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THE Stamp Reporter,

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY.

Devoted to the Interests of Stamp Collecting.

Vol. 1., No. 3.—New Series.] ST. CATHARINES, ONT., SATURDAY, APR. 15, 1899. [Old Series—Vol. 2., No 9.

From our Regular Correspondent.

Hamilton Notes.

BY CHAS. S. APPLGATH.

The regular weekly meeting of the Philatelic Section of the Canadian club was held as usual last night.

Owing to the inclemency of the weather the attendance was somewhat smaller than usual; the following members only being present: Messrs. Robinson, Ward, Mason, Seavey, Rosebrugh, Cooper, Grant, Weaver and Applegath.

The Entertainment Committee put through a motion to have the debate on "Unused vs. Used," announced for last night postponed for one week which carried.

The committee also announced that Mr. R. S. Mason had kindly consented to give an illustrated paper on "Blank Albums," on the 21st inst.

No business being before the house the meeting adjourned, and the balance of the evening was spent in a social way and in looking over Mr. Mason's fine collection of "Entires."

Mr. Findlay S. Weaver announces his intention to continue the Canadian Philatelic Review as a semi-monthly periodical. It will be published from Berlin as heretofore, and Mr. Weaver will still continue the editorial work.

Mr. R. S. Mason, the only local dealer doing a counter trade, has removed his office to the second flat of the same building. He reports that the counter trade is decreasing somewhat, owing to the approaching warm weather, and, therefore, considers a front room ground floor office not necessary.

Hamilton collectors are pleased to note the change in the style of the "Reporter." It seems hard work for philatelic weekly to thrive in this country and it is to be hoped the "Reporter" will receive the support it merits.

From our Regular Correspondent.

Ottawa Notes.

BY J. S. DALTON.

It is very doubtful if any 4c stamp will be issued or not. The 7c stamp is expected every day, the color being as yet unknown.

The 5c numeral is said to have been put on sale at some offices, but up to the time of writing it has not made its appearance here.

Instead of the 5c maple leaf stamp that has been sold by the post offices right along, the writer has seen a number of 5c jubilees sold. The 50c jubilee has also been on sale at some offices also.

There is one dealer in this city who has over 1,000 of the 2c purple envelopes and another has over 600. This is quite a hole out of the 10,000 printed.

From 50 to 65 cents seems to be about the right price for the 2c purple envelope now.

The 3c envelope surcharged 1 2c is now selling for about 25 and 35 cents. The letter cards from 8 to 10 cents.

The stamp trade is growing better every day and is beginning to be appreciated by the adults more than ever.

The Ottawa Junior Philatelic Society of this city seem to have a pretty good footing now, and have a number of books on circuit. Next year we think the membership roll will be increased and they may have an official organ.

The 3c envelope of the 1877-96 issue surcharged 2c, is undoubtedly the rarest, very few are seen, compared to the new issue.

The 2c map stamp seems to be rather rare in a used state. Not more than one letter in a dozen is stamped with them.

A Psalm of Philately.

BY SHEPARD.

(With apologies to Longfellow.)

Tell me not in mournful numbers
Stamp collecting's but a fad,
For the man, who e'en in slumbers,
Still believes that, must be mad.

Stamp collectors are in earnest
Thou wilt learn that fact the day
That thou from the fair returnest,
After viewing our display.

Buy no surcharge, they're infernal!
Shun all "Seebecks" when unused;
Then subscribe to some stamp journal,
Join a club and pay the dues.

Much enjoyment, little sorrow,
Is our destined end of way;
And to see that each to-morrow
One more stamp brings than to-day.

Great philatelists remind us
We can be collectors too,
And, departing, leave behind us
Choice collections for the view

Of the public; and thus many
Sailing o'er life's solemn main
May devote each day their penny
That some stamps, they too, may gain.

Let us then be up and doing,
Seeing that no friend e'er damps
Our first ardor; never rueing
That our cash is spent in stamps.
—Eastern Philatelist.

