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THE.....

**Michigan
Philatelist.**



A Monthly Devoted to the In-
terest of Philately and
Philatelists.



Published by

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THE MICHIGAN PHILATELIST

Vol. I.

ITHACA, MICH., JUNE, 1898.

No. 1.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM NEW YORK.

MACK.

The demand for latest issue of stamps from Mexico, Cuba, and Philippine Islands is enormous. It is impossible to get these stamps direct from the respective post-offices, as all mail services have been broken off since Spain and America. The stamps must either be purchased from foreign dealers, or you must have a friend in a neutral country purchase them for you—a sort of middle-man. Apropos of the above, it is decided on good authority that the American postmaster-general has made arrangements to open a post-office at the first port occupied by the Spanish forces. Ordinary United States postage stamps will be used until it is decided to hold the islands permanently; then special stamps will be issued for Uncle Sam's colonies. Another philatelic result is embodied in the new revenue bill, which provides for a revival of the stamp duties. The stamps will be issued for the same purposes as the internal revenue stamps of the Civil War, which are so popular with collectors. R. F. Albrecht has been rather unfortunate with the many schemes he has been interested in; the latest is the failure of the American Souvenir Card Co., although it was reported not very long ago that business was on the increase, that the arrangements Mr. Albrecht had made for the West were most successful, and that he hoped to do a large busi-

ness in the Western States this year. It was rather a great surprise when we heard the "Co.," had failed.

Last winter many advanced collectors took up collecting of United States "revenues" in pairs, blocks, and strips. Although nothing much is heard of this fad nowadays, it must be said that the demand for revenues in this condition is on the increase. As the supply is limited, dealers ask a very stiff price for a desirable block, and in most cases get it. It is a pleasure to see some of the magnificent combinations in pairs and blocks some dealers hold. A block of twenty is not a rarity, and blocks of four to twelve are common. A block of forty-two one-dollar Conveyance; a block of twenty fifty-cent Lease; a block of sixteen fifty-cent Probate of Will, are some trifles. Part perfs. and imperfs. are well represented; but of second and third issues the better values are very scarce; a block of eight is considered a rarity, and such are in large demand.

That the government intends to raise the rate of postage, while the Spanish-American war lasts, has a grain of truth in it. It has been rumored for some time, that the receipts of the post-office were much less than the expenditures. To put the post-office on a paying basis, and also to help Uncle Sam in his warfare, the following bill was introduced by Representative Bromwell of Ohio, a member of the Committee on Post-offices and Post Roads. He proposes to make postage on letters three cents an ounce instead of two; on

second-class matter,— newspapers, periodicals, and books, two cents a pound instead of one, and on third-class matters,—merchandise, samples,—one cent an ounce, instead of one-half cent. These changes on the current business of the post-office service would add about \$40,000,000 annually. Mr. Bromwell proposes it as a war measure purely, and the operation of the bill is to be limited to the continuance of hostilities. It is expected that much objection will be caused by the advancement of the letter rate. The philatelic fraternity will be hit quite hard, if this change takes effect. As it is, many dealers care little for mail trade, as the postage in most cases eats up all the profit. It is very unlikely that the bill will pass in its present form; but if it should happen to be the contrary, the result, will work much displeasure, and a discontinuance of letter-writing (unless by post card), among us "stampites." The coming Omaha exhibition stamps, the government expects to net a clear million dollars profit.

WITH OUR ADVERTISERS.

Do not fail to read Mr. C. E. Hussman's ad. It contains some very good bargains.

THE Johnstown Stamp & Pub. Co. have an ad. in this issue. Do not "skip" it.

MR. H. J. LOWALL, of Bloomsburg, Pa., has forwarded his contract. We can assure you that he has bargains in store for every one. Write him.

ALL orders from Mr. Joe F. Beard's ad. will be filled by Mr. D. F. Eaton, his successor. Write him and secure his price-list; but don't forget to enclose two cents for return postage.

MR. HICKS, of Mitchell, Ont., also has an ad. Do not fail to read it.

