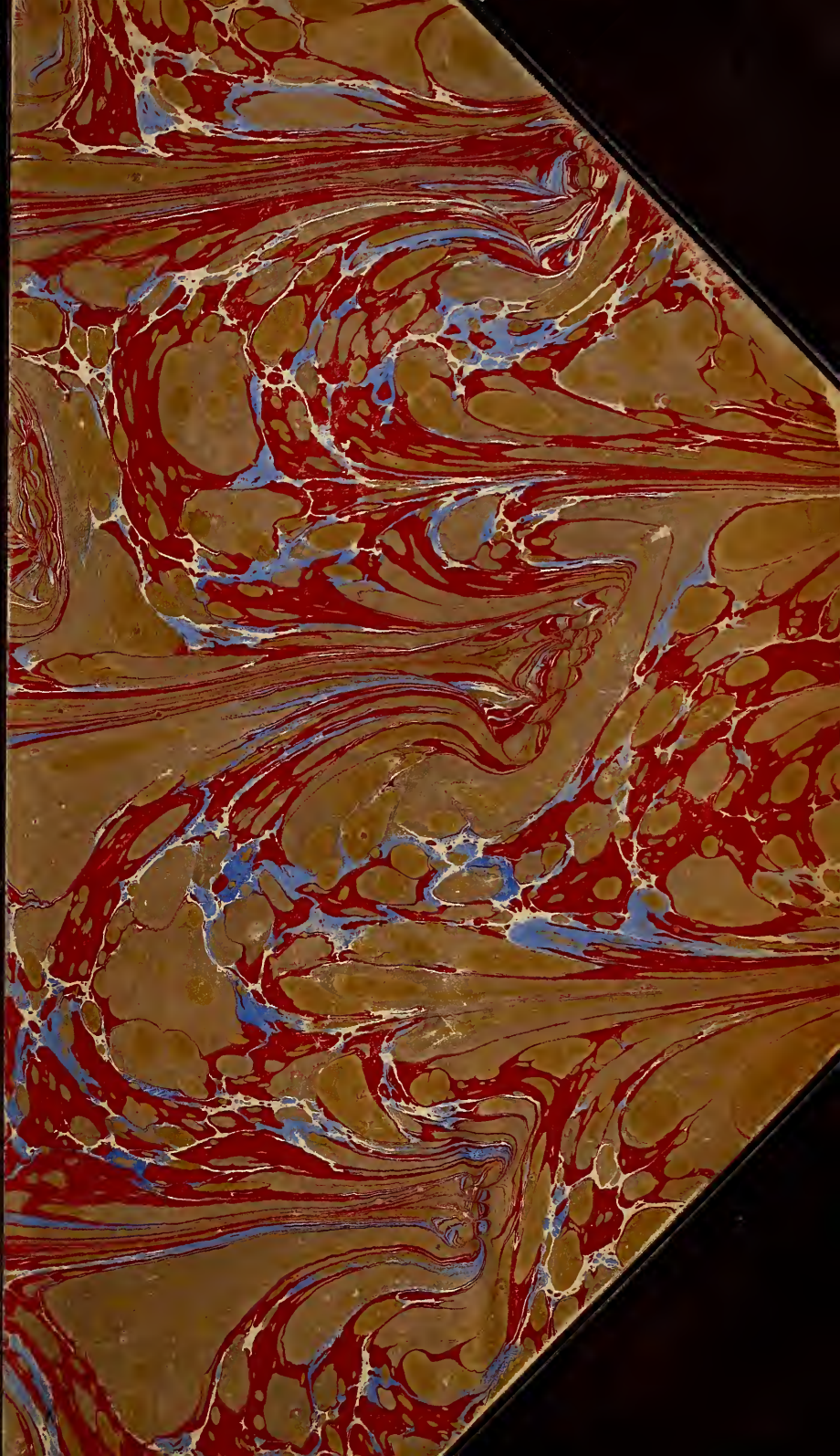
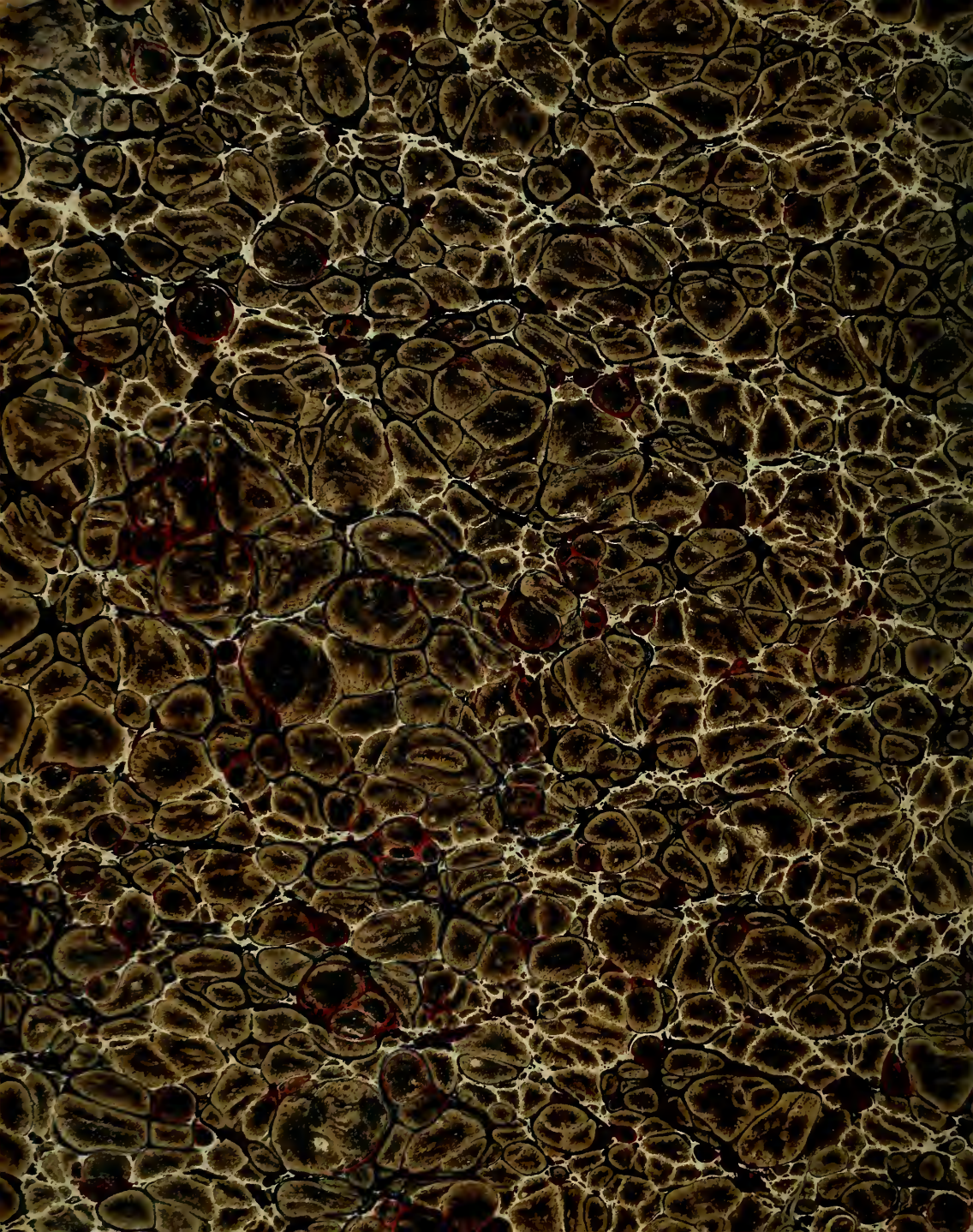
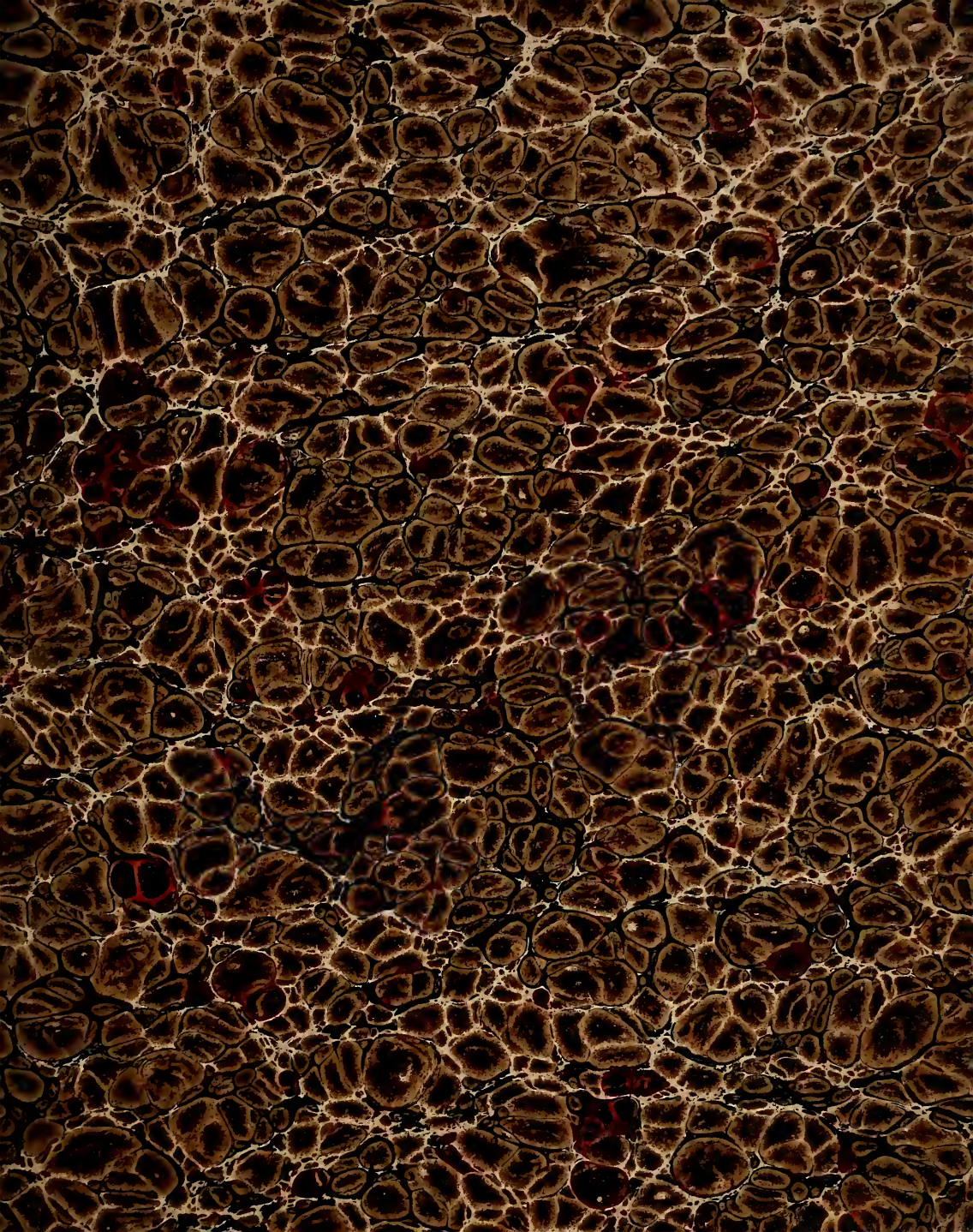


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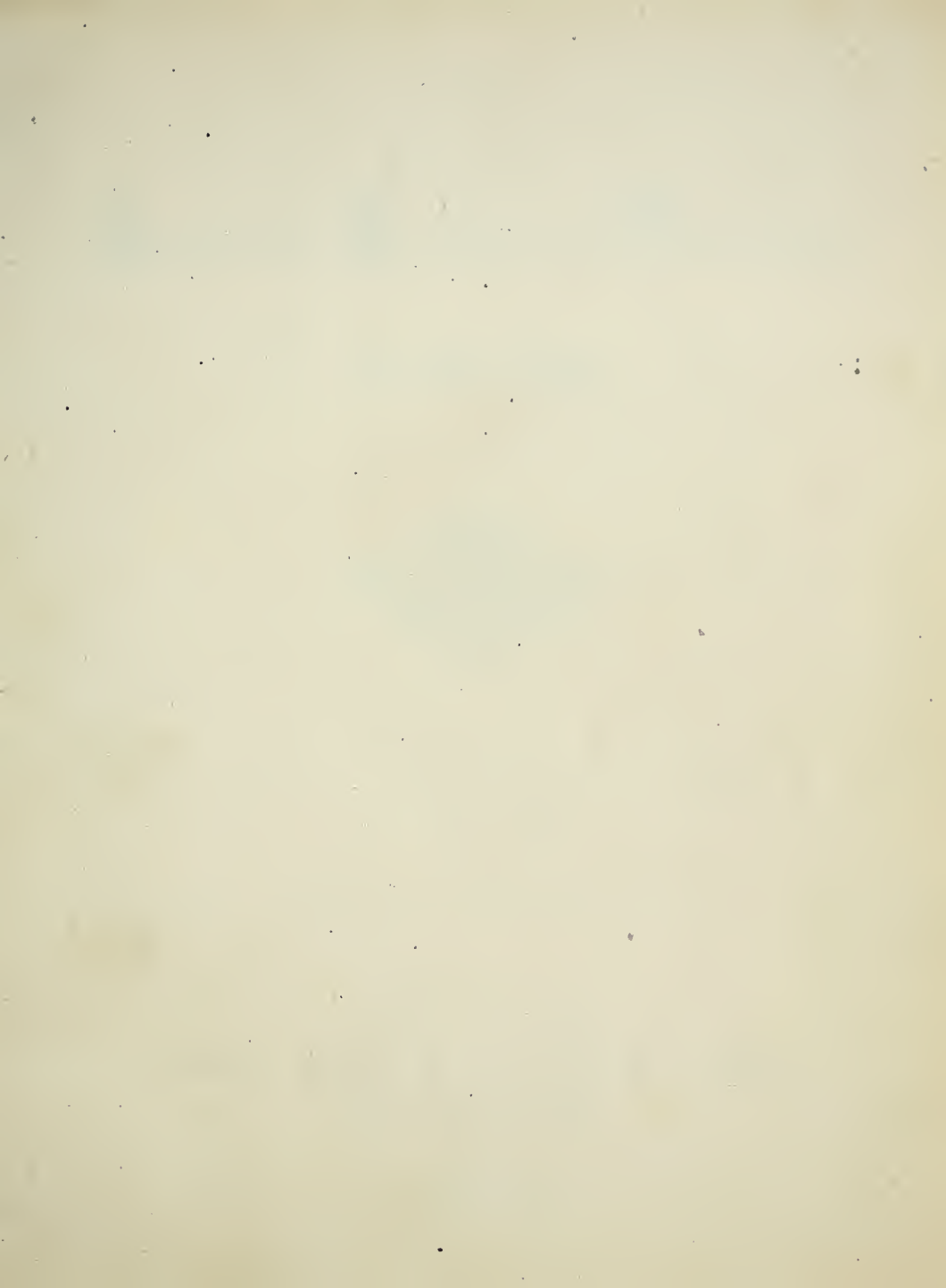








BEQUEST OF
GEORGE T. TURNER





THE

AERICAN **J**OURNAL OF **P**HILATELY

ILLUSTRATED.



VOL. II.

NEW YORK:

J. W. SCOTT & CO., DEALERS IN FOREIGN POSTAGE STAMPS,

34 LIBERTY STREET.

MDCCLXIX.

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*. * Where only the name of a country is given, its stamps are indicated. The addition of an asterisk after a number signifies that there is an engraving on the page referred to.

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PHILATELY



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THE
AMERICAN JOURNAL
OF
PHILATELY.

OUR ANNUAL REVIEW.

At a meeting of the Society, nearly twelve months since, it was unanimously resolved to publish a monthly journal to be devoted to the interests of the science of Philately.

Under the present management, the first volume, consisting of eight single and two double numbers, has been successfully completed. It is with a just pride that the members can look back and behold the result of their labors. The proofs of their good work are pouring in from every quarter, in the shape of renewed subscriptions from our old friends, together with many new names that these are daily adding to our list. We are highly gratified, since our anticipations are more than doubly met. On the eve of budding into volume II. it seems proper that we devote a small space to enumerating a few of the prominent features of the past.

Our department of "Newly Issued Stamps" has been, as a whole, well up to the standard, but owing to the oversight of one of our principal correspondents, the European news has suffered somewhat. But we have more than counterbalanced this misfortune by our advance reports of postal changes, &c., in this half of the globe. We were the first to chronicle the new issue for the United States; indeed, we had even given the description of three specimens before they had been accepted by the authorities. We are proud to add, in this connection, that their final adoption was due to our exertions in the matter. Since then (April) the proof of our statement has been verified. As a matter of course we have had to contend with a number of obstacles that always beset any new project, but we have triumphed at last, and are accorded the position that belongs to our publication.

With a single exception our illustrations have been capital; in fact, a few of our cuts surpass the originals. The most prominent in this branch of our paper are the "India provisionals" on page 81, and the Cuba on page 10. It is natural that much of our paper

should contain the same class of news as the publications of English contemporaries, but nevertheless we aim at original articles, and we have the satisfaction of knowing that we have been the first to introduce two valuable Philatelic works. First, the "Chronological System," by Mr. Willard K. Freeman. Admitting that it contains a few gross errors, it is due him to say that, so far, it is creditably compiled, and at its completion a general table will be issued and all errors corrected. Secondly, Mr. J. W. Scott's article on "United States Locals" is thoroughly and well written. The complete description of the original labels, coupled with a careful and intricate statement as to the counterfeits issued, form a valuable subject for any collector to study. Side by side with these topics appears a diversity of information from writers in every quarter of the world. The "Brazilian Post Office," "The Use of Hong Kong stamps in Japan," "Corrientes and its Stamps," &c., &c., fill the pages of the *Journal* with good, sound reading, suitable for all classes of people. In closing our *Review* we only wish to add that what we have so far accomplished is but a small proportion of what we have in store, and we take this opportunity of reassuring our patrons that it will continue to be *the Philatelic paper of the day*.

The Brattleboro' Stamp.

BY DR. J. A. PETRIE.

There are a number of stamps that have been issued in the United States in whose history I have felt considerable interest.

One of these is the Brattleboro' stamp, which, although its existence has been well known in this country, has never been described by any of the many stamp magazines either at home or abroad, with a single exception.

But very few dealers have ever entered it in their catalogues, either because they did not know that it existed or doubted its genuineness.

I have spent considerable time in tracing its history, and it is with great satisfaction that I now lay before your readers the result of my research.

I submit to you the following letter, which gives a clear, concise and accurate account of it.

NEWTON CORNER, Mass., Dec. 10th, 1868.

DEAR SIR: You are mistaken in saying that the stamps about which you inquire have never been described.

I received about two years ago a little paper printed in Vermont* (I now forget by whom and in what exact locality) devoted to the subject of postage stamps.

I mentioned the private stamp issued by me while P. M. at Brattleboro.

This paper was sent me in a letter by a person who was *very* desirous to obtain the original plate from which they were printed.

I was appointed sometime during the first year of Mr. Polk's administration; Hon. Cave Johnson, P. M. General.

Mr. Polk was elected in 1845.

The stamps were issued, I think, during my first year as P. M., and I suppose them to be the very first P. O. stamps issued in this country.

It was a strictly private thing, neither ordered or repudiated by the P. O. Department, and in my account with the Department made no difference.

My object in issuing it was to accommodate the people and save myself labor in making and collecting quarterly bills, almost every thing at that time being either charged or forwarded without prepayment.

I was disappointed in the effect, having still to charge the *stamps* and collect my bills.

I retained the office during the balance of Mr. Polk's term, and used the stamps more or less during my connection with the office.

The canceling with red ink was uniform, though much a matter of choice.

As to the number issued, I should say only five or six hundred as an experiment.

They were engraved by Mr. Thomas Chubbuck, then of Brattleboro', now of Springfield, Mass., who wrote me about a year since inquiring about the original plate.

The plate was laid aside and I have never been able to find it, though it may yet come to light.

I have none of the stamps by me, have not seen one for a great while, and think I could scarcely describe it correctly.

Yours, &c.,

F. N. PALMER, M.D.

To J. A. PETRIE, M.D.,

Elizabeth, N. J.

The description of the stamp which is the subject of the above letter is as follows:

It is from a steel plate (hand engraved) printed in black on buff paper, oblong, the groundwork of the stamp is made up of diagonally wavy lines, at top is Brattleboro', Vt., on one side P., on the other O., at the bottom 5 cts. The central portion of the stamp is occupied by an octagonal figure, with groundwork of perpendicular straight lines on which appear the initials F. N. P., with dash underneath in fac-simile. They are, so far as I have been able to find, canceled with a stroke of red ink drawn in part across them. They are unperforated, and contain a single fine line of black surrounding a single fine line of buff.

In regard to the above described stamp, from the letter we learn several points of interest, viz.:

1st. Its authenticity. 2d. When issued and how long in use, 1845 to 1849. 3d. By whose authority and for what purpose. 4th. The number issued, there being but few, not having satisfactorily fulfilled the object for which intended. 5th. That great efforts have been made to obtain the original plate, but as yet without success.

* We are not aware of any philatelic paper ever having been published in Vermont, neither has any article on the Brattleboro' stamp come under our notice.—Ed.

The Paraguay and Ecuador Humbugs.

That mankind is easily duped, and antiquarians and collectors proverbially so, is too well known to need commenting upon here, but still the public has a right to expect that those who profess to guide them in any particular study should be more wary than to be humbugged so easily, and twice running, as we must admit having been by the two impostors that head this article; our excuse being that one of the stamps (the Ecuador) was presented to us but two days before going to press, and we, eager to give all the information in our power, inserted the notice of the "new issue" without sufficient investigation; and also that older heads were worse sold than ourselves.



In the May number of our first volume we noticed the appearance of a new stamp for Paraguay, of the value of five centavos, but stated that we had some doubts of its genuineness; we also noticed it in the July and September numbers, but always with suspicion. In the July number of the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* appeared a letter purporting to have been sent to a person named Charles P. Wright by the Hon. Charles A. Washburn, United States Minister to Paraguay, describing the stamp and also giving a letter from "Don Jose Marillo," who was supposed to have been "Director of Posts" in Paraguay.

On reading the above described letters we had strong suspicion of their genuineness, not doubting the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine*, but knowing the vile set of thieves who have been filling the country with counterfeits and humbugs would not stick at anything to serve their interests, and concluding that it was our duty to hunt them up (and now that they have committed a states prison offense, and the facts put in the hands of an experienced detective, nothing will be spared to bring them to justice), the case was debated by the Society, and Dr. Petrie, kindly undertaking to find out the truth of the case, wrote to the postmaster at Yonkers, inquiring if any such person as Charles P. Wright was known or received letters there; the postmaster replying in the negative, he at once wrote to the Hon. Charles A. Washburn, asking if he wrote the letter in question, but on account of his returning to the States before it reached Paraguay, has not been answered.

On the arrival of the Hon. C. A. Washburn in this city, another member of the A. J. of P. wrote him, asking the same information, and receiving the following reply:

BREVOORT HOUSE, December 29, 1868.

J. W. SCOTT, Esq.,

SIR:—During my long residence in Paraguay I never saw or heard of such a thing as a postage stamp of that country. None were ever used there. The correspondence of which you send me a copy is all a forgery. I never received and never wrote any letter to "Charles P. Wright of Yonkers," as appears over my signature. I know of no such man in Paraguay as Don Jose Marillo. Certainly the Director of Mails is not a man of that name. The stamps which you have sent me purporting to be Paraguayan is the first one of the kind I have ever seen. The whole thing is a fraud, swindle and forgery, and you are at liberty to publish the fact and give me as authority.

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES A. WASHBURN,

Late Minister to Paraguay.

The above is quite conclusive evidence in regard to the Paraguayan humbug.

The Ecuador that heads this article is, together with one of the value of two reals and the Guatemala humbug, the work of the same scoundrel.

We hope this will prove a warning to those who have the chronicling of new issues, as it most certainly will be to us and American collectors.

Newly issued Stamps.



BADEN.—The first on the list this month is a new stamp for Baden. It is of the same type as the newly issued, 1 and 7 of which we give an engraving. The value is 3 Kreuzers, and the color pink.

CANADA.—Has issued three new stamps. The designs consist of figure in circle, surrounded with the legion REGISTERED LOWER CANADA. The values are 5, 15 and 30 cents, and color red brown. They are, however, fiscal and not postage stamps, as might be readily inferred, as they specify a part whereas the postage stamps are for the entire Dominion. We note them having received many enquiries concerning their character.



CEYLON.—Our next engraving represents the new envelope adopted by this Island. The color is brick red on thin slightly bluish-tinted paper. They have also changed the design of the one penny; the new issue very much resembling 3d Jamaica. It is printed in blue on gilt paper.

DUTCH INDIES.—The stamp for these colonies is now perforated. We understand from an European contemporary that there is shortly to be a new issue.



HUNGARY has at last issued stamps of its own, such as they are, for it is difficult to imagine a plainer design. They remind us painfully of the commoner Austrian revenues. They are of the value of 1 and 2 kreuzers, and



are unperforated. The inscription *MAGYI KIR. HIRLAP BELYEG* signifies Royal Hungarian newspaper stamp. They are printed on white unwatermarked paper; the colors are blue for the 1 kr. and brown for the 2 kr.

MAURITIUS.—Adds another value to its rather extended list. The new comer is of the same type as the current set. The value is two shillings and the color lavender.



MEXICO.—We present our readers with an engraving of the new design used in this country. Already we notice a variety of the 100 cents printed black on brown. They seem to have been issued simultaneously perforated, and unperforated, except the six cent, which we have only seen perforated.



NEW GRANADA.—Or the United States of Colombia, as they now name the country, has added another stamp to its already overflowing pages. We annex an illustration of the design. The motto on the small band *LIBERTAD Y ORDEN* has been omitted by our artist. The color is lilac. We understand that a $2\frac{1}{2}$ centavo has also made its appearance.



SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Seems to be gradually changing the design of its stamps to conform to the one stolen from the American Bank Note Co. The color is a fine vermillion; it is perforated, and watermarked with crown over S. A.

SPAIN.—The color of the 19 cuartos has been changed from pink to brown.

UNITED STATES.—We are now enabled to give another installment of news in regard to the new issue in preparation for our own country.

The contract stated that they were to be ready by the 1st of February, but we should not be surprised if they were never issued at all, as Messrs. Butler & Carpenter of Philadelphia, have issued a strong protest against their being adopted, as they offered the lowest bid for supplying the Department with stamps, whereas the National Bank Note Co. gave in the highest tender and was accepted. Be this as it may, there has been the following changes and additions made in the proposed design.

One Cent.—Head of Franklin, same as 30 cent present issue U. S. POSTAGE, in circle in top, 1 CENT at bottom, color bronze.

Two Cents.—Post horse and rider, instead of post cart as described on page 11, vol. 1; color brown.

Six Cents.—The five cent we described on page 66 of last volume, has been changed into a six by altering the figures; color, ultramarine.

Ten Cents.—Shield surmounted by spread eagle and supported by flags; color, orange.

Twelve Cents.—Will be green instead of blue as first stated by us.

Fifteen Cents.—Landing of Columbus, same as the five dollar National currency note. The picture occupies rather over one-third of the width; the color will be scarlet, the top and bottom brown.

Twenty-four Cents.—Signing the Declaration of Independence, same design as stated for the ten and thirty cents in our last. The picture will be purple, the top and bottom green.

Thirty Cents.—Same as ten cents except that it will be printed in orange and blue. The design of the Surrender of Burgoyne has been abandoned, as it was calculated to hurt the feelings of our transatlantic cousins.

Ninety Cents.—Head of Lincoln in circle. The colors are black or purple, with vermillion border.

The envelopes will resemble the new ten cents according to the latest information.

WURTEMBERG.



We annex an engraving of the design for the new series in preparation for this country. The engraving is incorrect; in one particular the inscription POST FREI MARK should be in Roman instead of Gothic letters. The set will probably consist of one, two, three, seven and eighteen, but the two and eighteen are not positively decided on yet. The three kreuzer will be rose and the seven, blue.

Transactions of the New York Philatelic Society.

The regular monthly meeting of the Society was held on the 15th ult.

The meeting having been called to order by the presiding officer, at once proceeded to business. The secretary read his annual report, after which a vote of thanks was unanimously passed, thanking him for his services. The treasurer then read his report, and also received the thanks of the Society.

Officers for the ensuing year were then nominated and balloted for with the following result: President, W. R. Freeman, Esq.; Vice-Presidents, B. Matthews, Jr., and J. W. Scott, Esqs.; Treasurer, Dr. Petrie; Secretary, R. Dinwiddie, Esq.; Dr. Grafton and C. W. Watson, Esqs., declining to accept office.

The next meeting will take place at the Society's rooms on January 16th inst., at 4 P. M. precisely.

CHARLES WATSON, Secretary.

Reviews of Philatelic Publications.

The Philatlists' Album for American and Foreign Postage Stamps. Containing a complete list of all postage stamps issued to date, and spaces sufficient for all present and future issues. Also adapted for the reception of Revenue Stamps, with correct list of the same. New York: published by J. W. Scott & Co., 34 Liberty street.

It seems a pity that the publishers of the above work had not dubbed it "permanent," as that is all the rage now, and sounds well: for it is in fact permanent, or as near so as it is possible to make any postage stamp album, without adopting the chronological system.

From the advance sheets, although we were only favored with a portion of them, we can give our readers the following information:—

It is, as the title implies, made to contain all the postage stamps that have ever been issued, with spaces for subsequent emissions, and also for the revenue stamps of the United States and Canadas, with spaces for any foreign revenues that the amateur may choose to collect; experience having taught the gentlemen under whose care it is being produced, that a large majority of American collectors include, at least, the revenue stamps of their own country in their postage stamp albums. The printing is done in a fine jet black and almost resembles copper-plate. The publishers have, in accordance with the wishes of a large number of eminent Philatelists, adopted the

oblong form, as it admits of nearly every set being placed in a line by themselves. It is to be sold at the exceedingly low price of one dollar and a half; we must admit to being rather credulous as to the price, as we should not think the paper could be purchased for that money, but are informed that it is specially manufactured for them, and that the edition is fifteen thousand, which accounts for its marvelous cheapness.

