

NO DUPLICATE
EXCHANGE FAREWELL NUMBER
The Montreal Philatelist

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO
THE SCIENCE OF PHILATELY

EDITED BY

F. W. Wurtele.

PUBLISHED BY

W. James Wurtele.



WE COME FROM MONTREAL, AND GO TO ALL
PARTS OF THE WORLD:

126 St. James Street, Montreal.

UN JOURNAL PHILATÉLIQUE À QUÉBEC EN 1872

Par Yves Drolet

Introduit en Grande-Bretagne en 1840, le timbre-poste s'est généralisé dans les années 1850. Vers 1860, le nombre de timbres différents émis dans le monde a atteint le millier et une vague de « timbromanie » a déferlé sur l'Europe et l'Amérique du Nord, où les enfants se sont mis à échanger fiévreusement des timbres dans les cours d'école, un peu à l'image de la « folie Pokémon » des années 2000.

Le virus de la timbromanie a atteint Québec dès 1861. Parmi les jeunes gens qui l'ont contracté, on remarque Frederick William Wurtele né en 1855, qui a commencé à collectionner les timbres en 1865. Fils d'un négociant de Québec issu d'une famille bourgeoise allemande établie au Canada dans les années 1780, il est vite devenu un philatéliste très sérieux. C'est donc naturellement à lui que le commerce philatélique Birt, Williams & Co. a confié la rédaction d'un nouveau périodique baptisé **The Canadian Philatelist** en 1872. Trois numéros du journal ont paru de janvier à mars 1872. Chacun présentait un éditorial, une chronique des nouvelles émissions de timbres du monde entier, une rubrique des périodiques philatéliques internationaux, ainsi que des publicités de marchands de timbres canadiens et américains.

THE
CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

Grafford 1974(1)

QUEBEC, JANUARY, 1872.

NO. 1.

PHILATELY IN CANADA.

collection of postage stamps, although much despised and ridiculed, has risen higher than its earlier votaries ever did, and has now become a science equal in importance, to the kindred study of coins, and, more especially in France and Germany, stamps have been more studied in any other quarter of the globe; in United States, although there are a great number of collectors, yet but little has been done for the benefit of Philately; for there, a person has bought his stamps at a price, and stuck them into a printed album, he thinks he has gone to quite a trouble, but never thinks of examining further than to see whether they are genuine or forged.

In Canada matters are even worse, a whole body of collectors are boys; in fact, we do not know of more than half a dozen who collect stamps, and are acquainted with one philatelist. There are in this city a number of excellent collections of the old issues, but the owners have long since given up collecting and although they never put their albums, would not part with them at any price. These collections were given up when the stamp mania first began in 1861, and we have seen a collection in which contains upwards of two thousand stamps all issued before 1866, and the complete sets of Spain, Luzon, and also many old British Guiana, used in the local Grand Union Confederation etc. who has now left Quebec and probably collection, which is worth hundreds of dollars, will never be seen again. As it is given up, so in all the cities of Canada, general who when school boys were ardent collectors, now leave their albums to moulder in some garret, little dreaming how this is called a "watermark."

We would recommend, to our readers, the perusal of a series of papers in "The Stamp Collector's Magazine" called "Papers for Beginners," this would afford an immense amount of knowledge at a small cost; and at any rate any one who wishes to know anything about stamps, should subscribe to the above mentioned journal, as it is the acknowledged authority on any philatelic question.

Although the picture we have drawn of stamp collecting in "This Canada of ours" is most lamentably dark, yet a new era is dawning, we find that collectors are springing up in every town and village, and that we may not only increase the number, but also increase the knowledge of philatelists, is the sincere desire of the editor, in presenting this, the first number of the first Canadian stamp journal, for the approval of our readers, to each of whom we wish a very

"HAPPY NEW YEAR."

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

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A limited number of advertisements will be inserted in this column, at the rate of \$1 for 8 lines or less. 1 cent for every word over 8 lines.

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QUEBEC, MARCH 1872.

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THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

Published monthly by Birt, Williams & Co., Box 209, Quebec, Canada. Terms 50 cents a year, only in advance, post free. All subscriptions for the year will commence with the first No.

TO PUBLISHERS.

Parties publishing stamp journals are particularly requested to send them in exchange. Any publication we receive will be duly noticed in our columns.

