

The International Philatelist



A MONTHLY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS



GEORGE A. LOWE.

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

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"The plates of the 1847 Mauritus have been found in the Post Office of Mauritus, and our correspondent informs us that reprints will be made."



Mono buts Sparks

International Philatelist 1 he

A MONTHLY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOL 1, No 6.

TORONTO, CANADA.

MAR., 1893.

N. Chas. Sparks.

Born at Ottawa, 1869, studied at Collegiate Institute there, took one year at University College, Toronto, studied law in Toronto two years, has been collecting since very young-general until latelynow B. N. A. only has shilling Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, used and unused, and New Brunswick, and pair 71d Canada, lacks 12d Canada and Connell and one or two British Columbias to be complete; will shortly remove to Ottawa.

Shades Canadian Postage in Stamps.

We assume that no cause succeeds unless by some prior agitation, and so desire to bring before our readers a subject that let" and "purple" and as these two are is interesting to us, and also, we hope to them, trusting that "The Powers that be" may condescend to weigh them well before any further catalogues are issued.

In the first place, is a certain stamp only to be considered and catalogued as such, simply because in a new issue the Government have officially stated the "sixpence" will be in violet? If so, we have nothing further to say in support of shades, or, what is more distinct, co'ors.

It will readily be seen that space has been given to shades as varieties; that, in fact, in view of this proposition, do not, or never did exist. We, however, do not accede to this point; for governments, like individuals, often, or, rather, too often, fail to adhere to their stated policies, as we all know, and so possibly, through an evolution as it were, or, perhaps more abruptly, distinct and varied shades become adopted.

1851, only mentioned, so far as we can find, in several standard catalogues as "violet or purple black." Was this stamp never issued otherwise? Our readers can satisfy themselves by taking a number of copies of this very desirable stamp, and they will observe that while a considerable proportion will be in those colors a few will be totally different. For instance, we have seen a large number of copies of a pronounced gray, others of a steel brown, brown purple or olice black, while several copies have recently been seen here in Toronto of as marked a black as the "twelvepence" of the same issue. In fact, no difference, so far as comparison in shade with the latter is concerned, can be discerned. We can only find the "Fifteen cent, 1867," catalogued as "vionot very dissimilar, it is safe to say that they exist in at least three or four other colors, notably there is a fair proportion of this fifteen cent stamp that will be found to be as blue as the "twelve cent" of the same issue.

Now, we ask, are these shades not more defined than the "three cent U.S. 1861," "red, said to be in 'pink,'" also the Cape of Good Hope "one shilling, green," that is classed as "emerald green," for that reason, are now highly valued. The list would be too long were we to attemp: to enumerate all the instances, especially in Australia.

We are pleased to note that there are many close observers, specialists, etc., and also Mr. Ketcheson in his handy manual and list of Canadian stamps, who accord shades to those of Canada, that we have narred, a distinctness and variety as yet the "high and mighty" compilers of catalogues do not up to the present recognize. Take for instance the sixpenny Canada Surely no further delay to acknowledge and proper recognition given to the various shades and varieties.

Counterfeiting in the U.S.

Postage stamps would seem to be queer things to counterfeit, yet the fraud is extensively practised on lovers of philately. The counterfeiting of United States stamps is, of course, a penal offence, and the sharpers have enough regard for their own safety to leave the valuable kinds severely alone. But whenever a foreign stamp becomes rare it is counterfeited. The very scarce ones are not touched, as any number large enough to be profitable to their creators would excite suspicion. Counterfeit stamps are always cancelled by the forgers, which puts them outside the pale of justice. The headquarters of in that department. His imitations of these stamps. Nicaraguan and other stamps were a bane to collectors in their time. In 1875, how- as well as London, he found responsible ever, Patroni came to grief. He issued a dealers selling stamps which they believed Sandwich Island stamp of 1852, which re- hands. solder it on. Both these operations relago, and which I have stowed away,

