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The Philatelic Courier.

AND STAMP-COLLECTOR'S JOURNAL.

Vol. 1. HALIFAX, N. S., JANUARY 1882. No. 2.

The Philatelic Courier

AND
STAMP COLLECTOR'S JOURNAL
IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY.

AT 184 ARGYLE STREET,.....HALIFAX, N. S.

Terms of Subscription \$1.00 per Annum.

Postage prepaid to all parts of Canada, Great Britain, United States, and other countries which deliver journals at commuted rates.

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HENRY HECHLER, PUBLISHER AND PROPRIETOR.
184 Argyle Street.
HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, CANAD.

HALIFAX, N. S., JANUARY, 1882.

OURSELF.

We have to ask the indulgence of our readers and patrons in that the issuance of this, our second number, has been delayed a month beyond the time that we had anticipated. In one sense we hardly regret this because it enables us to fall in with the regular custom of quarterlies, and to publish in the months of January, April, July, and October. We have under consideration the question of publishing the COURIER monthly, but that will depend upon the encouragement that we receive from Philatelic friends. If they believe that we have a useful and valuable mission to fulfil, and evince that belief by a generous support, the COURIER will show an appreciation of that sympathy by improving excellence in various ways.

For our circulation we confidently challenge comparison with any other Canadian Journal. Every postmaster in the world receives a copy regularly and, in the present day when whole peoples are imbued with the migratory spirit, and rely upon the information obtained from their postmasters for reliable data, to determine the direction in which they will move, such a medium as the PHILATELIC COURIER is invaluable to railway corporations having large tracts of land to sell, to governments

desiring to encourage immigration, to real estate owners or agents and to many others.

That the efforts of the PHILATELIC COURIER to present concisely and in readable form information on postal subjects are appreciated even in distant countries is evidenced by the letters selected from a large mass of correspondence received similar to that published elsewhere.

Thus encouraged and convinced that we are engaged in a useful work, we enter 1882 with a determination to continue as we have begun and to improve with each number.

The Post-Office is now a recognised measure of the civilization and of the intelligence of nations. Consequently everything that tends to increase its usefulness and efficiency and its adaptability to the wants and convenience of the public must lead to the elevation of the standard of civilization among the nations.

The postal union was a great stride in advance and we are happy to announce from time to time its extension to new countries.

Siam is adopting a regular postal system of its own, as noted elsewhere, and we greet with much pleasure this evidence of renewed life, and of advancing civilization in that ancient kingdom.

The matter of postal insurance is attracting increasing attention and this important improvement will, doubtless be ere long adopted generally.

That "the world moves" is well illustrated by the advance that has recently been made and is constantly making in postal matters.

TO POSTMASTERS.

The Editor will thank Postmasters for all information they will kindly send, respecting new issues of stamps, cards, and envelopes, or on the subject of changes in important mail routes; and in fact for any news respecting new postal arrangements. Our object is to utilize the large circulation of the COURIER, which goes over the whole world, to make public such changes.

AUX MAITRES DE POSTE.

LE REDACTEUR sera bien aise de remercier les maitres de poste qui lui feront la bonte de donner de temps a autre les informations les plus recentes sur les nouvelles emissions de timbres, cartes ou enveloppes, et aussi au sujet de tous changements de routes-malles; enfin sur toutes les nouvelles a propos des reglemens postaux. Notre but est de transmettre a tous les quartiers du monde les informations importantes, lequel nous permet la grande circulation du COURIER, couvrant le monde entier.

The receiver of more than one copy of this number will please give copies to stamp-collectors in his vicinity.

Les personnes qui auront reçu plus d'un exemplaire de ce numero sont priees de les transmettre aux philatelistes de leur connaissance.

THE POST OFFICE A CIVILIZER.

It is curious to observe how the development of one item or branch of civilization tends to develop others. This is a suggestive and might be made a very fruitful topic, but as our object in these pages is simply to trace the progress of postal matters we desire to point out one instance wherein the Post Office has brought about a step in the path of civilization in one of the oldest countries in the world. It is well-known that the numbering of houses in the streets of cities and towns is a comparatively modern innovation and that even the naming of thoroughfares is of but little less recent date. In hundreds, aye thousands, of even large cities, throughout Asia, especially, it has never occurred to their inhabitants to name their streets. To say that one does business in such or such a quarter of the city or in such a direction at such a distance from some prominent building or well-known landmark is considered a sufficiently accurate direction for all practical purposes. So it doubtless is where all engaged in a certain trade occupy certain streets together, and all, or nearly all, sons follow their fathers' professions, and where foreign business is transacted directly with traders who travel with their goods from one place to another and buy from producers and sell to consumers. When man meets man and trades "by word of mouth" letters are not needed and business, though slow, is equable and not subject to any speculative or other influences than those simply of supply and demand. Modern trade can no longer keep within the old channels. It is brighter, more active and is no longer willing to wait on caravans or for personal interviews. The Post Office was created for the convenience and has ever proved the willing hand-maid of Commerce.

