

MARCH 1893

VOL. II., No. 7.

The  
Canadian  
Philatelist.

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PUBLISHED ON THE 25th OF EACH MONTH IN THE INTERESTS  
OF STAMP COLLECTORS.

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L. M. STAEBLER,

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Travancore, 1 ch, blue	25	—
Trinidad, 1883, 1jd green	10	75
Trinidad, 1883, 1d rose	10	75
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United States Revenue, 2c orange, U. S. I. R.	—	10
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“ “ “ 2c blue, “	—	10
“ “ “ 1872, 1c blue	—	10
“ “ “ 1872, 3c green	—	10
“ “ “ 1882, 2c claret	—	10
“ “ “ 1884, 4c carmine	15	1 40
“ “ “ 1890, 4, 5 and 10 assorted	5	25
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U. S., 1869, 2 cent, blue	35	—
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“ “ “ 20c	13 00	55 00
“ “ “ finely assorted	3 50	15 00
Mexico, official brown	5 00	20 00
*New Brunswick, 5c green	20 00	98 00
“ “ “ 2c orange	40 00	190 00
New Zealand, well assorted	1 40	6 00
Portugal,	1 20	6 00
*Sardinia, 1 and 15c, assorted	2 25	—
United States Postage Due, 2c	1 50	—
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# The Canadian Philatelist.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

IN THE INTEREST OF STAMP COLLECTING.

VOL. II. No. 7.

LONDON, MARCH 25, 1893.

WHOLE No. 19.

## NEWFOUNDLAND.

BY CHAS. JENNEY.

From the North there came a message to a distant, sunny clime,  
'Twas a message from the icebergs to the fig tree and the lime;  
Others followed, bringing tidings, causing silent joy or mirth,  
Or perchance they told of sorrow, of some dear one gone from earth.  
Times it seemed as if warm currents from that far Atlantic isle,  
Had swept southward, brightening nature, bringing to her face a smile;  
Then it seemed as if its bleak wind, flying fast o'er dale and hill,  
Sought to pierce the golden tropic with a gruesome sense of chill.  
From the date of fifty-seven, every message came in state,  
And each bearer of a message, wore the livery of its date.  
First the shamrock and the thistle blazoned on a field of white,  
And the name, St. John's, Newfoundland, circling round from left to right;  
Then there came a page who bore the coronet in octagon,  
Quartefoil, with the same motto as its brothers, elder born.  
Later there came new devices, whispering of Atlanta's tanks,  
Cod and seal with iceberg background, and a schooner off the banks.  
In all colors of the rainbow, were these pages who were sped,  
With their tidings from Newfoundland, to a land with sunlight wed.

Many years have faded in the dimming memories of the past,  
Each new generation rising, scarcely thinking of the last;  
Long-forgotten are the tidings which those messages once told,  
And the writer and the reader long have changed from life to mould.  
But those little bits of paper, that as passports served them then,  
Still are treasured and hold places of great honor among men.  
While the thoughts they served to carry, over sea and over land,  
May have gone from us forever, by stern fate's unjust command,  
Still we see the seal and cod-fish, and the full-rigged fishing-smack  
On the pages of our album, and they bring old memories back.

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

### NOT ALWAYS TRUE.

**D**O-DAY note the magazines that are published for the benefit of fraud exposure; will you not notice names in the fraud list that will surprise you? Probably you will find the name of some intimate friend with whom you are personally acquainted. This alarms you, and you begin to inquire into it. No doubt you will speak to him regarding this, and he is, more astonished than you. Is he a fraud? He may be, but after inquiring into it, we find that some inexperienced youth, we might say, who started into business with a few thousand continentals, sent him some of these worthless stamps on approval, unsolicited, and expects him to buy them at a high price. If he doesn't do so and fails to make returns in due time, he is notified with threatening letters several times and finally publishes him as a dangerous fraud.

In the first place, the stamps are not, as a general rule, worth the postage it takes to carry them, and a party receiving stamps in this way should not so much as think of returning them, unless the necessary amount of postage is sent for their return. Any

reasonable, intelligent dealer will not call you a fraud for retaining stamps that were sent without order. This is noted as one of the drawbacks of philately, and, as a general occurrence, is practised mostly by the younger dealers with the big "Co." affixed to their name, but we will not confine it entirely to this class of persons, as I know of a similar instance where one of our would-be prominent dealers was working just such a scheme, sending out approval sheets to different collectors, trying to build up his broken-down trade.

It is right and proper for every collector to be honest and to promptly return all stamps to the dealers with whom he is dealing, and if you send for an extra fine selection of stamps, it would be a good plan (when you receive them) to notify the dealer of their safe arrival. This will not only relieve him, but he will feel much more like allowing you to retain them longer. But, on the other hand, pay no attention to the parties who send you stamps unsolicited, and, if you are published as a fraud, explain it to the public through the columns of some strong journal, and the philatelists in general will think *much* more of you for your just dealing than of the dealer, as it shows good judgment on your part.

## PHILATELIC SUB-STUDIES.

## VARIOUS MINOR DEFINITIONS.

BY THE EDITOR.

*Continued from page 67.*

**A** BLOCK of stamps when spoken of refers to four stamps of the original sheet unsevered and in the form of a square. Rarities are worth 50 per cent. more in this condition than singly; and collectors who are successful in securing rare stamps in block, should always preserve them in that form.

*An Advanced Collector*—I have been asked for a definition of this somewhat simple term. An advanced collector is one whose collection has become large, and who collects sub-rarities, shades, etc., and one who is scientifically interested in philately.

The "*Continental*," which are so widely advertised, are the common European stamps and are of little or no value.

*A Counterfeit* is an imitation of a genuine stamp of which there exists an original, while a *bogus* stamp is one of which there is no original, of which a like one was never issued, but are prepared with the intention to defraud collectors. For example of bogus stamps, I might refer to those of Sedang and many of these German Locals.