Local Happenings.

Plate No. 5 of the Imperial stamp has been received here.

The 3 cent letter card surcharged two cents in black, was placed on sale here the other day. As only 100 were received the supply was soon exhausted.

100 of the surcharged letter cards were received at this office Wednesday, April 5th, and were quickly bought up by collectors and dealers.

In spite of our previous statement in No. 1, to the effect that Jas. F. Irwin had decided to give up the stamp business, we are at present informed that he will remain in the business,

THE STAMP REPORTER.

Published every Saturday.

GEO. BRADLEY, Editor and Publisher,
St. Catharines, Ontario, Can.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Canada and United States per year 50c
Other countries in postal union per
year... ..\$1.00

All subscriptions commence with current issue.

Back numbers cannot be supplied at subscription rates.

ADVERTISING RATES.

1 inch insertion... ..\$ 40
5 inches to be used as desired... 1 75
10 inches to be used as desired... 3 00
Reading notices per line... .. 10

TERMS.—Cash must positively accompany orders.

Contract ads. may be paid weekly, monthly or quarterly in ADVANCE.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICES.

FORMS CLOSE on Tuesdays at 5 p. m. All copy must be received by that time to ensure appearance in following issue.

REMITTANCES — Unused current stamps of Canada or the United States taken in payment of account for subscriptions and advertisements under \$1. This sum and larger amounts may be remitted in bank notes or by postal note, post office or express money order.

RETURN POSTAGE should be enclosed in all letters enquiring for information other than of general interest and requiring a personal reply. This will insure our attention and a cheerful reply.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—In notifying us of any change of address subscribers should be sure to give their old address as well as new address.

YOUR SUBSCRIPTION EXPIRES with this issue if a (X) appears in the margin opposite this paragraph. The paper is not abruptly discontinued on the expiration of subscriptions, unless expressly so ordered. We shall highly appreciate an early renewal from you, or an order to have your paper discontinued.

Ourselves.

It is well known that advertising is the life of trade, and it is equally true that it is the "bread of life." to all papers, and especially stamp magazines. Without strong advertising patronage papers of the present day cannot exist. The Stamp Reporter, for example, is sold at much less than the cost of printing. In fact, at the present time we are doing our work gratis, and sometimes have to chip in a little to make up. Now this state of affairs may do for awhile, but our readers will see that if our finances are not increased we will not be able to intro-

duce any new features, such as illustrations, etc. All that is required, however, is a few more regular advertisers and a fair number of new subscribers. Our advertising rates are low and advertisements pay. These two facts ought to be substantial enough to merit a trial advertisement for next week's issue from the most doubting advertiser. You may have tried others at greater cost, but do not despair, there is still hope in the advertising columns of this paper. Try for yourself.

We are indeed encouraged by the complimentary letters we have received since the appearance of first number as a Weekly. It is indeed gratifying for us to know that our efforts have been a success. It will be our earnest endeavor to add new features each week. A very welcome compliment just at present would be a year's subscription from each one of our readers.

In compiling our "News in Brief" and "Notes of Interest," we generally take the bulk of the matter from other journals. Therefore, if any of ye editors find a wee bit of your notes missing and they accidentally turn up in the columns of this paper, we hope they will not let their wrath get the better of them, as no offence is meant by ye editor.

We're in need of a few good original articles on philatelic subjects for our next issue.

If you are a stamp dealer and receive this number as a specimen copy, it is a request for your advertisement for our next number. Look up our present rates and send at once.

We mail a large number of copies of this issue to collectors who are, at present, non-subscribers. Kindly remember it costs but fifty cents to receive 52 numbers of this paper.

We have obtained access to several old volumes of the Philatelic Journal of America, Eastern Philatelist and the Postoffice. For the benefit of our readers who doubtless will not have the same privilege as ourselves, we will reprint what we consider the best of articles, notes, etc.