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Dans l'éditorial du premier numéro, Wurtele trace un portrait assez sombre, mais néanmoins optimiste de la situation de la philatélie à Québec. Il déplore que les jeunes gens qui avaient accumulé de belles collections au début des années 1860 les aient remises en devenant adultes, tout en saluant l'arrivée d'une nouvelle génération de collectionneurs qu'il espère instruire. Dans le numéro de février, il prend position dans la querelle qui opposait par journaux interposés les philatélistes européens et américains. Pour les Européens, les timbres de modèle identique qui se distinguaient par des différences techniques comme le type de papier, le filigrane, la dentelure ou la nuance de couleur constituaient des objets de collection distincts. Les Américains étaient réfractaires à cette approche « scientifique » qui avait été formulée en France en 1862 et qu'Edward Loines Pemberton venait de faire triompher au Royaume-Uni, et lui préféraient l'approche « courante » selon laquelle seule la vignette imprimée faisait le timbre. Wurtele, qui correspondait avec Pemberton, se prononce pour une application mesurée de la définition européenne d'un timbre-poste, en recommandant aux philatélistes de distinguer les filigranes sans se soucier des erreurs de filigrane, les dentelures sans aller jusqu'à mesurer les dents, et les nuances de couleur mais seulement si elles sont le fait d'une décision de l'autorité postale; il rappelle également que le collectionneur novice n'a pas à se préoccuper de toutes ces variétés. Dans le numéro de mars, il aborde la question des timbres-télégraphe, qui font à ses yeux partie intégrante de la philatélie, et des timbres fiscaux, qu'il considère comme un complément facultatif à une collection de timbres-poste.

La parution du Canadian Philatelist a été brièvement interrompue après le troisième numéro. Des amis de Wurtele, qui venaient de créer leur propre entreprise appelée International Stamp Co., ont racheté le stock philatélique de Birt Williams et repris la publication du journal. Ils ont publié deux numéros en septembre et octobre, toujours rédigés par Wurtele, qui a édité seul les deux derniers numéros parus en décembre et en janvier 1873. Dans le premier éditorial de la nouvelle série, Wurtele traite de la question des entiers postaux, à savoir les enveloppes ou cartes postales vendues préaffranchies avec une vignette préimprimée, qu'il recommande de collectionner tels quels au lieu de suivre l'usage américain consistant à découper la vignette comme s'il s'agissait d'un timbre. Faisant ensuite le point sur les progrès de la philatélie au Canada, il se réjouit que cette activité fasse de plus en plus d'adeptes chez les adultes, en se félicitant que son périodique ait contribué à la populariser. Dans les trois derniers numéros, l'éditorial est remplacé par un article de Wurtele sur les timbres locaux du monde entier, qui sont recensés et décrits dans le plus grand détail.

D'un numéro à l'autre, le Canadian Philatelist voyait sa circulation s'étendre au Canada et à l'étranger, et attirait de plus en plus d'annonces de marchands de timbres canadiens, américains et même britanniques. Pourtant, le journal a cessé de

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Cashmere black for 10 cents used.
Finland set of 4 for 15 cents used.

New Brunswick 10c. for 4 cents new.
South African Republic 1d. for 6 cents used.

Turkey 2 piastres red for 8 cents used.
Alasice, 1-2s. for 2 cents new.

Belgium, 1870, 10c. for 1 cent used.
" 20c. for 2 cents used.

Confederate States, 2c. for 5 cents new.
" 10s. for 2 cents used.

St. Thomas 3c. for 5 cents used.
Hungary newspaper for 2 cents new.

Sanwich Islands 1c. for 5 cents used.

French Telegraph stamps 50c. and 2 fr. 6 cents each.

All others equally cheap.

We have just purchased a large collection of rare foreign stamps, will give a list of them in our next number.

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paraître en 1873, apparemment parce que Wurtele n'avait plus assez de temps à y consacrer. Le jeune éditeur s'était taillé une réputation telle que les pionniers de la philatélie américaine Charles Henry Coster et John Kerr Tiffany lui ont proposé de s'établir à New York pour publier un journal qui diffuserait les principes de la philatélie européenne aux États-Unis. Il a toutefois décliné l'offre et préféré rester au Canada. En 1880, les propriétaires de l'International Stamp Co. lui ont cédé l'entreprise. Devenu comptable à Montréal et très pris par sa profession, Wurtele a cependant mis la société en veilleuse et rangé sa collection de 3 000 timbres, imitant en cela le comportement qu'il avait déploré chez ses devanciers.

Wurtele est revenu à la philatélie en 1893, à titre de président fondateur du nouveau Montreal Stamp Collectors' Club. Deux ans plus tard, il a ressuscité l'International Stamp Co. dont il a confié l'administration courante à son fils James. De 1899 à 1902, il a été rédacteur en chef du Montreal Philatelist, périodique dans lequel il a formulé une véritable philosophie de la philatélie, présentée comme une école de fraternité humaine. Président de la Canadian Philatelic Society de 1902 à 1903, il a quitté le commerce des timbres et la scène philatélique en 1905 et est décédé à Montréal en 1924.

