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THE

Halifax Philatelist.

VOL. II.

JUNE, 1888.

No. 6.

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# The Halifax Philatelist.

VOL. II.

HALIFAX, N. S., JUNE, 1888.

No. 6.

## MAURITIUS POSTAGE STAMPS.

(Concluded from last month.)

It may not perhaps be out of place to observe here, that Mauritius was early among the places which issued postage stamps, and was indeed the first British colony which did so; England, as I believe is generally known to be the first country to adopt, in 1840, this system of preparing postage, the rates of which were at the same time very greatly reduced, Sir Rowland Hill being, if not the actual inventor of postage stamps, at all events the first person to bring them into use; Brazil was the first foreign country to follow the example, issuing its first stamps in 1843, in which year and in the following some of the Swiss Cantons did the same; Local stamps for New York were issued in 1844 and in 1845 similar issues were made in other cities of the United States, a general issue for that country only taking place in 1847; Russia and Finland issued stamps in 1845. The above are, I believe, the only places which precede Mauritius in taking this step.

A few specimens are known to exist of certain Mauritius postage stamps bearing the words "Post Office" on the left hand side. These are found in two types only, one for each value, that is to say all the penny stamps of this variety are precisely alike, and all the two penny ones equally so; the stamps more commonly known differ from these in bearing the words "Post Paid" in place of the words "Post Office" and in being found in twenty-four different types, twelve of each value.

There is little or no doubt that these latter were produced from the improved plates mentioned by the postmaster in his letter of May 1848, and I believe it to be equally certain that the first mentioned stamps were from the single stamp plates mentioned in the letter of September 1847.

Now, herein lies one of the peculiarities of these engravings. The usual mode of forming a plate from which stamps are to be printed, is as follows: the design is first engraved upon steel, from the single die thus engraved, copies are made either by means of electro-typing or by taking impressions upon some soft metal which is afterwards subjected to a hardening process; in this manner a sufficient number of exact copies of the original die, or matrix as it is termed, are produced to form a plate from which whole sheets of stamps may be printed; these plates are printed from until they begin to show signs of wear, and then fresh plates are prepared from the matrix as before, the original steel die therefore, being subjected to comparatively little wear and tear, last for an unlimited period, thus the same matrix has served to produce plates for the English penny and two-penny stamps from 1840 down the present date. The engraver of

the first plates for the Mauritius stamps might have multiplied his original designs by means of electrotyping, had he been acquainted with that process and had he possessed the necessary apparatus; but this it appears was not the case. When therefore it was found that the single stamp plates could not produce a sufficient supply of impressions, he set to work to engrave fresh plates with twelve types upon each, and these twelve types being separately engraved by hand, naturally no two of them are exactly alike, thus producing twelve typical varieties of each value of the stamps; these varieties differ very slightly from one another for the most part, it requiring close examination to discover the various types; there is, however, among the two-penny stamps one well marked variety formed by the engraver, having made the "c" of the word "Pence" an "o"; thus reading "Two Pence." This curious error was apparently never altered, which it might very easily have been, for the letters on these stamps were not cut into the plate, but were left in relief, the portions which are dark in the stamps being cut away in the plates so as to receive the ink, so that by cutting away a small portion of the "o" it could have been made into a "c."

Looking at the general design of these stamps, if we disregard for a moment the lettered labels at the sides, I think it is evident that it is a rough copy of that of the English penny and two-penny stamps, a profile to left of the Queen with a diadem, the word "Postage" above, and the value below; it was then no doubt thought necessary to add some indication of the locality to which they belonged, accordingly the word "Mauritius" was placed on one side of the label. Something was necessary to balance this on the other, the words "Post Office" were natural enough, and, owing to the curious manner in which "Mauritius" is made to read from below upwards, if a stamp of the first issue be looked at from one side, its labels read "Post Office Mauritius." Why, when fresh plates were engraved, the words "Post Paid" were substituted for "Post Office" is hard to say, for with the word "Postage" at the top "Post Paid" was unnecessary.

