

This is a sample of our initial number, of which we have just issued a special edition. We call your attention to the inducements offered subscribers and advertisers, on fourth page. The offer to advertisers is open until December 1st.; that to subscribers until December 31st. The paper now has a cover. The sixth (December) number will be 16 pages. Cash not required in advance from responsible advertisers.

THE

Canada Stamp and Coin Journal.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, N. S., JULY, 1888.

No. 1.

In a Mail Bag.

BY H. S. KELLER.



"SEE here, will you be so kind as to move away? Don't hug up so close to me, you—you black-bordered envelope."

"Excuse me. I feel so badly that I hardly know what I am doing. I know you do not like my company; nobody does. I don't blame them. I am sorry. You look happy, you dainty pink envelope, sealed with blue wax. Blue wax is the symbol of love, is it not?"

"Yes, true love. Love true and pure as the skies, and as enduring. I am a love letter."

And the pink envelope fairly glowed with the bliss of its sealed kisses. It bore the smell of forget-me-nots, and its pretty direction was as fine and perfect as copperplate. Truly it had a right to glow and throb—for it was love that kindled its warmth and sent a thrill through its very fiber.

"Alas! I carry a sad message to a far-off home——"

"What is it? Tell me. Love, you know, is very curious, and—and—my pretty lady never sent such a letter as I am before in all her life. Tell me your secret and I will tell you mine——"

"Stop that nonsense, you two there in the corner of the bag, can't you?"

"Who are you?" asked the love letter quickly. It was such a happy, giddy thing that it could afford to brave and face even a business-like envelope with the picture of a mighty structure in one corner.

"Well, I'm a full-grown business letter, and I'm on my way to tell a man that our firm cannot give him any more credit. I'm tired of hearing you two in the corner gabbling, and I wish you would quit it at once."

"Love and death, my staid friend, are so closely allied that even the commonest of us ought to consider and have patience."

"Well, well, who spoke in *that* dear tone?"

"I come from a great poet. He is a leader of mankind. He helped to free the slaves; and he has done much good in this great world. He is now an old, white haired man; and he sits in the golden sunset of life, respected, beloved and esteemed by the whole world. He has written his name upon the page of time, and all the ages to come will never erase that name. He is known as Whittier."

And for a brief period the mail bag was silent. It was great company they—those wonderful, mysterious, different, queer and curious missives were in. The dainty pink love letter nestled against

the black-bordered one. The one carrying a sad, sad message to someone far away. The stern business-like letter with never a word or line of rhythm in it lay side by side with a commonplace envelope bearing a poem fresh from the hands and brain and heart and soul of one of the purest singers God ever gave the divine gift of poetry to. And then another voice broke the stillness and the rest shuddered as they heard its rough, brutal tones.

"And if ye air keeful, pard, ye kin kill the ole cuss wi' one blow o' yer club. He hain't no longer strong; jess a little tap—presto; he's dead an' the swag is yourn."

"Who dare speak of such a theme as murder. Do you know that I came from the hand of one of the highest judges in the land? Reveal yourself, villain, and let the strong hand of the law throttle your murderous design before it goes further," came from a long, legal missive with a red seal. But the criminal letter said not a word; it only slipped down out of sight and was covered finally by a letter from a farmer. In this latter letter was a check for one hundred dollars; and the letter was worded as follows: "Send me the one thousand in 'green goods' soon as possible. I think I can use them without much trouble."

Then all was quiet again for a period.

"Oh, dear boy, I hear bad news from you. Don't do it any more. It has killed your mother and is killing me, your poor old father. *Don't drink! Don't drink! Don't drink!*

"Aye! aye! so say we all," cried out four or five from a little pile.

"And when we cracked the last bottle, Jack, a sigh went round our little circle. We had piled in the stuff pretty freely

and were feeling good. *The last bottle!* That almost broke our hearts. Our motto is—'a merry life and a short one'—"

"Gracious, I smell something like a drunken man's breath. I don't want nothing more to do with you," broke in a long, lean, spidery envelope as it slipped down among a lot of jolly letters from some school girls. The spinster's letter lay there, drinking in with keen delight the merry prattle of the girls letters. It felt young again and—it made a stern determination to enter the lists once more and battle bravely for some man's heart. Helter skelter, rough and tumble—all in a mixed pile upon the table the letters were thrown by the hands of the mail clerk. Flutter, flitter, flash and flurry—here, there, everywhere, but all property distributed at last.

And when the recipients of each letter received his or her mail all were at last safely housed.

The tears that fell upon the black-bordered missive, the kisses rained upon the pink love letter, the pale look that confronted the business letter, and all cries of joy, the sobs of sorrow, the chuckles of exultation and the other thousand and one expressive terms and acts—all went out in air; and the mail bag never told the story of its romance.

A Half-penny Letter Post.

BY T. MARTIN WEARS.

WHEN on the 6th of May 1840, the inhabitants of these islands were granted the privilege of sending a letter, provided it did not exceed half an ounce in weight, to any part of Great Britain for the low charge of one penny, it was thought that this rate was so cheap, as to

admit of no reduction whatever. Compared with the charges which prevailed prior to 1840, the uniform penny rate was no doubt, a great advance in the way of postal reform, but it was found that the Post Office was in a position to reduce the rate still further, without any serious loss resulting to them, while they would confer a real boon on the public. Accordingly on 5th October, 1871, a reduced postal tariff was established, by which letters not exceeding one ounce in weight were carried for one penny—the rate still in force.

But who would have ever dreamt of a half-penny rate for the carriage of one ounce letters? who would have believed that a penny postage stamp, envelope, and sheet of note paper could be supplied for a half-penny? and yet from the prospectus of a Limited Liability Company just issued, it seems that this is not only feasible, but, if carefully carried out, will prove a good dividend paying concern. This Company, which is styled "The Half-penny Letter Post Company, Limited," is enabled to offer so satisfactory a return for our half-pence by working a patent known as "The Hertz Patent." This consists of an improved envelope, and note or letter paper in one sheet, which cannot be very well explained without a sample. Three pages of the paper are reserved for the communications, while the fourth page and a few inches of paper joining the letter with the envelope, are filled with advertisements. It is from the revenue reaped from this novel method of advertising that the Company is enabled to offer the stamp and paper for one half-penny, thereby allowing the public to enjoy the advantage of a half-penny letter post without loss to the revenue. The stamp

is intended to be embossed on the back of the letter, and when folded shows through a hole cut in the envelope. The letter and envelope—on the latter no advertisements appear—being composed of one sheet of paper, cannot be used separately; while the stamp being an embossed one, will be rendered useless, if taken off and used for another letter. It will thus be seen that the stamp does not appear on the envelope at all, so that it is possible the Post Office Authorities may raise some objection on this score, if they have not already countenanced the plan.

By no class will this novelty be welcomed more warmly than by philatelists; to dealers especially it will be a God-send. The many small transactions they have with stamp collectors, make a reduction in the postal rates, of which they will not be slow to avail themselves, a matter of much moment to them. One London firm alone spends £12 weekly in postages, so that it will readily be seen that a half-penny rate will go far to reduce these heavy items of expenditure. Dealers will be enabled to print their price lists on the note or envelope sheet, and I should not be surprised were some energetic philatelist to come forward and issue a stamp magazine printed on the sheets. Those who use them in this manner will effect a considerable saving. They will also be available for sending stamps.

The estimates given in the prospectus, which perhaps should be taken with a grain of salt, show that a profit of 17s. 6d. per thousand or £875 per million is anticipated. This would yield a dividend of 22½ per cent, supposing a sale of one million weekly were effected, so that the shareholders as well the public are to benefit by the scheme, along with the advertisers who will have opened to them a more direct system of advertising than hitherto available.

Seeing the Company will benefit the whole letter-writing community, it is to be hoped that it will be successfully floated, that it will be carefully managed, and that it has a long and useful career before it.—*The Philatelic Advertiser.*

The Canada Stamp & Coin Journal.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

In the Interests of Philately and Numismatics.

JOHN R. FINDLAY, Editor and Proprietor.

Subscription Rates.

15 cents per year to any part of Canada, Newfoundland, United Kingdom or United States of America.
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Remit in stamps of your own country only, at current exchange rates.

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Our next issue will have a circulation of two thousand, and will reach every collector in Canada whose address we can obtain.

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Halifax, N. S., Canada.

IN adding another to the already long list of papers devoted to philately and numismatics, I have but little to say, except that I ask your hearty encouragement and assistance. Your encouragement could consist of that little subscription or advertisement; your assistance may be comprised in items of interest and select articles for publication in our next issue. But I would like you to combine both these little virtues, as, by so doing you will make an assured success of what is, at the moment but an experiment. Money refunded in all cases if contracts are not fulfilled.

Members of any Philatelic or Numismatic Association need not pay their subscription in advance; (prompt payment at the end of the year will be satisfactory. Advertisements are, however, always payable in advance).

Fraternally yours,

THE PUBLISHER.

Comments on Current Customs.



MORE careful proof reading would have made the latest *Halifax Philatelist* faultless.

A CATALOGUE of the 7th auction sale of R. Bogert & Co., has reached this office. It contains quite a list of good stamps.

MR. J. B. SMITH is conducting a very interesting philatelic department in the *Springfield Republican*.

THE scarcity of original articles in this number is due to the fact that it was gotten up in a hurry, and is more of a prospectus than a regular issue.

IF the *Eastern Philatelist* continues to improve at the rate it has done during the five months of its existence, it will ere long be one of the leading stamp papers in the United States.

THE *Toronto Philatelic Journal* has dropped its numismatic department. The C. P. A. in electing this paper as its official organ has chosen one of the worst edited papers on this continent.

ABOUT the most welcome visitor on our exchange list is the official organ of the A. P. A. Mr. Brock and his colleagues have placed the *American Philatelist* at the top of the ladder.

THE *Philatelic Advertiser*, of London, now intends to publish in each issue many original and interesting articles. It was at first only issued as an advertising medium.

MR. CH. DORMIN has certainly improved the philatelist department of *Plain Talk*, but he could put four times as much reading as he does in the space that paper allows for articles relating to stamp collecting.

If lots of advertising patronage tend to make a paper a success, the *Badger State Philatelist* publisher should be satisfied. About the usual thing for that paper is three pages of reading out of eight; balance advertisements.

ROBT. S. HATCHER, Esq., contributes many valuable tid-bits to both the *Philatelic Journal of America* and the *American Philatelist*, under the heading of "Notes for U. S. Philatelists."

IN Mr. Casey's catalogue of the "Mauritius Collection," I notice the shilling stamp both of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. There are also a large number of other rare stamps.

If the *Hawkeye State Collector* continues to change its form every two or three issues, it will soon need a catalogue in which to enumerate the various sizes it has appeared in.

MESSRS. SMITH AND KLOCK appear determined to advance the *Mohawk Standard* to the "top of the hill." Every number is an improvement on its predecessor.

AUTHORS who desire to have their efforts put up in neat pamphlet or book form, should address this office. We are ready to undertake the publication of any kind of books on favorable terms.

The *Canadian Philatelist* contains a great deal of interesting reading, but it is printed so badly that one cannot take an interest in its perusal. A change of printers is advisable.

ALL stamp and coin papers are requested to forward two copies regular, in exchange for a like number of the *Canada Stamp and Coin Journal*. Papers received this month are: Western Philatelist, Badger State Philatelist, Toronto Philatelic Journal, Halifax Philatelist, Mohawk Standard, Agassiz Companion, Eastern Philatelist, Philatelic Journal of America, Plain Talk, Hawkeye State Collector, American Philatelist, Philatelic Advertiser and Canadian Philatelist.

The Coinage of Nova Scotia.

BY D. A. K.

IN the early part of this century the copper coins used in the British American Colonies became very scarce, and in no colony more so than in Nova Scotia. The copper coin was so very scarce here that at one time the Royal authorities, to relieve the strain for copper coins, struck at the Royal Dock Yard a large number of $\frac{1}{2}$ pennies. They were perfectly plain; no inscription or device of any kind whatsoever. These were popularly known by the name of "Dockyarders." At that time anything in the shape of a circular piece of copper passed current as coin. One of the commonest pieces in circulation then, is what is now known as the Magdalen Island penny, which Admiral Coffin had had issued for his lordship of the magdalens. But there were, however, many more in circulation in Nova Scotia than where they were struck for. Shortly after the issue of the large English copper penny and two-penny pieces in 1797 there was a large quantity sent out to the colonies, but the thrifty natives of Nova Scotia, finding that they were worth more as copper than as money, soon made away with them all. The merchants were then necessitated to make some effort to procure copper change, and therefore, imitating their friends in the mother country, issued quite a small coinage of half-pennys. Of these coins the first we get, dated 1814, are of quite a respectable size, but the next year a new issue was put out, and the issuers seem to have repented of their generosity in making them so large at first, as they made the 1815 issue not much larger than the English farthing. A couple of firms, however, Miles W. White and Starr & Shannon, made theirs the same size as the first issue.

The lack of a copper coinage and the small size of the Merchants' Tokens arousing great discontent, the Government were at last, in 1823, forced to take the matter in hand, and did so by issuing a

copper coinage. The first was a half-penny in 1823, followed by a one-penny in 1824. Those coins are the old familiar Thistle pennys. There were three issues of the half-penny, 1823, 1824, 1832. I have only seen two dates of the one-penny, 1824, 1832, although there is said to be a one-penny of 1823. A peculiarity about those coins is that, although George IV., whose head is on those coins, died in 1830, his head, and not that of his successor, William IV., was continued on the 1832 issue.

* The next issue was not till 1840, three years after the Queen had ascended the throne. They were of the same type as the last issue, except the heads being changed. The head of the Queen on these coins is a very poor specimen of work in the way of resemblance, giving Her Majesty a very plain not to say ugly face.

This issue was followed in 1856 by what is known as Mayflower pennys. The coins consisted of a one-penny and a half-penny. The design was an extremely handsome one, on the obverse was a head of the Queen, and on the reverse a bunch of Mayflowers, the emblem of Nova Scotia. Those coins were issued both in brass and bronze, of which the brass ones are quite rare. This was the first time that the time honored thistle was not on the Government issues of Nova Scotia coins, and it has not appeared on them since. In 1861 the currency was changed from £ s. d. into \$ c., and the old pennys and half-pennys were called in, and a new issue of cents and half-cents were put in circulation to agree with the new currency. Those coins were one cent and half-cents bronze.

The design was different from any of the other issues, the head of the Queen on it being copied from the design on the design on the current English coins. Those coins are in circulation at the present time, except that the half-cent was withdrawn in 1871.

In 1867 the various provinces of Canada united into a Confederation, and a new bronze and silver coinage was struck for the whole Dominion. Those

coins have a head of the Queen as she now appears on the obverse, and on the reverse the value encircled by a wreath of maple leaves, the emblem of Canada. Those coins hardly belong to Nova Scotia, but as they are circulating in it at the present time it would be hardly fair to pass them over.

The following is a description, arranged chronologically as much as possible, of the Government issues and the local tokens:—

Obverse—Province of Nova Scotia.

Laureated head of George IV. to left.

Reverse—One Penny Token, Thistle, 1824-1832.

O.—Same type as preceding.

R.—Half penny token, Thistle, 1823, '4, 32.

O.—Province of Nova Scotia, head of Queen Victoria to left.

R.—One-penny token, Thistle, 1840-3.

O.—Same type as preceding.

R.—Half-penny token, Thistle, 1840-3.

O.—Victoria D. G.: Britanniar: Reg. F. D., 1856, crowned head of Queen to left.

R.—Province of Nova Scotia, one penny token, bunch of Mayflowers.

O.—Same as preceding.

R.—Province of Nova Scotia, half-penny token, bunch of Mayflowers.

O.—Victoria D. G. Britt. Reg. F. D., bust of Queen to left, head laureated.

R.—One cent, Nova Scotia, 1861, '2, '4, Crown encircled by wreath of roses and Mayflowers.

O.—Same as preceding.

R.—Half-cent, 1861, '64, same as preceding.

LOCAL TOKENS.

O.—Half-penny token, 1814, laureated head of George III. to right within circle.

R.—Payable by Hosterman and Etter, Halifax, building, full front, size 18.

O.—Same as preceding, 1815, no circle round head.

R.—Same as preceding, size 17.

O.—Same type as preceding.

R.—Success to Navigation and Trade, full-rigged ship to right, size 17.

- O.—Same type as preceding.
 R.—For the convenience of trade, ship under sail to right.
 O.—Same type as preceding.
 R.—Payable by Carritt & Alport, Halifax, ship under sail to right.
 O.—Broke, Halifax, Nova Scotia, bust of Broke to left in naval uniform.
 R.—Britannia, 1814, Britannia seated to left with olive branch in hand.

(To be continued.)

EXCHANGE NOTICES.

Notices under this heading will be inserted free for subscribers only; limit 50 words. Over 50 words, one cent per word.

1.—GOOD EXCHANGE given for stamps, post-cards and envelopes of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Canada 1851-1868, and good United States. I send German and Denmark local stamps, 200 different; or old Baden, Bayern, Wurtemberg and Thurn and Taxis. Please use stamped envelope when you reply.

HERM AUG. MULLER,
 Giessen, Germany.

2.—WANTED, rare old philatelic and numismatic papers: also, old magazines containing articles relating to these subjects. Send list of what you have, with cash price. Must be cheap. When replying I will give you a list of my duplicates.

JOHN R. FINDLAY,
 Halifax, N. S.

3.—A LARGE COLLECTION of stamps for type and printer's material.

R. N. EDWARDS,
 Brooks, Maine.

4.—I will give a new "Gem" album containing space for 600 stamps, for 200 U. S. square cut envelope stamps; U. S. adhesive postage stamps, (with the exception of the 1, 2 and 3 cents) accepted at same rates.

JOHN M. HUBBARD,
 Lake Village, N. H.

5.—I WANT vols. 1, 2 and 3 of Philatelic Journal of America, at once. Must be cheap.

JOHN R. FINDLAY,
 Halifax, N. S.

6.—I WANT 1,000,000 U. S. square cut envelope stamps, match, medicine, playing card, document, and revenue stamps, and will give 200 foreign stamps for every hundred of the above sent me.

JOHN M. HUBBARD,
 Lake Village, N. H.

7.—A LARGE number of philatelic papers to exchange for others. Send list and receive mine.

J. T. HUMPHREYS,
 Jamaica Plains, Mass.

8.—I WILL give a new "World" stamp album containing space for 2,540 stamps, for every 500 U. S. square cut envelope stamps, match, medicine, playing card, document or revenue stamps sent me.

JOHN M. HUBBARD,
 Lake Village, N. H.

9.—GEO. W. CAVINESS, La Hoyt, Iowa, wishes to exchange philatelic papers for others. Send lists.

10.—I WILL give a brand new \$1.50 International stamp album, for 3,000 U. S. square cut envelope stamps, match, medicine, playing card, document or revenue stamps.

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
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RICHMOND, VA., U. S. A.

THE Canada Stamp and Coin Journal.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, N. S., AUGUST, 1888.

No. 2.

The C. P. A. Official Organ.

MY friend Mr. Henry S. Harte has taken great offence at a remark of mine in the last number of this *Journal*, and has made me the subject of over half a page of the valuable space of the *Stamp Collector*.

My words of last month, which I still adhere to, were "The C. P. A. in electing the *Toronto Philatelic Journal* as its official organ, has chosen one of the worst-edited papers on this Continent."

Mr. Harte says "We were quite surprised when we read the above editorial in the initial number of the *Canada Stamp & Coin Journal*. Such remarks, to my mind, seem to be a slur upon those members of the C. P. A. who voted for the T. P. J. as the official organ, and are not to be taken altogether as they read, for while the editing of the T. P. J. may not be all that could be desired, it is far ahead of many so-called philatelic journals. If Bro. Findlay wants to see the official organ of the C. P. A. become a success, would it not be well for him to refrain from such remarks as the foregoing? It is about time that the Halifax *grumblers* buried their hatchet and resigned themselves to the inevitable."

Well, Mr. Harte, I should be very sorry indeed to have any words of mine tend to injure the Canadian Philatelic Association, and I wish it distinctly understood that it matters little to me what paper is appointed official organ, provided that paper is properly conducted. But when we look through a copy of the T. P. J. and see but little (often nothing) outside of the reports of the various officers; and that little mixed up with such reports—no system, no business-like

manner—just as it is easiest for the printer; when we see an ad. of "silk ribbons" alongside of Mr. Harte's own report; when we see our official paper contain advertisements of cures for private diseases, and of people who sell "scarce goods" and whose address is "greenbacks"—why when we see all this, and a little more too, don't you think, Mr. Harte, that it is time to say "stop?" Don't you think that a speedy change is necessary?

In classing me among the Halifax *grumblers*, whoever they may be, Mr. Harte has made a great mistake. I do not crave the position of official editor for myself, or of official organ for my *Journal*; and I do not think the publishers of the *Halifax Philatelist* could be induced to accept either of those positions. I am therefore at a loss to know who Mr. Harte refers to as the *grumblers*. I think the members of the Nova Scotia Philatelic Association, (the Halifax branch of the C. P. A.) only desire what is right and proper. Let the editor and proprietor of the *Toronto Philatelic Journal* follow the plan of the *American Philatelist* (the official paper of the American Philatelic Association) and his paper will be good enough for us, and he will get all the assistance needed in the way of contributions and advertisements. Let him furnish a representative paper that deserves the name, and he will not find it necessary to be without articles to fill his reading space, or to have to depend on advertising patronage of an outrageous character.

JOHN R. FINDLAY.

ADVERTISERS should read special offer on page 12.

A Universal Language.

WHAT an incalculable boon a universal language would be to the stamp and coin collector. With what ease he could reply to letters that are now but a source of annoyance!

That a universal language would be of great benefit to man in general, besides those interested in our study, no one will for a moment doubt. But can we ever expect such a thing to come to pass? Certainly *not in our time*; for it is impossible to *invent* a language that will be adopted by all nations. Volapuk has now had a fair trial. Has it been a success? *No*. It never will, never can be. Considerable interest is manifested in it and a large number will no doubt make a study of it, but it will gradually die out. Many will learn it, but as no one will attempt to speak it, how can we expect it to live?

A universal language must be the result of growth—must gradually spread itself over the globe, either by its superiority or by the immigrating propensity of the people who speak it. That it will be because of its superiority I doubt, but the other reason I firmly believe in.

When we give time to deep thought about the matter we cannot fail to see that the English language is fast spreading over the habitable world. The indications are that it will in time become universal. It is now spoken by over a quarter of the population of the globe, who occupy about one-fourth the dry land, and own nearly two-thirds of the tonnage of the ships. It is estimated that one-half the letters carried by the postal service of the world, are written, mailed and read by English-speaking populations; who live in all regions; handle all articles of trade; preach to all nations; own one-half of the gold and silver, and distribute more than two-thirds of the Bibles and Testaments. These figures speak for themselves.

I do not claim for the English language a superiority over other languages; although it is second to none. But the very nature and habits of the English

speaking race cannot help but lead a close observer to draw the above conclusion. They are always ready to enlighten, and being in continuous immigration to the most remote regions of the world, they are constantly adding converts to their tongue, and are laying the foundation of a language that will be of incalculable benefit to future generations.

J. R. FINDLAY.

Literature.

PERIODICALS RECEIVED:—Agassiz Companion, Agassiz Record, Badger State Philatelist, Charleston Philatelist, Collectors' Ledger, Common Sense, Curiosity World, Eastern Philatelist, Exchangers. Monthly, Geologists' Gazette, Halifax Philatelist, International Collector, L'Echo de la Timbrologie, Le Courier du Timbrophile, Little Clipper, Mohawk Standard, National Philatelist, Ohio Philatelist, Old Curiosity Shop, Philatelic Advertiser, Philadelphia Philatelist, Philatelic Gazette, Philatelic World, Philatelic Journal of Ohio, Philo's Monthly, Plain Talk, Springfield Republican (Phil. Dept.), Stamp, Stamp Collector, Stamp Collectors' Figaro, Toronto Philatelic Journal, United States Philatelist,

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Curiosities of Alloys.