MESSRS. Wilson, Chase & Co., have contracted for advertisement space. They offer "something for nothing."



CHAS. S. APPLGATH.

MR. C. E. APPLGATH was St. Thomas, Ont., some several years ago.

He commenced the collecting postage-stamps at the early age of five.

In 1897 the Star Stamp Co. organized, with Mr. Applegath as manager; but owing to the death of its secretary and treasury, Mr. Moore, the firm has discontinued business.

Mr. Applegath shows quite an ability as a writer. At present he writes for six or seven magazines and we are glad we have secured his services for the MICHIGAN PHILATELIST.

Mr. Applegath is on the list of vice-presidents of the D. S. P. and we trust that the members of the society will give him their support.

W. M. WATERBURY

THE
MICHIGAN PHILATELIST

MONTHLY DEVOTED TO THE
INTERESTS OF

PHILATELY AND PHILATELISTS

W. M. WATERBURY, Editor.

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EDITORIAL.

This is our first number, and we
are, to place it on a firm basis, we
respectfully solicit your advertise-
ment and your subscription. We will
increase the size of this paper as soon
as we consider it advisable.

We present to our readers this
month the likeness of Mr. C. S. Apple-
gath, one of Hamilton's prominent
stamp dealers. Mr. Applegath was
formerly manager of the Star Stamp
Company of Hamilton Ontario, but owing

to the death of its Secretary-Treas-
urer, Mr. K. P. Moore, the firm has
been dissolved.

Next number will be our "boom"
edition, one thousand to one thou-
sand five hundred copies will be sent
all over the world. Do not forget to
send your "ad" in. We guarantee
good results.

Why not have a Michigan philatelic
organization? I see no reason why
we couldn't make a success of it.

Kindly let me hear from all inter-
ested in the above project.

We will be pleased to exchange a
one-inch space with any first-class
publication.

Send twenty-five cents for a one
year's subscription, and see the prize
you get by return mail.

We will next month conduct a Re-
view of all the important papers. If
you wish to have your paper received,
send a copy to the review editor, C. S.
Applegath, box 4, Hamilton, Ont.

We have received the following
publications:—

*Virginia Philatelist, Int. Philatelist,
Montreal Philatelist, Evergreen Philate-
list, Columbian Philatelist, Revenue Philate-
list, New York Philatelist, American
Collector, Metropolitan, Post-office Weekly
Era, Mekeel's Weekly, Stampman,
"Pennsy," Herald Exchange, Philatelic
Bulletin, Philatelic Advocate, Ontario
Philatelist, and the Little Wave.*

FACTS.

THE man who sells his stamps in
fear that the present high prices of
stamps will not hold their own, is
himself sold.

A collector never knows how scarce
some stamps are, until he tries to get
them.

HAMILTON PENCILINGS.

CHAS. S. APPLGATH.

Under this heading, I shall strive to give, each month, a concise account of what is transpiring in the philatelic metropolis of Canada.

THE one soul-engrossing topic with local collectors is the third annual convention of the Dominion Philatelic Association, which is to be held in this city on July 1 and 2 next.

Present indications point to this meet being the most successful in the society's career. The Hamilton Stamp Club, upon whose efforts the success of the convention is dependent, is now thoroughly organized into a number of active committees, which have the arrangements pretty well completed.

Up to date of writing, May 12, the following members have signified their intention of being present, viz:—

F. M. Robinson, W. A. Starnaman, G. W. Hicks, R. S. Mason, T. I. Weaver, W. B. Grant, R. S. Knox, N. Matches, Irving E. Patterson, Jas. H. Slater, R. G. Widdicombe, E. A. Marris, Geo. Bradley, Dr. E. G. Kittson, A. Grigg, L. S. Graham, W. A. Beatty, Herbert Terryberry, P. A. Oswald, Chas. Bailey, A. H. Ward, Fred. J. Garraty, W. A. Howell, Jr., R. L. Billings, C. A. Murton, Geo. W. Starnaman, C. S. Applegath, and W. A. Lydiatt.