These plates continued in use for about ten years, during which time they gradually became worn out, so that the later impressions from them only show traces of the original design, the lettering even becoming almost if not quite illegible; in consequence of this the postmaster in the early part of 1858 requested that the plates of the two-penny stamps (that value being the most used and that plate being consequently the most worn) might be re-engraved or a new one made. The old plate was placed in the hands of Mr. Sherwin who undertook to re-engage it, but, who after some delay, returned it in an unfinished state in the latter part of the year, stating that he had no time to complete it. This plate was then submitted to another engraver, a Mr. Lapirot, whose opinion was, that it was too much worn to be of any further use, he at the same time undertook to engrave a fresh plate, which he apparently did early in 1859, for at all events before the end of March in that year a new variety of two-penny stamps made its appearance, also printed from a copper plate engraved in a similar manner to the earlier ones, and thus also showing twelve different types.

The design of the stamps engraved by Mr. Lapirot is, if anything, more curious than that of their predecessors, and although he attempted, what

perhaps should be considered a higher style of art in giving his lettering a background of lines instead of a solid one, his execution must be confessed to be decidedly inferior to that of Mr. Barnard, and his lines can have but little depth, for although these stamps were not in use for more than one year, specimens are found which show quite as much deterioration of the plate as those of the former issue.

The old plate partially re-engraved by Mr. Sherwin and perhaps completed by some one else, appears to have been employed for a short time, either while Mr. Lapirot's plate was being prepared or after it wore out, for there exists a third species of two-penny stamps, specimens of which are somewhat uncommon, showing that they were in use for a short time only, which species is also found in twelve typical varieties, the arrangement of which on the plate, which produced the earlier stamps. I may add that these scarce stamps are about the most hideous things of the kind ever produced, this fact perhaps accounts for so few of them having been made.

The above are the engraved stamps made in Mauritius, the only other postage stamps of local manufacture are some penny and two-penny stamps lithographed by Mr. Dardenne, at the end of 1859, or the beginning of 1860, these were, I believe, in sheets of sixty; the design like those of the engravings is a somewhat primitive one, but there are no varieties of type, the sheets being made up of lithographic reproductions of the original drawing; the design of the two values differ slightly from one another; these also were in use but a short time, being superseded before the end of 1860 by the penny and two-penny stamps sent out from England of the designs which have continued in use down to the present time.—*Mercantile Record and Commercial Gazette.*

#### A PHILATELIC CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

##### THE CONNELL STAMP.

THIS stamp has probably been discussed more than any other stamp or series of stamps that have ever been issued, and still a decision has never been arrived at as to whether they are essays or whether any have ever done postal duty. The general opinion seems to be that they were in use but only for a day. The way the stamp originated was this. Mr. Connell, then Postmaster-General of New Brunswick was authorized by a Minute of Council in Dec., 1859, to procure a new set of postage stamps, which the change in currency rendered necessary. Believing that this Minute gave him full power and discretion as to designs, etc, he ordered the plates for the values wanted, 1, 5, 10 and 12½c, and for the 5c. had his own portrait. The stamps came to hand in due time, and Mr. Connell, not probably making any secret of the design for the 5c., spoke to some of his friends about them, and of his intention of going down to posterity thereon. This came to the knowledge of the Council, who, knowing that they had not been approved by them, decided to see the issue before it was sent out to postmasters for public use. As a matter of course they disapproved of

Mr. Connell's design for the 5c., and he was instructed by the Council to destroy them, and order a new lot with the the effigy of the Queen. This Mr. Connell would not do, and therefore resigned. The 5c. brown were destroyed, and only the other three values issued.

After Mr. Connell's resignation, he wrote a letter to the Hon. J. H. T. Manners-Sutton, the Lieut.-Governor of the province, giving his reasons for resigning his office. He, however, says that he did not resign on account of the stamp affair, but because he could not agree with the Government expenditure of public moneys, and because he said that his colleagues did not have confidence enough in him to back him up on a small matter—that is the issuing of the 5c. brown. Through the kindness of a friend I have been enabled to see the complete official correspondence, etc., between Connell, the Governor and Council, in reference to this business, and am giving them here. Several of the letters contain a large amount of matter irrelevant to the subject in question, and dealing only with the political reasons of Mr. Connell's resignation, and these parts not being interesting to the philatelic reader are left out.