Some of our readers have taken exceptions to criticisms of things, published in this paper over the signature of other parties other than the editor. We will state that we do not hold ourselves responsible for any opinions expressed over other signatures, and the fact of their being admitted to our columns is no evidence of our concurrence.

The columns of this paper are always open to its readers for the free discussion of any matter of public interest.

Why is it that so many otherwise reliable stamp dealers are so slack about paying advertising bills? Nearly all the papers complain of several delinquent advertising, and while the S. R. is not so badly imposed upon as many of its contemporaries, we have a few who are not so prompt in attending to their advertising accounts as we wish they were. There are several who will see their names in print next week, if a remittance is not forthcoming very soon.

Friend collector, who may receive a sample copy of this magazine, do you not consider it well worth the small sum of fifty cents? Then favor us with your subscription.

Notes of Interest.

The three greatest luxuries of philately are a neat collection, a whole envelope, and a fellow collector to dispute with.

Now is the time to buy your stamps before the raise. Scott & Co., report an extra large demand for cheap albums and catalogues.

Gum Arabic dissolved in warm water makes the best coating for homemade hinges. Five cents worth of gum arabic and one pint of luke warm water makes a fine solution.

There were 18,281 three dollar Columbian stamps issued, and but one plate each was used for the higher.

The number of stamps shipped to Havana on December 23rd, 1898, surcharged on current U. S. stamps was as follows:

1,000,000 1c de peso on 1c green.
4,000,000 2 1-2c de peso on 2c rose.
4,000,000 5c de peso on 5c blue.
400,000 10c de peso on 10c brown.

Many collectors will pass by specimens of stamps with imprints attached, as being of no extra value, but such stamps are eagerly sought for, and the imprint adds considerable to the price.

A Few of Our Premiums.

given to every new yearly subscriber, providing a self-addressed stamped envelope is sent.

1. Special delivery stamp, unused.
2. 10c numeral issue, unused.
3. 2c Xmas stamp, unused.
4. Scott's supplement to 58th.
5. 2c letter card (surcharged).
6. 15 var. Canadian stamps.

Send 50c. Money Order.

Geo. Bradley, Pub.,
St. Catharines, Ont.

Philately is young. The time will come and before many more years, when all minor varieties will be catalogued and priced, and many of them will bear a good price. Do not be bound to present catalogues. Collect all the novelties and minor varieties now while you can. The time may come when your "minor" variety will turn out to be a "major" variety in the matter of price and scarcity.

All that is necessary to educate the coming generation of collectors is—in other words—to tell them what is speculative, and what not, and then leave it to them. No collector of good judgment will ever spend much money for seebeck trash.

In the opinion of the "old timers" the great interest in philately that is prevalent throughout the country has never been paralleled before. The enthusiasm of both old and new collectors is something to marvel at.

Stamp collecting has reached such a fine point nowadays that conscientious catalogues give the most minute description of the specimens to be sold. Thus we see stamps "well centered," "a little to one side," "unperforated to left owing to being centre of sheet," "two perforation gone," etc. If all would be as particular in describing the condition of the various specimens, many disappointments would be avoided on the part of the buyers.

The first auction sale of stamps held on the Pacific coast came off in March 1892. It was under the direction of W. Sellschopp & Co. Three hundred lots were disposed of in two and three-quarter hours while the amount realized was \$730.00.

As an indication of the immense trade in postage stamps, just see the dozens of auction sales held during a season, aggregating many thousands of dollars, and yet the stamp dealers apparently are not affected in the least. In fact their busiest season is while the auctions are being held.

Straits Settlements has a \$5 stamp, orange and carmine.

From the Post Office, June, 1892.

A Valuable and Interesting Find.

Mr. E. B. Stirling is the fortunate discoverer of one of the rarest stamps in existence, and the way in which it came into his possession showsthat Dame Fortune is indeed good to him. The stamp in question is one of the New Haven postmaster and is printed in red, on light blue paper, and on the original letter. The stamp as shown to us is a perfect specimen, while the postmarks, letter and other proofs in Mr. Stirling's possession, leave not a shadow of doubt as to the genuineness of this rarity.

