

# The Quaker City Philatelist.

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

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No. 11.

## LOST—A VINDICATION.

Some of our readers have knowledge of the various attempts of Mr. C. B. Corwin to cast obliquely on other reputable members of the A. P. A. For the benefit of those not knowing of these schemes, we give a *resume* of them. Mr. Corwin brought charges against Mr. Bogert before the Trustees of the A. P. A. of conduct unbecoming a gentleman, and also before the National Society.

The following is a copy of a postal card he sent the members of the National Society:

DEAR SIR:—I will take it as a personal favor if you will be present at the next meeting of the National Philatelic Society, at 44 West Fourteenth street, New York, Tuesday, November 11, at 7.30 P. M., to assist me in the vindication of my character, so foully aspersed by R. R. Bogert in the *Record and Review* for October.

Yours very truly,

[Signed] CHARLES B. CORWIN,

President.

New York, November 7, 1890.

Somehow or other the members did not give Mr. Corwin the vindication he desired. Why was it?

He had previously informed Mr. Bogert that the other managers of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* would ask that Bogert be removed from the Board. At the meeting of the National, as neither Mr. Corwin nor his friends presented their request for the removal of Mr. Bogert, and as it appeared that Mr. Corwin was only talking for the effect it might cause on the A. P. A., Mr. Bogert then offered a motion that he (Bogert) be dropped from the Board of Managers of the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, which was voted down—22 to 0.

The Society then censured the Board of Managers for allowing the scurrilous abuse the November number of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* contained against several prominent A. P. A. members. All of these articles were by the editor, "C. B. C." Mr. Corwin obtained his vindication with a vengeance. We believe we voice the sentiment of all honorable members when we state that we hope Mr. Corwin will either keep quiet or *resign*.

## HALT!

Will the members of the A. P. A. unite with me in demanding that our Proxy-Elected Vice-President, in his capacity as Editor-Vice-President and General Manager of the A. P. A., stop his present attack against a few of the honorable men that have the courage of their convictions? We all know that to oppose him causes a shower of abuse and sarcasm to be vented on his opposers.

He is doing incalculable harm to the A. P. A. Nine-tenths of the members I believe will agree with me in this. In many instances I know that his abuse is wrong, but to deny it only causes him to break out in a fresh place.

An officer of any society should be very careful how he uses his public position to condemn—from his point of view—the acts of other members. Whatever is said in furtherance of a personal grudge may be taken as an official utterance.

The Editor-Vice-President's attack on Mr. Bogert needs no defense. Mr. Bogert's reputation and integrity cannot be assailed by him. The attack on the Secretary is to vent a personal feeling, caused by the Secretary not allowing himself to be used as a cat's-paw of the Editor-Vice-President. All of the Secretary's friends have advised him not to explain any of his acts to the Editor-Vice-President—and by the way most of the Secretary's acts have been by the official direction or assent of the President and by precedent.

I believe the members should rise in their might and crush the Editor-Vice-President, teaching him a lesson that he would never forget. Teach him that the A. P. A. is composed of gentlemen, and that in criticising their actions gentlemanliness should always prevail.

I should be pleased to hear from all of my fellow-members. If the entire facts of his attack on the Secretary in the October number of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* (paragraph 8) were known to members the utmost repugnance would be felt by the members for the author of the attack. A few know all the facts, possibly all may have to be told of them.

W. A. MACCALLA, *A. P. A.* 113.

PHILADELPHIA, November 18, 1890.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE QUAKER CITY PHILATELIST:

*Gentlemen*:—It is with some reluctance that I take up my pen to answer to your valued favor offering me the use of your journal in defense of my position in regard to the charges made against me by the editor or editors of the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, the former official journal of the American Philatelic Association by proxy.

It is evident to the writer that the charges are the opinions of but one man, and I deem them hardly worth an answer, considering the fact that the gentleman who evidently penned them seems to have only one idea as regards the Association, and that is to vigorously and strenuously attack any one who might deem it proper to oppose any plans he may have to propose, which are not always for the good of the Association, and his last effort has certainly been frowned upon unmercifully by the members of the American Philatelic Association. Probably no member of the Association would have ever seen such garbled statements as to facts published in the November *Metropolitan Philatelist* had the Secretary been willing to coincide with the views of the proxy-elected Vice-President, but not deeming it for the good of our Association to abolish the most integral part of its structure, *id est*, the *American Philatelist*, the Secretary deemed it his duty to protest at least against the manner in which the abolishment of our journal was carried out, and the emphatic vote in favor of continuing our journal proves to me conclusively that my position assumed at the time of the Convention and since was far from wrong, and voiced the sentiments of eleven-twelfths of our members. If the attack had not been made upon me so openly I would probably not have deemed it of sufficient importance to require an answer, but as there are always two sides to a question, should the threats to impeach the Secretary be carried out, the members of the Association will find the writer fully able to defend himself, and no doubt to the entire satisfaction of the members of our Association. I trust, however, that the articles written to my prejudice in the last number of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* will be the last that the Association will ever hear in regard to any complaints, as to its officers, and that now that the matter of our journal has been settled that the pipe of peace may be smoked, all forgiven and every one work hard to regain the membership which has been lost through the recent flurry and excitement in our ranks.