The correspondence starts with the letter of the Council to the Lieut.-Governor after they had had the designs submitted to them.

(Copy No. 1.)

Memorandum of the Executive Council in Committee.

To His Excellency the Hon. J. H. T. Manners-Sutton, Lieut.-Gov. etc. etc.

We advise your Excellency to approve of, and order to be distributed, the 1c., 10c. and 12½c. postage stamps procured by the Postmaster-General, and we further advise Your Excellency to order a five cent postage stamp to be struck, bearing the likeness of the Queen, instead of the 5 cent stamp already procured by the Postmaster-General.

(Signed,) S. L. TILLEY,  
A. T. SMITH,  
W. H. STREEVES,  
P. MITCHELL,  
CHARLES WATTERS,  
DAVID WARK.

Approved May 12, 1860.

(Sgd.) J. H. T. MANNERS-SUTTON.

Copy No. 2.)

Letter from Mr. C. Connell to the Lieut.-Governor.

SIR.—Various circumstances having occurred with reference to the administration of the Government of this Province during the short time that I have had the honor of being one of Your Excellency's advisers, induce me to address Your Excellency. \* \* \* \* \*

\* \* \* \* \*  
Having felt this and other matters for some time past, and at the same time feeling reluctant to take a step that I saw pressing on me, I delayed action, but the recent act of my colleagues in the Government, has brought matters to a crisis, the want of that support on their part on a subject which I believed I was authorized in the action I had taken, as will appear by the following minutes of Council (Dec. 1858) and correspondence:—

“Postmaster General to obtain new Postage Stamps in one, five, ten, and twelve and a half cents.”

No. 1.—Telegraphic Despatch.

The Hon. Charles Connell, Woodstock,—

Just received notice from the Governor that new decimal Stamp cannot be issued until approved by Governor in Council—Have seen Hale—Telegraph him. He can put all right.

(Signed,) S. L. TILLEY.

Fredericton, 27th April, 1860.

No. 2.—Telegraphic Despatch.

The Hon. S. L. Tilley,—

If that is required you can procure the order, as any delay now will make trouble all over the country, as instructions have gone out and all stamps called in.

(Signed,) CHARLES CONNELL.

Woodstock, 28th April, 1860.

No. 3.—Telegraphic Despatch.

Hon. Charles Connell, Woodstock,

Cannot get order before Wednesday. Only Attorney-General here. Hale can arrange so as not to cause confusion of instructions.

(Signed,) S. L. TILLEY.

No. 4.—Telegraphic Despatch.

JAMES HALE, ESQ., FREDERICTON,—

See Mr. Tilley. Let issue of stamps be stayed till Wednesday, next.

(Signed,) CHARLES CONNELL.

Woodstock, 28th April, 1860.

No. 5.—Telegraphic Despatch.

THE HON. S. L. TILLEY, FREDERICTON,—

Have telegraphed Hale to see you,—defer to issue until Wednesday I may not be able to leave for St. John before this day week. Telegraph me as soon as order is made. Thought order was made at time I was authorized to procure new stamps.

(Signed,) CHARLES CONNELL.

Woodstock, 28th April, 1860.

*No. 6.—Telegraphic Despatch.*

THE HON. CHARLES CONNELL,—

All right. Desirable that all should be at St. John by Thursday next if possible.

(Signed.) S. L. TILLEY.

Fredericton, 28th April, 1860.

*No. 7.—Telegraphic Despatch.*

THE HON. CHARLES CONNELL, WOODSTOCK,—

Shall postage stamps be detained and Deputies ordered to retain old ones until further orders.

Fredericton, 28th April, 1860. (Signed.) JAMES HALE.

*No. 8.—Telegraphic Despatch.*

THE HON. CHARLES CONNELL, WOODSTOCK.

Contractors here promised full Council to consider claims. Your presence necessary Thursday evening at furthest.

(Signed.) S. L. TILLEY.

St. John, May 2nd, 1860.

The Council met as was agreed upon, and disapproves of Mr. Connell's 5c. brown,—and the following is their recommendation to the Lt. Governor.

(COPY.)

