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Vol. 1 September, 1893.

No. 7.

THE
NOVA
SCOTIAN
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monthly journal in the interest of stamp collecting

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THE Nova Scotian PHILATELIST.

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The Nova Scotian Philatelist.

Vol. 1

AMHERST. SEPTEMBER 1893

No. 7

SOME POINTS FOR CANADIAN COLLECTORS, (BY CANADENSIS.)

A special Post Card bearing a pre-payment of 2 cts., is provided for correspondence with Postal Union countries, and it is desirable that this card should be used for the purpose. The department will not, however, refuse to forward domestic (1 cent) Post Cards to which an additional one cent Stamp has been affixed. Certain Postal Union countries have introduced the use of Reply Post Cards for international correspondence. The reply halves of such cards may be posted in Canada, addressed to the country in which the card originated.

With the approval of the Post-master General, Postage and Registered Letter Stamps, Stamped Envelopes, Post Cards and Post Bands are sold to certain dealers to retail again to the public. No person who may be licensed by the Post-master General to sell Postage Stamps is at liberty to dispose of them for a less price than their face value.

The impressed Stamp cut from an Envelope or Post Band cannot be used for pre-payment of Postage in any shape, and when so detached loses all value as a Postage Stamp. With the exception of the Post-masters at the cities where the retail sale of Stamps is confined to licensed stamp dealers, every Post-master is required to have on hand a sufficient stock of Postage and Registered Letter Stamps, Stamped Envelopes, Post Cards and Post Bands, and with the exception of Post Bands and Stamped Envelopes, to sell them to the public at their face value, viz:— Postage Stamps— $\frac{1}{2}$ cent, 1 cent, 2 cents, 3 cents, 5 cents, 6 cents, 8 cents, 10 cents, 15 cents, 20 cents and 50 cents each. Registered Letter Stamps, 5 cents. Letter Cards 3 cents. Canada Post Cards, two sizes, 1 cent each, Reply Cards 2 cents each, British and Foreign Post Cards, 2 cents each. Post Bands at the rate of 4 for five cents or \$1.25 per hundred.

All classes of mail matter sent by Inland post may be registered, and the fee therefore is a uniform one of five cents, which must be prepaid by Stamp. The department will not refuse to forward letters on which the registration fee is paid by ordinary stamp.

(To be Continued.)

HOW TO GIVE STAMP COLLECTING PUBLIC RESPECT AND INTEREST.

[FROM THE GERMAN.]

Never has a science made such progress in such a short time of existence than the collecting of postage stamps, but how much faster could it have grown, had it not, wherever it went, found so much opposition. Stamp collectors consider the counterfeiter as their greatest enemy, but a much more dangerous one is this public opinion of the "unuseful and damaging play" of stamp collecting. Against the former we can always guard ourselves through the exposure of the counterfeiter and the description of his make in the columns of our many journals, and in some cases through the law; but against the latter it is much more difficult to defend ourselves, as it has to go out from every single collector himself; but there is a remedy for this opponent.

Let us see why it is that the public oppose him so much? It is the collector himself the cause of it, and especially the thousands of small collectors. This can only be judged by persons who have the doings of beginners before them as a daily occurrence.

Now let us look at the album of a beginner; how does it look? Soiled all over, in the most cases. The book consists of torn and dirty leaves, stamps stuck on with glue; disorderly and without any knowledge of dates, one pasted next to another, no matter whether genuine or counterfeit. Such collections call on the counterfeiters to bring out larger and larger quantities of their stuff into the market and, on the other hand, they provoke the dislike of the public in a great measure.

Here can only the good model of advanced collectors be of valuable service, by giving those beginners a sight into their nicely arranged collection as often as practicable, with instructions, and they will wake a feeling for order and beauty in these minors.

HINTS TO COLLECTORS.

Do not fill your albums with soiled, torn or heavily cancelled stamps.

Do not gum your stamps in; fix them in with gummed hinges.

HAVE YOU AN ALBUM ?

It is to us a matter of surprise that there are collectors who as yet have failed to discover the advantage of having a neat Album in which to display their treasures.

It is true that a common blank book may answer every purpose where the collection numbers less than one hundred varieties. In fact it may be all that is necessary in the case of those much more extensive, if the only object is to prevent the stamps from being lost, but such we take it is not the chief end of stamp collecting. We desire, of course, to arrange our specimens in the most convenient and attractive manner, arrangement adds much to the real value of a collection. With ruled spaces for every stamp issued, combining the different issues of the same country under one heading; clothed in a handsome binding which would render it an attractive ornament for the center table, the Album recommends itself to the collector as being the "sine qua non" of Philatelic pastime.

NOVA SCOTIAN STAMPS,

[BY CANADENSIS.]