THE way in which an alloy of gold and copper or other metal is affected by a small quantity of impurity presents one of the most serious difficulties with which jewelers have to deal in working gold. It has long been known to workers in the precious metal that minute quantities of certain metals render it brittle and unworkable: and referring to this, in a lecture in Birmingham, Professor Roberts-Austen, of the Royal Mint, said: "It may be well to demonstrate the fact. Here are 200 sovereigns. I will melt them and will add, in the form of a tiny shot, a minute portion of lead amounting to only the 200th part of the mass, first, however, pouring a little of the gold into a small ingot, which we can bend and flatten, thus proving to you that it is perfectly soft, ductile and workable. The rest of the mass we will pour into a bar, and now that it is sufficiently cold to handle, you see I am able to break it with my fingers, or at least, with a slight tap of a hammer. The color of the gold is quite altered, and has become orange-brown; and experiments have shown that the tenacity of the metal—that is, the resistance of the gold being pulled asunder—has been reduced from eighteen tons per square inch to only five tons. These essential changes in the property of the metal have been produced by the addition of a minute quantity of lead." In the same lecture Professor Roberts-Austen said: "Here is a bar of tin, two feet long and one inch thick, which it would be most difficult to break, though it would readily bend double. If only I rub a little quicksilver on its surface, a remarkable effect will be produced—the fluid metal will penetrate the solid one, and in a few seconds the bar will, as you see, break readily, the fractured surface being white, like silver."

A Universal Language.

WHAT an incalculable boon a universal language would be to the stamp and coin collector. With what ease he could reply to letters that are now but a source of annoyance!

That a universal language would be of great benefit to man in general, besides those interested in our study, no one will for a moment doubt. But can we ever expect such a thing to come to pass? Certainly *not in our time*; for it is impossible to *invent* a language that will be adopted by all nations. Volapuk has now had a fair trial. Has it been a success? *No*. It never will, never can be. Considerable interest is manifested in it and a large number will no doubt make a study of it, but it will gradually die out. Many will learn it, but as no one will attempt to speak it, how can we expect it to live?

A universal language must be the result of growth—must gradually spread itself over the globe, either by its superiority or by the immigrating propensity of the people who speak it. That it will be because of its superiority I doubt, but the other reason I firmly believe in.

When we give time to deep thought about the matter we cannot fail to see that the English language is fast spreading over the habitable world. The indications are that it will in time become universal. It is now spoken by over a quarter of the population of the globe, who occupy about one-fourth the dry land, and own nearly two-thirds of the tonnage of the ships. It is estimated that one-half the letters carried by the postal service of the world, are written, mailed and read by English-speaking populations; who live in all regions; handle all articles of trade; preach to all nations; own one-half of the gold and silver, and distribute more than two-thirds of the Bibles and Testaments. These figures speak for themselves.

I do not claim for the English language a superiority over other languages; although it is second to none. But the very nature and habits of the English

speaking race cannot help but lead a close observer to draw the above conclusion. They are always ready to enlighten, and being in continuous immigration to the most remote regions of the world, they are constantly adding converts to their tongue, and are laying the foundation of a language that will be of incalculable benefit to future generations.

J. R. FINDLAY.

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The Canada Stamp & Coin Journal.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

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JOHN R. FINDLAY, - Editor and Proprietor.

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25 cents per year to all other countries.

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Halifax, N. S., Canada.

THE success of our initial number has far exceeded our expectations.

We have received a great many subscriptions, and good wishes have almost smothered us. Many thanks.

We have decided to keep our offer open for the present, viz: that any member of either a Philatelic or Numismatic Association may pay his subscription at the end of the year.

In order to give dealers a chance to try our columns, we shall accept advertisements, until further notice, at one-half our regular rates, given above. Remember, this offer is not likely to be repeated; it is only made to give you a chance during the dull season. Cash must always accompany copy.

A Million Postage Stamps.

A PHILADELPHIAN has collected, sorted and filed away enough cancelled postage stamps to reach, if placed side by side, from the Delaware River to Cobb's Creek, the extreme western boundary of the city. In this extraordinary collection there are 1,000,000 stamps. These stamps, if used as wall paper, would be sufficient to cover the walls of a medium sized city house, and if spread over a space one yard wide would reach nearly 800 yards. The patient collector of this million of little bits of engraved paper is Paul Des Granges, a retired merchant, who began the task February 6, 1882. Mr. Des Granges says of his work: The plan adopted for the preservation and actual counting of the stamps was to remove them from any adherent paper by soaking in water, and after drying, to tie in packages of 100; these were then made into bundles of 1000, then into 5,000, and ten of these into parcels of 50,000 stamps each, weighing five pounds and five ounces. Having much unoccupied time, and the assistance of numerous friends and acquaintances, the first "brick" or package of 50,000 was completed on October 12, 1882. Others followed at irregular intervals, varying from nine months and twenty days to fourteen months, until finally 1,000,000 was completed on October 8, 1887, in a period of five years, eight months and two days. Of one-cent United States stamps there are 118,900; of two-cent stamps, 665,000; of three-cent stamps, 99,000; of miscellaneous stamps, 85,400; of foreign stamps, 30,800; total 1,000,000.—*Philadelphia Record*.

MR. H. S. HARTE will soon issue a complete "History of the Postage Stamps of Canada and Provinces."

Authors are invited to send us their best efforts in Stamp and Coin articles, with price. If suitable we will remit per return mail. Only first-class articles desired.

The Coinage of Nova Scotia.

BY D. A. K.

Continued from last month.

- O.—Same type as preceding.
 R.—Payable by John Alex. Barry, Halifax, ship to right, size 16.
 O.—Same as preceding.
 R.—Halifax, ship to right, size 16.
 O.—Same as preceding.
 R.—Genuine British copper, Britannia seated to right size 16.
 O.—Half-penny token, 1815, barrel in circle, spikes, nails, etc., on head of barrel.
 R.—Importer of ironmongery, hardware, etc., within circle; Payable by—Miles W. | White | Halifax | N. S. size 18.
 O.—Payable at W. L. White's Halifax House, Halifax, One | Farthing.
 R.—W. L. White's Halifax House, Halifax, Cheap | Dry | Goods | Store, size 14.
 O.—Starr & Shannon, Halifax, 1815, Indian with dog to left.
 R.—Half-penny token, Nova Scotia, ship under full sail to right, size 17.
 O.—Commercial change, 1815, Indian with dog to left.
 R.—Same as preceding, size 17.
 O.—Wholesale and Retail Hardware Store, 1815, house full front.
 R.—Halifax, Nova Scotia, in centre; spades, barrel, scythe and sickle, size 16.
 O.—Same as preceding.
 R.—Payable at W. A. & S. Black's, Halifax; barrel, spade and scythe, size 16.
 O.—Nemo me impune lacessit, Thistle in centre.
 R.—Payable at the store of J. Brown, ship to right, sails furled, size 16.
 O.—Half-penny token, Commerce to right, seated scales in right hand and cornucopia in left.
 R.—Nova Scotia and New Brunswick success, ship under full sail to right, size 16.
 O.—Robert Purves, Wallace; Cheap | Family | Store.

R.—Encourage | country | importers | size 16.

O.—Ferry Token.

R.—Halifax Steamboat Co. steamer to left, size 12.

Of those tokens the Purves token was the last one issued. It was issued by Robert Purves, of Wallace, who did a ship building and general store business in Wallace, N. S., for about fifteen years. The token was issued in 1857 or 1858. There were about half a ton weight of them made, but were never all issued, as, in 1867, when all tokens were out of circulation and not considered legal coin, Mr. Purves had about 600 lbs. in his possession, which he sold out for old metal. There are several other tokens which are said to be Nova Scotian, but on such slight authority as not to warrant their insertion in any list.

The Pictures Got Stuck on the Road.

I NEVER lost a letter; my letters follow me all over America with never a loss, the very postal cards catch up with me. But somehow or other the "picture papers" have a way of lodging in the cracks of the mail car that is very trying, and to a thick-headed, obstinately incredulous man, very mysterious. Or, not so mysterious, either. It might be mysterious if it only happened to my own mail, or only once in a while. But what I was going to suggest is this, that the Postoffice Department subscribe for these journals for every employe of the railway mail service.—*Burdette.*

Destroying the Dyes.

A LITTLE roll of metal red with fire was placed upon the anvil, a sledge hammer fell twice upon it, three tiny sparks shot into the air and the molds of the old year's double eagle gold coins were wiped out forever. It was a thousandth part of the work that lasted all day at the mint Tuesday, the destroying of the 1887 dies.

This is a novel form of destruction that falls to the lot of the money-making establishment's blacksmiths at the end of each calendar year, and is the only sure way of preventing the wily counterfeiter from making spurious coin without regard to date. The dies of the Mint are the stamps that imprint on the coin all that fancy business that, when rubbed off by time, gives the street car conductor a chance to insult the holder by refusing to accept it. For instance, it stamps on the dollar the face of the beautiful lady encircled by stars and makes a strong contrast on the other side by printing a game looking eagle perched on arrows under "In God we trust."

The die is a little round chunk of steel about three inches long, sloping off at the top, which makes it look like a miniature milkman's can without handles. On the top of it is cut the face of the coin it manufactures, with the date of the year, and something to think about when you look at them is that the die of a penny costs the government no less than the die that makes precious the \$20 gold piece. Coiner Steel, of the mint, signed the death warrant of the old year's dies. It meant the destruction of a thousand of 1887's money-makers. Every stamp, from double eagles to dollars in gold, from dollars to ten-cent pieces in silver, the fives in nickle and the pennies in copper were doomed.

The place of execution was the gloomy shop in the basement weirdly lit by hungry fire-light. At 9.30 o'clock the dies were taken from their cells upstairs and conveyed thither in black coffin-like pans. Coined gold jingled merrily on all sides as the procession passed. What regret had gold for the steel that gave it power to ruin souls? So the dies of '87 passed to their fate unwept.

The little coiners of big money were first sacrificed. The dies of gold were flung by handfuls into the flames. There they lay until the steel grew red and the face of Columbia blushed crimson. They were not taken out by hand, but with iron tongs, and placed rightend upward

on the anvils. Then the smithy raised his sledge hammer aloft and struck each one full in the face. A shower of sparks, a smashed sound and the agony was over. The ring of the steel had gone, the face vanished like magic and the die of the past was but crushed unshapely metal.—*Philadelphia Press.*

Curious Postage Stamps.

AMONG the issues of postage stamps by foreign countries there is none more curious within recent years than the new issue of Madagascar—three and one-fourth inches long by two and one-half inches wide—and none that will be more eagerly sought by collectors. There are eight in all, ranging in value from 1d. to 2s. They are issued by England, for letters mailed at the British Consulate in Antananarido, and gummed only in the corner.

The letters are sent to Mauritius, where the Malagassy stamp is removed and kept for a voucher and the Mauritius stamp substituted. The Peruvian government announces its intention to redeem all outstanding surcharged stamps and use only the new issue (1 purple, 2 green, 50 rem, 1 sol br.), to which a 20 blue is to be added. Paraguay is having a 1 green and 2 vermilion, similar to 1884, printed in Buenos Ayres.

The United States of Colombia have issued a hideous 10 yellow, with the head of President Nunez. A complete new issue is announced. Antioquia has issued a new set—1 green, 2½d. bl. on yel. and 5 blue—similar to last year's. Shanghai rejoices in a new issue, 40, 80 and 100 cash. Tobago has surcharged its 2½d. blue with 1½d. in black, and St. Kitts the 6d. green with 4d. black.—*American Stationer.*

Can any reader give us information concerning the above stamps?—*Editor.*

THE *Canadian Philatelist* is now announced to appear in a large form. Columns 11 inches long; 3 cols. to a page. Good door-mat.

EXCHANGE NOTICES.

Notices under this heading will be inserted free for subscribers only; limit 50 words. Over 50 words, one cent per word.

11.—WANTED, Nos. 1 to 23, 25, 26, 29, 30, 31, 32, 36, 38, 41, 42 of *Philatelic Journal of America*; all Vol. 1, and Nos. 4 and 8 of Vol. 2 *American Philatelist*; No. 2 of *Useful Instructor*; all Vol. 1 and Nos. 4 and 5 of Vol. 2, of *Stamp*. Also, many other papers wanted. Cash paid for above or rarities. Exchange preferred for others. Send lists.

JOHN R. FINDLAY,
Halifax, N. S.

12.—GOOD EXCHANGE given for stamps, post-cards and envelopes of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Canada 1851-1868, and good United States. I send German and Denmark local stamps, 200 different; or old Bayden, Bayern, Wurtemberg and Thurn and Taxis. Please use stamped envelope when you reply.

HERM AUG. MÜLLER,
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"Old Dominion Stamp & Stencil Works"

Richmond, Va., U. S. A.

* THE CANADA STAMP AND COIN JOURNAL. *

VOL. I.

HALFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, SEPTEMBER, 1888.

NO. 2.



"UNCLE SAM'S" DEAD LETTER OFFICE.

BY CLARA R. BUSH.

In the days of our childhood, the Dead Letter Office was to us something mysterious, ghostly and solemn. Even when our awe-struck questions received the reply that it is the bourn to which all unclaimed letters are sent, either to be destroyed or by means of internal information forwarded to the owners, it seemed as though it must be a dark, sad place. Of course, as we grew older, our childish ideas vanished, to be replaced by the adult indifference to all offices of the kind not directly concerning ourselves; and never again did we try to picture to ourselves the place from which occasionally some letter returned to us bearing the cabalistic letters D. L. O., signifying that strangers had first read the thoughts intended for ourselves. But this office is one of the objects of interest to a Washington visitor, and should be entertaining to all readers of Washington descriptions.

The D. L. Office is contained within the general post-office, located on the corner of C and F streets, and forming a handsome block of white stone with iron trimmings; the lower story is in plaster and the upper stories in Ionic columns. Ascending to the second floor we found ourselves in a long hall, and announcing the object of our visit to the scribe seated there, we were directed to a door labeled "Museum," and thus informally admitted to a large, sunny room, furnished with immense glass cases, two chairs and a table at which was seated a peasant-faced man, who kindly answered our questions, and gave us many suggestions.

We learned that the heterogeneous collection in the cases is articles received in the mail and detained, either because of deficient postage or address, or excessive weight, which must not be over four pounds. Many of the articles are not mailable, as fluids, unless packed in tin-foil, explosive substances, live animals, or anything that may injure the regular mail, or endanger the lives of the postal employees. When it is possible to find the address of the owner of an article, he is notified to send for it, and instructed as to the reason of its detention, or else the article is kept in this museum till the annual auction sale sometime during the holiday weeks. Printed catalogues are made of these things, so if the article has been received at the office the owner inquiring for it and proving his right, can very soon gain possession of it.

An hour may be spent in viewing this collection. We noticed quilts, articles of cards for Christmas, and other holidays, card-cases, moliches in boxes and bottles, the Lord's Prayer printed in forty-four languages on an inch square paper, minerals, stuffed birds, false teeth, a life-size washboard, saw, hatchet, hand-drill, Sandwich Islander's dress which when it arrived was mistaken for a fancy ball dress, as it was of gray cotton printed all over with playing cards. They only dangerous articles received were seventeen live rattlesnakes and a loaded revolver; the snakes were speedily killed.

For the auction sale the articles are made into apparently indiscriminate lots, and the catalogue afforded us so much amusement, we copied some of the items into our notebook. We gave them in their order. One lot, brown rail, worsted trimming, garters, and corset. Do., one and a half pounds of plug tobacco, eleven pairs gent's hose. Do., gent's overcoat, cotton shirt, pair silk cuffs. Do., two horse-blankets and a zither. Do., lady's dress, child's dress. It must, indeed, have been a hopeful person who confided a

horse blanket to the mail-bag. Judging from the number of siled cuffs, etc., many a country youth sojourning in a city attempts to send his "washing home to ma," by means of the government valises. The average annual number of "lots" is 3,700, each containing from three to nine articles; 156 pieces of jewelry appeared in the catalogue, but were disposed of singly and at a separate sale.

Having finished the glass cases, our attention was directed to a screen-door through which we could look into a larger apartment a few steps lower, where the inspection of the letters, etc., is conducted by men and women clerks. Visitors are not allowed to enter this apartment, but may watch as long as they please from this communicating door.

Letters that bear no outside information of their owner, are opened and searched for some clue. If it is found, the letter is returned enclosed in an official envelope that is exempt from postage. When no clue can be found, the letter is cast into the nameless heap upon the floor and soon gathered up by men who pass up and down between the desks collecting these letters into two bags for the paper mill.

It would seem that a person dispatching anything of importance would be careful about the address and postage; but blank envelopes, and many minus the name of the town, or State, containing money arrive on the average of 60,137 annually. The amount of money in checks, drafts, etc., something over a million; one year the amount in bills and stamps alone was \$32,000. This money is sent to the U. S. Treasury; if no owner can be found and proved, it is used for the nation; generally 35% is returned to the owners.

The clerks are, of course, assigned their special work, and those who correct the defective addresses, become so expert that they can often supply the hiatus without consulting the directories, and surprising skill is displayed in deciphering original spelling. Some of these addresses are preserved in albums, a corrected envelope having been substituted. We remember one envelope upon which the State was written "fur Goine." One of the bright clerks spelling it

phonetically discovered that the place intended was Virginia.

The average number of letters returned from hotels because the parties have departed, neglecting to give new addresses, is 78,865. Letters not addressed, 275,710. Packages of goods not allowed in the mails, 1,345. Books received, 396. Photographs, 35,160.

There is something pathetic in the sight of so many letters and remembrances destroyed and sold to strangers, while some anxious, loving heart, is watching and longing day after day for their coming. Who can count the heartaches, the life-long separations, the financial troubles starting from these lost letters? Yet the fault is simply and altogether that of those who write and send the letters, or packages, and one can learn a lesson in the Dead Letter Office never to be forgotten. That is, always be careful to write the full address and name both of the sender and desired recipient upon every letter, and in some way attach the same to every package whatever it may be; also to be sure of the proper postage, and the legality of the article sent. If the person lives in a city, the name of the street, and number of the house should be added in the lower left-hand corner; when one does not know the house number, or even the street, one may add to the person's name, in parenthesis, his business, or whatever can assist in finding him. Letters sent to transient residents should add the word "transient" to the residence, or post-office number. This should be the confirmed habit of every person, no matter how unimportant the letter, or parcel, may seem; in this, as in all things else, whatever is worth doing at all, should be done with care. It is a rule of etiquette that the desired recipient's name and address must be added in full to the most informal letter, the lower left hand corner for friendship letters, and at the beginning of business or formal letters. The writer's name should always be at the close, his address at the top. "Never sign initials, it suggests a wish to be unknown, or to escape the possible consequences." The reasonableness of this etiquette reveals itself in the Dead Letter Office.

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HINTS FOR THE TYRO.

BY NEMO.

IN these few lines it shall be my endeavor to give the main points of my experience in philately, for the edification of my young friends who are just about to enter the philatelic arena; and perhaps some more advanced collector may find herein some brief item worthy of his notice.

Of course you have already purchased a standard catalogue. No? Then you should do so immediately; the selection of a suitable one I shall leave your own judgement, as knowing best to what particular line, if any, you intend to devote your especial attention. "Scott's Standard Postage and Revenue Stamp Catalogue" was my first purchase, and I have never had occasion to regret the small outlay since, as I am satisfied that it has saved me twenty-five to seventy-five per cent on nearly all of my purchases, although I have never had any dealings with the publishers. I would not advise the purchase of an expensive album at first, as it is certain to be discarded ere long on account of the many new issues. Or perhaps you may be able to obtain one through exchange; by this means I was enabled to obtain two good cloth-bound albums, the "International" and the "Improved," which answered my purpose very well. Never paste your stamps solidly in your album, as it spoils it and depreciates the value of your collection. Hinge them in by means of gummed paper, which can be bought of most dealers for this purpose; or you can make it yourself by covering a thin sheet of paper with a strong solution of gum-arabic, which does not injure the stamps. Some valuable collections have been destroyed by using bad gum.

If you intend to accept all used specimens of stamps, you might now buy a few good-variety packets, as well as a small quantity of mixed stamps, among which you will generally find some useful ones, which may be worth as much, or more to you than the entire assortment cost.

The next best thing for you to do will be to purchase a number of cheap sets, as near complete as possible,

taking care to first find out of whom you can get genuine specimens of the required stamps the cheapest; after you have done this you will find yourself in possession of a number of choice duplicates, which you can exchange with some brother or sister collector, taking care not to accept any which are marked too high, however tempting they may be. If you are interested in any other branch of collecting, you may be able to exchange other specimens for stamps; thus your opportunities will be increased manifold.

You are now far enough advanced to order a few sheets on approval, and I would advise you to order sheets at as large a discount as possible, and when you receive them to compare the prices with your catalogue, and accept none but those which are marked at or below catalogue prices, and only such as you may need to complete the sets which you have already commenced. By this means you will be enabled to make all your purchases at, at least twenty-five to fifty per cent below regular market value; what you make in this way is your own gain, but let me implore you, act honorably in all things, and you will find in the end that your collection has increased far more rapidly than it would otherwise have done.

Furthermore, if you patronize the exchange column of some reliable paper, you will receive numerous sheets unsolicited, which will save you the trouble and expense of sending for them.

I am only a tyro myself, and I must acknowledge that my means are very limited; nevertheless, by means of the instructions here laid down, I have been able to make up what I consider a very fair collection.

Last, but not least, you will want to subscribe to a few good papers devoted to the subject, and I would suggest that the CANADA STAMP AND COIN JOURNAL may head your list.

— "What postage do I collect on this weekly, Heavenly Tidings?" asked the clerk. And the postmaster scratched his head thoughtfully for a moment, and then told him to rate it among the "foreign newspapers."

EDITORIAL REMARKS.

THE first annual convention of the Canadian Philatelic Association will be held in Toronto Sept. 19th and 20th. Our ticket for the coming election is as follows, and we ask the support of all our readers who have a vote :

President,— Henry Reehler, Halifax,
 Vice-Pres., Nova Scotia,— A. J. Crag, Pictou.
 " " New Bruns.,— Henry S. Harte, Salisbury
 " " Ontario,— Geo. Walker, Peterboro,
 " " Quebec,— R. A. Baldwin-Hart, Montreal
 " " P. E. Island,— W. Brown, Charlottetown
 " " B. Columbia,— J. H. Todd, Banf.

Secretary,— Geo. A. Lowe, Toronto.

Treasurer,— H. L. Hart, Halifax.

Exchange Supt.,— F. J. Grenny, Brantford.

Librarian,— J. A. Leighron, Orangeville.

Counterfeit-Detector,— H. M. Trull, Toronto.

Purchasing-Agent,— H. F. Ketcheson, Belleville.

Official Editor,— Theo. Larsen, Halifax.

*Official Organ,— Halifax Philatelist, @ \$24. 1st year.

Executive Committee,— J. C. Niesser, Toronto ; C.

C. Morrency, Quebec ; F. C. Kaye, Halifax.

Convention, 1883,— Halifax, N. S.

BE SURE YOU VOTE THE FULL TICKET !

*At the request of many members, the Halifax Philatelist has decided to act, if paid at least two dollars per month.

THE 1883 edition of the American Philatelic Press Directory has been received, and shows a marked improvement over the issue of last year. Besides giving lists of all the papers now published in America, with subscription and advertising rates, and other information of interest ; it also presents lists of the leading foreign, and of all the "dead" papers. Price, 25 cents. Geo. H. Richmond, Publisher, 5 Beckman St., New York. Or, this office.

MR. W. C. STONE, Springfield, Mass., is now at work preparing a history of the philatelic societies of America, and would be glad to receive any information that will assist him in his difficult task.

AT THE convention of the the American Philatelic Association, the following officers were elected :

President, J. K. Tiffany ; Vice-President, W. C. Vanderlip ; Secretary, S. B. Bradford ; Treasurer, H. R. Seagrave ; International Secretary, Joseph Reebert. A very suitable selection.

SAL VADOR speaks to the point in his article in the International Collector, for July. We have not a complete list of stamps, among the many that are published. He suggests that a committee of reliable dealers be chosen to prepare such a list as will be complete in every respect ; to include adhesives, postals, envelopes, newsbands,— in fact everything used for postal or fiscal purposes. He further suggests that such committee be members of the dealers association, and that collectors help them by every means in their power to make the work perfect. It is the only plan for a complete work, and we hope to soon see it put into practice.

MANY publishers seem to think it advisable to make a change in the size of their paper every few months. They do not consider how difficult it will be for subscribers to bind the volume when completed, nor how clumsy an appearance it will present. Should a change be thought necessary, it were surely better to wait until the commencement of a new volume, before effecting it. The best plan, however, is to settle on some handy size of page, and continue to use it until the "grand finale."