TO HIS EXC'Y. THE HON. J. A. T. MANNERS-SUTTON LT.-GOV.—

We advise Your Excellency to approve of and order to be distributed the one cent, ten cent, and twelve and a half cent Postage Stamps, procured by the Postmaster-General; and we further advise Your Excellency to order a five cent Postage Stamp to be struck, bearing the likeness of the Queen, instead of the five cent Stamp already procured by the Postmaster-General.

(Signed.)  
S. L. TILLEY,  
A. J. SMITH,  
W. H. STEEVES,  
P. MITCHELL,  
CHARLES WATTERS,  
DAVID WARK,

May 8, 1860.

(COPY.)

LETTER TO HON. CHARLES CONNELL FROM THE PROVINCIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,—I am directed by His Excellency the Lt.-Governor, to request you to distribute the one, ten, and twelve and a half cent Postage Stamps procured by you, and to direct you to take the necessary steps to have struck off a five cent stamp, bearing the likeness of the Queen, for future distribution.

I have, &c., &c.  
(Signed.) S. L. TILLEY.

THE HON. C. CONNELL, &amp;c.

## POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,

15th May 1860

(COPY.)

SIR,—I am in receipt of your favor informing me that you have been desired by His Excellency the Lt.-Governor, to request that I would distribute the one, ten, and twelve and a half cent Postage Stamps procured by me, and to take steps to procure a five cent Stamp for future distribution. You will inform His Excellency that I was authorized by Minutes of Council in Dec. last, to procure a one, five, ten and twelve and a half cent Postage Stamp, and that all these denominations are now in the office of this Department ready for distribution.

I have &c., &c.  
(Signed,) CHARLES CONNELL.

THE HON. S. L. TILLEY.

(COPY.)

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, 17th May, 1860.

SIR,—I have laid before His Excellency the Lt.-Governor, your letter of the 15th inst., relative to the distribution of Postage Stamps, and I am directed to inform you that he has referred it for the consideration of his Council.

I have, &c., &c.  
(Signed,) S. L. TILLEY.

THE HON. C. CONNELL, &amp;c., &amp;c.

I have felt it my duty to lay before Your Excellency this correspondence, together with the Minute of Council, and have no desire to make any comment thereon, as I think it will speak for itself.

I may remark, however, that I cannot discover by that correspondence, No. 1 to 8, that it was the intention to withdraw from me that support in the action I had taken in procuring the Postage Stamps as authorized by the Minute in Council referred to,—

My administration of the Post Office Department is before the public, and it is for them to say whether it is satisfactory or not.

I think I may state with certainty that the revenues of the Department will be reduced by the recent action of the Government, as I made arrangements for the delivery and sale of Postage Stamps at every Post Office and Way Office throughout the Province, on the 1st May. I do not intend that the legitimate authority belonging to the Chief of that Department shall be limited or circumscribed while I have the honor of being at its head.

After a very careful and deliberate review of the whole matter, under all the circumstances, I believe that my continuance in office would not be beneficial to the Department.

Holding the opinions that I have submitted to Your Excellency, I feel that I cannot, consistently with the duty I owe to my constituents and the public, continue longer to hold an office and position as one of Your Excellencies advisers in opposition to my views on public duty.—I therefore respectfully beg to submit to Your Excellency, my resignation of the office of Postmaster General, and as one of Your Excellency's advisers, and further request Your Excellency's permission to publish and give my reasons for so doing, and the correspondence connected therewith.

I have, &c., &c., CHARLES CONNELL.  
HIS EXC'Y THE HON. J. H. T. MANNERS-SUTTON, &c., &c.

(To be continued.)

## SPECIAL NOTICE.

We claim now to be one of the very best advertising mediums on the American Continent, and in order to prove it we will insert your advertisement in July and August, at half our regular rates. Remember this is only a trial rate, and cannot be repeated. Our July and August issue will be especially devoted to the interest of advertisers, as we intend to publish 1500 Copies in each month, being an excess of 300 Copies of regular number issued.

One regular rate pays for both months insertion. A great opportunity.