Mason's Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine. Second Volume. Philadelphia: Mason & Co.

The second volume of this excellent paper has been brought to a close with the December number, by, to quote the editor's words, a "*coup d'état*, he having, with this number, changed the order of things, combining the December, January, February and March into one number," so that the third volume will commence with January.

In looking through its well-filled pages we find a large amount of very interesting information, calculated to instruct all classes of readers, together with statistics and data of great importance to numismatists.

In regard to the second half of its name we cannot say as much, but notice in the last number that there is to be an assistant editor to take charge of the Philatelic department. Should the proprietors succeed in obtaining one as accomplished as he of the Numismatic chair, we shall expect great things in the future.

Clippings.

WE COMMENCE THIS VOLUME with a subscription list of nearly two thousand. So it must be obvious to our Boston cotemporary that it is not to our interest to advertise his paper in our editorial columns, however absurd or impudent his assertions may be.

THE PRIZE of fifty dollars worth of stamps offered at the August meeting of the New York Philatelic Society to the person obtaining the largest number of subscribers to the *American Journal of Philately*, was awarded to W. R. Pettigrew, of 91 Fourth Street, Williamsburg, L. I.

CHEAP OCEAN POSTAGE.—Mr. Sumner introduced a resolution in favor of cheap ocean postage, setting forth that the present rates of postage to Great Britain and France are a burdensome tax, often amounting to a prohibition of foreign correspondence, although letters can be carried at less cost on sea than on land; that by increasing correspondence and by bringing into the mails available matter now clandestinely conveyed, cheap ocean postage would become self-supporting, and that cheap ocean postage would tend

to quicken commerce, diffuse knowledge, promote the intercourse of families and friends separated by the ocean, multiply the bonds of peace and good will among the nations, advance the progress of liberal ideas, and thus, while important to every citizen, become the active and able agent of the merchant, the emigrant and the philanthropist and the friend of liberty; and, in view of these considerations, requesting the President to open negotiations with the European powers, particularly with Great Britain, France and Germany, for the establishment of cheap ocean postage. The resolution was tabled and ordered to be printed.—*Senate, Fortieth Congress, Dec. 7th, 1868.*

There are 360 names of post offices in this State which have, as a prefix, either North, South, East or West, those beginning with West being a little more numerous, as the growth generally took that direction —*Evening Post.*

Correspondence.

NEW YORK, January 10th, 1869.

Mr. Editor:—When I first commenced “stamp collecting,” some time since, I was entirely in the dark in regard to the petty details of the most interesting study of Philately. How to commence; what album to employ; who to purchase of, and how to prepare and insert stamps,—all these points I have had to learn by actual practice, and desiring to obviate the difficulties under which most new collectors labor, I have been tempted to give the results of my experience for their benefit.

In commencing a collection the first thing needed is an album. Of these there are many varieties, the choice of which can be regulated by the purchaser's fancy. I think the best are Lallier's and Scott's. The former has panels ruled out for the different varieties, and there is a letter-press description of every stamp issued up to the date of publication. In case new stamps are issued by countries not now using them, leaves of drawing paper can be inserted in their proper places without difficulty. Scott's Album, in many respects, is much better calculated for beginners than Lallier's. It contains spaces for every stamp ever issued, and blanks for new emissions. It is neatly printed, and bound in a variety of forms, and last, though not least, is very cheap, being about half the price of Lallier's. The next step is to procure a good and reliable classified catalogue from an honest and trustworthy dealer. Of these there are several, one of which is published in this city. I leave out purposely several excellent English publications, as the expense of postage in getting them out is heavy and useless.

Prepared now with an album and catalogue the Collector may select, according to his taste, the stamps which please him. One piece of advice let me here insert: whoever you purchase stamps of, be sure the dealer is an honest man. I could surprise the readers of this article by giving a list of foreign stamps counterfeited in this city and Boston, by dealers who say they are willing to warrant every stamp leaving their places. Several of my friends have found out by dear experience that such a guarantee is worth nothing. Upon receiving stamps which it is desirable to place in one's album, the first care is to remove from the backs any paper which may be still adherent. This may be accomplished by placing them in a little cold water, which, in a short time, dissolves the adhesive substances used, besides removing any dust on the face of the stamp. I should mention in this connection, that the Russian stamps will not bear washing, as they are printed in water colors. The paper on their backs, however, should be removed by placing a piece of wet blotting paper over the back, and letting it remain for a few moments. The stamps should be allowed to dry, and may be placed in an old book to get rid of the corrugation produced by the washing. After this they are ready for insertion in the album. In fixing them in, the best plan is to use only mucilage prepared from fine gum arabic. On no account use the mucilage sold in the different stationery stores, it contains in many instances acetic acid which will alter in time the fine colored inks used in printing stamps. In putting the solution of gum upon the stamp use a fine camel's hair brush and paint only two lines at each end of the stamp, as is recommended by a "lady contributor" on page 14, vol. 1.

This method of mounting admits of an easy removal in case it should become necessary, and is the best beyond a shadow of a doubt. In case stamps require removing which have been completely covered with paste on their backs, wet blotting paper should be allowed to remain upon the stamps for some minutes when they can be removed without injury to them or the album. Having laid the stamps upon the panels destined to receive them lay a piece of thin paper over them and rub gently with the fingers, this proceeding will fix the stamps firmly and smoothly in their places. In buying stamps my preference is for canceled ones for the reason they have actually fulfilled the mission for which they were created, while uncanceled stamps, many of which are made by the bank note companies of New York City, and may never have been near the countries whose postage they represent. I certainly would not disdain uncanceled stamps but prefer the ones actually used. I would here mention the names of a number of reliable dealers but

such a proceeding might savor of favoritism and produce hard feelings in the minds of those not noticed. However I will advise every collecting friend if they desire to become fully posted as to the status of dealers to apply to the Editor of the "Journal of Philately," he is thoroughly posted and I am sure will afford every information in his power. One more piece of advice and I shall have finished. In trimming postage stamps do not cut them too close to the border, and never cut away the perforation of they are a distinguishing character of the stamp. Trusting these few words of advice may not have proved superfluous, and apologizing for occupying so much space in your valuable "Journal,"

I remain very truly yours,

COSMOPOLITAN.

P. S. Should my existence be doubted by a "Stamp publication" issued not many miles from Boston, Mass., I would be happy to afford this doubter ocular proof of my existence upon application.

SUFFIELD, CONN., January 6th, 1869.

Gentlemen:—I enclose fifty cents, one year's subscription to the "American Journal of Philately, commencing with the January number. I like your journal very much and should think every collector would subscribe, and am sure all who are awake to their own interests will do so. It is larger and better than some journals which cost twice the price you ask and yours is the cheapest publication issued of the kind, and certainly one of the best,

Yours truly,

W. A. KELSEY.

Answers to Correspondents.

C. Pelletreau, Paris.—We have written to W. P. Brown some months back, but have received no answer, so must conclude that he is dead.

C. Van Rinsum, Amsterdam.—We return your stamps, as we only take subscriptions out of the U. S., as stated in our advertisements. As you are about to publish a magazine, we shall be happy to exchange.

Philatelist, St. Louis.—The statement in the *Philatelist* about the Whyman collection being sold for \$2,000, was copied from American publications, and is entirely incorrect. It was not near as valuable as those advertised in the present number.

F. A. D.—You will see your question answered in our article on "Newly Issued Stamps."

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ROBT DENWIDDIE, Jr., Secretary.

P. O. Box 9, New York.

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THE

AMERICAN JOURNAL

OF

PHILATELY



AN ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOL. II.

FEBRUARY 20, 1869.

NO. 14.

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We have a few of the packets named on our last list still in stock.

J. W. SCOTT & CO., 34 Liberty Street, New York.

P. S.—In making small change enclose unused U. S. Postage Stamps, not pennies.

United States Local Stamps.

BY J. W. SCOTT.

[Continued from Page 84, Vol. I.]

Upon commencing this article we had felt confident of being able to place it before our readers in alphabetical order, but not being able to obtain the desired information in several cases, have concluded to describe the stamps as they come to hand. This will make but slight difference, however, as each one will be found in the index, at the conclusion of the volume.

DÚPUY AND SCIENCK overarching bee hive; PENNY POST at bottom; the whole surrounded by double ruled line; black impression on drab.

COUNTERFEIT.—A very fair imitation, but contains several inaccuracies. *Test*: The outline of the bee hive is nearly a perfect one. In the genuine it is very irregular. The counterfeit is surrounded by a single heavy line instead of two, one heavy and one light, as in the genuine.

MESSENKOPE'S UNION SQUARE Post Office.—Surrounding a lamp or something like it; we have seen it described as a fountain, which it most certainly is not. We have taken particular pains and shown it to several collectors without being able to come to any conclusion. Can any of our readers inform us? Black impression on green glazed paper.

COUNTERFEIT.—*Test*: The double lines inclosing the design are of nearly the same thickness. The outer line in the genuine is very thin and scarcely discernible. There are faint rays above the body of the "lamp" on both sides in the genuine. In the counterfeit they are only to be seen on the right.

JENKINS' CAMDEN DISPATCH.—Surrounding portrait in oval, the whole is set in rectangle corners, cut off of vertical lines. Colored impression, blue; green; black.

COUNTERFEIT.—This is another excellent imitation. The only mark we can give as a *Test*, is the outside bottom line of the counterfeit is composed of two lines. In the original there is only one.

The genuine plate having fallen into the hands of a dealer, has been reprinted, and another color added, viz., orange; and this is often found canceled, from the fact of the before mentioned person being in the habit of sticking one on every letter he sent by the side of the U. S. Stamp, thus getting his own fancy color post-marked to make collectors suppose that it was a genuine color.

WASHINGTON CITY below, ONE CENT DISPATCH forming an arch above, enclosing a cavalier on horseback, holding a letter in his left hand. Colored impression, violet.

We have long been acquainted with the counterfeit of this stamp, but had considered it fictitious, never having seen or heard of an original till we were favored with the loan of one by R. C. Davis, Esq., of Philadelphia, to whom we tender our warmest thanks. The stamp before us is on the original envelope, and was received by the above named gentleman in 1856. The date and postmark is on both stamp and envelope.

COUNTERFEIT.—This is printed from a wood block and has a pretty appearance, but contains one fatal mistake—the word *CITY* being omitted from the bottom. We also give the following *Test*: The lettering is much thinner than in the genuine, a mistake common to nearly every counterfeit “Local.” The horseman’s hat touches the arch in the imitation; in the genuine there is a distinct space.

WALTON & Co.’s City Express, Post 2 Cts., in oval, composed of fancy band; the whole is enclosed in a rectangle, formed of a heavy line. The spandrills are filled with a groundwork of horizontal lines. Black impression on glazed paper, pink.

This appears to have been printed from a copper plate. It was used in Brooklyn in 1846. We are unacquainted with any counterfeit of this rare Stamp.

PRICE’S CITY EXPRESS, POST 2 CENTS. Surrounding the proprietor’s head in oval. Black impression on green glazed paper. We are not acquainted with any counterfeit of this stamp. It has been reprinted on the same kind of paper, and can easily be obtained. Original copies are very scarce.

[*To be continued*]

THE CHRONOLOGICAL SYSTEM.

BY W. K. FREEMAN.

Continued from page 79, Vol. 1.

PRUSSIA.

ADHESIVE.

Arms, embossed, (oct.) 4 pf. green.
 “ “ “ 6 pf. scarlet.
 “ “ (oval) 1 sgr. rose.
 “ “ “ 2 sgr. blue.
 “ “ “ 3 sgr. brown.

ENVELOPES.

Arms, embossed, (oval) 1 sgr. rose.
 “ “ “ 2 sgr. blue.
 “ “ “ 3 sgr. brown.

QUEENSLAND.

ADHESIVE.

Hd. Victoria, (rect.) 1d. carmine.
 “ “ “ 2d. blue.
 “ “ “ 3d. brown.
 “ “ “ 6d. green.
 “ “ “ 1s. lilac.

SIERRA LEONE.

ADHESIVE.

Hd. Victoria, (rect.) 6d. lilac.

SPAIN.

ADHESIVE.

Hd. Isabella II, (rect.) 19 cuar. br.

UNITED STATES.

ADHESIVE.

Hd. Franklin, (rect.) 1c. blue.

" Washington, " 3c. rose.

" Jefferson, " 5c. brown.

" Washington, " 10c. green.

" " " 12c. black.

" " " 24c. violet.

" Franklin, " 30c. orange.

" Washington, " 90c. dark blue.

ENVELOPES.

Washington & Franklin, (oval) 4c. r. & b.

" " wt. pap. " 4c. "

" " " " 3c. rose.

" buff pap. " 3c. "

" wt. " " 6c. "

" buff " " 6c. "

" wt. " " 10c. green.

" buff " " 10c. "

" " " " 12c. r. & b.

" " " " 20c. r. & bl.

" " " " 24c. r. & g.

" " " " 40c. r. & bl.

COVER.

Washington, bl. pap. (oval) 3c. rose.

VENEZUELA.

ADHESIVE.

Arms, (rect.) $\frac{1}{4}$ centavos, green." " $\frac{1}{2}$ " brown.

" " 1 " slate.

1862.**ANTIGUA.**

ADHESIVE.

Hd. Victoria, (rect.) 1d. red.

" " " 6d. green.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

ADHESIVE.

Arms, &c., (rect.) 5 centavos, rose.

" " 10 " green.

" " 15 " blue.

AUSTRIAN ITALY.

ADHESIVE.

Joseph I, (rect.) 3 soldi green.

BADEN.

ADHESIVE.

Arms, (square) 6 kr. blue.

" " 9 kr. brown.

" white ground, (sq.) 3 kr. rose.

" " " 18 kr. green.

" " " 30 kr. orange.

UNPAID—LETTER STAMPS.

Numeral, (sq.) 1 kr. yellow.

" " 3 kr. "

" " 12 kr. "

ENVELOPE.

Frederick (oval) 3 kr. rose.

" " 6 kr. blue.

" " 9 kr. brown.

BARBADOES.

ADHESIVE.

Britannia (rect.) 6d. crimson.

" " 1s. blue black.

BAVARIA.

ADHESIVE.

Numeral, (sq.) 1 kr. orange.

" " 3 kr. rose.

" " 6 kr. blue.

" " 9 kr. brown.

" " 12 kr. green.

" " 18 kr. red.

BERGENDORF.

ADHESIVE.

Arms, (sq.) $\frac{1}{2}$ sch. blue.

" " 1 sch. white.

" " $1\frac{1}{2}$ sch. yellow.

" " 3 sch. blue on rose.

" " 4 sch. cinnamon.

BRITISH GUIANA.

NEWSPAPER.

Various borders (sq.) 1c. rose.

" " " 2c. yellow.

" " " 4c. blue.

BUENOS AYRES.

ADHESIVE.

Hd. Liberty (obl.) 1 peso, rose.

" " " 2 peso, blue.

CANADA.

ADHESIVE.

Beaver, (obl.) 5c. vermilion.

CONFEDERATE STATES.

ADHESIVE.

Calhoun, (rect.) 1c. orange.
 Jackson " 2c. green.
 Davis " 5c. blue.
 Jefferson " 10c. rose.

COSTA RICA.

ADHESIVE.

Sea Mountains, &c., (rect.) $\frac{1}{2}$ real, blue.
 " " " $\frac{1}{2}$ reals, red.

FRENCH COLONIES.

ADHESIVE.

Eagle, (sq.) 1c. olive gr.
 " 5c. green.

GERMANY—NORTH.

ADHESIVE.

Numeral, (sq.) $\frac{1}{2}$ s. gr. green.
 " " $\frac{1}{2}$ " orange.
 " " 1 " rose.
 " " 2 " blue.
 " " 3 " russet brown.

GERMANY—SOUTH.

ADHESIVE.

Numeral (sq.) 3 kr. rose.
 " 6 kr. blue.
 " 9 kr. russet brown.

GREAT BRITAIN.

ADHESIVE.

Hd. Victoria, (rect.) 3d. rose.
 " " " 4d. orange red.
 " " " 6d. lilac.
 " " " 9d. brown.
 " " " 1s. green.

GREECE.

ADHESIVE.

Hd. Mercury, (rect.) 1 lep. brown.
 " " " 2 " dark cinnamon.
 " " " 5 " green.
 " " " 10 " orange.
 " " " 20 " blue.
 " " " 40 " violet.
 " " " 80 " carmine.

HONG KONG.

ADHESIVE.

Hd. Victoria, (rect.) 2c. brown.
 " " " 8c. orange.
 " " " 12c. blue.
 " " " 18c. violet.

Hd. Victoria (rect.) 24c. green.
 " " " 48c. rose.
 " " " 96c. slate.

MOLDO-WALLACHIA.

ADHESIVE.

Arms, (rect.) 3 paras, yellow.
 " " 6 " red.
 " " 30 " blue.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

ADHESIVE.

Heraldry, (sq.) 1d. lilac brown.
 " (rect.) 2d. crimson.
 " (tria.) 3d. green.
 " (rect.) 4d. crimson.
 " (sq.) 5d. lilac brown.
 " (rect.) 6d. crimson.
 " " 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. "
 " " 1s. "

NEW GRANADA.

ADHESIVE.

Arms, (oct.) 5c. yellow.
 " " 10c. blue.
 " " 20c. rose.
 " " 50c. green.
 " " 1 peso, violet.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

ADHESIVE.

Hd. Victoria, (rect.) 1d. red.
 " " " 2d. blue.

NEW ZEALAND.

ADHESIVE.

Prof. Victoria, (rect.) 3d. purple.

NICARAGUA.

ADHESIVE.

Mountain Scenery, (obl.) 2c. blue.
 " " " 5c. black.

OLDENBURG.

ADHESIVE.

Arms, (oval) $\frac{1}{3}$ gr. green.
 " " $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. vermilion.
 " " 1 gr. rose.
 " " 2 gr. blue.
 " " 3 gr. stone.

PERU.

ADHESIVE.

Arms, &c., (sq.) 1 dinero, rose

PORTUGAL.

ADHESIVE.

Hd. Louis I, (rect) 5 reis, brown.
“ “ “ 25 reis, rose.

QUEENSLAND.

REGISTERED LETTER STAMP.

Hd. Victoria, (rect.) maize.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

ADHESIVE.

Kamehameha IV, (rect.) 2c. rose.

SPAIN.

ADHESIVE.

Isabella II, (rect.) 2 cuart, blue.
“ “ 4 “ brown.
“ “ 12 “ blue.
“ “ 19 “ rose.
“ “ 1 real, brown.
“ “ 2 “ green.

STATES OF THE CHURCH.

ADHESIVE.

Arms, &c., (obl.) 1/2 baj. violet.
“ “ 1/2 baj. lilac.
“ (circ.) 4 baj. yellow.

SWEDEN.

ADHESIVE—(LOCAL).

(obl.) black.
“ “ brown.

SWITZERLAND.

ADHESIVE.

Helvetia (rect.) 2 rap, grey.
“ “ 2c. “

Helvetia (rect.) 3c. black.
“ “ 5c. brown.
“ “ 10c. blue.
“ “ 20c. orange.
“ “ 30c. red.
“ “ 40c. green.
“ “ 60c. bronze.
“ “ 1 fr. gold.

VICTORIA.

ADHESIVE.

Hd. Victoria, (rect.) 3d. blue.
“ “ “ 4d. rose.
“ “ “ 6d. orange.
“ “ “ 6d. black.
“ “ type '59, (rect.) 1d. green.
“ “ “ '58, “ 6d. black.
“ “ (lg. fig.) “ 6d. “

“TOO LATE” STAMP.

Hd. Victoria, (rect.) 6d. lilac and green.

REGISTERED LETTER STAMP.

Hd. Victoria. (rect.) 1s. rose and blue.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

ADHESIVE.

Swan, (obl.) 1d. rose.
“ “ 6d. green.

WURTEMBERG.

ADHESIVE.

Arms, (sq.) 1 kr. green.
“ “ 3 kr. rose.
“ “ 6 kr. blue.
“ “ 9 kr. brown.
“ “ 18 kr. orange.

To be continued.

THE FABRICATION OF POSTAGE STAMPS assumes larger proportions every year. Over five hundred million were struck off at Paris alone during 1868.—*Evening Post.*

The Queen, who since the lamented death of the Prince Consort has used plain note paper in her correspondence, has adopted a monogram, consisting of the regal “R” under an Imperial Crown, with the legend “Victoria” across the letter. The design, which has received its last improvements from her Majesty’s own hand, is being executed in black and silver by Mr. James Macmichael, of King’s Road, Chelsea.—*Illustrated Times*, London, Nov. 21, 1868.

Newly Issued Stamps.

We have written the heading, but find it a more difficult task to fill our allotted space this month than ever before. Scarcely anything new : we have a few alterations to note and may as well correct an error in our last emission in describing the new penny Ceylon. Our printer made us say "It is printed in blue on gilt paper." It should have been "glazed paper."

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—The sixpenny stamp of this country is now made to do duty for the fourpenny, which we suppose must be nearly exhausted.

GOVERNMENT NOTICE.—No. 356—1868.

*Colonial Office, Cape of Good Hope, }
16 November, 1868. }*

His Excellency the Governor directs it to be notified for general information that he has sanctioned the conversion into fourpenny postage stamps of a redundant stock of stamps of the value of sixpence. This conversion has been effected by obliterating the words "postage sixpence" at the foot of the stamp, and printing across the body the word "Fourpence."

By command of His Excellency the Governor,

R. SOUTHEY,
Colonial Secretary.

The obliteration and printing referred to is done in red ink.

HOLLAND.—The one cent stamp that our readers have been expecting for over a year has at length come to hand accompanied by another of the value of two cents. The design reminds us of the low values of Belgium. In the centre are the arms of the country on a shield, crowned, surrounded by branches, the whole is enclosed in pearled circle. The word NEDERLAND overarches the top on ground work of horizontal lines; value below. The colors are black and pale yellow, respectively. They are perforated and printed on white unwatermarked paper.

SPAIN—Has taken us all by surprise. Stories have been going the rounds of the press about the stamps bearing the late Queen's head being punched out of those now in use, when "Lo and behold!" here is a new set before us still bearing Queen Isabella's profile.

The colors and values are :

| | | | | |
|----------|--------------|--------------|-----------|----------------|
| 25 mill, | blue, | same type as | 25 mill | of last issue. |
| 50 " | lilac, | " " " | 25 " | " " |
| 100 " | light brown, | " " " | 2 curatos | " " |
| 200 " | green, | " " " | 19 " | " " |



CUBA—Follows the mother country in a new set, and like Spain, keeps last years' design printed in different colors. The date is altered to the current year. We have only been able to obtain one value, *viz*: the ten cent. The color is pale burnt sienna. It is perforated and printed on white unwatermarked paper.

UNITED STATES.—The ninety cent has at length made its appearance, embossed on the back. It is rather surprising that the authorities should still continue to submit the stamps to this process now that it is admitted to be a failure. It will be remembered that it was intended to break the fibre of the paper so that the canceling ink would penetrate instead of merely overspreading the surface of the paper. It was considered that this would make it impossible to clean a stamp after once using.

There is nothing new definitely decided in regard to the new issue, and we should not have mentioned them had it not have been for an extract from *Le Timbrophile* appearing in *The Stamp Collectors' Magazine*, which is so manifestly false that we cannot help noticing it. *Le Timbrophile* remarks that "Not one of them is well executed; and all who have seen them have united in one opinion, that they ought to be rejected." It also gives the American Bank Note Company as the engravers. Now it is very evident that the writer of the quoted sentence never saw one of the specimens, for every one that has been struck off has the maker's imprint on the same paper, *viz*: The National Bank Note Company. We have no hesitation in saying that they are the finest specimens of engraving that has ever been executed in this or any other country, and we have never heard one word to their disparagement. They have been admitted by every one that has had the pleasure of examining them to be the *chefs d'œuvre* of this celebrated firm.

Transactions of the New York Philatelic Society.

On the 16th of January, the attendance at the regular monthly meeting was very slim. It was unanimously agreed to have a special meeting on the 8th of February, on which date the attendance was larger—a quorum being present.

President Freeman took the chair at 5 o'clock, and the minutes of the last meeting, December 15th, were read by ex-secretary Watson.

The society then proceeded to amend articles 3, 5, 6, 7 of the Constitution and article 6 of the By-Laws. Ordered to be printed.

Several newly-issued stamps were then exhibited by members present, and the society adjourned until March 20th.

ROBERT DINWIDDIE, Jr., Secretary.

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS, PASSED FEB. 8, 1869.
CONSTITUTION.

ART. 3. The annual subscription shall be two dollars and fifty cents; initiation fee, one dollar. Any member may, on payment of twenty-five dollars, become a life director.

ART. 5. A vote of two-thirds of the members present shall be necessary to authorize any expenditure of funds, except for current expenses.

ART. 6. In consideration of the amount of time and the expense attending the duties of the Secretary, his services shall be considered equivalent to his subscription.

ART. 7. The society shall meet monthly.

BY-LAWS.

ART. 6. A fine of twenty-five cents shall be imposed on all resident members for each and every absence.

Curiosities of the Post Office.

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

When Mr. Rowland Hill's cheap postage system went into operation, the articles sent were extremely various. One office had, for contents, as officially described, "three dozen bird's eyes." A letter from Hull to London contained "one boiled lobster." From Norwich to Cheltenham, a live blackbird, which was actually transported, kept and fed, and safely delivered to the address. An affectionate mother sent to her son a pottle of strawberries. This was reduced to a *jam* on the way, and, out of pure sympathy, it jammed its next neighbor, whose original contents consisted of a quantity of valuable lace, and its prospective owner—the person addressed—was the queen dowager. A black bottle, with no wrapper, only a label addressed "Tim M——"—"a wee drop o' the crater"—was mailed at Dublin for Bradford, in Yorkshire. From Perth to Berwick, a salmon. Not unfrequently bank notes are sent in the mail without any envelope or covering, merely by fastening the two ends of the note together with wafers, and then addressing it. Notes as large as £50 have been sent this way. From Aberdeen to Ayr, two hares and a grouse; from Wootton Bassett to Sawbridgeworth, six packages of wedding cake and one plum pudding in the same mail. Live leeches have been sent in bladders, and the bladders bursting, the leeches have been

found investigating and exploring the interior of her majesty's mails. A live mouse, a corkscrew, a paper of shoe nails, a roast pheasant to Mrs. —, Brighton; part of a human limb for dissection (detected by the smell), rolls of cigars, lucifer matches, detonating powder, prussic acid, a pistol loaded to the muzzle, a poodle dog, a sailor's jacket, bottles of perfumery, a sheath knife, a full suit for an infant to Lady I—, "with love;" a jar of pickles, a porcelain tea set, a box full of live spiders, a young alligator or horned lizard, alive, "to Master I— H—, to assist him in his natural history studies;" a case of dentist's instruments, daguerreotype portraits, and a live frog, are among the multifarious articles that are sometimes sent as letters. There is a regulation that requires all glass, edged tools, pyrotechnics, liquids, and whatever is liable to injure the mail, to be stopped, but many of these things travel, unobserved, to their journey's end.

Sometimes newspapers are made to carry brief messages, the sender supposing there can be no harm in sending "just a word." Here are samples of writing attempted to be concealed in a newspaper, with the penalty attached, double letter postage—fourpence for every ounce:

| | | | | |
|--------------------|---|-------|--------------------------|-------|
| "With my love," | - | 1s 4d | "Now, postman, don't you | |
| "All well," | - | 1s 0d | steal this paper," | 1s 4d |
| "My dearest," | - | 0s 8d | "Send your daguerreo- | |
| "Pray, come soon," | - | 1s 4d | type," | 1s 4d |
| "Baby well," | - | 1s 0d | "I leave to morrow," | 1s 4d |

Most of these singular packages are prepaid, but if the person to whom they are addressed will not take the letter or package, it may be returned, and the sender compelled, by summary process, to pay the full amount of postage, being double the sum it would have been if paid in advance.

The articles that pass through our own post office are quite as varied as those of our English neighbors. A writer in *Hours at Home* says:

"I have once more visited the dead letter office—a visit that always gives pleasure and gratifies curiosity. Here I saw clerks taking \$500 a day out of the letters so profusely scattered over their desks, and among the various articles recently taken out of their envelopes I noticed the following: slippers, valentines, a duck's head, thermometers, false teeth, pistols, mittens, fern leaves, false hair, laces, paper collars, epaulets, horns, pipes, watch cases, hoops, albums, dolls (one of them two feet high—it must have required a monster envelope), butterflies, mats, medicines, silver goblets of full size, earrings, butter knives, spoons, gold and silver

watches (very little gold and silver about them, however), shells, purses, soap, sugar, tea, coffee, bows and arrows, books, pictures, a box of cigars, a bottle of Jamaica ginger, a squirrel's tail, prisms, combs, boxes, &c."

It used to be a common source of amusement to the clerks to repeat the old story of rural members of Congress sending home under the official frank their dirty linen for the wash. How true the report is I cannot say.

Reviews of Philatelic Publications.

The Permanent Postage Stamp Album. By H. STAFFORD SMITH.
London: E. Marlborough & Co.; Brighton: Stafford Smith & Co.

With great pleasure we introduce to our readers this new album, arranged upon the permanent system, that is to say, it has supplementary leaves distributed through the book to meet future demands, but we cannot say how any album can possibly be permanent, excepting arranged upon the chronological system. Admitting the work before us is sufficient for ten years to come, it certainly is not for one hundred, consequently cannot be permanent.

On the first page we notice a very good map of the world—good because it only contains those places issuing stamps, and notes them all, such as Sarawak, Orange, Free States, &c., and is not filled with a lot of useless names, *i. e.*, to the stamp collector.

