price list ;

But a dull, badly-cancelled, red five,

Passed unnoticed 'mongst pence issues rare,

Yet it bears a Canadian emblem,

From its home, out abroad—everywhere.

And when all the old days shall have vanished,

And the present has faded to past,

And in history alone is recorded

Days and deeds which will memory outlast,

'Midst the curious antiques and relics,

In an album all faded and worn,

Comes to light this old Canada "beaver,"

Badly cancelled, and faded, and torn,

What a dream of past ages 'twill lead to,

How the mind of the future will gaze

On the frontier scenes of the New World,

Long ago in colonial days ;

When the trapper kept long lonely vigils,

In a land of wild beasts and wild men,

When the woods stretched from ocean to ocean,

And the beavers infested each glen ;

When the red men through virginal forests,

With light moassin, stalked moose and deer,

And his wigwams were staked in the valleys,

With the fields of the golden maize near ;

When the sons of the forest were pitted

With the bold pioneer in dread strife

And the frontier villages trembled

With the fear of the hatchet and knife.

How those days that are e'en now historic,

Men will thrill as the years onward tramp,

And the past can be changed into present,

By the sight of an old postage stamp.

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

SOME PAGES IN MY ALBUM.

BY ROY F. GREENE.

WRITE often I take my album from its resting place, open wide its pages, and seek to interest some visitor who is not a collector of stamps. As I turn to my two or three triangular Good Hopes, or my early British Guianas, and tell them of their variety and worth, comparatively speaking, I note that my friends are but little interested, and so on through the pages replete with, to me, priceless treasures, yet my friends fail to catch my enthusiasm and seem listless and ill at ease. But I have at length reached Germany, and as I open the pages a complete set of the Alsace-Lorraine reprints appear before us. They happen to be in my album because a near and dear friend gave them to me, and I preserve them more for their associations than for their worth. But as these gaudy, bright-colored specimens fall under the notice of my friends, they fairly fly into a joyous flight of "endearing adjectives and want to know if they are not "awfully costly and rare, etc."

It is with difficulty I curb my temper on such occasions, when I see my precious varieties thus passed over without a compliment, while those vile forgeries were lauded to the skies; and then my page of Heligolands, didn't they receive an ovation at the hands of my non-collecting friends. The diversity of

colors, the very gaudiness of their appearance, seems to provoke compliments from the uninitiated. Then my array of Seebecks, Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras, and all the rest, were commented upon, and one of my friends condescends to remark that if all stamps were like these emissions, he'd collect stamps himself. It is truly exasperating to see the true stamp, the worthy one, despised, while some vile usurper is given the palm of praise. But such is the cruel fate of the world, the worthy are passed unheedingly by, while the gaudy, counterfeit unreal personality is given all homage.

Of all my album, probably the only page of legitimate issues that receives a word of praise is that of Guatemala. I confess that these stamps always held a high place in my affections, and when I acquired my first specimen of this country, I thought it the prettiest thing I had ever seen in the stamp line. These stamps are worthy of our praises, for they are a truly legitimate issue, and no stain of speculation rests upon their emission or sale.

I feel that the Seebecks unless postally used are unworthy our regard, yet I have a set which is partially unused; but I am removing the unused and substituting the used as the latter are presented. Yet I have often felt that Seebecks and such were probably a blessing in disguise, for no doubt they, by their artistic merits, draw many to purchase them, and thus breed a desire for more and more until we have as the result a full-fledged collector.

Dealers have often told me that they sell more stamps of such countries as Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Salvador, Alsace-Lorraine, Samoa, Heligoland, Switzerland (1862-79), Spanish "baby kings", and Newfoundland $\frac{1}{2}$ cents, in an unused condition, than any other stock on hand. And dealers in stamps, as in everything else, have learned that you must please the eye if you hope to reach the pocket-book. Taking all into consideration I do not know that my friends evince less sound judgment in connection with stamps than I did when I first gazed on a collection of stamps. I remember that a British North Borneo, and a Persian Official came in for the greater share of my praise. We were all such dunces one day, and I suppose that is one reason why I should keep my temper while hearing the praises of those Heligolands sung by my friends, who have as yet never tasted of the sweets dealt out by Philatelia to her worshippers.

Correspondents' Column.

[This column is open to all, and we hope you will take the opportunity to express yourself on any philatelic question. Those who want any information should send in their queries, which will be answered in the following number.]