## CANADA'S TELEGRAPH STAMP.

THE Complimentary Stamp issued by the Canada Pacific Railway, for the use of their telegraph lines has never been noticed, and no doubt a description of it will be interesting to some of our readers;—Printed in black, on a cream coloured paper, perforated at the top and right hand side—design is in centre, map of Western Hemisphere, with the C. P. R. Telegraph in white across it from Halifax to Vancouver, and inscription "C. P. R." In half circle above is "Canadian Pacific Railway's," in half circle below "Telegraph,"—in shield at right side 18', in left side 87—immediately above half circle is the Registered No. printed in red, and above that is "Frank." Beneath lower half circle is facsimile of the signature of the manager, "Chas. H. Hosmer, Manager," and beneath that, Complimentary.

In a copy of the "Mohawk Standard" to hand to-day, we notice an article charging Mr. H. Hechler of this City, with selling restrikes of the Halifax Ferry Tokens for genuine.—The writer is mistaken from the beginning. There are no restrikes of the Ferry Tokens, and never were any. It is quite true that the market is flooded with them, but that is due to a very large number of them being found in Dartmouth (between which and Halifax a ferry runs) by a young man, who not knowing the value of them, sold them for a mere song.—Our American friends being up to the little dodges of restrikes, etc., jump to the conclusion that those are restrikes,—but they are lamentably mistaken, as the dies were destroyed years, (35 or 40 at least), ago. Now at the time Mr. Hechler sold those coins, they were exceedingly scarce here, as the writer himself, only a couple of months before, paid \$2.50 for one in Canada, (if necessary can give the name of the seller) and could not match it for *that* price in the City.

Of Mr. Fraser we know nothing good, bad, or indifferent; but of Mr. Hechler, we may say, we have known him for the last 12 years, and have never known or heard of anything in his business transactions to his disparagement.—His standing in the community is sufficient to show in what estimation he is held by those best able to judge from personal and constant intercourse.

## THE C. P. A.

WE have now what may be called a fair trial of the C. P. A. and are sorry to say that in all its branches with but one exception, it is very nearly a failure. The exception spoken of is the Exchange Branch, and this under the able management of Mr. Grenny, is proving a success, as far as he can make it.

He cannot do so unless members send in sheets for exchange, and this, judging from a number of books which have passed through my hands, they are not doing a large proportion of the sheets in the books, being the property of several American dealers, and some small ones among them. With but few exceptions their sheets are the best, but one of them seems to be under the belief that Canadian collectors will take anything that looks like a postage stamp. On one of this worthy's sheets were the following STAMPS, viz:—A set of "Musgroves Business College" Bill stamps, a Belgian Registered letter Number, and a few assorted of Samoa and Alsace and Lorraine forgeries. The rest of the sheet was made up of torn and miserable specimens.

Now I think that all the members of the C. P. A. should send in sheets for exchange, and not leave it in the hands of a few outsiders. I can say of our Branch Society here in Halifax, that out of twenty-two members, sheets have been sent in by nineteen.

Speaking of Branch Societies reminds me that we are the only one existing in Canada, surely there are enough collectors in Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa, to form one in each of their respective Cities.

It is unfair to members who send in sheets for exchange, particularly from N. S., because when a book comes to Halifax, it goes through twenty-two collectors hands, and its other circuits as well. Ours will go through the hands of six people only, that being the number on a circuit. It will thus be seen how disadvantageous it is for us.

Another thing is the pricing of stamps, this is not done as it should be, I seen on one sheet three tenpenny Canadas, one damaged badly, piece out for \$2, one fair, for \$3, and one marked unused for \$6. It is of the damaged and the unused I wish to speak; the damaged one had a fair sized piece torn out of the top and mended with blue paper only \$2.00.—The unused one though marked that, was not so, having part of the envelope or letter on which it was, on the back, and with a glass faint traces of cancellation could be seen, price only \$6.—Scott prices it unused at \$3.—You can buy as good a specimen of it as any one can desire, at any of the frequent auction sales in New York for \$2.50 or \$3. This is only one instance out of many equally glaring, a man has of course a right to put his own price on his own stamps, but at the same time he ought to do so within moderate bounds.

Another cause of complaint is the official organ.—It contained no Philatelic matter worth speaking about, and, poor as the paper is, it is not even sent regularly—possibly they are ashamed of it.—There is surely a sufficiently large number of Philatelists in the Dominion, who dabble in their special line of literature to put a little reading matter in it.

