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Vol. 1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ No. 4.

.... DECEMBER, 1897. ....



THE

# STAMP REPORTER.



A MONTHLY MAGAZINE  
PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS  
OF STAMP COLLECTORS.



BRADLEY & OSWALD, PUBLISHERS,

St. CATHARINES,

ONTARIO,

CANADA.

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# • THE • STAMP • REPORTER •

A MONTHLY FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOL. I.

DECEMBER.

No. 4.

## HISTORY OF FRANCE AND HER STAMPS.

At the time our account begins King Louis Philippe ruled France. The people were not satisfied with his government. He resisted too strongly the growing desire for electoral reform. At last the people could bear it no longer so they broke out in open revolt. The King fled to England and a republic was set up. The next year, 1849, the first issue of stamps appeared. In accordance with the popular feeling of the time the portrait was that of Liberty, and at the top was the inscription "Repub. Franc."

The first President of the Republic was Louis Napoleon, nephew of the first Napoleon. He had been President but three years when by the Coup d' E'tat he violently set aside the constitution and assumed dictatorial powers. This occurred in 1851 and in 1852 a new set of stamps appeared bearing his portrait.

The Republic did not last long for in 1852 he was raised by almost the unanimous voice of the nation to the dignity of Emperor, as Napoleon III. His rule as Emperor was one of complete absolutism under which, however, France made great advances. In 1853 a set of stamps ap-

peared which was the same as those of 1852, except for inscription "Empire Franc" instead of "Repub. Franc."

In 1863 the next issue of stamps came out. They bear the Emperor's head crowned with a laurel wreath, and the inscription "Empire Francais."

In the reign of Napoleon III. several important wars were waged. The Crimean occurred in 1854, in which France and England defeated Russia who had made war on Turkey, on account of the latter refusing to allow her to protect the Christians in Turkey. Mexico was invaded by French troops. The Republican form of government was overthrown, and later, Napoleon made Maximilian, an Austrian prince, Emperor of Mexico.

The last war of Napoleon proved to be his downfall. There had been a jealousy of the growing power of Prussia rankling in the national mind since 1866, and yielding to this feeling the Emperor, on a frivolous pretext, declared war on Prussia. But he met more than his match. Defeated on all sides the Emperor gave himself up, together with 90,000 men at the battle of Sedan. After this occurred the mob of Paris, declared

the Emperor deposed and proclaimed a republic. They hastily levied troops and tried to check the advance of the successful Germans. But the latter knowing the condition of Paris marched straight on to it and after three month's seige Paris surrendered in 1871. She was compelled to pay a large war indemnity and also to give up Alsace and part of Lorraine to Germany.

In 1870 when Napoleon was deposed a new set of stamps came out. They were the same in design as those of the first issue in 1849.

The war indemnity caused a dull period for France. But in a few years she had quite recovered, and in 1876 appeared the present issue of stamps, bearing the figures of "Commerce" and "Peace" with the inscription "Republique, Francaise" at the bottom.

France is still a Republic, but how long she will remain so is hard to tell as there are at present strong parties who favor a monarchy.



#### STAMPS OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

The stamps of New Brunswick were issued in three issues, the first in the year 1851. Their values were 3 pence, 6 pence, and 1 shilling. The design was the

same for the three stamps. The colors were red, yellow and violet. The one shilling was printed in two colors, violet and mauve. The three pence is catalogued at seven dollars unused, and three dollars used; the six pence yellow at twenty dollars unused, and seventeen and a half used; the one shilling violet at one hundred unused, and seventy-five used; the one shilling mauve at one hundred und twenty-five unused, and one hundred used.

The second issue was printed in 1860. The currency had been changed to the decimal system so the values of the stamps was given in cents instead of pence. There were five stamps in this set, the one cent brown and violet, the five cent green, the ten cent vermilion, the twelve and a half cent blue and seventeen cent black. The designs were varied and good. They included railroad designs, steamboats, and the Queen as she appeared at the beginning of her reign. These stamps are catalogued at from five cents to one dollar and a half.

The stamps of the last issue in 1861 were of two denominations, two and five cent. In color the former was orange and the latter brown. At catalogue the value of the two cent one is eight cents unused and twenty-

five cents used, of the five cent one hundred and forty dollars unused.

The stamps of the last two issues, with one exception are cheap. This is owing to the large number of remainders which were sold to stamp dealers and collectors. Nevertheless they are nice for collections and being cheap are in the reach of most collectors.

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#### THE BOSTON RECORD

IN REGARD TO STAMP COLLECTING PRINTS  
THE FOLLOWING.

Those people who think the "Stamp Craze" is dying out should have attended the convention of the Philatelic Association just finished in this city. Gray headed men show as much enthusiasm over collecting rare stamps as does the youth or maiden who has just fallen victim to the fascinations of collecting.

In regard to another point in stamp collecting it says: "The United States Government would very much like to know which of the Boston gentlemen in attendance at the convention of the American Philatelic Association has in his possession one of the only \$5,000 revenue stamps known to be in existence. There is little doubt, owing to prominence as a collector, that he is

taking an active part in its proceedings, but for prudential motives neither he nor his associates care to reveal his identity.

