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THE  
*Canadian Philatelist*  
An Illustrated Monthly  
MAGAZINE.

Devoted to Stamp Collecting,

Vol. I

QUEBEC. JANUARY 1, 1873.

No. 4.

**On Local Stamps.**

(Continued from page 19.)

Our readers no doubt will feel disappointed that our article on the Confederate Provisionals is not continued in this number, but as this is, from the scarcity of specimens, a rather difficult subject to write upon, we have obtained the assistance of a prominent New York collector, and as the manuscripts are not quite completed, we have deemed it better to hold over this subject until next month, than to publish it as it is and perhaps omit several important details which we have not as yet been able to obtain; being prompted by a desire to make this article the most accurate one yet published on the subject, we intend illustrating it with cuts of the various emissions of the Southern postmasters, and these will only be ready by next month.

The next country after the Confederate States in which locals have been issued is—

**DENMARK.**—The Danish locals consist of several sets of railway stamps, employed in the same way as the Austrian, and two government emissions for the town of Holte. The railway stamps measure in size about 2 inches by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  so that a complete set would take up a considerable space; they are hardly worth collecting, but are really genuine stamps, used by a large railway company on packages of newspapers. The

town of Holte is situated about six miles from the capital; in the year 1868 the local authorities issued an adhesive stamp, to be used to defray the expenses of the post to and from the adjoining districts, in this way it is employed in exactly the same manner as the Russian locals. The country letter carriers always have a supply of these stamps, and affix one to every letter from the town, which instead of being obliterated in the usual way has a small hole punched in it by the postman; they also put it on letters from the country, and the stamps thus employed are cancelled by the town officials, with their regular hand-stamp. As yet Holte is the only town which uses these stamps, but we would imagine that if a town so near the capital has to make use of them, the other towns would require something of the kind as well. Two types have appeared, the first although issued in 1868 was not discovered till 1870, the other was issued on the 15th of September last, and was described in our December number.

Seal of the railway company embossed in oval; inscription, DE JYDSK-FYERKE

JERNBANER. Col. imp.

8 skilling, green, 12 sk., red.

The same without the seal. Col. imp.

8 skilling, green, 12 skilling, red.

The same with figure of value in oval.

Col. imp.

8 skilling, brown. Perf and unperf.

Weight of parcel in oval inscribed DE SJAELLANDSKE JERNBANER; above a crown; below value.

8 *skill.* 5 *lb.*, blue, 12 *skill.* 10 *lb.*, brown. Value (2 *sk*) in oval inscribed above HOLTE, below LANDPOST, post horns in each angle. Col. imp. rect. 2 *skill.*, light and dark brown.

Figure 2 in a circle contained in a seven rayed star; the point of each ray touches an outer circle; above HOLTE, below LANDPOST, Col. imp. rect. 2 *skill.*, green.

EGYPT.—In the year 1868 all the magazines had long articles describing some curious looking circular labels bearing the names of Egyptian towns, these have ever since been known as the Egyptian Official stamps. We have had a number of enquiries lately whether they are locals, and to settle this point we have mentioned them in this article. These labels are not locals, and can scarcely even be called postage stamps, they being merely used as seals on packets of letters by the various post offices; the handstamp, with which they are obliterated, is not a cancelling stamp, but is used only to show the date at which the packet was despatched by the post office. In the United States a large stamp is used in the same manner for registered letters, in Canada each of the post offices has its official seal, for sealing up packets, the mail bags, etc., and we presume the post offices in other countries have pretty much the same thing. As these Egyptian stamps have nothing whatever to do with franking letters, they have no more right to be collected than the Bavarian Instruction stamps, or the Austrian Complementary stamps.

The only Egyptian locals are the Suez Canal stamps, these were issued in 1868, for the use of the workmen employed in making the canal, and continued in use only two or three months, so that used specimens are extremely rare; unused ones however are common enough, in fact so common lately, that those now sold would suggest a reprint.

Steamer sailing to right in transverse oval frame, inscribed CANAL MARITIME DE SUEZ; below POSTES; value in circle at each angle. Col. imp. obl.

1 centime, black, 5c., green, 20c., blue, 40c., red.

FINLAND.—In the towns of Helsingfors and Tammerfors there exists a private city post; this post has issued, with the sanction of the Government, three stamps for Helsingfors, value 10 pennia, and one for Tammerfors, value 12 pennia. There is also a fourth type for Helsingfors, which we consider fictitious, as the company has denied having issued it; from the fact that it is but seldom met with, it has the appearance of being an essay, but then obliterated specimens have been seen. As the Tammerfors stamp is never to be seen cancelled, it is doubtful whether it ever was really used for postage, certainly it could not have continued in circulation very long. The stamps for both towns were issued about the same time in 1866, the colors of the Helsingfors were changed in 1868, and in 1871 the design was altered, but the old colors were re-adopted.