Stamps that are cancelled are those which are so obliterated so as to render them unavailable for use for postage. The common cancellation is that affixed to the stamp by means of a hand-stamp. At times they are cancelled by means of one or more pen and ink strokes. This is called *pen cancellation*. The word "*Cancelled*" is often found printed in ordinary block type across an unused stamp of an obsolete issue. This is a method often adopted by Governments, to render lots of remainders of old issues, sold to stamp dealers, unavailable for postage. For an example, see some of the 1876-78 issue of Mauritius. Again, another cancellation often met with is when the word "*Specimen*" is printed across the middle of the stamps. This is the outcome of the demand made by collectors for specimens of obsolete issues for their collections; and to supply them, Governments at times issued reprints of these old issues and sold them to collectors at face value or below, and surcharge the specimen to prevent their use for postage. Many of the department stamps of the United States were issued in this manner. While speaking of this "specimen" cancellation, I may say that this method of cancellation decreases the value of the stamp generally. This has led unscrupulous and dishonest dealers and collectors to partially remove the word specimen by means of acids, and then cover any remaining sign of the word by a heavy obliteration from an ordinary postmaster's hand-stamp. This practice is often resorted to with the rarer U. S. department stamps, but careful examination generally disclosed some trace of the word. Collectors purchasing used specimens of these stamps should always inspect them closely. In such cases as this, and in many other like cases, such as the detection of counterfeits, and distinguishing of sub-rarities, a powerful magnifying glass is invaluable, and every progressive collector should possess one.

*Cut Envelopes* are entire stamped envelopes from which the stamp alone is taken, it being cut square.

*Dextrine* is a substitute for gum arabic in the gumming of adhesive postage stamps and stamped envelopes.

*Tete beche* is a name applied to a stamp some part of which is printed upside down, or an inverted sur-

charge. The U. S. 1869 issue with inverted centre are printed in *Tete beche*. It also applies to stamps which are printed in sheets with each alternate row upside down.

A stamp is said to be *type set* when it is set up and printed with ordinary printer's type. For example, early issues of Hawaii, Br. Guiana, Bavaria, return letter stamps, and others.

*(To be continued.)*

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

## PHILATELY'S ENCHANTMENTS.

## II.—GEOGRAPHICAL.

BY A. R. E.

**N**OT only does philately offer us much of historical interest, as was shown in our last paper, but in the line of geographical studies it offers a still greater field for study.

A difference of opinion as to the value of any geographical knowledge acquired through philately has been expressed more than once. Now I contend that the collector who pays any ordinary attention to his stamps cannot but acquire fresh knowledge in this line. Of course, every rule has its exceptions. There are collectors who may not be benefited. Who are these? In the first place, the careless collector, who places a stamp in his album, and that is the end of it. Again, a collector may have pursued his geographical studies to such an extent that he knows all there is to be known; to him it is not probable that philately will teach much in this line.

However, to ordinary collectors, like you and I, philately has its geographical fascinations. How much we have learned through our stamps that we would otherwise have been ignorant of, and perhaps never known. "Here a little and there a little." It is not to be learnt at a single leap. You are well aware of that. Do you not recollect how you became the possessor of a stamp from Seychelles, Gambia, Sierra Leone, or some other distant country whose situation you did not know? How you became curious, and became possessed of a desire for research, and how you looked over your maps till you found it. Its situation became impressed on your mind through association with the stamp. Nor does the knowledge gained cease here. One thing after another is learned—population, coinage, inhabitants, climate, products, rulers, mode of government, etc.—all alike become impressed on the mind.

Now as to all this, I trust no one will think I claim the stamp itself teaches all this. Not so; but I do maintain that it is the stamp which stimulates the desire and interest in this research, and that the knowledge learned in this connection is less likely to be forgotten.

The standard stamp albums always give the statistics, etc., of the country at the head of the pages, that it may be easily acquired, being brought before the collector's eyes in connection with the stamps of that country.

School teachers are usually considered the most competent judges in this matter, and nine teachers out of ten will inform you that, as a rule, the brightest students in his geography class are stamp collectors. Study your stamps. Inform yourself in regard to every new stamp or country you secure. In this way much valuable knowledge may be pleasantly acquired.

With thanks to the editor of THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST for his valuable space, I will close, trusting to have the privilege of again addressing you, through these columns in the near future.

## PHILATELIC RUMINATIONS.

Containing Bits of Advice, Some Facts, a Few Observations, and Other Things Worth Remembering, and Some Not.

BY L. H. BENTON.



WHILE sitting here, my thoughts run back over my short career as a stamp collector—a period covering five short years. Yet, during that time, one can have many experiences, and must necessarily have observed many points here and there worthy of mention.

It took me quite a while to understand that the dealer did not have all the stamps he catalogued, in stock. But experience has been a good teacher. Of about two dozen stamps I sent for once, I got half a dozen, I think it was. Thus, my "want list" was returned with about eighteen marked "not in stock."

Buying advertised sets is not always satisfactory, for, as a general thing, the set, when it comes, will prove to contain one or more specimens you would not have purchased had you seen the same on sheets, on account of the condition thereof. This is especially true in regard to used stamps, as there the chances for damage are greater, as heavy cancellations, nicked and torn edges, etc. This is not always the case, but in the general run it will be found so, as many will attest. It is according to with whom you deal, to a great extent. The best way to procure specimens is by the approval sheet system. Then you can see what you are buying.

The value of biographies of various philatelists in the stamp journals is manifest. Though we exchange photos, with many, there are hundreds we know physiognomically only by the prototypes accompanying most sketches. How our ideas regarding their ages change in reading them! I have a case in mind. There is a certain collector and philatelic writer, concerning whom I had heard much, that is, read his writings and numerous notes about his doings, etc. I had pictured him as a man of thirty or so. When I read his biography I was somewhat surprised to learn that he was six months younger than I, and yours truly has yet to see his 21st birthday; it is some ways off yet. And so on.