The stamps of Nova Scotia are now fast taking a prominent place among the scarcities, and a glance at prices recently realized for the 1 shilling, will show that this value has already gone almost beyond the reach of the average collector. At the sale of the De Coppet collection, held recently in New York, a Nova Scotia shilling catalogued as the 1851, early shade, mauve, on piece of letter showing date of postmark, 28th April, sold for \$100.05. A copy of the later violet shade sold for \$62.00. These were high water marks, and only indicative of the great demand for these scarce stamps.

The 1 penny value is a very scarce stamp, and, in fact, much harder to obtain in perfect condition than the 6 penny value. They are worth about the same used or unused, from \$4.50 to \$6.00 apiece. A copy of the pale maroon or early shade of 1853, sold for \$5.85 recently at auction. The 1859 shade was a dark maroon. Although called a brown, none of these stamps could be called exactly that color.

The 3 penny is still a desirable stamp, but plentiful. Unused copies have sold from \$2.00 to \$3.50 apiece, according to the state. During the progress of the monetary change from "pence" to the decimal system, some of these stamps were unofficially overprinted, or rather surcharged by Post Masters with hand stamps either "5" in oval or "5 cent", thus producing an oddity, termed by some a "provisional".

The 6 penny stamp will soon go up into the rarelists, and at present good copies are exceedingly scarce. An unused specimen sells for from \$6.00 to \$10.00, while a perfect used copy is worth from \$4.50 to \$8.00, the latter figure if on entire original cover with good margins all round. The great reason of disparity in prices for specimens of these stamps is on account of there being no perforations, and consequently the careless manner in which stamps were separated. Nearly every specimen is touched on one or more sides, cutting into the engraving, or even if it touches the line it destroys its full value.

The cents issue are being brought up by dealers and collectors alike, who appear to be holding on for a rise in the market. There are no remainders of these 1860 issues, and consequently within the next few years they will command good prices. The 8½ cent is already worth \$2.00 apiece either used or unused, although the latter is the scarcest. Of Provincial issues, the 10 cent split in two and used for 5 cents is much rarer than the 6 pence split in two and used for 3 pence.

WATERMARKS,

There are many young collectors, I know, who do not know what a watermark is. If such will take any current colonial stamp (unused is the best) and hold it before a strong light, they will see in the paper a watermark, varying with the colony and issue of stamp. The following is a description of the watermarks on the current Australian stamps: Queensland, "Q.," and crown above; New South Wales, "N.E.W.," and crown above; Victoria, "V.," and crown above; South Australia, "S. A.," and crown above; Western Australia, "C.A.," and crown; Tasmania, "Tas.," oblique; New Zealand, "N.Z.," and star below.

The old Queensland stamps used to be watermarked

with a star, and some of the old N.S.W. were watermarked with figures of value, some with single lined figure thus—"2" and others with double lined figure (2).

Some of the old Victorian were watermarked with figures of value, and others with the value in words. Some of the old S. Australian stamps were printed on Victorian stamp paper, watermarked, "V., and crown,"—A. S. N.

A FEW POINTS FOR BEGINNERS.

The best stamps to collect are the United States stamps. They have never been equaled for excellence of engraving, printing, beauty of design and color. It shows a patriotic spirit if one has a good collection of the stamps of his own country. Again, they are rated at a higher price than the stamps of any other country, and in stamps, as in everything else, that should be sought which is at once desirable and profitable.

All philatelists are agreed that the United States stamps are just as good to hold as an investment as government bonds; and it would be well for all beginners to collect as many of these stamps as they can, even if they have to pay a little more than catalogue price for some of them, especially the early issues and department stamps, as they are steadily enhancing in value. In a few years they will be unobtainable, except at extraordinarily high figures, and those that collect them now will have reason to congratulate themselves on their foresight.

Another profitable class of stamps to collect are those of British North America. Some of the stamps of this region are very rare, and even those of comparatively recent date command very good prices, while nearly all are so well executed as to compel the admiration of the novices.

The number of collectors who are making a specialty of North America stamps is rapidly growing, and this is the more notable as there are very few dealers who allow a discount on these particular stamps, which are rated far above catalogue figures, and must in the near future go even higher.

Do not put a stamp in your collection without referring to a good catalogue. If you do not, you will miss many a bargain.

EDITORIAL.

We are pleased to know that Mr. Alva Davison, has again assumed editorial control of POST OFFICE.

In our next number an impartial review will be given of all philatelic papers received during this month.

The 4th edition of Scott Stamp and Coin Co's. Standard Catalogue, will be out about Nov. 1st. See their advertisement on another page.

THE PHILATELIC ERA was the first paper to come to hand with an account of the A. P. A. Convention. THE EASTERN was the first received with the account of S. of P. Convention.

Recently I saw a pen cancelled \$5.00 'Columbian' advertised for sale at \$4.00. It was quickly sold, no doubt, for they are very scarce; dealers are paying as high as \$3.75 for the \$5.00 Columbian.