the above varieties will be allowed to pass. | quire skill, and one could hardly think a Without being too liberal, therefore, let man clever enough to perform them could fair play to Canadian stamps be shown, afford to waste the time or make it pay; at they seem to. The most profitable counterfeits are made abroad. Ordinary bronze coins are turned out by the bushel to be palmed off on tourists by guides and curiosity-sellers. These are carelessly made, and poor imitations. The Jewish shekels and Syracuse medallions are those on which the counterfeiters expend their chief skill. The latter is a beautiful silver coin, stamped with a die which has no equal in the coinage of to-day. This is its chief defence against imitation. counterfeits are all electrotyped and cast, and the surface and impression are so much rougher that anyone acquainted with the originals detects the fraud at once.—Illustrated London News.

The Rare Stamps of Hawaii.

I am just in receipt of a letter from a the stamp counterfeiters abroad was for a Mr. Gifford, a gentleman in Honolulu, long period Hamburg, and the false containing, amongst other information, a stamps are known as Spiro stamps, from great many interesting facts concerning the the name of their maker. In America, original numeral and others of the early Philadelphia seems to have given birth to stamps of the Hawaiian Island, which, no the bulk of counterfeit stamps. An Italian doubt, will be of interest and great sernamed Patroni was the best-known artist vice to any of your readers who collect

counterfeit South American stamp, and to be genuine, until he pointed out to neglected to cancel it. This led to a com-them their error. He adds that in a good plaint against him and his arrest. He was many cases the dealers themselves could tried in Philadelphia, and sentenced to not tell the difference between a genuine imprisonment. One of the most profitable numeral and a forgery, owing to the fact of Patroni's counterfeits was that of the of so few cf them passing through their

tailed at \$200. Counterfeit coins, though, Prices of good specimens of 1c., 2c. and are by far the most profitable of the illicit 5c. series, used and unused, are quoted industries from which collectors suffer. here at \$8 to \$12 each. The first numer-The commonest frauds in American coins als, 1853 issue, are almost, if not absois altering the dates. Thus, a cent of lutely unobtainable. Hearing a short 1798 is common and that of 1799 rare, time ago of a sale of a 13 cent at \$250.00. By engraving around the numbers the Regarding the older issues I am the date will be altered from 98 to 99 so neat-happy possessor of a couple of duplicates, ly as to defy detection by an unpacticed but would not exchange them. The older eye. Another plan is to cut the date on issues I fortunately came into possession the coin away and stamp out, nother and of a few good specimens about 12 years

knowing they would become very valuable I will only be too happy to write to Mr. in a few years. Amongst these I have the Gifford and secure it for them. 2c. used Rose Kam IV., 1860, lithographed. The unused specimens of this stamp are in reality REPRINTS, the latter never having been used postally. Adepts can tell this, as the reprint is more of a red or vermillion color and the printing of a much finer quality. Most of these later, sold by dealers as USED, are also forgeries, as andoubtable proof exists that they were never used postally. The originals are rare, indeed, but few existing, and although not so high priced as the numerals. but are likely to be so shortly.

The 5c. blue Kamahamcha, III., originalsunused without the word "specimen,"

I have in blocks of 2 and 4.

The 13c, red of the same issue, without the word "specimen," are also amongst our rarest stamps, and in all the collections I have looked through while in England or America, I have only seen one or two genuine. A great many of these stamps were issued a few years ago for specimen purposes, by an incompetent postoffice official. A large number of these reprints (5c. blue and 13c. red) were disposed of by this same official to dealers, and have been palmed off, and are still sold by them as originals. They can, however, be easily told from originals by people who know these stamps, on account of the 13c, red being of a different shade, and the 5c. blue bearing a finer imprint and being a shade off in color. (See the Buhl & Co's "Stamp News." 1802.)

Our new Postmaster-General found out this fraud and had all the remainders of these issues of reprints as well as the Kam IV. 2c. reprints all marked with the word "reprint," and as I had a few of them before being marked, I kept them as curios-

ities."

This information, coming as it does, from such a reliable source, will put our readers, when purchasing, on their guard, and I have no doubt, will be appreciated by them. I am sure the above named gentleman will gladly furnish us with any make their wants in this direction known jumping at conclusions.