Siam is one of the oldest and most conservative nations of the world and has opposed a truly oriental *vis inertia* to progress and change from the well-beaten and "safe" paths of the fathers. But the impulse of modern life and civilization has reached it—and through the Post Office. The royal family of Siam consists of three brothers. The youngest—whose name sounds so unique that we yield to the temptation to publish it in full—Prince Tschaufu Banurenghi Surang Wong Chrom-Luang Banughangtwonghi Wordate—has received a liberal education in India and Europe. Since his return home some years since he has issued private postage stamps and used them in his own correspondence and has urged upon his brother to establish a regular postal system for the kingdom. We learn from a recent exchange that His Majesty has been pleased to commission the Prince to devise and establish a system comprising a house to house delivery of letters, etc., in all the cities and towns in Siam. As a preliminary step all streets are to be named and all houses numbered just as they are in European and American cities. We predict that under her present enlightened rulers Siam will soon enter the International Postal Union and we hasten to welcome her to the sisterhood.

It is not out of place to observe that His Royal Highness has recently imported from Leipsic a Philatic album equipped with specimens of all postage stamps known to collectors. So we may fairly claim him to be "one of us"—a Philatelist.

All collectors will look eagerly for the appearance of the new Siamese stamps.

PHILATELIC EXHIBITION.

An event of very great interest and indeed importance to the philatelic world occurred in November last in Vienna, Austria. It was the first Philatelic International Exhibition ever held, and was conducted under the auspices of the Philatelic Club of Vienna. The *Welt Post*, the organ of that Club, issued, under date of Nov. 24th., a special, or exhibition, number from which we with much pleasure extract a brief account of the proceedings.

The Committee of management consisted of Messrs. Gustave Reitz, Edler von Bollheim, (Chairman), Dr. Alfred Moschkau, Sigmund Friedl, Rudolf R. von Haidinger, Robert Kulka and Carlo D. Mayer.

It was under the distinguished patronage of Herr Ritter von Kamler, the Imperial Postmaster General of Austria and was held in the noble hall of the Imperial Horticultural Society.

The hall was profusely and beautifully decorated with the national colors and the Imperial Arms. At the head of the dias or platform were statues of the Emperor and Empress representing their Imperial Majesties.

The exhibition was arranged in sections and the exhibits were placed in glass show-cases on tables. This added greatly to the artistic effect produced.

The Imperial Government took much interest in the success of the exhibition and loaned a number of machines used by it in the various processes of manufacturing stamps, as preparing the paper, printing, cutting, and gumming the stamps, cards, wrappers, etc. This was done in order that the public visiting the exhibition might fully understand the subject and thus derive more pleasure and benefit from it.

The various sections were as follows:—

1. Philatelic literature—periodicals, books, pamphlets etc., on the subject.
2. Collections of postage stamps of all nations in albums. Some of these were very fine and large, and were the result of the labor of years. The largest and best was that of Dr. Carl D. Mayer, of Vienna, and comprised over 4,200 stamps—every one different.
3. Revenue, Telegraph and Fiscal stamps of all nations.
4. Stamp manufacturing machines. These attracted much attention and were doubtless, to many, the most interesting portion of the exhibition. On the printing machine the original plate of 1850 was used and at the foot of the stamps, instead of the value was printed the date 1881. Thousands of these stamps were printed and gratuitously distributed to the visitors as mementos of the exhibition.
5. Telegraph and Telephone apparatus.
6. Telegraph literature—periodicals, books, pamphlets, etc., on the subject.
7. Curiosities of philatelic literature, as extremely minute writing on postal cards, etc.

The Exhibition was opened on the 13th, of November. At 10.30 a.m., of that day the Postmaster General, Patron

of the exhibition, arrived at the hall. He was received at the entrance by the Managing Committee, conducted to the head of the dias and took his position in front of the Imperial statues. The Chairman of the Committee delivered the opening address and His Excellency responded in appropriate terms. He recognized the importance of the objects sought to be attained by the Philatelic Club and the value of the work already done by it. In closing he gracefully alluded to the deep interest taken in the subject by the Emperor and Empress and by their government. The usual cheers for the Emperor and the Imperial family were then called for and were heartily given by the vast assemblage present. The Patron then, accompanied by the Committee, made the tour of the rooms and examined the various exhibits minutely and with much interest. Returning to the dias he expressed his satisfaction at the great degree of success attained and formally declared the exhibition open to the public. He then retired.

The exhibition remained open for a full week. The attendance of visitors was estimated at about 8,000.

His Imperial Highness, Archduke Carl Ludwig, brother of the Emperor, visited the exhibition on November 14th., and on leaving was pleased to express his delight at what he had seen. Archdukes Rainer and Eugene, Prince Adolf of Schwarzenberg, General Post Director, Baron von Dewey, and many other distinguished personages also attended the exhibition.

HALVED STAMPS.

A HISTORICAL INCIDENT.

MANY have heard of halved Bank of England notes one half sent as acknowledgment of remittance and the other half on acknowledgment of receipt. This system of sending money has been superseded among most people by that of the money order, yet many old-fashioned persons persist in employing that device to this day. The *halving of stamps*, however, is a different kind of internal economy and we doubt if it has been practiced to any extent outside of the Province of Nova Scotia. This Province with a population in 1857 of about 350,000 and a seaboard of over one thousand miles had post offices many of which were then only accessible by sea. Good highways and solid railways have since then united what were isolated post offices. Here the curiosity of post stamp collectors steps in and preserves and illustrates an interesting period in the history of the Province. With many post offices and a scarcity of stamps it became necessary officially to allow *halving* as a remedy for short supplies and it is a fact well-known to many of the older of our people that stamps were then habitually diagonally halved to make necessary denominations. Thus the square shilling stamp was employed at times to produce two-sixpenny triangular substitutes and the square sixpenny to produce two three-penny stamps of the same kind.

