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THE

# Toronto Philatelic Journal.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE



DEVOTED TO THE INTEREST OF STAMP COLLECTORS.

Price 25 Cents Per Annum.

**MARCH, 1886.**

H. MORELL,

PUBLISHER.

76 Baldwin Street, Toronto, Canada.



# THE Toronto Philatelic Journal.

Vol. II.

TORONTO, MARCH, 1886.

No. 1.

## Record of New Issues.

Any information our readers can give us at any time, regarding recent emissions or changes, will be gratefully received and credited.

**AZORES.**—The 25r. lilac and 300r. green, have the surcharge in small letters.



**BELGIUM** has lately brought out three new values, the design of the latest value may be seen in the illustration. 20 centimes, olive; 50c., bistre, and 2 francs, violet.

**CEYLON.**—Two cards for the Postal Union have been issued, 5c. blue, and 10c. brown.

**CONGO**—On January 1st, the following values were issued for use in this new African State:—5 centimes, green; 10c., rose, (see cut); 25c., blue; 50c., green, and postal card 15c., red-brown.

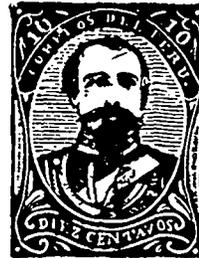


**LIBERIA.**—The new stamps are of three types. The first has large figure of value in hexagon, with "Republic—Postage—Liberia" at the sides and top, and value below. 1c., carmine; 2c., green; 3c., lilac; 4c., brown; 6c., gray. The second has figure of value on what looks like an egg in the centre, and the same inscription as in type 1, but on fancy scrolls: 8c., blue; 16c., orange. The third has view of a ship and rising sun, with plough and palm tree in the foreground, "Thirty-two" above and "Cents" below on scrolls. Color, dark blue.

**MOZAMBIQUE.**—A new set of stamps has been issued, values as follows:—5 reis, black; 10r., green; 20r., carmine; 25r., lilac; 40r., brown; 50r., blue; 100r., red brown; 200r., violet; 300r., orange.

**PERSIA.**—The 5 sh. areen of 1882 and the 10c. carmine are surcharged  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Official} \\ 6 \end{array} \right\}$  and  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Official} \\ 12 \end{array} \right\}$  respectively in black, not for official purposes but for international correspondence.

**PERU** has lately given birth to two more horrid looking stamps unperforated, and of the values of 5c., blue, and 10c., brown; (see cut), the former bearing the likeness of Admiral Gran, the latter of General Bologneci.



**PORTUGUESE INDIA.**—There is a new series similar to that noted for Mozambique inscribed "India Portugueza" 1½ reis, black; 4½ reis, brown; 6 reis, green; 1 tanga, carmine; 2 tanga, blue; 4 tanga, lilac; 8 tanga, orange.

**PUTTIALA.**—The 4a. has been seen with surcharge in *black* and *red*.

**ROUMANIA.**—Mr. Eugene Brown has received from a correspondent, a 50 bani adhesive of a stone color.

**STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.**—The 32c. is surcharged "Three cents" in black and there is a reply card 3x3 c. blue on buff.

**TRANSVAAL.**—A new 2c. stamp has been emitted, brown on white, current pattern.

**VICTORIA.**—*Der Philatelist* reports the 3d. orange of 1870 and 4d. carmine of 1881, with black surcharge "Stamp Duty."

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA.**—It is reported that an entire new set of stamps is in course of preparation for this Colony.

**UNITED STATES.**—Something new. A stamped letter sheet is to be issued soon, combining the letter and envelope in one.

## A POSTAGE-STAMP STORY.

Primarily I am a postage stamp; just a common, every day, two-cent stamp, possessing only such attributes as are peculiar to my class. Indeed, if I were placed among a thousand of my brethren I doubt if the keenest observer would be able to point me out as being in any way distinguished. A vague gloom enshrouds that portion of my life preceding its development into one of the government agents (if I may so call myself); and I indistinctly remember having once been connected in some way with a copy of an English comic paper which drifted as an exchange into an American newspaper office, and thence quickly into a huge waste basket. From that time until arriving at my present state, I passed through the hands of paper-dealers, paper manufacturers, and divers clerks and careless people, my last distinct impression being received from an engraver's press.