I. S. W.

The Vermillion Issue of Newfound-

The division of the Newfoundland vermilions ato their two shades, scarlet and orange, ought to be introduced into our Canadian and American catalogues. shades are very distinct and easily distinguished, quite or more distinct as the shades of the 15 cent Canada. The Canadian compilers who so minutely give as varieties, thin, thick, medium, hard and soft, rib, medium rib and spongy papers, might have saved a few ribs and ink to divide these Newfoundlands properly and naturally. Many young collectors gather all their information on stamps from these standard (?) catalogues, especially when they are not members of any society is this so, and if by chance a stray auction list of Philatelic paper chances their way with pages scattered with scarlet and orange vermilions, what a puzzle they are Perhaps one will think that a young collector is not likely to have any vermil-But neither is it possible that a 12 pence nor any of the endless watermarks or shades of other rare stamps that are listed will grace his collection and in any case why deny the knowledge of their existence?

It would seem that someone has set the fashion and none since have found it worth while to do more than copy a predecessor.

Notes.

The February number of the Eastern Philatelist contains two contradictory notes on the one cent Columbian issue. The first says that Columbus is spelled, C-o-l-u-m-r-u-s, but note number two says no to this. A casual examination of the stamp made it appear as if the mistake had been made, but a strong glass shows other light on the subject, and if a y of that the spelling of Uncle Sam's show the patrons or readers of this journal will bills is correct. Moral—Use a glass before

- The -

International Philatelist

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Editorial Notes.

Listen to several sentences of the prologue of the opening artic'e in the "Eastern Philatelist" of February and for the instant you may imagine yourself among the clouds and perhaps with wings :-

"The goddess at whose shrine we worship is worthy of our devotion because her spirit is pure, elevated, refined and above all kindly." * *

"Our goddess will not allow her garments to be soiled nor her pure soul to be contaminated by contact with unworthy She flees the shrine and worshippers. will never return until all harshness and selfishness have been thrust out."

Having got thus far, possibly the reader would rather come down to terra firma again than remain in such an elevated sphere.

The able Secretary of the Philatelic Society, London, Mr. M. P. Castle, has made an estimate for statistical purposes of the value of the collections held by the members of that Society, that is, of those resident in the United Kingdom, and also of those outside of its borders. The information was collected by means of a list of questions responded to by those members residing in Great Britain, numbering about 116, one half of which placed the present market value upon their respective collections and as to the others the amount was arrived at from information received from outside sources, the result was as follows:-

Estimated value of collections in Great Britain, £,125,000.

Estimated value of collections out of Great Britain, £100,000, making a total value of the collections of the members of the Society at £,225,000 or, in our currency about \$1,250,000.

It is to be observed on looking over the schedule published in the Society's paper that "specializing" is largely indulged in, in fact each member seems to have his particular country or countries, in which he is especially interested, notably Great Britain and her colonies, and it might also be noted that not one makes a specialty of South American countries.

It would appear that the above aggregate does not represent fully the value of the collections of the Society's members, as over fifty new ones have joined since the estimate was made, so that the amount would be largely increased now. These are large figures.

It is with pleasure that we announce that arrangements are about completed towards the formation of a local Philatelic Club at Hamilton. In a city of 50,000, there should be a considerable number of collectors found. The several that we have the good fortune to know, will make valuable additions to any Club they would throw their lot in with, if energy and interest are the standard to judge them by.

We wish our sister city society, now building, the full bloom of a healthy growth.

Around Town.

Mr. N. C. Sparks has removed to Ottawa, where he will reside permanently.

C. S. McKee has been expelled from the Toronto Philatelic Club for non-payment of dues.

H A. Fowler purposes publishing a stamp magazine sometime during the next two or three months at a cost of \$350.

At the meeting of the Toronto Phila upon the free list as comtelic Chib held on March 1st, 10 new customs class of 'Curios.' members were enrolled.