THIS afternoon, at 4 o'clock, at the Tabernacle, Harrison L. Hart, boot and shoe dealer, Gottingen St., was married to Miss Edith Graham, daughter of the late James Graham. A large number of the friends of the happy couple were present to witness the ceremony, which was performed by Rev. Mr. Miller. *** [Recorder, Aug. 25th.

THE gentleman referred to above is the popular treasurer of the C. P. A., and N. S. P. A., and we wish both himself and lady unbounded happiness for the future.

Mr. E. B. Sterling evidently intends to let everybody know what he has done, is doing, and is going to do. He is one of the most persistent advertisers in the stamp trade, using the columns of the philatelic press freely; and the price lists and circulars issued by him, are a model of neatness. His latest idea consists of a one hundred and twenty-four page pamphlet, pages the size of this journal, containing all the press notices and testimonials he has received during the past five years, in connection with Sterling's Standard Stamp Catalogues. The pamphlet is issued in the usual neat style, and may be had free, by application to Mr. Sterling, Trenton, N. J. The mailing charges are ten cents.

.....

UNBERTLED health and press of business have forced the editor of this journal to send in his resignation as a member of the C. P. A. Executive Committee.

To the illness of the editor is also due the delay in publishing this issue of the CANADA STAMP AND COIN JOURNAL.

.....

PHILATELIC SQUABS.

E. R. MARSHALL.

—The Swiss Cantonal stamps are nearly all very rare.

—The ten-pence Canada, 1852, bears the portrait of Jacques Cartier.

—“Yubin-hoka,” on the Japanese envelopes, means “postal envelope.”

—The Cheever & Towle local was issued in 1850, and was in use but a few months.

—The stamps of Nicaragua show the most artistic beauty of any series of stamps ever issued.

—The 1847 issue of the United States were printed by Rawdon, Hatch, Wright, & Edison, of New York.

—Spain has issued 182 regular-issue adhesives. The rarest is the 2 reales, red, 1851. It is worth about \$20.

—Turkey has issued two newspaper stamps, — a two paras blue in 1875, and a two paras, blue-red, in 1885.

—The stamps of Madagascar are not affixed to letters but are used as vouchers for the postage paid, by the post-officials.

—The registered letterstamp of the U. S. of Colombia is the philatelic giant. It measures five by two and one half inches.

—Heligoland is the smallest stamp-issuing country in the world, but it is not behind in the number of stamps issued, by any means.

—The stamps of Turkey surcharged “R. O.” were for use in Eastern Roumelia. The letters stand for “Roumelia Orientale.” They are quite rare.

—The 1879 issue of Bolivia are issued annually by stamp dealers who had the control for printing them. But few, even of the cancelled ones, have ever been used for postal purposes.

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This is the first of a series of illustrations representing the Nova Scotia tokens. Other cuts will follow, from month to month.

They will be found useful for reference, and especially so by our foreign subscribers.

A list of the tokens appeared in our first two issues.



.....

—The movement to restore the Flemish speech in Belgium seems to be making some progress. Coins of this year do not bear the old French motto “L’union fait la force,” but have something in Flemish in its place, while instead of “Leopold II., roi des Belges,” the inscription runs, “Leopold II., koning der Belgen.”—[Free Press.

+ :/+/.....

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Three inches.....	1 30	3 30	6 24	11 70
Five inches.....	2 16	5 35	10 71	20 16
One column.....	3 00	7 65	14 49	27 00
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NOTICE.

THE UNITED STATES PHILATELIST is now owned by two persons, with a paid up capital. The publishers assure the public of 12 successive issues. Each issue will consist of eight pages and cover. All issues to be the same size (6 x 10). Sworn circulation 1,000 copies each month. Subscriptions 25 cts. per year. Advertisements 50 cts. per inch, \$4 per page. Terms cash, unless ads. run over three months. Write for discount. We shall give our next number as Vol. 2, No. 1. We intend to publish a first-class magazine and desire the support of all collectors. Address,

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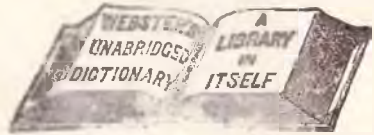
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THE CANADA STAMP & COIN JOURNAL.

PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF PHILATELY AND NUMISMATICS.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, OCTOBER, 1888.

NO. 4.

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One column.....	3 00	7 65	14 40	27 00
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Compton, J W	Halsted, Murat	Miller, Joaquin	Thomas, H W
Conant, Francis A	Handy, M P	Montepin, Xavier de	Thompson, Maurice
Cooke, George Willis	Hanslick, Edouard	Montgomery, Geo Edgar	Townsend, Gen Alfred
Coppes, Francois	Harby, Lee C	Munkittrick, A W	Tyreil, Henry
Countrivman, Wm A	Hardero, Emma C	Muzzey, Annie L	Vance, Hart
Croftut, W A	Harris, Joel Chandler	Nash, Edgar	VanSantvoord, Harold
Cromwell, Cheskey	Harrison, S Francis	O'Malley, Charles J	Von Rense, Dr Jie Gies
Croftie, Julia M	Hayne, Paul H	Oshan, Wm J	Wakeman, Edgar L
Cull, James H	Hastings, H L	O'Sullivan, D F	Walton, J W
Cummings, Elizabeth	Hearne, Hannah	Oxley, James M	Waring, Amy Harlowe
Cummings, Ella Sterling	Hendricksen, Peter	Pabor, W E	Wattersen, Henry
Cutler, H G	Hill, Marion	Paine, D L	Wilcox, Ella Wheeler
Darling, Annie D	Hobart, Sarah D	Parker, Rev Joseph H D	Wilson, Robert Barma
Dandet, Alphonse	Holroyd, Dorothy	Parker, Benj S	Wood, Henry Cleveland
Davis, Clarence Ladd	Hooper, Lucy H	Pertello, J M T	Woolley, Cella P
Davis, Mrs M M	House, Ben D	Pastnor, Paul	Woolson, C F
Dawson, Andrew H H	Hovey, Alvin P	Peattie, Ella W	Young, William
Denn, Mary	Ingersoll, Ernest		Zelia, Emilie

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PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF PHILATELY AND NUMISMATICS.

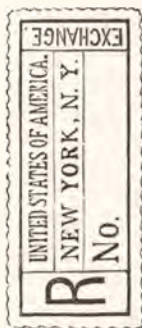
VOL. I,

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, OCTOBER, 1888.

NO. 4.

ODDLY-ADDRESSED LETTERS.

COLLECTED BY THE EDITOR.



MANY oddly-addressed letters daily pass through the post-office. As anything relating to correspondence and the mail is always of interest to the philatelist, I have made a collection of such odd addresses as have come to my knowledge, and shall present a few whenever space will admit.

Several of the rhyming kind are somewhat remarkable for the poetical skill displayed by the writers.

A clever example is given in the following, addressed to Sir Walter Scott during one of his visits to London.

Sir Walter Scott, in London or elsewhere;
He needs not ask, whose wide-extended fame
Is spread about our earth, like light and air,
A local habitation for his name.

Charles Dibden, the naval song-writer sent a letter to Mr. Hay, bearing the following address :

Postman, take this sheet away,
And carry it to Mr. Hay ;
And, whether you ride mare or colt on,
Stop at the Theatre, Bolton,
In what county, you inquire,
Merely mention Lancashire.

A letter addressed as follows was mailed in one of the provinces, and was duly delivered in London :

Where London's column pointing to the skies,
Like a tall bully, lifts its head and lies,
There dwells a citizen of sober fame—
A plain, good man—and Ba'n'am is his name.

The letter was delivered, without delay, to a Mr. Ba'n'am, a fishmonger, near the monument.

Turning from poetry to prose, we find the following

vague direction :

Mr. —, Travelling Band, one of the Four playing in the street, Persha (Pershore), Worcestershire. Please find him, if possible.

Another envelope bore the following :

This is for the young girl that wears spectacles, who minds two babies, 11 Sheriff Street, off Prince Edwin Street, Liverpool.

J. Wilson Hyde, in his book, "The Royal Mail," says that two letters, directed as follows, were duly delivered :

To my sister Jean, Up the Cannongate, down a close, Edinburgh. She has a wooden leg.

The other was addressed :

My dear Aunt Sue as lives in the Cottage by the Wood near the New Forrest.

"In the latter case," says Mr. Hyde, "the letter had to feel its way about for a day or two, but 'Aunt Sue' was found living in a cottage near Lyndhurst."

: : : : : /// : : : : :

—A Russian peasant named Levotchko has just discovered, it is reported, an immense treasure trove in the village of Starogorodki, in the Governorship of Tchernigow. The peasant lived upon land forming part of the estate of Prince Ostersky, whose ancestors were plundered and expelled from their possessions by the Tartars, and there is little doubt expressed but that the treasure and other articles found date from this period. The discovery includes, besides many precious articles and manuscripts, several boxes filled with ancient coins of fine gold. The total value of the find is given at \$8,500,000, two-thirds of which go to the State and one-third to Levotchko, whose share will amount to approximately \$3,000,000.

—Mr. Robt. A. Sheldon, Mobile, Alabama, has sent us a circular announcing a new paper, the "Alabama Philatelist." It will be the only stamp paper in the Gulf States, and should prove a success.

—The "Philatelic Herald" has resumed publication. It now hails from Freeport, Maine, with Geo. F. Coffin as chief editor; L. E. Curtis and John Lunt being associates.

THE UNPERFORATED VARIETIES, 1870 ISSUE OF UNITED STATES.

BY FIG.

I HAVE seen a number of the 1870 issue of the United States postage in an unperforated condition, as also a few of the later issues, viz.: 2 c. claret and 2 c. green. Now these varieties are simply errors, and were caused by a fault in the perforating machinery. As to being of value to collectors, I think they are, if classed under the head of errors; but they cannot rightfully come under the head of regular issues, as they were never authorized by the Department. I have often met with unperforated specimens of current stamps of other countries, but as very little notice was taken of them, I did not consider them worth collecting. Still, I suppose they are rightfully errors, and should be collected as such, by those who wish to go into all the minute details of philately. Errors are hard specimens to handle, and as a general rule they are left alone, but as some collectors make a specialty of all the varieties which are issued by the United States Government, I think they would do well to insert these 1870 unperforated stamps. Some persons will, no doubt, place them under the head of oddities; but I think "error" the more appropriate name.

..... //

HISTORY OF THE DOLLAR.

(The United States dollar as a basis.)

BY ALBERT WINSLOW PAINE.

THE dollar is our unit of value. When we speak of the value of anything we say it is worth so many dollars, and thus give a definite idea of its value. All nations have a unit of value. The English have the pound sterling; the French, the franc; the Italians, the lira—of about the same value, however, as the franc; the Portuguese, the milreis; the Greeks, the drachme; the Russians, the ruble; the Turks, the piastre; the Germans, the mark at present, formerly the dollar. Other nations have the dollar also, but the value is not always the same as ours. Our dollar,

as a unit of value, is fixed at 25.8 grains of gold, nine-tenths fine. There is also the United States note, the greenback, which is called a dollar bill, and passes for a dollar. This is issued by the government, and entitles the holder to a dollar on presentation. It is, therefore, the representation of a dollar. The government also issues two silver coins called dollars. One is called the standard silver dollar. It contains 412½ grains of silver, nine-tenths fine. It is coined from silver purchased by the government, and is paid out by the government in discharge of government indebtedness, for one dollar. The conditions of its issue are that the government will receive it again for government dues, and that it shall be received as a legal tender for all debts. It passes, therefore, for a dollar, although the quantity of silver it contains is worth only about eighty cents. It is, therefore, a representation or token dollar, and would pass equally as well if made of copper or brass, for it is sustained by the authority of the government. The other silver dollar is called a trade dollar. It contains 420 grains of silver, nine-tenths fine. It is not made receivable for government dues, and is not a legal tender, and therefore it passes only for the value of the silver it contains. None have been issued for several years.

At the time of our revolution the dollar was not legally established as our unit of value. Value was then reckoned in pounds, shillings and pence. Accounts were kept in that currency, the same as in England at the present day. General Washington's account-book, commencing in 1775, when he went to Cambridge to take command of the Army, was kept in pounds, shillings and pence. In 1778 he added another column for "dollars." The reason for this was that the money in circulation was principally Spanish coins, which were called "dollars." McMaster, in his history of the American people, mentions the fact that in 1771 the entire coin of the land, except coppers, was the product of foreign mints. English guineas, crowns, shillings and pence were still paid over the counters of shops and taverns, and with them were mingled many French and Spanish, and some German coins. "Indeed," he says, "the close connection the colonies

had held with the traders of the Spanish Indies, and the nearness of the Spanish possessions at the mouth of the Mississippi and along the Gulf of Mexico, had made America familiar with all denominations of Spanish coins. These coins had long circulated freely among all classes of buyers and sellers. One of them, the Spanish milled dollar, had become as much a unit of value as the pound sterling." The term dollar had become so familiar to the people that the paper money issued by the Continental Congress was expressed in dollars. It was issued in sums of one to twenty dollars, in this form:

Continental Currency.
No. _____ dollar.

This bill entitles the bearer to receive _____ Spanish milled dollars, or the value thereof in gold and silver, according to the Resolution of the Congress held at Philadelphia on the 10th day of May, 1775.

At that time there was no law determining the size, weight, and purity of the dollar, and the term was applied indiscriminately to several coins. There were German dollars of different values, Danish dollars of other values, rix dollars of Holland, of still another value, besides different Spanish coins which were also called dollars. This variety of coins called dollars made it necessary to specify in contracts the kind of dollars intended. Thus, the Continental Congress specify the kind of dollars as the "Spanish milled dollar." The Spaniards, who governed most of the silver-producing countries at that time, had adopted the system of milling the edges of their coins so that any mutilation could be more easily detected.

In 1782, soon after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, at Yorktown (October 19, 1781), the American Congress directed the Financier of the Confederation, Robert Morris, to lay before them his views on the subject of coins and currency. His report was presented in 1782. As stated by Thomas Jefferson, it was the work of Gouverneur Morris, the Assistant Financier. He attempted to introduce a coinage which would harmonize with the various currencies of the States. It must here be borne in mind that the State currencies were all depreciated from an over-issue of paper money, though not all to the same extent. Six shillings in

New England would exchange for as much coin as seven shillings and six pence in Pennsylvania and eight shillings in New York. Mr. Morris thought it desirable to fix upon some unit that could be easily exchanged for the different values of this depreciated currency. He found that $1/1440$ part of the Spanish dollar was a divisor for all the currencies. Starting with this fraction as a unit he proposed the following table for coinage:

10 units	= 1 penny,
10 pence	= 1 bill,
10 bills,	= 1 dollar, (about $\frac{1}{4}$ of Spanish dollar),
10 dollars	= 1 crown.

Here was the suggestion of the decimal system in a crude form. In 1784, Thomas Jefferson made a report, in which he recommended the Spanish milled dollar as a unit of coinage, retaining the decimal system which had been recommended by Mr. Morris. He objected to the unit of Mr. Morris, on account of its diminutive size, and recommended the dollar, because, in the first place, of all coins, it was the most familiar to the people; and, in the second place, it might almost be considered as already adopted for a unit.

[To be continued]

..... //

Considerable attention was paid to reprints lately. The A. P. A. Convention not only passed a resolution discouraging their collection, but decided that they shall not be allowed to circulate on the exchange sheets. The New York Society has just established an exchange department, one of the rules of which likewise prohibits their circulation, of course with the exception of those which were issued by Government authority, and good for postage when issued. We consider reprints as little, if any, better than counterfeits, and think it safe to predict that they will not trouble collectors many years longer.—[R. R. Egert.]

—A new departure in collectors papers is the "Philatelic Literature Collector," published by H. C. Beardsley, St. Joseph, Missouri. It is published quarterly, 10 cents per year.

—The "Philatelic Gazette" is now issued by the Western Philatelic Publishing Co., Chicago.

EDITORIAL REMARKS.

AT the Convention of the Canadian Philatelic Association, which was held in Toronto, Sept. 19 and 20, the following Officers were elected for the ensuing year :

President,— Henry Hechler, Halifax ;
 Vice-Pres., Nova Scotia,— A. J. Craig, Pictou ;
 " " New Brunswick, H. S. Harte, Salisbury ;
 " " Ontario,— George Walker, Peterboro ;
 " " Quebec,— R. A. Baldwin-Hart, Montreal ;
 " " P. E. Island,— W. Brown, Charlottetown ;
 " " B. Columbia,— J. H. Todd, Banff ;
 " " Manitoba,— J. R. Davidson, Brandon ;
 Secretary,— T. J. McMinn, Toronto ;
 Treasurer,— H. L. Hart, Halifax ;
 Exchange-Supt.,— F. J. Grenny, Brantford ;
 Librarian,— J. A. Leighton, Orangeville ;
 Counterfeit-Detector,— H. Morrill, Toronto ;
 Purchasing-Agent,— H. F. Ketcheson, Belleville ;
 Official-Editor,— Theo. Larsen, Halifax ;
 Official-Organ,— Halifax Philatelist ;
 Executive-Committee,— J. R. Hooper, Ottawa, C.
 C. Morreny, Quebec, F. C. Kaye, Halifax ;
 Convention, 1880,— To be held at Halifax.

—At the Convention : Ninety-eight members were present or represented. It was voted to give the sum of fifty dollars per annum to the paper selected for official organ, the executive committee to have the power to make a change, should the paper selected at the convention prove unsatisfactory. The resignation of J. R. Findlay, as a member of the executive committee, was accepted ; D. A. King was appointed in his place. Mr. Craig, the representative from Nova Scotia, held 39 proxies ; Mr. Emory, the American representative, held 23. A new constitution, very similar to that of the A. P. A., was adopted. The most important variations from the old constitution are : The abolition of the initiation fee ; the raising of the annual dues to two dollars ; the giving a salary of twenty-five dollars to the secretary, and fifty dollars to the official-organ ; the making it necessary that a deposit of one dollar accompany each application for membership ; the making the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer elective, and the others appointive. The date of the next meeting to be decided by the Executive Committee.

—Convention oddities : The oldest collector present was Major Grenny, of Brantford. Prominent and awe-inspiring were Mr. Craig's bald cranium and Mr. Walker's fine black beard. Mr. Ketcheson made a dignified presiding officer. Sickness detained several members, who would otherwise have been present, among them being Messrs. J. R. Hooper, H. S. Harte, and Needham, and the Editor. Mr. Craig ably represented the blue-noses. The exhibition held after the convention, was but a very small show. One of the most important resolutions of the convention, was a vote to discourage the collection of reprints.

—Quite a large number of new periodicals have appeared during the last few months, and it goes to show what a wide-spread popularity stamp-collecting is attaining. Although the fall season always brings more or less new publications among us, yet the number is, this year, greater than ever before. Among the most promising, judging from the one or two numbers issued, we may mention the "Philatelic Beacon," Newtonville, Mass. ; "Collector & Exchange," Buffalo, N. Y., and "Collector's Exchange," Springfield, Wisconsin. Then we have the "Park City Collector," Bridgeport, Connecticut, and the "Philatelic Press," West Winsted, Connecticut, both rather neat little four-page sheets which may, with proper push, be made a success. Besides those above mentioned, we have heard of about a dozen others that have appeared during the past two months ; while announcements of others to come, are received by us every week. We would like to see you all succeed, brothers, but ! —

—What we want : An agent to receive advertisements and subscriptions, in each of the foreign countries where we are not yet represented. Reliable information regarding proposed new emissions of postage and fiscal stamps, coins, tokens, medals, etc. First class original mss. on all branches of philately and numismatics. Specimens of new issues for which we will pay cash. Correspondence solicited.

A UNIVERSAL POSTAGE STAMP.

AT the first blush, the idea appeared excellent ; but unfortunately, the postal Union Convention itself was the first to interpose an insurmountable obstacle. As already stated, one of the vital principals of the original convention is that each country shall retain the postage which it collects. If a universal stamp were used, then, what guarantee would there be that the country who sold the stamps and got the profit had done the work for which it had been paid ? None whatever. And moreover, it was found on closer examination that the monetary system in force in some of the countries of the Postal Union would not lend themselves to a universal stamp. Thus for example, the 25 centime stamp that prepays a half ounce (or 15 grammes) letter from France to Italy or England, is represented in Germany by a 90 pfennig stamp ; but 20 pfennig are, in reality worth a quarter of a centime less than 25 centimes ; and so with the ten kreuzer Austrian stamp, which although it does duty in Austria-Hungary for 35 centimes in prepaying a letter, is actually 4 centimes less in value. The idea, therefore, of the universal postage stamp, to which the originator clung fondly to the last, had, after all to be abandoned.

At the various postal congresses, which have from time to time been held, it has always been agreed among the several administrations concerned that three special exceptions should be made to the system of accounting for foreign mails at the ordinary fixed rate and by periodical statistics. These exceptions are : for the conveyance of British and other mails across the Isthmus railway between Panama and Colon, for the transmission of foreign mails across the Continent of America by express service from San Francisco to New York, and for the overland Indian mail via Brindisi. All these are paid for by net weight.—[From the "National Review."

—Every description of printing neatly executed at this office. Prices reasonable.

STEALINGS.

PESSIMISTS and opponents of Philately may write and say what they like about stamp collecting being nothing but a craze, a mania. Their opinions are far out-weighed by the prima facie evidence of the universal dissemination of Philatelic principles, and the almost incredible growth of stamp firms, of which a goodly number spring into existence almost every week. There is not the shadow of a doubt that philately is making rapid progress towards the goal of universalization, and its worth as an educational medium is being appreciated and acknowledged by all who have been brought in contact with it.—[From the "Philatelic Advertiser."

AN entirely new machine has been invented for printing postal cards from the roll, and to turn them out packed in bundles of 25. It prints the cards at the rate of 300 a minute, in the usual way, by means of a rotary press. A set of knives then cut the cards off and drops them, four abreast, into little cells especially prepared for them. When 25 cards have dropped out, a set of steel fingers turn the pack over, twines a paper band about it, and pastes it together. The packages are caught in an endless belt of buckets, which carry them into an adjoining room, where they are received by girls, who place them in boxes for delivery. One man runs two machines.—["Times."

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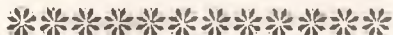
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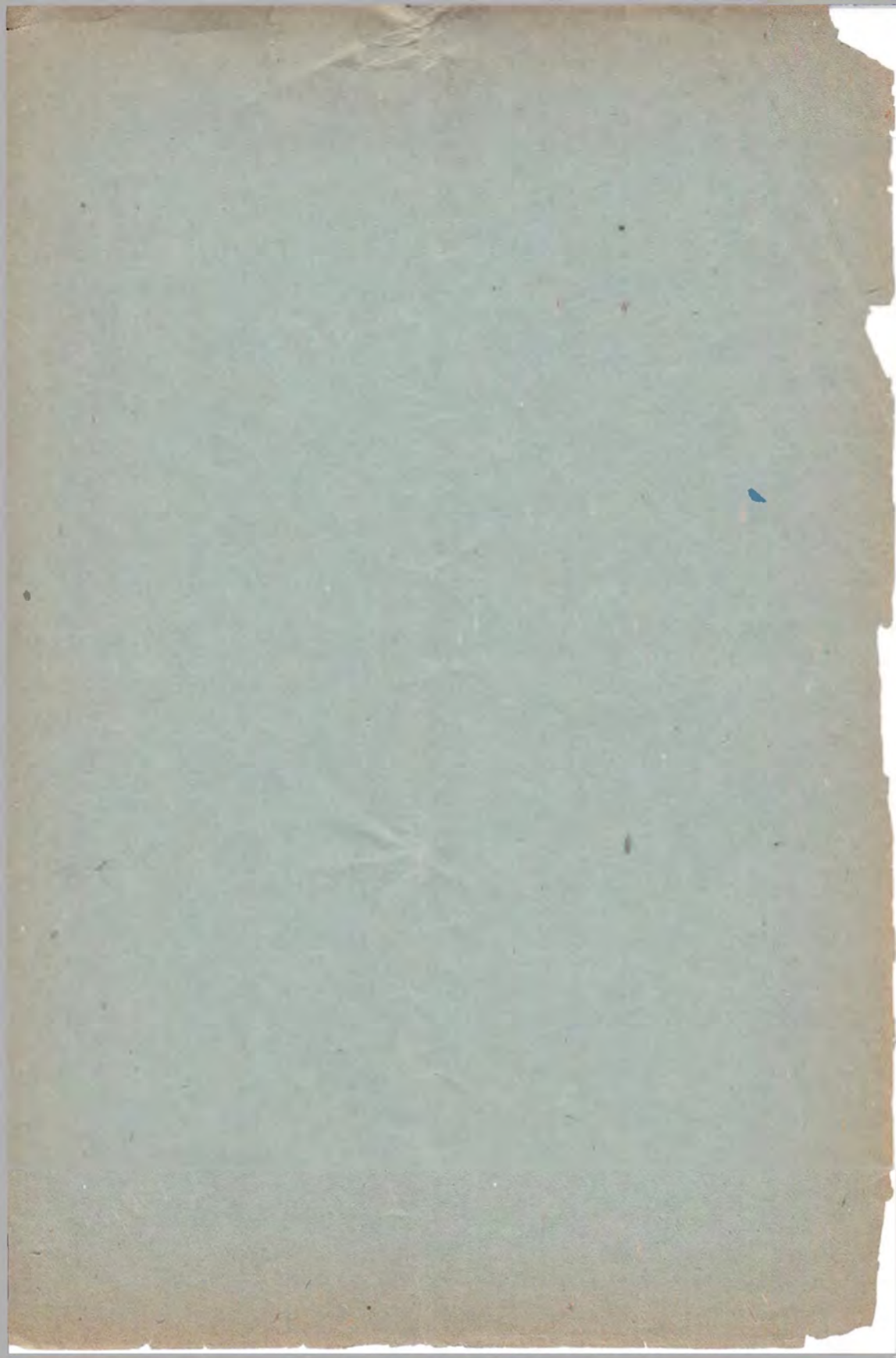
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THE CANADA STAMP & COIN JOURNAL.