I can scarcely be called a conceited person; still I am led to believe that my mission in the world is an important one. I am kind-hearted, of agreeable disposition and well satisfied with my lot. I frequently congratulate myself upon the good fortune which made me what I am. How much better to be, perchance, the bearer of some kind letter, a perfumed billet-doux, if you please, than a vulgar revenue stamp, fit only to adorn a box of ill smelling cigars or grace a barrel of inferior liquor.

A man hurriedly places a postage stamp upon a letter, which he drops in a convenient letter box, and entirely forgets the circumstance. It humbly serves his purpose; beyond that he does not care. But think for a moment of the travels of that same stamp, of the persons it meets, of the message it bears, and say it is not a sentient being

After my birth I was carefully accounted for to various commonplace officials, and, after some delay, sent to the postoffice of a certain eastern city. I was purchased soon afterward by Archibald Warrack, who tore me rudely from my friends, and after carrying me about in his pocket-book for a day or two, cast me into a certain dark drawer of his desk.

This Mr. Warrack was about 25, tall, graceful and altogether a very gentlemanly appear-

ing person. He dressed neatly and tastefully, but with no suggestion of foppishness. To be frank, I admired him from the beginning of our acquaintance. Regarding his social and financial status, he was a gentleman of artistic tastes—one of the grand army of dilettanti—possessing an ample bank account and a pedigree which was never questioned.

The desk, into a drawer of which I was so ignominiously thrust, stood in a sunny alcove separated from Mr. Warrack's studio by a heavy portiere. This little apartment was a very pleasant place, and Mr. Warrack spent considerable more time in lounging than he did in working in the great, bare room adjoining. Art was a hobby of mine, and it was with much satisfaction that I found myself placed in such a congenial atmosphere.

Soon after being transferred to the drawer I have before alluded to, I discovered that my quarters were shared by a number of other persons of my own kind, who were reposing on dainty perfumed envelopes. There were, however, black stains upon their escutcheons which showed them to be forever ruined. I made bold to introduce myself to one of these scarred veterans, and, after a few preliminary remarks concerning the weather, politics and so on, said:

"From your looks (date of cancelling) I infer that you have been dwelling with this Mr. Warrack for some time, and, being a stranger, I shall esteem it a favor if you will tell me such things as you feel at liberty to speak of concerning his private history."

"It's a sad case," said my friend, with a deep sigh. He looked haggard and worn, and was apparently in great distress.

"How sad?" I inquired sympathetically.

"A sad case," he continued, without heeding my interruption. "Less than six months ago I was the carrier of a letter, written by a young lady named Rariden—Miss Helen Rariden—to Mr. Warrack, the gentleman whose acquaintance you have recently made. This letter was written in reply to one from him in which he exhausted all the available adjectives of the English language in the sincerest avowals of love, closing with an offer of his heart and hand."

"And the letter of which you were the bearer contained—"

"Her acceptance," he said, completing my sentence. "Helen Rariden is a beautiful woman, gifted, wealthy and of excellent family. At the time I parted from her, or rather at the time she parted from me, she loved this—fellow with all her pure soul—loved him as a man was never loved before; and he doubtless cared for her—then."

The emphasis of this last word was destroyed by a pitiful sob, and for a few moments my friend was so moved that he could not speak. I waited patiently until he again began:

"Shortly after the engagement, which naturally followed, Helen (I take the liberty of so calling her) was compelled to accompany her mother to Europe on a trip undertaken in the hope of benefiting the lady's health. The parting of this Mr. Warrack with his promised bride was tender and touching; I was present at the time in the gentleman's left-hand coat pocket, and felt the beating of Helen's heart with distinctness for a few blissful moments. I admit that it was an embarrassing position for me to occupy, but I could not well withdraw, as I was then very much attached to this letter, as I am now."

I smiled at this little bit of pleasantry, but my neighbor pressed a convenient pen-wiper to his misty eyes and resumed his narrative.

"After Helen went abroad, Warrack was morose and melancholy for a while; he began several pictures with which to occupy his mind—gloomy conceptions to correspond with his state of feeling. He first began what he called 'Arthur and Guinevere'—the parting scene, you know. He sketched and daubed at it for a week or so, but kicked it off the easel one day in a fit of impatience. When Helen's first letter came to him (they are in the next drawer below, embellished with cold, haughty, foreign stamps) he replied promptly and at great length—tender, loving messages. O, how true he was!"

The stamp smiled bitterly.