In the preface the author has done us the honor to give an engraving and plan for affixing stamps in an album, as advocated by us in page 14, vol. I. The design is very similar throughout to the Mulready series. We are very sorry to see four pages devoted to the Hamburg humbugs, and also note six spaces left for the Paraguay interloper exposed in our last. Our only serious objection is being printed on both sides of the paper. It altogether presents a very neat appearance, the binding being especially attractive. We predict a large sale for it in England.

The Philatelist's Album for American and Foreign Postage and Revenue Stamps. New York: J. W. Scott & Co., 34 Liberty St.

Last month we gave a short notice of this work from advance sheets. It is now before us in all the beauty of its elegant binding. It contains a complete list of the United States revenue stamps, which we shall take the liberty of transferring to our own columns. It is ruled to contain nearly 6,000 stamps, and is altogether the best album for the youthful amateur extant. The dollar edition is very neatly got up in illustrated wrappers. The binding, being gray,

does not get soiled so easily as yellow, in which this style of binding is generally done. We notice, by the table in the commencement, that there has not been two thousand distinct varieties of government postage stamps issued. There is not the least doubt but what this will meet with an unprecedented demand.

Clippings.

I MUST again urge that steps be immediately taken to erect a suitable post office in the city of New York. A most eligible site has been purchased there for this purpose. The necessities of the public service demand that there shall be no further delay in this case. The building now occupied for a post office is what is left of an old church. It is patched and battered, full of dark corners and discomforts. The sunlight can scarcely penetrate its gloomy interior. Gas is burnt there day and night, and men work by it. It is over an old graveyard, and under its rotten floors lie skulls and bones and the damp mold of dead men. On removing the floors for repairs a short time ago, these unwelcome sights were exposed to view. The building is unfit for any use whatever; yet there, in summer and winter, in heat and cold, by gaslight, from night until morning, and from morning until night, 300 men are at work for the people of the whole United States, and inhaling a poisoned atmosphere every breath they draw. It is a disgrace to the city of New York and a disgrace to the nation. An average of nearly thirty men are sick all the time from laboring in that unwholesome place.—*Postmaster-General Randall's Report.*

The *Round Table* of Jan. 9, in its "Table Talk," on page 29, cites, as "an amusing illustration of the astounding ignorance which even well-informed Englishmen sometimes exhibit in talking of American affairs," the fact that, in the article on Philately in Routledge's *Every Boy's Book*, "we are gravely assured that among the engravings on United States postage stamps are heads of Mr. Lincoln and General Thomas (Stonewall) Jackson. Stamps of the Confederacy, we are likewise informed, were ornamented with a portrait of Hickory Jackson, a hero of the war 1812." Now the head of Lincoln *does* appear upon the 15 cent United States stamp, which was put forth in 1866, and that of Andrew Jackson *did* adorn two distinct stamps of the Confederacy; so that the only blunder in the article was the assertion in regard to Stonewall Jackson, whose portrait never appeared upon any stamp whatever. "Of course, mistakes of this sort are not very heinous," but the *Round Table* should be surer of its knowledge before attempting to point out the "astounding blunders" of those better informed than itself.

Correspondence.

BOTH SIDES OF THE QUESTION.

HEIDELBERG, DEC. 28, 1868.

EDITOR AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY:

SIR—We have this day received, through a friend, the back numbers of the American Journal of Philately.

We take great pleasure in expressing to you our agreeable surprise to see how beautifully this periodical had been got up. It not only is equal to any, but also surpasses by far, many of its sisters.

We have shown it about and it has everywhere created a sensation. You may expect soon to have subscribers from this part of the world. Yours truly, DIE BRIEFMARKENHANDLUNG,
pp. W. H. Faber & Co., Heidelberg.

To show that there are differences of opinion on all subjects, we print the following letter we received from an unprincipled youth of weak intellect.

MONTROSE, FEB. 10, 1869.

J. W. SCOTT & Co: DEAR SIRS—Enclosed please find fifty cents for which you may send me, for one year commencing Jan. 1869, that sheet called “The American Journal of Philately,” *not* because that I think it *amounts* to anything (for I take a *paper* of Mr. Trifet that *beats* it all to pieces), but that I may read the amount of *slang* that is hurled at every “Stamp Dealer” *except* “J. W. S. & Co.,” which is about *all* that is contained in *said* JOURNAL. But fifty cents won’t *break me*, and it *may* be the *making* of *you*.

F. A. DEANS.

Answers to Correspondents.

E. B. V.—We cannot answer persons by post if they do not enclose stamp for return postage. Every paper leaves this office carefully wrapped and addressed, and if subscribers do not receive it by the 21st of the month in good condition the fault is with the postmaster, to whom they should apply for redress. If papers are sent in the middle of the month we have to pay postage. Single copies can be obtained at 10 cents each, post free.

C. W. W.—We never send receipts for subscriptions for the paper except it is enclosed in a stamped directed envelope when we sign it and return.

THE NEW YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY.—Terms of membership, \$2.50 per annum. The transactions of the Society are published in this Journal only. Correspondence on Philatelic subjects earnestly requested. Address to the Secretary. The next regular meeting will be held at the Society's Rooms, 34 Liberty Street, on Saturday, February 20th, 1869. A full attendance is requested.

Rob't DINWIDDIE, Jr., Secretary.

P. O. Box 9, New York.

SETS OF SAXONY for sale at unprecedentedly low prices. The Royal Arms, 6 stamps, 3 pl. $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, 3, 5, &c., all uncanceled, only 25 cents the set. For sale by J. W. SCOTT & Co., 34 Liberty Street, New York City, the cheapest dealers in the world.

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34 Liberty Street.

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THE
 AMERICAN JOURNAL
 OF
 PHILATELY

AN ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOL. II.

MARCH 20, 1869.

NO. 15.

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- No. 4.—Contains 25 Used Postage Stamps,**
Including Queensland, Switzerland, Sweden, 30 c. U. S., Hong Kong and twenty other stamps. Price 25 cents, post free 28 cents.
- No. 5.—Contains 25 Used United States Revenue Stamps,**
All different and in good condition. Price 25 cents, post free 28 cents.
- No. 6.—Contains 20 Unused Foreign Postage Stamps,**
Including Egypt, Uruguay, Prince Edwards Island, Brazil, Sandwich Islands and fifteen others. Only 50 cents. post free 53 cents.
- No. 7.—Contains 20 Used Foreign Postage Stamps,**
Including Western Australia, Victoria, New Zealand, Spain, Holstein, Italy, India and thirteen others. Only 50 cents. post free 53 cents.
- No. 8.—Contains 25 Scarce Used and Unused Stamps,**
Including, amongst others of equal scarcity, Roumania, Queensland, Tasmania, States of the Church new issue, Costa Rica, Russia, Ceylon, Bremen and seventeen others. Only \$1.00, post free 1.03.
- No. 9.—Contains 50 Foreign Postage Stamps,**
Including Queensland and other Colonial stamps, all different and warranted genuine. Only 25 cents; post paid, 28 cents.
The cheapest packet ever put up by any dealer in the world.
-

All the Stamps contained in the above packets are WARRANTED GENUINE AND IN GOOD CONDITION. We make up Special packets to order at any price, from twenty-five cents to fifty dollars.

J. W. SCOTT & Co. are also the proprietors of the elegant album bearing their name, which is retailed at the extremely low price of \$2.50 in cloth, or bound in Morocco, gilt edges, only \$4.00. See the opinions of the press concerning them. Every one that has seen it concurs in pronouncing it the *best* in every particular.

When visiting New York do not fail to call and examine our varied and beautiful assortment of both clean and canceled Foreign Postage Stamps, and every thing connected with the Trade.

Dealers Supplied. Every one treated liberally. The largest Stock in the world. The highest price given for all kinds of stamps in any quantities.

We have a few of the packets named on our last list still in stock.

J. W. SCOTT & CO., 34 Liberty Street, New York.

P. S.—In making small change enclose unused U. S. Postage Stamps, not pennies.

Franks and Franking.

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

A number of articles have lately appeared in the different papers on the abuse of the franking privilege. As this "franking" is one way of paying postage, or rather one way of sending letters free, and as Philately embraces everything relating to postage, I am tempted to encroach upon your time and space, hoping to interest your readers, by giving a short description of the different franks and the persons entitled to use them. In the first place, a frank is, in the abstract, simply a person's name written upon the back of a letter or document, with the official title which allows the person free postage. Those who can thus pass letters, documents or parcels free are Congressmen, Senators, Heads of Departments, Postmasters, and a host of other officials too numerous to mention, as the above-named are sufficient to illustrate the subject.

A Congressman or Senator, if he desires to send a communication, is expected by the Post Office Department to place his name, in his own proper handwriting, in the right-hand corner of the enclosure, with his official title. This regulation is one "more honored in the breach than the observance," as not one person out of fifty entitled to the franking privilege ever thinks of writing his name. The way the matter is managed is as follows: These labor-saving gentlemen have made for themselves stamps resembling somewhat those used for marking, and with one of these stamps and an ink pad, a boy can easily frank ten thousand documents a day. It has long been a custom for Congressmen to send under their official franks all sorts of matter. In the last political contest whole editions of campaign journals and papers were scattered broadcast through the land by means of these franks. Whether our law-givers should have this liberty allowed them I do not pretend to discuss, as altogether foreign to our subject, but this is the abuse spoken of in the papers. A frank, then, is simply a name of a privileged person attached to any matter passing through the mails. For instance, the Honorable John Smith wishes to write to his friend Horace Greeley, he addresses his letter as follows:

John Smith, M. C.

*Horace Greeley, Esq.,
New York.*

The magical words John Smith, M. C., pass the letter free to its destination. The heads of departments all use these stamps, and certainly have good need to, as the mass of official correspondence leaving their Bureaus is enormous.

All papers sent through the mail from these different offices are marked in this way, varying, of course, the name of the Bureau :

Official Business.

*War Department,
Adjutant General's Office,
L. Thomas, Adjutant Gen.*

*Lieut. Peter Brown,
U. S. Army.*

In post-marking this sort of mail matter, the Postmaster generally stamps as near over the name as possible. I think now I have fully explained what is meant by franking. As no doubt many of your readers collect everything in the way of stamps, I would propose to them to make a collection of these franks. I am sure they will consider, in the end, neither time nor money wasted.

These franks are a species of postage, and apart from the variety in an album, the collector would obtain *fac similes* of the autographs of our eminent men. In order to further this proposition, I will present to any of the subscribers to the *American Journal of Philately*, who will communicate to me through the editor of this paper, a good specimen of an official frank. Should they reside out of New York City, of course it will be necessary for them to enclose stamp to prepay postage. Should any of my stamp collecting friends desire to obtain any particular frank, I shall be glad to furnish it through Mr. Scott, if obtainable. Before closing I desire to say a few words upon a subject which appears to be very imperfectly understood. I allude to the so-called "postage currency," the proper name of which is "fractional currency." The manner in which the name originated is as follows: At the commencement of the war, numbers of our patriotic citizens, distrusting the stability of one of the best Governments the world ever saw, commenced hoarding up all the specie they could get hold of. As a natural consequence small change became very scarce, and persons were at a loss how to manage. Some inventive genius suggested the use of postage stamps as currency, and the idea was eagerly adopted. Many stamps of different values were pasted upon cards and passed readily for small change. The Government, seeing this procedure an established custom, determined to issue a species of paper money, which was accordingly done, and being authorized by Act of Congress, March 5, 1863, became a legal tender. If my memory serves me, the old five cent notes had upon them a representation of a five cent stamp, as well as some of the other notes. This I know to be the the real origin of the term "postage currency."

I hope ere long to give the readers of this article a complete list of all the officials entitled to use the franking privilege for the transaction of public business.

Notes on the "Rivadavia Series" of the Argentine Republic.

BY WILLARD K. FREEMAN.

A twelvemonth has scarcely passed since the "*large figure*" Argentine Confederation was the general topic of conversation among philatelists both at home and abroad. Long and persistent were the arguments in its favor, and many were the letters bearing upon the subject transmitted from continent to continent. After a warfare of two years (December, 1866), the acknowledgment of a *bona fide* issue of "*large figures*" was unanimously admitted.

While examining my collection a short time since, I observed a great difference between a number of the 5 centavas stamps of the "Rivadavia Series," and upon closer inspection I have discovered two marked varieties—two distinct sets—a *large* and a *small figure*.

Before going into the minute details which characterize the one from the other, perhaps a sketch of the past *birth, life and death* of these stamps may not be uninteresting to your readers.

The set comprising three stamps: 5 centavas red, 10 centavas green, 15 centavas blue, was printed in Paris in 1864.

In due course of time, the first stock was exhausted, and a second and third were forwarded to the postal authorities. 600,000 5 centavas stamps formed part of this latter order, and, together with the 1,500,000 previously sent, aided much to wear upon the dies. In July, 1866, the plates were so badly worn, that it became necessary to forward them to the American Bank Note Company, of this city, to meet the proper repairs. They were returned to Paris in October, and once more employed. It is therefore quite natural to suppose that the 5c.—the smallest value—would have been used more frequently than the others, and that each time a batch was worked off the plates would be in want of some little repair. And thus the variations have been brought about; those of the last order differing very widely from those first sent to the Republic.

THE LARGE FIGURES (as previously referred to) are much more prominent in the 5c. than on the other specimens, yet there is considerable difference between the 10 and 15 c's of the 1864 and 1866 issues. But to examine more closely I have chosen the lowest value. In the *large* figure the back ground is clearly defined, being composed of fine lines crossing each other at right angles, thus forming minute diamonds, and the printing is very distinct. In the *small* figure many of the specimens are perfect blotches—the back ground, a plain, unbroken surface, and the printing scarcely

legible. The principal difference, of course, is the figure 5, which occupies the angles of the stamp. The curved surface to the right is distinctly shaded with a dark line, and the space between the two lines giving the shape to the figure, is a blank, unbroken ground; while in many of the smaller type the figure itself is run together in several places, dividing the bend from the upper part, etc. Another prominent variety consists in the superior execution of the head of Rivadavia in the one, and the ferocious expression depicted in the other; the position of the eyes and the distance from the left corner of the mouth to the ear also are all marked differences, which may be discovered upon close inspection. The *large* figure is $\frac{1}{3}$ longer than any of its *small* figured brethren. I know of no series of stamps which vary so much in color as this Rivadavia issue.

Through the kindness of the members of the "New York Philatelic Society," I have before me a hundred specimens of the several values, and I append:

A LIST OF THE "RIVADAVIA ISSUE."

1864. Name (Republica Argentina) and value in colored letters in oval frame, containing bust of President Don Bernardin Rivadavia, to left; figure of value in each angle; col. imp., rect., unperforated, unw'mk'd.
 5 centavas (a) brick red *.
 Same, w'mk'd R. A., thick paper.
 5 centavas (b) brick red.
 (c) rose.
- 186 ℓ . Same, "*Large Figure.*"
 5 centavas (d) red
 (e) reddish brown.
1866. October. "*Smaller Figures.*"
 5 centavas (f) red.
Varieties, thinner paper, perforated.
 (g) rose.
 (h) light brick.
 (i) brownish red.
 (j) lake.
 (k) deep lake.
 (l) carmine.
1864. Bust of President in oval, name (Republica) above, and (Argentina) below, in white letters, figure of value in each angle, col. imp., rect., unperforated, unw'mk'd.
 10 centavas (a) green *.
 Same, w'mk'd R. A., thick paper.
 10 centavas (b) dark green.

-
1866. Same, "*Large figures.*"
 10 centavas (c) deep green.
 (d) greenish blue.
1866. October. "*Smaller Figures.*"
 10 centavas (e) green.
Varieties, thinner paper, perforated.
 (f) light green.
 (g) dark green.
 (h) yellow green.
 (i) emerald green.
 (j) deep green.
 (k) myrtle green.
1864. Name (Republica Argentina) and value in col. letters in oval frame, containing bust of President, figure of value each side; col. imp., rect., unperforated, unw'mk'd.
 15 centavas (a) blue.*
 Same, w'mk'd R. A., thick paper.
 15 centavas (b) dark blue.
 (c) light blue.
1866. Same, "*Large Figures.*"
 15 centavas (d) dull blue.
1866. October. "*Smaller Figures.*"
 15 centavas (e) blue.
 (f) light blue.
Varieties, glossy paper, perforated.
 (g) French blue.
 Same, thinner paper.
 (h) pale blue.
 (i) dark blue.
 (j) intense blue.
 (k) cobalt.
-

*It is stated that Dr. Magnus possesses these specimens *obliterated*, and hence our classification.

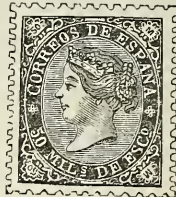
MANY A MICKLE MAKES A MUCKLE.—It has been estimated, by careful calculation, that if, during the last postal year, stamped envelopes had been used in every instance where postage-stamps were put on the letters and packages mailed in these United States, the mere omission of those tiny squares of paper would have lessened the weight of the mail-bags by more than forty thousand pounds, and have saved in paper alone fifteen or twenty thousand dollars.—*Hearth and Home.*

Newly Issued Stamps.

We will commence this month's article by presenting our readers with the engravings of several stamps that have been described in



last month's JOURNAL. We often obtain information from our European contemporaries and correspondents within a few days of going to press, sometimes not having an opportunity of seeing the stamps we describe, and often only obtaining a canceled specimen, from



which it is impossible to obtain a correct engraving; and even when we are fortunate enough to get a clean copy, our artist may not have the necessary time to prepare the engraving. We make these remarks by way of an apology for the late appearance of some of the cuts.



Our first cut represents the new penny Ceylon. It is followed by the 50 m. de esc. Spain, which is the only one of the new set presenting sufficient variation from the last issue to be worth reproducing. We also give the type of the new Holland described in our last. They are already beginning to get quite plentiful here, both clean and canceled.

BRAZIL.—The entire set of the present issue are now being printed on chemical paper, which gives them a bluish tinge. We understand that the change in paper is made in consequence of the stamps being cleaned by fraudulent parties and used over again. We have lately seen all the preceding set (Roman figures) perforated. It is as great an improvement in appearance as it is an advantage in separating the sheet.

CUBA.—We are now enabled to give the colors of the other values not mentioned in our last. The colors for the present year are:

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 5 centimos, pink. | 20 centimos, orange. |
| 10 do light brown. | 40 do lilac. |

They are perforated but unwatermarked.

BELGIUM.—The color of the 20c. is now changed to a grayish blue. *Le Timbre-Poste* gives the report of a new issue in preparation for this country, which will, in all probability, bear the effigy of the reigning king.

CORRIENTES.—Our European contemporaries have at last admitted the variety on yellow paper to be genuine.

TURKEY, like Cuba, has got up a new set on an economical plan, having simply changed the color of its stamp without any apparent

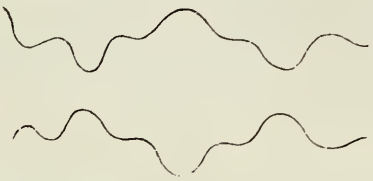
reason. The unpaid letter stamps still retain their primitive brown. The adhesives are as follows :

| | | |
|--------------------|--|---------------------|
| 10 paras, lilac. | | 2 piastres, orange. |
| 20 do green. | | 5 do blue. |
| 1 piastre, yellow. | | 25 do vermillion. |

RUSSIA.—Has at last given us something new in the shape of envelopes. It will be seen,



by the annexed design, that in this case it is a change for the worse. The new set reminds us of the eagle Austrians, the last we should have



suspected the Russian government of copying.

The stamps are printed in the left-hand corner of the envelope. The values and colors are as follows :

| | | |
|--------------------|--|-------------------|
| 10 kopecks, brown. | | 20 kopecks, blue. |
| 30 kopecks, rose. | | |

A change has also been made in the watermark of the adhesives. We give a reduced copy of the design.

GAMBIA.—Another of the British colonies in Africa are about to issue postage stamps of their own. The design consists of the head of Queen Victoria. The stamps are nearly square, and are of the values of four and six pence. The colors are brown and blue, respectively.

TRANSVAAL REPUBLIC.—Africa will soon boast as many “stamp-producing” countries as this continent if they continue. It was about this time last year that we first noticed a set for Orange States, and now Gambia and the Transvaal Republic follow in quick succession. The more the merrier say we, and hope to give more information in regard to this set next month.

DANISH WEST INDIES.—We understand a new set of stamps are being prepared by a steamship company, under the sanction of the authorities.

UNITED STATES.—Our readers may look out for the new stamps early in April, but they must not think that we were trying to fool them if they do not get them.

BRITISH COLUMBIA adds to its present values the following, which are printed from the old 3-penny die, the same as is now doing duty as a two cent :

| | | |
|----------------------|--|-------------------|
| 5 cents, orange red. | | 25 cents, yellow. |
| 10 cents, pink. | | 50 cents, violet. |
| 1 dollar, green. | | |

The value and obliteration will be printed in black.

ABYSSINIA.—We notice in the *Philatelist* that the "Field Force" in Abyssinia used a small pink envelope stamped with a couple of 4 annas, Indian adhesives, obliterated with the letters A. F. F. P., and hand stamped on the reverse with a circle of words reading ABYSSINIAN FIELD FORCE POST.

WURTEMBERG.—The 1 kreuzer of the new set has at length made its appearance. The design is the same as the 7, of which an engraving was given in the January number. It is printed in pale green on white unwatermarked paper, and is perforated in the same style as the Prussian.

The New Postage Stamps.—National Designs of a Pogramatic Character.

As previously noticed in this paper, preparations are being made for the introduction of the new series of postage stamps furnished to the post office department, according to contract, by the National Bank Note Co., of this city. The new stamps are calculated to excite no little attention, as in design they are a novel application of the national symbolism generally adopted for the artistic embellishment of postage stamps.

The similarity of monarchical institutions—the one form of government common to the European postal system, has confined the symbolism of stamps to the heads of the reigning sovereigns, national crowns, or the heraldic escutcheons of dynasties; but owing to their modern origin and the republican form of government, the United States have originated for themselves a national symbolism that is independent of the laws of heraldry, and in keeping with the new era of human progress, of which they are the acknowledged exponents. The new issue is based upon this distinction. It is a kind of symbolism confined for the most part to the distinctive mission of our American institutions. It bears wherever it goes, throughout our own continent or over the sea, our national flag, and our national colors, red, white and blue.

The one cent stamp heads the list with the vignette of Benjamin Franklin, the first Postmaster General under the Colonial system, as well as the first under the Confederation preparatory to the Federal Union. In the two, three, and twelve cent stamps, there is an illustration of the improvements in mail transportation, from the primitive rider on horseback to the railroad for land service, and the steamship for ocean service. The remaining six of the set are also national, and as such form a series of their own, beginning in the six cent with a handsome copy of the face of Washington, as in Stuart's picture in the White House, and finishing with the

ninety-cent with the head of Lincoln, as suggestive of a new era of universal freedom. Two others, the fifteen and twenty four cents respectively, have microscopical engravings of the Landing of Columbus and of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence in the Rotunda of the Capitol—the former recalling the opening of this continent to the advancement of modern civilization, the latter implying the consecration of its vast area to the protection and enforcement of the inalienable rights of all men. In the ten cent stamp the emblem of America appears perched on the American shield, while in the thirty cent stamps all the national emblems are included, the eagle, the shield, and the flag, and presenting also the “Red, White and Blue.”—*Associated Press.*

Transactions of the New York Philatelic Society.

The regular monthly meeting of this Society was held at their rooms, on Saturday, the 13th inst., at half past four o'clock, P. M.

After the usual routine of business the Secretary read some interesting letters received since the last meeting, including a very complimentary one from our newly elected honorary member.

A resolution was passed requesting those members who have changed their residence or place of business to communicate their new addresses to the Secretary.

Mr. “L. H. B., of West Springfield, Mass.,” correspondent of the Stamp Collectors' Magazine, having been proposed, was unanimously elected an honorary member of this Society.

An article on the “St. Louis Stamps,” by Mr. L. W. Durbin, was read by Mr. Scott, which will shortly be published.

The Society adjourned at half past six o'clock until called by Board of Directors.

ROBERT DINWIDDIE, *Secretary.*

Reviews of Philatelic Publications.

The Continental Philatelic Magazine. No. 1, February. Amsterdam: C. Van Rinsum.

We commenced collecting postage stamps in 1858, and have continued an ardent philatelist up to the present day. During that time we have been acquainted with a large number of collectors, but are sorry to add that by far the greater part were simply *collectors*, caring very little about the history of the stamps, or anything connected with them. It seemed to be the height of the ambition of those having Lallier's albums to fill all its pages, whereas those who collected in a blank book generally only purchased pretty specimens—a Costa Rica stamp having greater value in their

eyes than an 1854 Luzon. We have often tried to induce such an one to subscribe to one of the many excellent stamp papers, but have been invariably answered, "the reading is too dry." We wish particularly to call the attention of these to *The Continental Philatelic Magazine*. It is the most amusing paper published. It afforded us more merriment than any thing that has come into our hands for years.

The editor, in his opening, states, "It grieves us that we can't place in this first number the article which the great philatelist, Mr. Edw. L. Pemberton, had promised us." We should advise him not to insert any communication from the gentleman he names, as it would entirely alter the character of his paper. It now occupies a distinct place amongst philatelic literature. As the publishers have an agent in Canada we predict a large sale for it here, as it is far superior to any comic paper published in America. It has the honor of being the first European paper to describe the new issue for the United States.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the American Journal of Philately :

DEAR SIR: I have in my collection a stamp that I have never seen mentioned in any of the stamp magazines, and as I found it amongst some waste paper that had been accumulating some years I am unable to trace its history. Can you, or any of your readers, furnish the desired information. The design of the stamp is as follows: Transverse oblong, composed of single lines, with SOLDIER'S LETTER on the left side, 45TH REGIMENT at top, and N. Y. S. V. on the right side. In the centre is written A. R. Basson, Adjt. The whole is surrounded by four fine lines. It is printed black on heavy buff paper. The size of this singular stamp is $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches by $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch. Hoping, if the stamp is not well known, you will find space for this in your valuable paper, I am sir, Yours very truly,

AN ADMIRER.

To the Editor of the American Journal of Philately :

DEAR SIR: I notice in the article on the Brattleboro' Stamp, in No. 13 of the JOURNAL, that you state: "They are, so far as I have been able to find, canceled with a stroke of red ink drawn in part across them." I enclose for your inspection one on the original letter, with the word *paid* printed half across the stamp. Please return it at your earliest convenience,

And believe me yours, truly,

BRATTLEBORO'.

[The letter in question was received by L. B. Woodruff, of this city, in 1846. It is post-marked Brattleboro, Vt., October 10th, in red ink, and is also stamped with the word paid. The stamp is canceled with the same word.—Ed.]

Clippings.

LIST OF UNITED STATES REVENUE STAMPS.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|------|---|---|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| Agreement, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 5 | |
| Bank Check, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 2 | |
| Bill of Lading, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 10 | |
| Bill of Sale of Vessel, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 25, 50? | |
| Bond, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 25, 50? | |
| Certificate, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 2, 5, 10, 25 | |
| Contract, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 10 | |
| Charter Party, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1.00, 3.00, 5.00, 10.00 | |
| Conveyance, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 50?, 1.00, 2.00, 5.00, 10.00, 20.00 | |
| Entry of Goods, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 25, 50, 1.00 | |
| Express, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1, 2, 5 | |
| Foreign Exchange, | 3, | 5, | 10, | 15, | 20, | 30, | 50, | 70, | 1.00, | 1.30, | 1.60, | 1.90 | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | | |
| Inland Exchange, | 1, | 2, | 3, | 4, | 5, | 6, | 10, | 15, | 20, | 30, | 40, | 60, | 1.00, | 1.50 | . | . | . | . | . | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 2.50, 3.50 | |
| Insurance, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 10?, 25, 50?, 1.00? |
| Lease, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | x 50, 1.00 |
| Life Insurance, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 25, 50, 1.00 |
| Lottery Ticket, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 50? |
| Manifest, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1.00, 3.00, 5.00, 10.00? |
| Mortgage, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 50, 1.00, 2.00, 5.00, 10.00, 15.00, 25.00 |
| Original Process, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 50 |
| Passage Ticket, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 50, 1.00 |
| Playing Cards, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10? |
| Power of Attorney, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 10, 25, 50?, 1.00 |
| Probate of Will, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 50, 1.00, 2.00, 5.00, 10.00, 20.00 |
| Protest, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 25 |
| Proprietary, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10 |
| Surety bond, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 50 |
| Telegraph, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 1, 3 |
| U. S. Internal Revenue, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 2, 50.00, 200.00 |
| Warehouse Receipt, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 25 |
| Writ, | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 50? |

Those marked with note of interrogation, although generally catalogued, we do not believe to exist. All the two cent, except the U. S. Internal Revenue, are in two colors, viz. : blue and yellow.—*The Philatelist's Album.*

CURIOUS CANCELATION.—Many collectors have been puzzled by the discoloration on nearly every specimen of BLOOD'S PENNY POST Stamp. It is simply the method of cancelation employed. The clerk, instead of using a stamp and ink pad, simply dips a pencil in acid and touches the stamp, which instantly destroys the color.

SOME misapprehension has existed touching the use of the high values 5 pesos and 10 p., which we are in a position to clear up. It seems so many single letters had been "strayed or stolen" during their transportation from Sante Fé de Bogota to the Port of Santa Marta, that the merchants there are in the habit of enclosing the whole of their correspondence in one or sometimes more packets, the risk of loss being sometimes considerably less. The same contrivance is employed by the Mexican merchants for London correspondence; large packets frequently arriving here, addressed to the British postmaster, which are opened, and the contents distributed to the respective consignees.—*The Philatelist*.

NEW CALEDONIA.—Our publishers have photographed the entire sheet of New Caledonia stamps, thus putting it in the reach of all to cover up that eyesore of nearly every collector, page 13, of Lallier's album.