New Brunswick with a shorter coast line produced less, yet, still produced some, of these curiosities of postal accommodation. We are not aware whether the practice obtained in the Provinces of Old Canada but we know that it did, in Roumania and in Persia and some other countries. Correspondents will favor by giving us any details that may have course to bring knowledge.

"AS OTHERS SEE US."

THE PHILATELIC COURIER, published in Halifax, Nova Scotia, received with thanks. It is to be published quarterly, with the purpose of opening a larger correspondence between stamp collecting communities.—[Stamp World, Cincinnati.

THE PHILATELIC COURIER, of Halifax, N. S., is received. This is a new paper which has just issued its first number. It makes indeed a very fine appearance. It is published at 121 Arville St. Subscrip-

~~ed~~ This paragraph should have been credited to the New Jersey Philatelist.

CANADA.

THERE is undoubtedly no portion of the world that offers superior inducements to immigrants who desire to settle down and "carve out homes for themselves" than does this broad Dominion of Canada which stretches across this continent from ocean to ocean. Conjoining lines of railway will in a very few years convey passengers and freight from the noble Atlantic port of Halifax in Nova Scotia to Puget Sound on the Pacific. More than half this distance is already spanned by the iron rails and the wanting link is being rapidly supplied by the Canadian Pacific Railway which is pushing the work from either end and from several intermediate points simultaneously.

The company which is building this road has obtained from the Canadian Government the grant of twenty-five millions of acres of land along the best wheat-producing belt in the world on the simple condition of bringing settlers to dwell there and supplying them with facilities to send their products to the markets of the world and to receive what they require in return. The rates on the railway are to be fixed by the Government so that the company is precluded from taking any advantage of the possible future necessities of people who may occupy their lands. Every conceivable precaution is taken to protect the interests of those who, by settling on these lands, become citizens of Canada.

The advertisement of the company, published in another column, and to which we invite careful perusal, shows that *bona fide* settlers are protected by the company from speculators by having one-half of the purchase money remitted on actual settlement and cultivation.

The price at which the land is offered is remarkably low when the prolific character of the soil and the healthiness of the climate are considered. Not only this—the payments are so graded that the land itself will pay its price, ordinarily industrious hands, long before the last payment will be done.

We confidently expect that the coming season will witness such a rush of settlers to the new country as will be unprecedented in the history of immigration not excepting the invasion of the Promised Land by the Children of Abraham.

As were the latter in their day, immigrants are guaranteed full political and social rights from the moment of their securing their lands and settling upon them.

POSTAL INSURANCE.

A REGISTERED LETTER should be in the same position as a *personal delivery*, and the aim of the postal authorities who instituted it, was to attain this actual effect. The prevailing form of registration however, does not carry out this intention, and we have constantly before us the fact that clerks are tempted to thefts by the unsafe transmission of money in ordinary letters. The assurance of the carriage of contents would reduce to a minimum the present practice of enclosing valuables, coin, or paper currency in an unregistered envelope. How many Post Office's have been the scenes of theft prompted by the readiness of taking and the almost complete security from detection? We intrust to the care of young men on small salaries the handling of sums almost absolutely under their control, which yet amount in the course of some days to the total of what would pass through the hands of a confidential clerk in a commercial house. When one of these men or boys yields to the temptation placed before him we either condone his act out of regard to his innocent relatives, or we, as a government, imprison him and as a people we pay the cost of his stay in prison. Would a system of insurance not be better? Would a certitude of the delivery of the actual parcel—intact just as received by the postal authorities—not save much of misery, temptation, and of loss? Yes! may be said in reply. This is already done in the Danish West Indies where the Government issues a registration envelope covering all these conditions and the sender is informed by a *return slip* when his remittance has reached its destination, and that (what is matter of interest to the Post Office) each letter has passed along untampered with on the postal route. When we consider how much depends on the honesty of Post Officials and how much of the corruption in public offices is derived from the loose manner of conducting public business we cannot fail to see an opening of promise in the postal carriage of valuables on the plan adopted in the Danish West Indies if it should, as it easily could, be generally adopted.

In this connection the London, G. B., *Insurance Agent* of September *ultimo* says:—"If Mr. Fawcett decides to carry out an insurance scheme which he has had under consideration for sometime, increased facilities will be given for the transmission of money through the post. Under the new scheme the public will be enabled to send money between places in the United Kingdom with absolute immunity from loss, and with practically as little trouble to themselves as is now involved in the making up and posting of a registered letter."