The letter, which was enclosed in the envelope, was written by Professor Benjamin Sillsman, of New Haven Col-

addressed to "Francis Marlsoe, jr.," of the State Department at Washington, D.C.

The letter itself is folded and addressed on the back, as was usual at that time, the professor no doubt, intending to mail it in that way, but on going to the post office, the postmaster evidently told him to use one of his stamped envelopes, which he did, and the letter when it reached Washington received the stamp "Due 5," the regular rate being ten cents, while the postmaster's stamp only paid five of this sum.

We believe that up to the present there has only been one genuine original specimen of this stamp found, and that one was mutilated, thus leaving this one to be the only perfect specimen of this stamp known to exist.

Those ordinarily seen in collections are simply signed reprints, but even these are worth about \$30.

This specimen on the original letter is worth from five hundred to one thousand dollars, and cost Mr. Sterling ten cents.

Now as to how it was found.

A short time ago a sale of autographs was held in Philadelphia, at which Mr. Sterling was present. One of the lots catalogued was "Nine letters of Professor Selleman." On the day of the sale it was put up and bought in by Mr. Sterling for ten cents, or about one cent a letter. he at that time having no idea that it was anything but a few letters of an unknown personage.

These letters, among many others, bought at the same sale, were taken home and thrown on the floor, and there they remained until a day or so ago (June 15th, 1892) when Sterling started to sort them over.

When he struck the one with the New Haven stamp on, he jumped by actual measurements taken afterward three feet and nine inches, and drove his young daughter screaming from the room, to tell ma that papa had gone insane.

He soon got over it and at once informed the Postoffice of his great discovery, in order that the world might know of it at once and rejoice with him in his good fortune, and we think we will voice the sentiments of his many friends in saying, "May many such discoveries fall in your way." ALVA DAVIDSON.

PREMIUM NO. 7.

Send a 50 cent Money Order for a year's subscription and get a copy of HALL'S REVENUE CATALOGUE FREE.

Geo. Bradley,

PUBLISHER,

St. Catharines, Ont.

WE BUY STAMPS

And old Collections for Cash. What can you offer us?
STANDARD STAMP Co.
INCORPORATED, ST. LOUIS, MO.
4 NICHOLSON PLACE, ST. LOUIS, MO.

100 VAR. OF STAMPS,
Newfoundland, British Colonies, Canada Imperial stamp, etc. **25c. POST-FREE.**
JOHN H. LOWE,
109 HURON ST., TORONTO, ONT.

MORE BARGAINS.

Packet No. 1. 25 var., price... ..05c
Packet No. 2. 25 var., fine stamp, price... ..10c
Packet No. 3. 30 var., fine stamp, price... ..10c
Canada:
Maple leaf issue, complete, new...40c
Numeral issue, complete, new...35c
Envelopes, 1 and 2 cents, entire...06c
Envelopes, 2c purple, entire... ..60c
Stamp Reporter, 1 year and packet 2 for... ..45c
Stamp Tribune, 1 year and packet 2 for... ..20c
Perforator, 1 year and packet 2 for 20c
Orders under 50c 2c extra for postage. Approved sheets to agents at 50 per cent. dis., ref. Address

J. S. DALTON,
150 Cooper St., Ottawa, Can.

A GOOD OFFER.

To test the pulling powers of the Stamp Reporter. I offer this packet at almost cost.

15 Varieties of Canadian Postage Stamps for 12c., Post-free.

SINGLE SNAPS.

Special Delivery, unused, each.....13c
2c. Imperial, unused, each..... 5c
1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, Maple Leaf.....10c

E. KER,

Box 474, St. Catharines, Ont.

J. Edward Sohn, Jr.,

Postage Stamps for Albums. Approval Sheets a Specialty.

Agent for... **THE STAMP REPORTER.**

Advertisers send for ad. rates:

3303 JEFFERSON AVE., CINCINNATI, OHIO.

Philatelic Hunting Grounds.