The photographs being printed on unglazed paper, and the exact size and shape of the originals, we should advise collectors to be on the alert so as not to be swindled by them. To prevent fraud, Messrs. J. W. Scott & Co. have had the back of the sheets printed over.

Answers to Correspondents.

E. L. PEMBERTON, BIRMINGHAM.—Yours of the 12th of October was promptly answered, giving the information you required. We have sent the JOURNAL regularly, as also the back numbers, but have not received any answer to ours yet.

PIQUILLO, BOSTON.—Your communication in regard to the Haytien stamps was not what we expected. We should be glad to have any information you can furnish in regard to the new stamps, but if we were to commence publishing private parties' opinions concerning dealers, we should have room for nothing else.

WATERMARKS.—Pierre Mahe of 9 Rue de Clichy, Paris, France, has published a 60 page pamphlet on Watermarks. It contains numerous illustrations, and is a very useful book. We are unacquainted with any other work on the subject.

PHILATELIST, CHARLESTON.—The new issue of stamps for our own country, will not be sent to every part of the country on the same day. They will be supplied to Postmasters as they run out of the present stock. Special instructions have been issued that Postmasters shall in no case sell the new issue as long as they have one of the old stock remaining.

THE NEW YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY.—Terms of membership, \$2.50 per annum. Initiation fee, \$1. The transactions of the Society are published in this Journal monthly. Correspondence on Philatelic subjects earnestly requested. Members will be notified of date of next meeting. All communications should be addressed to

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THE
AMERICAN JOURNAL
OF
PHILATELY



AN ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOL. II.

APRIL 20, 1869.

NO. 16.

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United States Local Stamps.

BY J. W. SCOTT.

[Continued from Page 18.]

PRICE'S CITY EXPRESS, POST 2 CENTS.—Surrounding oval enclosing female bust. Black impression on colored glazed paper, oval. Green ; red.

COUNTERFEIT.—This is a very good imitation, although the difference is more easily seen than described. The face in the counterfeit appears like a crying baby, instead of a dignified lady as in the genuine. *Test*: The letters EXP touch each other in the counterfeit, in the genuine each letter is distinct.

RUSSELL above, POST OFFICE below, bust in oval in centre, with 8TH in small oval to the left, and AVE. to the right. The whole is surrounded by an octagonal frame composed of two fine lines. Colored impression on colored paper ; red on pale pink ; dark brown on brown ; green on green.

COUNTERFEIT.—1st. This is easily distinguished from the genuine. *Test*: In the genuine there is a dash and two dots under the TH following the 8. In the counterfeit the dash has been omitted, and only the dots left under the TH and AVE. The two flourishes above RUSSELL are omitted in this counterfeit.

2d. A much closer imitation than the preceding, but the period after RUSSELL is square instead of round as in the genuine. *Test*: Four short dashes under the 8th instead of one dash—and two dots as in the genuine.

INTERNATIONAL LETTER EXPRESS, Two Cents, surrounded by a printer's border. Black impression, oblong ; salmon. This being simply a printed label, it is nearly impossible to distinguish it from a counterfeit. It has either been re-printed or re-set with the same type.

C. & W. BRIDGE DESPATCH, surrounded by heavy border, bronze impression on colored paper, oblong ; green. This belongs to the same class as the last, and has either been re-printed or re-set.

We now come to a very scarce stamp that was used in Hartford in 1845. The design consists of a man stepping across a river from one city to another, with a bag on his shoulder, inscribed MAIL. A ferry boat is crossing in the distance. Black impression on yellow paper, small rect. It is printed from a copper plate ; we have never seen a counterfeit.

GORDON'S CITY EXPRESS in circle surrounding letter-carrier, 2 on the left, and cts. on the right. The whole is enclosed in square of four single lines. Black impression on green glazed paper, square.

COUNTERFEIT.—This is a very fair imitation, but amongst other defects shows the "postman's" left hand, which in the genuine is in his pocket. *Test*: In the counterfeit the shadow from each foot is distinctly separate, whereas in the genuine, the shading on the ground is run together.

(*To be continued.*)

A Plea for Philately and Philatelists

BY "COSMOPOLITAN."

"Let those collect who ne'er did it before,
"And those who do collect, do it the more."

Many well meaning sensible people, smile and scoff at the idea of persons, who are perhaps, as sensible as themselves, collecting what they profanely term "Dirty little bits of paper." Yet perhaps these very individuals are accumulating at home, and guarding with the tenderest care and solicitude, a heap of dirty coppers in the shape of pennies; paying fabulous prices for some, because our wise and beneficent Uncle Samuel does not see fit to issue but a limited number. Or others whose sole object in life, is to possess a certain Beetle, or Butterfly, others to whom an old black letter worm eaten tome is a mine of wealth. In short all men have their hobbies, just as little girls used to have their dolls some few years ago, before they became ready made women. Now, brother collectors of minerals, prints, coins, plants, engravings, buttons! books, &c., why should not I have my hobby, and follow it out instead of being ridiculed? My friend of the button-mania, what interest is it to me, that you possess a collection of 15,000 different buttons. All I care about them is that my "*Cara Sposa*" supplies them to my clothes when needed. The idea of collecting buttons, ha! ha! I have just as good a right to laugh at you, as you to sneer at me for being a philatelist. My friend the herpetologist, I don't care for your fine specimen of "*Isthognathus DeKagir*," or "*Phrynosonas Donglasie*." What to me are birds, serpents, coins, books, ferns, &c., when I can revel in the beauties of a rare and valuable postage stamp. Let us then as we all require a certain degree of forbearance, from the eminently practical people of our country, for our little foibles; cling to each other and bringing home to our minds, the old adage, "One man's meat is another man's poison," cease to ridicule each other's fancies. Let us take a view of the few benefits to be derived from the study of philately,

and ask ourselves why it is preferable as an amusement and occupation to the thousand and one, other subjects for collectors to expend their mental energies upon. A person collecting minerals, or other objects of a like nature, can never expect to make his collection complete; besides even to possess a respectable collection of books, coins, &c., requires a very large expenditure of time and money, much more than many collectors could afford, even were they willing to give. These collections are bulky, require great care for their proper preservation, and much study, to be properly posted up as to their history. To none of these objections is philately liable. For a very moderate expense an excellent collection of stamps can be procured, a collection can be made complete, at least, during the lifetime of the collector. It requires very little trouble to keep it in complete order, and can be carried about in a small parcel. To the young school-boy who is supplied by his doting parents, with a sufficiency of spending money, for his little wants, apples, tops, kites, &c., and a little over, there can be nothing more improving and interesting, than the study of philately. He supplies himself at a very moderate cost, with a good album and catalogue, and goes to work. In the interval of study and rainy days, when outdoor sports have to be given up, he can always find an inexhaustible store of amusement in his album.

In pursuing this study, he becomes acquainted with a part of the history of different countries, some of which perhaps he would never otherwise have heard of. He learns who the sovereigns were, and naturally turns to his history to find out all he can about them. He comes across a stamp of "Heligoland," or the "Orange Free States," and straightway consults his geography to find out the localities of these heretofore unknown lands. He sees many different varieties of paper, good, bad and indifferent, and is led to inquire the process of manufacture, how the watermarks are put in, &c. Viewing with an artistic eye the engraving on a stamp, his mind naturally inquires how it is done,—how the perforations are made,—in short there are many of these little points of interest, that are as a sealed book, to the "profane." He further becomes acquainted with the currency of different countries, and heraldry if he has a taste for armorial bearings, his fancy can be amply gratified in this occupation—as many of the stamps are simply a picture of the coat of arms, of the country, to which they belong.

If his means will allow, let him take a good journal, and keep himself well up in the changes taking place in stamps, new emissions, and withdrawals. I would say to my school boy friends, and they are all my friends, for I have a most kindly feeling for them and their little amusements. If you have time, funds, and

disposition, collect, and by all means, take my word for it, you will find in it pleasure and profit. I don't know whether school boys now-a-days eat molasses candy or not, (they did when I was a boy not a great while ago,) but if they do. let them, instead of ministering to their appetites for sweets, invest in something that will certainly improve their minds. In case they become tired of stamp collecting, they can always sell their specimens for a fair price. Now, what I have been saying to school boys applies just as well to children of larger growth. Any one who will give himself the slight trouble to investigate the subject of Philately, will be sure to find in the science, a vast fund of general information, and pleasure. Some days since, I had the pleasure of conversing with a middle aged gentleman, who I discovered purchasing stamps, and upon my expressing my gratification, at so practical a man as himself making a collection; he informed me that his pet hobby for years, had been the collecting of minerals, but accumulating, they took up too much room to be properly displayed, so he had packed them in boxes and commenced stamp collecting, and found it more interesting to him by far than minerals.

It is a well known, and recognized fact, that one of our prominent New York merchant princes, has the finest collection of stamps in the world, and when we take into consideration the fact that in Europe celebrated "Savans" have not considered it beneath their dignity, to devote their valuable time, to the study of Philately—we should not judge ourselves wrong in following their footsteps. I propose in a future paper, to give my friends who feel sufficiently interested to follow me, a complete description of the manufacture of our own stamps, embracing the making of the paper employed, describing how they are engraved, printed, perforated, and embossed, the quantities used in the course of a year, and a variety of information which I think will prove interesting and useful to all collectors of Postage Stamps.

Transactions of the New York Philatelic Society.

The society met at their rooms on Saturday, April 10th, at half-past four, P. M., and after the usual business had been transacted some very interesting letters were introduced and new stamps exhibited.

A letter was read by the secretary from W. D. Atlee, Esq., of Birmingham, England, requesting the New York Philatelic Society to aid him in establishing an "International Philatelic Society."

A number of opinions were elicited on the subject, and the following resolution was offered by Mr. Finkell:—

Resolved, That the New York Philatelic Society, having been in

successful operation for a period of over two years, do not deem it advisable to break up their organization on the chance of a larger society succeeding in establishing itself; and, being well aware of the benefits to be derived from a closer communion with their European brethren, beg leave to offer the following suggestions for their careful consideration:—

1st. The New York Philatelic Society, being open to all philatelists as corresponding members, without regard to place of residence, would co-operate in the formation of branch societies whenever the number of members resident in one locality warrants such organizations; and the tenor of the Constitution and By-Laws (which are always open for amendments and improvement) could be so altered as to suit the views of the majority.

2d. As the name "The New York Philatelic Society" is sectional, this society would agree to a change of name provided the number of foreign members warranted such an alteration; and would prefer the "International" to any other name. After considerable debate the resolution was passed unanimously.

Mr. Watson then offered the following, which was passed without debate—

Resolved, That, as this society learns with much pleasure of the interest manifested in the welfare of the society by English collectors, a vote of thanks be offered W. D. Atlee, Esq., for his efforts to establish a society which must be of incalculable benefit to future philatelists, and assure him that should a separate society be formed in England, that some members of this society will request admittance.

The society then adjourned.

(Signed,)

ROBT. DINWIDDIE, Jr., Sec.

Correspondence.

BRIGHTON, ENGLAND, March 12, 1869.

DEAR SIR: Some four years since, I broached the subject of a Philatelic Society to some of the leading collectors, but although it met with hearty approval, no one seemed willing to undertake the matter. Since then, various letters have appeared in our magazines on this subject, but notwithstanding it has been on the tapis since October, 1867, nothing has been done in furtherance of the object.

Feeling convinced that great benefit will accrue from the formation of an association for the advancement of our pet science, I write to propose the establishing of an "International Philatelic Society."

As your society has been in working order for some time with

apparent success, my opinion is that it might be advantageously extended into such a cosmopolitan institution. I am sure that many collectors, both here and abroad would willingly join us in accomplishing this object.

I should think that to commence with there should be three divisions, viz: New York, Paris, and London, but that this trio *juncto in uno* be under the management of a President-in-Chief.

By the rules given herewith, my ideas will be more fully explained. I have not yet had any communication with the Paris Society (if it still exists) upon this matter, and await your reply ere doing so.

Some of the following rules are the same or modelled upon those of your society. They are merely given for the consideration of your Directors, and are, of course, open to improvement.

RULES FOR THE INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

ARTICLE 1. That the united Societies of New York, Paris, and London, be termed the International Philatelic Society.

2. That the objects of the said Society shall be to promote the collection of Postage Stamps, and for obtaining more complete information in regard to the same; also that the society shall endeavor to expose forgeries and give any information members may require respecting them.

3. That the annual subscription to the society shall be—for New York, \$2 50; for England, ten shillings; for Paris, twelve francs.

4. That every collector desirous to enter the society be proposed by a member and approved of by the committee.

5. That any member not paying his subscription within a month of its becoming due, shall be erased from the books.

6. A President-in-Chief shall be appointed annually by rotation from the members of the New York, Paris and London divisions. He shall be the head of the Society for the time being, and to him any difficulties shall be referred.

7. The other officers of the Society shall consist of *nine* for each of the three divisions, namely a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, four Directors, and the Officer appointed to investigate and give information on forgeries—who shall also act as a Director.

8. That for the present none of the officers shall receive salaries.

9. That all the officers be elected by votes of the members.

10. That members residing in the United States or any portion of the American continent shall vote for officers of the New York branch only. Members residing in Great Britain or any of the British colonies shall vote for the English division; and members residing in other portions of the world shall record their votes for the Paris board.

[In case of a branch being formed in Germany, the latter portion of the last rule will require amendment.]

11. But for the President-in-Chief every member wherever he may reside, shall vote. The voting papers must be sent from and returned to that division whose turn it is to elect the President-in-Chief.

12. The President and Vice-President of branches shall retire from office on the 1st of January in each year, but may offer themselves for re-election

13. The Treasurer and Secretary shall be permanent officers, and shall only be dismissed on proof of fraudulent transactions.

14. Two Directors of each division shall retire each year on the 1st of January by rotation, and may *not* offer themselves for re-election. They may, however, do so after the lapse of a year.

15. That all correspondence be directed to the Secretary, except accounts, which shall be sent to the Treasurer.

16. That all cheques issued by the Society shall be signed by either the Secretary or Treasurer, and one other member of the board.

17. That the Treasurer shall on the 1st of June and the 1st of December in each year, draw up a balance sheet of the affairs of the Society, and shall send the same (duly signed) to the Secretary, who shall cause it to be laid before the Directors.

18. Two-thirds of its members be required to authorise any expenditure of the funds, except for current expenses.

19. That the Society publish a monthly [or quarterly] report of their transactions in "*The American Journal of Philately*," the [here insert "*The Philatelist*," or "*The Stamp Collectors' Magazine*," as may be agreed upon] and [say] "*Le Timbrophile*."

20. That a copy of the magazine be sent to each member, containing the report of that division to which he may belong.

21. Members subscribing sixty cents, (two shillings and six-pence, or three francs) extra shall receive each of the three magazines, and the "Journal" named in rule 24, post-paid.

22. That each year immediately after the election of officers the Secretary of each division shall collect the various minutes and transactions of his division, and shall send a copy of the same to the Secretaries of the other two branches.

23. That when the Secretary has his reports complete he shall cause the same to be printed.

24. That these reports be termed "Journal of the Transactions of the International Philatelic Society for the year 18--," and that it be sent to members requiring them at twenty-five cents (one shilling, or one franc) post-paid.

25. That the Paris division do issue the report in the French lan-

guage; and that the London and New York branches issue the English edition in alternate years unless the respective Secretaries do make agreements to the contrary.

26. That the editors of magazines inserting the advertisements of the Society at half their usual scale of charges be honorary members.

27. Members desiring to obtain information respecting forgeries may have the opinion of the officers appointed, by enclosing stamps to defray postages.

28. That members be requested to send any information that may be useful to collectors.

29. Should any deficiency occur at the end of the half year a call, (the amount of which shall be decided upon by the Directors,) shall be paid by each member, but that no call shall exceed at any one time, more than sixty cents (two shillings and six-pence, or three francs.)

30. The duties of the Secretaries shall be to keep the minutes, give notice of meetings, conduct the correspondence, and prepare the reports.

31. Every member holding, or canvassing for office must subscribe for the extra reports as in rule 21.

Other rules would have to be made respecting meetings of branches, and the various minor regulations.

I should propose that the Society add to their yearly "Transactions" a *Directory* containing the names of stamp-dealers. The charge for insertion should be a low one, say 25 cents (one shilling, or fr. 1.20) for each name.

Every firm would have to give satisfactory references, and as their honesty would be fully looked into by the Committee it would be the means of keeping the black sheep out of the philatelic flock. Advertisements should be inserted at a moderate scale of charges.

Such a Directory is very much needed.

May I ask you to lay this letter before your Directors, and to favor me with their opinion on the subject.

Wishing your Society every success.

Yours truly,

W. DUDLEY ATLEE.

To the Editor of the American Journal of Philately.

SIR—Through the columns of your valuable "Journal," I beg leave to advance a few arguments in defence of the two stamps, which, next to my Reunions, (and a few others of the same class,) I prize most for their rarity. The St. Louis P. O. stamps, viz: 5 and 10 cents were engraved and used during the administration of

Mr. John H. Hymer, but the exact date of their emission cannot be determined, as Mr. Hymer and his successor in office are dead, and the books of the engraver were destroyed during the late war.

The engraver, J. W. Kershaw, recognized the stamps the moment he laid his eyes on them, and remarked—"I have not seen one before in twenty years." He told me he had engraved them by order of Mr. Hymer for the use of the St. Louis Post Office. The gentleman who officiated at the stamp window during Hymer's administration and who still holds the same position, remembered distinctly of seeing the stamps, and seeing them on letters sent from this office. It is now difficult to get much information in regard to them but the above evidence is sufficient to establish the one and important fact that the stamps were sold to the public, and used by them for the purpose of pre-paying letters, and as such are as justly entitled to a place in our albums, as many others whose official origin is not less obscure than the St. Louis stamps, but, nevertheless, are counted among the choice specimens of a good collection. Would any collector dare to refuse a wood-block Mauritius, because the order for its emission had not emanated from the British Home Office, but only from the Colonial Post Master? The large provisional 6 annas India, converted from a revenue to a postal label by order of the Local Post Master during a temporary scarcity of the regular emissions, is accepted by all; and yet, I think, if the full history of the St. Louis stamps could be collected, it would show that they were issued under the same circumstances, *i. e.*—that the supply of the U. S. 5 and 10 cent stamps had become exhausted, or was not sufficient to meet the demand.* The St. Louis Historical Society desiring to place among the mementoes of the past history of St. Louis, the plate of St. Louis stamps, made an effort a short time since, to procure it, but without success. They, however, know that the stamps had once been in use at this Post Office. The engraver has made several efforts to find the plate; so far without success. All trace of it is lost after it left his hands, and it must either have been destroyed by the Post Master, or when the building which was then occupied by the Post

* We differ from our correspondent in regard to the occasion of their use, as they were certainly used one year before any general issue for the United States ever appeared, and consider it more likely that the postmasters of the large cities of New York and St. Louis finding it nearly impossible to transact their business without stamps, caused them to be prepared for use in their cities, and they were recognized by all other postmasters as a receipt for payment.

Office Department was torn down. There is then no probable chance for a reprint, and might it not be from this cause that some Collector in St. Louis, has seen fit to through doubts upon these stamps, because he could not procure a set to adorn his own album? I only know of perhaps a dozen sets in existence. I have examined six of each denominations and could discover no difference between any of the 5 cents, but found two varieties of the 10 cents. † They are printed from a copper plate on thin bluish paper, and cancelled with pen strokes. All of them were taken from letters that had passed through the St. Louis Post Office.

Mons. Moen, in the last edition of his beautiful album, has acknowledged them, and under the heading of United States inserted an engraving of each value. A description is therefore unnecessary, as any one can (if they have not the genuine) inspect the fac similies in the above work. I have become very much interested in these two "bits of paper," and if I can gain any more authentic information in regard to them, will give it to your readers, but I think enough evidence has been produced to show that they have without doubt performed the duty of a *postage stamp*. And though they may not have been authorized by special act of Congress, we are in duty bound (as *postage stamp collectors*) to give them a place in our collections.

Yours very respectfully,

LEON W. DURBIN.

To the Editor of the American Journal of Philately.

DEAR SIR—I have just obtained the following information which may possibly be of use to other revenue collectors.—You can print it if you wish.

The following named stamps have *never* been issued, viz :

U. S: Revenue 3 cents Inland Exchange ; 10 cents Insurance ; 10 cents Playing Cards ; 25 and 50 cents Bill of Sale of Vessel ; 50 cent Lottery Ticket ; \$1.00 Charter Party ; \$10.00 Manifest.

From Messrs. Butler and Carpenter, of Philadelphia, I received the above. and if they do not know who does ?

Yours truly,

C. I. S.

† The difference in the 10 cent stamp consists in the flourishes surrounding the design; it is more noticable under the name SAINT LOUIS, there being six dashes in one and only three in the variety.

Newly Issued Stamps.

We commence this month's article with an engraving of the Newfoundland Stamp, it was fully described in the December number. In this case we were the first to describe and the last to illustrate, but give it now in the dearth of novelties.



CANADA.—We have omitted to notice that the color of the 1 cent was lately changed from red to orange, and now the 3 cent has been changed to pink, making the two stamps perfectly distinct now.

WURTEMBERG.—The 1 kreuzer described in our last number is now impressed on common paper in the form of a newspaper wrapper; the color is the same. We understand an adhesive of the value of 14 kreuzer is being prepared.

TRANSVAAL REPUBLIC.—We learn from the *Philatelist* that the new stamps in preparation for this republic will have for design the arms of the country which will be impressed in black on colored paper, the values and colors are—1 penny, green; 3 pence, white; 6 pence, blue; 1 shilling, red.

NORTH GERMAN CONFEDERATION.—A pair of stamps very similar to the Prussian 10 and 20 silber groschen, has been issued for this country. The chief difference consisting in the name NORD-DEUTSCHER POSTBEZIRK; and GROSCHEN is substituted for SLB. GR. They are perforated similar to our own, which much needed improvement appears to be general in the whole series. They are printed on unwatermarked white paper; the colors are—10 drab and 30 blue.

UNITED STATES OF COLOMBIA—Has added another to its list, very similar to the one described in the January number. The color is ochre yellow, and value 5 centavos.

BAVARIA.—We have to note a new envelope from Bavaria. The design consists of the national arms in oval; only one value has appeared as yet, and the color is pink on white paper; the value is 3 kreuzers. The envelope inscription reads—KONIGL. BAYER. POST COUVERT.

ST. THOMAS, PORTO RICO—Presents us with another batch of semi-official locals. The design consists of steamship to right, surmounted by the arms of Denmark, surrounded by a band bearing the inscription, St. Thomas, Porto Rico, with the value occupying the lower portion. The values are $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, and 3 centavos and $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2 and 4 reals.

Our Paper.

Yes, reader, "our paper." yours and the publishers, for have not you equally with them made "*The American Journal of Philately*" what it is to day, the greatest success in this class of literature.

It is not often that we bring our publishers before our readers, but knowing the kindly interest that most of our patrons feel in our work, we are induced to felicitate with them on our daily increasing influence and circulation.

It is now but little over a year that the *American Journal of Philately* was first started by the members of the New York Philatelic Society, and by their exertions obtained a very fair circulation to start with, which steadily increased with every number. At the close of the year the society concluded to sell the paper to the present proprietors, who being determined to keep up its reputation, procured the assistance of several new writers who have contributed many very interesting articles, the natural effect of which has been to increase the already large circulation three fold.

Heretofore the *Journal* has been printed at the commodious offices of W. B. Smith, but the fact has been daily forcing itself more and more strongly before the publishers that the *Journal* requires more room. The large edition now worked off requires time, and yet we wish to delay the printing to the last moment so as to get the very latest possible information. Our publishers being determined to give their numerous patrons the very best paper at the lowest cost, have established a printing room in the same building as their offices, so that every item of news can be "set up" as fast as received, and stand waiting until the last moment, and then with the aid of powerful steam cylinder presses work off the edition in the shortest possible time. Under this arrangement our European subscribers will be served first, our patrons in the far West and South following, so that the paper will be received by all its readers at nearly the same time.

Answers to Correspondents.

E. G., Philadelphia.—Please excuse our mistake; we were very busy at the time. The note of interrogation after 50 cents conveyance was a typographical error. See correspondence for corrections.

H. E. S., Boston.—See answer to E. G.

Philatelist, Louisville.—Our publishers are about preparing a monogram album which will be ready in about a month.

Local, Philadelphia.—Hussey's and Boyd's stamps are still in use.

WANTED TO PURCHASE BRITISH COLONIAL, South American and all kinds of Stamps, especially large collections, for which the highest price will be paid.

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A limited number of advertisements will be taken at the rate of ONE DOLLAR *per line*, nonpareil measure, or TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS *per column*, for each insertion. No advertisement of less than five lines will be accepted. Advertisements must be sent in on or before the tenth of each month to insure insertion.

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The above firm beg to inform Collectors of Foreign Postage Stamps, that they have the largest stock and greater facilities for obtaining rare stamps than any other dealers in the world. Collectors would do well to call and examine our stock before purchasing elsewhere. Country orders punctually attended to, and forwarded by return mail, on receipt of cash accompanying order.

TO STATIONERS, BOOKSELLERS, &c.

J. W. Scott & Co., having concluded to establish agencies in all the chief cities and towns in the United States and Canadas, are now prepared to make liberal arrangements with substantial parties wishing to act as our agents, for the sale of Foreign Postage Stamps. Address with references, &c.,

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New York City.

The PHILATELIST'S ALBUM has spaces for Revenue Stamps, and contains a complete list of U. S. and Canada Revenues.

VOLUME No. 1 of "THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY," (for 1868,) is now ready. Price \$1.50 post free. Purchasers residing out of the United States, except Great Britain and Ireland (from which countries only coin can be received), can remit the amount, together with sufficient for return postage, in unused stamps of the lowest value current in the country whence the order is received.

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THE



AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY



AN ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOL. II.

MAY 20, 1869.

NO. 17.

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A. E. FINKELL, Secretary,
34 Liberty St., Room 12.

BACK NUMBERS of the American Journal of Philately can now be had of the publishers at 10 cents each, or the first volume, unbound, post free, 75 cents.

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Ancient Posts.

BY "COSMOPOLITAN."

It is well known that the Assyrian and Persian Monarchs had posts ready at a moments notice, to carry abroad their despotic decrees. In the days of the Roman Empire, couriers were employed in passing from hand to hand, the imperial edicts. Private letters were entrusted to slaves on casual opportunities. It is said that Charlemayne established post stations with couriers, who delivered packets and letters. In 1464 "Louis the IX" of accursed memory, revived the system of mounted posts, which after the death of Charlemayne had been abandoned. Similar posts called, "Nuncio," were established in England in the 13th century. These, however, were for Government business only. As late as the 15th century, butchers or drovers, who went about buying cattle, were the principal carriers of private letters.

The only exception to this general custom in regard to private correspondence was the establishment in the 11th century, by the University of Paris, of a body of pedestrian messengers, who bore letters from its thousands of students, to the various countries in Europe from which they came, and brought to them the money they needed for the prosecution of their studies. The great development of commerce following the crusades, and the geographical discoveries of the Italians, Portuguese and Spaniards, created a necessity for business correspondence about the beginning of the 16th century. The royal "Nuncio" or post-riders, had already found it for their advantage, to use their surplus horses for the conveyance of passengers, and thus the system of posting, or traveling with post horses, came into vogue. These posts were now used for the carriage of private letters, at first irregularly, and without fixed compensation or regular periods of arrival or departure, but eventually with considerable order and system. The earliest of these posts for general accommodation in Europe was established in 1516 in the Tyrol, connecting Germany and Italy, by Roger. count of Thurn and Taxis. His successors received repeated contracts to carry the posts from the emperors of Germany, and they extended it over the greater part of Germany and Italy. Venice, Genoa, Leghorn, and Naples were thus connected with Hamburg, Bremen, Lubeck, and Frankfort-on-the-Main, and the active commerce which had sprung up between these cities was greatly facilitated. The counts of Thurn and Taxis retained this postal monopoly till the fall of the German empire, and until a year since the Thurn and Taxis post was maintained in 10 or 12 of the smaller German States, and supplied a district of 25 000 square miles, and

nearly 4,000,000 inhabitants. In 1524 the French posts, which had hitherto only transmitted the letters and messages of the king and nobles, were permitted to carry other letters. In 1581, Thomas Randolph was appointed chief postmaster of England, but his functions seem to have pertained more to the establishment and supervision of post horses, and the regulation of the fees for posting, than to the transmission of letters. In Peru, in 1527, the Spanish invaders found a regular system of posts in operation along the great highway from Quito to Cuzco, and messages as to the progress of the invasion, as well as other subjects, were forwarded to the Inca by fleet-footed runners, who wound around their waists the "quipu," a species of sign writing, by means of knotted cords.

The complete organization of a system of postal communication in England did not take place till the reign of James the 1st, who soon after his accession constituted the office of postmaster of England for foreign parts, and appointed Matthew Le Quester the first postmaster, with reversion to his son. Le Quester appointed William Frizell and Thomas Withering his deputies. The latter eventually became postmaster-general, and, in 1635, was ordered to establish a running post between London and Edinburgh, to go night and day, and come back in six days. In 1644, Edmond Prideaux, then a member of the House of Commons, was appointed master of the posts, and first established a weekly conveyance of letters into all parts of the nation. In 1656, an act was passed to settle the postage of England, Scotland, and Ireland, fixing the rates of letter postage, and the prices of post horses. The single rate of postage previous to the act were for a single piece of paper, under 80 miles, 2d. ; between 80 and 140 miles, 4d. ; above 140, 6d. ; and on the borders and in Scotland, 8d. The act of 1656 (which were in all cases for a single letter) to 14d. for a distance of more than 300 miles, from which sum they were diminished according to the distance down to 2d., for 7 miles and under. Between this period and 1838 more than 150 acts relative to postal affairs were passed. These rates operated as an almost prohibitory tariff on letters through the mails, and all manner of devices for avoiding the payment of postage were adopted.