Even if the above members are the only ones to attend, the convention will then be the largest of its kind ever held in Canada.

THE Hamilton Stamp Club, which, by the way, is the largest local philatelic society in Canada, has no less than five candidates in the field to contest for political honors at the coming election. Our candidates, who are well chosen, intelligent, and active philatelists, should receive the support of every D. P. A. member. They are: Auction Manager, Norman Matches; Vice-President, Chas. S. Applegath; Librarian, W. B.

Grant; Trustees, R. S. Mason, James. H. Slater.

MR. E. A. MARRIS, a well-known dealer and a member of the club, while not on the official list, is also a candidate for Trustee. He solicits the support of his friends.

THE Hamilton Stamp Club has lost a valued member, in the person of Mr. P. K. Moore, who died of typhoid fever, March 31, at New York. Mr. Moore was, at the time of his death, Secretary-Treasurer of the Star Stamp Company.

SINCE the death of its late Secretary-Treasurer, the Star Stamp Company has been somewhat in a lull, and it is announced that it will shortly go into liquidation.

As has been predicted, the Canadian Jubilee stamps have been usually dropping in price. At an auction held in this city, the highest price bid on a half-cent star was five cents. It is not an unusual thing these days to see the Jubilee stamps used, and in their original envelope. It appears that many who speculated in these stamps, finding that they are dropping in value, are using them on their ordinary correspondence.

THE local demand at present for Canadian revenues, and these are bringing very fair prices.

THERE is not the demand for British Colonial stamps, at present was anticipated, owing to the war between the United States and Great Britain. However, we might say here that it would not be at all surprising if some day we were to see the new stamps surcharged with the stripes.

IT is again rumored that a philatelic publication is to appear in this city in the course of a few months. The projector of this project is Mr. R. S. Mason, a well-known dealer.

Several unsuccessful attempts have been made to start a paper

incidentally hope that the present one will not come to naught. If any one should make a success of a paper, it should be Mr. Mason, and we wish success in his new enterprise.

Mr. Joe F. Beard died May 6 at A. M., of appendicitis. Mr. Beard was one of the largest dealers in the world. Our sincerest sympathy is to the bereaved family.

CANADIAN NOTES.

THE publisher of the MICHIGAN PHILATELIST has requested me to be a Canadian correspondent for this paper. I will endeavor to furnish, each month, as much Canadian "news," as is possible to set forth in the space at my disposal. We all are sure that the MICHIGAN PHILATELIST is here to stay; so draw your own conclusions. So when you receive a sample copy of this paper, up to the rule of Captain Cuttle, one of Dickens's typical characters. When found, make a note on, "send in your subscription. My first quota of news is, that the Canadian new issue of stamps is about to be changed. It is rumored that the dies are already prepared; but this has not been confirmed as yet. The principal change in the new issue will be the inserting of numerals in the spaces now occupied by the leaves. It would be a good thing to reduce the size of the ears; but it is thought the central design will remain unaltered. I suppose we will have to distinguish these stamps from the previous issue by marking them the "new new issue."

Canada, as in the United States, is the topic of the day just now; but still philatelists find time to devote to their stamps, so the hobby has not decreased much; only a few of the younger followers of our hobby having dropped off for the

time; these preferring to devote their spare moments to the reading of exciting war news rather than to the more peaceful pursuit of philately.

Not long ago Postmaster-General Mulock brought up a bill to impose postage on newspapers; but this has not passed, as many protests were sent in, both from members of Parliament and citizens. Mr. Mulock seems to be a little behind in his accounts, so he thought this would be a good way to make up the deficit. He will probably resort to other means of doing so now.

THE demand for Canada Jubilees is increasing, and good prices are being paid for them by both dealers and collectors. Many are buying up large quantities of used specimens for the English market. The two-cent stamp is proving a good investment.

THE old supply of Canadian envelopes is exhausted. As very few of these are used, they are hard to get in used condition. It is rumored that the unused copies have been all cornered. If this is so, the price will advance rapidly.