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#### NEW POSTAL CARDS.

Two cards of the French Colonial type have been issued for the dependency of Grand Comora. They are valued and colored as follows

10 centimes, black on green.  
10x10 centimes, black on blue.

It is announced that Hawaii is to have a new card which will excel all predecessors in beauty.

Sweden has issued a new card to celebrate King Oscar II's 25th anniversary of his accession to the throne. It is adorned with the portrait of the King. The stamp is formed by a large figure "5" in a shield, with the word "ore" between the two garlands. It is reported that the sales of these cards will go to a proposed consumptives hospital.

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The U. S. government will not redeem uncanceled revenue stamps. The reason is obvious—these stamps are obsolete, the taxes so levied years ago, being no longer levied, so that the stamps having no mission to perform, are worthless in so far as having a face value is concerned. Their only value lies in their being objects of collection.

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Exchange wanted. Send two copies.

Address all communications relative to the above to

BRADLEY & OSWALD,  
 St. Catharines, Ont.

—  
**EDITORIAL.**

In this number of our paper we start a Stamp Collector's Directory for the benefit of our subscribers. Every subscriber has his name inserted once free in this column. By this means your philatelic mail is increased. You will receive sample copies of all the leading stamp papers and price lists from stamp dealers. Send in your subscription at once as only ten names will appear in each issue.

We learn that our friend, the Halifax Philatelic Magazine, has left the philatelic world. We are sorry to hear of its departure as it was a very good magazine. Perhaps it was due to the burst-

ing of a blood vessel while writing that editorial of the October issue. Things will take a tumble sometimes.

"One more unfortunate,  
 Weary of breath,  
 Rashly importunate,  
 Gone to its death."

As local clubs seem to be the thing of the day why can't St. Catharines scrape into line? Surely there are enough collectors here. If they are not old enough to satisfy some of the advanced collectors it is not their fault. Perhaps if a junior club was formed the young collectors might learn a few points about stamp collecting from their elder brothers.

Somebody start it.

We have not as yet received the paper called "Stamps" although we have already sent our first three numbers. Perhaps you consider it beneath your dignity to exchange with us. If so, thanks for your opinion of us. It is likely you began once. It is one consolation that you are not the only "pebble on the beach."

We have received the December number of the "Perforator" and indeed if all the numbers of this paper have been as good as this it is a first-class magazine. The notes are numerous and good. The principle article is a short sketch, with illustrations, of Mr. Stearns, Jr., and Mr. Dietz.

The ½c. and 6c. values of the new issue of Canada stamps are on sale here.

**STAMP COLLECTOR'S DIRECTORY.**

Stamp publications and dealers will please send sample copies and price-lists to the addresses below.

R. Grobb, box 98, St. Catharines, Ont.

Wm. Nicholson, St. Catharines, Ont.

R. Walker, St. Catharines, Ont.

John Goffin, 720 Pearse St., Niagara Falls, N. Y.

S. Richardson, Jr., Western Hill, St. Catharines, Ont.

Geo. Phelps, 321 King St., London, Ont.

Geo. Williams, 12 George St., St. Catharines, Ont.

W. R. Rickett, Ganoga Lake, Ricketts P. O., Wyoming Co., Pa.

Fred Drysdale, St. Catharines, Ont.

H. Todd, St. Catharines, Ont.

**A REDUCTION IN POSTAGE.**

The Hon. Wm. Patterson, at Liberal meeting in the Massey Hall, Toronto, on Friday evening, November 26th, said that the Dominion Government had arranged for a three-cent postal rate on mail matter up to one ounce throughout the British Empire, instead of as hitherto five cents for half an ounce to the United Kingdom, and a larger sum for most other parts of the Empire.

By this reduction people will be able to send letters for three cents to any British Colony and it is very likely the mail matter will be largely increased.

LATER.—It is officially announced at Ottawa that the 3c. postage rate will go into effect January 1st, 1898.

**LOCAL JOTTINGS.**

Dealers here claim stamp business good. It ought to be among so many collectors.

Mr. R. G. Widdicombe says there is a good demand for Scott's 58th edition catalogue this year. This shows that the collectors are going to study the prices if nothing else this winter.

There is a fair demand here for old American and Canadian stamps. Nearly everyone of our collectors specialize in these stamps.

A new and large style of postal card has appeared from the United States. It is called the Business Men's Mail Card. In size it is 11x7 inches being more than a private post card. The back is not to be written on but printed, and this is done by the U. S. Mail Card Co.

We have received one of the new Address Books of Ontario compiled by Mr. R. G. Widdi-



combe. This edition is far superior to his previous one. It is increased in size, etc. In the front are sketches of several prominent collectors whose portraits go to beautify the book. The price is fifteen cents and it is well worth it.

Do not forget that one of these books is given to every new subscriber.

that the concession will prove a great stimulant to business. It will benefit the advertiser, and the country as well, and also add considerably to the postal revenue. The idea may result in much good to the country in the way of advertising some of its natural features, as well as its public and other buildings.