PUBLISHED IN THE INTEREST OF PHILATELY AND NUMISMATICS.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, NOVEMBER, 1888.

NO. 5.

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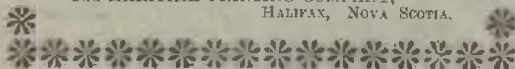
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THE Canada Stamp and Coin Journal.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, N. S., JULY, 1888.

No. 1.

In a Mail Bag.

BY H. S. KELLER.



"SEE here, will you be so kind as to move away? Don't hug up so close to me, you—you black-bordered envelope."

"Excuse me. I feel so badly that I hardly know what I am doing. I know you do not like my company; nobody does. I don't blame them. I am sorry. You look happy, you dainty pink envelope, sealed with blue wax. Blue wax is the symbol of love, is it not?"

"Yes, true love. Love true and pure as the skies, and as enduring. I am a love letter."

And the pink envelope fairly glowed with the bliss of its sealed kisses. It bore the smell of for-get-me-nots, and its pretty direction was as fine and perfect as copperplate. Truly it had a right to glow and throb—for it was love that kindled its warmth and sent a thrill through its very fiber.

"Alas! I carry a sad message to a far-off home——"

"What is it? Tell me. Love, you know, is very curious, and—and—my pretty lady never sent such a letter as I am before in all her life. Tell me your secret and I will tell you mine——"

"Stop that nonsense, you two there in the corner of the bag, can't you?"

"Who are you?" asked the love letter quickly. It was such a happy, giddy thing that it could afford to brave and face even a business-like envelope with the picture of a mighty structure in one corner.

"Well, I'm a full-grown business letter, and I'm on my way to tell a man that our firm cannot give him any more credit. I'm tired of hearing you two in the corner gabbling, and I wish you would quit it at once."

"Love and death, my staid friend, are so closely allied that even the commonest of us ought to consider and have patience."

"Well, well, who spoke in *that* dear tone?"

"I come from a great poet. He is a leader of mankind. He helped to free the slaves; and he has done much good in this great world. He is now an old, white haired man; and he sits in the golden sunset of life, respected, beloved and esteemed by the whole world. He has written his name upon the page of time, and all the ages to come will never erase that name. He is known as Whittier."

And for a brief period the mail bag was silent. It was great company they—those wonderful, mysterious, different, queer and curious missives were in. The dainty pink love letter nestled against

the black-bordered one. The one carrying a sad, sad message to someone far away. The stern business-like letter with never a word or line of rhythm in it lay side by side with a commonplace envelope bearing a poem fresh from the hands and brain and heart and soul of one of the purest singers God ever gave the divine gift of poetry to. And then another voice broke the stillness and the rest shuddered as they heard its rough, brutal tones.

"And if ye air keerful, pard, ye kin kill the ole cuss wi' one blow o' yer club. He hain't no longer strong; jess a little tap—presto; he's dead an' the swag is yourn."

"Who dare speak of such a theme as murder. Do you know that I came from the hand of one of the highest judges in the land? Reveal yourself, villain, and let the strong hand of the law throttle your murderous design before it goes further," came from a long, legal missive with a red seal. But the criminal letter said not a word; it only slipped down out of sight and was covered finally by a letter from a farmer. In this latter letter was a check for one hundred dollars; and the letter was worded as follows: "Send me the one thousand in 'green goods' soon as possible. I think I can use them without much trouble."

Then all was quiet again for a period.

"Oh, dear boy, I hear bad news from you. Don't do it any more. It has killed your mother and is killing me, your poor old father. *Don't drink! Don't drink! Don't drink!*"

"Aye! aye! so say we all," cried out four or five from a little pile.

"And when we cracked the last bottle, Jack, a sigh went round our little circle. We had piled in the stuff pretty freely

and were feeling good. *The last bottlè!* That almost broke our hearts. Our motto is—'a merry life and a short one'—"

"Gracious, I smell something like a drunken man's breath. I don't want nothing more to do with you," broke in a long, lean, spidery envelope as it slipped down among a lot of jolly letters from some school girls. The spinster's letter lay there, drinking in with keen delight the merry prattle of the girls letters. It felt young again and—it made a stern determination to enter the lists once more and battle bravely for some man's heart. Helter skelter, rough and tumble—all in a mixed pile upon the table the letters were thrown by the hands of the mail clerk. Flutter, flitter, flash and flurry—here, there, everywhere, but all property distributed at last.

And when the recipients of each letter received his or her mail all were at last safely housed.

The tears that fell upon the black-bordered missive, the kisses rained upon the pink love letter, the pale look that confronted the business letter, and all cries of joy, the sobs of sorrow, the chuckles of exultation and the other thousand and one expressive terms and acts—all went out in air; and the mail bag never told the story of its romance.

A Half-penny Letter Post.

BY T. MARTIN WEARS.

WHEN on the 6th of May 1840, the inhabitants of these islands were granted the privilege of sending a letter, provided it did not exceed half an ounce in weight, to any part of Great Britain for the low charge of one penny, it was thought that this rate was so cheap, as to

admit of no reduction whatever. Compared with the charges which prevailed prior to 1840, the uniform penny rate was no doubt, a great advance in the way of postal reform, but it was found that the Post Office was in a position to reduce the rate still further, without any serious loss resulting to them, while they would confer a real boon on the public. Accordingly on 5th October, 1871, a reduced postal tariff was established, by which letters not exceeding one ounce in weight were carried for one penny—the rate still in force.

But who would have ever dreamt of a half-penny rate for the carriage of one ounce letters? who would have believed that a penny postage stamp, envelope, and sheet of note paper could be supplied for a half-penny? and yet from the prospectus of a Limited Liability Company just issued, it seems that this is not only feasible, but, if carefully carried out, will prove a good dividend paying concern. This Company, which is styled "The Half-penny Letter Post Company, Limited," is enabled to offer so satisfactory a return for our half-pence by working a patent known as "The Hertz Patent." This consists of an improved envelope, and note or letter paper in one sheet, which cannot be very well explained without a sample. Three pages of the paper are reserved for the communications, while the fourth page and a few inches of paper joining the letter with the envelope, are filled with advertisements. It is from the revenue reaped from this novel method of advertising that the Company is enabled to offer the stamp and paper for one half-penny, thereby allowing the public to enjoy the advantage of a half-penny letter post without loss to the revenue. The stamp

is intended to be embossed on the back of the letter, and when folded shows through a hole cut in the envelope. The letter and envelope—on the latter no advertisements appear—being composed of one sheet of paper, cannot be used separately; while the stamp being an embossed one, will be rendered useless, if taken off and used for another letter. It will thus be seen that the stamp does not appear on the envelope at all, so that it is possible the Post Office Authorities may raise some objection on this score, if they have not already countenanced the plan.

By no class will this novelty be welcomed more warmly than by philatelists; to dealers especially it will be a God-send. The many small transactions they have with stamp collectors, make a reduction in the postal rates, of which they will not be slow to avail themselves, a matter of much moment to them. One London firm alone spends £12 weekly in postages, so that it will readily be seen that a half-penny rate will go far to reduce these heavy items of expenditure. Dealers will be enabled to print their price lists on the note or envelope sheet, and I should not be surprised were some energetic philatelist to come forward and issue a stamp magazine printed on the sheets. Those who use them in this manner will effect a considerable saving. They will also be available for sending stamps.

The estimates given in the prospectus, which perhaps should be taken with a grain of salt, show that a profit of 17s. 6d. per thousand or £875 per million is anticipated. This would yield a dividend of 22½ per cent, supposing a sale of one million weekly were effected, so that the shareholders as well the public are to benefit by the scheme, along with the advertisers who will have opened to them a more direct system of advertising than hitherto available.

Seeing the Company will benefit the whole letter-writing community, it is to be hoped that it will be successfully floated, that it will be carefully managed, and that it has a long and useful career before it.—*The Philatelic Advertiser.*

The Canada Stamp & Coin Journal.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

In the Interests of Philately and Numismatics.

JOHN R. FINDLAY, - Editor and Proprietor.

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CANADA STAMP AND COIN JOURNAL.

Halifax, N. S., Canada.

IN adding another to the already long list of papers devoted to philately and numismatics, I have but little to say, except that I ask your hearty encouragement and assistance. Your encouragement could consist of that little subscription or advertisement; your assistance may be comprised in items of interest and select articles for publication in our next issue. But I would like you to combine both these little virtues, as, by so doing you will make an assured success of what is, at the moment but an experiment. Money refunded in all cases if contracts are not fulfilled.

Members of any Philatelic or Numismatic Association need not pay their subscription in advance; (prompt payment at the end of the year will be satisfactory. Advertisements are, however, always payable in advance).

Fraternally yours,

THE PUBLISHER.

Comments on Current Customs.



MORE careful proof reading would have made the latest *Halifax Philatelist* faultless.

A CATALOGUE of the 7th auction sale of R. R. Bogert & Co., has reached this office. It contains quite a list of good stamps.

MR. J. B. SMITH is conducting a very interesting philatelic department in the *Springfield Republican*.

THE scarcity of original articles in this number is due to the fact that it was gotten up in a hurry, and is more of a prospectus than a regular issue.

IF the *Eastern Philatelist* continues to improve at the rate it has done during the five months of its existence, it will ere long be one of the leading stamp papers in the United States.

THE *Toronto Philatelic Journal* has dropped its numismatic department. The C. P. A. in electing this paper as its official organ has chosen one of the worst edited papers on this continent.

ABOUT the most welcome visitor on our exchange list is the official organ of the A. P. A. Mr. Brock and his colleagues have placed the *American Philatelist* at the top of the ladder.

THE *Philatelic Advertiser*, of London, now intends to publish in each issue many original and interesting articles. It was at first only issued as an advertising medium.

MR. CH. DORMIN has certainly improved the philatelist department of *Plain Talk*, but he could put four times as much reading as he does in the space that paper allows for articles relating to stamp collecting.

If lots of advertising patronage tend to make a paper a success, the *Badger State Philatelist* publisher should be satisfied. About the usual thing for that paper is three pages of reading out of eight; balance advertisements.

ROBT. S. HATCHER, Esq., contributes many valuable tid-bits to both the *Philatelic Journal of America* and the *American Philatelist*, under the heading of "Notes for U. S. Philatelists."

In Mr. Casey's catalogue of the "Mauritius Collection," I notice the shilling stamp both of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. There are also a large number of other rare stamps.

If the *Hawkeye State Collector* continues to change its form every two or three issues, it will soon need a catalogue in which to enumerate the various sizes it has appeared in.

MESSRS. SMITH AND KLOCK appear determined to advance the *Mohawk Standard* to the "top of the hill." Every number is an improvement on its predecessor.

AUTHORS who desire to have their efforts put up in neat pamphlet or book form, should address this office. We are ready to undertake the publication of any kind of books on favorable terms

The *Canadian Philatelist* contains a great deal of interesting reading, but it is printed so badly that one cannot take an interest in its perusal. A change of printers is advisable.

ALL stamp and coin papers are requested to forward two copies regular, in exchange for a like number of the *Canada Stamp and Coin Journal*. Papers received this month are: Western Philatelist, Badger State Philatelist, Toronto Philatelic Journal, Halifax Philatelist, Mohawk Standard, Agassiz Companion, Eastern Philatelist, Philatelic Journal of America, Plain Talk, Hawkeye State Collector, American Philatelist, Philatelic Advertiser and Canadian Philatelist.

The Coinage of Nova Scotia.

BY D. A. K.

IN the early part of this century the copper coins used in the British American Colonies became very scarce, and in no colony more so than in Nova Scotia. The copper coin was so very scarce here that at one time the Royal authorities, to relieve the strain for copper coins, struck at the Royal Dock Yard a large number of $\frac{1}{2}$ pennies. They were perfectly plain; no inscription or device of any kind whatsoever. These were popularly known by the name of "Dockyarders." At that time anything in the shape of a circular piece of copper passed current as coin. One of the commonest pieces in circulation then, is what is now known as the Magdalen Island penny, which Admiral Coffin had had issued for his lordship of the magdalens. But there were, however, many more in circulation in Nova Scotia than where they were struck for. Shortly after the issue of the large English copper penny and two-penny pieces in 1797 there was a large quantity sent out to the colonies, but the thrifty natives of Nova Scotia, finding that they were worth more as copper than as money, soon made away with them all. The merchants were then necessitated to make some effort to procure copper change, and therefore, imitating their friends in the mother country, issued quite a small coinage of half-pennys. Of these coins the first we get, dated 1814, are of quite a respectable size, but the next year a new issue was put out, and the issuers seem to have repented of their generosity in making them so large at first, as they made the 1815 issue not much larger than the English farthing. A couple of firms, however, Miles W. White and Starr & Shannon, made theirs the same size as the first issue.

The lack of a copper coinage and the small size of the Merchants' Tokens arousing great discontent, the Government were at last, in 1823, forced to take the matter in hand, and did so by issuing a

copper coinage. The first was a half-penny in 1823, followed by a one-penny in 1824. Those coins are the old familiar Thistle pennys. There were three issues of the half-penny, 1823, 1824, 1832. I have only seen two dates of the one-penny, 1824, 1832, although there is said to be a one-penny of 1823. A peculiarity about those coins is that, although George IV., whose head is on those coins, died in 1830, his head, and not that of his successor, William IV., was continued on the 1832 issue.

The next issue was not till 1840, three years after the Queen had ascended the throne. They were of the same type as the last issue, except the heads being changed. The head of the Queen on these coins is a very poor specimen of work in the way of resemblance, giving Her Majesty a very plain not to say ugly face.

This issue was followed in 1856 by what is known as Mayflower pennys. The coins consisted of a one-penny and a half-penny. The design was an extremely handsome one, on the obverse was a head of the Queen, and on the reverse a bunch of Mayflowers, the emblem of Nova Scotia. Those coins were issued both in brass and bronze, of which the brass ones are quite rare. This was the first time that the time honored thistle was not on the Government issues of Nova Scotia coins, and it has not appeared on them since. In 1861 the currency was changed from £ s. d. into \$ c., and the old pennys and half-pennys were called in, and a new issue of cents and half-cents were put in circulation to agree with the new currency. Those coins were one cent and half-cents bronze.

The design was different from any of the other issues, the head of the Queen on it being copied from the design on the design on the current English coins. Those coins are in circulation at the present time, except that the half-cent was withdrawn in 1871.

In 1867 the various provinces of Canada united into a Confederation, and a new bronze and silver coinage was struck for the whole Dominion. Those

coins have a head of the Queen as she now appears on the obverse, and on the reverse the value encircled by a wreath of maple leaves, the emblem of Canada. Those coins hardly belong to Nova Scotia, but as they are circulating in it at the present time it would be hardly fair to pass them over.

The following is a description, arranged chronologically as much as possible, of the Government issues and the local tokens:—

Obverse—Province of Nova Scotia.

Laureated head of George IV. to left.

Reverse—One Penny Token, Thistle, 1824-1832.

O.—Same type as preceding.

R.—Half-penny token, Thistle, 1823, '4, 32.

O.—Province of Nova Scotia, head of Queen Victoria to left.

R.—One-penny token, Thistle, 1840-'3.

O.—Same type as preceding.

R.—Half-penny token, Thistle, 1840-'3.

O.—Victoria D. G.: Britannia: Reg. F. D., 1856, crowned head of Queen to left.

R.—Province of Nova Scotia, one penny token, bunch of Mayflowers.

O.—Same as preceding.

R.—Province of Nova Scotia, half-penny token, bunch of Mayflowers.

O.—Victoria D. G. Britt. Reg. F. D., bust of Queen to left, head laureated.

R.—One cent, Nova Scotia, 1861, '2, '4, Crown encircled by wreath of roses and Mayflowers.

O.—Same as preceding.

R.—Half-cent, 1861, '64, same as preceding.

LOCAL TOKENS.

O.—Half-penny token, 1814, laureated head of George III. to right within circle.

R.—Payable by Hosterman and Etter, Halifax, building, full front, size 18.

O.—Same as preceding, 1815, no circle round head.

R.—Same as preceding, size 17.

O.—Same type as preceding.

R.—Success to Navigation and Trade, full-rigged ship to right, size 17.

- O.—Same type as preceding.
 R.—For the convenience of trade, ship under sail to right.
 O.—Same type as preceding.
 R.—Payable by Caritt & Alport, Halifax, ship under sail to right.
 O.—Broke, Halifax, Nova Scotia, bust of Broke to left in naval uniform.
 R.—Brittannia, 1814, Brittannia seated to left with olive branch in hand.

(To be continued.)

EXCHANGE NOTICES.

Notices under this heading will be inserted free for subscribers only; limit 50 words. Over 50 words, one cent per word.

1.—GOOD EXCHANGE given for stamps, post-cards and envelopes of Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Canada 1851-1868, and good United States. I send German and Denmark local stamps, 200 different; or old Baden, Bayern, Wurtemberg and Thurn and Taxis. Please use stamped envelope when you reply.

HERM AUG. MULLER,
 Giessen, Germany.

2.—WANTED, rare old philatelic and numismatic papers: also, old magazines containing articles relating to these subjects. Send list of what you have, with cash price. Must be cheap. When replying I will give you a list of my duplicates.

JOHN R. FINDLAY,
 Halifax, N. S.

3.—A LARGE COLLECTION of stamps for type and printer's material.

R. N. EDWARDS,
 Brooks, Maine.

4.—I will give a new "Gem" album containing space for 600 stamps, for 200 U. S. square cut envelope stamps; U. S. adhesive postage stamps, (with the exception of the 1, 2 and 3 cents) accepted at same rates.

JOHN M. HUBBARD,
 Lake Village, N. H.

5.—I WANT vols. 1, 2 and 3 of Philatelic Journal of America, at once. Must be cheap.

JOHN R. FINDLAY,
 Halifax, N. S.

6.—I WANT 1,000,000 U. S. square cut envelope stamps, match, medicine, playing card, document, and revenue stamps, and will give 200 foreign stamps for every hundred of the above sent me.

JOHN M. HUBBARD,
 Lake Village, N. H.

7.—A LARGE number of philatelic papers to exchange for others. Send list and receive mine.

J. T. HUMPHREYS,
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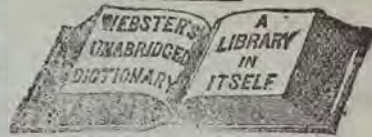


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* THE CANADA STAMP AND COIN JOURNAL. *

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF PHILATELY AND NUMISMATICS.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, DECEMBER, 1888.

NO. 6.

ODDLY-ADDRESSED LETTERS.

COLLECTED BY THE EDITOR.

My first instalment of oddly-addressed letters was received with such favor, I present a second supply; and I feel assured that such light reading will be far more appreciated at this festive season, than the strictly philatelic and dry part of our study.

Among the letters recently received at the Halifax post-office, was one addressed

"TO MR. SANTA CLAUS."

As the gentleman's address could not be ascertained, the Postmaster opened the envelope and disclosed the following:

"Dear Mr. Santa Claus.

Please bring me a pair of wooden skates and bring Bokins a rocking horse."

How many of us there are who would like to be back once more in those days when we had such faith in old Nicholas!

The Detroit Free Press says: "The following address on a letter sent to United States recruiting Officer, Capt. John S. Loud, was conveyed by the mail service without postage, no stamp being affixed:

Postmaster please deliver to said adress for i
havent his Nam.

Advertiser for young men
for the Army of U. S.
at #1 West Congress St
Detroit
Mich.

The writer wished to become a soldier at 'onc't."

A direction so defective as to send a missive from one post office to another within the same State by the way of St. Petersburg, Russia, is open to criticism. The Washington Post gives an amusing ac-

count of the wanderings of a postal card, which found its way to the dead letter office of that city. The address was as follows:

"Mr. Koerster, North of New Oberlin, Russia."

"It was mailed in an Ohio town, the postmaster of which pitched it into the foreign mail bag, and sent it across the sea. It arrived promptly in St. Petersburg, all right, was duly examined, marked, in pigeon English, "unsufficient address," and returned to this city, where it was taken in hand by the ladies of the dead letter office. They inferred that, as it was posted in Ohio, it was intended for the adjoining town of Russia, so they added 'O' to the card, and sent it West. The important message which this card had borne upon its back across the ocean to Muscovy and back again was this:

"When you come in, please to bring me half bushel of potatoes."

THE CONSUMPTION OF STAMPS IN GREAT BRITAIN.—

From two to three tons of stamps are despatched daily from Somerset House; at certain seasons, such as Christmas and other exceptionally busy periods of the year, the weight removed in a single day by the post office vans reaches as much as eight tons. This enormous quantity of stamps is daily distributed throughout the area of the United Kingdom without the loss of a single penny stamp.

—Herdman's Miscellany.

It is reported that Mr. Ketcheson will shortly issue a new philatelic paper.

Continued from last month.

HISTORY OF THE DOLLAR.

BY ALBERT WINELOW PAINE.

THAT the term was not used in the Danish coinage under King Hans, and did not come into use at any time previous to 1524, is indicated by a coinage order contained in the register of King Frederick's Orders. The order is dated 1524, and directs the Master of the Mint to coin the following pieces: Rheinisch gylders, in gold; the mark, half mark, two mark, four skilling, four-white-skillling pieces, in silver. No mention is made of the "daler." Had it been previously coined and adopted as the money unit, we should expect to find some allusion to it in this order. So far as our researches have extended, the priority in the use of the word rests with the Germans.

In 1541, Charles V., as Emperor of Germany, issued a coin designated as "thaler." This is probably the earliest use of the word in national coinage. There can be but little doubt that this coin took its name from the coins previously issued by the Counts of Schlick. It is the first coin mentioned in the books with the distinctive name of thaler. That its use was general throughout the German Empire is shown from the fact that, in the next century, we find it adopted as the unit of coinage for nearly all the German states and principalities which arose out of the empire.

How came it in the English language? This question may be answered by reference to the commercial history of the sixteenth century. During that century the league of German cities, called the Hanza, had monopolized nearly all the commerce of Europe. England had not yet become a great commercial nation, nor even a manufacturing nation. Raw materials were sold to the German cities to be manufactured and brought back to England. Antwerp was the principal commercial mart of the world. The money in use there was the German and Spanish coin. All business was transacted with these coins as a basis. If other money was used, it passed through the hands of

the money-changers first, and not without serious loss to the buyer. The coinage of England in 1549, under the reign of Edward VI., the successor of Henry VIII., was reduced to mere token money. Men high in authority managed the coinage for their own pecuniary profit. A pound weight of silver was coined £7 4s., out of which the Crown retained £4 for seigniorage and cost of minting, paying the merchant only £3 3s. for his silver. "The coins were so tampered with," says Lindsay, in his "History of Merchant Shipping and Ancient Commerce" (1874), "that they became mere tokens, convenient enough for home trade, but of no value abroad beyond that of the amount of silver they contained, which was only about 50 per cent."