Mr. E. Y. Parker has gone to Montreal with a wallet of stamps to the value of \$6,000 or \$7,000, which he expects to dispose of to the collectors of that city.

Six of our city collectors expect to attend the DeCoppet sale in New York next These are Messrs. W. H. Brouse, N. C. Sparks, Wilson Wilby, E. Y. Parker and H. A. Fowler.

J. S. Wilson picked up a 12d Canada last week, which is supposed to be the finest specimen in Canada. The same has been disposed of to Mr. W.H. Brouse. This now makes 5 copies in the possession of Mr. Brouse.

Duty on Postage Stamps.

The following resolution was passed at Toronto Phi'atelic Club's meeting held on March 1st, a copy of which has been sent to the various Canadian Philatelic Societies, urging them to adopt similar measures :-

toms has decided that postage stamps, Bogert & Durbin Co. to take place early stamped envelopes, wrappers and post in April.

cards of foreign countries imported into Canada shall be classed for Customs purposes as manufactured paper and therefore subject to a duty of 30 per cent. ad valorum thereby inflicting upon the students of philately residing in Canada heavy pecuniary loss and often great personal inconvenience through delay of their correspondence for examination by the customs officials and in other ways;

"And whereas it is the opinion of the members of this Club that this decision was arrived at under a misconception of the facts or a want of full information on the subject, the imposition of such a duty affording no protection to any manufacturers and being collected upon articles which are a subject of education and scientific study as well as a pastime. They also point out that the coins of foreign countries imported for like purposes as are stamps are also by a decision of the Hon, the Minister of Customs placed upon the free list as coming within the

Now, therefore it is resolved that the Secretary of this Club prepare a petition to the Hon. the Comptroller of Customs setting forth the above facts and praying for the revision of the ruling which classes postage stamps, etc., as manufactured paper, and for a declaration that for Castoms purposes they shall be hereafter classed as curios and therefore admitted free of duty.

"And it is further resolved that copies of the said petition and this resolution be forwarded to John Small, Esq., Collector of Customs for this city and to each of the different Philatelic Societies in Canada with a request to have petitions and resolutions of a similar character prepared and forwarded to the Hon. the Comptroller of Customs. And it is further resolved that the President of this Club appoint a committee of the members to wait upon the Hon. the Comptroller of Customs and discuss the removal of this duty with him."

The sale of part II "I. R. Hooper "Whereas, the Hon, the Minister of Cus-collection" is advertised by the Messrs.

Review.

The collecting of revenue stamps is a branch of philately that is slowly but surely growing. A proof of this is the appearance of "The Fiscal Philatelist," a journal entirely devoted to the interests of this part of a philatelist's treasures. This paper hails from London, England, and bids fair to quite equal any of its more general contemporaries. We can only wish it every success.

Our only other English exchange this month, the "Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser," is quite up to its usual high

Five years old and better than ever, is the record that "The Eastern Philatelist" presents us with, "nothing succeeds like success" is an adage very practically exemplified by our Newmarket, N. H. friend.

"The Post Office" for February contains another batch of Post Office Building history, the Portland, Oregon, building being the subject. Of more practical use, however, is Mr. C. W. Grevning's article entitled "Type names of Surcharges." Articles of this kind are always a combination of interest and usefulness that we can never get too much of. Mr. Gremmel is also to be complimented on the completeness that invariably characterizes his "New Issue Chronicle."

"The Stamp" is still most decidedly with us in every sense of the term. Considerable improvement might be made in this paper, however, if a little better paper was used.

Among the few philatelic magazines that never merit anything but praise "The Philatelic Era" stands well to the The editors evidently use their brains to some good effect.

The "Postal Card's" sixteen pages are replete with the latest card news. Mr. following price lists:—C. H. Mekeel G. H. Watson's exhibit for the World's Coy's, E. T. Parker's No. 79, C. L. Morgood from the list of what it contains.

The west is well represented by the "American Philatelic Magazine."

reading matter predominates and a volume of this paper could be bound without feeling that you were binding more advertisements than anything else.