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#### A GOOD ONE.

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#### IMPORTANT POSTAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

Postmaster-General Mulock has authorized an announcement that he is about to remove the restriction which at present prevents the user of a post card from utilizing the front of a post card by having anything written or printed on it, except the address of the person for whom it is intended. Mr. Mulock's intention is to permit pictures, views, designs or other advertising matter to be printed on the face of the card, so long as sufficient clear space is left to allow of the address being written or printed so that it can be easily read in the office where it is posted. The face of the card may be converted into a work of art without impairing its usefulness, and advertisers will no doubt avail themselves of the privilege. The cards will be issued in sheets if so desired for convenience in printing. Mr. Mulock thinks

The following story is going its rounds in philatelic circles. Last April when the Greeks and Turks were at war, after a hard battle, in which all the members of two detachments (one Greek and one Turk) had fallen save one man on each side, and how, further, having exhausted all their ammunition, and in trying to get at each other with bayonets, one dropped a small book which the other recognized as a stamp catalogue, and that this led to questions and answers which showed that both were stamp collectors, and that, further, these two erstwhile deadly enemies sat down behind a wall and swapped duplicates.

This may do very well to tell but we have our doubts as to the truth of the story.

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The 5 centavos stamp of Peru now comes in green; it was formerly blue.

## NEWS IN BRIEF.

The reprints of the stamps of Alsace and Lorraine have inverted network.

Luxemburg is to have an entire new issue to replace the one in use since 1895.

The 5-cent stamp of Antioquia, (Colombia,) is to be found with both plain and shaded letters.

This bids fair to be a good season for auction sales. A number have already been held, with good success.

The new 1-penny stamp of Queensland has been seen in this country. It has figures of value at all four corners.

Two more British colonies, Bermuda and Gambia, will soon have new issues printed in two colors, similar to those of the other colonies.

The 1850 issue of Austria has been found to exist on three varieties of paper—thick, thin and laid. All the stamps of the set have been found in this condition.

A Philadelphia collector, who kept close watch on his post-office, some time since was rewarded by securing one hundred and fifty three-cent stamps of the 1870 issue, at face. The stamps catalogue \$2.50 each.

A quarter of a century is a long time for any firm in any kind of business to remain constantly in business, but this is the fact as regards Senf Brothers, of Germany, who have been dealing in stamps for more than twenty-five years.

In their stall in the building in which the Philatelic Exhibition was held, in London, Messrs. Stanley Gibbons Co. had on exhibition a little note book, such as sell for a penny, in which were mounted a few rare stamps worth in actual (not catalogue) value \$100,000. The book could have been carried in an ordinary vest pocket.

The New York "World" some time since received a letter which bore no stamp, but had instead a rude pen and ink drawing of George Washington's head, with the words "2 cents." The "World" says: "The stamp was properly cancelled at the post office, and being the only one of its issue, is the rarest stamp in existence." This, while true, and while it is also true that there are many who would like to own the letter in question as a curiosity, still, it is not philately, the stamp being passed by some stamping clerk through carelessness.

## PRESS REVIEW.

The Philatelic Advocate for December has been received. The articles are very good but we think a little better work in the printing would do no harm. In this number particular notice is drawn to an article, the "Inside History of the Advocate" which is to appear in the next number. The story "The Dirigo Stamp Co." is ended very abruptly in one chapter.

The holiday number of the Eastern Philatelist contains a large quantity of reading matter. Various articles on "German Cancellations," "About Philatelic Advertising," "Experiences of a Stamp Dealer Abroad," and the latest news in this country and the States.

The Evergreen State Philatelist is a fine magazine containing good articles of interest to the collector. It is well printed and got up in first-class style.

The Columbian Philatelist has been received. This is also a fine paper, well printed, and worthy of mention.

We have also received the following but space prevents us reviewing same: Boy's Own Philatelist, Philatelic Messenger, Omaha Philatelist and the Kid.

Now we bring our 4th number to a close, wishing all our readers

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

—and—

A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

The Editor.

Be sure and read Siewers Bros.' ad. on third page of cover.

## ONLY - ONE - ON - EARTH.

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7 Labuan, 1894, lith., 2c. to 40c. \$1 10  
Philatelic Messenger, monthly, one year 25  
Ex. Notice, 20 words besides address 15

\$1 50  
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We have the following lots of stamps of which we wish to dispose. They will be sold to the highest bidder.

2000 Canadian Stamps (present issue) used, including 1, 2, 3, 5 and 8 cent.  
200 Jubilee used. Mostly 3c and 1c but having some 2c and 5c.  
50 Hawaii stamps nearly all '82 2c rose used.

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PACKET B.—20 fine U. S. stamps, all different and catalogued at about 45c. PRICE 25c.

The first purchaser of either or both of the packets will get a 5c. green, 1861 issue, Confederate States of America, free. The second purchaser will get a set of unused Samoa, 1877 issue reprints. The third purchaser will get 1000 stamp hinges free.

All post-free. Send money by Money Order Checks or Drafts. NO UNUSED CANADA STAMPS OR CANADA MONEY TAKEN.

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