Mekeel's weekly is authority for the statement that Lewis Bishop, publisher of the PHILATELIST of Denver, Colo: is John J. Morgan alias A. B. Quigley alias Horace C. Jones. Further particulars will be given in next issue.

We are late in appearing this month, owing to the press of other business. Next month and each month hereafter, we will appear regularly on the 20th of the month. Keep this date in mind and send your copy of advertisements etc., in by the 10th.

At the Sixth Annual Convention of the Canadian Philatelic Association, held in this city on the 23rd inst. the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Pres. Ernest F. Wurtele, (Re-elected) Quebec; Vice Pres. W. Kelsey Hall, Peterboro, Ont.; Sec-Treas. T. S. Clark, (Re-elected) Belleville, Ont.; Ex-Supt. C. C. Morency, Quebec; Librarian, A. E. Labelle, (Re-elected) Montreal; C. Detector, Henry Ades Fowler, Toronto, Ont.; Treasurer, Dr. C. E. Cameron, Montreal; Chairman, J. E. Schultze, Montreal; W. Patterson, Montreal; Official Organ, The Canadian Journal of Philately

FORGERY OF THE 4c GREEN, P, E, I.

We have to warn all our readers against a most dangerous forgery of the above mentioned stamp, in which the design, in all its principal points, is most carefully imitated, and there is so slight a difference in shade, as to render comparison with a genuine stamp necessary for detection. The most noticeable points of variation between the forgery and the genuine stamp are as follows :

FORGED.

GENUINE.

1.—The crown of the head touches the frame along a certain distance, and in a direct line under the letters DW of the word EDWARD in the inscription in the upper margin.

2.—The square disks in the lower angles containing the figure 4 do not project above the intervening band, inscribed with the value.

3.—The letter o in the word POSTAGE in the first line of the inscription touches the letter E of PRINCE on the second line.

1.—The crown of the head of the portrait does not touch the frame. There is a plainly visible space between it and the frame, along the whole length.

2.—The square disks in the lower angles, containing the figure 4, are a trifle higher than the band running between them, inscribed with the value.

3.—There is a clear space between the letter o in the word POSTAGE on the first line of the inscription, and the letter E of PRINCE in the second line.

We could give other distinctive characteristics between the genuine and forged, but think enough have been given whereby it can be at once detected by itself, without the necessity for comparison with a genuine specimen.

ORIGIN OF STAMP COLLECTING.

Postage Stamp collecting is said to have originated in one of the Paris schools where the teacher in order to render the study of Geography more interesting to his pupils, encouraged the idea of placing Stamps in their Geographies upon maps of any country of which they possessed stamps.

UNITED STATES NOTES,

The Eight Annual Convention of the American Philatelic Association was called to order on the morning of the 15th of August. There were 89 members present and 219 represented by proxy.

The following were elected as the Board of Directors for 93-94: Alva Davison, H. E. Deats, John R. Tiffany, N. W. Chandler and E. Doebelin. Board of Trustees, Henry Clotz, J. Rechert, J. O. Hobby. The report of the Treasurer showed that there was \$63.90 on hand. Mr. Henry Ades Fowler, publisher of *THE CANADIAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY*, made an offer to print the official reports of the Association, monthly, in his paper; to furnish as many extra copies of these reports (in circular form) as needed; and to do this free of charge. Mr. C. H. Mekeel then made substantially the same proposition for *THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF AMERICA*. Considerable discussion followed; but the final result was the acceptance of Mr. C. H. Mekeel's proposition. John K. Tiffany, was re-elected president and H. E. Deats vice-pres., Alva Davison Secy. and N. W. Chandler Treas.

At the S. of P. election held in Chicago, August 18th and 19th, the following officers were elected for the coming year: Pres. R. J. Russel, Vice-pres. C. D. Reimers, Sec. K. M. Miller, Treas. P. L. Messers, Librarian, Roy F. Greene, Inter. Sec. F. S. Fox, Ex. Sup. W. H. Emmert, Auc. Man. R. L. Heustis, Coun. Det. C. W. Grevning, Atty. G. W. Achard, Purch. Agent. C. H. Mead,

Trustees, H. H. Zobel, Dr Sylvester and E. T. Randall.

C. W. Kissinger, the defeated S of P. presidential candidate, and his friends organized a new society (The 'Philatelic Sons of America) at Chicago, August 19th. It starts in with forty charter members and the consolidation of the U P A, (over 100 members) and a set of hustlers for officers, and the S of P will have to look to their laurels now.

The U. S. will soon have her Postal Cards of one size; at present the business ladies' reply, and two cent card are of different sizes.

A rumor is going the rounds that the U. S. periodical stamps will be sold to the public.

THE

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H. F. MOERNS, AGENT

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