

VOL. I.

No. 1.

SEPTEMBER 1894.

—*— THE *—
PET PHILATELIST.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY,
In the interests of Stamp Collectors.

—BY—

E. MOYER,
BERLIN, ONTARIO, CANADA.

PRICE 20 CENTS PER YEAR.

The Pet Philatelist.

Vol. 1. Berlin, Ont., Canada, Sept. 1894. No. 1.

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EDITORIAL.

With this we place before you No. 1. What do you think of it? Is this paper worth 20 cents per year? Send in 20 cents to-day and receive it for one whole year. We are going to make it interesting to the young collectors especially.

Advertisers:—Our rates are low, while we circulate at least 1000 copies each month. Send in copy for Oct. No. before Sept. 30. A TRIAL IS ALL WE ASK. Have a good list of names, some of whom have never seen a Stamp Paper. CIRCULARS MAILED FREE FOR ADVERTISERS.

We will exchange with all papers devoted to Philately. Send marked copy.

The \$1.00 Columbian is already quite rare. It sells at from \$5. to \$10., a short time ago they were on sale at face value but now!—People say stamp collecting doesn't pay.

The new U. S. stamps will be ready soon. They will be the same as the '1890's with the exception that a small ornament will be shown in the upper corners. The 30 cent and 90 cent stamps will be dropped; and the 50 cent, \$1., \$2. and \$5. values will be used. Some of the colors may also be changed.

The Collector has moved down to Baltimore, where Lang & Nicklas, are turning it out in great style.

The Canadian Sons of Philatelia Society has been organized. Canadians are invited to join. Particulars from Mr. A. M. Muirhead, Halifax, N. S.

Mexico has promised a new set of stamps, to be out this month. We expect something pretty this time. Denominations 1, 2, 4, 5, and 10 cent.

In California, the trains were stopped by the strikes, so it was necessary to carry the mail by other means. A Fresno man organized a Bicycle Mail Route, employing

expert wheelmen as carriers. Single letters were carried between Fresno and San Francisco for a fee of 25 cents. A Frank of the Co., was attached to each letter besides the regular 2 cent postage. There are 3 varieties of this B. M. R. Stamp.

In 1774 there were less than 100 Post Offices in the U. S. In 1858 there were 27,977, while at present there are over 68,000.

POINTERS FOR BEGINNERS.

(By Mosy).

Always have a good catalogue close at hand, (Dealers sell them at 50 cents), and never part with a stamp until you know its value. Use good hinges for mounting your stamps, but before doing so, remove all paper from the backs. The best hinges are cheapest in the end, as they will not injure or discolor your treasures. Never paste them flat down with glue. Don't buy an International Album until you have something to put in it. A good Blank Book can be bought at any Book Store for from 25 to 50 cents. If you buy one of these you will never be bothered with those blank spaces and you can arrange the stamps to suit your tastes. Envelope stamps should

be cut square with wide margins, but when possible you should keep them entire, as there may be different sizes of the envelopes, some of which are worth more. This is the case with the U. S. Columbian issue.

Don't buy a few common stamps in preference to a good one. Remember, it takes time to form a collection. You must build it up 'ONE BLOCK AT A TIME'.

Avoid foreign correspondence until your collection numbers a few thousand varieties. When you receive a pack of stamps, sort them carefully. Rarities have been found in cheap packages. A party once purchased a 25 cent packet and the dealer by mistake had placed a Stamp (worth \$100.00) into it. Watch all U. S. issues for Grilles of different sizes. Do not pass the study of watermarks. In most cases you can see the mark by holding it to the light, or placing the stamp face down on a dark surface. If you want an Album to amuse and interest yourself in after years you should note down under each stamp the price paid, date, from whom obtained and its value at the time. Subscribe to a few Philatelic papers and procure all the Phil. Literature which you can afford and read.

A few hundred papers will be very help-

ful to you if properly studied. If you have any duplicate stamps you should correspond and exchange them with other collectors, as near to your home as possible.

Last, but by no means least, in dealing with others always remember that

"HONESTY IS THE BEST POLICY."

This paper one year for any good Stamp worth 30 cents or over, or for 1200 mixed stamps.

If you induce 3 friends to subscribe you will get your own Subscription free.

ORIGIN OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

The idea of an adhesive stamp affixed to a letter, as indicative of the payment of postage, is much older than has been generally supposed. It is known that the first suggestion of such an arrangement in modern times came from Rowland Hill, the father of the cheap postal system in England, about the year 1839 or 1840. It was several years, however, before his suggestion was carried into effect. History, however, that the ancient German cities of Thurn and Taxis had such a system, which, for some inexplicable reason, fell into disuse or failed to become general among

nations.

The modern postage stamp then was first used in England about the year 1840. In 1845, E. A. Mitchell, then Postmaster of New Haven, taking advantage of the English idea, made use of a postage stamp of his own, which he continued to use till 1847, when the Government of the United States issued the first American postage Stamps. They were in two denominations.

The 5 cent was a light-brown color, bearing the head of Franklin, and the 10 cent of a grey color, with the effigy of Washington. At that time the rate of postage was five and ten cents, according to distance.

In 1851, a series of six denominations was issued.

(CLIPPER.)

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