Undoubtedly the large number of varieties of our hand-printed stamps, used before the regular issue, is a prominent reason for their not being catalogued, yet I think I see another reason. Most of them lack the word "post." Those with the word "post" are catalogued. Query—Does the word "post" determine whether it is collectible or not?

If some small boy, of the usual inquisitive turn of mind, should ask you if the British Madagascar stamps are newspaper stamps, do not blame him. It would be a natural question.

And before I forget it, I'll speak about Philatelic poems. It is a pleasant diversion in the monotony to read such poems as are generally turned out by Roy Greene, Guy Green, "Diamond," et al. Real poetry is verification which, while it has true metre, and is interesting, has running through it a sentiment which leaves the reader in a pleasant state of reverie, as it were, at the conclusion; it is necessarily thrilling, and must be on a subject which will fit the

words and manner of construction. Judge a poem by its merits, and not by who writes it. The sooner the *litterateurs* grasp this idea, the better it will be, and less trash will be put before us over "great (?) poets'" signatures. I would not be greatly surprised if productions from the "poet laureate" of the *One Dime*, if under the name of—well—Tennyson, say, would sell well, drive' as it is. This false valuation should stop; justice should prevail. No personal experience has caused me to write this; I am no poet. I can appreciate a good poem, however, and I can tell a failure when I read one. It is a state of things to be regretted; and these are solemn facts. This is general and not particularly philatelic, though it has a definite connection with what I started to say.

Philatelic fiction is on the increase, too. Why does not some stampist with plenty of the where-withal start the *Weekly Philatelic Fiction*? This suggestion is gratis.

The precision with which the beginner keeps account of the number of stamps in his collection is truly remarkable. He will tell you he has 937, 1,344, or 1,801, or something like that. How many advanced collectors can tell you? Few, I dare say. But it's all right, boys; nothing like rivalry, as long as it is honest. But the case of precision was in reading on a society application blank, under head of "When did you begin to collect stamps?" the answer, "Feb. 28, 1889," or something like it. That's the way to do it, boys, always tell the whole of it.

When I was a "kid," I had a printing press. On the box was this inscription: "Educate your boys; give them a printing press." This suggests an inscription for a stamp album: "Educate your boys—and girls; give them a stamp album," not to mention a good catalogue and some stamps.

We have received letters from all kinds of people, from all quarters of the globe, but never till recently did we receive one from a lunatic. It was signed "Lewis the Light," and was a circular containing thereon a lot of incoherent gibbering idiocy in the shape of religious chatter concerning the "True Army of Life," and requesting the receiver to send free all the stamps he can possibly rake together with which to buy the "True Army," a free ticket to Hades, or something of the kind. The million stamp racket again! Light-headed Lewis dated his kind request at San Francisco.

A bright newspaper paragrapher gives us a squib in which Jones tells Smith that he saw Brown treat his wife as he would not treat a dog. Smith eagerly asks the circumstances, expecting something scandalous, whereupon Jones quietly informs Smith that Brown merely kissed his wife.

And what has this to do with philately? you ask. Just this: It reminded me of a statement equally remarkable that might be made regarding our stamps, and that is, that they are stuck down so that you cannot pry them up with a crowbar. (Don't groan indoors, you might wake the baby.)

Why should our \$5.00 Columbus stamps have been issued in 1392? Know that? It's an easy one. Merely because it's a Head of Columbus.

And I suppose you all know your stamps are like lamps. Because we look for shades among them! (And the thermometer dropped to 2 in the shade.)

One more:

Why is a surcharge like a tin can tied to a dog's tail? Because it is bound to occur (a cur.)

P. S.—Send all undertakers' bills to writer.

## BUILD UP YOUR LIBRARY.

BY ROY F. GREENE.

**S**ITTING *tête-à-tête* with a philatelic friend last evening, I was brought to think forcibly of the benefits of a library, in our profession (or pastime as you prefer) as in any other.

My friend had called at my home with a view of talking over late happenings in philately's ranks, and speculating as to what the future had in store for us as collectors. After drawing ourselves nearer the welcome grate in my cosy little library, my friend glanced at a small volume placed conspicuously on my study table. "What's this old fellow? Ella Wheeler's 'Poems of Passion' likely, or Carleton's 'Farm Ballads,' eh?" By this time he had seized it and read *The Stamp*, (Denver), Vol. 1 & 2, (1886-87). It was a volume which I had just received from the book-binder's, and was the first two volumes of that excellent little Journal which ran its life of thirty-eight months and sank into oblivion. I had completed my volumes of it and sent them to the bindery, and as a result it had come forth a pretty ornament and a pleasant companion at one and the same time.

Of course my friend had to look through the volume, and had I been less enthusiastic on the necessity of every philatelist having a philatelic library of his own and keeping it for reference and study, I might have taken offense at my friend's conduct, for he scarcely glanced up from the volume all evening. After apparently reaching a sleepy stage in the proceedings, he leaned back in the chair, yawned and said: "Why old fellow, this is deucedly interesting." I made no response, but could you have seen the blush of pride suffuse my modest countenance you would all straightway set about getting you a start for a library.

Resuming the perusal of his volume, and I, reading a current issue of a leading magazine, utter silence was the result of our evening's sociability for an hour longer. At last, laying the volume aside, he began to question me as to how I obtained the numbers which when completed made such interesting reading. I told him how I had been for a year or more accumulating papers and magazines, retaining one copy of each and trading my duplicates with other collectors, securing something I needed and supplying them in return with a missing number in their files, and so on *ad infinitum*.

"The result is I have completed many files and have sent them to the binders as soon as completed, and now have a number of these volumes, one of which you seemed to find so interesting. Besides, I have several hundred volumes in process of completion, some of them lacking but one number, but it is more difficult to obtain that one number than the other eleven which goes towards completing the volume."