Spring Valley, N. Y., Nov. 24th 1893.

*MR. L. M. STEEBLER,
Dear Sir:—In regard to this R. E. Pentecost. He did not trade me for much, but he managed to swindle me nevertheless. He wrote offering to pay 7c. each for 25 1887 U. S. 3c. unused, giving as reference, A. W. Dunning, Cal.; W. F. Bishop (a snide) and State Senator Pentecost. I sent stamps, and not hearing from him in 60 days wrote again, but letter was returned, unclaimed. The P. M. at Aurora, Ill., informed me, in reply to inquiry, that R. E. Pentecost had flown. Mr. Dunning informed me, that he was also loser to the amount of about \$100.00. Such beats should be hauled up with a sharp turn.

Respectfully, E. C. REED,

The Canadian Philatelist :

A JOURNAL FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

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

L. M. STÄBLER, EDITOR & PUBLISHER.

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VOL. 3. LONDON, ONT. No. 26.

EDITORIAL.

An Apology. We must make an apology to our readers for lateness of our September, October, and November issues.

The cause of the delay was Mr. Staebler's extended absence from home. The November number will be mailed a few days after this reaches you. Owing to our lateness, this number is a little smaller than usual.

Fraud in the Air. There is strong evidence abroad that a swindle in Hawaiians is on the tapis. In relation to this

matter, we quote the following from *The Philatelic Facts and Fallacies*: Not long ago a peculiar, and, at least, to a stamp collector rather suspicious, order was given to a large electrotyping firm in San Francisco. The order was accompanied by a small piece cut out of a Hawaiian surcharged stamp of the 2 cent rose, containing the full surcharge, and the firm was ordered to arrange an electrotype exactly like the black portion, that is, the surcharge on this bit of paper. The order was executed and the electrotype

delivered to a large and very prominent lithographic concern in town. Our informant does not believe that the lithographic concern will make any mis-use of this electrotype, though he does not know what it will be used for. The name of the lithographer was carefully withheld. In all cases it will be advisable to buy Hawaiian surcharges only from reliable parties to make sure that the same are genuine. We shall endeavor to ascertain a little more about this mystery, but at present we have given all the facts known. **LATER.**—Before going to press we succeeded in obtaining considerable additional information in regard to the counterfeit plates of Hawaiian surcharges. We know now the name of the lithographing firm that ordered it, and sent it, about three weeks ago, to the Islands. We believe we can also make a close guess of the name of the Hawaiian dealer to whom the plate was forwarded. The plate consists of an electrotype, with fifty surcharges, or a whole sheet, and will doubtless be used to make very dangerous counterfeits. We are told, however, by an expert in the engraving and electrotyping art, that it is impossible to arrange the distance and details of the fifty surcharges so as to deceive the really careful observer. In connection herewith it will be interesting to learn that several weeks ago a large package of the exact size of the sheets of Hawaiian stamps passed through the San Francisco Postoffice en route from a leading American stamp firm to the Islands. It is easy to suppose that this parcel contained such unsurcharged stamps as the 2c vermilion, 1c blue, 1c mauve, 12c mauve and others whose value would be materially increased by a surcharge. We have asked this firm for information and should not be surprised if their customer and the party who ordered the forged plates prove to be same person. A sheet of the surcharge one-cent blue has been seen here on which every stamp was without the period after "GOVT." Probably these dots were removed by a good knife or acid. So far no counterfeit surcharges, to our knowledge, have reached this place, but the first lot is expected to arrive by the next steamer from the Sunny Islands. We shall keep our eyes open and hope in the next number of this journal to give further developments in this matter. We regret we are not allowed to publish the names of the parties connected with this peculiar piece of business, and we regret still more the fact that important and wealthy firms should be implicated in such a questionable enterprise.