Such currency could not serve them in their foreign trade, but we may well suppose that the German thaler came into general use for this purpose. As early as 1600 we find the word dollar in use in England to express value. Shakspeare uses it once in "Measure for Measure," and "Macbeth." In the former play the scene is laid in Vienna, where German thalers were in use, and it may have been introduced as a foreign word to correspond with the scene. In the latter play it is used by a nobleman, who is supposed to have lived in the time of Macbeth, about A. D. 1000. This would be plainly an anachronism if the word was used with any reference to the period represented, and we must therefore suppose that it was not uncommon at the time he wrote. If he did not find it in use he left it so, for his use of the word has given it a standing in the language. In Richardson's dictionary several quotations are given of the use of the word to express value—one as far back as Edward VI. It is there spelled "daler," the Danish form of the word; another, in Ben Jonson's "Alchymist," spelled "dollar." In MacPherson's "History of Commerce" the word is used in respect to the money transactions of King James I. In 1620 he borrowed 200,000 imperial "dollars" of his brother-in-law, King Christian IV., of Denmark, for the succor of the Palatinate, for which he was to pay the usual and legal interest of six per cent, being 12,000 "dollars." The next

year he obtained from him another loan of 100,000 "dollars" at what is called the low interest of six per cent.

About the year 1700 there was a Scottish coin called dollar, worth about 4s. 6d., English. These coins, according to Sir Isaac Newton, were put away in the North of England for 5s., and at this price began to flow into England. In Sir Isaac's report upon the coinage (1707), he says, "I gave notice to the Lords of the Treasury, and they ordered the collector of taxes to forbear taking them, and thereby put a stop to the mischief."

In Reiss, "Cyclopædia" (1862-19) we find the following: "Dollar, or daller, a silver coin nearly of the value of the Spanish piece of eight or French crown. Dollars are coined in divers parts of Germany and Holland, and have their diminutions as semi-dollars, quarter dollars, &c."

[To be continued.]

EDITORIAL REMARKS.

MR. J. R. HOOPER requests us to state that he has been appointed Canadian Agent for L'Echo de la Timbrologie.

THE address of the "Nederland Tydschrift voor Postzegelkunde" is now "Nieuwendyk, 114," and not Sprenstreat, 171, as given in our advertising columns.

THEYER'S "Library Companion" is now advertised for issue in January. It is to be hoped that no further delay will occur. It will include all papers that have appeared up to December 31st.

THE number of persons contributing "Canadian Notes" to the American philatelic press, is rapidly increasing. Who they all are, is the question. Who is "Moses?" If you find him, shed him.

MR. KIRCKSON is now Canadian Agent for Mekeel's albums and publications.

THE "Stamp Collectors' Gazette" has appeared from Liverpool, G. B. Mr. Geo. Britwhistle, Editor.

OUR LITTLE POLKA visitor, of Basil, Ohio, has added a Philatelic Department to its already overflowing columns. Support it.

WE claim that the article on the Coins of Nova Scotia, in the Nov. "Old Curiosity Shop" is a plagiarism on those in the first two numbers of this paper.

PLAIN TALK, under its new management, is a decided improvement over the old paper. This is especially noticeable in the Philatelic Department, which is now conducted by Mr. Alvah Davison.

THE "Old Curiosity Shop" is now owned by Mr. E. M. Haight, Riverside, California. It presents a neat appearance, is well edited, and has readable contents. We hope its wanderings have ceased.

THE Editor of the "Stamp Collector" will please mind his own business, which is as much as any man can attend to, and do it well. Confine your time and brains to the improvement of your paper—especially to proof-reading—and don't bother about us.

IT is a pity that Mr. Goodrich was unable to continue the "Eastern Philatelist" in the excellent form in which the first issue of the new volume appeared; but he did right to return to the old style, when he did not receive the prompt support of collectors.

MR. W. S. McLEAN, formerly of Englishtown, Cape Breton, now of 11 Church St., Boston, announces a new venture in the philatelic line, the "Stamp Collectors' Guide." It will contain a directory of stamp collectors, papers, and societies; philatelic doings of 1888, statistics, choice articles, etc. Write him. It will cost 36 cents, paper; 55 cents, cloth.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS!

THE second auction catalogue of the American Philatelic Co., is a fair sample of the enterprise of that well-known firm.

WE wish to thank Mr H. Coply for copies of the "Universal Annual," "Hints to Amateur Authors," and "Secrets Worth Knowing."

TO OUR EXCHANGERS.—We are making a new exchange book for the New Year. In it we shall place all papers that have hitherto exchanged regularly. We wish to exchange with all papers that are either wholly or partially devoted to Philately or Numismatics, provided such papers are sent regularly. If you receive a copy of this issue, with this notice marked, you will understand that your paper is not on our new list, and should you wish it placed there, it is necessary that you at once forward a copy of your December issue, with an X marked on the wrapper.

THE annual report of the Postmaster General contains many items of interest to the philatelist. During the past year there were 127 new post-offices established, making a grand total of 7,671. An additional 1,478 miles of mail route has been added. About 82,000,000 letters; 16,586,000 postcards; 3,580,000 registered letters passed through the mails within the year. The postal revenue amounted to \$2,906,397; expenditure \$3,533,397. The report of the Dead Letter Office shows that 700,000 letters were returned from Canadian offices; 113,000 from United States offices, and 9,000 from offices in Great Britain. 200,000 were destroyed. 95,000 were returned to foreign countries. 9,500 registered letters were returned to the writers. 3,000 letters of value are still on hand, awaiting claimants. 3,814 letters contained money; 61, bills of exchange; 599, money orders; 435, cheques; 309, drafts, 788, receipts; 378, promissory notes; 17, stock certificates, etc. Every description of merchandise was also represented, of which 100,000 packages are still awaiting claimants.

EXCHANGE NOTICES.

Exchange notices are inserted free, for subscribers. Limit, 50 words.

WE will give other good stamps for United States 1871 issue, 7c, 24c, 90c, and 12c. 1869 issue, 1, 10 and 15 cents.

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J. L. PENDER, Portsmouth, N. H.

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F. D. CROSBY, Ohio, Yarmouth Co., N. S.

I will exchange two hundred latest story books, by prominent authors, in lots to suit, for any useful articles. Send stamp for list of books.

W. H. H. JACKSON.

180 Gottingen St, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

I will give good exchange for volume 1 entire, and volume 2, numbers 2 and 6, of Quaker City Philatelist. Also, for first volume of The Stamp.

J. L. PENDER, Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

I wish to exchange stamps for same, with collectors in all parts of the world. I want sample copies of philatelic papers.

P. H. DAHL, Bleicherstrasse 41,
Uhlenhorst, Hamburg, Germany.

A bracket saw outfit philatelic papers. Write, giving lists, to

C. W. GREEN, Portsmouth, N. H.

Wanted, by the editor of this paper, J. R. Findlay, the following back issues:

American Philatelist—all vol 1; nos 4, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12, vol 2.

Philatelic Journal of America—nos 1 to 23, 25, 26, 30, 31, 32, 33, 41 to 45.

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THE name of the post-office at Gorman, Md., has been changed to Euclid. Now the first problem of Euclid is, Who will get the office? [Philadelphia Press.]

STRANGE COINS.

Tokens of Value Collected from Far Corners of the Earth

[From the Halifax "Mail,"]

IN a bag lie various uncoined symbols of value. Here are the silver lumps, bullet shaped, called "tekal" current in Siam; and the white cowrie shells used in Africa; and the rings of gold and silver which are common currency of Nubia; and the pieces of iron named "hashhash," like semicircular knives, used in Cordofan; and bits of coarse cotton, called "fredgat," which are equivalent to 60 pieces of "hashhash" and the beads and blocks of salt used in Abyssinia; and the fish-hook money, made of pieces of silver wire, still current in China.

"Don't overlook this tenpenny bank token," says Mr. Avery. "It is Irish." The Irish coins mostly resemble the English. Those of Henry VIII. have the arms of England and the Irish harp crowned between the initials of Henry and his queen. Then comes the Ormonde money, having its weight stamped in Irish. But the most remarkable Irish coins are the piece of "gun money" struck out of cannon melted down by James II. before the last struggle for his forfeited throne. There is also a crown in white metal with the king on horse back. The last is scarce, but the specimens of the "gun money" are common.

"Here," continues Mr. Avery, "is a specimen of the constitutional currency of France. It is a sou of 1792, showing the head of Louis XVI., with the inscription, 'La loi, le roi, la nation.'"

It is of bell metal, made during the revolution from the bells of the demolished churches. It jingles out of the bag with a 5 franc piece of "Napoleon, Empereur" and "Dieu protège la France" on the edge, and a piece of 5 lire marked "Napoleone imperatore e re," with "Dio protegge l'Italia" on the edge. The Italian coin shows the conqueror in the flush of his conquests; the French coin brings him under the shadow of Waterloo. In the one he is serene and proud; in the other his face is full of care.

Then Mr. Avery opens another bag. The coins that tumble out are "joes" and "half joes" of Brazil, Bol-

vian dollars, with the bust of Bolivar and the motto "Libre par la Constitution," doubloons of the Argentine Republic from the mint of Rioja, seals celebrating the independence of Chili in 1817, Spanish dollars cut into "bits" for use in the West Indies, copper coins of Petion, Loyer and other rulers of Hayti, a 10-livres piece from Mauritius, the home of Paul and Virginia, a coin of the American Colonization society of Liberia showing a negro welcoming the arrival of a vessel, Arabic coins marked with the date of the hegira (A. D. 587) and of the Sultan's reign, macutas from Guinea, a pistareen of Ferdinand of Spain, siege pieces or necessity money struck during the incursion of Napoleon into Spain, guilders from Zealand, stivers from Holland, crowns from Belgium, a brass counter from China with a square hole in the centre, a scudo of Pope Pius VII., a bajocco of Pope Pius IX., a gold mohur from Calcutta, a pagoda of the East India Co., a Turkish piastre, a Bank of England dollar, a Tuscan florin, a Russian ruble.

— There being 3000 women in charge of postoffices in this country, the serious question arises whether to call them postmasters or postmistresses. The former, by all means. It is the proper mail appellation.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

—Jules Verne beaten. The performance of Jules Verne's hero, who went round the world in eighty days, has been surpassed by an English post card which has just returned from its interesting travels.

It was mailed by a gentleman on October 10th to a friend in Hong Kong, by way of the United States and Yokohama, and reached Hong Kong on November 23rd., when it was redirected to London by way of Brindisi. It was despatched on November 25th. and reached the original owner on Monday morning—that is, within seventy-five days from the start.—London Telegram, Dec. 26th

NEW STAMPS.

ARGENTINE.—The 1 centavo (Dr. Sarzfeld), and 20 centavos (Ex-President Roca) are announced as nearly ready for issue. A new contract has been made with the South American Bank Note Co of Buenos Ayres, and they have produced a stamp, probably an essay, which is far superior to those of the lithographed set. It has the head of President Celman in an oval, inscribed "Republica Argentina." Numerals in circles in upper corners, "Tres centavos" on scroll below. It has been seen in blue, carmine and green.—*Am. Ph.*

BELGIUM.—Says the P. W.: The 1c has returned to its former color, olive green, and the 10c enter card in gray-blue (both sides.)

COLOMBIA.—The A. J. P. notes the 10c map printed in lilac by error.

DUTCH EAST INDIES.—A new envelope has appeared in place of the surcharged 15c. The design is the same as the 10c; color bistre.

FRENCH COLONIES.—Le T. P. notes a 75c of 1881, surcharged "30" and postmarked "Pondichery, 9 Avril, 1884.

GOLD COAST.—The P. W. quotes a new 1d Registry Envelope of the usual style.

GUATEMALA.—The current 5 cantavos Costa Rica, says the *Am. Ph.*, has received a new surcharge, of which there are two varieties. Both are purple and black; one 16x4mm., the other 14x3mm.

GREAT BRITAIN.—We have the 1½d. 1887 with surcharge of "Govt Parcels."

GUATEMALA.—Mr. Bogert says: We have received new 1c and 5c stamps said to have been made by a different company. The 1c is an exact copy of the last issue, but is cc 24 instead of cc 51. The 5c has an entirely different figure 5, which is broader and has a horizontal standard below to correspond with the letters of the word "Centavos." The color is a little darker than cc 51.

ITALY.—We notice that the 30c and 50c unpaid letter stamps have been seen with inverted centre.

JAPAN.—The 1 sen green, 2 sen red, 4 sen green, 5

sen blue, 8 sen puce, 10 sen blue, 15 sen green, 20 sen blue, have been seen perforated 12 instead of 10.

MEXICO.—Le T. P. chronicles 10c envelope, red, and *Der. Ph.* the 5c adhesive, brown. The P. W. says: A local for Chalco, used in 1867, has been discovered. It consists of an octagonal frame containing "Correos --2Rs--De Chalco." Black on green.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The *Phil. R.* mentions the 3d laureated stamp with watermark double line figure "2"; the new 1d adhesive surcharged "O. 8." in black; and a 1d envelope, with the new stamp, violet on white laid paper.

NICARAGUA.—The P. J. of A. notes a new value of the current type, 50c, lilac. There is also a 10c on blue, and 5c on white envelope.

NORWAY.—New card, 5 ore green on white, no frame.

PILIPPINE ISLANDS.—Surcharge, 2 48c on 1c, carmine on green.

POUNCE.—According to Mr. Bogert, there is a new set in black for official use.

RUSSIA.—"Tichon" (Novgorod). Numeral in oval inscribed "Seliskoi—Gotchi Marka, 5 kopecs, blue.

St. HELENA.—The 1d is now C. A. watermark.

St. VINCENT.—The 6d is blue, with C. A. watermark.

TOLIMA.—The are three new cubiertas, inscribed "Republica de Colombia—Correos del Departamento del Tolima" 5c bistre, 10c vermilion, 50c blue, all on white paper.

TUNIS.—The 1fr noted last month is of a new design. The inscription and figures are different and the back ground instead of being plain is dotted. A whole series has been or will be issued of the new type including cards and envelopes. The 1fr of the first type, it is said, does not exist. P. W.

.....

We ask such of our readers who are in a position to do so, to forward early information respecting new emissions, or proposed new emissions of stamps. If specimens are sent, we will pay face value; and in all cases we guarantee to refund the expenses incurred in sending the information.

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 Centuries ago.

'Twas in the calm and silent night !
 The Senator of haughty Rome
 Impatient urged his chariot's flight,
 From lowly revel rolling home !
 Triumphal arches, gleaming, swell
 His breast with thoughts of bound'less sway ;
 What rocked the Roman what befel
 A paltry province far away,
 In the solemn midnight,
 Centuries ago ?

Within that province far away,
 Went plodding home a weary boor ;
 A streak of light before him lay,
 Fallen through a half-shut stable-door,
 Across his path. He paused, for naught
 Told what was going on within :
 How keen the stars ! his only thought ;
 The air how calm, and cold, and thin,
 In the solemn midnight,
 Centuries ago !

Oh, strange indifference !—low and high
 Drowsed over common joys and cares ;
 The earth was still, but knew not why ;
 The world was listening—unaware !
 How calm a moment may precede
 One that shall thrill the world forever !
 To that still moment none would heed,
 Man's doom was linked, no more to sever,
 In the solemn midnight,
 Centuries ago !

Is is the calm and silent night !
 A thousand bells ring out, and throw
 Their joyous peals abroad, and smite
 The darkness—charmed and holy now !
 The night that erst no shame had worn,
 To it a happier name is given ;
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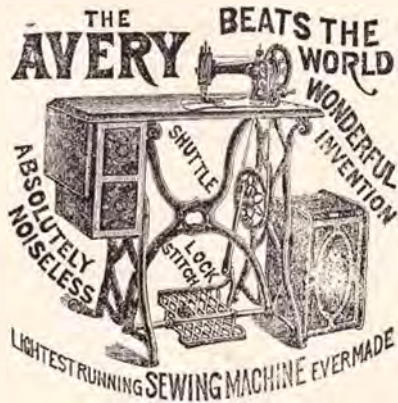
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THE HERALD ANGEL.

BRIGHT-RAYING through the rayless night,
Like to a sudden sun upspringing,
Down-borne on wings of heavenly light
Through Juda's land glad tidings bringing;
Before whose feet the clouds dispeil,
Thy herald comes, Emmanuel!

"God is with us!"—Hark, hark the sound
Proclaiming Christ's celestial birth:
While chorus angels, hovering round,
Swell the full strain of "Peace on earth."
"God is with us!" Bow'd down in awe,
The chosen shepherds heard and saw.

"Go, quit your flocks upon the world:
Leave the young sheep beside his dam:
This night a child is born—behold,
He is the Shepherd and the Lamb!
Arise, and go!" And swift as day
The choral voices died away.

Not so the Herald-Angel fled:
But vanished slow, till faint and far
Upborne where fields of ether spread,
Dimished to a single star
The heavenly guest stood, radiant-bright,
To Bethlehem's walls the guiding light!
While kingly Herod quailed with fear,
Nor saw the angel in the hem,
The Wise Men gazed, and, drawing near,
Beheld fulfilled the prophet's dream:
In yon low shed, by cattle trod,
The wondering sages owned their God.
His office done, with lessening ray
To heaven the Herald-Angel rose;
But One still points the God-ward way
In these our days, as erst in those;
From midst the starry heavens' old
He calls us to his Father's fold.

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LE TIMBRE LEVANTIN
SECOND YEAR.

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The "Timbre Levantin" has a circulation of between 1,500 and 2,000 per month in Turkey, the East and foreign countries. In prepaying copies to subscribers the postage stamps of the Levantin offices of England France, Germany, Austria, and Russia, as well as the stamps of Turkey, are used, thus giving subscribers specimen of good stamps for their collection, gratis.

It is devoted to studies on the stamps of Turkey, but those of the Orient are also made a speciality of by a staff of competent writers. It contains a Black List selected from other philatelic journals.

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All the new oriental issues are chronicled first by it.

TCHAKIDJI & Co. will send post free on application their catalogue and price current of Eastern stamps.

Always mention this journal when you answer advertisements

VOL. I.

JANUARY, 1889.

NO. 1.

THE RECITER'S COMPANION.

THE BLESSED SEASON.

Rejoice ! 'Tis the season of loving,
The beautiful season of giving ;
The wish every spirit is moving,
To make brighter and richer our living
With the love of the Christmas time.

We tell over again the sweet story
Of the child of the promise so holy,
Whose life was a mission of glory,
Who alike blessed the lofty and lowly
With the joy of the Christmas-time.

And so the sweet impulse is given,
Love worketh in hearts as a leaven,
Bands sordid and selfish are riven,
And earth seemeth nearer to heaven
With the peace of the Christmas-time.

HOLIDAY ISSUE.

PRICE 6 CENTS.

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THE MARITIME PRINTING COMPANY,
PRINTERS and PUBLISHERS.

THE CANADA STAMP & COIN JOURNAL.

PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF PHILATELY AND NUMISMATICS.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, JANUARY, 1889.

NO. 7.

The Canada Stamp and Coin Journal,

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

In the Interests of Philately and Numismatics.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES.—

25 cents per year to any part of Canada, Newfoundland, United Kingdom, or United States.
35 cents to all other countries.

—ADVERTISING RATES.—

	1 mo.	3 mos.	6 mos.	12 mos.
One Inch.....	\$0 50	\$1 27	\$2 40	\$4 50
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Five inches.....	2 10	5 35	10 71	20 16
One column.....	3 00	7 05	14 40	27 00
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THE MARITIME PRINTING CO.,

PRINTERS and PUBLISHERS.

* THE CANADA STAMP AND COIN JOURNAL *

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF PHILATELY AND NUMISMATICS.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, JANUARY, 1889.

NO. 7.

NEW ISSUES—POSTAGE.

—We ask such of our readers who are in a position to do so, to forward early information respecting new emissions, or proposed new emissions of stamps. If specimens are sent, we will pay face value; and in all cases we guarantee to refund the expenses incurred in sending the information.

AUSTRIA.—The Postwertzeichen states that the 5kr. has been printed on yellow paper.

AZORES.—The Ph. R. mentions the 5 reis in violet, surcharged in black, with AZORES in small capitals.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.—More surcharges. 2d lilac surcharged 2d green-blue. Registration envelope, 4 pence, blue, surcharge protectorate.

CANADA.—The Ph. R. mentions the 5c beaver cut in halves and used in connection with a 10c stamp, to form the packet post rate of 12½.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—New ½d and 1½d will appear this month.

COCHIN CHINA.—Der Ph. mentions several new surcharges on unpaid letter stamps: 1.00 black on 2c black; same on 40c and 60c black.

DENMARK.—The I. B. J. chronicles the following new cards: postcards, 3 ore gray on white, 3+3 ore gray on white, 5 ore green on white, 5+5 ore green on white; service cards, 3 ore gray on white, 5 ore green on white; letter cards, 4 ore blue on buff, 8 ore carmine on buff.

DOMINICA.—The Timbre Poste announces two more values on C. A. and crown paper. 2½ pence ultramarine, 6 pence green.

ECUADOR.—The postal union envelope exists in the small size. 5c blue on white, 138x82mm.

EGYPT.—Der. Ph. states that the unpaid letter stamps of 10 paras exist without watermark.

FARIDKOT.—The Timbre Post announces ½ anna black ½ anna brick-red, ½ anna blue, ½ anna green, all perforated 12.

GOLD COAST.—The I. B. J. mentions a new registra-

tion envelope with the inscription Gold Coast Colony. 2d blue and black, on white.

INDIA.—The Ph. R. states that the ½ anna blue exists with the surcharge reversed.

LIBERIA.—The 3c postcard, current type, is now red and blue on white.

LUXEMBURG.—Reply postcard, 10+10 centimes, pink on buff.

MACAO.—Der. Ph. mentions a new surcharge, 5 reis, red, on 20 reis, yellow.

MARTINIQUE.—The Philatelic Gazette states that the following new issues have appeared; 61c on 2c brown on amber; 61c on 4c, violet on blue; 65c on 20c, red on green.

MEXICO.—The 10c envelope is now red on white, blue lined, and the 20c, red on white, blue lined.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The Ph. R. states that the 2d of the Jubilee set is in use. The design consists of an eagle in an oval, inscribed One Hundred Years—Two-pence. The four corners contain the words New—South—Wales—Postage, connected by a band of leaves and lily-pilys, and Corn or native fuchsia, and feathery sprays of wattle. The new 1d has been surcharged for official use. A pair of the 3d laureated stamp have been found watermarked with a double-line figure 2. The type of the Centennial 1d stamp has been substituted for the current envelope; 1d violet on white, 137x80mm. A private wrapper for the use of the Australian Joint Stock Bank has been issued with the 1d Centennial die. 1d violet on white.

NETHERLANDS.—The inscription on the 5c cards have been altered. They now read "Briefkaart (Carte postale).—Algemeene postvereniging (Union postale universelle).—Zyde voor het adres bestemd (cote reserve a l'adresse). The reply cards have the second line replaced by "Met betaald antwoord" on the first half, and "Betaald antwoord (Carte postale reponse), on the

second half of the card.

ORANGE FREE STATE.—The *Timbre-Poste* says that the 3d has been surcharged 2d. 2d on 3d, blue and black.

POONCH.—The *Am. Ph.* says: All the values are found on white laid battoue paper. ½, 1, 2, and 4 annas, all black.

RUSSIA.—The *Am. Ph.* says: Rjeff (Tver). Numeral in oval, inscribed Rjeffskaja Zemskaja Pochta—Tri kop. Only 1000 envelopes were issued, 125 of which were purchased by a speculator. 3 kopeks blue on buff 148x115mm. 3 kopeks blue on white, 149x120mm. 3 kopeks blue on white, 140x107mm. 3 kopeks blue on white, 144x80mm.

ST. LUCIA.—Der Ph. mentions a new registration envelope, 2d on white linen paper.

SURINAM.—Der Ph. states that new stamps are being issued, as follows: 15c gray, 20c green, 30c brown, 40c color unknown, 1g red-brown and gray.

SWITZERLAND.—Der Ph. mentions a new reply card, 5+5 black on buff.

VENEZUELA.—The *Gaceta oficial* states that the 50-000 20 bolivars stamps will be returned to the engravers in New York, as they were printed in yellow, instead of scolding as ordered.