The franking privilege, which at an early period had been granted to the members of parliament and officers of the government was much abused. Franks were sold openly. In 1838 the franked and privileged letters amounted to 30 per cent. of the whole number transmitted through the mails. In 1784 the net revenue of the post office did not exceed £150,000 ; but by the introduction of fast mail coaches soon after that date, it had risen in 1815 to about £1,600,000, at which point it remained standing for more than 20 years,

in consequence of the abuse of the franking privilege, and the methods adopted to evade the payment of postage. In 1837 the number of letters annually sent through the mails was 82,000,000 ; in 1859 it had risen to 545,000,000. This extraordinary increase is the result of the entire change in the rates of postage, and the greatly improved facilities for the prompt transmission and delivery of letters, first proposed by Roland Hill in 1837. This brings us up to the time when Mr. Hill's plan was adopted, and gives a very clear idea of the early establishments of posts.

Transactions of the New York Philatelic Society.

The regular meeting of the Society was held at their rooms on Saturday the 8th inst. Several interesting articles were read before the Society, and new stamps exhibited.

Messrs. Dinwiddie and Scott tendered their resignations, as their numerous business engagements prevented them bestowing the requisite amount of time that their important positions require.

Their resignations were reluctantly accepted, and Mr. A. E. Finkell was elected Secretary, *pro tem.*

Most of the members being out of town during the summer months, it was resolved to adjourn till Saturday the 14th of August.

All communications should be addressed to the Secretary, at the offices of the Society, 34 Liberty Street.

A. E. FINKELL, Secretary, *pro tem.*

The Philatelic Society, London.

The preliminary meeting of this Society was held on Saturday, the 10th of April, at 93 Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury, for considering the rules to be decided upon, and to discuss the merits of such an association.

The chair was taken by Sir Daniel Cooper, Bart., F.R.G.S., and the meeting was opened with a few remarks from Mr. Atlee, who said :—

“It is now eighteen months since the idea of a Philatelic Society was broached in the magazines. It is, therefore, with feeling of pleasure that I reflect that we have now made a start in earnest, and I sincerely trust and believe it will be a successful one. Before proceeding further, it will be necessary to state what I have done in the matter, but I hope you will exonerate me from being guilty of egotism. I have written to forty-nine collectors, and have received most encouraging replies from nearly all of them. We know the proverb, *quot homines tot sententæ* : but I must say that

philatelists appear to agree very well as to the general advantages of a society, although as to rules and minor details, there is certainly some diversity of opinion.

Now, as regards obtaining particulars of the exact dates of issue of every stamp (which is a most important branch of study), I should propose that the Secretary write to postmasters for that information, and on receipt of it, cause it to be read at the meetings. In course of time, we shall be able to compile a catalogue, giving all varieties of color, watermark, and perforation; but as the amassing of materials for a complete catalogue would take a long time, monographs might be published in the interim. These would have to be arranged on the so-called French system, which would leave everyone to retain or reject what he might think proper. I do trust that we shall co operate in effecting the purpose for which we have met to-day, and sinking all petty differences of English and French schools, devote our energies for the benefit of the science in general.

The following rules were then discussed, and approved--

1st. That the Society be called THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON.

2nd. That the object of the Society be to collect all possible information respecting postage stamps, the prevention of forgeries, the facilitating and spreading of the knowledge of philately, and the facilitating the acquisition and exchange of postage stamps among Members.

3rd. That all amateurs be eligible for election as members of the society.

4th. The mode of election be as follows: candidates for admission, to be proposed in writing by a member, and elected by ballot, by majority of votes.

5th. The annual subscription to be six shillings, paid in advance on being admitted a member of the Society, and annually on the 1st of December.

6th. The business of the Society to be conducted by a Committee, composed of a President, Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and five other members. Three members to constitute a quorum.

7th. The election of the Committee and Direction to take place by ballot at the annual meeting of the Society to be held on the first Saturday in May, by the majority of votes of the members present.

8th. A monthly meeting to be held in London at three p. m. on the first Saturday of every month, at such place as the Committee may appoint.

9th. The Secretary to conduct the correspondence of the Society.

10th. The funds of the Society to be in the hands of the Treasurer, who is to present the balance-sheet of the Society to the Committee in time that it may be audited and laid before the Society at the annual meeting in the month of May.

The above rules having been agreed to, Mr. Philbrick proposed (seconded by Mr. Hayns) that the amateurs present constitute THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY, LONDON. This being carried, the following

gentlemen were named to form the Provisional Committee of the Society.

President: Sir Daniel Cooper, Bart., F.R.G.S.

Vice-President: Frederick A. Philbrick, Esq.

Secretary: W. Dudley Atlee, Esq.

Members of the Committee.

Edward L. Pemberton, Esq.

Ches. W. Viner, Esq., A.M., PH. D.

Thomas F. Erskine, Esq.

J. Speranza, Esq., R.M.F. ARTILLERY.

W. E. Hayns, Esq.

The Secretary was requested to place himself in communication with the philatelic journals, and ask them to publish the proceedings of the meeting.

A meeting of the Committee was appointed for Saturday, the 17th of April, for the purpose of taking the necessary steps to procure a room for the meetings of the Society, and transact other business.

This Society, "long expected, come at last." will be a great boon to all collectors, and we trust it will be joined by everyone interested in the science.

The adjourned meeting of the Committee was held at Mr. Philbrick's chambers on the 17th ult. The President in the chair. The chief business transacted was the altering of the date of the Annual General Meeting (for this year) from the 1st to the 15th of May.

The arrangements necessary for the furtherance of the objects of the Society were discussed at considerable length, and the meeting was adjourned till the 1st of May.

Letters to be addressed, the Secretary, Philatelic Society, London, 127 St. George's Road. Warwick Square. S.W.

The New Postage Stamps.

Our old postage stamps were really neat and pleasing in their appearance. They were national and American, as they ought to have been. The head of Washington was venerable, and our three-cent stamps were as perfect as they well could be. So also the one-cent stamp, with the head of Franklin, was equally appropriate. There was a fitness of congruity in putting the head of the old thrifty economist on the one-cent stamp. Our youth were reminded of the wise saws and sayings of "Poor Richards," and it taught them that if they learned to save the cents the dollars were more likely to take care of themselves. But now think of the miserable,

confused looking thing, with its wretched printing, that the post-office has given us for the present three-cent stamp. It is neither historical, national, beautiful, nor anything but a paltry evidence of the fact that some engraver has got paid or will get paid for a job that ought never to have been done. Can our authorities not let well enough alone?

Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia all have railroad engines such as ours. What is there in a big chimney on a railway carriage to indicate the nationality of our postal system? Aye, but there are words "United States Postage" on the stamp. Just so. We remember to have seen a boy's drawing on a sheet of paper the words "This is a Church" underneath, and certainly the artistic performance needed the index; but not more so than the new stamp requires a similar proclamation to tell the world what it means. And then again, look at the printing of the word "Postage." Can our engravers do nothing better than that? We hope that the contractors have been paid for their work. If so, then let the Post-office folks give us back again our old head of Washington, and save us from looking at the contemptible thing that we are now getting in its stead.—*Evening Mail.*

The new United States postage stamps have a very un-American look.—*Evening Telegram.*

These extracts give some idea of the public opinion concerning the new stamps; nearly everyone condemns them, and yet they are in many cases beautifully executed, and finely colored. Many of our readers having asked our opinion of the new stamps, we will review them in order.

One Cent.—Head of Franklin, pale bronze. This we consider a neat stamp, not particularly noticeable for elegance, but still equal to any of the last issue.

Two Cents.—Post-horse and rider, brown, really very beautiful, and equal to any stamp that has ever been engraved.

Three Cents.—Steam engine ultramarine, one of the poorest of the series, and the color is not at all calculated to show off a fine engraving.

Six Cents.—Head of Franklin, same color as the last, which is a fault in a collectors' eye, although it works to better advantage in this design than in the preceding one. Altogether it is a handsome stamp, and ranks second in our estimation.

Ten Cents.—Shield orange. This is a very poor color for any stamp, and certainly it is not showed off to any advantage by the design.

Twelve Cents.—Steam ship, green. Originally this was very

fine, but was spoilt along with most of the others by enlarging the figures, but it still retains sufficient beauty to give it a foremost place in our albums.

Fifteen Cents.—Landing of Columbus, blue and brown, reminds us somewhat of the dollar jewelery store, too much fancy work crowded together, still we consider it decidedly the best of the two-colored ones.

Twenty-four Cents.—Signing the Declaration of Independence, green and purple. The same remarks will apply to this, "only a little more so," it is very poor.

Thirty Cents.—Shield and flags, blue and carmine, the meanest looking stamp we have ever seen, reminds us more of a bunch of rags hung out of a junk store than any thing else.

Ninety Cents.—Head of Lincoln, black head, with carmine frame. The design and of course execution, is good, but the colors spoil the appearance, had the head been carmine, and the frame black, it would have had a much better effect, and been decidedly more appropriate.

The unqualified praise we bestowed on the new issue in our first accounts was due to it having been given from an inspection of the proofs, and these are always worked off with great care; the colors also were much better selected than those adopted by the authorities, besides the tints being changed, all the designs were more or less altered by enlarging the figures, and in the case of the thirty cent a totally different design was adopted.



Newly Issued Stamps.

ST. THOMAS, PORTO RICO.—We give the engraving of the stamps for this country, and are now enabled to give the color of the higher value, they are printed in black on colored paper; the colors are blue, orange, mauve and green.

PRINCE EDWARDS ISLAND.—The long expected fourpence has at length made its appearance, the design consists of the head of Queen Victoria to the left, with value below, it is printed in black on white paper, and has a very common appearance.

PAPAL STATES.—*The Philatelist* gives the report that a new set of stamps are in preparation for the Pope's dominions. It also announces that a new set of adhesives for Servia will be ready in July.

UNITED STATES.—The envelopes in course of preparation will be considerably delayed on account of the death of the contractor, Mr. Nesbit.

The new adhesives have met with so much opposition that in all probability they will be withdrawn.

FERNANDO PO.—On the authority of M. Moens, we chronicle a stamp for this island. The design is the same as the current Cuban with the exception of the name FERNANDO POO occupying the place of ULTRAMA. It is reported to have been issued last September, and superseded on the first of January by the Cuban stamp. The color is brown.

WALLACHIA.—The expected high values have at length appeared, and are accompanied by three others, and although the workmanship is not of the first order they have altogether a very pretty effect. The colors and values are—5 bani, yellow; 10 bani, blue; 15 bani, red; 25 bani, yellow and blue; 50 bani, red and blue. They are printed on white unwatermarked paper, and are unperforated.

Reviews of Philatelic Publications.

The Permanent Postage Stamp Album in four languages. By C. VAN RINSUM, Amsterdam: H. de Hoogh.

This is decidedly the most elaborate album that has been gotten up so far. It is printed on very fine paper of a beautiful violet tint, and each page is surrounded with a narrow border of violet, a color that corresponds well with nearly every colored stamp. In regard to its permanency, it is as much so as any album published, or as can be made without adopting the strictly chronological system that is each *year* by itself instead of the almost universally adopted custom of keeping each *country* together. It must have been a work of great labor, and with the exception of a few inaccuracies is well performed, we recommend it especially to collectors of uncancelled stamps.

The Stamp Collectors' Magazine. April. Bath: Alfred Smith & Co.

This standard publication has lately contained a continued article styled "Our Contemporaries," in which it reviews all the Philatelic papers each month · but it is in regard to their remarks on us in the above number that we have chiefly to do.

In regard to the "Transactions of the New York Philatelic Society," as published in our paper, it is confined solely to a short outline of the business transacted. Were we to publish all that passes at the meetings, it would require twice the present size of the journal · instead of this, the most interesting papers are published in other parts of the journal under appropriate headings; were it not for the assistance of the New York Philatelic Society

the very useful papers on the United States Locals would never have been published, and many highly interesting articles. To relieve their anxiety about Professor Bunger, we beg leave to state that he is not a member of the society, and that he only attended one meeting.

We have no doubts but that the editor of *The Stamp Collectors' Magazine* has often laughed at young collectors refusing to accept uncancelled stamps, because they thought they were counterfeits, forgetting that the engraver of a stamp could copy a postmark, but we find that he has dropped into the some error, and thinks the man who had the ability to design the Guatamala and Paraguay stamps could not have forsooth "United States Legation Asuncion Paraguay," printed over a sheet of paper.

If we form a right idea of the extent of Alfred Smith & Co.'s business, they must have sold enough of the Guatamala humbug to have turned in a considerable revenue to the concoctor. We think, to unprejudiced persons, the simple fact of the provisional issue would be at least a suspicious circumstance: time will show who is right, and we leave it to the readers of the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* to notice if the editor apologizes. While the editor in talking about mythical contributors, we must remind him that he is well aware that there is no person who writes on Philatelic subjects named *Dr. Magnus* but we have never objected to learning from the excelent articles that has appeared under that *nom de plume*. The chief article of interest in the number is a paper on reprints.

A Descriptive Catalogue of American and Foreign Postage Stamps. 17th Edition. New York: J. W. Scott & Co.

The exelencies of this work are sufficiently attested by its having reached its seventeenth edition in the short space of three years; several improvements are noticeable, amongst which may be named the numerous engravings despersed through the work, but the more important fact to collectors, is the greatly reduced prices at which the specimens are marked.

The work is bought up to the day of going to press, and gives the date, designs, (with engravings of many) color and price both used and unused of every stamp that has ever been issued.

We regret that the publishers did not see fit to color the engraving as heretofore, and we prefer the dark color of the covers in the former edition to the pale straw now used. We also note several imperfections in the print, but understand it is owing to the work having to be electrotyped to meet the large demand, notwithstanding these few faults, we can recommend it as being decidedly the best list published on the American continent.

Clippings.

TO THE POSTMASTER OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES AT MURPHYSBURG.—If Patrick Malone thats my husbent (that was) if so be hes dead, what belongs to the forteenth rigulars, should niver come for this letther, will your honer plais forrard it after him by til-graff, for like hell be coming home about that time. forever to command

BRIDGET MALONE.

ORIGIN OF ENVELOPES AND POSTAGE STAMPS.—Postpaid envelopes were in use in France as early as the reign of Louis XIV. Pelison states that they originated in 1653, with a M. de Velaye, who established, under royal authority, a private penny post in Paris, placing boxes at the corners of the streets for the reception of letters which should be wrapped in a certain envelope. The subject of postage stamps was first agitated in England in 1830, but it was not until 1839 that it took a practical form, in the adoption of what was called the Mulready envelope. In six months this envelope was withdrawn, and in May, 1840, the postage stamp was adopted instead. The United States Government first issued postage stamps in the year 1847; and the rate of postage was reduced to three cents per half ounce for all distances by act of Congress of March 3, 1863. So it appears that envelopes were in use long before the invention of the postage label or stamp, and that the letter-envelope and the stamp are both foreign inventions.—*Home Journal*.

A SUGGESTION has been made in connection with the postal-service of the city, and it is a good one. The old maxim, that what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander, is at the foundation of it. Its conclusion is, that what are good clothes for the letter-carriers are excellent habiliments for the postmaster. In other words, that if a uniform style of dress is introduced into the post-office at all, officers as well as men should be required to wear it, the same as in the police force. The appeal is made to Mr. Cresswell to at once enforce this rule. A great many people want to see Mr. Kelly, and the gay and fashionable clerks in his office, attired in the Confederate uniform now worn by those who bring our correspondence to our places of residence and business. We want one kind of postage stamp for every one engaged in the transmission of our letters, and shall insist on so equitable a principle being carried into effect. Livery of some sort seems to be the vogue for servants. Why not for public servants as well as private ones?

ROWLAND HILL NOT THE FIRST DEVISER OF A PENNY POST.—It may be fondly imagined by some of our readers that Sir Rowland Hill was the first deviser of a penny post, nothing can be further from the truth. He took up an old idea, worked it out zealously, and brought it to a successful issue. As far back as 1683, one Robert Murray, an enterprising upholsterer of London, be-thought himself of a new way to make a fortune, and set up a penny post in the city, thought there were no Spooners or Whalleys in parliament in those days, yet the Ultra-Protestant Party denounced it as a “device of the Jesuits,” and vowed that Mr. Murray’s bags, if opened, would be found to be full of Romish Bulls and Papal Indulgences. Whether this outcry alarmed him we know not, but Murray appears to have assigned his idea and “plant” to a man named Dockwra, who, though prosecuted by the crown, for invading its monopoly, contrived to hold his own so far as to get a pension of £200, and with it the controllership of the “London District Post,” of which Murray must be regarded as the founder, and before many years were over, Mr. Dockwra was suspended on account of complaints, among which was one to the effect that often he had hazarded the life of a patient when physic was sent by a doctor or apothecary. It appears then that while we sent only boxes of pills and powders, the penny post of two hundred years ago would carry draughts from St. Bartholomew’s to the Strauds or to Westminster.

CHEAP OCEAN POSTAGE.—Another step toward ocean penny postage has been gained. The National Line, which dispatches steamers once a week each way between Liverpool and New York, calling at Queenstown, offers to carry the British mails at the rate of one penny per ounce. The offer, however, has been rejected by the British postal authorities, on the ground that the steamships in question do not possess sufficient speed. It is true, we believe, that they do not generally make their passages within a couple of days or so of the average time taken by the boats of the more expensive lines, but one thing is now established—that a company with a fleet of steamers amply sufficient to insure regularity of departure, is not only willing but anxious to carry mail matter at half the rate generally understood in England as “penny postage,” which is one penny per *half ounce*. Competition between different lines of steamers, and the pressure of popular demand on the postal authorities on both sides, will soon do the rest. The transactions of government mails will always be eagerly coveted by every company at almost any remunerative rate, not so much for the sake of the actual freight as for the kind of semi-official guarantees of the safety and sea-going qualities of their vessels thereby implied.—*Times*.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the American Journal of Philately.

DEAR SIR,—Please correct in your next the name of the P. M. mentioned in my article on the St. Louis stamps, it is Wymer not Hymer.

Yours truly,

L. W. DURBIN.

To the Editor of the American Journal of Philately:

DEAR Sir,—The large increase in the number of stamps within the last few years has made the task of getting a complete collection almost hopeless to a person of limited means. Many amateurs are giving up for this reason. It has been proposed to collect by continents, that is to say, let every collector select one of the five divisions of the earth, and obtain every stamp that has been issued in the one he may have selected, but I think the chief objection to this is, that most amateurs would prefer a variety, so I wish to propose another style of arrangement, namely, a POSTAGE STAMP PORTRAIT GALLERY, let an amateur obtain one specimen of each stamp that has a different portrait upon it. I think the whole collection would only number about seventy-five, and would leave room for a person to arrange his stamps with taste, which is impossible in any other way of collecting. There is no stamps with portraits that it is hard to obtain a specimen of.

Will you not oblige a few of your subscribers in this out-of-the-way place, by a short list of the different personages that figure on postage stamps.

Before closing, allow me to offer my sincere thanks to "Cosmopolitan" for the interesting articles he has contributed to the *Journal*.

Yours, truly,

COUNTRY COLLECTOR.

Paris Mo.

Answers to Correspondents.

Rowland Hill, Jr., City—The writer in the *Sunday Times* is correct in giving the derivation of Philately from the Greek *Philos*, a friend or lover, and *Telos* a tax. The article, we are sorry to say, abounds in errors. You will find the other information in the article on "Early Posts" in this number.

Alpha Newark.—One advantage you would derive from joining the New York Philatelic Society is, that for \$2.50 per year you have the reading of every periodical devoted to stamp matters, besides complete sets of nearly all philatelic magazines, manuels, &c.

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OF

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AN ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOL. II.

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NO. 18.

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A. E. FINKELL, Secretary,
34 Liberty St., Room 12.

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Table to Facilitate the Discovery of the Nation of Postage Stamps.

WE are constantly in receipt of letters from subscribers asking to what country some stamp belongs; and thinking that most amateurs would prefer to be able to determine for themselves the nationality of any stamp they may obtain, has induced us to reprint from Dr. Gray's work a very useful table, by the aid of which the merest tyro can easily discover the country to which any stamp belongs. Considerable additions have been made, bringing it up to the present time.

I.—THE NAME OF THE COUNTRY to which a stamp belongs being in many instances written in a foreign language, it becomes necessary to translate it into English, thus:

Basel, Basle.

Bayern, Bavaria.

Braunschweig, Brunswick.

Chile, Chili.

Colonies de l'empire Français, French Colonies.

Confed. Granadina, New Granada (Confederation).

Confeon. Argentina, Argentine Confederation.

E. E. U. U. de Venez^a, United States of Venezuela.

EΛΔ, Greece.

Empire Franc. or Français, French Empire.

Espana, Spain.

Estados Unidos de Nueva Granada, United States of New Granada.

Estensi, Modena.

E. U. de Colombia, United States of Colombia (or New Granada).

Frankfurt, Frankfort.

Geneve, Geneva.

Hannover, Hanover.

Helvetia, Switzerland.

IONIKON KPATOΣ, Ionian Islands.

Italiano, or *Italiane*, Italy.

Luebeck, Lubeck.

Mejico, Mexico.

Modonesi, Modena.

Napoletana, Naples.

Nederland, Holland.

Nederl Indie, Dutch Indies.

Nle Caledonie, New Caledonia.

Nov. Camb. Aust., New South Wales.

Norge, Norway.

Parmensi, Parma.

Preussen, Prussia.
Republica Argentinæ, Argentine Republic.
Republica Orientalis, Uruguay.
Repub. Franc., French Republic.
Romana, Roumania (or Moldo-Wallachia).
Romagne, Romagna.
Sachsen, Saxony.
Sicilia, Sicily.
S. P. B., St. Petersburg.
Sverige, Sweden.
Thurn und Taxis, Germany.
Toscana, Tuscany.
U. S., United States.
Venezolana, Venezuela.
Warsawska, Warsaw.
Wendenschen kreises, Livonia.

II.—THE NAME OF THE COIN mentioned on stamps is interesting, and will lead, in cases where the name of the country is not given on them, to the discovery of their origin.

Anna.—India.
Bai. or *Baj*. (*Bajoccho*).—Rome, Romagna.
Bani.—Wallachia.
C., *Cent.*, *Centes.*, *Centesimos*.—Sardinia, Italy, Parma, Modena, Tuscany, Lombardy, Venetia, Switzerland, Monte Video (or Uruguay), Cuba, Mexico.
C., *Cts.*, *Cent.*, *Cents.*, *Centimes*.—France and her colonies, Belgium, Holland, Dutch Guiana, Dutch Indies, Luxemburg, Switzerland, Swiss Cantons.
C., *Ct.*, *Cent.*, or *Cents*.—United States, Confederate States, Liberia, Sandwich Islands, British Guiana, Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Hong Kong, Newfoundland, Danish West Indies.
Centavos.—Chili, New Granada, Venezuela, Nicaragua, Mexico, Argentine Confederation and Republic, St. Thomas.
Cents. P^o. F^o.—Luzon.
Crazia, *Crazie*.—Tuscany.
Cs. or *Cuartos*.—Spain, Cuba, Luzon.
Dinero.—Peru.
F., *Fr.*, *Franc.*.—France, Switzerland.
G., *Gr.*, *Gra.* (*Grana*).—Naples, Sicily.
Groschen.—Hanover, Oldenburg.
Grote.—Bremen.
Guten Groschen.—Brunswick, Hanover.
HAPA.—Servia.

- Kopeck.*—Russia, Poland, Finland.
Kr., Kreuzer.—Austria, Baden, Bavaria, South Germany (Thurn and Taxis), Wurtemberg.
ΛΕΙΠ. (*Lepton*, or *Lepta*).—Greece.
Libra (1 lb.).—Spain (official).
Lira.—Italy, Tuscany, Modena.
Neu Groschen.—Saxony.
Onza (ounce).—Spain (official).
Ore.—Sweden.
Para, Parale.—Danubian Principalities, Turkey, Egypt.
Pe. (piastre).—Egypt.
Pen. (pennia).—Finland.
Penny and Pence.—Great Britain and British possessions.
Peseta.—Peru.
Peso.—New Granada, Buenos Ayres, Costa Rica, Peru.
Pfennige, Pfennige.—Brunswick, Saxony, Prussia, Hanover.
Pies.—India.
Quattr. (quattrino).—Tuscany.
Rap., Rappen.—Switzerland, Swiss Cantons.
Real Plata.—Cuba, Luzon.
Reis.—Portugal, Azores, Madeira.
Rigsbank Skilling, R. B. S.—Denmark.
Rs., Real, Reales.—Spain, Mexico, Venezuela, Buenos Ayres, Costa Rica, Corrientes, Monte Video, Honduras.
Sch., Schilling, Schillinge.—Mecklenburg Schwerin, Mecklenburg Strelitz, Lubeck, Hamburg, Schleswig Holstein, Bergedorf, Heligoland.
Schilling crt.—Holstein.
Schw. (schwar).—Oldenburg.
Scudo.—Rome.
S. Gr., Silb. gr., Silbergroschen.—Luxemburg, North Germany (Thurn and Taxis), Brunswick, Oldenburg, Bremen, Prussia.
Shilling.—Great Britain and British possessions.
Skill. Bco.—Sweden.
Soldo, Soldi.—Austria, Italy, Tuscany.
S., Skill., Skilling.—Denmark, Norway.
Thaler.—Oldenburg, Hanover.
Tornese.—Naples.

III.—TABLE OF THE INSCRIPTION SIGNIFYING 'POSTAGE' ON STAMPS bearing the head of sovereign, but no other indication, except monetary value, of their place of issue.

- Certificado, Certdo.*—Spain.
Correio.—Portugal.
Correos.—Spain, Cuba, Luzon.

Correos Franco.—Spain.
Correos Interior.—Luzon.
Freimarke.—Prussia (old issue.)
Frimærke.—Norway.
K. K. Post Zeitungs Stempel.—Austria.
Postes.—Belgium, Luxemburg.
Post Zegel.—Holland.
Uku Leta.—Hawaiian Islands.

IV.—TABLE OF EMBLEMS OR DEVICES ON STAMPS.

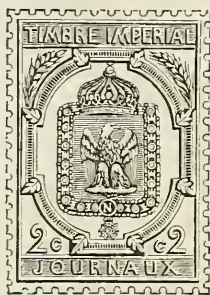
Bear-in-Tree.—Madrid.
Beaver.—Canada.
Britannia, or Minerva.—Mauritius, Trinidad, Barbadoes.
Bull's Head.—Moldavia.
 ———— *and Eagle.*—Danubian Principalities.
Castle and Numeral.—Hamburg.
 ————, *half, and half eagle.*—Bergedorf.
Codfish.—Newfoundland.
Cornucopia.—Peru.
 ————, *cap of Liberty, and ship in shield.*—New Granada.
Crescent and star.—Turkey.
Cross, in five-sided shield.—Switzerland (federal), French and German Cantons.
 ————, *in oblong shield.*—Neufchatel.
 ————, *in circular shield.*—Vaud, Winterthur.
 ————, *in crowned shield.*—Tuscany and Modena (provisional).
Crown, sword and sceptre.—Denmark, Danish West Indies.
Dove.—Basle.
Eagle, single-headed.—Modena, Prussia.
 ————, *surmounting shield.*—New Granada, Ecuador.
 ————, *grasping thunderbolt.*—Venezuela.
 ————, *crowned, holding a serpent.*—Mexico.
 ————, *double-headed, crowned.*—Austria, Austrian Italy.
 ————, ————, *and post-horns.*—Russia, Poland, St. Petersburg.
 ————, *on globe.*—Bolivia.
 ————, *double-headed, crowned, post-horns, and bull's head.*—Danubian Principalities.
 ————, *double-headed, without crown.*—Schleswig-Holstein.
Fleur-de-lys.—Parma, Naples.
Griffin segreant.—Livonia.
Griffins supporting shield.—Baden.
Hope.—Cape of Good Hope.
Horse prancing.—Hanover, Brunswick.
 ————, *wheatsheaf, and arms on shield.*—Venezuela.

- Horse, cow, house and scales, surmounted by sun.*—Monte Video (or Uruguay).
Key.—Bremen.
 — *and half eagle.*—Geneva.
Keys crossed and tiara.—Roman States.
Liberty, profile of.—France (Republic), Corrientes, Buenos Ayres.
 — *, figure of.*—Switzerland, Liberia.
Lion and Unicorn, supporting shield.—Hanover, Wurtemberg.
 — *rampant.*—Norway, Finland, Luxembourg, Belgium.
 — *couchant.*—Sweden.
 — *supporting shield.*—Tuscany.
Lions and towers, in shield.—Spain.
 — *(three) and stag-horns.*—Wurtemberg.
Llama.—Peru.
Mercury, profile of.—Austria, Greece.
Mountain landscape.—Nicaragua, Bolivia.
Numeral.—Germany, Levant, Wurtemberg, Sandwich Islands, Schleswig Holstein, Baden (old issue), Bavaria, Italy (newspaper), Prussia, Uruguay.
 — *, lion above.*—Sweden.
Orange Tree.—Orange States.
Posthorn and trefoil.—Hanover.
 — *under eagle.*—Russia, Poland.
 — *under or on sides of shield.*—Finland.
 — *and bull's head.*—Moldavia.
 — *eagle, and bull's head.*—Danubian Principalities.
Post-horse and rider.—United States.
Pyramid.—Honduras.
 — *and Sphinx.*—Egypt.
Queen on throne.—Victoria.
Rose, shamrock and thistle.—Newfoundland.
Seal.—Newfoundland.
Shield and crown.—Oldenburg, Saxony, Sweden.
 — *, surrounded by collar.*—Spain.
Steam-Engine.—New Brunswick, United States.
Ship sailing.—British Guiana, Newfoundland.
Steamship.—New Brunswick, Pacific Steam Navigation Company, Buenos Ayres, Ecuador, La Guaira, Levant, St. Thomas, United States.
Sultan's sign-manuel.—Turkey.
Sun, resplendent.—Monte Video.
 — *and cap of Liberty.*—Argentine Confederation and Republic.
Swan.—Western Australia.
Sword, sceptre and crown.—Denmark, Danish West Indies.