Broad diagonal bar, inscribed STADSPOST with figures of value on each side, in oval frame inscribed above KAUPUNGIN POSTI, below HELSINGFORS, value at sides. Col. imp. oval.

10 pennia, red and green, 10 *pen.*, blue and brown.

Large sized numeral 10 in oval inscribed above 10 PENNI, below 10 PENNIA; groundwork of dots; outer frame inscribed at top STADSPOST, at bottom KAUPUNGIN POSTI, at left HELSINGFORS, at right HELSINGISSA; X in each angle. Col. imp. rect.

10 *pen.*, green and red.

Note.—This stamp is so printed as to have the red upper half inscribed in Swedish, and the green portion in Finnish.

Shield of the town crossed diagonally by a bar bearing the value; above TAMMERFORS; below LOKAL POST. Col. imp. ovl. 12 *peni* blue and green.

Fiji Islands.—A set of stamps was issued in 1871 by the proprietors of the *Fiji Times* on their own responsibility, these therefore can be considered locals, although they were used on letters to Australia from the islands. For what precise purpose these stamps were issued we have been unable to find out, but would suppose

that they were got up by the *Times* as an experiment, and for the convenience of its subscribers. There are several varieties in the paper on which they are printed, and from the fact that they are type set, we imagine some typographical errors must exist. They are printed in sheets of twenty-four, four rows of six each, and are arranged in rather a singular manner; the first row consists of sixpenny stamps, second row shilling stamps, third row penny stamps, fourth row three threepenny, and three ninepenny stamps.

Numeral in centre; FIJI at left; TIMES above, EXPRESS at right; PENCE below.

Black imp. obl. perf.

1d, 3d, 6d, 9d, 1s on pink paper.

(To be continued.)

### Newly Issued Stamps.

UNITED STATES.—A correspondent informs us that the 2 cent stamp, adhesive, envelope, and newspaper wrapper is out of use, and is unobtainable at some of the post offices.

BAVARIA.—A 10 kreuzer stamp is to appear shortly, the color has not yet been decided upon.

ROUMANIA.—The new engraved set has been issued. We give an excellent illustration of the 10 bani, the other values are the same in design with the figures altered. It will be noticed that the new stamps, which are by the



way engraved in Paris, are almost exact copies of the French labels, the circle of pearls, the profile to the left, the Grecian border, the almost invisible figures, the crosses in the angles are all to be found in the new stamps. They are printed on tinted paper as follows:

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1½ bani olive green | 15 bani red brown. |
| 3 " bright green    | 25 " orange.       |
| 5 " bistre          | 50 " rose.         |
| 10 " blue           |                    |

SPAIN.—Already two of the values given in our last have been suppressed, the 6 and 12 cent de peseta.

AZORES.—The 20 reis of the new type

has appeared, the 120 and 240 is yet wanting to complete the set.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—The *Philatelic Journal* announces two new values ¼ and 1 centavo.

BRITISH HONDURAS.—The color of the 3d. lately issued is fawn brown.

RUSSIAN LOCALS.—Another batch of novelties this month. We give illustrations of two new issues noticed by the *P. J.*, the circular one is for the town of Kadnikoff in the Wologda Government it is printed in blue; the other is for Wiessenburg and the same design is employed for four values:—½ kop brown, 1k. green, 2k. blue, 5k. rose.



The other new arrivals are:—

Aleksansdrowsk 10 kop black on buff.

Elizavetgrad 5 " carmine (obsolete.)

Rjef 10 " black.

The last is supposed to be merely the seal of the local post, used in the same manner as the Egyptian seals described in another column.

SPANISH WEST INDIES.—Contemporaneously with the appearance of this number the 1873 number comes into use. Two types are to be employed, of which we give illustrations, no particulars as to colors have arrived.



- Type 1. 12, 12½, 25, 50 cent de peseta.
2. Una peseta.

UNITED STATES OF COLUMBIA.—A new stamp has been issued for registered and insured letters, value 5 centavos, the design is similar to the well known stamp for re-

gistered letters, with the letter R in a circle, but the letter is changed to A.

**GREAT BRITAIN.**—The Birmingham *magazine* gives an illustration of the impressed stamp of a new English post card, it is oval; head of queen in centre; halfpenny above; postage below; embossed in pink on right hand upper corner of the card.

**NORWAY.**—We have received the 2sk of the new type post-horn in centre. It is printed in light blue on white watermarked paper.