MILLARD F. WALTON.

It is remarkable that with all its troubles and difficulties, the financial condition of the A. P. A. has never been better than it is at present, and had Mr. Corwin and his crowd permitted the *A. P.* to go on it would have been an easy matter to reduce the dues at the next Convention. This condition of affairs is largely due to the efficient work of our Secretary, to whom too much credit cannot be given.

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MR. MILLARD F. WALTON, the Secretary of the American Philatelic Association, having been nominated by us for the position, we feel it our duty to give him the use of the columns of this paper for his defense against the unscrupulous attack of the editors of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* in their November number. In answer to our questions as to whether he is guilty or not of the charges submitted against him, we have obtained the following answers, which are published by his permission. Each charge is specified with the answers thereto, and we trust that every member of the Association will give the charges and answers an impartial judgment.

He has not complied with Article V, Sec. 3, of the Constitution, which provides that "He shall collect all dues from members and all other moneys due the Association, and pay same over to the Treasurer each week."

The Secretary informs us that he has not remitted each week as provided by the Constitution simply because at times there was no money to remit, and always waited in his remittances to the Treasurer until such times as the money on hand was sufficient to justify him in making a remittance and warranted him in making a deposit in bank.

*And we think a matter like this should be regulated by the good sense and discretion of the Secretary.*

He has willfully neglected his duties in refusing to sign warrants, as provided by the Constitution, Article V, Secs. 1 and 3, when so directed by the President, thereby arrogating to himself the privileges and duties of President and Treasurer in addition to those of his own office, which he so illy performs.

He was not directed by the President to sign the warrant for bill of Trustees for printing the August number of the *American Philatelist*, but was only *advised*, and being threatened with suit he asked the protection of the Trustees in the matter and received in reply a letter stating that *if he did not sign the warrant he would be impeached*, but immediately upon being informed that the suit against certain members for the amount of the old bill of the Literary Board had been withdrawn, and being assured that he would not be held responsible for signing the warrant, immediately signed the warrant and sent it to the President.

*In regard to this charge the editors would say that the peculiar position in which the Secretary was placed in regard to this warrant was an unenviable one, and being only advised and not directed by the President to sign said warrant, he did what probably any one of us would have done under the circumstances, and we cannot see where any blame should attach to him in this matter.* And further the Secretary states that the President directed him some time previous that the old bill of the Literary Board should be

settled as soon as the funds in the treasury warranted the drawing of a warrant for the same.

As to arrogating to himself the duties of President and Treasurer, this is emphatically denied and is simply a malicious statement, as the Secretary has always considered that the duties of his own office were practically all he could attend to properly.

His remarks in open convention last August were positively insulting to the Chair in a number of instances, and he has shown no repentance therefor.

In regard to the charge that the Secretary was called to order at the Convention, we know of our knowledge and witnessed in open Convention the Secretary apologize to the President for any remarks that he might have made disrespectfully to the Chair, and the President accepted the apology cheerfully. The Secretary not being aware that the previous question had been called for, being busy writing at his desk at the time, begged leave to speak upon the question then before the meeting, but the President refused to allow him to speak. Naturally the Secretary felt aggrieved, not knowing that the previous question had been called for, and resented the treatment, but the apology in open Convention certainly covered up all shortcomings in that respect, as the whole matter was a misapprehension and the Secretary apologized, as any gentleman would do, and the President seemed satisfied, and has since assured him privately to that effect. Probably the disrespect was more appropriate to our proxy-elected Vice-President and not to the distinguished gentleman who occupied the Chair.

During the time that has elapsed since the convention he has lost no opportunity to circulate reports concerning A. P. A. matters among A. P. A. members, which were detrimental to the interests of the Association.

This, like the other charges, is the imagination of a diseased brain.

He is so ignorant of matters pertaining to his office that he has, upon several occasions, usurped the functions of the President and has been decidedly called to order therefor.

Instead of being a help in the work of the Official Board, he has been a hindrance and has been an eyesore to the other members thereof, as witness his illegal acceptance of resignations received since September 1, 1890.

