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# The Stamp Reporter. <br> A MONTHLY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS. 

Entered at the St. Catharines, Ontaric Post Office as Seiond Class Mail Mâter September, 1897.

Vol. 2. JANUARY No. 5.

## The Old Mistake.

BY RAYMOND S RAKER.
To err is the common lot of humanity. Ever since the fall of Adam, man has not ceased to make mistakes, and it is very probable that he will continue to blunder until the end of time. By intuition, experience, and with the help of the reasoning faculties however, the genus homo has been enabled to successfully pass over many old pitfalls and to avoid those of a newer character.

In the world of philately problems exist and severe lessons have sometimes to be learned There are laws and rules applicable in different degrees to certain conditions which demand recognition and obedience, and whose violation inevitably brings with it disastrous results. Social judgment and sagacity are as much in demand in stamp collecting as in any other pursuit.

But collectors are slow to learn, and commit the same mistakes again and again. It might in truth be very reasonably asked, how long it will take Canadian philatilists to find ont that they can support one national society in Canada and only one. This faci has now been demonstrated
for some time, but still new clubs new associations, new leagues are being continually organized. Someone has been slighted or even insulted, someone else wants to be a president, another covets the secretary's position, a fourth has personal and pecuniary advantages in sight, and so of, ad infinitim, and it might be added, ad nauseam.

We would invite the attention of these gentlemen to the history of philatelic society in the Dominion. They will doubtless remember the Canadian Philatelic Assoclation in its palmy days when for it there appeared every prospect of a long and prosperous cateer. But collectors did not support this society to a man. What did they do? They formed other societies. The state of the C. P. A. is only too well known and it is not necessary to say that it is falling into decay. Take then, the Philatelic Society of Canada of which John R. Hooper was the leading light. His live and active energy boomed this organization into prosperity and its future seemed bright indeed. Where is the P, S. of C. to-day? Sorely stricken by the fall of its founder, cleserted by its members who fled to other associations, the P. S. of C. is now nothing but a byword and a reproach.

Other examples might be mentioned which would only still further show that this wholesale manufac ure of stamp societies must $b$ : prohibited if Canadian philately is to aspire to dignified recognition.

The natural conditions exis:ing in Canada demand that there should be but one philatelic associaticn. With a comparalively small population. a country whose resources are just beginning to be developed, few centres 01 population, a peopl wh $s$ have not acquired the wealth which gives a life of ease and recreation, it cannot be expected that Cauada will rank as high philatically as her more fortunate neighbors. Because stamp societies are numerous and popular in the United States is no guarantee that the experiment will be a success in Canada. It is plainly to be seen lhat the contrary is true and the sooner the collectors of this country recognize and act on this fact the better it will be tor Canadian philately.

At the present time we have a society of which none need be ashamed. Ever since Alex. M. Mnirhead launched the Domir:ion Philatelic Association in Sept. 1, 1895, it has been a growing success. It is true differences have occurred and storms have been encountered. Perfection is not near. A valid criticism is that Ontario preponderates among the officers. But this should stir up the provinces to renewed activity until they compel recognition. The Ontario collectors should be more charitable, and have more regard for the welfare of the association, for the Dominion is not limited
to one province, but takes in all. A representative distribntion of officers should therefore be eifected.

But if grievances do exist, let not the main issue be forgotten. We desire to present to the world a respectable Canadian philatelic society and to gain this end let the collector not think it too hard to resign the hopes of office or even to submit to imposition. Such action shows the spirit of the true philatelist. On the other hand, how petty, how narrow minded is he, who, like a spoiled child, failing to get what is wanted, leaves his fellow collectors, and with a few kindred spirits, starts a rivai organization to soothe his ruffled spite. And he who for no particular reason founds a new society, is guilty only in a less degree.

It is imperative then that no more associations should be founded, and it would be prefer able if those which do exist should be swallowed up in a grand rally for the D. P. A. Let Canadian collectors, casting behind them all personal malice and jealousy, and "in honor preferring one another," throw their influence and support in the direction of this society and thus make it the premier organization of America. And may it be the aim of one and all to so increase the fund of friendship ane hearty co-operation, that the record of the D. A., not tarnished by dishonor and disgrace may rather be spotless and glorious like unto "the morning star which goeth not down behind the darkened West,, but melts away in the brightness of heaven."