The opening months of the new year are generally chosen as a fit time for stocktaking and the "Detroit Philatelist" gives us an inventory of Philately for its leading article this month. The tremendous strides our hobby has taken within the last few years forms a subject well worthy of consideration and Mr. Lewis G. Quackenbush handles the stock sheets in the most approved fashion. Newsy notes on a world of subjects make up the remain der of this magazine.

Another paper to have a birthday this month is the "Washington Philatelist." Many happy and prosperous returns.

The "Collector" and the "Sons of Phil atelia" makes a strong team and both seem to be having their fullest share of pros-

We are afraid the "Dominion Philatelist" is relying rather too much on its age and standing, as it is not over-burdened with interesting matter. Rake up some of your originality, Bro Ketcheson.

Under the management of Mr. H. S. Dickson, the "Philatelic Journal," of Canada comes to us with a co....denably improved appearance. If the present standard is kept up we can look for something first-class.

Lack of space prevents a review of other papers. We have received the following:-"Quaker City Philatelist," "Nebraska Stamp," "Florida Philatelist," "Yankee Philatelist," "Electric Philatelist," "The Philatelic Argosy," "One Dime," "The New Jersey Philatelist," "The Reporter," "The Weekly Philatelist," "Mekeel's Weekly," "El Filatelista Sud-Americano," "L'Union Postale," "Prospectus London Philatelist," also the Fair is evidently going to be something eau's auction catalogue, Hy. Gremmel's catalogue of American Stamps.

Our respected fellow-townsman, Mr. Good Hy. Ades Fowler, sends us the prospectus of "The Canadian Journal of Philately," which if it materializes, promises to eclipse anything before attempted in the line of philatelic journalism. From such a reliable source we can only expect every success and most sincerely hope our expectations will be realized.

Philatelic Side Lines.

Collectors of stamps as a general rule base their collection of specimens and varieties upon certain general principles such as shade, perforation, size, etc., and but few go deeper into the various studies of histories of certain designs, colors and meanings of inscriptions.

What could be more interesting than to find out why so many of the varied and intricate parts of the designs on stamps were put on? To what magnitude the

research might grow.

Again a most useful and at the same time profitable study would be the method of preparation of the many hued inks used to color stamps. How much better it would enable us to determine whether a certain stamp had changed color through the use of chemicals, or the effect of time or exposure. No philatelist should consider his library complete without books that will fully explain such matters. No one can make a really scientific study of their stamps unless these things are thoroughly understood.

The study of the inscriptions on stamps means that a certain amount of knowledge regarding languages should be acquired. For instance the stamps of the district same as before with the impossible Scinde are very frequently spoken of as feature of a postman running and the the Scinde Dawk stamps. This word clearly fabricatory statement: "Secures dawk or dauk is by no means part of the immediate delivery at any post-office. name of this country. It means "for, so the inscription on these stamps really special-delivery stamps from the new Colis "Scinde District Postage." Many umbian misconception of all that is beautother instances of a like nature could be iful and convenient. The latter blanket cited to show how necessary a thorough sheets are still tolerated, in spite of a vigknowledge of these things is to the orous protest from letter-carriers, who collector.

the study of the great variety of obliter persistence in giving a tintograph of Colation marks used. In a quantity of even umbus with every stamp.—N. Y. World.

one stamp it is not unusual to find as many as a dozen or fifteen different sizes and shapes of cancellations. every conceivable shape and design seems to have been called into requisition for this service and in consequence the variety is almost endless. Dr. Legrand, in an exhaustive article on this subject gives as an illustration the stamps of Thurn and Taxis, one value of which he mentions having five different sizes of the one cancellation mark besides numerous other designs. But this merely gives us an idea of the many things we can study in connection with some of the commonest of stamps, and as the chief enjoyment is in the getting and not in the possession of knowledge, the more difficult it is and the longer it takes us to find out these things the more profitable amusement we will get from them. EP.

Wanamaker's Last Nightmare.

THE NEW SPECIAL DELIVERY STAMP IS NOT SIGHTLY.