BY J. EDWARD SOHN, JR.

Indians after their death claim to go to "The Happy Hunting Grounds" as we long to go to ———; but we have a happy hunting place with us while we live on this earth.

Many a collector has added to his collection and sold rare stamps which he has found in a remote part of his father's or grandfather's dwelling, in a lawyer's office, etc. Others travel from one town to another enquiring at the postoffices, farm houses, etc., for old stamps. The druggist is bothered quite often to ransack his old stock in search of the old stamps which a wise collector has come to get; the grocery man can get rid of his old matches at twice the price he used to sell them, if stamps are still attached.

Thus the house of your grandfather, the lawyer's office, the country post-offices, farm houses, the old drug store and grocery are still the "Happy Hunting Grounds" of a philatelist, and he need not die to get there.

A fortune is unearthed in a day in many of these places. It has been but three years since a gentleman realized a sum of \$30,000 on stamps found in a lawyer's office in the city of Louisville; many other smaller finds realizing from \$100 to \$1,000 have been made within that time in other cities, among them Washington, D. C., were another 10c Baltimore was found, in New York a big find in revenues was made.

If you wish to make such a find it is best to get to work at once as there are many philatelic hunters who might get ahead of you.

To Publishers.

All publishers running exchange ads please discontinue until further notice.

GEO. BRADLEY,
Publisher.

EXCHANGE COLUMN.

Free to subscribers. Limit 35 words including address. To non-subscribers 1c a word each insertion. Notices must be written on a separate piece of paper, no display allowed.

Canadian Collectors.—Send on any number of numerals, maple leaves or maps (50, 100, or over) and get in exchange equal value of old U. S. envelopes or revenues. Just as you say. D. Finsthwait, Sta. D., Pittsburg, Pa.

An unused 2c U. S. Agriculture Department stamp, catalogued at \$1.25 to exchange for 15 Omahas above 2c value. A \$3.00 1898 Doc. Rev. for 5c Meyer Brandvik, 3100 Minnehaha ave. Minneapolis, Minn.

Now Issue.—Exchange desired with dealers and collectors everywhere, large lots preferred; wholesale lists wanted. Papers copying this will receive value in unused N. Z. Cecil Roberts, Member O. P. S., Thames street. Oamaru, N. Z.

AUCTION SALE

OF DESIRABLE STAMPS.