Tiara and crossed keys.—Roman States.
Town figure in front.—New South Wales.
Trefoil and post-horn.—Hanover.
Trinacria, horse, and fleurs-de-lys.—Naples.
View of seas and mountains.—Costa Rica.
Virgin and lamps.—Virgin Isles.

Newly Issued Stamps.

We will commence this month's article by correcting an error that crept into our paper in the last number. In reviewing the new postage stamps, we inadvertently wrote Head of Franklin instead of Head of *Washington* for the six cent specimen.



FRANCE.—Annexed we give an engraving of the new journal stamps, representing a tax and the postage also; they are all of the same type, each of which appears in three colors, although by a rather complicated arrangement these two values are increased to six—the colors and values are as follows:

| | | | | | |
|---|-------|-----|---|--------|---------|
| 2 | cents | and | 5 | cents, | violet. |
| 2 | " | " | 5 | " | blue. |
| 2 | " | " | 5 | " | red. |

The violet pair represent the journal tax only; the blue, the tax and the departmental postage of two cents; and the red, the tax and the general postage of four cents.

ST. THOMAS AND PORTO RICO.—The first four values of the new stamps for this island are printed in black, on white paper; we understand that some doubts are expressed as to their genuine character.

ANTIOQUIA.—Have on the authority of the Philatelic Society, London, issued a set of stamps; the designs are very similar to the lately issued stamps of New Grenada. In the center are the arms of Colombia, surmounted by nine stars, and encircled by the inscription E. S. ANTIOQUIA; E. E. U. U. D. E. COLOMBIA—at the top of each stamp is the word CORREOS, and below is given the value.



ITALY.—We have to chronicle a new stamp for this kingdom—the value is ten cents, and the color yellowish brown, on white paper; they will not however come into general use until the old stock of the *segna tassa* stamps are exhausted.

TRINIDAD.—We understand from the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine*, that there will shortly be a five shilling stamp issued for this island.

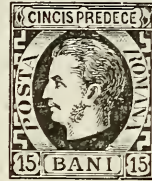
HOLLAND.—Has issued a stamp of the value of one and a half cents—the design is the same as the newly issued one and two; color is of a beautiful pink shade, which shows off the engraving to great advantage.

CEYLON.—The stamps of this island are now found with the word SERVICE printed across the face, in red on the six pence and two shillings—in black on the others.



GAMBIA.—We annex an engraving of the newly issued stamps for this colony. They are embossed on white paper and have a very handsome appearance.

WALLACHIA.—We also give a cut of the new stamp for Wallachia, that was described in our last.



Correspondence.

To the Editor of the American Journal of Philately:

DEAR SIR: Having lately received official information confirming the authenticity of the two reales rose stamp of Honduras, I take pleasure in giving your readers the benefit of it. I am in receipt of a letter from the American minister resident of the United States to Honduras, who informs me that the 2r. rose is a genuine stamp issued by the Honduras Government; he states that *no other color* was ever used, and also claims the honor of having been instrumental in its issue, for it was at his suggestion that stamps were adopted shortly after his arrival in that country.

The Hon. Richard H. Rousseau was appointed American Minister Resident to Honduras, May 14th, 1866, so that from the information I have received, it is probable that the stamp was issued during the last three months of 1866.

Yours truly,

June 15th.

J. A. PETRIE, M. D.

To the Editor of the American Journal of Philately:

DEAR SIR: In my collection I have the following stamps printed in black, on

Orange glazed paper, ribbed.
 Blue " " "
 Green " " "
 Rose " " "
 Green plain paper.

The inscription on each is EXERCITO EM OPERACOES CONTRA O PARAGUAY oblong.

As soon as I obtained them I wrote a letter asking information, and received the following reply from a correspondent at Rio, Brazil. "The

stamps, 'army in Paraguay' are used on letters coming from that country to denote only their presence, but have not a postal value; all the correspondence being *free of postage* (Franca) from the Brazilian army and squadron."

The letters coming from the squadron are canceled with a hand stamp E SQUADRA BLOQUEADORA. These stamps have been noticed in the *Mercury*, also in the *Philatelist*, each asking the information I have the pleasure of handing your readers. Yours truly,

June 1st.

J. A. PETRIE, M. D.

Our Postage Stamp Portrait Gallery.

SIR JAMES BROOKE.

BY "TRAVELER."

WE have chosen Sir James Brooke for the first portrait in our "gallery," because his life is probably less familiar to our readers than that of any person whose portrait figures on any postage stamp.



Sir James Brooke was born in London, on the 29th of April, 1803. He was educated at the Norwich Grammar School. He entered the army of the East India Company, as a cadet, in 1817, and served with distinction in the Burmese war; but, being severely wounded, was compelled to return home. But a person of such a temperament as our hero could not remain long idle. Scarcely had his wound healed than he re-entered the army, but was compelled to resign shortly after on account of his health.

Mr. Brooke had long been contemplating the civilization of the Malay races; and, on the death of his father, inheriting sufficient to put his ideas into execution, he at once proceeded to fit himself for the great work he had laid out for himself. He spent about three years cruising about in his yacht, the "Royalist," visiting China and the Indian Archipelago. In July, 1839, he landed on the coast of Borneo, and at once made arrangements with the Malay Rajah of Sarawak for permission to visit the island; which being granted, he made an extended journey through every part, and gained a great deal of information that was of immense service to him afterward.

In 1841 he was appointed Rajah of Sarawak, by the Sultan, but had to pay an annual tribute of about \$2,500. But, in consideration of this, he had the monopoly of dealing in some of the most valuable products of the country. Under his able management, the country steadily increased

in everything pertaining to civilization. In 1844 he was appointed agent for the English Government in Borneo. In 1847 Mr. Brooke returned to England, and was then created a Knight of the Bath, by Her Majesty. He returned to Sarawak the next year. In 1857, the Chinese residing in Sarawak revolted, and were soon put down with the aid of the Malays.

Of Sir James Brooke's personal courage it is not necessary to speak; but to this quality he added a skill in the use of all weapons, and a quickness of eye and limb which were quite extraordinary. To the moment when paralysis struck him down for the first time, the Rajah had few equals in that rapid and vigorous fence which is really of service in a struggle, nor in real pistol play. There are many men, it is likely, who could cut the pips of a card more accurately, but I never saw one who was the Rajah's match in firing all round, in front, in rear, running, or wheeling about. That most treacherous weapon, the revolver, was sure as a duelling pistol in his hands. When the Chinese rebels came down to Kutching on the night of February 18, 1867, their first object was to surround the Government House, with the intention of killing the sovereign. They knew that he and his body-servant were alone in the building, for it was not customary before this event to post any sentinels either by night or day. The Chinese force was over three thousand, and the half of this number marched in silence through the darkness to the attack. They fired the building, and stood in wait for their victim, yelling and wasting their powder after the usual Chinese manner.

Half of them were drunk: all were thirsting for the Rajah's blood. But so terrible was the prestige surrounding him, so deeply founded the belief in his miraculous skill, that when the object of their hatred sprang through a window from the blazing house, with a pistol in each hand and a sabre between his teeth, the fifteen hundred burly Chinamen sprang from his desperate path, and, without a wound, he dashed through a living lane of intended murderers. He reached the stream that fenced the Residence gardens, pursued by the cowardly host, plunged in, dived beneath the sampans lying there, and rose among the bushes on the farther bank. But as he rose, another peril loomed over him, for a dark figure stooped above his hiding-place, and eager eyes were examining the water. One hasty glance assured the Rajah that this new foe was all alone; he sprang in one tremendous bound at the bent throat, and shortened his sabre to finish the work.

But a strangled voice gurgled forth—"It's I, sir—Penty, sir! O, for God's sake, Sir James!" The Rajah was fond of telling this story, and Penty, his steward, a stalwart west countryman, always grinned from ear to ear in listening to it, and invariably wound up the finale with an inconsequential "Yes, sir!" The Dyaks also, among whom wrestling is a favorite pastime, had a notion that their Rajah was more than a match for their most skillful champions. Whether there was any ground for this

idea, or how it came to be accredited, I can not tell; most surely Sir James Brooke had never entered the lists with their naked warriors. It may be that in some early struggle, when the leader of the Sarawak forces had to take hand-to-hand part in every action, the Dyaks saw him successfully disarm an antagonist by this means, thence the opinion spread. One evening, shortly after the Kyan war, Mr. Stuart Johnson, third and youngest of the Rajah's nephews, brought down a guest to Government House, in the person of "Joke," a Kennowit chieftain of great importance somewhere on the Rejang river, and a noted champion of all weapons and games. Messrs. Johnson and Cruikshank, residents of Kennowit, each tried a fall with him, but he threw them easily. The Rajah happened to enter the room just as I asked Joke whether any Englishman in the country could match him. "No one but the Rajah," he said, looking at his sovereign with a curious expression of mingled worship and curiosity in his eyes. "Why, I am old and very thin, Joke!" said Sir James, smiling. "So is the rattan, Rajah!" replied the Kennowit, quick as thought.

In 1863 he left Sarawak for the last time, and settled on his estate in Devonshire, where he died from the effects of a paralytic attack, on the 11th of June, 1868, at the age of 65 years.

Clippings.

ISABELLA'S HEAD still ornaments Spanish postage stamps. It gives her rebellious subjects an opportunity to punch it, you know.

THE NEW POSTAGE STAMPS.—A Down East paper says the government introduced the present nondescript things called postage stamps for the purpose of frightening counterfeiters.—*Herald*.

THE OTHER DAY a little girl presented a letter at the post-office. There being no stamp upon it, the post-master inquired whether she had not brought three cents. "No," she replied, "father has put the stamp inside."

ONCE, when Jeff. Davis was crossing the Capitol Square in Richmond, a drunken North Carolina soldier stopped him and inquired, "Say, mister, be'ent you Jefferson Davis?" "Sir, that is my name." "I thought so," replied tar-heel, "you look so much like a Confederate postage stamp."

WHICH State in the Union does the engraving of the Italian stamp in the present number represent?—O(h)io.

THE OLD STYLE of three cent postage stamps had thereon a face of Washington, out of compliment to a good man. It now has a railway scene, to represent how Congressmen make money. The two cent stamp

represents a man on horseback. This represents Booth's death ride into Maryland. The one cent stamp should represent a cow with the favorite son of the Covington postmaster fast to her tail. This out of compliment to Grant.

THE GREATEST abomination in the city is the old shanty called the Post Office, in Nassau street. Not only is it unsuited for the purpose by size and construction, but it is actually falling into such a state of ruin and decay that the business of the foreign mail department can not be conducted in consequence of falling ceilings and the uninvited visits of the rain which comes through the roof, to the great possible damage of the valuable mail matter. Besides this, a portion of the Post Office business, we believe, has to be done somewhere outside the building for want of room. This is a scandalous condition of things. We have now a new Postmaster and should have a new Post Office. What is the committee doing who were appointed to select a site for the new building? The late Legislature empowered them to change the original site to a higher place in the Park—a very necessary measure, because the spot chosen for the Post Office was about the most inconvenient and impracticable for the business in the city. A meeting of the citizens should be held to stir up this committee and ascertain what they are about.—*Herald*.

To show that other papers sometimes make *slight mistakes*, even worse than we have fallen into yet, we give two extracts *verbatim* from the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine*, which speak for themselves—the one being a note by the Editor on an article translated from Moen's magazine, and the other an extract from a continued article "Concerning reprints."

[NOTE. Very slight discrepancies may be observable in the communications of the two writers, but nothing at all deteriorating from the value of this apparently authentic and interesting information.]

On glancing at the statistics of issue, we need not be surprised at the enormously disproportionate shoals of the 6 cent stamps we meet with, in comparison with the other denominations.]

A supplementary bit of postal gossip will amuse our readers to the effect that our enterprising publishers (than whom no one, we are confident, will be more surprised at the announcement) have successfully negotiated with the Spanish Government for the purchase of the original dies of the early issues, for the purpose of reprinting them for sale; and also with the Brazilian authorities for those of the large figured series.—ED. *Stamp Collectors' Magazine*, Vol. 2, p. 103.

SPAIN.—None of the numerous series of stamps for this country have been reprinted, and the reprinting of the old issues 1850-4 has been rendered impossible by the alteration of some of the dies to make them serve for fiscal stamps, and by the partial destruction of others; these old issues

have declined considerably in value during the last two or three years, but it has been by a perfectly natural process.

The fall is entirely the result of the discovery of large quantities of used specimens by enterprising dealers.—*Stamp Collectors' Magazine*, Vol. 7, p. 60.

PUNCH DOING JUSTICE TO THE POST-OFFICE.—There is good sense and justice in a paragraph which we beheld the other evening in the *Glowworm*. Somebody wrote to it, alleging that the Post-Office did not deliver his letters regularly; and the luminous journal intimates, in reply, first, that it does not believe him, and secondly, that if his letters miscarry, it is most likely his own fault. *Mr. Punch* is so terribly, yet so justly severe upon all public departments that fail in their duty, that he deems it right to say that he indorses both the *Glowworm's* answers to its correspondent. The Post-Office does its business better than any establishment for which we pay. Of course, if you choose to direct your letters in a villainous hand, and to give them to your servant to post, who, not wanting to wet her feet, gives them to the butcher's boy when he calls, who, not being at the moment *en route* for a Post-Office, carries them in his pocket until he can intrust them to a butcherly young friend, who puts them into his tray and finally jerks them down an area, the probabilities of their being delivered are somewhat reduced. But direct your letter in a legible hand, with no fewer and no more words than are needful, and post it yourself, in a mild but determined manner, and, Gladstone's head to Rearden's, your missive arrives safely. *Mr. Punch's* complaint of the Post-Office is, that it delivers much too regularly, and much too often, correspondence which is simply waste-paper; but that is not the Duke of Montrose's fault, but *Mr. Punch's* misfortune.—*The Philatelist*.

Answers to Correspondents.

H. BRETZEL, HOBOKEN.—If you wish an answer by post you must send a stamp for return postage.

F. E. M.—We can not give you the exact date, but they have been out of use for many years.

W. R. B., CANADA.—Send on the promised article. We shall be very glad of it.

COLLECTOR, NEW ORLEANS.—Certainly a collector of revenue stamps can call himself a philatelist. In our opinion he has a better right to the name than a postage stamp collector. Foreign revenue stamps can be obtained of our publishers.

The PHILATELIST'S ALBUM has spaces for Revenue Stamps, and contains a complete list of U. S. and Canada Revenues.

WANTED TO PURCHASE—BRITISH COLONIAL, South American, and all kinds of Stamps, especially large collections, for which the highest price will be paid.

Persons sending us stamps from the country should always state the lowest price, and inclose sufficient to pay return postage, and, if valuable, register the letter. Address J. W. SCOTT & CO.,
34 Liberty St., New York City.

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MONOGRAM ALBUM.

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THE

AMERICAN JOURNAL

OF

PHILATELY



AN ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOL. II.

JULY 20, 1869.

NO. 19.

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United States Local Stamps.

BY J. W. SCOTT.

(Continued from page 42.)

GRAFFLIN'S BALTIMORE ONE CENT DESPATCH, in rectangular frame, inclosing monument in upright oval. Black impression on white paper. Original impressions of this stamp are exceedingly scarce, but, the plate having been bought by an enterprising dealer, reprints can easily be obtained. We are not aware of any counterfeit of this stamp, and the reprints are always printed in the true color.

KIDDER'S CITY EXPRESS POST, 2 CTS., in transverse octagon, inclosing jockey on pony. Black impression on blue glazed paper. The same remarks apply equally as well to this stamp as the preceding one, with the exception that the reprints are on green glazed paper, instead of blue. We are at a loss to account for this, as the gentleman who reprints them is nearly always correct in his colors. We have tried our best to see an original green one, but possibly it may exist.

CHEEVER & TOWLE, 7 STATE ST., CITY LETTER DELIVERY, 2 CTS. on letter in centre of a number of others, only portions of which can be seen; one to the left bears the inscription S. BOSTON; one to the right, 60 FOR \$1.00; and one above, E. BOSTON. The whole are inclosed in a circle of colored ground, surrounded by circle of white. Colored impression on white paper, blue; red.

COUNTERFEIT.—This is a very fair copy, but the lettering is rather larger than in the original. They can, however, be easily distinguished by the following *test*: In the counterfeit the corner of a letter touches the letter s in E. BOSTON; also the letter e in DELIVERY looks very much like an i in the counterfeit.

METROPOLITAN ERRAND AND CARRIER EXPRESS COMPANY following the border of a shield composed of engine-turned work, figure of value in centre. Colored impression, red, 1, 5, 10, and 20 cents. The originals are printed on thin white paper, but we have seen a few sheets of the 1 c. on rather thicker paper. The plates were bought by the same dealer we mentioned before, but, contrary to his general rule, he has added another color, *viz.*: blue. There are a few of these stamps to be found printed in blue on thin paper, but are generally printed on both sides, and are only printer's proofs.

ENVELOPE STAMPS.—Similar design to the adhesives, only the shield is composed of fine horizontal lines, and the figure of value and lettering is embossed. Red impression on buff paper. These have also been reprinted by the same party.

(To be continued.)

Little Dealers.

GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA has been writing in the *Belgravia Magazine* a series of articles called "Letters from Lilliput," among which he devotes an epistle each to "Little Haters," "Little Villains," &c. Now, had we the "pen of a ready writer," we would like to sketch out at full length our reminiscences as venders of stamps, including our experiences, with what we would not inaptly style "Little Dealers." Our business having been considerably in the wholesale line, we could tell some curious tales. Now, by the term "little," we have no particular reference to the size of the subject, as we have, in the most of cases, no opportunity of judging, our trade being principally by mail. We have no doubt in many instances youthful stamp dealers are better posted, and carry on their commerce on more strictly commercial principles, than do numerous full-grown parties in the same line of trade. In general, our conception of a "Little Dealer" is more applied to his paucity of knowledge of his pursuit, and to his extremely flexible ideas touching profit and loss. The regular "Little Dealer" is a person who, having succeeded in gathering together some fifty or sixty extra dirty and torn specimens of postage stamps, and whose sources of supply have been exhausted, suddenly becomes illuminated by the brilliant notion that he can be a "Dealer," and increase his own collection by his profits—so down he sits and writes to some large establishment a letter something like the following:

"DEAR SIR: If you please, I am a dealer in stamps, if you please. And if you please, I want you to send me by return mail, if you please, some stamps of all countries, cheap. I can sell a great lot if they are cheap. If you please to send some of Siberia, West Australia, South America, Newfoundland, Canada East, Bergedorf, Mauritius, Modena, etc., and you will get your money. I want them, if you please, to sell for two or three

cents apiece, for the boys won't give more, and I want to make a profit, if you please, and you will get your money," etc., etc., etc.

Or something like this:

"SAN FRANCISCO, NOV. 8, 1866.

"DEAR SIRs: We having heard of your catalogue, we inclose a stamped envelope and ten cen.s, for which you will please send us one. We are going to start up the stamp business, and as we must have some rare stamps, so we were recommended to you by a friend of ours, who said you would sell them to us cheap. If you let us have them cheap, we would buy a great many of them. Would you also be so kind as to tell us which would be the best way to send money to you? Send us," etc.

The reader may imagine that these letters are fictitious if he likes, but we who are in the business see queer correspondence, and the above are nearly literal copies, excepting only the usual eccentricities in spelling. The "Little Dealer," when he receives his stamps, in the first place selects all he wants for his own book, and should the remainder happen to sell for sufficient to pay his suppliers, he will probably liquidate; if not, he considers *they* have the right to loose, not *he*. He is constant in his demands for Liberian, Buenos Ayrean, and such postals, and expects to get them at such rates as will allow him a moderate profit of say 500 per centum when sold to "the boys" at two and three cents each. He calls for New Brunswick and Nova Scotia shilling stamps with as much coolness as if they grew profusely in orchards, and is peculiarly pertinacious in his vociferations for "real Connells," and assures us that he can dispose of "lots if they are cheap." The utmost range of his vision of the worth of the rarest used stamps is about five cents, and he expects to procure unused specimens, no matter how scarce, at the original face value. He grows clamorous when his moderate requests are not complied with, and only waits till he gets a few dollars in debt to us to disavow all ideas of future commerce, informing us with the utmost *sang-froid* that "your prices are so dear I won't deal with you any more, and I have lost so much I can't pay you what I owe you; besides, you never sent me the stamps I wanted, and there is a man in—— who will give me Liberia, etc. stamps, so like that nobody can tell the difference, for 20c a dozen, and they are just as good. You needn't write no more letters as I didn't write to you under my real name, etc., etc.," or "I am going away next

week and no letters will reach me." It is only fair to add in conclusion that the dealer who penned our first quoted letter we believe was of German descent, which accounts in a great measure for his curious language. We might also say that in his case all demands were fully liquidated, and that he quitted the business only because, as he informed us, he was "in a bookstore now learning to be a bookstore."—*Postman's Knock*.

On the earliest Sydney Stamps and on Proofs of the Sydney Views.

READ BEFORE THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY BY THE PRESIDENT.

ON this the first general meeting of our Society, I think I cannot do better than give you some information concerning the earliest Postage Stamps of Australia, and as having been a member of the "select committee of the legislative council of New South Wales," which passed the "act to establish an uniform rate of postage, and to consolidate and amend the law for the conveyance and postage of letters," I may be said to speak with authority.

Having sent a copy of the votes and proceedings of the above-named council to Mr. Pemberton, he, in return, asked me the meaning of the answer of the Postmaster-General Raymond, in reply to the question, No. 76, in the inquiry of the select committee, viz.: "At the present moment, we do make a great many stamps for the town delivery;" and to question No. 79, he says: "I charge 8s. a hundred for the present stamps, so that the vender has 4*d.* on a hundred;" and to question No. 80, he says: "I have experienced some difficulty in inducing persons to use these stamps, for although the charge for postage, when the envelope is not used, is 2*d.*, and the envelope only costs 1*d.*, they have been very little used—of late, however, they have been much more generally used." On a subsequent day, Postmaster Raymond said, "The charge for letters delivered in Sydney is now one penny when stamps are used; two-pence without the prepaid stamps." He further said, "The stamps were supplied to several stationers, who paid for them as they got them, but they found they could not sell them."

The stamp here alluded to was to frank letters, delivered "twice" a day within the limits of the city of Sydney. It was an uncolored embossed stamp—the design being the royal arms encircled by the words, GENERAL

POST OFFICE, NEW SOUTH WALES, and under the arms, SYDNEY. The impression was made on wrappers or envelopes, of half sheets of foolscap paper.

In passing through the post office, the hour of delivery, in an oblong octagonal frame, was imprinted in black ink on the stamp to obliterate it, and the envelope was also stamped in red ink, with the words FREE, the day of the month and year, within a circle surmounted by a crown.

On receipt of Mr. Pemberton's inquiry, I wrote to Sydney, and fortunately procured a used stamp, which is authenticated by the hand-writings on the inside of the envelope. The date of the postmark on this specimen is October 5, 1849. Sydney being a moderate-sized town, it was generally as easy for a domestic to deliver a letter by hand as to take it to the post office. The awkward shape of the envelope also caused many to fold the embossed stamp out of sight, and many letters prepaid were thus charged 2*d.* before the stamps were discovered. For these and other reasons the stamp was very little employed, and had almost passed out of memory.

I have also the pleasure to lay before the Society six essays of the one penny views of Sydney, evidently taken before the first plate was finally decided upon. They appeared to be lithographic transfers, by Clayton, printer, bright red on India paper. The spandrils are red with white dots, instead of white with red dots, as was afterwards decided upon. My correspondent at Sydney, who sent me these six essays, tells me that the government decided not to print from stone, but from metal, and no stamps like these essays were ever issued.

I have also to exhibit to the members of the Society six proofs, which I believe to be taken from the first three penny plate. The color is a blue green printed on India paper, pressed into card, and each stamp varies from the other in various minute details. The proofs were also sent me by the gentleman who forwarded me the essays, and who was for many years head of the Foreign Office. He writes: "The difficulty is in obtaining unobliterated stamps, as all the old plates were ordered to be destroyed as soon as new designs were made."

The government printer writes: "I am sorry I cannot furnish you with any specimens of obsolete stamps. The authorities of the dark and bygone ages had a mania to destroy the plates and everything connected with a stamp as soon as it was superseded."

Newly Issued Stamps.

WE will commence our article this month by giving engravings of the



two stamps lately issued by the North German Confederation, which is rendered necessary by the fact that we in one place spoke of them as 10 and 20 silber groschen, instead of 10 and 30 groschen, as will be seen by our cuts.



LA GUAIRA.—The first on our list is a new stamp for this country, and in all probability there is a complete set, but we have been unable to obtain the required information, although we have delayed noticing it since last month.

The design consists of a steamship to left in centre, surmounted by a band inscribed *DOS REALS*. Below are the letters *J. A. J. & S. CURACAO*. The central device is inclosed in square frame containing the legend *LA GUAIRA* to left, *P^{ro}. CABELLO* to right, *PAQUETE* above, and *SAN THOMAS* below. The figure 2 occupies circle in each corner. It is printed in red on white paper, and is perforated. The specimen we copy from is so badly cancelled that we are not certain we are right in every particular, but hope to give fuller information next month.

RUSSIA.—The new envelopes lately adopted have been completed with one for St. Petersburg. The design consists of the double-headed eagle in circle, the same as its predecessors, and is surrounded by Russian characters. It is much smaller than the 5 kopeck it supersedes. It is printed in dark violet, on the left-hand corner of the envelope.

We annex the engravings of two newly-discovered Russian locals, and we understand from our European contemporaries that in all probability there are a number of others.



The first represented is used in the district of Bogorodok. The inscription on it reads *VILLAGE POST OF THE CIRCUIT OF BOGORODOK, 5 KOPECKS*. The color is blue on white paper. The other is used in the township of Borowitch, province of Novgorod. The inscription round the large circle reads *BOROWITCH*



POSTAGE STAMP, on the small one above, RURAL, and on lower one POST.

URUGUAY.—A new set of stamps are being prepared for this country by the American Bank Note Co.



TRINIDAD.—The anticipated five shilling stamp for this country has now made its appearance. The design reminds us somewhat of the English stamp of the same value and size, but it is a decided improvement upon the latter, both in engraving and color, which is of a rich lake.

HOLLAND.—The lately issued 1c. stamp was doomed to have but a short life. The color is now changed to dark green, which shows the design to better advantage.

SPAIN AND CUBA.—The first indication of a change in government on the postage stamp of Spain appears in the impression of the words HABILITADO POR LA NACION (authorized by the nation), on certain specimens of the 12 cuartos, 1867, and of the words HABILITADO POR LA JUNTA REVOLUCIONARIA (authorized by the revolutionary assembly), on copies of the 20c. d'escro of same date. Both these surcharged inscriptions are printed in black, the first in a vertical position (reading from bottom to top), the second in an oblique position. The former is also found on the current 10c. and 20c. of Cuba. Their employment is really, as M. Moens points out, entirely superfluous, unless it is to be understood that stamps destitute of the magic words have *not* been issued by order of the nation, and therefore are not legal tender for postage. If we look for an explanation of the appearance of these inscriptions, we may find it in assuming that the stock in hand at the post office is exhausted, and that it is the fresh supplies which are now being issued that bear the surcharged words, which are at once an intimation of the change in government, and an obliteration of the portrait of the dethroned Queen.—*Stamp Collectors' Magazine*.

Schools of Philately.

BY C. P. S.

FOR some time past, a very considerable portion of our contemporaries have been taken up with articles on the above subject, so that the question has probably been asked by nearly all our readers, "Have American collectors any distinctive ideas in regard to their mode of collecting

stamps?" I have been patiently awaiting for some months to see if any amateur would not give to the world the desired information; or, better still, some dealer who, from knowing what they sell, would naturally be better acquainted with the subject; but as no one has as yet answered, I have taken upon myself to reply. My only qualifications are, that I have been an ardent Philatelist for eight years, and during that time have been acquainted with every dealer of any note, and intimately connected with a large number of collectors, of course knowing what my friends collected, and being pretty well posted as to what the dealers had for sale.

In answer to the above question, I must positively answer Yes! and I do not believe that there are more than twenty American collectors who differ from the "American School."

Our next question is: "What do American Philatelists collect?" First, they *aim* to collect every variety in the engraving of every postage-stamp; for instance, they collect the two distinct varieties of engraving of the ten cent envelope stamp of the first issue of the United States, which, by the way, are excluded from all the European albums, while they give half-a-dozen spaces for varieties in the shade of some common stamp that is, in nine cases out of ten, the result of accident, after the stamp has been printed, and fulfilled the mission for which it was made.

Second, they collect only the shade of a stamp in which it was originally printed, except there is a decided change of color, as is the case of the 1*d.* Antigua, where the stamp was originally printed in rose and afterwards orange, but after the change in color *continued to be issued in the new tint.*

Third, in regard to envelopes, they cut out the stamp with a large enough margin to keep them from looking cramped, regarding it as ridiculous to save the entire envelope, as in a majority of cases it never had any value; as, for instance, nearly every specimen of the octagonal Prussian envelope stamps are found cut out to the shape of the stamp and pasted on the letter they prepaid.

I am well aware that there are many amateurs that use Lallier's album, but nearly all are grumbling with the spaces they *have* to fill with varieties of perforation, watermarks, paper, and shade. For my own part, I collect every variety according to the most advanced ideas of the French school, and find great pleasure in studying the varieties of paper, perforation, and watermarks, and certainly think the page of my album that

contains the set of lithographed Maximillian stamps, commencing with the 7 cent. of the palest pearl gray, and gradually getting darker and darker with varieties of the same stamp, till it reaches a rich, dark purple, nearly black, far superior in beauty to that containing the gay and beautifully executed stamps of Costa Rica and Salvador. But still I am an exception, the general idea being to *first* get one of *every* stamp, thinking that there will be plenty of time to fill up collections with varieties afterwards. However deplorable this state of things may be, the fact remains that American Philatelists do not collect varieties of watermarks and paper, and only differences of perforated and unperforated, with varieties of color, when they possess foreign albums that leave spaces for their reception, in which case the obnoxious specimens are procured, but under protest, if I may be allowed the expression. One of our contemporaries is publishing an article from a celebrated writer on watermarks, but I am sorry to say, as far as my observation goes, that it is *not read*. I am certain nothing could be more interesting than the study of watermarks, where it is taken up and considered; but Americans, as a rule, require something more exciting than the quiet perusal of such a study. However, be this as it may, the American School of Philately is more strictly adhered to in the United States than either the French or English Schools are in their respective countries.