"And why this scarcity of certain numbers?" queried my patient listener. "I have often wondered that myself," I answered. "I have in many cases attributed it to a large share of a certain issue being mailed to foreign addresses, and oftentimes I surmise the publisher has mailed to lists furnished to him, of persons who were not interested in the pursuit and would burn or otherwise destroy the papers. In this way whole editions would be destroyed. Then again perchance a small edition would be issued for one month or more and the supply would not meet the demand. Very few philatelic journals issue over one thousand to fifteen hundred copies, and as there are from five to eight hundred promising young libraries in the United States and Canada to-day, all of which are

nearing completion, it is easy for to see where a good portion of each edition has gone to."

Having become breathless, I stopped, and gave my friend another chance.

"And is it very expensive, the accumulation of the various numbers?"

"No, it has not been in my case. I have made slight inroads on my pocket-book, having secured most of them by exchanging. The binding costs a neat little sum, but when one considers the happy hours to be spent in studying it, the valuable references there to be found, and then it will be a source of joy and comfort for years to come, even that cost seems slight.

In the case of many of my volumes which consisted of but three or four numbers each, all that had ever been issued, which though valuable in themselves, their small size, or rather thickness, would make them rather awkward in binding, and in fact hardly paid, so I have bound these in a homemade way between pasteboards which I have lettered nicely by hand and pasted a few brightly colored stamps in corners or in the centre or arranged in diamonds or squares to produce artistic effect and serve to please the eye. So much for my library."

"Well, I'll admit it is quite an undertaking," said my friend, "and though I love to read philatelic literature I fear it would exhaust my patience to commence the building up of a library which might require years to complete. But I must bid you good night. But by the way, old fellow, can I borrow that volume of the *Stamp*? I became interested in Philo's 'Bluffton Stamp Society', and would like to finish it. I assure you I will take the best care of it."

"Certainly, you are welcome to enjoy the contents of that volume as I have enjoyed, and when you have finished it I trust that Vol. 3 & 4, which I have sent to the binders, may be ready for your perusal, also think over this library business and decide whether you want to try the undertaking or not. I assure you it is not arduous or even tedious. There's a fascination as there is about everything connected with philately, and that leads you on. Your greatest objection, I believe, was that you doubted whether your patience would hold out till you had completed your library. Don't flatter yourself that you can ever complete your library, for although our hobby is young, it would be impossible to collect together everything that has been printed pertaining to it.

Content yourself with what you can secure and "don't complain because it's little," and above all don't let your library interfere with your album.

Never let the thought wedge itself into your head, drop your album for the time being until you complete your library. I am as devoted to philatelic literature as anyone in this broad land, but I've never given it the attention I have my album and contents, for it does not deserve it. They go hand-in-hand and should not be separated, but of the two—we'll you know a "double eagle" of American coinage is worth more than any treatise on Numismatics."

By this time my friend had risen to go, and as he left me at the door he promised to call in one week.

He did so. Returned Vol. 1 & 2 of *The Stamp*, and took home with him Vol. 3 & 4, and before he left me he told me that he had hunted up over a hundred old papers devoted to philately, and had laid the foundation to his library.

I congratulated him and donated a few of my duplicates towards the good cause.

There's a meaning to this story which is by no means concealed, but for fear you'll not grasp it I'll express it more explicitly: *Build up your library.*

Written for THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

## MY PA'S STAMPS.

BY CAPTAIN MILDMAY.

**J**IM Jimmy Brown; my pa's a filate'ist; that's a man who collects stamps and sticks them in stamp albums. My sister collects stamps too, but I don't know what they call a woman stamp collector. Stamps are bits of colored paper with pictures of men's head and other things, that come off letters. I don't know why they stick stamps in album-, I'm sure; I asked pa one day, and he said for nothing. Old people seem to do a great many things for nothing, anyway pa does. My sister don't know what she collects stamps for.

Pa went away one day and forgot to lock his desk; that's where he keeps the books he sticks stamps in. He always keeps his desk locked to keep me out, he says. I opened the desk and got out the two stamp albums; my, how nice the stamps looked; I guess I'll be a stamp collector when I'm big.

I found more than a thousand stamps which pa had forgot to stick in the albums, and then there were some red and green stamps with some letters which I took and cut off. As I had nothing to do I thought I'd stick all the stamps in the albums. I couldn't help laughing when I thought how surprised and glad pa would be when he had found out what I had done.

Now, I solemnly say that I never meant to do any harm. All I meant to do was to improve pa's stamp collection by sticking in the albums all the stamps he had forgot about. Why there was only three or four stamps on some of the pages, and you can't tell me that was right, for there were lots of square places drawn for stamps which pa had forgot about. I sometimes think its no use trying to help people as I tried to help pa. Pa's usually ungrateful; no matter how kind and thoughtful I am, he always manages to blame me. I shall try however not to give way to these bad feelings, as our minister says, we should keep on doing good no matter what happens.

I found lots of places where pa had forgot to stick stamps. I stuck in all the red and green stamps first and hadn't more than half finished with the others when the mucilage upset and went all over the stamp album; I wiped up as much as I could and left the rest.

Some stamps have black figers and words drawn on them. I would have been ashamed if I was the man that drew some of them. As I couldn't stick in any more stamps, and just to prove I could do it better than the man who did it, I drew all kinds of figers and words on more than a hundred stamps. I made most beautiful figers but the words didn't look as nice as I thought they would.

Just then our cat jumped up and spilt the ink and spoilt more than fifty stamps. I'm sure she didn't mean to do it. Cats don't know any better. I dried up the ink as best I could and put back the albums and things as I got them.

When pa came home that night, he brought the new minister with him. After a while the minister wanted to see pa's stamps and when pa went to get them I began to be really frightened. He just handed the albums to the minister without opening them. The minister said some very nice words about stamps till he came to where they stick Canada stamps (that's where I spilt the ink) when pa saw that he looked as if he had seen some disgusting ghosts. I got awful frightened, for pa had just bought a new bamboo case last night. "My son, this meddling with sacred things must be stopped." With this remark he marched me up-stairs and then—well, I can't write about

the awful scenes that happened up-stairs; anyway, I'm able to sit up to-day.

I'm sure I didn't spill the ink, it was the cat, and it wasn't my fault the mucilage upset, but pa wouldn't give me time to tell him so.