My 1st Auction Sale will be held on April 25th and the following choice lots are offered. All bids will be accepted until the day of sale up to 8 p. m.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 5 1-2 cent black 68 issue. | 53 50 Imperial Maps lavender. |
| 2 2 1 cent yellow 68 issue. | 54 100 Imperial Map blue. |
| 3 5 6 cent dark brown 68 issue | BILL STAMPS. |
| 4 5 15 cent lilac (two colors) | 55 3 1 cent brown 3rd issue. |
| 5 25 1-2 cent black 1882 issue. | 56 1 set of 3rd issue from \$1. down. |
| 6 500 1 cent yellow 1882 issue | UNITED STATES. |
| 7 1000 3 cent mixed colors 1882 issue | 57 1 5 cent light brown 1861 issue. |
| 8 25 5 cent grey 1882 issue. | 58 4 2c, 4c, 6c, 12c and 15c 1869 issue |
| 9 25 6 cent light and ark brown 1882 issue. | as one lot. |
| 10 10 10 cent carmine red 1882 issue. | 59 1 6 cent fark green Dept. Stare. |
| 11 2 5 cent olive green 1882 issue. | 60 25 1 cent Columbian. |
| 12 25 8 cent slate and lilac grey 1892 issue. | 61 100 2 cent Columbian. |
| 13 2 20 cent vermilion 1892 issue. | 62 25 10 cent Columbia. |
| 14 2 50 cent blue 1892 issue. | 63 50 3 cent purple 1890 issue. |
| 15 10 5 cent beaver 1859 issue. | 64 25 5 cent brown 1890 issue. |
| 16 2 3 pence ribbed paper 1858 issue. | 65 10 8 cent violet 1890 issue. |
| 17 2 3 pence wove paper 1852 issue. | 66 10 10 cent green 1890 issue. |
| 18 10 1 cent pink 1859 issue. | 67 100 1 cent Omaha issue. |
| 19 2 10 cent violet (on cover) 1859 issue. | 68 100 2 cent Omaha issue. |
| 20 5 2 cent orange registration. | 69 25 4 cent Omaha issue. |
| 21 5 2 cent vermilion registration. | 70 10 5 cent Omaha issue. |
| 22 5 2 cent scarlet registration. | 71 10 8 cent Omaha issue. |
| 23 10 5 cent green registration. | 72 5 10 cent Omaha issue. |
| 24 100 1 cent yellow Jubilee. | 73 100 2 cent brown 1873 issue. |
| 25 100 2 cent green Jubilee. | 74 100 2 cent green 1887 issue. |
| 26 100 3 cent red Jubilee. | 75 100 1 cent light blue 1887 issue. |
| 27 1-2 cent black Jubilee. | 76 100 3 cent green 1873 issue. |
| 28 20 5 cent blue Jubilee. | 77 25 5 cent blue 1888 issue. |
| 29 2 6 cent brown Jubilee. | NEWFOUNDLAND. |
| 30 2 8 cent violet Jubilee. | 78 2 6 pence lake 1863 issue. |
| 31 2 10 cent brown violet Jubilee. | 79 2 6 cent rose 1873. |
| 32 1 50 cent ultramarine jubilee. | 80 2 6 cent pink 1859 issue. |
| 33 25 1-2 cent black Maple leaf issue. | 81 1 5 cent blue (roul) 1876 issue. |
| 34 200 1 cent green " " " | 82 5 1-2 cent red 1887 issue. |
| 35 400 3 cent red " " " | 83 5 1-2 cent black 1859 issue. |
| 36 100 2 cent purple " " " | 84 6 5 cent light blue 1880 issue. |
| 37 25 5 cent blue " " " | 85 50 3 cent slate 1859 issue. |
| 38 25 5 cent blue " " " | 86 6 1c violet, 5c green, 10c red, 12 1-2c blue 17c black as one lot. |
| 39 10 6 cent brown " " " | MISCELLANEOUS. |
| 40 10 6 cent brown " " " | 87 10 1 cent Canada Jubilee. |
| 41 10 8 cent yellow " " " | 88 10 6 cent blue United States 1869. |
| 42 10 8 cent yellow " " " | 89 1 12c, black United States 1862 issue |
| 43 5 10 cent violet " " " | 90 1 2c black " " " |
| 44 5 10 cent violet " " " | 91 5 2c imperial maps in black. |
| 45 25 1-2 cent black Numeral issue. | 92 1 1c violet Hawaii 1804 issue. |
| 46 200 1 cent green Numeral issue. | 93 2 5c blue Hawaii 1864 issue. |
| 47 300 2 cent purple Numeral issue. | 94 1 30c black United States 1890. |
| 48 200 3 cent red Numeral issue. | 95 500 1c Canada yellow 1882. |
| 49 20 6 cent brown Numeral issue. | 96 2000 3c Canada red 1882. |
| 50 20 6 cent brown Numeral issue. | 97 25 6c light and dark brown 1882. |
| 51 20 8 cent yellow Numeral issue. | 98 100 3c Canada Jubilee red. |
| 52 20 8 cent yellow Numeral issue. | 99 100 2c Canada Jubilee. |
| | 100 10,000 3c Canada red 1882. |

TERMS OF SALE.

All successful bidders will be notified by post-card and are expected to remit promptly. No lots will be sent on approval, but will be shipped promptly on receipt of money.

These sales will be held at regular intervals. Watch for the next and address all bids plainly to

WM. RIDDLE,

Box 808,

St. Catharines,

Ontario.

REFERENCE.—Publisher this paper.