## Soldier's Letters in Saginaw.

by the hate daniel wedis hardin.
When the mail from the east arrived here some time ago, the post-office employes were givena surprise.

Upon emptying the puthes a number of pieces of hard-tuck rolled out upon the table.

Examination revealed that upon one side was written the letter or rather the note, and on the other side was the address and stamp all in the regulation form of a very fat private post card.

There were several of these unique souvenirs from the soldier boys, and I am not aware whether they sent them from mere curiosity to see if they would reach their consignee, or whether hard-tack is really more plentiful with them than paper.

I have in my possession a soldier's letter written on the road to the Philippines and addressed to a person in a village in New York State. It is post-marked Honolulu, Aug. 22, and bears a common two-cent United St.tes stamp. It reaced the village intended, Sept. 12, and was forwarded to Utica, N, Y., reaching there next day. From here it was forwarded to another N. Y. village, which it reached the same day at $7 \mathrm{p} . \mathrm{m}$., where it was delivered to the owner.

Nearly half of the envelope is covered with "Old Glory," on a short flag-staff, the flar being partially covered by a blue half tone of the battleship Maine, enclosed in a frame with "Remember tho Maine" slightly arched over the ship. Above all and nearly on the edge of the envel-
ope is printed in blue, "Co. E, 1st Inft., N, Y. Vol."

I have also seen soldiers' or sailors' letters with a 2c postage due stamp, aud others with no stamp whatsoever.

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I desire to enter into exchange relations with Canadian, Newfoundland and United States dealers and Collectors, wholesale or retail. Wm A. McDonnell, 1646 Madison Ave., New Yurk City.

I will exciange one of the following copies of the icricrator, Vol II, Nos. 6, S, 9,10 , for $\because 4$ II, Nos. I, 2, 3 and 5. Geo. Bradley; box 94, St. Catharines, Ont.

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I have the following stamps to exchange for $M$ or $M$ stamps not in my collection: U. S., 1847, 5c, Scott's No. 29, used; 1869, 12c, S. N. 164, unused; 1872, 24c, S. N. 202 used. Send list of what you have. W. D. Dearlove, box 35, Sacramento, Cal.

Canadian Collectors, $I$ want to exchange duplicates of my country for yours. Send me what you have and I will send greater number and value U. S. Ray Cavin, Morning Sun, Iowa, U. S. A.

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Philatelic -We are notin faFrauds. vor with the idea of

## EDITORIAL.

 putting collectors' names on the black list. Many get their names there on very slight offences which certainly do not warrant such action. It is of importance, however, that stamp thicres should be exposed; likewise advertising deadbeats. This latter class is becoming a curse to philatelic publishers. We have accounts against several firms and dealers which must be settled at onee. If they are not satisfactorily settled ¿efore Feb, 10th, we will make their names public through the columns of this paper.Help -We want your heip Wanted. to make this paper a. decided success in the coming year, A subscription or advertisement would help us wonderfully, If you receive a copy of this number as a "sample copy," look it over and see if it is not worth the subscription price,-twenty cents a year.

None -Several have written
LEFT. requesting a copy of Volume 1, No. 2. This No. is very scarce, as the number printed was small. and every copy was mailed. They are valued by the publisher at twenty cents each. For every copy returned in good condition a year's subscription will be given.

COMBINATION OFFER. - The Herald Fxchange, New York Philatelist, and Stamp Reporter, fur one year, 45 cts .

## Oar Review.

CONDUCTLED BY F. J. Garraty.
The November number of the Allegheny Philatelist contains twelve pages and cover. Phil. A. Telist tells us that all kinds of exchanging, whether through the Exchange Dept. of a society or with foreign collectors is a loss of time and money.

Now Mr, Telist tells us that the best way to get rid of our duplicates is to place them on sheets. and send them with lowest cash price to some reliable dealer.

Mr. Telist evidently has had some doleful experiences in the way of exchanging.
"Some Type Differences" by Mack, is the leading article in the December Herald Exchange. The essay is "to be continued," and treats so far of the type differences of the U. S. Confederate States and the Argentine Republic. It is written in a nice easy style and is pleasing as well as instructive.