He has not at any time usurped the functions of the *President*, and as to being an eyesore to the other members of the Board, probably this is Mr. C. B. Corwin's self-complaint, simply because he cannot use the Secretary for his pet purposes, he having a will of his own, and the charge is false in every particular.

The matter of receiving resignations was conferred upon the Secretary years ago, and has never been rescinded. See Circular No. 2, dated November, 1886, issued by Mr. S. B. Bradt, our former Secretary, and that he should accept resignations of members liable for dues payable in advance on the 1st of September is easily explained. It has always been the custom to accept the resignations of all members that wished to resign rather than to drop them from the roll of membership, thus allowing members to leave the Association in an honorable way, because if the resignations so tendered were not accepted, it would have the tendency, if the members so resigning were *dropped*, to cause them to leave the Association for good and not apply for reinstatement, and the strict letter of the law must always be interpreted by sound reasoning, and this principle always has and does hold good yet in our Association, and acting on this principle, several resignations were accepted, but upon being informed by the Treasurer that suit had been brought against him, the Treasurer *et al.*, he immediately notified the members whose resignations had been accepted since September 1, 1890, that their resignations could not be accepted. This was perfectly proper, as all who were members after September 1, 1890, were equally liable for the debts of the Association, and the Secretary had to draw the lines tight on this occasion, though at ordinary times the resignations would have been accepted without any comment. And it is our opinion that the first and last actions were perfectly proper and justified under the circumstances.

The publishing of the "Delinquent List" is the duty of the Secretary and needs no comment from us.

He attempted, at the late election, to ring in the votes of his wife and two children, one an infant of less than one year of age, but as he signed all the names himself the votes were very properly thrown out by the Trustees. He also attempted to work in the proxy of said infant son at the late convention, but the Committee on Credentials promptly threw that out also, and, although he protested against this righteous decision, and appealed therefrom, the Convention very decidedly sustained the decision of the Committee.

The Secretary acknowledges the charge that he did sign the names of his wife and two children to the *ballots*, but did so in their presence and under a misapprehension. The signing of the name of his infant son was also done under a misapprehension, but the fact that he appealed from the righteous decision of the Committee on Credentials is *false*. The protest was entered by the gentleman who held the proxy and not by Mr. Walton.

His managership of the Philadelphia Branch of the Exchange Department of the National Philatelic Society plainly showed a vast laxness (to say the least) in business matters entrusted to his care; one month after claiming to have forwarded a N. P. S. circuit, valued at \$700, he was unable to say to whom he had sent it, and whether by ordinary post, registered post or express; neither could he produce a receipt of any sort for this package, *which has never turned up*.

This is the most infamous charge of the lot. That any one should be unfortunate, needs our pity and not our condemnation, and should not have been dragged at all before the members, and we can only see spitework and maliciousness back of this. Mr. Walton has settled this matter personally.

And we can see no reason in this charge except the remark *shows his lax business principles*. The gentleman who makes this remark probably forgets the fact that his business principles were so good that he had to write to the Manager of the Philadelphia Branch as to who was next on the circuit, a fact that Mr. Corwin should have kept a record of himself, and has admitted to Mr. Walton that when he received a circuit he always took what he wanted and waited until the circuit had been returned to him before settling his own personal account with the parties who owned the stamps, and is therefore unable to say, at the present time, on account of his (Mr. Corwin's) lax business principles, how much he took personally from the circuit in question.

We think that these *windictive* charges are sufficiently answered and that the unbiased members of the Association will decide with us that these matters have only been brought up to show personal spite, and not for any interest which Mr. Corwin has in the American Philatelic Association, because if it were so he would resign from the position in which the majority of our members do not want him and make room for a better man.

It now devolves on Mr. Corwin either to prove his charges before the Board of Trustees of the A. P. A., or to withdraw his statements and step down and out of the Association. To an honorable man this would be the only course open. We assume Mr. Corwin is an honorable man and will do one or the other.

SITTING in Durbin & Hanes' store the other day, we had the pleasure of seeing the printers' proof of their new catalogue, which is nearly done, and will be issued shortly. We found many new improvements and additions—the increase in size is very noticeable. One of the new additions consists of several pages of *fac similes* of watermarks. As now collectors are looking after watermarks, it will be of great help to them. While there we were surprised at the local demand for their packets and sets. Mr. Hanes says that the mail demand has doubled, showing that new collectors are increasing all the time. A day could be spent interestingly studying the various types of customers, from the small boy with a few cents to invest to the old man hunting after rarities and oddities, willing to spend dollars.

WHAT papers have supported Mr. Corwin in his outrageous attacks? We can only think of one paper upholding him—the *Metropolitan Philatelist*—in which all commendatory remarks are signed "C. B. C." It must be a poor cause that has no followers.

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