**LUXEMBURG.**—A fresh supply of 1c, 20c, and 25c, was printed last March, the colors are slightly altered the 1c. is a light red brown, the 20c pale chocolate, and 25c dull blue. The 37½c is to be changed by means of a black surcharge to one franc.

**WURTEMBERG.**—Two new post-cards have been issued value 2kr., color orange on blue. One of these is a double card, one half for the reply; the other card is the ordinary single kind.

**TRINIDAD.**—The four pence is now printed greyish blue.

**SWITZERLAND.**—The color of the Rigi Scheideck local has been changed to blue.

**ISLAND.**—In the December *Timbre Poste* a set of stamps copied from the current Danish is announced of the following values and colors:—

- 2 skilling blue.
- 4 " rose.
- 8 " brown.
- 16 " yellow.

Also two service stamps of the same type, but different in color.

4 skill, green, 8 skill, lilac.

M. Moens states that Island is a Danish possession but does not say where it is situated. Is it the general name for the Faroe Islands, or is it intended for Iceland?

**JAPAN.**—In the same magazine we find a stamp figured which Mr. Moens imagines the fore-runner of a new set; it is of an entirely new design, having the value expressed in Japanese and Roman characters. We will try and give further particulars in our next.

1 sen, blue.

**ECUADOR.**—The new stamp mentioned in our last is also figured by the Belgian

journal, together with two other values ½ real and 1 peso both of the same type but different to the 1 real. Should these stamps prove genuine it will greatly surprise us. Neither our South American nor West Indian correspondents say anything about them.

## Reviews.

*Philatelistische Berichte.*—S. F. FRIEDMAN; Rudolfsheim Vienna.

Four numbers of this Austrian magazine are now on our table. They are full of useful information and we have no doubt Austrian philatelists will avail themselves of Mr. Friedman's experience, and that the small four page journal he now publishes will require to be enlarged, to meet the demands of the immense number of European collectors. In the November number the appearance of a magazine in Copenhagen for Denmark, Norway and Sweden is announced; we heartily welcome the new comer and hope it may prove both successful and remunerative to its enterprising publishers.

*The Curiosity Hunter.*—D. A. K. ANDRUS, Rockford Ills.

The first number of this journal appeared on September 1st in size only four pages, in October it was increased to eight pages, and the fourth number now before us has attained to the respectable size of sixteen pages of reading matter and eight pages of advertisements. This is certainly a sign of success, and we beg to congratulate the editors and publishers. As the title implies the journal treats of all kinds of curiosities, and we notice that the editor intends depending upon the contributions of subscribers to fill his columns, this is very well for general curiosities, but if he carries this out strictly there will seldom be anything about stamps, for, as a rule, stamp collectors are very backward in furnishing information. However there is much to be gleaned from the pages of our contemporary, and we have much pleasure in numbering the *Hunter* amongst our exchanges.

*The Stamp Collector's Chronicle.*—W. H. BRUCE, St. John, N. B.—This is the first venture from the Maritime Provinces, since the death of poor Craig; we hope that the

gentlemanly spirit which always characterized our lost friend's writings, will display itself in his successors. Two numbers of the *Chronicle* have come to hand, and although in size it is only four pages, it contains nothing but really useful information, and has not got sundry "puffs" of its publisher's stock in every second line, after the usual manner of journals of this size. The second number opens with a well written article on the "Bancroft Local" in which this spurious stamp is justly condemned. We notice that the publishers intend if possible to enlarge their paper to sixteen pages, in their endeavours we wish them every success.

*The Stamp Collector's Guide.*—AMERICAN STAMP COMPANY Meriden, Ct.

We had been wondering what had become of the *New Jersey Magazine*, when to our surprise we received it in a new and elegant form from Connecticut, "edited by its original editor, published by its original publishers." The new series opens with a readable article called: "What is stamp collecting," then follows, "Suggestions on mounting stamps," and the balance of the reading matter consists of editorial scraps, new issues, extracts etc. altogether making a very fair first number. The editor intends to "take lance in combat for the American School of Philately against the French system" but he will make the *Guide* "popular with all classes of collectors," and opens its columns to all philatelic articles, whether the subjects be treated in accordance with his views or not. This is certainly liberal, and although the editor differs from us in opinion, we wish him every success, and congratulate the American school collectors upon their having so able a champion.

THE PHILATELIST:—We would suggest to the editor of this magazine, if it is his intention to continue his article on "The Philatelic Press," that he should either employ an assistant or else get himself a new pair of spectacles; if he had done so before the appearance of his December number he would have seen that our leading article is not on "official postals" but "on local stamps"; how "official seals used for returned letters, the admiralty impressed

stamp etc," can be called locals, we leave the *Philatelist* to decide. We would also take occasion to remark that the said editor never saw any such ungrammatical expression in our columns as "bogus forgeries," and the spurious penny Prince Edward Island surcharged TWO CENTS has never been mentioned in our magazine. With regard to the spelling of the names of the Russian towns, we do not vouch for the correctness of the list in our second number, but we do say that it is an exact copy of a list published in Moscow, whether the Russians know how to write the names of their own towns or not, we cannot say.