WURTEMBERG.—The following, says the *Am. Ph.*, are probably of the "printed to order" class. 5 pfennig lilac on blue, and 5 pfennig lilac on rose, both envelopes are 153x123mm.

NEW ISSUES.—REVENUE.

[From the *American Philatelist*.]

HESSE DARMSTADT.—The stamps of the 1869 type now have black in the corners of the lower label. 20 pfennig black on rose.

ITALY.—*Altewilla Irpina* 20 cent., red; 50 cent., blue. *Campagna*. 10c pale green, 20c red, 50c blue, 1 lira pale yellow. *Castel di Tora*. 10c bistre, 20c brick-red, 50c yellow-green, 1 lira blue. *Lagonegro*. 20c carmine, 30c bistre, 50c yellow, 1 lira violet, 2l pearl gray, 3l flesh color, 4l black, 5l blue, 6l grey, 7l 50c blue-green, 10l ochre. *Lungro*. 10c

vermillion, 20c green, 50c yellow, 1l blue. *Iuvino*. 10c green, 20c violet, 30c gray, 50c blue, 1l rose-carmine, 2l yellow, 3l black, 4l bistre, 5l yellow.

Paganica. 10c blue, 20c brick red, 50c yellow-green.

Reggio Emilia. Retouched dies, inscriptions slightly altered, issued in 1887. 50c ultramarine, 1l carmine. *San Remo*. 20c blue, 30c gray, 40c brow-ochre, 50c bistre, 60c yellow, 80c blue-green, 1l carmine, 2l violet, 3l pearl-gray, 4l flesh-color, 5l black.

Villa Franca Sicula. 20c blue, 50c green, 1l red, 2l brown, 5l golden-yellow.

MEXICO.—The new issue for customs (*Aduanas*) are beginning to appear. Numeral in small circle in centre, 1888—1889 at sides, "especial de Aduanas" above value in words, and "Mexico" below. 100 pesos blue-red.

ST. VINCENT SETTLEMENTS.—The current three-cent stamp has been seen with the value surcharged in black on the lower label. 2 cent., black and violet.

URUGUAY.—A new stamp was issued July 26, in accordance with a law passed May 30. National arms in centre in small circle. "Biblioteca Nacional—Archivo—Administrativo" above, value and "Impuesto para aumento" below. The frame is inscribed "Republica Oriental del Uruguay" at top, and "1888" at sides and bottom. Perf. 18. 25 cents, red violet.

NEW ISSUES.—TELEGRAPHS.

COLOMBIA.—The following notice is taken from the *Journal Oficial* of May 11:

BOGOTA, May 6, 1888.

In accordance with the decree of April 27, last, re-establishing, June 1, the use of stamps for the prepayment of telegrams, there will be sent you a supply which you will find sufficient for your office; use those of the present issue, namely: 0.05 centavos, ochre; 0.10 carmine and yellow; 0.20 blue; 0.50 yellow; and 1 peso, green.

R. REYES.

To the chief of the telegraph office at.....

The *Timbre Poste* has seen three of the stamps, but the colors do not correspond with the above notice. Each value is of a different design, as follows: Arms in circle inscribed "telegrafos—nacionales; diez—centavos" on labels extending from all four corners

to circle; 10 in ovals at top and bottom; "República" at right side and "de Colombia" at left. Arms in centre, "Republica de Colombia—telegrafos" above, "nacionales—veinte centavos" below, numerals at sides. Arms in circle, "telegrafos nacionales" in semi-circle below, "Republica de Colombia" at top, "cincuenta centavos" at bottom, numerals of value at sides in upper part of circle. 10c bistre on yellow buff; 20c blue on lilac; 50c black on buff.

.....0.....

HISTORY OF THE DOLLAR

BY ALBERT WINSLOW PAINE.

THEY are not all of the same fineness or weight.

The Dutch dollars are the most frequent. The Danish dollar, called Sleswick and Holstein specie dollar, is a silver coin with much alloy, which passes for about 4s. 8d. sterling. The coin has a general circulation all over Sleswick and Holstein, even including Hamburg itself, and is divided into halves, quarters, &c. In the Levant they are called Astanin, from the impression of a lion thereon. It is worthy of note that, in this article, the editor gives the alternative spelling of dollar or daller, which shows that the form of the word in English was not fully settled, and also the retention of the letter a in the first syllable indicates its German or Danish origin. It is very probable that the Danish "daler" was in general use in England under the reign of King James I. The imperial dollars borrowed by this monarch from the King of Denmark were probably German thalers, that being the only empire which issued the coin.

In America, value was expressed in dollars as early as the middle of the seventeenth century, and probably much earlier. In Parkman's "Historical Sketches," under date of 1755, he says: "A bounty of six dollars was offered this year to stimulate enlistment; and the pay of a private soldier was fixed at one pound six shillings a month, Massachusetts currency." In 1775

one Sergeant Gray, belonging to a regiment of the King's troops, exults over his good fortune in a letter to his brother John: "I have two Holland shirts found me by the King; two pair of shoes, and two pair of worsted stockings; a good, silver-laced hat (the lace I could sell for four "dollars.")

There were many sources which contributed to a general knowledge of the word in America. The Pilgrims stopped in Holland on their way to this country, and must have been acquainted with the Dutch dollar (daalder). The Dutch who settled New York brought dollars with them, as did the Swedes who settled in New Jersey, and the Germans who settled in Pennsylvania. The name dollar was a household word to all these people, signifying nearly the same to all of them, the slight difference being expressed by the qualifying term, German, Dutch, or Danish. The increasing commerce of this country brought in the Spanish coins in large quantities. One of these, the peso, was about the same size as the coin which the people had been accustomed to call a dollar. Very naturally the name was applied to it with the qualifying term of Spanish. It appears to have been called in England a piece of eight, because it was stamped with eight reals (real being the Spanish unit of value). As early as 1704 there was a proclamation by Queen Anne making the Sexle piece of eight (o'd plate, 17 dwts. 12 grs.) worth 4s. 8d. This gave to the piece a certain market value in English currency, and it became the basis of exchange between England and all countries where it was used. According to Sir Isaac Newton, this was very nearly the value of the "pillar dollar" (Spanish), which contained of pure silver 386½ grains troy. At that time (1707) a pound of English standard was coined into sixty-two shillings, the standard then, as now, containing 18 parts of copper alloy to 222 parts of pure silver, being, therefore, 111-120 fine. The present quotation of silver in London is for this standard. In 1783 the Continental Congress fixed the value of the dollar at 4s. 6d.

[Concluded next month.]

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EDITORIAL REMARKS.

O entering its second year, the Badger State Philatelist shows a marked improvement.

—We have received catalogues of Mr. Bogerts tenth and Mr. Casey's eighteenth sale. Both are extensive.

—The Eastern Press is a neat new sheet from Wilmington, Del., devoted to general collectors.

—The Pearl, a neat amateur paper published at Syracuse, N. Y., will hereafter contain an interesting philatelic department.

—The Philatelic Society of America has now a membership of 65, and at last shows signs of achieving success. Secretary, M. V. Samuels, San Francisco.

—No. 2 of the Alabama Philatelist, although not so large or interesting as the first issue, is far above the average for new ventures in the philatelic line of publication. Mobile, Ala.

—A portrait of one of our prominent Canadian philatelists Maj. Grenny, adorns the first page of the Stamp World, for December. It is accompanied by a short sketch of his life.

—The December number of the West-Post shows a prosperous condition in the advertising department, which means success financially. We shall, shortly, present several translations from this and other foreign philatelic journals.

—A very interesting Christmas number was issued by Mr. Herdman, Berwick-on-Tweed, England. The Miscellany, is always readable, but the issue referred to is especially so. An able article on the "Gold and Silver Coins Current Before the Christian Era," by Herbert Thompson, is commenced therein, and will run as a serial.

—The long promised Canadian Philatelic Journal has at last made its appearance, from St. Catharines, Ont. It consists of four three-column pages, mainly devoted to advertisements.

—With the December issue, the Quaker City Philatelist successfully ends its third volume, and if appearances go for anything, it looks as though it will reach severaltimes that age, with its usual regularity, neatness, and good contents.

—During the past year the Editor of this journal has been hard at work, spare moments, in the preparation of a "History of Philatelic Literature," which he expects to publish next autumn. In the meantime, he would be thankful for any information that will be of assistance in the compilation of the work; and would like to hear from any person who is willing to loan old articles on philately, and rare old papers that he does not already possess in his own library.

—The familiar word now on the tongue of every philatelist is "reprints," and it is certainly time that some decided action was taken in the matter. Many prominent philatelists consider them worse than counterfeits, and we cannot help but coincide with them. For with a counterfeit there is generally some defect, whereby we know it at a glance, while the reprint is so near perfection that only the most skilled can detect it from the genuine. The action of the American Philatelic Association, in excluding them from their exchange sheets, and the opinion of Mr. Bogert and other prominent dealers in the United States; the action taken at the convention of the Canadian Philatelic Association, and the general attitude of the press, should be sufficient to convince that they ought not be collected. The only persons now in sympathy with them, are those dealers who are interested in their production and sale, and our advice to collectors is to leave such dealers severely alone.

UNDESCRIBED ESSAYS AND PROOFS OF NEW SOUTH WALES POSTAGE STAMPS.

THROUGH the courtesy of Mr. Alfred Van Dyk we are enabled to furnish our readers with a descriptive list of the very complete collection of these stamps in the possession of that gentleman.

As the majority have never before been described and as they have been gathered together by a considerable sacrifice of time and money, we venture to think the information will be acceptable to those of our readers interested in the early issues of Australasia.

PROOFS.

1. Sydney view printed on thick card; 4d., deep green.

2. Crowned head of Queen Victoria, to left, stars in upper corners and letters G. L. in lower corners. "Postage" in top and "one penny" in label, engine turning at the sides. On white paper: one penny, red, blue, black.

N. B.—There are three of these proofs in the collection of the G.P.O., one red, one blue and one with red centre and blue border, but they have been printed from a lithographic transfer of the original plate. The paper they are stuck on bears the name of Cayton, who was probably the engraver.

3. (A). Crown in the centre of laurel wreath, stars in corners, "New South Wales" in the upper label and arched underneath (as in the first of series) the word "Postage," in the lower label, engine turning at the sides.

(B). Crown surmounted with lion in the centre of a large oval garter overlapping the engine turned sides. Stars in corners. The garter is inscribed with "New South Wales." "Postage" in upper and "one shilling" in lower label.

These two proofs, which must have been engraved next to each other on the same plate were probably done by Carmichael; on thick white card paper, 6d. and 1s., black; on white wove paper 6d. and 1s., blue, black.

4. Queen on the throne, like the Victorian sixpence stamp of 1856, but labelled "New South Wales," white paper, watermarked 2. 2d. blue, (three shades.)

5. The sixpence of 1854, but of a beautiful purple. Paper watermarked 6: 6d., purple.

6. Issue of 1854.

A.—On thin paper 5d., black, 8d. black.

B.—On card, 1s., black.

7. Diedehead head of the Queen (issue of 1856). On card, 1d., black.

8. (A).—The five shilling stamp printed from the steel die on paper watermarked 5s. and showing the size of the die. 5 shillings, purple.

(B).—Proofs of the five shilling stamps in 12 different colors printed from the steel die on white paper.

(C).—Proofs taken from a lithographic transfer of the steel die. On card, 5s., grey-black; on white wove paper, 5s., gold, 5s., silver; on white paper with blue surface, 5s., black; on white paper with black glazed surface, 5s., gold.

9. Newspaper band of 1865, but with the stamp printed in black.

10. (A).—Proofs of stamps for the first (provisional) registration envelope. The stamp is similar to the embossed one issued on wrappers in 1874, but is marked two pence. In pairs on white wove paper. 2d.+2d. orange red, 2d.+2d. black, 2d.+2d. purple.

(B).—The same, but stamped singly. White laid paper, 2d., dull blue.

11. Proof printed from the die of the present registration stamp and showing size of the die. White paper, 4d., black.

12. Proof printed with electrotypes of same on laid note paper, 4d., red.

—From Vindin's Monthly.

—The detectives of France are endeavoring to discover the persons who have been altering the inscriptions of the 10 centimes bronze coins of Napoleon III, by erasing his name and date, and substituting therefor BOULANGER & Co., 1888. It is believed to have considerable political effect.

COUNTERFEITS OF BRITISH COLUMBIAN STAMPS.

BY WILLIAM E. HALE.

In this I will treat of the differences between the original and counterfeit stamps of British Columbia and Vancouver's Island, most of which are quite rare.

As in many other counterfeits these are printed on thick, smooth paper, which does not admit of good perforation, and by the use of too much ink they appear somewhat blurred.

With the aid of a magnifying glass many differences can be detected in the individual stamp. In the 2d. 1861 a gouge is noted just below the hair, the eye is imperfect, the eyelid solid, the background is uneven and there is no separation between the upper line of hair and the background. In the word "British" the letter "t" is lower than "Bri" and "ish." The perforation on the sides comes nearer to the impression than it does on the top and bottom.

In the issue of 1865 the lips, eye and crown of the Queen's head are imperfect and there are blotches at the bottom of oval and extreme right. In the word "Vancouver" "e" is contracted and "n" expanded, and in the word "Island" the letters "ai" are expanded and "d" resembles an "o." In the word "five" the spaces between the letters are of unequal length.

The 1868-9 issue consists of different values surcharged on the three-pence type of 1864 which was printed in various colors. In the counterfeits the block is heavily worked and the design faint. The ornamental work in the corners is defective, the letters are imperfect and in the crown there are four jewels on the right and six on the left. In the surcharge the spacing in the word "cents" is unequal.

Cancellations, not postmarks, are always found on these counterfeits. The 1861 issue is generally heavily obliterated by the cancellation to conceal the defects.

—From the Eastern Philatelist.

—Mr. Rogers will soon issue his new "Catalogue of Postal Cards."

I. A. N. A. A. M. E., PERA, CONSTANTINOPLE.

Envoie gratis et franco son catalogue prix courant des timbres orientaux à quiconque lui en fait la demande.

Desire recevoir journaux specimens et prix-courant [On application I will forward my catalogue price-courant of Oriental and other stamps, gratis and post free. I desire samples of stamp journals, and price lists from dealers.]

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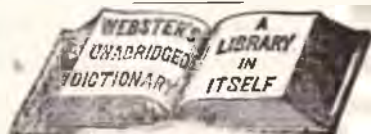
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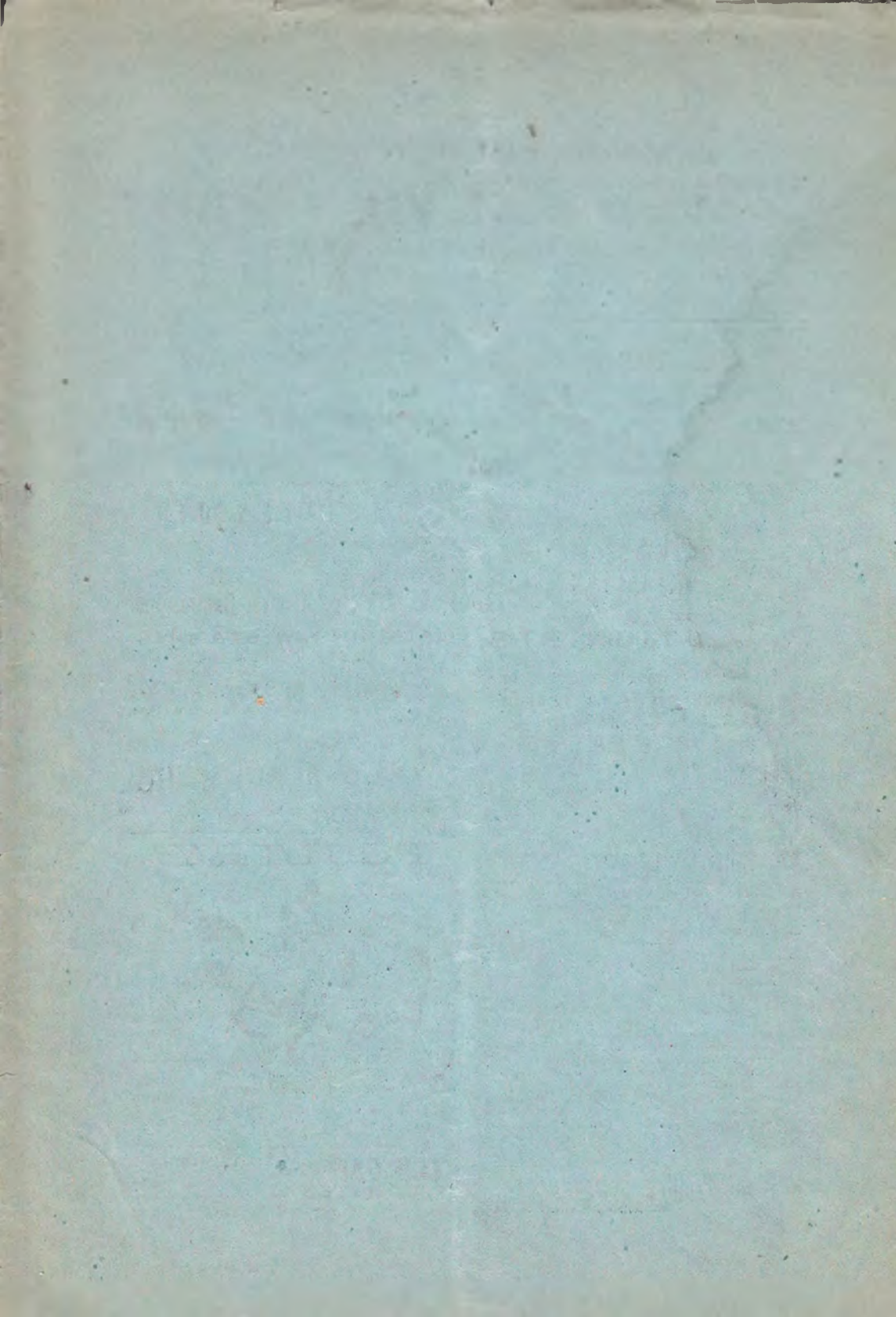
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* THE CANADA STAMP AND COIN JOURNAL.*

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF PHILATELY AND NUMISMATICS.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, FEBRUARY, 1889.

NO. 8.

NEW STAMPS.

—We ask such of our readers who are in a position to do so, to forward early information respecting new emissions, or proposed new emissions of stamps. If specimens are sent, we will pay face value; and in all cases we guarantee to refund the expenses incurred in sending the information.

POSTAGE.

ARGENTINE.—The $\frac{1}{2}$ centavo, bistre on manilla, newsband, has been retouched. It is now 7mm larger than before. The 6c card has been seen with "Comunicacion" under "Tarjeta Postal," and "Communication" under "Carte Postale."

AUSTRIA.—The Timbre Poste states that the stamps with head of Mercury, with and without value expressed, are perf. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$. No value, violet; $\frac{1}{2}$ kreuzer, green.

BAVARIA.—Unstamped card: small arms in left corner, deep buff, with "88" in lower left corner.

BELGIUM.—Specimens of the current 5 centimes, have been found with the error *maquette*. New adhesive, 2c, red brown. Letter-card, 10c, carmine on rose, white inside. Post-card, 10c, carmine on blue, headed "Carte Postale—Post Kaart," in one line.

BRAZIL.—The 700 reis, has value in circle, mauve on white. Perf. 12 $\frac{1}{2}$.

BRITISH BECHUANALAND.—We find the word "Protectorate" in two sizes, 15 and 20 mm. The registration envelope has been surcharged for use in the "Protectorate." 4 pence, in three sizes, 152x98, 255x-178, 293x152 mm.; color, blue.

BRITISH HONDURAS.—The 2 cents on 4 pence is perforated both 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 14. The new card with value in cents, is at hand. It is of the current type of the calcula cards. Brown on buff.

BULGARIA.—Der Ph. says the surcharged provisionals, including those with lion, have been out of use since 30th Sept. The Ned. Tyd. voor Post. gives illustrations of a new set in preparation, with lion in small

oval at top, and value below in large figures: same denominations as at present.

CHILI.—The T. P. chronicles post-cards, 1c carmine on green, and 2c red on slate-blue. Inscription in two lines, "Carte Postale—Union Postale Universelle."

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.—Le T. P. notes the 3 centavos card surcharged, in blue, "Union Postale Universelle."

DUTCH INDIES.—New value of current type, 80 cents green.

FAR'KOT.—Says Am. Ph.: The reply-card, small size, now has the arms surcharged in black. [x] anna, red-brown on buff.

FORMOSA.—The Ph. R. has information that the two "stamps," chronicled by us on page 38, are not stamps at all, but a sort of way bill. The translation of the inscription on the stamp for the public reads, "Public Postage Stamp." It is not sold, however, but affixed at the office. The translated inscription on the official stamp reads, "Formosa Postage Stamp," at top; the three columns containing, respectively, the date, weight and destination. In the border is the serial number and value, part of which is on the stub.

GIBRALTER.—We have the 2d. envelope with "Thos. de la Rue & Co. Patent" in red on flap.

GOLD COAST.—The Am. Ph. says: The registration envelopes of the mother country have been surcharged above the stamp, with a curved label inscribed "Gold Coast Colony," in white letters on black background. 2 pence, blue and black, 152x98 and 254x-106 mm.

GREECE.—Mr. Reebert informs the same paper, that the set now in use are soon to be issued perforated.

HAYTI.—Dr. Catiell notified the same paper that the perf. set of the first type are to be found with smaller figures of value, and the shading on the neck different. They are also found on unsurfaced paper.

HOLLAND.—Three new values, 7½, 22½, and 100 cents, have been added to the current series. Perf 12.

ITALY.—Mr. Rechert has a post card, 10c brown on green, dated '88 and inscribed "Servicio Postale Per i Regimenti di Campagne in Abessinia. Gratis."

JAMAICA.—Our Kingston correspondent has handed us a new wrapper, with instructions (in five lines) like the half penny G. B. Head of Queen in circle; "Jamaica" above, "Half Penny" below, in block letters. Color, green.

MEXICO.—The 20c red has been seen on lined paper.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The new 4d is now in use. It bears the bust of Capt. Cook in an oval, inscribed with "New South Wales Postage," and "Captain—Cook" at either side of the bust. Arms, with "four-pence" below, "one hundred years" at top. Wmk. crown N.S.W.; perf. 12. The 6d is also in use. Head of Queen in circle in left upper corner; arms in a shield in right lower angle, surmounted by a crown inscribed "one hundred years." "New South Wales Postage" in a scroll, and four stars at foot, a small space. Value in straight tablet at foot—"six pence." Fruit and flowers are intermingled with the whole design. Carmine, on paper wmk. crown N.S.W. The card with the Waratah now bears the Sydney view No. 2. There are a few changes in the inscriptions, and the size is 153x84 mm. 1 penny, mauve on buff.

NICARAGUA.—New 2c card, like that of 1878, but with "Tarjeta Postal Para el Interior" below the stamp.

NORWAY.—The T. P. chronicles two new cards, inscribed "Jernbane Brevkort." One has a winged wheel and crown at top; the other a round stamp at right, with arms and crown, inscribed "Norges Statsbaner." Red on buff.

NOWANUGGUR.—Major Evans has the 2 decras on pale blue, instead of green.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—The Am. Philatelist says the Rev. A. Hoenecke has the 24.8 of the 1882 issue surcharged "Union Gral Po.—8 cent—Habilitado," in dark carmine. The T. P. says that the 1c and 10c stamps, and the 20c passport stamp, will be surcharged "24.8."

RUSSIA.—New 7 kop. envelope 114x80 mm. From the Am. Ph. we learn that the stamps for Bogorodsk (Moscow) now bear the arms of the arrondissement in-

stead of the province. 1k claret, 5k vermillon, 5k blue, 10k blue, 10k vermillon.

ST. HELENA.—The one penny, red, has been found with wmk. C. A.; perf. 14.

SWITZERLAND.—M. Moens has found the current 25c, yellowgreen, perf. 10.

TASMANIA.—There is a new frank stamp of the usual design. Secretary-General, Postoffice, black.

TRAVANCORE.—More native stamps. The Phil. Record has received three values bearing a couch on ground of horizontal lines in upright oval band, inscribed "Travancore Anchel," and the value in "chuckrumis." Outside this is another band containing the same in Hindu. White laid paper, perf. 12. 1c blue, 2c vermillion red, 3c green. The chuckrum is equivalent to 4 anna or 1½ cents.