Of course the carrying out of the proposed plan would necessitate the receiving and official counting or otherwise verifying the money or other valuable contents of the letter or package which is to be insured, but the postage or premium which would be charged would bear a per centum relation to their value. This would probably involve some extra clerical labor, but the most ordinary ingenuity will devise appropriate blank forms to be used, and which might, indeed, be so printed on the envelope as would reduce the labor to a minimum. The gain to the public in convenience and security would,

far outweigh any such consideration, besides effecting, it is probable, a positive saving to the Department in the expense "tracing" valuable letters and, at any rate, much increasing its efficiency and public confidence in it.

OUR SUBSCRIPTION RATE.

COLLECTORS of postage stamps may think at first that an annual subscription of \$1 for a quarterly journal, complete in each number, is excessive. On consideration, however they will perceive that the extra cost to them for the necessary supplements, issued by the publishers of Metropolitan journals incidentally dealing with other subject would far exceed the price of a promptly-issued periodical devoted solely to disseminating information concerning their own specialty.

COLLECTING LETTERS.

We think that the prevailing method of collecting letters from the street boxes, can be greatly improved by the adoption of a very simple device.

The objection to the present method of having collectors go to the boxes, open them and remove them by hand is that letters may be, and often are, wet when taken out during a storm. There is also a risk that the collector may drop some, may leave some in the box or that the wind may blow one or more away.

The remedy that we propose is to have duplicate light canvas bags made for each box. Each bag will be furnished with handles for carrying it, a slit with a dropping slide corresponding to the slit in the box, and an automatic attachment holding the two slits together. The bags will be locked by the officials in the Post-Office, before they are taken out by the collectors. They will be of such a size as just to well fit the respective boxes. The collector in going his rounds will open the box, remove the bag that is therein and substitute an empty one. Thus the collector will not directly handle any letters, and there will be the additional advantage, that there will be a check on the collector that will prove whether or not he has visited every box in his district.

We will make one other suggestion in this connection, and that is that, on receiving the empty bags at the Post-Office, each collector be furnished with a card for each box that he has to visit, which card will bear some inscription such as the following: "This box will be emptied at — o'clock of letters for the mail for — closing at the G. P. O., at — o'clock." The cards will be put into a slide provided in the front of the box, protected by a pane of thick glass so as to resist any chance of its being accidentally or maliciously broken. Of course at each visit the collector removes one card and replaces it by another. The advantage of this device is that a person going to deposit a letter in any box to catch a certain mail, will know if the box has been recently emptied, so that his letter will have to be taken to the G. P. O., or whether it will be in time if then dropped into the box.

NEW ISSUES

of Adhesive Post Cards and Envelopes

Argentine Republic.—8 centavos envelope—color changed to rose.

Barbadoes.—On entering the Postal Union Barbadoes had a provisional card. This has now been withdrawn and a card of a new design, value 1½ cts., has been issued, of which we are in receipt of specimens.

Brazil.—Our correspondent at Campinas has sent us specimens of a new stamp of the Brazilian Empire. It is probably the first of a new series. It is a nearly square stamp, of a neutral-green tinge and we should judge from its appearance that it was lithographed in Brazil. The centre is occupied by a bust of Dom Pedro in a circle. Over the top is the word "Brazil" in a scroll or ribbon. At the foot is the word "Reis" and on each of the lower corners the figures "100" are placed diagonally from the corner. The stamp is otherwise gracefully ornamented with scroll work. It is very neatly designed and creditably executed.

British Guiana.—A registered envelope, 4 cents, stamp circular, red. Also provisional 1 cent and 2 cent stamps have appeared.

Bulgaria.—3 statinka, carmine and drab is issued also a 30 statinka stamp.

Bolivar.—New 5 and 10 pesos stamps are in circulation.

Boania.—The word "Dopisnica" is no longer borne on the 2 kr. post card.

Costa Rica.—A portion of the provisional stamps, half real, sur-charged 2 cts. in red have the figures of the sur-charge printed in reverse. This is the result of an oversight and will make these very rare and valuable. The attention of dealers is directed to this fact.

A new series is announced as follows:—1 ct., 5ct., 10ct., 25ct., 50ct., \$1., \$2., and \$3.

Cashmere.—A 2 annas, blue, has issued.

Chili.—Fiscal stamps have been employed in paying postage as follows:—1 centavos, red; 2 centavos, brown; 5 centavos, blue; 20 centavos, orange.

A series of a new type has appeared. The colors of the several values are changed. The design of the stamp is similar to the last series but the word "centavo," instead of crossing the figure of value, is arranged in the arc of a circle below it.

Cape of Good Hope.—A 3d stamp, rose, has superseded the various provisional stamps that were sur-charged with that value.

Cuba.—Following the Spanish rule of annually changing the stamps, a new series for 1882 has appeared. Dealers will do well to bear this in mind: also that the series now current do not bear the imprint of the year.

Cyprus.—Provisional:—Half-penny, in large capitals and the same in full faced, small capitals, both red. Also 30 paras sur-charged to 1d. The regular stamps for this Colony superseded the provisional stamp have been issued. They are of the following values:—½, 1, 2, 4 and 6 piastres. Also a registered envelope, 2 piastres, blue. Also a newspaper band, 1 piastre, brown. Post cards ½, 1 and 1½ piastres.

Ecuador. We note a series of a new design of the following values:—

1 centavo	.....	brown
2 "	.....	lake
5 "	.....	blue
10 "	.....	orange
20 "	.....	slate
50 "	.....	green

Egypt.—The current 20 paras appears sur charged with the word "Caire" in red below the obliteration.