Well, it's over now, let us say no more about it.

## FISCAL COLLECTING.

R. S. WALTERS.

**I**T is but a matter of time ere revenue collecting becomes general. Every month sees its adherents increasing, and the demand for revenues and telegraph becoming greater, and there is no reason, as far as I can see, why this branch of philately should not become as great or even greater than the sway exercised by the postage stamp at the present time.

Now, how is it that revenue stamp collecting did not, and is not as general as the collection of postage stamps? The revenue stamp was in use centuries before the idea of the postage stamp was conceived. The leading cause is the regulation regarding the use of this class of stamps. They are placed on documents, and usually the law requires that they be left there, otherwise the document in question shall have no legal value. This is not always the case. Again, papers such as are required to be stamped with revenues are not so commonly seen as the letters which are flying to and fro before our eyes daily. Their partial obscurity is one reason why they have not been generally collected.

A time of changes is coming. New adherents to fiscal collecting are becoming very numerous. Take the beginner, and it will be found that he almost invariably mixes revenues in with his collection of postage. He sees no reason why one has any more claim on him than another. He has an eye for beauty of color and design. It will generally be found that he considers his revenues the pink of his collection.

Specialists of their native country invariably include revenues in their collections. To-day we find many who collect nothing but revenues, and again others who collect both postage and revenues.

Revenue collecting is steadily gaining ground. We now have numerous catalogues of revenue stamps published. An enterprising London firm have recently commenced the publication of the *Fiscal Philatelist*, which will do much for the cause. The leading journals are beginning to take hold of the subject, devoting their space and effort to its advancement.

Do you collect revenues? If not, you should remember they have a strong claim on you, whether specialist or general collectors. You find in them a range of variety greater than in postage stamps. The size is, on the average, larger. The increased size gives room for artistic design such as is seldom seen in postage stamps. Taken all around, examination will show you that for beauty, coloring and exquisite original design, revenue stamps have this even more than postage stamps. Reader, think this over, and let your decision be that you will collect revenues, even though it be on a small scale. Now's the time to begin. The demand at present is, comparatively speaking, small, and revenues can be bought at very low rates. But prices are steady on the rise. As collectors increase, the prices do likewise. "A word to the wise is sufficient." Those who begin before the demand becomes general are the wise; and the result will be apparent in the near future. "Never put off till to-morrow what you can do to-day."

## PHANTOMS IN THE SMOKE.

BY ROY F. GREENE.

The open fireplace glows bright  
 With a mass of ruddy coals,  
 And the fleecy clouds of airy smoke,  
 Unceasing, upward rolls.  
 I drowsy sit with wand'ring eyes,  
 Unconscious of time's flight,  
 I'm thinking of the by-gones,  
 Past pleasures and delights.

My album seems to haunt me,  
 I see its pages fair,  
 In the background of the hearthstone;  
 The smoke has outlined there,  
 With stamps of royal purple,  
 And deepest shades of green,  
 All spaces filled completely;  
 It's like was never seen.

From Iceland's fields of virgin snow,  
 To Congo's burning heat,  
 Each page is filled with treasures,  
 And every set's complete.  
 'Twill rival Von Ferrari's;  
 Its value can't be told;  
 Its worth a hundred thousand pounds  
 More than its weight in gold.

I turn its pages slowly,  
 Admire its size and form,  
 The fire's dying slowly;  
 The room is snug and warm.  
 I drink full of my album  
 As one quaffs ruby wine:  
 The rarest of collections,  
 And every stamp is mine.

My faithful watch-dog Towser,  
 Arouses with a whine;  
 He surely didn't mean to,  
 My thoughts he can't divine,  
 I woke to know my album  
 Was but a horrid joke,  
 The gorgeous greens and purples  
 Were phantoms in the smoke.

## LONDON PHILATELIC CLUB.

The fifth regular meeting of the Club was held in their rooms on Wednesday, Feb. 22nd, with President Liddicoatt in the chair. Minutes of previous meeting were read and adopted. The general business of the Society was carried through in a prompt manner and was soon disposed of. A debate was the next on the programme, and was enjoyed by all. Specialism vs. General Collecting was the subject under discussion. Messrs. Dickson and Bartram held out for Specialism while Messrs. Bernstein and Stockwell stood by General Collecting. After a lengthy debate, the subject was put to the vote of the meeting, and decided in favor of General Collecting. The auction sale, under supervision of Mr. Benson, our new auctioneer, was a decided success. Messrs. Liddicoatt, Staebler, Bartram Benson, McMartin, Bernstein, Dickson, Chapman, Stockwell and several visitors were in attendance. Meeting adjourned at 10.30.

## THE WORLD'S FAIR STAMP EXHIBIT.

The World's Fair Executive Committee of the American Philatelic Association have at last completed the preliminary work and have announced the result of their work for the past year.

Meetings were held on Feb. 23rd and 27th, in New York city, and all the members were present at these meetings. It had been the hope of the Committee that the Government would not only furnish space in the Government Building for the display, but would also assist the collectors in securing the necessary cases; but the only fund from which this money could be drawn was exhausted by other needs of the P. O. Department, and so the collectors have to shoulder the burden alone. The estimated expense of the exhibit is \$3,000, but the Committee believe that that amount can be raised by voluntary subscriptions from the collectors of the United States and Canada. A large number of sub-Committees have been appointed, and others are yet to be appointed, each Committee having charge of certain countries, and it will be their duty to see that the collections of stamps of these countries are secured, properly mounted and delivered to the General Committee. At the present writing, we are told that over \$300 has been contributed and subscriptions are coming in rapidly. The announcement of the Finance Committee has been sent out, and also the circular giving the plan of work, which is published elsewhere in this number. In view of the willingness of the entire philatelic press throughout the United States and Canada to publish matter relating to the exhibition, the Committee decided that it was not necessary to go to the expense of sending these circulars direct to the collectors by mail, but to make the appeal and announcement through the papers. The Government of the United States has granted our Committee sufficient space in the Government Building at the World's Columbian Exposition to permit the display of a complete collection of the postage stamps of the world. The expense incident to the proper arrangement of this exhibition, including the purchase of suitable cases, will be about \$3,000, and as it is the desire of the Committee to interest every member of the Association, as well as collectors of postage stamps outside of the Association, it has been resolved that the necessary amount be raised by a popular subscription, to which every collector will have an opportunity to contribute. Subscriptions for any amount not exceeding \$25, and not less than \$1, will be welcomed. Every subscriber will receive the official catalogue, containing a complete list of the treasures exhibited, which catalogue will be ready for distribution some time during the summer, and the published price of which will be 50 cents. All subscriptions must be accompanied by the amount subscribed, and they will be duly acknowledged in the *American Philatelist* and by the Treasurer, Mr. George H. Watson, 36 Broad St., New York city, to whom subscriptions and remittances are to be addressed. A. R. Roger, Chairman; H. S. Deats, Secretary, of Executive Committee, World's Fair Philatelic Exhibit.