### A chat with Juvenile Collectors.

There are so many young collectors now, that a word or two of advice to them on the subject of their collections may not be out of place. Boys are seldom able to purchase very expensive stamps; they must, as a rule, be content with the cheaper varieties. But they need not regret that their limited supply of pocket-money precludes them from obtaining great varieties; for it is a well-known fact that the cheapest stamps are the handsomest. The 1 cent Nova Scotia, 1 lept. Greek, 1 kop. Russian, and several others which we might name, are not exceeded in beauty by any of their costlier contemporaries.

It would be well for a young collector, unless he can draw upon the parental purse *ad infinitum*, to discard the idea of collecting sets of stamps. The better plan would be to rest content with obtaining the common varieties of each country, which are easily secured. By this means he would be possessed, at a cost of not more than five-and-twenty shillings, of about 120 unobliterated specimens of the stamps of nearly every part of the world, which, thus gathered, would afford more instruction than a number of sets.

For such a collection a large book would not be necessary. A boy need not exhaust his little store in purchasing one, but will find a small album, or even a large sheet neatly ruled, sufficient; for stamps look much prettier when placed together than when scattered in twos and threes over a

number of pages. On a sheet their various styles and different colors are perhaps best contrasted, but if kept in a book great care should be used in putting them in. We have seen some boys' collections which were really no credit to them, although placed in handsome books. The stamps were put in all on one side, in a careless manner, and many a good-looking specimen spoiled by being daubed with gum or surrounded by finger-marks. Now, nothing is easier than to be tidy, and there is nothing which repays the care bestowed on them by a charming appearance more than stamps. We should, therefore, particularly recommend neatness in arranging them. A clean album is, moreover, a testimonial to the orderly 'proclivities'—to use the new Yankee expression—of its owner.

Not unfrequently collections are made in account books with ruled lines and money columns, but the stamps do not look well in such receptacles. We should advise intending collectors, therefore, either to obtain an album or a book with entirely blank leaves.

We have often seen an otherwise neat book disfigured by a few badly obliterated and perhaps damaged stamps, somewhat rarer than their companions. Now, we think it would be better to do without such specimens than to spoil an album by inserting them in it, for its value is not increased by their addition sufficiently to compensate for their dirty appearance. It is much better to wait until you can purchase a clean specimen of a rarity, even though you may have a vacant place for it in your album, than to fill it with a broken one a little sooner.

If your album does not contain printed titles, and you resolve upon writing them in, do not spare pains to do them well; for if it be worth your while to write them in at all, it is worth your while to write them in well, and make them an ornament to your book. But the less writing in a book the better; for where there is a quantity, a little inaccuracy, a few corrections, an odd blot or two here and there, will spoil the appearance of the whole.

And there is another thing which often has the same effect, and that is a number of large coloured engravings of flags plastered

over a book. Stamps themselves are quite bright enough to enliven its pages, without placing beside them glaring patches of red, blue, green, and other colours.

It is well if the young collector possesses a friend competent to advise him upon the genuineness of specimens he may wish to purchase. Too great caution may be used at the present time in buying stamps, as most exact fac-similes—alias forgeries—are in circulation, and are offered at temptingly low prices.

In conclusion, do not be disheartened if you cannot get all the stamps you want at once. Patience is necessary in collecting as well as in everything else. You must be content to gather your required stamps as opportunity offers, and meanwhile 'learn to labour and to wait.'—*S. C. Magazine*, 1865.

## Correspondence.

### THE BANCROFT LOCAL.

To the Editor of the "Canadian Philatelist."

DEAR SIR,—I have received the first three numbers of your journal, and am delighted with their contents. I am particularly interested with your article "On Locals" and volunteer the following information for the benefit of your subscribers; I was collecting stamps at the time the Montreal locals were issued and was taken in by them myself. The "Ker's City post" labels were issued by Taylor when in Montreal, and all the others except Bancroft's were issued by him when in Albany. Nutter's first design for the Bancroft stamp was engraved by J. H. Walker; some few specimens of his second design really did appear on parcels, he got Bancroft to stick one or two on to give the stamp a *bona fide* appearance. I recollect once sticking one, I had got from Nutter, on a parcel, but Bancroft would not accept it as payment. Hoping this may prove of some use to you

I remain, Dear Sir,

yours respectfully

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JANUARY, 1878.

No. 4.

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