Finland.—A 10 pennia, brown, with design and perforation similar to others of the current series, has been issued. Also a local for Tommerfors, 12 pennia, oval, bronze and blue.

France.—Unpaid-letter stamps, 30 centimes black. The 60 centimes has been changed from blue to black.

French Colonies.—A new design has been adopted. It is the figure of the Goddess of Liberty half recumbent on a diad. draped in the national flag the staff of which is on her left arm. The left hand holds a bunch of laurel. Her right arm rests on an anchor which is partially behind the diad and has a cornucopia twined about the stock. At her feet are bales of merchandise. She looks toward a ship which is under full sail in the back ground. The values of the several stamps are printed in figures on the diad. At the upper right hand corner are the words "Colonies Postes" and at the foot of the stamp "Republique Francaise." The stamps of the values of 5, 10, 20 and 25 centimes are already in use. Those to complete the set will be issued by the 1st of March and will be of the values of 1, 2, 4, 30, 35, 40, 75, and 100 centimes. Post cards have also been issued with adhesive of the same design as the new stamps in the proper corner. They are of white card board printed with black ink and a figured border. Values 10 and 20 centimes.

Germany.—10 pf. Postal Union Card, Carmine on buff. Thicker and larger type than usual. 5 pf. post card, lilac.

Great Britain.—The penny embossed envelopes are now stamped with dies, not bearing the date, as formerly was the case.

Greece.—Owing to numerous forgeries that have been largely circulated 20 lepta adhesive has been withdrawn.

Grenado.—The following provisionals have been issued:—½d purple. 2½d, lake. 4d, blue. Also, post-cards 1d blue and 1½d brown.

Guinea.—5 reis, black; 10 reis, yellow; 20 reis, bistre; 40 reis, blue.

Guatemala.—Provisional issues; the sur-charging consists of the figures of value with the word "centavo" beneath it in horizontal lines. They are as follows:—1 centavo on ¼ real, green and brown, 5 do on ½, d, green. 10 do on 1 do, green and black 20 do on 2 do, red.

The 5 reals and 1 peso stamp are withdrawn.

Granada Confederation.—A series of the following values have been issued since coming into the Postal Union:—1ct, 2ct, 5ct, 10ct, 20, 25ct. A post-card of 5c, brown, has also appeared, and a registration envelope. The latter is an ordinarily-shaped envelope of blue wove paper, lined with ruled space in the upper right hand corner for the adhesive. It has the usual inscriptions and rules for address.

Hayti.—The new series is as follows:—1ct., vermilion; 2ct, mauve; 3ct, bistre; 5ct,

green; 7ct, blue; 10ct, orange; and 20ct, reddish-brown. The design is very neat. The centre contains the head of Liberty encircled by a band bearing the words "Poste. Republique d'Hayti. Poste." Flags are draped to the right and left of the top of the circular band and at the bottom is a square bearing the figure of value and on either side of the of the figure the word "cent." The ground is not white being tinted with the color of the respective stamps.

A postal-card has also been issued bearing on the right hand upper corner a 3ct adhesive. The lettering is in rose. The words "Carte Postal" are across the top of the card. Then follows the usual inscription and three lines for address.

Holland.—A series of unpaid-letter stamps of the following values are now current:—1 1½, 2½, 15, 20, and 25cts., all, blue; 1 gulden, blue and red.

Post cards...2½ct, lilac on pink, and 5ct. blue. Also 5ct, reply-paid cards, lilac on pink,

Hungary.—Post-card—2 Kr (arms on left) brown; 5 kr, red. Reply Post-cards—4 kr, brown; 10 kr, red.

India.—Envelope stamp—4 annas and 6 pies oval, yellow.

Italy.—"Estero," new type—5, 10, 20, 25, 30, 50, centesimi and 2 lire.

Jamaica.—The usual registration envelope, two sizes, have appeared.

Levant.—Provisional, thin sur-charge—7 kopeks on 10 kop., red and green.

Liberia.—An entire new set similar in design to the last has issued. Values:—1, 2, 6, 12, & 25cent. Also a neatly executed post-card, printed in red, ground buff; value 3 cents. The stamp is printed on the right hand upper corner. The design of the stamp is a landscape with the rising sun, occupying the centre. Across the top is the word "Postage," on the bottom "Three Cents," on the left side "Republique" and on the right "Liberia."

Labuan.—1880 Provisional stamps—6ct, on 16ct, dark blue; 8ct, on 12ct, carmine.

Livonia—2kop., brown-red and green.

Mauritius—Envelope—5ct, blue.

