

The Quaker City Philatelist.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIC SOCIETY AND SECTION PHILADELPHIA
INTERNATIONALER PHILATELISTEN VEREIN.

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AUGUST, 1890.

No. 8.

AMERICAN PHILATELIC CONVENTION.

NEW YORK RULES THE ROOST.

THE Fifth Annual Convention was called to order in the Lincoln Club Rooms, Monday, August 4, 1890. New York feeling sure they could not command enough votes to change the Constitution, thereby enabling the illegal election to become a certainty, delayed announcing the vote. Monday evening the upholders of the Constitution forced the Trustees to announce the vote cast with the following results:

President—Tiffany, 410; Van Derlip, 24; scattering, 5.

Vice-President—Corwin, 248; Wolsieffer, 161; scattering, 30.

Secretary—Walton, 422; scattering, 17.

Treasurer—Gregory, 434; scattering, 5.

International Secretary—Rechert, 337; Clotz, 64; Sellschopp, 33; scattering, 5.

When the result of the election was announced, there was a long debate over the question of who would be installed in the office. The President at last gave it as his opinion that if the laws of the Association relating to the selection of officers from different States were changed before the men were installed (Sept. 1), then the parties who are mentioned above would take the offices, but if the Association did not change the laws on that point, then a new election would be called for the office of Vice-President.

It was moved by a New Yorker and seconded by another, that Article iv, Section 2, be amended so that the officers elected—more especially the Vice-President—could have his disqualifications removed and thereby be enabled to take his seat. On a vote being taken the usurpers could not command a two-thirds vote, owing to the stand taken by Messrs. C. H. Mekeel, with his 61 proxies; W. C. Stone, 21 proxies; W. A. MacCalla, 30 proxies, and Mr. Doebelin, 7 proxies, and some scattering votes. Notably among them was Mr. Watson, of New York, a firm believer in right and justice. From that time until Thursday morning nothing of any importance was done, the delay being caused by the New York members holding back until they could secure the necessary proxies from absent members and which they finally secured. It was common talk that they expended nearly \$50 writing for proxies.

We give a copy of this misleading letter sent to near-by resident members of the American Philatelic Association.

“AMERICAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION.

“*Dear Sir*.—At the Convention of the American Philatelic Association, at present in session, an organized attempt is being made to nullify the vote recently taken for officers of the Association, and to ferment factional and sectional discord. A large majority of the members have shown that they desired a change in the Constitution in order that our officers might be selected according to fitness, not according to locality, but as a two-thirds vote is necessary, we still lack a few in order to carry what we consider necessary to the welfare of the Association.

“If you are in sympathy with our aims, please sign the enclosed proxy and return to me immediately.

"Should you prefer to be represented by Mr. C. B. Corwin, you may strike out my name and substitute that of Mr. Corwin.

“(Signed) HENRY L. CALMAN, *A. P. A. No. 36.*”

No attempt was made to ferment sectional discord except by those proposing the illegal ticket.

To the victors belong the spoils—when they were through there was not even a crumb left for the outsiders. Members must look to the following gentlemen, if they desire an explanation, of why all these illegal acts were given the seal of approval.

C. B. CORWIN, with 102 votes.

J. W. SCOTT, with 99 “

E. B. STERLING, with 58 “

H. L. CALMAN, with 37 “

It was then moved by one of the owners of the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, **Mr. C. B. CORWIN**, that the *Metropolitan Philatelist* be declared the official journal of the Association, which of course they carried. Mr. Sterling not being present, his proxies were voted by Mr. Corwin. Their plea was that the *American Philatelist* was too expensive.

Members can figure this out for themselves.

The average cost per month, to the Association, for publishing the *American Philatelist* was about \$30 for an average journal of 31 pages. The *Metropolitan Philatelist* will receive 50 cents per annum for every member in the Association, and as our Association now numbers 684 and is increasing, the economy of this act can readily be seen. To most minds the economy appears to affect only the pockets of the owners of the *Metropolitan Philatelist*.

A Committee was appointed to draw up the new Constitution under the Incorporation Act and submit it to the members. It is then to be hoped that members will study it well and decide for themselves if they will *approve of the manner in which their proxy-holders cast their votes*.

The banquet given by the resident members at the Manhattan Beach Hotel was a grand success. The speeches were interesting and to the point. It was the unanimous opinion of the visitors that the social success of the Convention was an assured fact.

CANADIAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION CONVENTION NOTES.

Among those present at the Canadian Philatelic Association meeting in Montreal were Messrs. Ketcheson, H. L. Hart, J. R. Hooper, Beamish (Philadelphia), McRae, Dr. Cameron, of Hartford; Mr. Gibb, of the London, Eng., Philatelic Society; Messrs. Lionais, Labelle, Sicotte, J. S. Robertson, Chapman, Reynolds Brothers, Schultze, Smith, Stanton, R. A. B. Harte, and a number of others.

The Chalmers craze got its final quietus. Mr. Hooper brought in a motion, stating that nothing had occurred to warrant a change of opinion or an expression from the Canadian Philatelic Association, believing that the London Society's decision in favor of Pearson Hill was sufficient to dispel any doubts heretofore existing.

Belleville has the next Convention, fourth week in August, 1891.

The Library is flourishing with over two thousand pieces on hand.

The boys had a good time and the Montreal Philatelic Society did things up in good style.

The Canadian Philatelic Association will be affiliated with the Dresden for exchange purposes, and accounts will be settled quarterly. Some new rules were fixed to make the Exchange Department *the best* of any at present in existence.

More B. N. A. stamps were shown at Montreal than were ever seen together before. Some of them could not be duplicated. Most of the Canadians have a specialty of Great Britain and her colonies, British North America, or Canada only.

Mr. Hooper had the majority of proxies.

The Canadian Philatelic Association members are all going to be patrons of THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST since Beamish had his talk.

There was a large number of good stamps at the Convention, which included the best Canadian collections.

Mr. Chapman had the rare B. N. A. shillings, very fine New Zealand, Victoria, New South Wales and Tasmania early issues, three Canada 6d. perforated (one unused), etc.

Mr. Gibbs' (London, Eng., Philatelic Society) collection is valued at \$15,000. He bought a number of B. N. A. rarities at the sale.

Dr. Cameron had a grand collection, with many fine rarities. He bought over \$150 worth at the auction.

Mr. McRae showed a nice collection of scarce stamps, including the early Canadas. He had a fine lot of United States and Canada proofs.

Mr. Ketcheson had over \$2000 worth of stamps, including all the rarest Canadas, with the 12d. black.

Mr. Robertson had both N. B. and N. S. shillings and 2 shilling Newfoundland vermilion; two 6d. Canada perforated, unused, grand specimens; 7½d. provisionals of N. B. and N. S., four varieties of combination; 10c. Canada envelope, *used*, on white paper, *entire*; provisional, 3d. (split 6d.), N. B. and N. S.; 5c. (10c. split), on *entire* covers, and split 5c., besides a number of other good stamps.

Mr. Hart (Halifax) had N. B. and N. S. shillings, a half N. S. shilling and a half 3d., making a 7½d., and ¼ shil. N. B. used as 3d. rate; also a magnificent lot of splits.

Mr. Hooper (Ottawa) exhibited a genuine Connel, two Nova Scotia shillings (one used and the other unused), one N. B. shilling on the *entire* envelope (a beautiful specimen), an avalanche of Newfoundland vermilions, with unique splits of the same country, for one of which he was offered \$100, being composed of no less than 3 split provisionals on the one *entire* original cover; N. S. bill stamps complete, including the rare \$3 unused and the unperforated error; also some Mauritius *post-paid*; Sydney views; Canada 6d. perforated; Natal 1d., 3d., 9d. embossed first issue; pairs, triplets and quadruplets of all the pence issues of N. B. and N. S.; splits and provisionals of P. E. I., N. B., N. S. and Canada; five Mulreadys. This collection, numbering over 22,500 pieces, will be sold by auction this coming winter in New York, the owner having decided to go into specialism.

CHANGE FOR THE MILLION STAMP LUNATICS.

THERE is an asylum for orphan girls in Locle, Switzerland, which finds a market for all the old postage stamps sent to it. Nearly everybody far and near acquainted with the fact sends to the asylum his or her second-hand stamps, and, for the information of those who are ignorant, a circular is issued calling for the contribution of stamps and also setting forth the uses to which they are applied. Rare stamps, of course, go to dealers or collectors, while the commoner sorts are applied to decorative purposes, being used to ornament screens, shades, etc., and even, so says the circular, to paper rooms. The circular does not say how the American green stamp of the past can be used for decoration. Over 1,000,000 of stamps were received by the institution from all over the world in 1888, and a considerably larger number last year. The stamps are assorted by the children and put up in packages of 50 or 100 each. Those collected in 1888 were sold for 1200 francs, or \$240, and those of last year for \$260. This may not seem much to Americans, but money goes further in Switzerland than here.