"But he soon became neglectful and would toss Helen's notes into a corner of the desk and not even open them. Of course, under these circumstances, Helen did not write so often, and I soon began to notice a change in Warrack's manner. He became

cheerful and planned some joyous pictures; one of them, a 'Spring' landscape, is on his easel now, and he has ordered the canvas primed for a contemplated work to be called, 'The Lifting of the Clouds.'"

"And what is the cause of this sudden change?" I asked.

"He is interested in another direction," was the reply.

"And what of Helen?" I inquired.

"She is still true," answered my friend in a tone of conviction.

This ended our conversation for the time being. My fellow lodger drew back into a dark corner and remained silent for several days.

In the meantime Mr. Warrack seemed happy; he spent much time in singing and whistling snatches of tunes, chiefly from light operas. He painted when in the right mood and I observed through the keyhole of the drawer that the "Lifting of the Clouds" was progressing finely. It was with pain I thought there might be some connection between the title of the picture and the growing coldness in the manner of the young people towards one another, judging from the dwindling of their correspondence.

A few days after my conversation with the elderly stamp, Mr. Warrack opened our drawer and threw in an unopened letter which he had just received. As soon as he went out my friend snatched it and examined it eagerly. The envelope bore the card of a Venetian hotel and a cancelled postage stamp whose language we did not know.

"From Helen?" I said, interrogatively.

"Yes," was the mournful reply.

Time wore on. It is a fashion time has, even in the life of lowly postage stamps. Spring came tripping down her bright, flower malled path, and in the darkness of our habitation we felt the stirring of re-awakened life. Mr. Warrack did not enter his studio for days at a time. When I spoke of these long absences to my chum he only answered in the language of Tennyson:

In the spring a livelier iris changes on the burnished dove;

In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love.

*Continued on page 8.*

TORONTO

# PHILATELIC JOURNAL

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Address all communications to

**H. MORELL,**

Editor and Publisher,

76 BALDWIN ST., TORONTO, CANADA.

We are pleased to present to the philatelic public the first number of volume two of the TORONTO PHILATELIC JOURNAL, which, it will be noticed is vastly improved in size and style.

During the twelve months of its existence the TORONTO PHILATELIC JOURNAL has changed hands more than once, but we find in looking over the volume that the style and manner of conducting it has been pretty much the same, its circulation has been uniform each month, and our subscription books alone show that collectors appreciate it.

Advertisers also know the value of the JOURNAL as a medium hence our increased size which we shall endeavor to make as interesting if not more so than formerly. With increasing the size and get up we have not increased the subscription nor advertising rates. Sample copies will be mailed free to any address.

Why is a sheet of perforated postage stamps like distant relations? Because they are but slightly connected.

The Stamp Collectors of Altoona, Pa., organized a society under the name of "Altoona Philatelic Society." Officers are as follows: W. R. Fraser, president; E. C. Mann, secretary, and Edw. E. Kendig, treasurer. We wish it success.

Mr. C. E. Swope of Messrs. C. E. Swope & Co'y. has purchased Mr. C. B. Norton's interest in the firm and will hereafter conduct the business himself and will carry it on in his own name.

We hereby warn the Philatelic public that J. A. Webb and B. De Witt Oprey of Atlanta, Ga., are frauds of the deepest dye. Mr. Whilden informs us that they are one and the same party and these are assumed names. Their ads. appeared in this paper: parties who answered their advertisements in this *Journal* and did not receive satisfactory returns, will do well to communicate with the publisher, also stating date of sending and amount of money enclosed.

MR. GEORGE A. LOWE, LATE the well-known Editor of the "TORONTO PHILATELIC JOURNAL," has just disposed of his whole stock of valuable STAMPS, including many varieties of Canada, United States, Newfoundland, &c., &c., and of his entire business and valuable connection to MESSRS. GAED- ECHEN & Co., 248 Mare Street, London, and MR. WM. BROWN, Riverside, Castle Street, Salisbury, and who, with their own stock of valuable and most rare STAMPS, extending over a variety of 9000, are able to execute any orders from the most advanced Collectors and Dealers, and at prices which are acknowledged by the trade to be lower than those of any other respectable and leading dealer.

"It isn't the salary I care for," said the applicant for the Squashville post-office; "but my wife and daughters are mighty anxious to read the postal cards that pass through the mails."

General Logan's mail is, taking the year round, probably the largest of any member in either branch of Congress. It frequently exceeds 200 letters a day, and seldom falls below 150.

## Among Our Exchanges.

We desire to exchange with every paper in the world published in the interest of, or having a department pertaining to Philately.