Portuguese Indies.—The following provisional sur-charged black with a large "T," which stands for Tanga, have been issued:—

1 T	on 40 reis	.....	blue
1 T	" 50 "	.....	blue
1 T	" 200 "	.....	orange
2 T	" 50 "	.....	green
2 T	" 100 "	.....	lilac
2 T	" 200 "	.....	orange
4 T	" 10 "	.....	green
4 T	" 50 "	.....	orange
4 T	" 200 "	.....	orange
6 T	" 25 "	.....	lilac
8 T	" 20 "	.....	olive-brown
8 T	" 200 "	.....	orange
8 T	" 300 "	.....	brown
8 T	" 100 "	.....	violet

Another provisional series, sur-charges all black, is as follows:—

4½	reis on 20 reis	.....	olive-brown
1½	" on 20 "	.....	olive-brown
1½	" on 5 "	.....	black
6	" on 20 "	.....	olive-brown
6	" on 25 "	.....	lilac
6	" on 25 "	.....	rose-lilac
6	" on 50 "	.....	green

Provisional sur-charger on stamps of the type of 1876 are:—

5 reis (red sur-charge) on 10 reis..... black
 5 " (black " " " " 15 " rose
 1½ " (black " " " " 20 " red

Ditto, type of 1878:—

5 reis (black sur-charge) on 20 reis..... red
 10 " (black " " " " 20 " red
 5 " (red " " " " 10 " black

Montevideo.—Has a series of official stamps of the values of 1, 5, 10, 15, 20 and 50 centesimos and 1 peso.

Norway.—A local stamp for the Tronso by post, 2 ore, brown, was issued Jan. 1st.

Nova Scotia.—See editorial on halved stamps of this Province.

New South Wales.—The following stamps sur-charged "O. S." in red are in use:—5d, green; 9d, red; 10d, lilac. Also, sur-charged "O. S." in black—5 shilling (circular) violet.

Orange Free State.—Provisional—1d on 5s, green and black.

Paraguay.—Provisionals—Our attentive Correspondent at Montevideo furnishes us the following information:—

1 centavo (sur-charged in a large black figure) on a 10 centavos.

2 centavos (sur-charged) on 10 centavos.

The above sur-charges also appear on 5 centavos.

The emission of 1879 is sur-charged in black as follows:—

5 centavos on 5 reales, orange
 10 centavos on 10 reales, brown-violet

The new type, is similar to the first issue except that the values are in the new currency—centavos instead of reales. They are:—1ct., blue; 2ct, red; 4ct. brown.

Peru.—A series of official stamps (for use of the army, civil departments, etc.) is out. The values are:—1, 2, 5, and 10 shali.

A new adhesive for general use is also issued values:—5, 10 and 25 centimes, colors violet, carmine and green respectively. The two series are distinguished by the former having a lion and the latter a sun in the center. The first stamps of the new issue were lithographed and were only used till others printed from copper plates could be prepared. The latter are easily distinguished by a broad border. The lithographic stamps, as they were but a short time in use, are rare and invite the attention of collectors.

Peru.—This country, having by the fortunes of war, lost, at least temporarily, its autonomy, and being practically under the control of Chili, a change has occurred in the postage stamps that are current. When Peru entered the Postal Union her stamps were sur-charged "Union Postale Universale, Peru-Plata." Since the Chilian occupation the word "Lima" takes the place of Peru in the sur-charge. Collectors should also specially note the following sur-charges, specimens of which have reached us from our correspondent:—The 5 and 20 centavos are sur-charged with the Chilian arms over the face of those of Peru. The 5 in red and the 20 in blue. The 5 and 10 centavo unpaid-letter stamps are sur-charged in black in the same way as above mentioned for ordinary postage stamps.

Port Rico.—Like Spain and all her other colonies Port Rico has changed her stamps with the year. Those for the current year are precisely like those in 1881 except that the year is not imprinted upon them.

Queensland.—Provisional—The following fiscal stamps are used for postal purposes:—
 1d (stamp duty) mauve
 6d " dull red
 18 " green
 2s 6d " red
 5s " orange
 2s " blue

Roumania.—Our correspondent has sent us a specimen of the 3 bani, olive-green, cut in two diagonally and used as a 1½ bani. Collectors should cut enough of the wrapper to show the entire post office obliteration as an attestation of genuineness.

Russia.—Provisional—

7 kop on 10 kops..... red and brown
 7 " " 20 " red and blue

St. Lucia.—Provisional—The following have appeared:—"Halfpenny" sur-charged in black on green; "2½d" in black on red. Also a post-card of a new type, value 1½d, brown, red on buff ground.

St Vincent.—Provisional—The current 6d is perforated down the centre and each half sur-charged ½d in red.

Strait Settlement.—The 2 cent, brown, is sur-charged in black with the names of the different settlements, viz:—Selangor, Sungi Ujong and Perak. These are only provisional

stamps to be used till the receipt of the regular new issue. They will therefore become valuable in time.

Sandwich Islands.—This kingdom has entered the Postal Union and the new issue is looked for with interest.

Servia.—A series of a new type has been introduced as follow:—Stamps—5, 10, 20, 25, and 50ct, and 1 dinar. Post-cards—5 and 10 paras.

Reply Post-cards—10 and 20 paras.
 Siam.—It will be seen by an article in another column that this kingdom is making arrangements to establish a postal service of its own and specimens of its stamps may be ere long, expected Stamp collectors and dealers will look for its appearance with interest and curiosity.

Tobago.—A new series of the following values:—½d purple, 1d chestnut, 4d, green, and 6d ochre. Also a 1½d post-card.

Turkey.—Different sets have been adopted for the following services:—at present they are sur-charged on the adhesives—International, interior only, contraband and Mount Athos Transaval Republic.—It is announced that a new series will shortly be issued.