Our Postage Stamp Portrait Gallery.

ISABELLA OF SPAIN.

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

It would seem, at the present moment, when all eyes rest upon the "Spanish Question," peculiarly appropriate to devote some space to a short history of the ex-sovereign whose "counterfeit presentment" is given with this article.



To make a proper commencement to this account of the ex-Queen's life, it will be necessary to turn our steps backward to ascertain her origin. In the year 1813, Ferdinand VII., reputed son of Charles IV., ascended the Spanish throne. His first wife was his cousin Maria, a princess of Naples. After five years of wedded misery, this amiable princess died—poisoned,

it was asserted, by her husband. After remaining a widower eight years, he took for his second wife his own niece, daughter of the King of Portugal, who, fortunately for herself, died after a year, childless. A few months after her death, Ferdinand, unable to remain single, married Maria Josephine Amelia, niece of the Elector of Saxony. For ten years this unfortunate lady endured her beastly husband, and then sank childless into the welcome grave.

Ferdinand was now forty-five years of age, a miserable, worn-out debauchee. His great anxiety was that he would probably die childless, and the sceptre would pass into the hands of his hated brother Carlos.

He therefore sought out a fourth bride—Christina, a daughter of the King of Naples. She was a giddy girl, twenty years of age, without conscience. It having been found that this union would probably prove childless like the former ones, it is reported that the ministers of Ferdinand suggested to Christina that a law higher than the claims of ordinary morality required that she should produce an heir to the throne.

It would appear that Christina readily acceded to this advice, for she at once adopted as her favorite a private of the King's guard, Munuz by name, the son of a tobacconist of Madrid. The King's friends exulted greatly, while the Carlists were in the depths of despair, when it was announced that the Queen was in an interesting condition. At this time there existed a law excluding females from the Spanish throne. In a moment of weakness the old King was influenced by his father confessor and the Queen to promulgate an edict transmitting the throne to females as well as males. At length, on the 10th of October, 1830, a daughter was born, Isabella, the present ex-Queen of Spain. Carlos and his friends had determined to deluge Spain with blood rather than submit to this child, soon to be their sovereign. Christina, in the mean time, had been appointed regent, and had raised an army to put down the Carlist party. In a short time she again became a mother, a daughter being born named Louisa. When Isabella was only three years of age, Ferdinand assembled the Cortes to take their oath of allegiance to her. They assembled June 30th, 1833, and the festival was one of barbaric grandeur. Shortly after this the old King died, and Isabella was proclaimed Queen, Christina, her mother, being regent. Year after year the land was deluged with blood, and everything in the country was neglected. At length it became necessary to find a husband for the Queen, and after much persuasion

and violence, even, it is said, she consented to accept Francisco, a son of her father's brother, an imbecile, worthless young man. It is said the Court of France urged this marriage from state reasons, as they desired Louisa, wife of Montpensier, to ascend the throne of Spain. Not a year had passed, when all Europe had heard of the quarrels of Isabella with her husband, and it was stated that a divorce was thought of on account of Francisco's well known physical incompetency. It is not to be wondered at that Isabella, reared as she had been, should develop a repulsive character, and, imitating her mother and grandmother, gain for her Court the reputation of the most corrupt in Europe. Isabella has had several children. In 1850 she gave birth to a son, who died almost immediately. A year after, Maria Isabella, wife of Count Girgenti, was born, and she has also a son living, Alfonso, eleven years of age. Without possessing the mental attributes of the Russian Messalina, Catharine, her passions have carried her even farther, and her pursuit of dissolute pleasure has been systematic and unblushing.

Marfori, her best favorite, is described as a man of low origin, but pleasing manners. Many of my readers will remember that some years ago the American Minister at Madrid was supposed to be particularly favored, and a duel was the consequence.

Isabella is now living in Paris, surrounded by every luxury, and no doubt enjoys herself better than when at Madrid, oppressed by the cares of state. With commendable foresight, some years ago she purchased a large estate near Williamsburgh, Penn., and it may be that she will use it before long, as a retreat for herself and favorites.

Reviews of Philatelic Publications.

The *Continental Philatelic Magazine*, No. 5, June, Amsterdam: C. Van Rinsum:

Some months since we received the first number of this magazine, and, in common with the rest of the philatelic press, made merry at the expense of the proprietor, and it is possible that we should still have continued to look upon it in the same light, had it not been for the editor's reply to the remarks passed upon it by the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine*.

We quote the lines that struck us as being a perfect answer to all that has been said against it: "We are sorry some errors have rested in No. two, but to which use is this magazine? To the Grammar or to Philately."

This is the correct answer. The paper does not pretend to any excellencies in regard to elegant writing, and only those who have attempted to edit a paper without assistance in a foreign language, can form any idea of how creditably the task is in this instance performed.

In the second number it commenced making war on the counterfeiters and manufacturers of bogus stamps, and has maintained it with unabated energy up to the present time.

We notice considerable improvements in the present number, amongst which may be mentioned the addition of three neatly engraved wood-cuts.

Amongst other interesting information, it contains an article by the editor in defence of the Wenden or Livonia stamps, which, it is needless to inform our readers, have lately been looked upon with much suspicion, both at home and abroad. But there is one glaring inconsistency which we cannot help noticing. The last words in the number are, "For want of room we must leave some engravings and new stamps to the next number;" then follows a blank space of nearly a quarter of a page.

Answers to Correspondents.

J. W. H., PHILADELPHIA.—We have written to H. A. Edgeworth, of Montreal, Canada, whose advertisement appeared in the April and May numbers of the JOURNAL, but have not received any answer, and from information received from a correspondent in Montreal, have no hesitation in pronouncing him a swindler. We are sorry that any of our subscribers should have been robbed by him, and hope this free advertisement will counterbalance the effect of his paid ones.

C. B. M., WATERBURY.—The stamp you send us a drawing of belongs to Holstein. You will find a mistake with regard to the 50c. conveyance rectified in the April number, in "Answers to Correspondents." We will give \$2.50 for a 50c. Lottery Ticket, as some will assert that it exists. If we can't find one for that price, we must continue to doubt its existence.

THE CONTINENTAL PHILATELIC MAGAZINE. Illustrated. Charge for advertisements, 1 page, \$7.00; half page, \$3.50, etc. Subscription, \$2.00 per year, currency. Agents, D. Cameron & Co., Canada.

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The want of a Cheap Album to facilitate the collecting and preserving of Crests and Monograms, has long been felt by a large class of the community.

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Be sure and see the publishers' imprint on the work before buying, as all other cheap Monogram Albums are worthless.

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A limited number of advertisements will be taken, at the rate of ONE DOLLAR *per line*, nonpareil measure, or TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS *per column*, for each insertion. No advertisement of less than five lines will be accepted. Advertisements must be sent in on or before the tenth of each month to insure insertion.

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With next number of "The American Journal of Philately," J. W. Scott & Co. will present to its readers a MONOGRAM or CREST, as a sample of their unrivaled 50 cent packets.

VOLUME No. 1 OF "THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY" (for 1868) is now ready. Price, \$1.50, post free. Purchasers residing out of the United States, except Great Britain and Ireland) (from which countries only coin can be received), can remit the amount together with sufficient for return postage, in unused stamps of the lowest value current in the country whence the order is received.

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being determined to raise the
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have concluded to offer the following inducements to parties wishing to procure subscribers:

A prize of \$50 in cash will be given to the person who procures the largest number of subscribers before the 4th of July, 1869, on which day the prizes will be awarded.

A further prize of \$25 worth of stamps will be given to the person procuring the next largest number of subscribers.

Dealers procuring not less than ten subscribers will be allowed advertisements to the value of half the amount sent.

So that none of our friends may labor in vain—

Any person sending us not less than five subscribers shall receive \$1 worth of any stamps they may select. Any person may subscribe for as many copies as they please themselves, and so increase their chances of obtaining the valuable prizes offered.

All names and addresses of new subscribers must be sent in to the office of “The American Journal of Philately” as soon as procured, and a check will be returned for each one.

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All communications must contain stamp for reply, and should be addressed to the publishers,

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THE

AMERICAN JOURNAL

OF

PHILATELY



AN ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOL. II.

AUGUST 20, 1869.

NO. 20.

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KEATS said, "A thing of beauty is a joy forever;" and certainly we have never seen anything more beautiful than these monograms and crests. Every one should invest in a packet, even if they do not make a practice of collecting.

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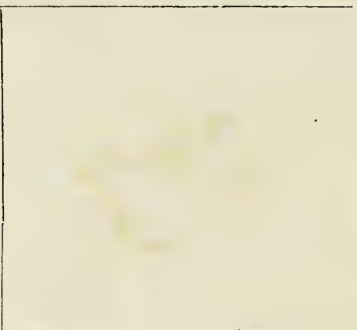
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PACKET B.
 OF
J. W. Scott & Co.'s
Celebrated Excelsior
 Monogram and Crest Packets.



We owe an apology to our readers for our neglecting the promised Monogram with last number; but the extra work required to finish the design to our satisfaction, compelled us either to delay the JOURNAL, or omit the Monogram.

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This series are all beautifully printed on heavy tinted paper, with a very chaste design surrounding the page.

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THE CHRONOLOGICAL SYSTEM.

BY W. K. FREEMAN.

Continued from page 21.

1863.

AUSTRIA.

ADHESIVE.

- Eagle, (oval) 2 kr. yellow.
 " " 3 " green.
 " " 5 " red.
 " " 10 " blue.
 " " 15 " brown.

NEWSPAPER.

Eagle, (oct.) no value, lavender.

ENVELOPES.

- Eagle, (oval) 3 kr. green.
 " " 5 " red.
 " " 10 " blue.
 " " 15 " brown.
 " " 25 " lilac.

AUSTRIAN ITALY.

ADHESIVE.

- Eagle, (oval) 2 soldi, yellow.
 " " 3 " green.
 " " 5 " red.
 " " 10 " blue.
 " " 15 " brown.

ENVELOPES.

- Eagle, (oval) 3 soldi, green.
 " " 5 " red.
 " " 10 " blue.
 " " 15 " brown.
 " " 25 " lilac.

BAHAMAS.

ADHESIVE.

Portrait Victoria, (rect.) 1 s. green.

BAVARIA.

ADHESIVE.

Unpaid letter stp., (rect.) 3 kr. black.

BREMEN.

ADHESIVE.

Arms of city on shield, (rect.) 2 grote, orange

BRITISH GUIANA.

ADHESIVE.

- Ship in garter, large, (rect.) 6c. blue.
 " " " 24c. green.
 " " " 48c. red.

BRUNSWICK.

ADHESIVE.

Crowned horse, (oblong) $\frac{1}{2}$ sq.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

ADHESIVE.

Hope, &c., (rect.) 1s. green.

CONFEDERATE STATES.

ADHESIVE.

Head of Jackson, (rect.) 2c. carmine.

FRANCE.

ADHESIVE.

- Laureated head, (rect.) 2c. brown.
 " " " 4c. grey.

HONG KONG.

ADHESIVE.

- Hd. Victoria, (rect.) 4c. green gray.
 " " " 6c. lilac.
 " " " 30c. pink.

ITALY.

ADHESIVE.

- Hd. Vic. Emmanuel, (rect.) 15c. blue.
 " hd. to right " 15c. blue.
 Obl. " Segna tassa," 10c. yellow.

JAMAICA.

ADHESIVE.

Hd. Victoria, (rect.) 3d. green.

LUBECK.

ADHESIVE.

- Arms, (oval) $\frac{1}{2}$ sch. green.
 " " 1 sch. orange.
 " " 2 sch. rose.
 " " 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ sch. blue.
 " " 4 sch. brown.

To be continued.

A Plea for "Revenue Stamp" Collecting.

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

There exists no doubt at the present moment many philatelists who can, with the great Roman Emperor, weep "because their are no more worlds to conquer." Let me, in a few words, call their attention to a branch of their favorite pursuit which as yet seems to have met with but little favor on either side of the Atlantic: I allude to the collection of Revenue Stamps, issued not only by our own Government, but others, for various purposes and uses. Take, for instance, our own revenue labels. It would be impossible almost to find designs of greater beauty or variety than at present exist. Commencing with the little 2 c. bank check, and running up to \$200 U. S. Internal Revenue, they present a variety of form and color infinitely diverse and pleasing. Produce me, if possible, a more beautiful or better executed stamp of any country than our \$3.00 manifest or charter party. A person may say, "True, they are very beautiful, but being only about 100, or thereabouts, in number, we can soon obtain them, and our labor is at an end." Not so, my industrious friend. If you should succeed in obtaining a full set of revenues proper, commence with match stamps; you will be astonished to find how many different designs you will obtain in a short time without appreciable trouble. Some of these stamps in the writer's possession are really works of art, and just as worthy of preservation as some postal labels I could name. Should you imagine you have exhausted the "match" line of work, commence with "playing card stamps;" follow then by "shoe stamps, they in turn to give place to private proprietary stamps, whose number is legion, and whose designs are, for the most part, beautiful and appropriate, many of them bearing upon their faces an excellent steel engraving portrait of the fortunate inventor of some celebrated empirical remedy, like "Hembold's Buchu," or "Scheneck's Sea Weed Tonic." Should you become weary of these stamps, (for you can never hope to have all of them) turn your attention to the cigar and tobacco stamps. It is no exaggeration to say these are the most beautiful of any stamps ever printed. Look at the vignettes upon the 8 oz. and 4 oz., class 16, tobacco stamps. No bank note possesses more delicate lines. The 1 and 2 oz. stamps are equally beautiful, the 4 oz. being a little shabby compared to the others. Upon the 16 oz. stamps may be seen an excellent engraving of a "Jolly Jack Tar," drawn, I will wager, by Darley, as it has the self-same nose all his characters are blest with. It is useless to enumerate these further, as they are

all pleasing. The cigar stamps are of two kinds, for those of foreign and domestic manufacture; while they are worthy of collection, they are not particularly beautiful. We now come to "Beer Stamps"—large convoluted circular ones, placed over the bung-holes of barrels containing the celebrated Teutonic beverage. We may also collect the large oblong stamps placed on barrels of spirits: there are a number of varieties of these, and being well designed, are quite pretty. Should my collecting friends succeed in obtaining all these different varieties for their own country, let them turn their attention abroad. We find that England has issued some splendid revenue and bill stamps; for instance, the Foreign Bill Stamp of different values, printed in purple and scarlet ink. These stamps are readily obtained, and inexpensive, filling up a vacant space in our album creditably. Great Britain has also telegraph stamps—many different varieties—custom house stamps, besides bill, receipt, and proprietaries without number. The newspaper stamps are easily obtained, and very curious.

We find, also, India has beautiful stamps. The Canada Bill Stamps cannot be excelled in point of beauty, and Italy, France, Belgium, Sweden, and Norway, and the different German States, all lend their assistance to fill our Revenue Album. Who will therefore say, "I have exhausted Philately," when revenues have been neglected. One word of advice, and I am done. Do not place your revenue stamps in the same album with your postal labels.

Philatelic Difficulties in Spain.

ANONYMOUS.

A visit to the Correo or Post-office in Spain, for the purpose of despatching a foreign letter, is rather an exhilarating operation. A knock at the enquiry window produces a lean and smoke-dried individual, who, on learning the destination of the letter, explains how much the postage will come to. The window is barred with a close iron grating, and the general air of the place is that of a rather disagreeable prison. If the window bars are intended as a precaution against felony, they would seem superfluous; for a comprehensive view of the interior reveals nothing to steal, except the hungry-looking clerk himself, and an enormous deal counter. The next process is to ascertain that the letter does not exceed the prescribed weight. This is done by slowly depositing it in a pair of scales large enough to try a jockey's weight at Jerome Park. The destination and weight of the letter having been ascertained,

the next thing is to get stamps for the requisite amount ; but this is rather a complicated business. The post-office does not sell stamps, so the hungry clerk explains in pantomime—for the traveler's Spanish is not up to conversation mark—and points in a distracted way toward the cigar he is smoking. The good natured traveller, thinking that the official in question might be seized with a sudden frenzy for tobacco, makes a polite tender of his cigar case. A cigar is accepted, but still the stamps are not forthcoming. A gloomy suspicion crosses the traveller's mind that the clerk is mad. So he goes back to the hotel, and consults a waiter, who explains that the object of all the pantomime was to refer the traveller to a tobacconist's shop, since it is to that particular branch of trade that a paternal government has entrusted the privilege of selling postage stamps. If this arrangement causes a little trouble, it is not without its direct advantage to the revenue, for tobacco is a royal monopoly, and as a man who buys a stamp may, in the process of negotiations, deem it advisably to buy a cigar also, this innocent little device is productive of benefit to the ruling powers. On arriving at the shop, the traveller is confronted by a solemn man in a mulberry cloak and black turban hat. The customer's wants are politely explained, and the old gentleman gruffly desires to see the letter. He first poises it upon a pair of very dirty fingers, and then, with a growing sense of responsibility, weighs it in some snuffy scales. The operation concluded, he finds it necessary to light a fresh cigar. He next adjusts his spectacles, and struggles manfully through every word of the address. This done, he turns the letter over and over, either with a sort of forlorn hope of getting at the inside, or with the more innocent intention of disposing of a little of his spare time, and maybe driving his customer to take refuge in cigars. He then dives into the inmost recesses of a drawer, and very slowly, and, to all appearances, reluctantly produces a stamp. Off the traveller goes in triumph with his letter to the post-office. It is sure to be all right now ; but no ; the old gentleman has given you a wrong stamp. And as no letters can pass through a Spanish post-office which are not paid in full, you are obliged to go back again. At last you get your letter off ; and if you be wise, you will make a vow that you will write no more letters as long as you remain in Spain. Such is the Spanish "correo" in the nineteenth century.

The Austrian postal service has passed a regulation that cards bearing the address of the receiver on one side and a communication written on the other shall be sent to all parts of the country at the rate of one cent each, the same as papers under crossband.

The "Carriers' Stamps."

It is with great pleasure that we are now, through the indefatigable research of our esteemed friend Dr. Yarrow, able to give the correct history of the various carriers' stamps that have, from time to time made their appearance in collections, or chronicled in manuals or albums.

It will be seen, by turning to the "correspondence department" of this number, that W. H. H. Cornell, Esq., Third Assistant Postmaster General, denies that the GOVERNMENT CITY DISPATCH stamp (horseman) was ever issued by the Government. This one was probably more generally known and believed in than any other of the carriers' stamps; but we must add that, though we accepted it as a government issue, we had considerable doubt of its official origin on account of the poorness of the engraving; but then, again, the extreme scarceness of the red one made us think that it might probably have been in temporary use until superseded by the beautifully engraved eagle. This, as will be seen, receives his official endorsement; but one suspicious circumstance in regard to these was that although they could be obtained uncanceled in unlimited quantities, yet used ones were seldom met with. We have never seen a counterfeit of this stamp, but there are several imitations of the horseman stamp. We now come to the stamp bearing the head of Franklin. This is decidedly the most scarce of the carriers' stamps.

We annex a letter from H. W. Ireland, Esq., written in reply to Dr. Yarrow.

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT, }
WASHINGTON, AUGUST 10, 1869. }

MY DEAR SIR:—Yours referring to "carriers' stamp" has come to hand. The following is as near a description of it as can be made: Head of Franklin, looking to left; frame oval geometrical lathe work; ornamental multirayed stars at corners. The word "Carriers" in straight line at top of stamp; the word "Stamp" in straight line at lower margin. A five-pointed star at each end of the words, in brackets. Color, "*Orange Brown*." Typographed in colors on white paper. Shape, upright rectangular. Proofs were issued printed in blue on pink paper; also in green and yellow. It was issued about Sept. 29, 1851, but was suppressed almost immediately, owing to its great similarity to the then three cent stamp. Only about 300,000 were ever issued. There is but one specimen, a cancelled one, now in possession of the Department. I regret there are none, else you should be supplied. The plate was, according to our best information, destroyed after the stamps were suppressed.

Since the change in administration, nothing has been done in relation to the new envelope stamp. Several designs and dies were made and submitted, but not accepted by the Department; and I really think that no change will be made, at least for the present.

I am glad to be able to assist you in any way in this matter, although the stock of materials here to draw from is not very complete. It has always surprised me that the Department has never kept any official history of its stamps. Are there any of the regular issues of our stamps wanting in your collection? We have a few on hand, and perhaps I can supply you with any which are wanting. Truly yours,
W. M. IRELAND.

It will be seen by the communications of the two gentlemen that the only carriers' stamps used in this country was 1c. brown, head Franklin, issued about 29th September, 1851; and that, on account of its great likeness to the 3c stamp then in use, it was superseded, on the 27th January, 1852, by the 1c oblong eagle. But there is one thing we do not understand. Mr. Ireland says it was printed *orange brown*. Now, we have only been able to see four of these stamps, two of which were blue on pink paper, and *both were cancelled*, we think by a number of square dots similar to the stamps of the French Republic. We took both of these from letters ourselves. Another was printed in orange on India paper, and was obtained by the owner direct from the P. O. Department at Washington. The remaining one now lies before us, and is printed in brown of the shade described in the letter, on similar paper to the 1851 issue U. S. stamps; it is uncanceled. The plate from which this one is printed appears to be cracked, the imperfection extending across the stamp on a line with the chin of Franklin.

Newly Issued Stamps.

AGAIN WE commence by giving engravings of some stamps that



we have long neglected. We give the second more as a warning than anything else, for we have no doubt in our own mind but that it is a humbug, like many others that have lately appeared. We hope to be able to expose the nest of thieves that are now fabricating



frauds in Paris. We have an agent at work, and hope shortly to hear from him with full particulars, but shall always be thankful for any information that any of our friends may be able to furnish us with; for it is only by exposing humbugs before their perpetrators have time to get them in the market that the trade can be put an end to. We may mention, amongst stamps that are not above suspicion, the St. Thomas and Porto Rico, the Suez Canal, Bernando Poo, &c., &c.

CANADA is shortly to have a new set of stamps. Taking lessons in economy from our own country, it seems they are about altering their stamps to make them smaller, so as to save paper. The head will still remain exactly the same as now, but the frame and margin around the head will be considerably less. We cannot see how this can be done without spoiling the beauty of the stamp. As to whether they are to retain the same color, we are unable to say.



LA GUAIRA.—We are now enabled to give an engraving of the new stamp for La Guaira, as described by us last month. A correspondent informs us that he has another value of the new set, the $\frac{1}{2}$ real, green. Probably this completes the set. The appearance is much superior to the old issue, but we are not certain that these are to supersede the others. As it appears by the initials that they are issued by some private firm, it may be an op-

position line.

RUSSIA.—It is an old saying, that “It never rains but it pours,” and by the quantity of Russian locals that are turning up every day, it seems to be amply justified in this case. The first engraving represents a stamp purporting to be issued by the district of Schunelbourg. The inscription reads, RURAL POST OF SCHUNELBOURG.



It is printed in black on dark green paper. *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* notes another local. We will give the description in their own words: “A another local has come into our own



hands. It is diamond shaped, printed on dull white paper and gummed. The design is very simple. There is a description on the four sides signifying RUSAN CIRCUIT RURAL COURT; and in the centre, disposed in three lines on a shaded ground, is another inscription, STAMP OF VILLAGE POST, 2 KOPECKS. Of this latter, the word МАРКА (stamp) is the most conspicuous.” Our other engraving is the new Russian envelope stamp described last month.

DENMARK.—The 2 shilling envelope of this country is now found minus the *s* after the value. *The Philatelist* says the alteration took place on the 1st of July.

TURKEY.—We clip the following from *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*, but consider it our duty to warn collectors from receiving this new Turkish local into their albums till its character has been more fully inquired into. The fact of there being so many colors to one engraving is always a suspicious circumstance in our eyes.

“The company named on the stamp has used this type since June last to frank the letters and journals carried by its steam-boats. The entire series consists of two values and six colors, viz. :—



| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 20 paras, blue on blue. | 20 paras red on yellow. |
| 20 " red " " | 1 piastre, blue on rose. |
| 20 " green on yellow. | 1 " red " |

Of these the one paistre is used for letters, and the paras for journals, which are accepted without limitation of weight; but we can not see why the values are printed in more than one color, and again we think it must be a mistake to catalogue the 20 p. green on yellow, as the stamps on blue and on rose paper are printed in blue and in red. Probably it was an ocular illusion experienced by the chronicler. Before the emission of these stamps the company used to write the word FRANCO on all the letters and journals, but it found the experiment did not answer. It no doubt finds its new method effects a great economy of time, and certainly this economy has been gained at the least possible cost, to judge by the very primitive type which has been adopted for the stamps."

The Memphis Envelope.

At the May meeting of the London (England) Philatelic Society a "Memphis envelope" was exhibited by Mr. Pemberton, and was fully endorsed by that assembly. The attention of our readers is called to the following communication which was received from Col. M. C. Gallaway, of Memphis, in reply to an enquiry on the subject of the provisional stamps of the Confederate States, Col. Gallaway, as most of our readers are aware, was the postmaster of Memphis, both previous to and during the rebellion.

MEMPHIS, JULY 17th, 1869.

DEAR SIR:—In reply to your note of the 12th inst., I would say that the stamps you enclosed* me were got up by me here in Memphis. When Tennessee passed the ordinance of secession, the old government stamps were worthless, and as I found it impossible to get along without stamps, I asked and procured the consent of the government at Richmond to get up temporary stamps until the Postmaster General could furnish me with regular stamps. Those you enclosed me were in use for several months, and were the only ones used. A stamp was shortly afterwards manufactured at Richmond, after which those I issued were taken in and destroyed. Respectfully yours, M. C. GALLAWAY.

* The stamps enclosed were the well known Memphis 5c. oval red and the M. C. Gallaway 2c. blue.

VIRGIN ISLES.—We have lately seen a counterfeit of the scarce one shilling stamps of these islands. It is a very close copy of the original, but can easily be detected by counting the lines of bricks. On the back ground in the genuine it is composed of thirty-six lines whereas in the counterfeit there are only thirty. They have also omitted to give the red shading in the globe on which the figure stands. Notwithstanding these defects, it is a very dangerous counterfeit, and we would advise collectors to be on their guard in purchasing Virgin Island stamps.

The Cashmere Stamps.

BY J. C. WILSON.

I have great pleasure in being able to give a correct translation of the inscription on the Cashmere stamps. Since they first appeared I have taken great interest in them, but knowing nothing of the languages, I have, till quite lately, put them aside. My interest was newly awakened on reading Mr. Pemberton's article in *The Philatelist* for October, and your remarks on it in the November number of your magazine.

The upper part of the circular stamp is in the Kohistani or Pahari character—the language spoken by the people in the Himalaya mountains—and reads thus: HAKIM JUMOON, meaning "Government of Jumoon." The lower is in Persian, and runs as follows: QALAMRAW-I-SIRCAR-I-JUMOON WA KASHMEER, 1923, Bikrama or Hindoo chronology, which, translated, signifies: "Sovereignty of the government of Jumoon and Cashmere, A. D., 1866." The centre of the stamp contains the value surrounded by the lotus leaf.

As you infer, Serinagur is another name for the town of Cashmere.

Of the rectangular stamps, the upper half of the inscription is in Kohistani, which reads: JUMOON CASHMERE, with the lotus leaf dividing the names.

The words of the lower inscription in Persian are identical with those on the circular stamps, with the exception of the date, which, in the rectangular, is in the central oval. The centre disc is in mixed characters, Persian and Kohistani, as follows: ANNA, or ANNAS, in Persian, followed by the date in the same language, and both the value and the date repeated in Kohistani, which is in the $\frac{1}{4}$, 2, 4, and 8 annas, 1923 Bikrama, and in the $\frac{1}{2}$ and 1 anna, 1924, *i.e.*, A. D., 1867.

In the 4 and 8 annas the date is in Kohistani only.

The values of the rectangular are:

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------------|
| Paou anna, $\frac{1}{4}$ anna. | Do | anna, 2 anna |
| Neem " $\frac{1}{2}$ " | Chahar | " 4 " |
| Yak " 1 " | Hasht | " 8 " |

The characters vary a good deal from bad printing, and are so roughly formed that they could only be read by one thoroughly conversant with the languages.

I have not yet seen any of the forgeries, but should think the characters are too difficult to imitate successfully.

From Major Cracroft we have received a somewhat different interpretation of the characters on the above stamps.

He says: "The inscription is in two languages. I give as specimen a quarter-anna label. The outer contains in Persian and Dagee (a Hindee dialect) the words QULUM RO SIRKAR JUMMOO WU KASHMEER, *i.e.*, State of Jummoo and Cashmere; and the inner oval in the same language, Persian above, and Dagee beneath, PAO ANNA ST 1923, *i.e.*, quarter anna; SUMBUT (or Vikramajit year) 1923." Accompanying this is a rough sketch showing how the inscription reads, QULUM RO SIR KAR running from left to right around the lower half, and JUMMOO WU KASHMEER from left to right around the upper half of oval.

From this we understand the inscriptions run side by side around the stamp, whilst from Mr. Wilson's description we learn that the inscription in the local dialect occupies by itself the upper half of the oval, and the Persian inscription the lower—which is right? In the reading of the latter, both linguists are virtually at one, allowing for some slight difference in spelling, but whilst Major Cracroft states that the inscriptions in the two dialects are the same, Mr. Wilson informs us that the one in Kohistani simply means JUMMOON CASHMEER—again we ask, which is right?