AFTER Jan. 1, 1899, the letter rate of Canada is to be reduced to two cents. This will be no small advantage to large business houses.

G. W. Hicks.

WE would like to urge it upon all members of the D. P. A. to be sure to attend the convention at Hamilton, as it will be very beneficial to you all.

Go, take your stamps, your knowledge of stamps (don't forget your pocket-books), and have a good time.

W. M. W.

"BLACK LIST."

UNDER this heading we will give the names of those who would rather steal than pay.

C. E. Marshall, Austin, Ill.

L. G. Wadsworth, Winthrop, Mass.

Trojan Stamp Co., Troy, O.

POSTAGE-STAMPS, AND HOW THEY ORIGINATED.

FILIUS.

For all practical purposes, the history of postage-stamps begins in the United Kingdom, and with the great reform of its postal system in 1839-40. A post-paid envelope was in common use in Paris in the year 1653.

Stamped postal letter-paper (*carta postale bollata*) was issued to the public by the government of the Sardinian states in November, 1818, and stamped postal envelopes were issued by the same government from 1820 until 1836. Stamped wrappers for newspapers were made experimentally in London by Mr. Chas. Whiting, under the name of "go-frees," in 1830. Four years later (June, 1834), and in ignorance of what Mr. Whiting had already done, Mr. Chas. Knight, the well-known publisher, in a letter addressed to Lord Althorp, then chancellor of the exchequer, recommended similar wrappers for adoption. Finally, and in its results most important of all, the adhesive stamp was made experimentally by Mr. James Chalmers in his printing-office at Dundee in August, 1834. These experimental stamps were made adhesive from a wash of gum. Their inventor had already won local distinction in matters of postal reform by his strenuous and successful efforts, made as early as the year 1822, for the acceleration of the Scottish mails from London. Those efforts resulted in a saving of forty-eight hours on the double mail journey, and were highly appreciated in Scotland.

There is evidence that from 1822 onward his attention was much directed toward postal questions, and that he held correspondence with the postal reformers, both in and out of parliament. It is also plain that he

was far more intent upon public improvements than upon credit for them. He made stamps in 1834, and showed his neighbors, but took no public recommending thereof by the post-office until long after a recommendation had been made—although very hesitatingly—by the author of a now famous tract entitled, "Post-Office Reform." Mr. Hill brought the address under the notice of the commissioners of post-office inquiry February, 1837. Mr. Chalmers made no mention of his stamp of 1834 in November, 1837.

Only a fortnight before the introduction by the above-named commissioners, Mr. Hill, in his Lord Monteagle (then Mr. Rice, and chancellor of the exchequer) seemed to have no objection of the adhesive stamp. He recommended to the treasury that covers and sheets of paper be supplied to the public from the office or post-office, . . . at such a price as to include postage. . . . Covers at prices would be required for of various weights. Each have the weight it is and carry legibly printed with the . . . Should the experience was government in making the stamped covers universal, the important advantages would be . . . The post-office would be together from the collection revenue. Then, upon suggestion would seem, of some possibility that might arise from occasional bringing of un- letters to a post-office by unable to write, perhaps the difficulty might be obviated by a bit of paper just large enough to bear the stamp, and covered back with a glutinous wash . . .

(To be continued)

MR. DEALER!

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Please insert advertisement,

to occupy a space,

..... times, and will pay the sum of

..... on receipt of marked copy.

(SIGNED.)

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We will give a

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MICHIGAN STAMP & PUB. COMPANY,

Ithaca, Michigan.

50 FINE STAMPS free to each person who remits 25 cents for one year's subscription to
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is Approval Sheets of U. S. 8c, 50 per cent. discount 1 send which contain a very good 2c Stamps. ALL KINDS at 50% Write me.

H. J. LAWALL
Bloomsbu

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Can. envelopes 1, 2, 3c used
Can. envelopes 1, 2, 3c unused
A Novelty, 2c Can. env.
with 1/2c stamps; only a few are
40 mixed Can. Jub. and New
Can. New Issue, 6 var. unus.
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Issue mixed. All kinds must be
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