[The above is now going the round of the press, and no doubt many will collect and send stamps to help, what? More than likely some enterprising dealer expects to get a stock for nothing. The asylum we are sure will not reap the benefit and are inclined to doubt if there is such an asylum.—ED. Q. C. P.]

The Quaker City Philatelist.

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Board of Managers :

**H. McALLISTER, W. D. CORFIELD,
W. A. MacCALLA.**

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AN OPEN LETTER.

TWO things occurred at the late Convention of vital importance in their bearing upon the interests of the members of the American Philatelic Association, and which I as a member feel called upon to protest against. That members well respected should make an attempt to abolish our official organ, *The American Philatelist*, and have declared elected a gentleman who before this action had our most profound respect, seems to be almost incredible, and that this should be done without any previous notice to the proxies which were held and used for this purpose could have hardly been believed. The action of Messrs. Corwin and Scott in using their proxies without any previous notice to the gentlemen whose proxies they held, of their intention in this matter, seems to call forth from every member whose proxy was so basely used and all interested in the welfare of the Association, a vigorous protest. An analysis of the whole matter may be found in a few cold facts and figures. Mr. C. B. Corwin was declared elected by the President, having received 248 votes, a little over one-third of our total membership. Mr. Joseph Rechert was also declared elected. Our Constitution provides, to quote it verbally, "officers shall be chosen from different States." Here was a dilemma. Two officers, Messrs. Corwin and Rechert, were elected from the same State, and that they both had a right to run, and even get elected, there was no question. But were they both eligible according to the Constitution? Certainly not; and legally both could not take their seats, and the proper thing to have been done, was to declare a new election. But Mr. C. B. Corwin well knew that if this was allowed he would be snowed under, for with all his hard-earned efforts his total vote was only about one-third of our membership. No, that wouldn't do; they must change the Constitution and then get the President to declare Mr. Corwin elected, and with the aid of Messrs. Scott and Calman the Constitution was changed, and the President announced Mr.

Corwin elected. But here comes the rub; for example, a President of the United States is elected to-day; the Constitution of the United States provides, that to be eligible a man must be born in this country. Suppose, after the election, it was discovered that the gentleman who had been elected President was an alien, is any one rash enough to believe that Congress would or could change the Constitution in order that the gentleman elected might take his seat; if they did, revolution would be the only result, and no man can arrive at any other conclusion but that a new election would be ordered for this office.

It will be readily understood, that proxies are placed in members' hands to be honestly dealt with and not to be subverted to the personal interests of any one man, but are to be used for the good of the Association in a conscientious way, and it must be admitted that not one-half of the proxies held by these gentlemen would have either voted to abolish *The American Philatelist* or to change the Constitution in order to see Mr. Corwin Vice-President; if they did, why were only 248 votes cast for Mr. Corwin and 307 proxies cast to enable him to take his seat? If a member sends a proxy and writes at the top a vote for an entirely different person for Vice-President than Mr. Corwin, does he wish it used to accomplish the election of Mr. Corwin? It does not look like it, and if Mr. Corwin wants to be Vice-President of the Association, let him be elected in a fair, square and honorable way; let the Constitution be changed by the members and not by proxy; let Mr. Corwin be nominated, and I for one will support him, but not so long as I consider him illegally holding the position which the President has declared him, against all precedent, entitled to.

It was shown at the Convention that the cost of *The American Philatelist* was about \$33 per month, with additional privilege to all the officers, free of cost, of advertising in the columns. In place of this, it is proposed to substitute a paper called the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, at a cost of fifty cents per member, which, at the present membership—684—would be \$342 per year, or a fraction over \$28 per month. But it must be taken into consideration that, as the membership increases, so will the cost of this apparently cheap journal to our Association increase. If our membership should increase to 1200 they will get \$50 per month or \$600 per year, and no advertising for our various officers, unless we pay for it—only the publishing of our Official Reports. *The American Philatelist*, it is true, has failed in its appearance simply for lack of support from the members, and you have only to put your shoulders to the wheel and make it as much of a success as it ever was; as to cost, the above showing seems to be a good argument why our journal should still live, and be properly supported, and be what it should be with proper management, the journal of the world.