Publishers, please send us two (2) copies of your paper each month, and we will be pleased to reciprocate.

*The Stamp* is a very neat little paper from Denver, Colorado, it contains a good article on surcharges.

*The Stamp and Coin Gazette* is the same as usual "up to the mark." It is now one of the best stamp papers published.

*The Philatelic Magazine* for February comes to hand with twelve pages of well-written philatelic literature. Keep on Mr. Bishop, you are doing very well.

*The Philatelic Exchange List* is a new one from England, it "comes out" with eight pages and well filled with very fair reading matter. We wish you success Mr. Bishop.

*The Philatelic News*, volume one, number one to hand, it promises to be a leading paper.

*The National Capital Philatelist*, number two, is at hand. It has enlarged to about double the size of number one. March number will be enlarged to double the size of number two, "it is doing well in this climate."

We have also received the following papers, publishers accept thanks: Empire State Philatelist, Youth's Ledger, Wayne Times, Collectors' Journal, Capital City Philatelist, Philatelic Tribune, Tidings from Nature, The Exchange, Long Island Collector, The Wyoming Cactus, British Philatelist, The Stamp Dealers' Journal, Arizona Pride of Philately, Genius of Youth, West American Scientist, The Observer, Stamp Collectors' Journal, The Cheung Review.

## THE OREGON'S MAIL.

About two thousand three hundred registered letters and a very heavy general mail were in the ship. Of the closed mails not received there were the following letter bags:—For New York, 110; Philadelphia, 8; St. Louis, 7; Chicago, 3; San Francisco, 2; Ottawa, 4; Montreal, 5; Toronto, 5; Hamilton, 5; Quebec, 4; Kingston, 5; Halifax, 2; St. John, N. B., 3; Prince Edward Island, 3; Winnipeg, 3.

## ANNO DOMINI 1885.

A gloomy and somewhat dispiriting review of the past year, considered from a Philatelist's point of view, has quite recently appeared in a contemporary, and it is seriously stated that Stamp Collecting is on the decline. How far this may be true, I cannot, at present, give any opinion. My purpose, in the present article, is to take into consideration some of the various causes to which the decline is attributed, and I will take them in their order:—1st—Imprudent circulation of remainders; 2nd—The traffic in forged stamps; and 3rd—Lack of literature bearing on the subject.

The first reason is one which rests entirely with the large dealers. The second is, I believe, steadily on the decline, and I await with interest the promised revelations by one who is said to be behind the scenes. I do not place much, if any, faith in such promises, and I have only got one thing to say, and that is, "produce your revelations!"

Lack of literature bearing on the subject will seem, to a great many, as it is to me, rather a curious reason. We have literature of some sort, presumably devoted to the science, but, with a few exceptions, failing most ignominiously in their declared aims; and, while on this subject, I may state that it does not pay to publish Stamp papers, and until Collectors are prepared and willing to support publishers, they will never have a respectable number of papers devoted to their hobby. I would strongly advise all intending publishers to ascertain the amount of support they are likely to receive, before embarking in such a hazardous enterprise as catering for the stamp collecting fraternity.—"SPERO MELIORA," in *The Stamp Collectors' Journal*.

Those tiny things called postage stamps which are as light as feathers and might be blown about by the slightest breeze, make up in aggregate very considerable bulk and weight, as will be appreciated when it is mentioned that one year's issue in the United Kingdom amounts to no less than 114 tons.

In Stuttgart, Germany, the tricycle has been adopted by the government for the postal service.

## Numismatic Department.

BY J. HOOPER.

All correspondence and information intended for this department should be addressed to J. Hooper, Esq., Box 145, Port Hope, Canada.

The dates of Canadian 50c. pieces are corrected as follows: 1870, 1871 with and without H below wreath 1872 and 1881. In 5c. issue of 1874 two different dies have been used on Reverse, the 4 being plain and crosslet (thus 4). We note a 2 Trade Tokens issued by Dr. Le Roux, of Montreal, as follows.

1. Obv. "Acheter le Canadian Copper Coin Catalogue \$0.50; L'Atlas Numismatique du Canada \$1.50 et \$2.00; et Le Vade Mecum du Collectionneur \$1.00, Par Jos. Le Roux, M. D., Montreal, Canada."

Rev. "Buy the Canadian Coin Catalogue \$0.50, Numismatic Atlas for Canada \$1.50 and \$2.00, and Collectors' Vade Mecum \$1.00, by Jos. Le Roux, M. D., Montreal, Canada." Copper and Brass size 16. Struck December, 1885.