We have received a copy of the Standard Stamp Co's price list, consisting of 64 pages and cover and fully illustrated. The publishers inform us that 35,000 copies have been printed, and together with postage, the total cost will be \$1,500, the largest amount ever spent on a stamp price list. A copy can be obtained free from them at 925 La Salle Street, St. Louis, Mo.

(Advt.)



## WORLD'S FAIR PHILATELIC EXHIBIT.

At the 1891 convention of the A. P. A., a committee was appointed with power to secure a suitable space at the World's Columbian Exposition and obtain and arrange an exhibit of postage stamps. After a trip to Chicago, where the Committee tried to secure a small private building, which they were unable to obtain, they entered into a correspondence with General Hazen, 3rd Asst. Postmaster-General, and Chairman of the Post Office Department Exhibit, that will be arranged in the Government Building. After repeated trips to Washington, the Committee have secured the following:

### SPACE.

The Post Office Department, through the kindness of General A. D. Hazen, have allotted to the American Philatelic Association, in the U. S. Government Building, one of the handsomest and most costly and one of the best fire proof buildings in the grounds, a large gallery overlooking the Post Office Exhibit. This gallery is 65 feet long by 25 feet wide.

### ARRANGEMENT OF SPACE.

The large cases are 20 feet long and hold 144 sheets each, same size as the Staten Island sheets. The smaller cases are 15 feet long and hold 108 sheets each. The half cases against the wall and railing hold half the amount of the double cases. There is room for 1,116 sheets in the cases, besides wall space. At an average of 40 stamps to a sheet this will give us room for a collection of 50,000 stamps.

### ARRANGEMENT OF STAMPS.

It is the intention of the Committee to secure as complete a collection of the stamps of the world as can be had, and to this end the collectors, whether members of the A. P. A. or not (as this is to be an exhibit of postage stamps by American collectors, under the auspices of the American Philatelic Association), are invited to notify the Committee of any countries that they have that are in fine condition and complete, that they are willing to loan for this exhibit. It is the desire of the Committee that this exhibit comes not so largely from our large collections, but that the larger portion of it will be made up from the collections of the smaller collectors. What country have you that you will offer us? We want to hear from you at once.

### ARRANGEMENT ON SHEETS.

As soon as the collector has notified the Committee that he is willing to exhibit a certain country (see rules for exhibitors) they will send him as many sheets as are allotted to that country.

### SHEETS FOR MOUNTING.

The Committee have decided to use sheets made especially for that purpose, same size as the Staten Island Sheets, with a view of giving the most artistic effect as they are grouped together, and at the same time showing the stamp off with the best effect.

On receipt of these sheets the collector is to mount his stamps as carefully as possible (see rules) and return them by registered mail to the Committee as quickly as possible. The name of the exhibitor will be printed by the Committee on the bottom of each card.

### SECURITY.

The Committee do not become responsible for any stamps, the exhibitors sending them at their own risk. The Committee, however, have been carefully

selected, and represent the leading collectors in the country. They are mostly men of means, from whose collections there will be many thousands of dollars' worth of stamps exhibited, so the utmost care will be used to insure the safe return of all stamps sent for exhibition.

The sheets containing stamps will be kept in a safe deposit vault in New York until they are ready for shipment to Chicago, when they will be sent under seal by the Express Co., the same as money is forwarded. The stamps will be insured against fire and loss in transit. Part of the Committee will go to Chicago and receive them, and, with the Hanging Committee, will put them in the proper cases.

### CASES.

The cases are being especially made, the large cases consisting of four sections; each section holding six sheets, or 24 sheets in a row. There are three of these frames, one above another, on each side of the case. The smaller cases hold three sections lengthwise, and the half cases have sheets on one side only.

The cases are made of whitewood, stained cherry, the glass being heavy plate, lying flat on top of the stamps. Each frame has a Yale lock, and is locked by the Committee, and sealed. Around the cases are a number of screws to be screwed down, making it impossible to get into the cases.

After the exhibit is over, the Committee will again go to Chicago and return the stamps to New York in the manner sent, from whence they will be returned to the owners.

### CATALOGUES.

As no catalogue will be allowed on sale in the Government Building, the Committee will issue an official catalogue, containing a full description of the exhibit, who the exhibitors are, what they exhibited, etc.; and will handsomely illustrate it with photo-engravings of some of the exhibits. These catalogues will sell at 50 cents each, and will be on sale at all dealers and on the news-stands in Chicago, so collectors will have no trouble in securing one, as it will be a most interesting souvenir of their visit. We expect thousands will be sold to collectors who are not able to attend.

This catalogue will contain a limited number of advertisements, and having a wide circulation among people who are new beginners in stamp collecting, it will be a paying advertising medium. For rates address the Committee at once.

### RESULTS.

It is expected that this exhibit will be the largest and most valuable one ever gathered together, and that the benefits stamp collecting will derive from it will be a greater increase in our number and a new impetus to our hobby, tending to make it more popular than ever, and redounding to the honor of the American stamp collector.