Turks Island.—The stamps now in use are as follows:—1d vermilion, 4d blue, 6d olive, and 2s green.

United States.—On the 5ct stamps the bust of General Garfield will replace that of General Taylor. The design is vignette, three quarter face surrounded by a light and elegant beaded oval. The likeness is strikingly life-like.

Venezuela.—(Escuelas)—The following value have appeared:—5, 10, 25, 50ct, all yellow and orange. 1 and 2 bolivares, blue.

Victoria.—To complete the new series the following new value have been added:—1d black, 2d brown, 4d carmine. 2s blue on green and 5s blue and red.

Uruguay.—A 7 centavos, blue stamp, a 2 centesimos blue post-card and a 2x2 centesimos reply post-cards have been issued. The stamp bears the portrait of President Joaquin Suarez, and the carls the national arms.

Wurtemberg.—A 5 mark, blue is current.

TO PHILATELISTS.

WE desire to point out to our philatelic friends that we are offering them a paper devoted solely to the subject in which they take pleasure. In turn we expect them to show their appreciation of our efforts by giving us a generous support. To maintain the PHILATELIC COURIER in the excellence to which we aim involves much time and labor and an extensive correspondence. The best encouragement that they can give us is by subscribing to it, getting their friends to subscribe and by writing for our paper. Any suggestion that is calculated to increase the efficiency and to extend the usefulness of the Post-Office will be welcomed and carefully considered.

SUBSCRIBERS will receive back numbers of the PHILATELIC COURIER on application.

CANCELLING STAMPS.—The Postmaster at the island of St. Helena writes us on the subject of cancelling stamps as follows:—"Years ago I adopted a plan in this office of cancelling stamps by the use of corks which I have found to be more serviceable than anything previously used here. With my penknife I can cut any design I please and change it when I like. The cork, also, never gets clogged with ink. Since reading your paper I have, in order to prevent stamps from being cleaned and used again, in to the cork a number of pins so that, while the stamps are obliterated the ink on the cork, they will also be perforated in such a way by the pins as to prevent their being used again except as specimens."

LETTERS addressed to French soldiers engaged in Tunis, are forwarded free of postage.

COUNTERFEIT STAMPS

In our last issue we alluded to the fact that information had reached us from a correspondent that counterfeit stamps of Montevideo had been issued. This having been noticed by members of the Philatelic Society of Uruguay the Secretary of that Society has favored us with a letter bearing date of November 12, 1881, in which, after alluding to our caution to collectors as above, he says:—

"I must tell you that this falsification is made in the Argentine Republic and the (forged) stamps belong to that country instead of to Montevideo and they correspond to the issues of 1858-9. This falsification was discovered by the Directive Commission of the Uruguayan Philatelic Society as you will perceive by the following from its minutes which I have been directed to send you with a request that you will publish the same."

EXTRACT.

From the record of the regular session of the Uruguayan Philatelic Society held at Montevideo on the 4th day of June, 1880.

COUNTERFEIT STAMPS OF THE ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

BUENOS AYRES, TYPE 1858-9 (BOOTS).

Cuato Ps. (brown).

1. Paper is quite different and newer than that of the genuine.
2. The sea is ill-colored and blurred or indistinct while in the genuine the waves can be clearly seen.
3. The lettering of the value (*cuato*) is very badly executed.
4. The letter "F," the abbreviation of the word *fuerte*, looks as if it was meant for a "E."
5. What should be a little "s" after the "F." already mentioned is shown, on examination with a lens, to be merely a dense spot.

Tres Ps. (green).

1. The same observations regarding the paper and the sea as in the preceding.
2. The letter "e" in the word *Tres* is very badly made.

NOTE.—This stamp is better made than are the other counterfeits examined.

Cuato Ps. (red).

1. The same observations regarding the paper and the sea as in the preceding.
2. The "o" of the value (*Cuato*) is of the same size as the rest of the letters except the "a," which is made

considerably larger. In the genuine the "o" is only half and the "a" the same size as the other three letters. These defects are very glaring and easily noticeable.

3. The letter "P," the abbreviation of the word *pesos*, touches the border of the oval in which this value is placed, which, in the genuine, it does not.

4. There is also in existence another counterfeit of this value (*cuato pesos*) which has the same defects as those noted above in the falso *cuato fuertes*.

Cinco Ps. (orange).

1. The same observations regarding the paper and the sea as in the preceding.
2. The initial "C" is much larger than the other letters, whereas it should be the same size.
3. The final letters, "c" and "o," of the word *Cinco* are smaller, thicker than the other letters and are exact circles, whereas in the genuine they are of the same size and thickness and are ovals.

NOTE.—The plate of the *cinco pesos* transformed from *IV pesos* exists on the notes of the Provincial Bank (in Buenos Ayres) and as the same letters, *J. N.*, are found the stamp under consideration and because the same defects pointed out in respect to the initial "c" and the "co" on the stamp are also found in the bank notes of that value we suppose that the now manufacturers have taken the plate of the notes to work the stamps from."

We are under deep obligations to the U. P. S. and to its Secretary for the very full information thus kindly afforded and point to this report as an example to others who have analogous facts in their possession.