For the gentlemen whom I have spoken about, I have the highest regard, but I lay aside all personal considerations in endeavoring to do what I consider best for the Association, and I, as a member, and not as an officer, protest against the action taken at the late Convention, in regard, first, to the abolishing of the Official Journal, *The American Philatelist*, and, secondly, appeal from the decision of the President, in which he depended upon *ex-post-facto* legislation, and laying aside all precedent, decided Mr. C. B. Corwin eligible for the office of Vice-President. I call on all the members of the Association, who have the interests of the American Philatelic Association at heart, to second my appeal.

W. A. MACCALLA.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION of the American Philatelic Association, held in New York city, this month, has been operated by a New York clique for their own profit and interest by the use of proxies which were not intended to be used in this manner by their makers.

On the plea of expenses the following proxy-holders, C. B. Corwin, J. W. Scott, H. C. Calman and E. B. Sterling, determined to abandon the publication of *The American Philatelist*, by the Association, and make *The Metropolitan Philatelist* of New York the official organ, paying the owners of *The Metropolitan Philatelist* (Mr. C. B. Corwin and others) fifty cents for each member of the Association, and receiving in return free circulation to each member, and the monthly publication of the reports of the various officers.

The Association now numbers 684 members, and without allowing for the annual increase (which is considerable), this would make the Association pay \$342 per year, while its own publication has cost, in excess of all receipts, for the past year about \$360, and when it is remembered that now the purchasing agents receive free advertising, under the new arrangement they would be obliged to pay for this privilege.

Further than this it should be remembered, that the Association has a standing offer from THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST to print all its official matter free, supply each member of the Association one copy each month free, and beside to pay the Association \$25 per year for the privilege of being the official journal.

We would by far prefer that the Association should publish its own journal in any one of the large cities, as we believe it to be by far the best and cheapest plan, and we call for the immediate and urgent protest of every member of the Association against this change.

MR. C. B. CORWIN, of New York, has our full support so long as he proceeds by fair and honorable measures for the Vice-Presidency, but we do not consider the use of his proxies to declare himself elected and to change the Constitution for this special purpose without notice to his proxies, a fair or honorable proceeding by any means, and we challenge him to submit the matter to a vote of each member of the Association.

Mr. Corwin may also explain (if he can) how it was that while he could only secure 260 votes for the Vice-Presidency, that there were over 300 proxies at the Convention which were voted for him every time.

It looks to us that when the members had the chance a little over one-third voted for Mr. Corwin, but when he and his clique had 300 and more proxies, who did not know who they were voting for—they were voted like sheep and regardless of the law of usage for Mr. C. B. Corwin every time.

Do you want *The American Philatelist* abolished? If not, send us a protest, or better yet, send it to President Tiffany and urge that a vote be taken by the members,

How MANY American Philatelic Association members would have entrusted their proxies to Messrs. J. W. Scott, C. B. Corwin, H. L. Calman and E. B. Sterling, if they had known that their proxies were to be used to aid the private enterprise of some of these gentlemen. This is just what you did, gentlemen.

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION :

The Convention of the American Philatelic Association lately held, abolished the *American Philatelist*, and accepted an offer from the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, to publish the Officers' Reports and other official documents, for fifty cents per member, amounting to about \$300 at the present membership, and increasing at the rate of \$50 for each additional 100 members.

The undersigned have heard much dissatisfaction expressed with this action of the Convention, on the ground that with a Literary Board of five members, as provided by the Constitution, the *American Philatelist* could be carried on at not much, if any more, expense than the above sum; that so large and important a Society as the American

Philatelic Association should not give up their own independent journal, which has been so successfully published for the last four years, without better reason than the possible saving of a few dollars—that this would be considered a retrograde step by the philatelic world and that there would almost certainly be a considerable falling off in membership, as a large number of our members already receive the *Metropolitan Philatelist*.

(Signed),	HENRY CLOTZ,	CHARLES MUECKE,	R. WUESTHOFF,
	JULIUS ADENAW,	M. C. BERLEPSCH,	ALVAH DAIVSON,
	R. R. BOGERT,	HENRY GREMMEL,	H. E. DEATS,
	C. WITT,	J. V. B. VREELAND,	GEO. H. RICHMOND.

New York, August 22, 1890.

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