## WRITER'S PRIZE COMPETITION.

The following are the results handed in by the judges:—First prize, W. Cullen Brown's article on Local Societies. Second prize, A. R. Estabrook, of Montreal, Que., for article on Philately's Enchantments. Third prize, R. S. Walters, of Manchester, England, for article entitled An Incident. Fourth prize, A. O. East, of London, Ont., for article entitled Philatelic Advertising. Prizes were duly forwarded on the 20th inst.

# The Canadian Philatelist :

A JOURNAL FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

**PUBLISHED MONTHLY.**

Entered at London P.O. as Second-class Matter.

**L. M. STÆBLER,** EDITOR & PUBLISHER.

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## EDITORIAL.

### A Stamp Collector's Souvenir.

We have received a copy of *The Stamp Collector's Souvenir*, issued by The C. H. Mekeel Company, of St. Louis. It is a tastefully and expensively prepared work, one which will no doubt be of use to collectors, and one which it is not improbable but that it will repay its publishers for the large outlay necessitated in its publication. The book contains much readable information regarding the history of philately and stamps in general. Brief definitions of many technical philatelic terms, culled from various sources, are given. Articles on rare stamps and curious stamps are also given, together with an illustration of the New Haven. Portraits and brief sketches of some 40 or more of the world's most prominent collectors are given. The book is printed on paper of the most expensive kind, and handsomely arranged and bound. It can be obtained for the sum of fifty cents, and is well worth this amount.

### Our Petal List.

We would call the attention of our customers to the fact that our Third Annual Retail List has just been issued, and it is larger, cheaper and better than ever before. Every collector and dealer should possess a copy. To those who have not yet received it, we shall be pleased to forward it, *post free* on application.

**Gremmel's Catalogue.** Mr. H. Gremmel, of New York, has favored us with a copy of catalogue of "The Stamps of the Western Hemisphere." It is in neat pocket size; the illustrations being reduced in size, while the catalogue itself is fully complete. One thing which we consider a defect, is the absence of a list of Canadian and Mexican Revenues. These stamps are being collected to a great extent now, and a popular want is neglected in omitting these. The book consists of about 175 pages.

**Publisher's Announcements.** Handbooks Nos. 2 and 3 will be issued in April. Announcements of the result of the "Writers' Prize Competition" is made in this issue.—The sale of Handbooks Nos. 1 and 2 has been very rapid. You should secure a copy of each at once. (See adv.)—We are at all times pleased to receive from our patrons the names of their collecting friends—Foreign collectors would appreciate greatly the result of a trial adv. herein.—We are at work on the designs of a *Canadian Album*. Full announcements will be made next month—It is our intention to enlarge to 32 pages in the course of a month or two.

**Alamo City Philatelic Society.** The second annual meeting was held by special invitation at the residence of Major C. E. Dutton, San Antonio Arsenal, on December 22, 1892, at which the reports of all officers were read and accepted, and the election of their Governing Board took place, which resulted as follows:—President, Major C. E. Dutton, U.S.A.; Vice-President, Alfred E. Hayden; Secretary-Treasurer, Edward W. Heusinger; Librarian, Charles J. Rossey; Counterfeit Detector, Frederick Noyes; Albert Steves, Edward F. Brotze, I. N. Fitzpatrick, Charles H. Huberich. Meetings of the Society are held in the Assembly Room of the San Antonio Board of Trade. The membership of this Society is \$9. The dues for active members are \$3 per annum, and for corresponding members 50 cents per annum. Official organs, *The Alamo City Philatelic Society's Bulletin* and the *American Journal of Philately*, which all members receive free of charge. For further information and application blanks address EDWARD W. HEUSINGER, Secretary-Treasurer, P.O. Box 597, San Antonio, Texas, U. S. A.

### Sample Copies.

A large number of sample copies of this issue are sent out to collectors who are not on our subscription books. We trust you will examine this number, and should you desire to see us regularly, forward your subscription, for we send but one sample to one person. We guarantee 12 numbers, or refund subscription. You should subscribe.

**Are you a Subscriber?** If not, we would urge upon you the advantage of at once having your name placed on our books. Every subscriber who places his subscription in our hands has the assurance of 12 numbers, or his money refunded. Gradual and steady increase in both size and quality is our aim. To make the magazine attain a high standard of excellence is our determination. We have made, and shall make every effort to secure the best and most interesting reading matter that can be procured. It will be to your interest to subscribe.

## Correspondents' Column.

[This column is open to all, and we hope you will take the opportunity to express yourself on any Philatelic question. Those who want any information should send in their queries, which will be published in the following number.]

A. J. R., Connersville, Ind.—Your stamp is bogus.

### The Stamps of British North America.

Every collector should possess a copy of the above book. This is a sample of the many testimonials we receive:—

Bishop Ridley College, St. Catharines, March 16.

MR. L. M. STAEBLER:  
Dear Sir,—Your book, *The Stamps of British North America*, to hand, and I am very much pleased with it. I think you have put more solid information into it than in any other catalogue, and I am not a Canadian Specialist either. I am, yours truly,  
N. B. WILKES.

### Public Opinion

Is the popular verdict of anything. Public opinion on the CANADIAN PHILATELIST gives it a favorable standing. The following is one of the many testimonials we receive daily:—

L. M. STAEBLER, Connersville, Ind., March 13.  
Dear Sir,—It is in my opinion that the CANADIAN PHILATELIST is by far the best 2c magazine published. Your Auction Department and Sub-Studies are par-excellence. May it forever live!  
A. J. REYNOLDS.

### Are your Files

OF THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST complete? If not, now is the time to complete them. The supply of back numbers is small. While they last they can be had at the following prices: Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17 and 18 at 10c. each. Nos. 7 and 16 are 25c. each. Complete your files before it is too late.