TRINIDAD.—Le Timbre Poste chronicles a new value of the current set, 1 pound green. The postmark bears date, August 19, 1884.

TURKEY.—The 20 para has been seen with the background in brown, tablet in pink, and over-print in carmine.

TUNIS.—Says the Am. Ph.: It seems that the recently chronicled stamps are of two types. The new-comes are engraved on steel, the numerals are thicker, the large shield has a dotted ground and "Regence de Tunis" is on a white ground. The 1 franc announced last month belongs to this second set. 1c black on white, 2c brown on gray, 5c green on green, 15c blue on azure, 25c black on rose, 40c orange on yellow, 75c carmine on rose. The envelopes have undergone the same change. 5c green on white, 11x76 mm.; 15c blue on azure, 123x96mm. The card is also of the new type. 10c black on cream.

VICTORIA.—There is a new franc stamp, "Minister of Customs," blue. M. Moens has the penny envelope (type of adhesives) without design on flap, and on laid paper. 1 penny yellow green, 120x67, and 146x88mm.

ZULULAND.—The ½ penny red of Great Britain has been surcharged "Zu'uland."

TELEGRAPH.

TASMANIA.—The Philatelic Record has a frank stamp inscribed "electric telegraph—Frank stamp," with "Tasmania" under the royal arms. Blue.

REVENUE.

From the American Philatelist.

UNITED STATES.—W. K. Watkins writes us that he has a \$1 conveyance, which is a full millimetre shorter than ordinary.

CEYLON.—The 20 cents "Duty," of 1873, has been surcharged over the original value. 5 on 20 cents, lilac.

COCHIN CHINA.—Type of current French fiscals, with surcharge 25 CENTS, COCHIN CHINE, DROIT DE GREFFE, and a bar over the original value. 25 centimes on 1 franc, pale green.

CUBA.—It has been discovered recently that, during the troubles of 1883, the 50c. "Policia" stamp of 1882 was surcharged with a fancy pattern work containing the value, and the date repeated. 50 cts. on 50c. de peso, mauve.

The "Giro" stamps, 5, 10, and 50 cent de peso : 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, and 50 peso : are now issued in blue.

The "Policia" and "Movil" set contain the arms in an oval, "Cuba Policia" (or "Timbre Movil, Cuba, 1888"), in curved label at top, value at bottom.

Policia.—

4 c.d.p., blue.	10 c.d.p., black.
25 " yellow green.	50 " blue green.
1 peso, carmine.	1½ peso, brown violet.
2 " ochre.	4 ultramarine.
6 " brown on green.	7½ violet on green.
8 " gray on green.	8½ yellow on green.
10 " blue on green.	17 dark blue on green.

Movil.—

5 c.d.p., blue.	25 c.d.p., yellow green.
-----------------	--------------------------

HAVANA.—Arms in oval, inscribed "Arbitrios Municipales Habana," and value, The whole surrounded by fancy ornaments making a rectangle of the stamp.

15 c.d.peso, red brown.	1 peso, yellow green.
25 " brown.	1½ " black.
50 " dark blue.	3 " deep mauve.

FRANCE.—The following bands have been in use since October last. "Contribons indirectes" in centre of circle formed by laurel branches. "Bon pour le transport d'une bouteille de spiritueux a () degres" at left, "Prix () centimes timbre compris at right Perf, 13½ 50 centimes, black on blue. 80 do., black on white. 1fr. 20ct. black on salmon.

GREAT BRITAIN.—There is a new stamp of the type of the 1 shilling patent, with the surcharge "one-half-dollar—Consular service, blue. Half dollar, green and blue.

ITALY.—"Ergantino."—10 centesimi green.	
20 centesimi, violet.	1 lira, red.
30 " yellow,	2 " blue.
50 " black,	5 " red and blue.

"Borgo San Lorenzo."—

20 centesimi, red,	50 centesimi, green
--------------------	---------------------

"Capua,"—

1 lira, yellow.	
20 centesimi, violet.	2 " blue.
50 " green.	5 " red

"Marino."—20 centesimi, gold.

"Morano Calabro."—50 centesimi, black and blue.

"Spoleto."—20 centesimi, red. 50 do., violet.

JAPAN.—A new series of tobacco stamps is announced. The frames differ for each value, but the central design, Mt. Fujiama between stalks of tobacco, is the same on all.

2 rins, black.	1 sen, blue.
3 " red brown.	2 " orange yellow.
4 " golden yellow.	3 " dark blue.
6 " red.	4 " bronze green
8 " green.	6 " violet.

MEXICO.—"Jalisco."—The 1888 stamps have been surcharged "Habilitado para 1888-1889."

2 centavos, green and black.	1 peso, red & indigo.
10 " " " " 6 " " "	
25 " " " " 10 " " "	

"Michoacan de Ocampo."—Three stamps have lately come to light. The first is inscribed as follows in shaded letters on ground work of oblique lines:

"Estado de Michoacan de Ocampo,"
1883, doce centavos, 1884."

The second has a similar inscription in white letters on blue ground, and is dated 1884-1885. The third bears a similar inscription, dated 1885-1886, and has at the extreme left a small circle, containing a head of some worthy, at present, unknown.

1883-1884. 12 centavos, bistre.	
1884-1885. 12 do blue. Perforated 13½	
1885-1886. 12 do red. do 11½	

—o—o—o—

RECENT COUNTERFEITS.

SIAM.—½ att. bearing a counterfeit surcharge "1 TICAL" are being sent out by certain persons in Paris. The stamps are cancelled.

GUADALAJARA.—UN REAL, 1867, on blue ruled quad-
rille paper, the lines are lightly ruled in small rect-
angles instead of squares to imitate genuine water-
marked lines. The type and numerals in centre are
not well imitated, the circular inscription is well imi-
tated but the "N" in "FRANCO" is badly copied.

Continued from last month.

HISTORY OF THE DOLLAR.

BY ALBERT WINSLOW FAINE.

THIS was an ideal dollar, for there was no dollar coined to which the value would apply. In 1791 when the dollar was taken as the basis of our coinage, the amount of pure silver it was to contain was fixed at 371 4-16 grains. This was less than the Seville piece of eight, and less than the Spanish pillar piece assayed by Newton. But the custom of making exchanges on the basis of 4s. 6. for those pieces was still continued when our dollars came into use, and the difference was made up by exacting a premium for exchange which amounted to about 84 per cent., that being the amount which our dollars fell short of the adopted standard. Thus, for the dollar containing 386½ grains pure silver, it took \$4 44 4-9 to make a pound sterling. The American dollar contained only 371 4-16 grains, and it took more than \$4 44 4-9 to make a pound. But for some reason, probably for convenience in computation, the pound was called \$4 44 4-9, and if American dollars were to be received 84 per cent. premium was exacted when exchange was at par, and 112 per cent. when exchange was 2½ per cent. above par. Exchange with London and New York is now made on the basis of the actual dollar and it takes \$4.8665 to make a pound sterling. Whatever is paid beyond this sum for a pound sterling is the premium on exchange. Whatever deduction is made from this sum is discount on exchange.

—The end.—

—The "Philatelic Journal of America," January issue, was the largest number of a stamp paper ever published.

Canada has another new stamp paper, the "Dominion Philatelist." It is published by Mr Ketcheson, ex-President of the C. F. A.

—The Philatelic Tribune is now issued in magazine form and is neatly printed. The contents are mostly of a comic nature.

THE WORD "RARE."

THE word "rare" is a much abused word among philatelists. The true meaning of the word, when applied to stamps, as for instance a RARE stamp, signifies that it is seldom met with, that it is uncommon. A stamp that is "scarce" is one that may not be common for some cause or other. Now regarding the word "RARE." Very often you see in exchange notices, advertisements, etc., "25 rare stamps for 5 cents," and the like. Now you see at once how absurd the statement is. Stamps that can be retailed at that price are VERY COMMON. A truly RARE stamp cannot be obtained for less than several dollars. Scarce stamps are obtainable at different prices. The most of the values of the Departmental stamps are SCARCE. Stamps of the early issues are RARE. Let us see to it that these words are used with more care. —P.T.

—o—o—oXo—o—o—

THE "Sanitary News" calls attention to the fact that a postage stamp may in various ways convey contagion. One of the simplest and most plausible is that in which a postage stamp, partly attached to a letter to pay return postage, is sent by a person infected with some disease to another person. The disease is transferred in the first place to the adhesive stamp through the saliva, and in being attached to the letter by the receiver the poison may be transmitted to him in turn through the saliva. Another cause may be the infection of the stamp with disease germs. The stamp having been exposed in a room where a diseased person lies, may become slightly moistened and thus retain the germ. That this is true can be proved very simply by a microscopical examination. We often see a person holding change for a moment in the month, probably not knowing that the investigation has shown that disease germs can be carried by money. If one could see through what hands the money has passed they would hesitate before using such a third hand. Silver money is as bad as paper money, but while many would hesitate to hold a silver bank note in their mouth, they think that a silver piece, because bright, is apparently clean.

THE NEW COPPER COINS OF CONGO, AFRICA.

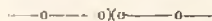
BY DAVID PROSKY.

Few persons would have believed a decade ago, that an American citizen would be the founder of a new State in that far-off region, Africa. Yet to-day, Stanley's Colony, under the patronage and government of Leopole II., King of Belgium, is an established fact, and a coin-issuing country. A series of silver coins composed of 1, 2 and 5 francs, and of copper coins of 1, 2, 5 and 10 centimes, this latter nearly as large as an American dollar, while the 1 centime is dime size. A set of the latter now before us merits description if for no other reason than that they are sold so cheaply by dealers as to be within the means of the poorest collectors. Obverse: Around a circular central perforation, are arranged five pairs of adjoined L's; a crown over each pair; a circle of pellets surrounding; between this circle and the edge the legend: "LEOPOLD II. ROI DES BELGES SOUV. DE L'ETAT INDEP. DU CONGO." Reverse: a radiant five-pointed star, its field has rays of pellets; three small stars to right and left; the value 1 CME., 2 CME., 5 CME., or 10 CME. above; the date 1888 below, separating the Mint Master's initials L. W. (Leopold Wiener); edges reeded. The legend on the 1 and 2 centimes is more abbreviated. The figure 7 is traced beneath the final "g" on the 5 centimes.—C.M.

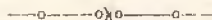


—FORGED STAMPS: HOW TO DETECT THEM. A very little sentence, and easily answered by me. Learn to examine stamps—learn their peculiarities, their style of engraving, their watermarks and their perforation. Study your specimens, and you will find an imperceptible sense come to you, by which you can at once detect an ordinary forgery and which sense will make you suspect—and that instinctively, the best of imitations. This is my advice, and always has been, and this is the secret of how to become a good judge of genuine and forged stamps.—E. L. Pemberton.

—That stamp collecting by young people improves their general knowledge, especially of geography, history, postal arrangements, etc., is a fact not seriously disputed by those in a position to know. It is only true however in regard to those who engage in the work intelligently, and with the determination to derive from it all the benefits it is capable of affording. The best advantages of our schools are only obtained by the few, and they are those who possess the faculty of turning to account all the facilities afforded them for increasing their stock of knowledge, and who apply themselves diligently to their studies. No one pretends that schools are a failure because the majority do not reap all or half their benefits. Neither is stamp collecting a failure because all do not know how to go about it in a way to insure pleasure and profit.—K. P. G.



—STUDY your stamps. Oh that I could shout those three words in the ears of every stamp collector, or that I had the power to confiscate the collections of every one who maliciously accumulates scarce and almost unique specimens, and have about as much regard for them as the dollars they represent. I know of a collection now, that contains several stamps that could not be duplicated at any price, and yet the owner thinks no more of them than he would of a fine watch or any valuable piece of jewelry. His only idea in collecting, although he does not express it in so many words, "I am a richer man than you; I can afford to pay higher prices than any man in New York, so I have the largest collection." But I tell him as I tell you, five hundred stamps, arranged with care, and CAREFULLY STUDIED will give greater pleasure to the owner, and more satisfaction to the person they are shown to, than the finest collection in the hands of an illiterate man, who only shows his collection to give you an idea of his wealth. E.S.P.



—The Collectors' Standard has been purchased by Mr. E. R. Marshall, Wyoming, Iowa.

LITERATURE.

Periodicals, books and pamphlets, catalogues and price-lists, are acknowledged in this column. Publishers and authors are requested to send us copies of their publications, for impartial review.

Periodicals received during January :

American Philatelist iii-4, American Stamp 1, Collectors' Ledger iv-10, Correo Luzitano 5, Curiosity Collector 2, Dominion Philatelist 1, Eastern Philatelist ii-5, Eastern Press 2, Exchangers' Monthly iv-3, Eureka Philatelist iii-1, Fitchburg Philatelist 1, Flour City Philatelist 1, Hoosier Philatelist 1, International Philatelic Advertiser iii-1, Frankfurter Briefmarken Zeitung viii-1, International Collector iv-1, Little Clipper iv-6, Le Courier du Timbrophile 23, National Philatelist 11, Old Curiosity Shop 41, Ohio Philatelist 7, Our Little Folks Visitor ii-1, Philatelic Gazette 53, Philatelic Tribune 30, Philatelic Press 4, Park City Collector 3&4, Plain Talk 44, Pearl 4, Philatelic Journal of America 49, Quaker City Philatelist 37, Stamp iii-11, Stamp World 35.

Books, pamphlets, catalogues and price-lists :

THE ORIGIN OF POSTAGE STAMPS : facts connected with their introduction : the Chalmers' case investigated. By Patrick Chalmers. London : Effingham Wilson and Co., Royal Exchange, E.C. Price six-pence.

THE PLAN OF SIR ROWLAND HILL, Mr. John Francis on. By Patrick Chalmers. London : Effingham Wilson and Co., Royal Exchange, E.C. Price six-pence.

The above being the only pamphlets of the Chalmers-Hill controversy that have reached this office, the editor does not consider himself in a position to pass an opinion ; but would like to receive the other books on the subject, that he may more fully comprehend the claims of both parties.

ELEVENTH AUCTION SALE OF POSTCARDS AND ENVELOPES. To be held Feb. 25th and 26th, 1889. New York : R. R. Bogert and Co., Tribune Building. Catalogues, priced, 75 cents.

SUCCESS IN ADVERTISING, and How to Obtain It. London : C. W. Pollard, 7 Apsley Street, Stepney, E. Gratis.

WHOLESALE PRICE-LIST, January and February, 1889. London : Stanley, Gibbons and Co., 8 Gower St., WC

—The Stamp World for January contains another portrait of a prominent Canadian philatelist ; having this time Mr. John R. Hooper, Ottawa, for a subject. Friend Hubbard is, apparently, catering for the Canadian trade.

SONGS—130 songs, one complete story by a popular author, postpaid for only 18c. Catalogue free. R. F. Madigan, song publisher, Charlottetown, P. E. I.

WANTED GOOD AGENTS

to sell stamps from my sheets, which are marked as low, and lower, than others. 33½ per cent commission. Also sheets for beginners, selling for 1 to 3 cents each, at same commission. Reference required. We also have

RARITIES OF

U. S. Rev., Doc. and also Foreign. Advanced collectors send list of wants.

GENUINE STAMPS SOLD AT reasonable rates. Price list and catalogue free. Send for the Hooker Naturalist ; subscription free.

F. N. Massoth, Hanover Centre, Ind.

BARGAINS IN STAMPS !

1000 rare Foreign assorted, including Mexico, Italy, Brazil, Australia, etc. Also, unused, etc. Sent postpaid for only 20 cents.

1000 fine United States, assorted, including 2 1872 6c. and others. Also embossed of 1862 and 1870. Sent, postpaid for only 38 cents.

100 fine varieties Foreign for 8 cents.

50 fine varieties United States, including many rare, worth one dollar—price only 30 cents.

AND HUNDREDS OF SUCH BARGAINS. SEND FOR FREE PRICE LISTS. BARGAIN LIST SENT FREE TO ALL.

F. N. MASSOTH JR.

HANOVER CENTRE, INDIANA.

The West American Scientist

comes regularly, and is decidedly the best of its class.

CHAS. RUSSEL ORCUTT, EDITOR.

Price, per year, \$1.00. Sample copy 10c (none free).

Advertisements, \$1.00 per inch.

E. M. HAIGHT, Sub and Adv. Agt.,

Box 24, Riverside, California

THE OWL

A SPICY PAPER, four months on trial, only

ten cents, and your name in our

Reliable Agents' Directory, Free.

AGENTS WANTED. Samples, Terms and Catalogue of Novelties, etc., for a 2-cent stamp. Address

OWL PUB. CO., Box 205, Putney, Vt.

GOLD PLATED PREMIUM 25 CENTS,

and a years subscription to

—[THE BUSY WORLD]—

with a silhouette scroll-saw design in each number.

Agents Directory 7 cents. Sample free.

The BUSY WORLD PUB. CO.

215 47th St., Brooklyn, New York

EXCHANGE NOTICES.

Exchange notices are inserted free, for subscribers. Limit, 50 words.

I will exchange two hundred latest story books, by prominent authors, in lots to suit, for any useful articles. Send stamp for list of books.
W. H. H. Jackson.

186 Gottingen St, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

I will give good exchange for volume 1 entire, and volume 2, numbers 2 and 6, of Quaker City Philatelist. Also, for first volume of The Stamp.

J. L. Pender, Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

I wish to exchange stamps for same, with collectors in all parts of the world. I want sample copies of philatelic papers.

P. H. Dahll, Biecherstrasse 41,
Uhlenhorst, Hamburg, Germany.

A bracket saw outfit philatelic papers. Write, giving lists, to

C. W. Green, Portsmouth, N. H.

Wanted, by the editor of this paper, J. R. Pindley, the following back issues:

American Philatelist—all vol 1; nos 4, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12, vol 2.

Philatelic Journal of America—nos 1 to 23, 26, 26, 30, 31, 32, 38, 41 to 45.

Mann & Kendlig's Gazette—first three volumes.

Toronto Philatelic Journal—vol 1 first volume.

Philatelic World—volumes 1 & 2

Wanted, a fair collection of stamps, from 500 to 1000 varieties; we will give good exchange in the following—White Earthings, Books, Printing Press.

L. E. Smith & Co.,
13, Victoria Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia

We will give other good stamps for United States 1871 issue, 7c, 24c, 90c, and 12c. and 1872, 1 to 10 and 15 cents.

L. E. Smith & Co.,
13 Victoria Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Fifty stamps for every philatelic paper sent; no duplicates taken. No sample copies.

J. L. PENDER, Portsmouth, N. H.

For every stamp paper sent me I will give in exchange two or three foreign post cards, depending to value.

F. D. CROSBY, Ohio, Yarmouth Co., N. S.

**THE CURIOSITY WORLD.**

An Illustrated Monthly devoted to stamps, coins, autographs, Indian relics, ethnology, zoology and all branches of Natural History. Sample copy free.

RARE COINS WANTED.

Our new Premium Coin 124 contains 24 pages and covers over 100 illustrations and gives our buying prices for all gold and silver coins worth over 10c. Price 12c. J. M. COCHRAN & SONS, Lake Village, N. Y.

MITCHELL & COMPANY

356 Fulton Street, CHICAGO, ILL.

50 varieties U. S. Postage.....35cts.

20 " Entire Envelopes.....40 "

5 " Nicaragua, 1, 2, 5, 10, 25 & 25 unused.45 "

Sheets on approval at 20 to 30 %; first class reference required.

Good STAMPS wanted for cash or exchange in stamps or entire envelopes.

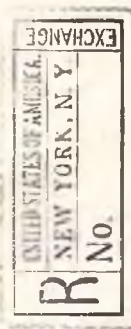
DON'T MISS THIS!

Hungarian Postal Card, uncut, and price lists of Stamps and albums, mailed FREE to all collectors sending 2c stamp for postage.

Beautiful Calendar for 1889, in five colors, 6x8 inches in size, sent for 6c in stamps. Address

STERLING STAMP CO.,

P. O. Box, 500, St. Louis, Mo., U.S.

**STAMPS!****WE WANT TO BUY**

collections and wholesale parcels of good stamps, both postage and revenue. Correspondence invited.

WE WANT TO SELL

quantities of choice stamps, selections of which will be sent on approval to responsible persons. Enclose stamp.

Address the

MARITIME PRINTING COMPANY,
Halifax, Nova Scotia.

AGENTS WANTED.

CIRCULARS FREE

OUR LATEST INVENTION

THE "PEARL" PEN & PENCIL STAMP

PRINTS NAME BUSINESS & ADDRESS

MARKS LIXEN, PRINTS BUSINESS CARDS, AND VISITING CARDS.

Stamp dealers make money selling these goods. Try an agency.

Send 40c. for sample and secure agency for your country. Address,

S. ROSENDORF, Manager,

"OLD DOMINION STAMP & STENCIL WORKS"

Richmond, Va., U. S. A.

WHEN CLOSED IS SIZE OF COMMON PENCIL

MARKS LIXEN, PRINTS BUSINESS CARDS, AND VISITING CARDS.

Stamp dealers make money selling these goods. Try an agency.

Send 40c. for sample and secure agency for your country. Address,

S. ROSENDORF, Manager,

"OLD DOMINION STAMP & STENCIL WORKS"

Richmond, Va., U. S. A.

THE CANADA STAMP AND COIN JOURNAL.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF PHILATELY AND NUMISMATICS.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA MARCH, 1889.

NO. 9.

OURSELVES.

WE open this number with a few words about ourselves. We have for some time contemplated making important changes in the make-up and contents of the CANADA STAMP & COIN JOURNAL, and believe that the time has now arrived when we can the better accomplish the aim we have in view. When this JOURNAL was started, it was with the intention of making it the leading one of its kind in Canada; but the illness of the Editor, of about two months duration, and consequent delay and annoyance occasioned by it, prevented our original plans being brought to a successful issue. Since our initial number appeared, we have received scores of letters containing suggestions and hints of a practical nature, from prominent collectors and dealers, all of which have been carefully preserved; and on the best of these we shall build our guide for the future. In the first place, we have found that nearly all of our subscribers object to our devoting space to both stamps and coins. Some wish us to drop the numismatic; others the philatelic department. Some desire us to change our title to the "Canada Stamp Journal" others, the "Canada Coin Journal." It is almost invariably the case, on receipt of a subscription, to find a remark like the above; one is not interested in philately,—another does not care for numismatics. The question arises: How are we to please both? In order to do so, we have decided to issue two periodicals: one devoted entirely to philately; the other, solely to numismatics. Both will be printed in a neat manner, on the best paper, and the contents will be of a high order, several important articles being already secured, while others are promised. Advertisements will not appear in the body of the paper, but will be contained in supplementary pages. It being our intention to make each of these periodicals the representative of its kind

in Canada, we ask the support of collectors and dealers within the Dominion, especially, and hope to hear from all to whom a copy of this issue is sent. Our friends in the United States, and elsewhere, are also invited to extend a fair share of their patronage, which we shall endeavor to merit. The titles, together with further information concerning the projected publications, will be found in our next issue. In the meantime, the small sum of twenty-five cents will be accepted as full payment for a subscription to both, from now until the end of our second volume.

The remaining numbers of our first volume will consist of the following: The April and May issues will be of the same size as the present (4 pages); the June issue, about 20 pages, to compensate for the smallness of the preceding three issues. The first issue of the new volume will appear in the improved form.

Secondly,—In order to be popular with dealers, we propose inserting advertisements at a merely nominal rate; but we would remind them that prompt, large and continued support is necessary.

Until further notice, advertisements will be inserted at the following rates:

Per 3 inches, 50 cents; per 4 inches, \$1.00; per 9 inches, \$1.50; per 12 inches, \$2.00. Width of columns 13 cms (2½ inches.)

No other size advertisement taken. No discount for repeated insertions. Cash must invariably accompany copy; this is positive.

In our "DIRECTORY," we will insert a three-line card (no other size) 12 times for 50 cents, cash with copy.

We shall each month, for the next three months, circulate 1000 copies, as samples, ABOVE those sent to subscribers, exchanges and advertisers. This we guarantee. April issue goes to press on the 25th; May and June on the 15th of the month. Hoping to have a share of your patronage, respectfully,

THE MARITIME PRINTING COMPANY.

FARTHING POSTCARDS.

A farthing postcard, so they say,
Will quickly see the light of day.

—Ally Sloper.