The Xmas number of the Eastern Philatelist leads off with the Lesser Antilles by S. Mr. Hy. A. Chapman in his essay, " 1874 and 1898' tells us that in 1874 light U. S. stamps could be pur chased for $\$ 1.82$, and now in '98 the very same stamps can be purchased for the modest sum of \$367. What about Philately as an investment?

Mr. Chapman's Press Review is also very interesting. Mr. B. L. Drew conducts the "New Issues Month by Month" Dept.

The Drcember New York

Philatelist is a corker and no mistake. Mr. J. F. Farrell has a poem, "Philatelia" written in the metre of Longfellow's "Excelsior." The poem contains four stanzas. We are suprised tc see in the editorials that Editor Herbst objects to our Imperial penny stamps. To use his own words, "The stamp itself is not very handsome altho the design is quite appropriate," Perhaps friend Herbst sees too much red to suit his taste, but I think all us Canadians agree that the stamp is cuite as handsome, as appropriate.

## New Issues of Peru.

Unpaid-5 soles. light green; 10 soles, lilac.

Wrappers-10c green, old type
Post cards-1 cent. violet; ? cent. red; 3 cent greenish gray; 1 cent. brown. These cards each bear a view; 40 varieties in all.
We are indebted for the above and a copy of the new 4 centavos brown, post card to Messrs. Williams \& Co., Lima, Peru.

## Thanks.

A copy of the new directory of Nebraska, compiled and published by William B. Hopson has been received. It contains over 1100 addresses of active collectors and is very neat. The price is 10 cents.

The letter rate from the Dominion to the United States has been reduced from 3 c to 2 c making 2c per half ounce to certain British possessions and 2c per 1 ounce for city and any point in Canada or United Statés.sit in...t.

## Two Cent Letter Postage.

Mr. Mulock; our PostmasterGeneral, has announced that on and after Jan. 1st, 1899, the uniform rate of two cents per ounce would be charged on letters in Canada, except in other c :ses especially provided for, and also applies to letters going to the United States.

It is estimated that the loss in revenue for the half year ending June 30th, will be between $\$ 400$,000 and $\$ 500,000$, and for the next fiscal year it cannot be less than $\$ 800,000$.

Mr. Mulock, however expects to make up for it by pulling the pockets of philatelists a little more. The present three sent stamp will die a natural death, and the two cent stamp, that is, the one with the numerals in the corners. will have its colurs changed to red.

It now appears that to help make up the deficit a duty of ien cents per lb will be imposed upon tea.

## Hamilton Notes.

The first British mail containing correspondence at the reduced rate of postage applicable to the United Kingdom and certain British possessions, was closed at the postoffice early Tuesday morning. Dec. 27th, ior despatch by the steamship St. Louis, sailing from New York on Wednesday.

The mail was a large one and contained a large number of letters prepaid with the new Imperial postage stamps. Post-masteı Adam Brown was present at the
closing, and had the pleasure of filling and sealing the first sack dispatched from Hamilton containing correspondence under the reduced rate of postage.

The Inter-Inperial postage stamps were placed on sold here Wednesday, 7il: Dec. forgeneral use and up to ise date of Dec. 27th, 80,00J had been disposed of at the post-office.

The mailing of large and small packages containing Christmas gifts were just double the quantity to any previous Christmas, and much credit is due to the clerks at the postoffice as not one parcel missed a regular mail.

The 3c stamp will be no longer required, and when the issue exhausts, there will be no more printed. The color of the domestic postage stamp according to the suggestion of the postal union, being red, it will be necessary to change the color of the 2c to red, when the present issue is exhausted. We are led to suppose that there is a liklihcod of being a 7c stamp issued to take the place of an 8c stamp when used for registration.

## Business is on the boom.

## Imperial Penny Postage.

London, Dec. 31.-During the first three days of the new postage rate in Enyland, about 36,700 letters, enjoying the new privilege, were mailed. Over 4,000 letters paid the old rates through the ignorance of the senders.





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## TERMS OF SALE．

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