2. Obv. "Labor improbus omnia vincit." Arms in quartered shield surmounted by beaver L, olive and laurel branch crossed beneath.

Rev. Same as obverse of No. 1. Copper and Brass, size 16½ struck January, 1886.

The Canadian tokens and medals (discovered by myself during 1885) are as follows:

1. Geo. Burns, clothier, London, Ont.
2. Faucher token, Peterboro, Ont.
3. Father Matthew medal, issued for Kingston, Ont., in 1842. W. M. size 28.
4. Oshawa Knights of Labor Demonstration, August 13th, 1883.

Rev. Joseph Hall Works, Oshawa. Iron, size 40.

5. "Bible Army" on open Bible.

6. Obv. surmounted by beaver and encircled by wreath, "The Dominion must and shall be preserved."

Rev. "W. H. Banfield, Machinist and Die maker, Toronto." W. M., size 21.

7. In Sacramental Tokens.

Eight pointed star, crown in centre surrounded by the words, "Methodist Army." W. M., size 24.

8. Baltimore, C. W., 1855.

9. Cobourg, U. C., 1837.

10. Token of Rev. John Douglas "Cavan" with initials J. D.

11. Obv. Saint Andrew's Church, Quebec, in centre.

Rev. Sacramental token 1821.

13. Rev. John Cassie, sacramental token of Port Hope with initials J. C.

12. In Bank of Upper Canada 1852, 1d. issue, two different dies have been used on the obverse, the difference being very apparent in the numerals being smaller, the Obv. and Rev. being straight in the variety. This feature has never been mentioned as yet by any Canadian Numismatist.

Obv. Beaver on stick of maple, with three leaves. "Montreal, Canada," above, "1886 M. E. L." below.

Rev. "E. A. Cardinal, Numismatist, Montreal," 2 patras. Brass, size 17.

The dies broke before 100 was struck.

The most complete collection of coins in America, embracing coins of every description, from the early Colonial days down to the present time, is in the possession of Loring G. Parmalee, of Boston. Its intrinsic value is something less than \$1,200, but its mercantile value is about \$70,000.

The Philadelphia mint first began to coin dollars in 1794. This was the first issue of the United States standard silver dollar. The New Orleans mint first coined dollars in 1846, the San Francisco mint in 1859, and the Carson City mint in 1870. The New Orleans mint did no coining from Jan 26, 1861, to Feb. 20, 1879.

On the Chinese coins the obverse bears the name of the reign, and the words "current money." On the reverse is the name of the mint.

An Austrian post-office circular gives a list of 196 newspapers which are forbidden to be transmitted through the post, either by reason of judicial sentence under the press laws or simply under a Ministerial rescript of the Department. Only seven belong to the first-class, three of which are German and four Italian. The remaining 189 papers are excluded from postal circulation for political reasons and simply by an order of the postal authorities.

## Exchanges.

In order to facilitate the exchange of duplicates, and with a view to bringing about more intimate relations among collectors, we offer a column per month, *free of charge to our subscribers only*, wherein they may state what they have to dispose of and what they desire in exchange. Notices must be written on a separate sheet of paper.

Wanted, old issue Canadian Stamps. Pence issue specially desired for cash or exchange. Address EDW. Y. PARKER, 12 Orde Street, Toronto, Canada.

50 Sea Shells for every 25 official, 100 revenue or 100 old issue U.S. stamps. WILL M. CLEMENS, Jamestown, N. Y.

U. S. revenue document, match, medicine, proprietary and plain card stamps; also U. S. department and postage stamps to exchange for others of same not in my collection. Correspondence solicited with advanced collectors. A. B. G., P. O. Box 67, Brooklyn, N.Y.

6 West India sea beans for every 200 mixed Canadian Stamps. WILL M. CLEMENS, Jamestown, N. Y.

15 cents worth of curiosities for every special delivery stamp—those on the original envelope preferred. Send for list of curio. and coins I have to exchange for good postage and revenue stamps. EDW. J. STEBBINS, Adrian, Mich.

Wanted. I want all kinds of war relics, such as swords, bayonets, old pistols, etc., for which I will pay cash or give foreign stamps in exchange. H. MORELL, 76 Baldwin Street, Toronto.