However, it is to be hoped if we have a convention, that a friendly talk and discussion will correct a lot of this.—For a place for the convention to

be held, where can there be found a prettier city in the Dominion of Canada, than Halifax. Everything to make the members in attendance spend the time pleasantly, and we can assure the Upper Province collectors that they will no where meet with a warmer welcome, than they will here. Whatever criticism we may make on the C. P. A., it is meant in a truly friendly spirit, and we hope it will be taken in the same manner, for we can assure you all, that we are sincerely in earnest for the extension and building up of the association.

DAVID LANG.

OUR friend, Mr. Harte, has seen fit to make remarks on Canadian Philatelic literature in the *Stamp*. He says the *Toronto Phil. Journal* is the only paper that contributes anything of interest to collectors. The *Toronto Journal* is no doubt interesting on account of his notes. Possibly if the HALIFAX PHILATELIST would publish some of them at his price it would be an interesting paper as well. But as Mr. Harte seems unable to control his works, we could hardly keep him. For the Dec. No. of this paper, he sold us an article on the Stamp Papers of the year. This he also sold to the *Figaro*, but in a slightly revised form.—When the 2d. vol. of the HX. PHILATELIST was started he generously offered his services to supply us with interesting Philatelic matter for cash—Not for the advancement of the knowledge of Philately, but for the cold dollar. However, his offer was declined, and no doubt that makes him feel sore towards this paper. Whether he has been more successful in selling his productions in duplicate to different papers, I don't know. One editor says his next article must be accompanied by an affidavit that it is not sent to anyone else. As to the HALIFAX PHILATELIST not comparing with the *Toronto* paper, anyone has only to look through the contents of the two papers. Perhaps the advertisements of silk ribbons are interesting. The superiority of the 1st vol. of this paper over the 2nd is no doubt due to Mr. Harte's being an occasional contributor—for a consideration in cash.—A disinterested party need only compare this year with the last, and see which is the better of the two.

A GREAT treat is in store for Philatelist in the shape of a first-class Philatelic Directory. Mr. Wm. B. Whitney, of Marlborough, N. Y., is hard at work on his edition, and expects to have it ready for publication early in the fall. It will contain 150 to 200 pages, and include a complete chronicle of new issues of 1887, and up to September '88. It will be profusely illustrated throughout, and will also have a list of all local and general Philatelic societies in the world. About 4000 names of collectors with the initials of the societies they belong to, and also a complete list of Foreign and American Philatelic literature, books, pamphlets, papers, etc., etc. Moreover it will contain a splendid treatise on the rise and progress of Philately. This work really promises to be no ordinary production, and as it will contain a great deal of information and serve as a perfect Handbook, intending advertisers should avail themselves of its columns without much delay.

### CHRONICLE.

**Anam and Tonquin.**—There are several varieties in the surcharge on these stamps, and there is a 5c. and 2c. which is probably an essay.

**Afghanistan.**—The *Ph. R.* notes the following changes in colors. 1 abasy' black on magenta wove, purple brown on orange wove, and green laid batonné paper, purple black or lavender laid batonné, and pink laid batonné; 2 abasy and 1 rupee, both purple black on pink laid batonné paper.

**Austria.**—The *W. B. Z.* states that the *Soldi* stamp are to be replaced by the *Kreuzer* series surcharged with the equivalent, in Turkish money. Also the 5 Soldi, and 5+5 Soldi cards and 10 Soldi letter cards.

**Bahamas.**—The *A. J. of P.* chronicles the 2½d. blue.

**Bavaria.**—The 5×5 pf. card with perpendicular lines, and "88" is noted.

**Brazil.**—*Der. Ph.* illustrates a new 1000 reis, with figures of value in centre, above which is a view, possibly of the Port of Rio de Janeiro, Slate blue (c. c. 50.)

**Br. Honduras.**—The 2c. on 6d is stated to have been an error. The greater part of these 2c. are on the 1d. This latter and also the 3c. on 3d. have been superseded by similar surcharges evidently made in England; the 3d. being watermarked C. A. We have also the 50c. on 1sh., with a second surcharge TWO in red. We hear that some of the 1sh. were surcharged 5c. in error for 50c.