Postmaster-General Wanamaker outdone all previous efforts in issuing unsightly postage stamps by shoving on the market a species of special-delivery stamp that resembles in color a mixture of Georgia clay and Long Island mud.

The design of the stamp is about the

The change was made, so the posttransit" or the same as our word postage office officials say, in order to distinguish object to the additional burden inflicted Another most interesting side line is on them by reason of the Government's

Wise and Otherwise.

When the matter is looked squarely in the face, the present state of philatelic weight. affairs in Canada is not the best that it might be. Canadians as stamp collectors exhibit the same characteristics as they do stamps on it. in anything else, namely, the pleasing combination of American go-aheadness and English stability. We should make a much better show than we are doing and the question is worthy of every philatelist's lady. consideration in our fair Dominion.

The general protest against reprints and remainders still continues and what we are hunting for now is someone to publish a catalogue that will totally ignore these nuisances.

Are Canadian Philatelists to be represented at the World's Fair? No decisive action seems to have been taken as yet and it will soon be too late. A good plan would be to form a committee composed of one representative from each local society in Canada and two from each of the general associations, to confer with the American Philatelic Association committee regarding space, etc., etc. some action be taken in the matter immediately at any rate.

A philatelic magazine to cost three dollars a year is an entirely new venture, and yet if properly managed it should be made a success. We are all after our money's worth and if the Canadian Journal of Philately is to be good value at three dollars per annum, there are plenty to pay that for it. JEP.

She Took Them by the Quantity.

"Can't I get these two-cent stamps cheaper if I take a quantity?" asked Mrs. Chestnut of the stamp clerk at the postoffice.

"I can let you have a dozen for a CANAD - L 9. Graham, St. Catharines, Ont. quarter," replied the clerk.

"Very well I'll take them."

A Perplexed Situation.

Clerk-Madam, this letter is over

Cora Spondence—Why, how is that? Clerk You have put two Columbian

Condensed English.

"Stamps, please," curtly said the young

"With or without?" queried the facetious drug clerk.

"With or without: Without what?" was the indignant inquiry.

"Whiskers, ma'am. One-centers have no whiskers on Columbus. The the twocenters have."

Henry Gremmel's new catalogue of the stamps of the Western Hemisphere is a very welcome addition to the ranks of Philatelic price lists. It has evidently been prepared with great care and is issued in a very handy size. The quality of the paper is unfortunately very poor and does not give the type or cuts the good effect it would if it were improved. Gremmel's course of giving approximate prices of all rarcties is one to be commended and will it is hoped be followed by all publishers of such lists. shades and varieties of perforation are noticed that are not to be found in Scott's "Standard."

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Bargains in Rare U.S.

These stamps are all picked specimens and if not as advertised, money refunded. * Menny L'mnami

	" Means Unused.	
1847	5e Brown	20 40
	ine Black	1 75
1851	le Bine	13
••	5c Brown, (a beauty)	5 40
••	10c Green	40
	- 12c - Black	8.5
1857	te Blue	7
••	5c Brown, without ornaments,	1 45
18.6	ie Brown, with ornaments	2 10
1855	10c Green	15
1857	12c Black	10
1800	21c Talac	1 60
1961	Se Brown	20
	c Yellow	3 (5
** :	Oc Orange	301
	OcBine"	1.25
1462	5c Chocolate	SH
1868	10c Green	20
	12c Black 20c	20
••	5c Brown] (#)
••	3ke Orange	1 60
••	!ww Blue	8 60
1869	le Buff .	18
••	6c Blue .	25
. ** -	- 10c Yellow .	37
	- 12c Green	33
! ••	-15c with frame	Ni.
	Lie without frame.	2 00
	24c Green	1 (10)
,	30c Red and Blue	2 (0)
· · ·		4 75
. 1870	6c Pink	. 2 00
	Lie range	3 00
1872	7c Vermillion	22
**	t2c Purple	10
	-24c Purple	3.5
1888	Mc Brown	22 50
••	90cPurple .	50
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1861,	.25	82 25
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