Wanted to exchange.—Two books, viz.: "History of the Lives and Bloody Exploits of the most noted Pirates," and "Daring Deeds of American Generals." ROBERT L. STEPHENS, State Line City, Warren Co., Ind., U.S.

Correspondence desired in the following countries: Transvaal Republic, Orange Free States, and all parts of South America. Address, K. L., (upper left hand corner of envelope); the publisher of this paper.

I wish to exchange with foreign collectors. Correspondence desired. T. J. McMINN, 102 Rose Avenue, Toronto, Canada.

Will exchange all kinds of stamps with advanced collectors. Rare United States stamps especially desired. H. MORELL, 76 Baldwin Street, Toronto, Canada.

## Correspondence.

We solicit, and are prepared to insert under this heading, any information or suggestions that may be thought of interest to the Philatelic world. Should anyone wish to have any point explained, upon which their mind is not quite clear, we shall be glad to insert the problem in this department, and in the next number will insert the solutions as given by our readers, so that the questions will be fully answered by different parties, and from different stand points. Those who think they can give any information on any of the subjects inquired about, are cordially invited to give their ideas by writing to the editor of this paper, mentioning the signature to the query, and the communication will be published in the next issue also. We hold ourselves in readiness to give here such information as lies in our power, and are prepared, at all times, to assist Philatelists in the solution of such questions as we are able to.

Chicago.—Remit at once for your six months "ad." if you do not wish to see your name put under the dead beats.

L. Rappleye.—We do not accept stamps in payment for ads.

Edwards, Peeke & Co.'y.—Thanks for your favor.

W. M.—Have nothing to do with them. They are frauds of the worst kind.

Chas. King.—You ask how to make a Stamp Album. The following appeared in March Number of *Youth's Ledger*. Try it.—"A very good stamp album can be made of a good sized blank-book. By the aid of a catalogue or a printed album, borrowed from a brother collector, the blank pages may be ruled for the stamps of each country. A few more spaces should be left than there are existing stamps, for new issues. These blank-books are cheap and can be made to look quite handsome."

H. D., New York.—Communicate with Jos. Hooper, Box 145, Port Hope, Canada. He will be able to inform you.

J. C. H., Belleville.—Originals could not be procured at any such price. The correct price is about one dollar for the four; consequently 10 cents is extra cheap. Better leave them alone.

H.—Please remit.

J. S., Chicago.—Morell's Directory will not be sent on approval. Send on twenty-five cents if you wish to receive a copy.

The only thing that can make money without advertising—the mint. So advertise in the *Toronto Philatelic Journal*.

"Poor Helen!" he said. "O, woman, you alone are long suffering and true."

Spring, summer, and fall.

One bright autumn day, as my friend and I were conversing in our quarters, Mr. Warrack, who was sitting in the alcove reading a newspaper, cut from its society columns two items which had, through the instrumentality of Fate and the typographical "make-up," been printed in this order:

Cards have been issued for the wedding of Mr. Archibald Warrack, the rising young artist, and Miss Florence Springer, daughter of Jay Winter Springer, the poet.

"O, the perfidy of man," said my poor stamp friend when I had finished reading.

The other item read:

A cablegram from Venice announces the marriage at that place of Miss Helen Rariden, who has been sojourning abroad for some time past, to Sir Arthur Lombard, of London.

"The devil!" gasped my friend, through the dust which covered him.

"Not the devil, but the way of the world," said I.

#### LAST PAGE IN HISTORY OF DEPARTMENT STAMPS.

*Written for Toronto Philatelic Journal.*

According to the report of Third Assistant Postmaster General (see P. M. General's report page 666) the whole amount of official postage stamps and stamped envelopes issued to the several executive departments, under the Act of March 3rd, 1873, until they were abolished by the Act of July 5th, 1884, represented a value of \$8,049,609.09, of which \$5,831,460.22 was credited as receipts of the post office; the balance of \$2,138,310.85 representing the amount of stamps used by the Post Office Department in the years of 1877, 1878, and 1879, did not go to the credit of that department, further appropriations for the purpose being denied by Congress. Besides the above in January 1885, there were in the vaults of the stamp contractors \$17,024,588 worth of stamps of various denominations ranging from 1c. to \$20 which with what had been left over in the various offices were destroyed by burning. So the curtain has rung down over the De-

partment stamps of the United States. What will the collector of the nineteenth century say about them. As to the stock destroyed, the New York dealers expected to have a pic-nic out of them but were disappointed. Without an Act of Congress they expected to get them at the cost of printing.

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