Le souvenir de Frederick William Wurtele a été quelque peu éclipsé par celui de son lointain cousin Ernest Frederick Wurtele, président de la Canadian Philatelic Association de 1892 à 1897 et fondateur du Quebec Philatelic Club en 1892. Pourtant, à deux reprises, Frederick William a doté le Québec de journaux philatéliques de réputation internationale en tout point comparables à ce qui se faisait de mieux en Europe et aux États-Unis. À ce titre, il mérite d'être inscrit au panthéon des pionniers de la philatélie.



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Crawford 1974

THE

Canadian Philatelist

An Illustrated Monthly

MAGAZINE.

Devoted to Stamp Collecting.

Vol. I
QUEBEC, SEPTEMBER 1, 1872.
No. 1.

On the Collection of Envelopes.

Of late the discussion whether whole or cut envelopes should be collected has been revived and we wish to make a few remarks on the subject. Previous to the first appearance of post-cards, we used to preserve cut envelopes alone, in our own collection, but now that it is seemingly necessary to have a separate book for post-cards (for who would be guilty of the absurdity of cutting them out) we insert the envelopes entire, with the cards. Of course we have other reasons for doing so, besides that of convenience, but with many collectors this would go a great way and we therefore mention it.

Now let us look at the arguments used by the upholders of the different systems, after which we will give our opinions on them; first those of the entire envelope collectors. They say, in support of their style, that the whole envelope is what is issued by the post-office, and that as when the impressed stamp is cut out, it has no postal value, it is not deserving of collection. That it is impossible to distinguish between reprints and originals when the envelope is cut up, and that many envelopes have interesting watermarks or flap ornaments, which are

quite as worthy of preservation as the stamps themselves.

The collectors of cut envelopes have plenty to say in support of their ideas. The space whole envelopes take up; the impossibility of obtaining all the obsolete envelopes entire, except at ruinous prices, and even then difficult to procure; the ugliness of a wide expanse of paper, etc.

All these are arguments that have been employed by writers on the subject, and the strongest one in favor of entire envelopes is, we think, the first, for the principle thing to be looked at, when selecting a stamp for one's album, is that it be perfect, as issued by the post office; who would think of clipping off the margin close to the impression; of leaving octagonal or round stamps without any border? But leaving this unanswered let us proceed to examine the other reasons given by either side. That a whole envelope takes up a great deal of room is certainly true, but that it is ugly is not, for frequently it is set off by an elaborate watermark, or a printed inscription, both of which are quite interesting to any one who studies the minutiae of stamps. As to occupying too much space; on the same ground, all varieties would be rejected and

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THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST.

Newly Issued Stamps.

DENMARK.—This country has issued stamped wrappers for newspapers; they bear the 2sk stamp, current type, printed in blue.

CASHMERE.—The *Philatelial Journal* for June last gave an illustration of a new circular stamp for Cashmere, its colour is green, but its value is unknown.

GERMAN EMPIRE.—The set issued Jan. 1st, has seen but short service, as it is now supplanted by a new set having the Imperial Eagle differently engraved. The outside border, and the colors are the same as heretofore.

FRANCE.—The 2, 4 and 5 centimes have been issued perforated and engraved. The figures of value in the 5c. have been enlarged.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The three half pence envelope has been emitted; it is printed only to order, and cannot be purchased at any of the post offices. The design is shield-shaped, and the color pale rose-pink.

HOLLAND.—The new set consists of the following:—

5 cent blue.
10 cent carmine.
15 cent brown.
20 cent green.
25 cent violet.
50 cent chamois.
2 gulden 50 cent, blue and rose.

RUSSIAN LOCALS.—New designs are appearing fast and furious every month. We annex an engraving of one of the best of them, from the district of *Hermann*. The latest arrivals are—*Elizavetgrad*, 5 kop. green; *Pereislaw*, 3 kop. blue; *Pawlograd*, 5 kop. blue.

C. CALIFORNIA LOCALS.—Mr. Pemberton continues making discoveries, in these his

we append an engraving of one of his latest. It will be seen that it is quite a respectable appearance for a local.

UNITED STATES.—We are indebted to Mr. C. H. Coster, for the following news from the *New York Herald*. By this it will be seen that the American post-cards not to be issued for almost another year.

"The Attorney General gave a full opinion to day to the Postmaster General, deciding that the Post Office Department cannot make a contract for the manus-

script of the post-cards."

CANADA.—The 6d. stamp on laid paper