**Canada.**—*Le. T. P.* illustrates a new stamp on the Post Card. There is a wavy line inside the oval.

**Cashmere.**—The 1½a. card is on very pale buff.

**Ceylon.**—Both colors of the 2c. on 4c. come with inverted surcharge.

**Congo.**—There is a new post card 15c., orange on salmon. The stamp is rectangular with palm tree and star in center. The arms are in the left corner.

**Faridkot.**—The 1½a. envelope with black surcharge in two lines, has the arms also in black.

**Grenada.**—The sheet of 4d. on 2sh. has one stamp with 'd,' not Italic.

**Japan.**—The *Ph. R.* states that changes were to be made about April 1st. The 3, 6, 12 and 45 sen. adhesives, and 1, 4 and 6 sen. envelopes, were to be discontinued. Colors changed and new values issued as follows: 4s. brown; 8s. violet; 10s. dark orange; 15s. purple; 25s. pale green; 20s. red; 50s. brick red; 1 yen. scarlet.

**Mexico.**—*Le. T. P.* notes the 2c. and 3c. cards with "Postal-catre."

**Monaco.**—The same journal mentions the 25c. letter card, black on rose.

**Montenegro.**—We have the cards of 3n. and 3×3n. printed in black on green.

**Natal.**—The 1sh. is printed in orange, and surcharged "Postage" in a curve, in red.



**Venezuela.**—We note the 3 bolivars *Escuelas* violet, lithographed and rouletted.

**Virgin Islands.**—The *A. J. of P.* reports the 6d. printed in lilac, and a new card, 1d. rose on buff.

**Zululand.**—Some of the current adhesives of the home series of the "Postage and Revenue" stamps have been surcharged in black, with "Zululand" in block letters. This territory is the remainder of that formerly in the possession of Dinizulu, the son of Cetewayo, that has not been taken by the Boers for the New Republic, and to this has been added the Zulu Reserve Territory, the whole having now been placed under the Gov't. of Natal.

1d. purple.                    2d. green and pink.                    3d. purple brown on yellow.  
4d. green and brown.                    6d. purple brown on red.

—*Phil. Record.*

OUR friend, Mr. Harte, in an article of his on Canadian Revenues in the *United States Philatelist*, winds up with modestly stating that it is complete to date. In this he is mistaken, he omits Tobacco stamps altogether, also in the weights and measures he does not mention the first stamp issued for that service, viz:—a red stamp of precisely the same design as the current issue, but without value. He also does not mention the \$10 gas stamp. Singularly enough neither of those stamps are catalogued by Ketcheson.

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Secretary, D. A. KING,  
P. O., Halifax, N. S.

OFFICIAL ORGAN, HALIFAX PHILATELIST.

MEETING OF MAY 24TH, 1888.

THE President being in town, a special meeting was called for this evening, but owing to its being a public holiday, and other causes there was only a small attendance. Meeting opened at 9.30. President in the chair. Members present, Craig, Smith A. E., Smith E. F., Francis, Kaye, Curry, Mathers, Larsen T. and King. Minutes of last meeting read and approved. Ex. Supt. gave in his report. The rest of the evening was taken up in looking over part of the collection of the President, which he had with him.

Meeting adjourned at 11 p. m.

D. A. KING,  
Secretary.

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WANTED.—Any two different China stamps, first issue preferred, for which I will give a U. S. used 10c. special delivery stamp, blue, and a U. S. P. O. Department officially sealed brown used. Dealers will please send me their price lists.

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All kinds of stamps and square cut envelopes, cards and wrappers exchanged for the like number sent me in European stamps, etc. Not less than 500.

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Neustettin, Germany

WANTED.—The address of every stamp collector in Canada, for insertion in the "Canadian Philatelic Directory," free, a Directory of Canadian Collectors only. Send at once and send the addresses of those who may not see this.

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Box 60, Niagara Falls, South, Ont.  
C. P. A. Member.

WANTED.—Western Phil. Vol. 1, Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12. Vol. 2, Nos. 4 and 5 Stamp. Vol. 1, Nos. 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12. Figaro No. 3, Philatelic Gazette, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 33. Q. C. P. Vol. 2, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

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