The Press. The Post Office Department must be overwhelmed with business these days, if we can judge by the number of philatelic papers which have been appearing recently; among these are two new Canadian papers:—The *Queen City Philatelist*, published by H. Beasley, 155

Queen Street West, Toronto. This paper, although somewhat inferior in size, is one which will in all probability be a success, as it contains fairly good reading matter, and is neat typographically.—Mr. A. M. Muirhead, of 228 Hollis Street, Halifax, N. S., has forwarded to us the first number of the *Canadian Philatelic Magazine*, which consists of four pages and cover. Though small in size, it is well got up, the reading matter consisting mainly of notes.—Among the new U. S. philatelic papers we might mention the following: *The Philatelic Kaleidoscope*, which is published by Mr. W. M. Randell, of Belleville, Michigan. His subscription price is fixed at an extremely novel amount, viz.: 24 cents per year. Other new papers are the *American Stamp News*, from Lowell, Mass.; *The Star Stamp Journal*, from Worcester, Mass., and *Philately*, from Jackson, Mich., together with others too numerous to mention.—The management of the *New York Stamp* has been changed.

* *

John R. Hooper. We have received some additional information with regard to Mr. Hooper. Professor Ellis, of Toronto, who analyzed the stomach of Mrs. Hooper, reports that he was unable to find any sign of poison. The inquest, which was held on the 23rd of Oct., has just been closed. The Coroner's Jury did not implicate Mr. Hooper with the crime, but stated that the circumstances of her death were suspicious. The magistrate set the date of the trial at near the first of Dec. Mr. B. B. Oaler, the well-known criminal lawyer, has been engaged to defend him. Although the general impression is that he will be acquitted, it is altogether probable there will be considerable talking done by the lawyers on both sides before this result is reached. We shall keep the readers of the CANADIAN PHILATELIST supplied with the important details of the case.

* *

Matters of General Interest. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, of London, England, have opened a branch office in New York City. Messrs. R. F. Albrecht & Co's 15th Auction Sale was held on Nov. 2nd and 3rd; the attendance at the first session was about 30, and at the second about 20. The prices realized were very good, and in some instances higher than the record. We have heard nothing of the proposed convention of the P. S. of C., nor have we seen any official organ of that Society; it is practically dead. Our new Price List is now ready for mailing. We have issued 15,000 copies, the greater part of which have been already mailed. If you have not already received a copy kindly notify us, and we shall take pleasure in forwarding you one; it contains more packets than any other list ever issued and will repay perusal. The Philatelic Sons of America, Mr. Kissinger's new Society, is prospering.

Our Handbook No. 6. So great has been the success of our series of Handbooks, especially No. 5, which is advertised on the last page of cover, that beginning Jan. 1st, we shall issue them monthly. No. 6 is now in preparation, and will appear on the above date. It is a book which is more widely needed than even our Handbook No. 5. It is entitled *The Envelope Stamps of the United States*, and will be gotten up in the same superior style that has characterized our Handbook No. 5. It will be illustrated throughout by half-tone engravings of all types and die varieties of U. S. envelopes. The different sizes of envelopes and colors of paper will be fully catalogued. The greatest possible pains will be taken to have all parts of the same accurate in every respect. The editor will be assisted in the work by several prominent specialists in these stamps. The price has been set at \$1.00, post paid.

* *

Another New Society. British Guiana has many enterprising philatelists, who, evidently, do not wish to be behind the rest of the world. The collectors of Georgetown met on Oct. 20th, and formed a society. We append a full account of the meeting, which we have taken from *The Daily Chronicle*, of Oct. 25th, which one of the members kindly sent us: "A meeting was held at the Portuguese Pawnbroking Company's Hall, on the 20th inst., for the purpose of appointing a committee to arrange preliminaries of a philatelic society for this city. Mr. J. Rodway was voted to the chair, and Mr. Norman A. Forster appointed Secretary. Mr. Rodway, on taking the chair, addressed the meeting, stating, in a few brief remarks, the objects and benefits to be derived from postage stamp collecting. Mr. T. A. S. Quail was the next speaker. His address set out clearly the reason for holding the meeting. He advised every stamp collector to give his support towards the formation of the Society. After addresses from Messrs. de Mello, de Souza, Cownell, and a few other gentlemen, the business of the meeting was proceeded with. It was moved by Mr. Quail, and seconded by Mr. Anderson, that the Society be formed. Mr. D'Andrade, supported by Messrs. de Mello and Quail, moved that coin collecting be added. The motion, on being put to the vote, was lost. On the motion of Mr. Quail, it was carried that a committee of four be appointed to draft the necessary rules to be laid before the next general meeting. Messrs. J. Rodway, T. A. S. Quail, N. A. Forster, and de Mello were elected members of the committee. After discussing other matters, a subscription list was circulated, and about fifty dollars collected. This being the completion of business, the meeting terminated."

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