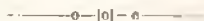
THE problem of selling ha'penny postcards at a farthing, and still leave a margin of profit, appears to be satisfactorily solved by the Farthing Letter Card Company, for whom Messrs. Shelley and Co., the enterprising advertising firm, Leadenhall Street, London, have been appointed sole agents. The solution of the seemingly impossible, curiously enough, lies in the fact that the whole thing is based on sound commercial principles. While no one for a moment supposed that astute business men were going to make a present to the public, but few had the "nous" to perceive how the matter could be worked from the business point of view. Specimens of the ordinary halfpenny card purchasable for a farthing now before us reveal the plan, and this is seen to be as simple as it is effective and likely to result in a pretty heavy "boom." The four sides of the back of the card are subdivided into sections of about one and two inches in length by one in depth, and they are utilised for advertising purposes. The blank space bordered by advertisements, thus left for writing purposes, measures about three by one and a half inches, and will for ordinary postcard purposes be found quite sufficient. —E. F. Herdman.



HOW DIMES are MADE and COUNTED.

THE United States Mint in San Francisco is said to be the largest institution of the kind in the world. Just at the present time there is a lively demand for silver dimes, and two of the money presses have been for some time running exclusively on this coin. The demand is so great that these presses are not stopped even on Sundays. The process of dime making is an interesting one. The silver bullion is first melted and run into two-pound bars. These in turn are run through immense rollers and flattened out to the thickness of the coin. These silver strips are then passed through a machine which cuts them into proper size for the presses, the strips first having been treated with a kind of tallow to prevent their being scratched in their passage through the cutters. The silver pieces are

then put into the feeder of the printing presses, and are fed to the die by automatic machinery at the rate of 100 per minute, 48,000 dimes being turned out in a regular working day of eight hours. As the smooth pieces are pressed between the ponderous printing dies they receive the lettered and figured impression in a manner similar to that of a paper pressed upon a form of type: at the same time the piece is expanded in a slight degree, and the small corrugations are cut into its rim. The machine drops the completed coin into a receiver, and it is ready for the counter's hands. The instrument used by the counter is not a complicated machine by any means, as one might suppose. It is a simple copper-covered tray, having raised ridges running across its surface at a distance apart the exact width of a dime. From the receiver the money is dumped on the board or tray, and as it is shaken rapidly by the counter the pieces settle down into the spaces between the ridges. All these spaces being filled, the surplus coin is brushed back into the receiver, and the counter has exactly 1,250 silver dimes, or \$125 on his tray, which number is required to fill the spaces. The tray is then emptied into boxes, and the money is ready for shipment. The dime does not pass through the weigher's hands, as does the coins of a larger denomination. One and one-half grains is allowed for variation, or "tolerance," in all silver coins from a dollar down, and the deviation from the standard in the case of the ten-cent pieces is so trifling that the trouble and expense of weighing coins of this denomination is dispensed with.



—THE Stamp Collectors' Figaro has again made its appearance. We hope Mr. Voute will stay with us this time, as we missed his bright paper very much during the last few months.

—MR. TIFFANY'S "Library Companion" has been issued at last. It is not at all up to our expectations. The arrangement is first-class, but the information is not sufficiently copious to be of any great value. It does not include Canadian periodicals; an omission that makes it of even less value to Canadian collectors. However, we can't expect an encyclopedia for a quarter, and it is certainly a good twenty-five cents worth.

LITERATURE.

Periodicals, books and pamphlets, catalogues and price-lists, are acknowledged in this column. Publishers and authors are requested to send us copies of their publications, for impartial review.

Periodicals received during February :

American Philatelist iii-5, Amateur World 2, Buffalo Philatelist 1, Collectors Ledger iv-11, Correio Luzitano 6, Curiosity Collector 3, Dominion Philatelist 2, Eastern Philatelist ii-6, Eastern Press 3, Eureka Philatelist ii-2, Fitchburg Philatelist 3, Herdman's Miscellany 16, Hoosier Philatelist 2, International Collector iv-2, Little Clipper iv-7, Literary Companion 1, Le Courier du Timbrophile 24, National Philatelist 12, Old Curiosity Shop 42, One Dime ii-3, Our Little Visitor ii-5, Pearl Magazine 5, Plain Talk 44, Philatelic World 74, Philatelic Beacon 5, Philatelic Press 5, Stamp iii-12, Stamp Collectors' Figaro iii-1, United States Philatelist ii-5, Welt-Post 23.

Miscellaneous Literature :

THE LATEST AUCTION SALE OF POSTAGE STAMPS. To be held March 18th, 1889. New York : R. R. Bogert & Co., Tribune Building. Catalogues, priced, 50 cents.

PRIX COURANT DES TIMBRES-POSTES : de la Roumanie & Moldavie, 1889. Bucarest, Roumanie : M. Alcalay, Rue Mosilor, 112.

WHOLESALE PRICE LIST, March and April, 1889. London : Stanley, Gibbons & Co., 8 Gower Street.

THE Eureka Philatelist is the best four-page stamp paper published at the present time.

THE Philatelic Beacon deserves credit for its excellent contents, neat appearance, and regularity of issue.

It is rumored that Mr. S. Allan Taylor is about to publish a new series of the Philatelic Record, which paper was the first ever issued devoted to philately.

ANOTHER large combination of stamp men has been formed, the "Colorado Philatelic Co., who will continue the publication of the "Stamp," "Collectors' Comment," etc. The Denver boys are bound to keep up with the crowd.

EXCHANGE NOTICES

Notices of 30 words or less inserted free for subscribers. Must be genuine exchanges; not advertisements. Must offer one specific article for another. Cash offers not inserted.

L. E. Smith, Box 431, Halifax, N. S., desire stamps in exchange for the following coins : U. S. cents (copper) 1820, 1822, 1837, 1838, 1845, 1851, 1858. Bronze cent, 1863. Canada, P. E. I., 1865, Fisheries and Agriculture copper. N. S. ½ cent 1861, 1864.

G. W. Green, 65 Hanover Street, Portsmouth, N. H. will exchange other papers for the following : Badger State Philatelist, 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8 of vol. I ; Eastern Philatelist, 1, 3, vol. I, and 1, 3, 5, vol. II ; Halifax Philatelist 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 10, vol. II ; Eureka Philatelist, 1, vol. II.

J. L. Pender, Box 934, Portsmouth, N. H., has a large number of books to exchange for philatelic papers. Send lists.

DEALERS' DIRECTORY

A three-line card under this heading twelve times for fifty cents, in advance.

SONGS—130 songs, one complete story by a popular author, postpaid for only 10c. Catalogue free. R. F. Madigan, song publisher, Charlottetown, P. E. I.

MARITIME PRINTING COMPANY, HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, are prepared to do every description of printing in the best style, at low rates. Stamp for estimates.

STAMPS—10 unused Swiss only 12 cents. One kran Persia, 14 cents. One peso United States of Colombia. Postage extra. 50 Genuine Foreign Stamps and Price-List FREE with order, or for a stamp. FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED.

H. TOELKE,

185 Greene St. . . . BROOKLYN, N. Y., U. S. A.



THE CURIOSITY WORLD,

An Illustrated Monthly devoted to Stamps, Coins, Autographs, Indian Relics, Ornithology, Oology and all branches of Natural History. Sample copy free.

RARE COINS WANTED.

Our new Premium Coin List contains 24 pages and cover, over 100 illustrations and gives our buying prices for all U. S. and Colonial coins worth over face. Price 11c. J. M. HUBBARD, Publisher, Lake Village, N. H.

FREE

To any one sending two 2 cent stamps and full street address, I give away 50 rare stamps and price list free. Send now.

WM. B. HALE,

WILLIAMSVILLE - MASS

COLLECTORS & DEALERS !

I send approval sheets at 25 or 33 1/2 % discount, on receipt of address. No reference required from members A. P. A. and C. P. A. I also send wholesale consignments of stamps on approval to reliable dealers.

Address: **A. ROSENBERG,**
152 Delord Street, New Orleans, La.

DONT MISS THIS!

Hungarian Postal Card, uncut, and price lists of Stamps and albums, mailed **FREE** to all collectors sending 2c stamp for postage.

Beautiful Calendar for 1889, in five colors, 6x9 inches in size, sent for 8c in stamps. Address

STERLING STAMP CO.,
P. O. Box 500 St. Louis, Mo., U.S.

MITCHELL & COMPANY

356 Fulton Street, CHICAGO, ILL.

50 varieties U. S. Postage.....3cts.
20 " Entire Envelopes.....40 "
5 " Nicaragua, 1, 2, 5, 10, 25 & 25 unused 45 "
Sheets on approval at 20 to 30 % ; first class reference required.

Good STAMPS wanted for cash or exchange in stamps or entire envelopes.

ONLY TEN CENTS

We will send you The Monthly Star 4 months on trial for only ten cents, and insert your name in the Agents Directory free, from which you will receive hundreds of samples, books, papers, etc., from all over the U. S. and Canada. You will get piles of good reading.

Star Pub. Co., Box 675, Ellington, Ct.

READ, AND YOU WILL KNOW

This saying to be quite true. So if you want to know, you should read, and for reading, no better magazine can be found at a low price than

THE YOUTH'S FRIEND

The subscription price of which is only 35 cents per year. This paper consists of twelve pages of reading matter, and is illustrated. Address:

THE YOUTH'S FRIEND PUB. CO.,

Box 281, Bennington, Vt.

The West American Scientist

comes regularly, and is decidedly the best of its class.

CHAS. RUSSEL ORCUTT, EDITOR.

Price, per year, \$1.00. Sample copy 10c (none free).

Advertisements, \$1.00 per inch.

E. M. HAIGHT, Sub. and Adv. Agt.,

Box 24, Riverside, California

GOLD PLATED PREMIUM 25 CENTS,

and a years subscription to

- [THE - BURY - WORLD] -

with a silhouette scroll-saw design in each number.

Agents Directory 7 cents. Sample free.

The BURY WORLD PUB. Co.

215 47th St., Brooklyn, New York.

THE OWL

A SPICY PAPER, four

months on trial, only

ten cents, and your name in our

Reliable Agents' Directory, Free.

AGENTS WANTED. Samples, Terms and Catalogue of Novelties, etc., for a 2-cent stamp. Address

OWL PUB. CO., Box 205, Putney, Vt.


THE LAND WE LIVE IN

A 16 page monthly journal, illustrated, devoted to original hunting, fishing, and descriptive sketches. 50 cents per year. The name and address of every subscriber is published in the following issue.

D. THOMAS & CO., - - SHERBROOKE, P. Q.

AGENTS WANTED.

27 CIRCULARS FREE!
OUR LATEST INVENTION
"PEARL" PEN & PENCIL STAMP
WHEN CLOSED IS SIZE OF COMMON PENCIL
PRINTS NAME BUSINESS & ADDRESS
NO STAMP REQUIRED
MARKS LINES, PLATES BUSINESS CARDS, AND VISITING CARDS.



Stamp dealers make money selling these goods. Try an agency.

Send 40c. for sample and secure agency for your county. Address,

S. ROSENDORF, Manager,

"OLD DOMINION STAMP & STENCIL WORKS"

Richmond, Va., U. S. A.

* THE CANADA STAMP AND COIN JOURNAL. *

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF PHILATELY AND NUMISMATICS.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, APRIL, 1889.

NO. 10.

Gold and Silver Coins Current Before the Christian Era.

HERBERT THOMPSON.

INTRODUCTORY.

In the King's Library of the British Museum are two cases containing electrotypes of the finest and most interesting ancient Greek coins in the National Collection. The coins are arranged in a manner as to afford at once a synoptical view, historical and geographical, of the coinage of the ancient world, from the invention of the art of coining, about B.C. 700, down to the Christian Era.

The chief value of the Greek coins is in their being, not copies, but original works of art, and in their recording the successive phases of Greek art, in which respect no other class of sculptures, gems, monuments, fictile vases, terra-cottas, or bronzes can compete with them.

The gold and silver coins, from the seventh century downwards, and from the farthest east to the extreme west, are still extant, and in a large number of cases as uninjured as when they left the dies. The style of the sculpture, and even of the painting, of the period to which they belong are certainly faithfully represented in the devices which they bear. Therefore the student can readily and thoroughly trace the growth, the maturity, and decay of the plastic art.

For the study of mythology they present the local conceptions of the gods and heroes worshipped in the Greek world, with their symbols and attributes.

The historian will find a gallery of portraits of sovereigns, almost complete, from Alexander to Augustus, as well as the history and political revolutions of numerous independent states and cities, in these all but imperishable records.

The student of palæography will find on these coins examples of various ancient alphabets, such as Lycian

and Cyprian, Iberian, Greek, Phœnician and Latin, etc., in numerous stages of development.

The metrologist, by comparing weights of the coins of the different localities and periods, may gain an insight into the numerous systems of ancient metrology in its various standards, and get an exact view of the relative values of the precious metals, and of the great lines of trade in the Greek and Roman world.

The medallist and art workman will find this series the most reliable, as well as the most profitable guide for practical purposes.

The artist will not fail to perceive the suggestive value of the designs, which, on however small a scale, are essentially large in treatment.

The cases are divided into seven historical compartments. These compartments contain the principal coins current during the period :

I. Circa, B.C. 700-480, is the Period of the Archaic Art, ending with the Persian Wars.

II. Circa, B.C. 480-400, is the Period of Transitional and Early Fine Art, to the end of the Athenian supremacy.

III. Circa, B.C. 400-336, is the Period of Finest Art. Time of the Spartan and Theban supremacy.

IV. Circa, B.C. 336-280, is the Period of Later Fine Art. Time of Alexander and the Diadochi.

V. Circa, B.C. 280-190, is the Period of the Decline of Art. Time of Epigoni, etc.

VI. Circa, B.C., 190-100, is the Period of the Continued Decline of Art. Time of the Attalids.

VII. Circa, B.C. 100-1, is the Period of Late Decline of Art. Time of Mithridates the Great and the Roman dominion.

The divisions, it will be seen, do not exactly correspond with those of the history of Art, but are rather those of the political history of the times.

The cases contain the coins of Asia Minor, Phœnicia, Syria, Egypt, Northern and Central Greece, the Pele-

ponnesus, the *Ægean* Islands, Italy, Sicily, the southern shores of the *Mediterranean*, and Western Europe.

I have selected a few of the 788 coins which are exhibited, so as to illustrate the remarks on the different periods. I have also endeavored to keep in view the historic, the artistic, and strictly numismatic interest of the coins selected.

In concluding my introductory remarks, I must say that I am greatly indebted to the very valuable little guide issued by the authorities of the British Museum, under the authorship of Mr. Barclay O. Head, the assistant keeper of coins.

—From Herdman's Miscellany.

EDITORIAL.

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LITERATURE.

Periodicals, books and pamphlets, catalogues and price-lists, are acknowledged in this column. Publishers and authors are requested to send us copies of their publications, for impartial review.

Periodicals received during March:

American Philatelist iii-6, Amateur World 3, Buffalo Philatelist 3, Curiosity Collector 4, Correio Luzitano 7, Dominion Philatelist 3, Eastern Philatelist 13, Eastern Press 4, Eureka Philatelist ii-3, Fitchburg Philatelist 4, Flour City Philatelist 2, General Anzeiger fur Philatelie viii-3, Hoosier Philatelist 3, International Collector iv-3, Little Clipper iv-8, Le Courier du Timbrophile 24, One Dime ii-4, Philatelic Beacon 6, Philatelic World 75, Philatelic Gazette 55, Philately 1, Philatelic Messenger 3, Park City Collector 5, Plain Talk 45, Philatelic Press 6, Quaker City Philatelist 39, Stamp iv-1, Stamp World 37, Stamp Collectors' Figaro iii-2, Texas Philatelic Journal 1, Tribune and Advertiser 32, Welt Post 24.

Miscellaneous Literature:

HAND-BOOK OF COINS, STAMPS, RELICS. Bunker Hill, Indiana: C. W. Stutesman, Compiler and Publisher, 1889. Price 10 cents.

This is a handy little volume, which gives much valuable information in a concise manner, arranged in a convenient way for reference, and bound in a suitable size for the pocket. It contains lists of premiums paid on rare United States and Colonial Gold, Silver Nickel and Copper Coins; Colonial, Continental and Confederate Notes; Fractional Currency; Postage Stamps, etc. The current and metal value of the Gold and Silver Coins of all Nations, in United States Currency. A list of Counterfeit United States Treasury and National Bank Notes, and how to detect them.

MOMENT-OFFERTE DIE SAMTLICHE EN GROS-PREISLISTEN DER WELT AN BILLIGKEIT UBERTREFFEN. Wien: Oesterreich (Vienna, Austria): A. Koltscharsch, IV. Margarethenstrasse 13. Gratis.

THIRTEENTH AUCTION SALE OF POSTAGE STAMPS. To be held Monday, May 6th, 1889. New York: R. R. Bogert & Co., Tribune Building. Catalogues, priced, 50 cents.

PRICE LIST OF UNUSED NORWEGIAN STAMPS AND ENVELOPES. Christiania, Norway: Jacob Fischer Adr. Skippergaden. Gratis.

PRICE-LIST OF PHILATELIC LITERATURE. Portland, Maine: W. W. Jewett, 504 Congress Street. Gratis.

PRICE LIST OF UNITED STATES STAMPS. New York: R. R. Bogert & Co., Tribune Building. Gratis.

STAMP EXCHANGE CIRCULAR. Demerara, W. I.: T. A. S. Quail, 336 Murray Street. Gratis.

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—G. W. Green, 65 Hanover Street, Portsmouth, N. H. will exchange other papers for the following: Badger State Philatelist, 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9 of vol. I; Eastern Philatelist, 1, 3, vol. I, and 1, 3, 5, vol. II; Halifax Philatelist, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 10, vol. II; Eureka Philatelist, 1, vol. II.

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A three-line card under this heading twelve times for fifty cents, in advance.

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MARITIME PRINTING COMPANY, HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, are prepared to do every description of printing in the best style, at low rates. Stamp for estimates,

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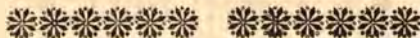
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* THE CANADA STAMP AND COIN JOURNAL. *

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF PHILATELY AND NUMISMATICS.

VOL. I.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA, MAY, 1889.

NO. 11.

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— "PHILATELY" is the title of a new magazine that has lately appeared from New York. 12 pages and a cover. Contents and make-up, first class. Messrs. Holmes and Wylie are the projectors.

Gold and Silver Coins Current Before the Christian Era.

HERBERT THOMPSON.

CHAPTER I.

PERIOD OF ARCHAIC ART.

The Lydians in Asia Minor, under the rule of the illustrious dynasty of the Mermnadæ, began, about seven hundred years before the Christian Era, to stamp small ingots of gold ore, obtained from the washings of the river Pactolus, with an official mark as a guarantee of weight. This rendered an appeal to the scales on every fresh transaction no longer a matter of necessity. These stamped ingots of gold were the first coins.

The official marks on these coins consisted merely of the impress of the rude unengraved punches, between which the ingot was placed to receive the blow of the hammer. Soon, however, the art of the engraver was called in to adorn the lower of the two dies (the obverse) with the badge of the State or the symbol of the local divinity under whose auspices the currency was issued, it being generally supposed that the earliest mints were within the sacred precincts of a temple.

The Greek cities studding the coasts and islands of Asia Minor soon adopted and improved this simple though remarkable invention, and probably the credit is due to the Greeks of substituting engraved dies for the primitive punches, and of inscribing them with the name of the people or ruler who issued the coin.

Phidon, king of Argos, is said to have been the first to strike money in European Greece, after which the Eubœan cities (Chalcis and Eretria), as well as Corinth and her colonies, and Athens soon followed his example.

From these places the invention spread far and wide, to the coasts of Thrace on the north, to those of the Cyrenaica on the south, and to Italy and Sicily on the west. The weights of the standard coins in each dis-

trict were carefully adjusted in proportion to the talent there in use for weighing the precious metals, these talents being different in the various localities, but nearly all traceable to the Babylonian origin.

The form of the ingot of most of the early coins was bean shaped or oval, except in Southern Italy, where the earliest coins of Achaean cities were flat and circular. The device usually consisted of the figure of an animal or the forepart of an animal; the heads and figures of gods and men being rare in this early period. The reverse side of the coin did not at first bear a device, but only the impress, in the form of an incuse square, of the upper of the two dies between which the ingot was placed. The early coins of some of the cities above mentioned are characterised by having devices on both sides (generally the same) on the obverse in relief and on the reverse incuse.

The coins of the two centuries previous to the Persian Wars exhibit considerable varieties of style and execution. In common with the other remains of archaic art which has come down to us, and with which it is instructive to compare them, they may be divided into two classes. The earlier is characterised by extreme rudeness in the forms and expressions in the actions represented, the later, by a gradual development into more clearly defined forms with angularity and stiffness. The eye of the human face is always drawn, even when in profile, as if seen from the front, the hair is generally represented by lines of minute dots, the mouth wears a fixed and formal smile; but withal, there is in the best archaic work, a strength and touch which is often wanting in the fully developed art of a later period.

There are altogether 108 coins exhibited in the first period.

There is exhibited the earliest coin that is known to have been circulated. The obverse is a striated surface, while on the reverse is an oblong sinking between two square sinkings. It weighs 166 4-5 grains.

The next coin which attracts attention is one with an inscription in archaic letters meaning, "I am the sign of Phanes," this is the earliest inscription known. Phanes was a Halicarnassian. He was an important man in the court of Amasis, king of Egypt, whose service however, he deserted for that of Cambyses, king of Persia, whom he assisted in his invasion of Egypt during the year B.C. 525. As this coin was found at

Halicarnassus, it is very probable that it was struck there, though it is also very probable that it was struck by an ancestor of Phanes. On the obverse is the inscription and a stag feeding, while on the reverse is an oblong sinking between two square sinkings. Its weight is 216½ grains.

The next of interest, a Persian gold coin of the earliest style, was struck in the reign of Darius I. On the obverse is the Great King holding a bow and spear, while the reverse is incuse. This coin weighs 129 grains.

Then comes a silver coin, which is perhaps the earliest coin of that rich Ionian city, Clasmene. The obverse is a lion devouring his prey, while the reverse bears the fore-part of a winged boar in an incuse square. Its weight is 226 grains.

—From Herdman's Miscellany.
(TO BE CONTINUED.)

IMPROVED POSTAL CARD.

A postal card with a flap to cover the writing would be a good thing and would meet a popular demand. The postal card is one of the articles that become indispensable the moment they are once used, but many people are prevented from using them by the fact that privacy is impossible. The device which Senator Culom has brought to the attention of the Senate Post Office Committee provides for this in a simple but effective way. The card is double and the back is split diagonally from the centre, where the four points can be attached in the same way that an envelope is sealed. Of course the writing could not be inspected without loosening the flaps, and ample protection to the correspondents would be secured. There would be a small addition to the weight of the card, but we are rich enough to carry a few pounds more in the mail bags without serious embarrassments to the country's finances.—The American Stationer.

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We shall publish an INDEX with our next number, which completes the first volume. Free to subscribers and exchanges; to others, five cents.

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Miscellaneous Literature :

WHOLESALE PRICE LIST OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL POSTAGE STAMPS. London, England : S. Hellier, 16 Duke Street, Grosvenor Square, W. Gratis.

This is Mr. Hellier's wholesale list number 10, for April to September, 1889.

FOURTEENTH AUCTION SALE OF POSTAGE STAMPS. New York : R. R. Bogert & Co., Tribune Building. Priced copies, after sale, \$1.

The above sale will be held on Monday and Tuesday May 20th and 21st.

PRIX COURANT NO. 1.—TIMBRE-POSTE POUR COLLECTIONS Guatemala, Central America : Paul Jacop s.n. 1r Fevrier 1889. Gratis.

PRICE LIST OF CANADIAN CHURCH TOKENS. Belleville, Ontario : P. C. Jones, Box 475. Gratis.

PRICE LIST OF CANADIAN COPPER COINS. Belleville, Ontario : P. C. Jones, Box 475. Gratis.

—Texas is again represented, by the resuscitation of the "Texas Philatelist," which failed about two years ago. It is now the "Texas Philatelic Journal," and presents a neat appearance ; but the contents are of an inferior order.

—The second number of the "Flour City Philatelist" is quite a bulky affair, and it is a great pity that so much space should be thrown away on foolish and slangy remarks, sensational and abusive paragraphs, and circus pictures. It is about time that such publications as these were done away with, and then the outside world would have a better opinion of philately and those connected with it. If you cannot be anything else, brother publisher, be at least gentlemen.

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