### "IT PAYS"

To advertise in the CANADIAN PHILATELIST. The following firm had a 2-inch ad. in our December issue. Read what they say:—

Harrison, Ont., Feb. 3, 1892.  
Mr. L. M. Staebler:  
Dear Sir,—Enclosed find advertisement for Exchange Department and payment for the same. We are more than pleased with the results of our advt. in your December issue. We have **already received 83 replies** from the same.  
Yours truly,  
CANADIAN STAMP CO.

When answering advertisements, mention **CANADIAN PHILATELIST.**

## EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

**TERMS**—One-half cent per word each insertion, payable in advance. No exchange notice will be received for less than 15 cents. No display allowed.

**HAVE** a rd. Nova Scotia, fine specimen, to sell for \$3.00.  
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Native Indian States, 10 varieties	25	*Canada, officially sealed, fine	50
" " " 20 "	25	U. S., 100 varieties	1 00
" " " 50 "	2 50	" " " 3d choice	1 00
Puttialla State, 3 fine varieties	08	" " Locals, 15 varieties	10
*Salvador, 1891, 10 varieties complete	35	" " American Rapid Telegraph, 10 var. complete	25
*U. S. Interior, 1c and 2c, scarce	15	" " Telegraph, 30 fine varieties	1 00
Spain, 50 fine varieties	50	Sweden Losen, 10 varieties complete	18
U. S., 1867, 1c, blue	09	" " " official, 11 "	15
Azores, 3 choice varieties	03	*Suez, 4 varieties complete (Scott's price, 60c)	15
U. S., 1847, 5c and 10c, blue	2 60	Spain, 1860-54, only, 5 scarce varieties	15
Alsace and Lorraine reprints, 7 varieties complete	10	Hungary, 1888, 1 kr. to 1 fl., 9 varieties only	19
Australia, 10 varieties	05	South America, 25 fine varieties	18
Bosnia, 7 varieties, complete	20	Italy, unpaid, 1, 2, 5 and 10 lire	50
Bulgaria, 9 fine varieties	05	Italy, unpaid, 50 and 100 lire	10
" " unpaid, 1880, 5c and 10c	12	*Romania, 3 varieties	5
" " " 1887, 5c and 25c	10	*Canada Bill, 3rd issue, 82 red and black, original gum	75
Bolivia, 1881, 4 varieties, complete, cheap	07	*Baden, 1862-68, 5 varieties, cheap	75
Belgium Po-tal Packet, 7 varieties	10	*Sarawak, 1892, 1c on 3c, brown on yellow	6
*Saxony, 1863, 5 varieties, complete	10	" " " blue and black	6
British Columbia, 3d, blue, scarce	50	*Bogota, 1c black	2
" " " 1861, 2d, pink, perf.	1 40	*Bolivar, 1c	2
" " " 1865, 10c, blue, unsevered pair	2 75	Western Australia, 1889, 1 and 2d, blue	2
South-Africa Republic, 1870-71, 5 var.	35	Western Australia, 3 varieties	10
*Servia, 1869, 5 varieties, complete	10	158 varieties, very cheap at	5
*Canada, Registration, 8c, blue	50	200 " " cheap	12
Cuba, 25 varieties, a bargain	1 00	300 " " very fine, no revenues	45
Canada, 1859, 1, 5, 10, 12, 17 cent	90	500 " " very fine, no revenues	80
*Canada, 1877-82, 8 varieties complete, reprints	25	1000 " " very fine, no revenues	2 00
Nova Scotia, 1d, fine	55	*Newfoundland, 1896, 13c pink	6 50
" " " 3d, "	25	New Brunswick, 3d, fine	40
" " " 2c mauve	25	*Nowanuger, 1, 1, 2, 3 ivera	2 25
" " " 5c blue	11	10 Philatelic Papers, post free	12
Egypt, unpaid, 1880, 4 varieties complete	20	Turkey, 10 varieties	11
Egypt, 6 varieties	20	*U. S. officially sealed	10
Greece, 8 varieties	05	U. S., 1861, 5c brown	3
*Holkar, 1892, 1, 1, 1 and 2 annas	25	Italy, 25 varieties	29
Portugal, 1875-79, 150 and 300 reis	05	Canada, 50 varieties	1 00
Portugal, 13 fine varieties	12	Manitoba Law, 4 varieties, fine	15
Russia, 12 varieties	10	Supreme Court 8c, very rare	15
Sweden, 10 varieties	10	Canada Gas Inspection, 25, 50, 81, \$1.50, 2c, fine set	3 75
Portuguese Indies, 3 varieties	5	*Philippine Isles, 1889, 4 varieties	40
Italy, 12 varieties	5	" " " 1890	10
*New Brunswick 2 and 5c., a bargain	40	*Chambra State, 2 varieties	10
Newfoundland, 3 cent, brown	3	Gibraltar, 2 varieties	7
Canada, 1868, 1c watermarked maker's name	1 00	Canada, 1851, 3d, fine	6
" " 1868, 1c red-brown	12	Canada Envelope, 1860, 5c., cut square	16
*Canada, 1868, 12c blue	30	Parak, 1891, 1c green	3
Canada, 1858, 1d pink, fine	4 40	Supreme Court of Canada, 6 varieties complete, fine	5 00
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" " 1852, 3d red	60	*Morocco, 5c green	30
" " 1852, 6d violet	3 50	*Argentina, 1864, reprint, 4 varieties, complete	15
*Puttialla State, error "Auttialla" red sch.	1 00	Canada Bill, 2nd issue, 50c., blue	3 75
Mexico, 1881, 50c. green, cheap	8	Canada Revenues, 50 varieties	03
Mexico, 1884, 1 peso, blue	30	Canada, 1868, 2c, green, fine, watermarked	1 10
" " " 20 and 25, scarlet	5	*Helligoland, 10 varieties	15
" " " 10 varieties, including 30 cent.	10		
" " " 1856-92, 50 varieties	1 00		
" " " Revenues, 10 fine varieties	10		
" " " 15 "	25		
" " " 25 "	50		
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Canada, 1850, 10c violet	1 00		
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