MANY large firms in the principal cities of the United States use immense quantities of postage and revenue stamps in their business every year. They often purchase for convenience hundreds of dollars worth at a time. It has been discovered that they are often defrauded by their clerks appropriating the stamps and selling them to other parties. The U. S. Department has now under consideration a proposition that they stamp or cut before delivery on the stamps the initials of purchasers of large quantities—say \$500 and over at a time. It is a good suggestion, and should be adopted. It will prevent the misappropriation by making the second purchase of such stamps extremely hazardous.

World's

HALIFAX

As proprietor of the Halifax Edition of the *World's Black List for Philatelists*, I request from all my correspondents, for publication, any information of dishonorable conduct on the part of stamp dealers



Black List.

EDITION.

and stamp-collectors that may come to their knowledge. This list will reach all reliable dealers in the two hemispheres for their protection from fraud.

N. B.—As this will be published quarterly in the *Philatelic Courier*, I will be thankful to receive the latest and promptest information.

H. HECHLER, Editor,

184 ARGYLE STREET, HALIFAX, N. S.

Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

Land Grant of 25,000,000 acres from the Government of the Dominion of Canada.

See the Company's advertisement which will be transmitted with next issue of the PHILATELIC COURIER.

The Company offers lands in the Fertile Belt of Manitoba and the North-West Territory, for sale, on certain conditions as to cultivation, at the price of \$2.50 (10s. stg.) per acre, one-sixth payable in cash, and the balance in five annual instalments, with interest at six per cent., a rebate of fifty per cent., for actual cultivation being made as hereinafter described.

The ordinary conditions of sale are:

1. That all improvements placed upon land purchased shall remain thereon until final payment for the land has been made.
2. That all taxes and assessments lawfully imposed upon the land or improvements shall be paid by the purchaser.
3. The Company reserves from selection at the above price all mineral, coal, or wood-lands, stone, slate, and marble quarries, lands with water power thereon, and tracts for town sites and railway purposes; and, as regards lands having some standing wood, but not hereby excluded from selection, the purchaser will only be permitted to cut a sufficient quantity for fuel, fencing, and for the erection of buildings on his land until he shall have received the final conveyance thereof.
4. The mineral and coal lands and quarries, and the lands controlling water power, will be disposed of on very liberal terms to persons giving satisfactory evidence of their intention to utilize them.
5. The purchaser will be required, within four years from the date of the contract for the purchase of the land, to bring under cultivation and sow and reap a crop on one-half of the said land, except when otherwise expressly agreed and declared in the contract by reason of any special obstacle to such cultivation. Dairy farming, or mixed grain and dairy farming, to an extent to be agreed upon, will be accepted as the equivalent of cultivation, entitling the settler to the rebate.
6. A credit of \$1.25 (5s. stg.) per acre will be allowed for all land so cultivated during four years.
7. A reservation of 200 ft. in width for right of way, or other railroad purposes, will be made in all cases.
8. If the purchaser of a section, or part of a section, being a *bona fide* settler resident upon the land purchased, or upon an adjoining section, fails to carry out in their entirety the conditions of his contract with respect to cultivation and cropping, within the specified time, the Company reserve the right, in their own option, to diminish the quantity to be conveyed to him, under his contract, to such extent that he shall not be entitled to demand a conveyance of more than double the quantity cultivated and cropped, the quantity which he may so demand not to exceed one-half of the quantity mentioned in his contract, and, if not exceeding 160 acres, to be taken in the quarter section; in which the greater part of such cultivation and cropping has been done; or, if in excess of 160 acres, then such excess to be taken from an adjoining quarter section; and as to the portion of the land contracted for, which the Company shall decide not to convey to such purchaser, his claim to the same shall be forfeited, and such portion shall not be conveyed to him by the Company; and thereupon the price shall be adjusted as if the contract of sale had originally been made for the portion actually conveyed to the purchaser.

The object of the foregoing clauses is to prevent the Company's land from falling into the hands of speculators to the disadvantage of the actual settler; but, as respects *bona fide* settlers, the purpose and aim of the Company is to afford them every possible consideration and facility.

Special contracts will be made for tracts exceeding one section, for settlement purposes or for cattle raising.

Liberal rates for settlers and their effects will be granted by the company over its railway.

The land grant bonds of the Company will be received at 10 per cent. premium on their par, value with accrued interest, in payment for lands, thus further reducing the price of the land to the purchaser.

For further information, apply at the office of the Company, Bartholemew Place, London, England; to John H. McTavish, Land Commissioner, Winnipeg, Manitoba, or to the Secretary of the Company, at Montreal, Canada.

GEORGE STEPHEN, *President.*

CHARLES DRINKWATER, *Secretary.*

Canadian Pacific Railway Co., Montreal, Canada.

The office of Queen Victoria adorned September 1st ult., by actual count according to the new Imperial Album, 906 stamps as follows: 741 adhesives, 83 envelopes and wrappers, and 82 postal cards. The number has since been increased somewhat by new issues.

The 1869 and 1875 issues of Russian envelopes are easily distinguished, the inscription on the former having 19 and that on the latter 15 letters.

Sandwich Islands joined Postal Union Jan. 1st. New stamps may be expected, corresponding to altered rates.

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Importing Dealer in

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