Upon the central inscriptions our two contributors are agreed; they consist of the value and date in two languages, and it is easy to identify the Bikrama year of Mr. Wilson with the Vikramajit year of Major Cracroft.

It does not surprise us that there should be various interpretations of these eastern characters—we are, we almost dare to say, happily, unacquainted with them ourselves; but we, in common with our readers, are aware that very slight variations in their form often cause great variation in their meaning, and that the most experienced doctors often differ widely in their reading.

We note, in conclusion, as corroborative of the statement that the circular series had only a local currency, that the Kohistani characters signify simply "Government of Jummoo," whilst those on the rectangulars stand for "Jummoo and Cashmere."

Clippings.

A WOULD-BE gentleman called at the post-office the other day, and displayed his ignorance of natural history or the French language, or both, by requesting to be supplied with a stamped *antelope*.

THE SOCIETY.—The Secretary of The New York Philatelic Society has not yet sent in the report of the last meeting, if it has taken place; but probably there is not enough of the members in the city to form a quorum. We understand the President, Mr. Freeman, is enjoying himself hugely at the home of his childhood.

DEATH OF THE GOVERNOR OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS.—From a recent letter from the American correspondent of the *Times*, we learn with regret that Sir Arthur Rumboldt, Bart., is dead. The late governor of the Virgin Islands took a warm interest in the postal emissions of his colony, and it was by his desire that the postmaster of Tortola forwarded to our publishers specimen copies of the stamps as they appeared, with a view to their being noticed in these pages.—*Stamp Collector's Magazine*.

Correspondence.

PHILADELPHIA, JULY 29, 1869.

Editor "American Journal of Philately."

DEAR SIR:—Hearing from a Philatelic friend that a new Album is shortly to be published by J. W. Scott & Co., I feel disposed to offer a few suggestions, hoping to excite others to ventilate their ideas, in order that the matter may receive due and careful attention from the publishers, who will no doubt do everything in their power to accommodate their numerous customers.

We hear a great deal about "permanent albums" now-a-days, but I am free to confess I have yet to see one really entitled to the name. By a permanent album I understand one in which new issues can always find a place, without destroying the original beauty and symmetry of the book. Such an album does not exist. The following would be the plan, according to my ideas, best suited for a good, permanent album:

Let it be oblong in shape, somewhat like Lallier's, well bound, and with guards between each page. I would have no descriptive letter-press, but the date, value, and color of each stamp printed in the panel destined to receive it on right hand page. Upon the opposite page I would leave spaces for small photographs of rulers, coats of arms, and portraits of philatelists or eminent men connected with the postal service. As to the spaces to be left for stamps, I would first have only the regular official issues, followed by spaces for every stamp or variety in existence. To my mind, it is the variety we find in stamps that lends a peculiar charm to collecting. As to the typographical part of the book, heaven forbid it should be lithography. To get a good example of the beauties of a lithographic album, take one of Lallier's which has been in use for a few months, and notice how the lines rub.

It would be well to have several blank pages for each country in addition to the guards, as in this way an album might be considered permanent, at least for the owner's lifetime. The individual spaces for the stamps should not be crowded together, as

nothing looks so ugly as a cramped, contracted page of postal labels. Trusting others more experienced than myself will furnish their ideas,

I remain, very truly yours,

G. B. C.

NEW YORK, AUGUST 2d, 1869.

Editor "American Journal of Philately."

DEAR SIR:—Having heard doubts expressed as to the genuineness of the small blue oblong one penny stamp, the design being an eagle in an oval, I forwarded to the Post-Office Department a fair specimen of the stamp in question, and requested information as to its history. Through the kindness and courtesy of the Third Assistant Post-Master General, W. H. H. Corell, Esq., I am enabled to furnish positive evidence that it was really issued by the Government. The letter received is herewith subjoined.

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

H. C. YARROW.

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT, FINANCE OFFICE, }
JULY 30th, 1869. }

SIR:—Your communication of the 20th instant is received. The blue stamp, "Eagle," was used for prepaying city letters delivered by carriers. It was issued about Nov. 17th, 1851, and was withdrawn January 27th, 1852. It was very little used except in Philadelphia, Pa., and Cincinnati, Ohio.

The records of the Department do not contain any reference to the other stamp, "Post-rider." It is supposed to have been issued by one of the numerous "city dispatch" companies located in New York. The specimens are herewith returned.

Very respectfully,

W. H. H. CORELL,

Third Ast. P. M. General.

H. C. YARROW,

New York.

Answers to Correspondents.

INQUISTIVE.—The set of Bolivar stamps sell for about \$1.50.

W. L. A., PHILADELPHIA.—The $\frac{1}{2}$ and 2 reals on page 309. Lallier's Album, are the first for 1864 issue of La Guaira. We make use of your information in our article on novelties.

GRACE WILCOX, New Orleans, says that she wishes we would give engravings of the new U. S. stamps, as the high values are only to be found in a few of the large cities of the North. Possibly we may comply with this correspondent's request in our next.

TO ADVERTISERS.

A limited number of advertisements will be taken at the rate of ONE DOLLAR *per line*, nonpareil measure, or TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS *per column*, for each insertion. No advertisements of less than five lines will be accepted. Advertisements must be sent in on or before the tenth of each month to insure insertion. J. W. SCOTT & CO.,

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THE
 AMERICAN JOURNAL
 OF
 PHILATELY



AN ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOL. II.

SEPTEMBER 20, 1869.

NO. 21.

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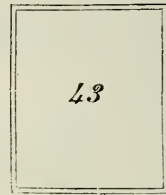
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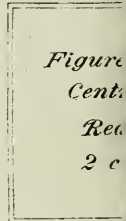
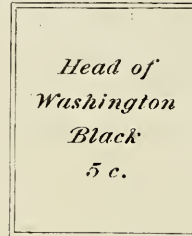
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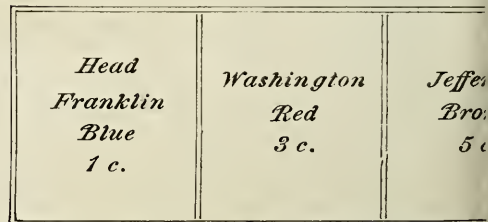
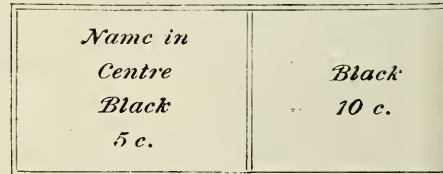
Washington.

These Stamps were a

New York.



Providence.



THE CHRONOLOGICAL SYSTEM.

BY W. K. FREEMAN.

Continued from page 89.

LUBECK.

ENVELOPES.

- Arms, (oval) $\frac{1}{2}$ sch. green.
 " 1 " orange.
 " 2 " rose.
 " $2\frac{1}{2}$ " blue.
 " 4 " brown.

LUXEMBURG.

ADHESIVE.

- Arms, (rect.) 1 cent, ochre.

LUZON.

ADHESIVE.

- Head Isabella II., (rect.) 5 cuar red.
 " " 10 " lake.
 " " 1 real, violet.
 " " 2 " blue.
 " " 1 " plata fte. 1. bl.

MAURITIUS.

ADHESIVE.

- Hd. Victoria, (rect.) 3d. crimson.

ENVELOPES.

- Hd. Victoria, (circ.) 6d. violet.
 " (nine sided) 9d. brown.
 " (oval) 1 sh. yellow.

MEXICO.

ADHESIVE.

- Hd. Hidalgo, (rect.) 4 reals, red on yellow.
 8 " green on brown.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

ADHESIVE.

- Hd. Victoria, (rect.) 2 c. orange.

NEW GRENADA.

ADHESIVE.

- Arms, (oct.) 5 cent yellow.
 " 10 " blue.
 " 20 " red.
 " 50 " green.

NORWAY.

ADHESIVE.

- Arms, (rect.) 8 sk. pink.
 " 24 " chocolate.

NOVA SCOTIA.

ADHESIVE.

- Profile Victoria, (rect.) 2 c. lilac.

PERU.

ADHESIVE.

- Arms, (sq.) 1 peseta, brown.

PORTUGAL.

ADHESIVE.

- Hd. Louis I., (rect.) 10 reis, yellow.
 " " 50 " green.
 " " 100 " lilac.

QUEENSLAND.

ADHESIVE.

- Hd. Victoria, (rect.) 1 d. orange.

RUSSIA.

ADHESIVE.

- Arms, (rect.) 5 kop. sky blue.

ST. HELENA.

ADHESIVE.

- Hd. Victoria, (rect.) 1 d. red.
 " " 4 d. rose.
 " " 1 s. green.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.

ADHESIVE.

- Figure, (rect.) 1 c. black on blue.
 2 c. "

SAXONY.

ADHESIVE.

- Arms, (rect.) 3 pf. green.
 " " $\frac{1}{2}$ n. gr. orange.
 " (oval) 1 " pink.
 " " 2 " blue.
 " " 3 " brown.
 " " 5 " lilac.

ENVELOPES.

- Arms, (oval) 1 n. gr. pink.
 " " 2 " blue.
 " " 3 " brown.
 " " 5 " violet.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

ADHESIVE.

- Hd. Victoria, (rect.) 1 s. brown.

SWEDEN.

ADHESIVE.

- Fancy device, (rect.) 3 ore. brown.

TURKEY.

ADHESIVE.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Sultan's signature, (rect.) | 20 paras, yellow. |
| " " " | 1 piastre, lilac. |
| " " " | 2 " blue. |
| " " " | 5 " pink. |

FOR UNPAID LETTERS.

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Sultan's signature, (rect.) | 20 paras, brown. |
| " " " | 1 piastre, " |
| " " " | 2 " " |
| " " " | 5 " " |

UNITED STATES.

ADHESIVE.

Hd. Jackson, (rect.) 2 c. black.

ENVELOPES.

Hd. Jackson, hex. "post," 2 c. black.
 " " "postage," 2 c. black.
 On buff and old brown paper.

NEWSPAPER WRAPPER.

Hd. Jackson, hex. "post," 2 c. black.
 " " "postage," 2 c. black.
 On manilla, yellow, and buff paper.

To be continued.

Our Postage Stamp Portrait Gallery.

JUAREZ OF MEXICO.

BY COSMOPOLITAN.



THE portrait which heads this article is supposed to represent Benito Juarez, the present controller of the destinies of that unhappy country Yclept Mexico. As the picture is of official origin, it might be supposed to be a good likeness of this ruler, which, unfortunately is not the case, as Juarez is really a much handsomer man than depicted in the cut before us. This man, who has been alternately reviled and blessed, was born in 1807, in a village near Jatan, at present known as Villa Juarez in the State of Oajaca. He is descended from pure aboriginal stock, and was born in humble circumstances. At an early age he was received into the service of a wealthy family of Oajaca, who assisted him in his education. Afterward he prepared himself for the profession of the law, in which he gained distinction. Devoted to liberal ideas, he took an active part in politics as a member of the legislature of his native State. He successively went through the whole range of the judicial organization of his native State, from the position of justice of the peace to that of presiding judge. In 1846 he was elected deputy to the Constitutional Congress in the City of Mexico. He took a very prominent part in the administration of the law known in Mexico by the appellation "Manos Muertas (mortmain), by which a loan was imposed upon the clergy to supply the necessities of the existing war with the United States. From 1848 to 1852 he officiated with success as governor of his native State. During the period of peace he devoted himself to the opening of roads, the increase of primary and higher schools, and the reformation of the financial

administration ; and on retiring from the government he left in the public treasury a considerable sum of money. In 1853, under the administration of Santa Anna, he was banished from the country, spent a short time in Havannah, and thence proceeded to New Orleans, in which city he resided until April or May, 1855, when he left it for Acapulco, to join Alvarez, whom he accompanied to Cuernavaca. In that city he discharged the functions of representative of the State of Oajaca in the assembly empowered to choose a temporary President of the republic. Alvarez was selected, and Juarez became minister of justice. While in this office he promulgated the law abolishing the privileges of the clergy and the army, which is known as the "ley Juarez." Alvarez having retired from the Presidency in December, 1855, after having appointed General Comonfort as his substitute, Juarez left the cabinet, in conjunction with all the other ministers. Comonfort then appointed him governor of Oajaca, the administration of which office he assumed when the revolution which had broken out there rendered the discharge of his mission very difficult. He succeeded, however, in effecting the immediate pacification of the State, and sent forth armed forces for the re-establishment of order in other parts of the republic. The term of the provisional administration having expired, by the promulgation of the constitution of 1857, he was elected constitutional governor of the State of Oajaca, and was in the discharge of the duties of this position when, in November, 1857, President Comonfort made him Secretary of State, and subsequently he was appointed President of the Supreme Court of Justice. After the withdrawal of Comonfort from the government (January, 1858) Juarez became, in virtue of his office, Constitutional President of Mexico. On January 19th he established his government in Guanaajuato. The reverses of civil war afterward compelled him to remove it to Colima. As in this city he was separated from the rest of the republic—which recognized the constitutional government, with the exception only of the City of Mexico, and three or four others, in which the so-called conservatives had large garrisons—he determined to proceed by way of Panama to Vera Cruz, and arrived there on May 4th, 1858, where he has since officiated as the head of the constitutional government.

It would appear needless to recapitulate here the struggles between the different factions in Mexico since that time. Suffice it to say that Juarez, by his indefatigable industry, perseverance and courage, not only subdued the native chiefs in arms against him, but succeeded in overthrowing the Empire planted in Mexico by Louis Napoleon by his own grace Emperor of the French. While we may admire the vast administrative ability of Juarez, his bravery

under a host of difficulties, every good point in his character is obscured by his savage vindictive cruelty towards Maximilian and his supporters. Not only has he shown the spirit of a demon in the Emperor's case, but scores of American citizens have been cruelly treated by him upon suspicion only, while pretending the most ardent friendship for Americans, in his heart he despises and fears them. We must make some allowance for him from the fact that he imbibed with his mother's milk that traditional Indian ferocity for which the Mexican Indians are celebrated.

The Poetry of Philately.

PHILATELY, like all other sciences, has its poetry, although possibly many of its devotees are scarcely aware of the fact, as heretofore we have never had sufficient space at our disposal to accommodate any of the many excellent verses that have been written on our favorite occupation.

We now propose to give all the verses on the subject that have appeared from time to time in the various journals.

Our first is taken from *Once a Month*, in which it was credited to *Punch*, but this hardly pertains to philately.

When was a folly so pestilent hit upon,
As folks running mad to collect every spit upon
Post-office stamp that's been soiled and been spit upon?
Oh for Swift! such a subject his spleen to emit upon.
'Tis said that some fool in mustachios has split upon

The rock of a bet,
And therefore must get,
To avoid loss and debt,

Half the town as collectors, to waste time and wit upon,
Bothering and forcing their friends to submit upon,

Pain of displeasure,
To fill a peck measure
With the coveted treasure

Of as many old stamps as per force can be lit upon
To paper a room, or stuff cushions to sit upon.

Do, dearest Punch, let fly a sharp skit upon
This new pursuit, and ass's head fit upon
The crest of the order of Knights of the Spit-upon."

Our next, and probably the worst that has been printed, comes from *The Stamp Collectors' Miscellany*. The writer's name is not attached; but no doubt it was written by some child with a vivid recollection of an old English nursery poem.

TIMBROMANIA.

What now is asked is all the rage?
What thus excites the present age?
What actuates the youthful sage?

Timbromania.

What rouses quick the sleepy youth?
What offers help in search of truth?
What is friends you ask forsooth?

Timbromania.

What means such missives from abroad?
Such packets too! oh! what a load!
As ne'er before brought ship or road.

Timbromania.

What is it with which the papers teem?
Miscellany! and Magazine!
And journals all, full well, I deem.

Timbromania.

What makes the printer's hands so full?
The streets alive—no alleys dull!
The playground cheerful and the school.

Timbromania.

What aids the gift bestowing friend?
To his best wishes puts an end,
To his desires such scope does lend.

Timbromania.

What more the pleasant thoughts engage
Than stamp collecting; what in this age
Charms more? Demand you what's the rage?
Timbromania.

Since this movement there's a spell
Enchanting quite, may each wish well
To distance far, the booming knell
of Timbromania.

Sydney J. Eisenberg contributes the following to the pages of *The Stamp Collectors' Magazine*. It is a very good description of Birchin Lane after four o'clock.

A STRANGE 'CHANGE.

One sunny noon, with anxious face,
Round and round the 'Change I pace,
With stocks and shares so full my head:
'Sell out,' I thought—for I had dread
Of strife upon the Yankee land,
Where Mammon sways with heavy hand.
I did so, and left that 'Change,
And then towards Birchin Lane I range—
A spot where small fry much resort,
And carry on a curious sport,

I took a glass of Bass's pale,
To drown the stocks in sparkling ale,
Then, slowly wending on my way,
To seek a spot to pass the day,
Athwart the bustling crowd I broke,
When in my ribs I got a poke.
With rising cholera now I turn,
The object of the blow to learn.

A group of British youth is there,
And from their language this I hear:
'Who'll give a Turkey for a Pole?
You see the envelope's quite whole.'

'I'll take a Swedish for a Cape.'
'If I'm a monkey, you're an ape.'
'A Pole's worth more than any Russian.'
'One old Dane's worth a set of Prussian,'
'I want a Sandwich for a bear.'

'Why, that is not one-half as rare.'
This outcry made me turn my head,
And thus in wonderment I said:
'Boys, what on earth is all this row?

'What's up? What is it? Tell me now:
'And why those signs upon your books;
'And why those eager, anxious looks?
'Such troubles youthful minds derange;
'Tis I should vex—a man on 'Change.'

I spoke, and taking from the hand
Of one, the foremost of the band,
A book bedecked with many a sign,
Dazzling with all bright colors fine,
In squares and rounds, in strange device
(Near every sign was mark'd its price).

This, Phœbus bears, in noonday glare;
And that, our Queen upon a chair;

A bear climbs up a leafless tree:
A steamer ploughs across the sea:

A beaver; then a railroad train—
The portrait of a queen again:

Black eagles' heads—spread, double, single,
With other strange devices mingling;

A lion with a shield and crown:
The view of a far-distant town:

Heads of both sexes, wreath'd and crown'd.
With eyes amazed, I stared all around;

When, sudden, a gruff voice is heard,
That all the thronging bevy stirr'd:

I turn'd, and fix'd my eyes upon
A bobby! crying—'Stamps, move on.'

SYDNEY J. EISENBERG.

We must close our article for this month, as other and more important matters claim our space; but hope 'ere long to give another installment of the "Poetry of Philately."

Newly Issued Stamps.

The first on our list of novelties this month is the new issue for SERBIA.—The design, as will be seen by the annexed engraving, is a great improvement on the last issue, and the paper is much thicker, a great advantage, as it is impossible to make any design or colors look well on such thin paper as was formerly used by this State.



The head represented is that of the young prince Michael Obrenovich IV., and if it is a correct representation of him, and there is any truth in physiog-

nomy, we should hardly consider him fit to rule so turbulent a people as the Servians.

The colors and values are :

| | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| 1 para yellow. | 25 para pink. |
| 10 " brown. | 35 " light green. |
| 15 " orange. | 40 " mauve. |
| 20 " blue. | 50 " dark green. |

They are printed on white unwatermarked paper, and are perforated.

VICTORIA.—The color of the three penny stamp of this colony has been changed from lilac to orange.

RUSSIA.—We are now enabled to give an engraving of the local for Riasanski which was described in last month's paper. It seems we had the name incorrect, according to Moens; but possibly he is not any better informed than the Magazine we copied from.



ANGOLA.—The Portugese government seems to be following England in giving each of her colonies separate postage

stamps; but while the Azores and Madeira had to be content with patched up stamps of the mother country, Angola has been favored with an entirely new design.

Hoping to give an engraving of it nextmonth, we will merely give an outline of the design, which consists of a crown in centre on ground of waved lines in a rectangle, with the name ANGOLA above and value below; it is also repeated in numerals at the four corners. The colors and values are the same as the current set of Portugal.

TURKEY.—The local figured in last month's Journal is now reported out of use!! As usual with stamps of this class, they generally become obsolete directly after having made their appear-

ance, to keep collectors from sending to friends in the place, and so finding out their falsity. Anyhow, European swindlers have not the daring impudence of those in America; for they are content with manufacturing locals, such as the Suez Canal stamps, whereas our American manufacturers launch out and invent stamps for a regular government, and then forge letters to prove their genuineness. But more anon.



SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.—We annex a sketch of the new stamps in preparation for this country. It is the same as those described in the April number under the name of the Transvaal Republic.

UNITED STATES.—For sake of uniformity, we may as well note here that a new set of adhesives are in preparation for our own country, all of the 1869 set having been withdrawn from circulation in the city except the four lowest values, and those of 1861 used in their stead.

SANDWICH ISLAND.—The new stamp is composed of the border of the 2 cent and the head of the 5 cent stamp in present use. The value is two cents, and the color vermilion. The design has been submitted to the authorities, but has not yet been adopted.

Reviews of Philatelic Publications.

Scott's American Postage Stamp Album, By J. Walter Scott.
New York: J. W. Scott & Co.

Advance sheets of the new edition of this celebrated Album now lie before us. The work is not yet bound, but it is with the arrangement of the stamps that we have chiefly to do. Possibly on its completion we may accord it a second notice.

The Album has been entirely recast. The only resemblance that it bears to the former edition is in the order of arrangement—in fact, were it not for the title, we should have taken it for about the hundredth edition of *Lallier's*, as at first appearance it very much resembles that work, but the great improvements are soon discerned. It is printed from new type and parallel brass rule, each page being of a different design, making it a very costly work to the publishers.

To give our readers a clear idea of its appearance, we will give a description of the first page. First we have the name in old style type; directly underneath, three spaces for the portraits of Washington, Lincoln and Grant; then follows spaces for the provisional issues of the United States. Each space contains a short description of the stamp that it is to contain. Thus, under the heading "New York" we find "Head of Washington, Black, 5 c." Again,

under "Brattleboro'," "Initials in octagon in centre, Black on Buff, 5 c." We consider this a very great improvement, as the collector can see at a glance which space is destined to receive any stamp that he may possess; and after the stamp is placed in its allotted space the description is covered up, as of course it is quite superfluous, when the student has the original article before him. Another great improvement over all other albums of this kind is that there has been only one space left for each stamp; so that the amateur is not *compelled* to collect varieties to fill his album if he does not wish. But we think we hear the variety mongers say, "Where are we to keep our shades, perforations and essays?" But the wishes of this class of collectors have been as carefully studied as they of the American school, as one edition will be bound up with first such a page as we have described, and then a page with simply a border around it; so every individual collector is suited. Although we consider the collection of varieties both entertaining and instructive, it is simply impossible to save spaces for varieties to suit all parties. Thus, for instance, one collector may have a friend in Mexico, and through his exertions be able to obtain twenty or thirty varieties outside of the regular set; whereas another's friend is in Victoria, and is thus enabled to obtain the hundred and one varieties of that colony. It would certainly be the height of folly to leave spaces for every variety of every stamp, such as Pemberton favors the readers of the *Philatelist* with; but of course there are many who have or can easily obtain all the varieties, and of course wish a place to keep them. Independent of this mode of leaving every other page blank, so as to make an album do for the followers of both schools, we think it looks much better to see the set together and the varieties together, as so large a number of the latter are apt to confuse the eye.

A portion will be bound up with every other page blank; but they will all be supplied with blank leaves through the book for new issues, thus making the album as near permanent as possible.

Another praiseworthy feature is, that each set, or one of each value where they assimilate in design, are kept together; thus, in the case of the current Chili, the two centavos was issued in 1867, and the other values the year following; in the Album we find the date thus, "1867-8 Issue," and the spaces for the stamps commence with the one centavo, the two centavos, and the rest of the set following. Another great improvement over the last edition consists in the large spaces left for the envelope stamps, which are about an inch and three-quarters square, giving ample room for the largest stamp.

We are glad that the author has not fallen into a very common error, that of separating the different issues of Roumania. In all other cases stamps are always placed under the name that the country bears at present. We never saw the early issues of Tasmania put under the head of Van Diemen's Land, and yet we constantly see the stamps of Roumania put under three different heads. If we understand anything about the history of the Danubian principalities, Moldavia and Wallachia were separate principalities. In 1854 Moldavia issued postage stamps: in 1858 Moldavia and Wallachia were united under Prince Couza, and the name changed to Moldo-Wallachia, and later still to Roumania, under which name all the stamps that are usually included under the three heads should be placed.

We see pages left for the Hamburg locals, but if our readers will take our advice, they will cut out the leaves, for they are a disgrace to any book.

The chief objection to the last edition has been removed, it being printed in black instead of green, but we should have preferred to see it in bronze; this our only objection to the work as it stands at present, and as it is to bound with guards and clasps, we anticipate none on its completion. We venture to predict a large sale for it, as it will certainly superceed all others now in the market. It will prove to the American collector what Lallier's is to the French, The Postage Stamp Album of the country.

Clippings.

BUSINESS men are quite familiar with the printed indorsement on the envelopes of business letters, requesting the postmaster, if the letter is not called for in ten days, to return it. A Schenectady merchant has got up an improvement on this, which runs as follows: "If Mr. — don't pay the bill in this dunning letter within ten days, the postmaster may open this and send us the money himself."

WHEN Rowland Hill was, some years ago, in Scotland, he was introduced to an aged minister, somewhat resembling himself in piety and eccentricity. The old man looked at him for some time very earnestly, and at length said,

"Weel, I have been looking for some teem at the leens of your face."

"And what do you think of it?" inquired Mr. Hill.

"Why, I am thinking that, if the grace of God hed na changed your heart, you would ha been a most tremendous rogue."

Mr. Hill laughed heartily, and said,

"Well, you have just hit the nail on the head."

POISONOUS LETTER ENVELOPES.—A writer in the *Tribune Medicate* states that letter envelopes found for sale at most of the Paris stationers, the interior of which are colored a bright green, are so colored by means of arsenite of copper, and according to the researches of Mons. Prof. Jeannel, each of these envelopes contains about twenty-five milligrammes of this poisonous sa. t.—*N. Y. Med. R.*

New Stamps.



ANOTHER batch of clippings now lie before us, very similar to those quoted in our May number, and it seems that they have had the desired effect, as the Post-Office Department have concluded to issue an entire new set. It is hardly to be expected that they could long stand



such addresses as the following, which lately appeared on a letter posted at St. Louis :

“ TO THE NEW STAMP.”

“ You blasted, bawling, steaming critter,
why take your place upon this letter?
Is it by high or low pressure you run,
That you take the place of Washington?
Was not his work well done enough
That you're employed to blow and puff?
Or is your credit so much better
That you propose to take this letter?”



“ Now, by my soul, I'll try your pluck.
And see, if by chance or by good luck,
You'll carry this safe, without delay,
To the town of Haddonfield, N. J.,
And when you have safely laid it down,
Just ask the P. M. of said town
If he will not, on his word of truth,
Deliver the same to M. T. Ruth.”



We give engravings of the entire set, and as, in all probability, the higher values will shortly become very scarce, we should advise all our friends who have not yet completed their sets, to do so at once, as several values have already been withdrawn from circulation, their



place being supplied with corresponding ones of the 1861 issue. The *Herald* says :



“The present miserable experiments in blue, with a meaningless legend, are to be recalled, and something new, in red, is to be substituted. The old heads of Washington, Jefferson, Jackson, Franklin and Lincoln are to be restored. It is about time that



some definite form and design of postage stamp should be adopted, so that people may know to a certainty what muddled square of paper will carry a letter to its destination or what will not. If there is not genius enough in the Post-Office Department to invent a good design, which may be permanent, let the authorities advertise for one. They will find plenty of people able to supply them; and when once adopted, let the new design remain in use. Every



other country has been able to fix upon an intelligent postage stamp, recognizable all the world over. Can it be that the spirit of jobbery so prevails in our Post-Office Department that we must have a new design every six months, or thereabouts?”



We must say that the stamps, although not so fine as many prepared by the same company, are certainly above the average of postals in use by other countries at the present time; but if our suggestions are of any use to the Department, we should strongly advise the adoption of the heads of the first ten Presidents, say Washington on the 1 c., J. Adams on the 2 c., Jefferson on the 3 c., Madison on the 6 c., Monroe on the 10 c., J. Quincy Adams on the 12 c., Jackson on the 15 c., Van Buren on the 24 c., Harrison on the 30 c., and Tyler on the 90 c.; thus forming a national portrait gallery of our Presidents, without reference to politics.

It is the custom of the Young Men's Christian Association of Rock Island to put a postage stamp on all unstamped letters which are dropped in the post-office, and forward them to their destination, with the request that the receiver shall “return the same, or any amount deemed fit, for the benefit of the Association.” On the 27th, according to the *Union*, a Chicago fellow, who had a letter forwarded in this way, tore off the old stamp with a tag, and returned it to the Association, “as requested.” He gave the thing a literal interpretation.

Correspondence.

Editor "American Journal of Philately."

DEAR SIR:—I suppose you are already aware that a new set of stamps are being prepared for our own government by the National Bank Note Company; but I think I can add a few facts that are not generally known. The new issues will all have heads as the principal design, and in all probability the six cent stamp will be retained, except that it will be enlarged. The heads of Jackson, Franklin, Lincoln, and Jefferson will all be represented on the new issue. They will be the same size as the 1861 set, and only 100 instead of 150 in a sheet. The color of the three cent one will be red, but nothing definite has yet been decided on for the other values, although they are to be ready in about a month. I hope to be able to forward you specimens as soon as they are prepared. I have no doubt that many of your readers will be surprised to see it announced that the National Bank Note Company are to be the engravers; and to those not posted as to the way contracts are awarded in this country, it is rather strange, that after having been paid a high price for a certain work, and doing it so bad, that it cannot be used with any degree of satisfaction that they should have the same piece of work again given them to spoil. I should advise General Terrell to give the work to the American Bank Note Company, and as both companies are owned by the same parties, it would be just the same as regards the cash, and would look more decent. Of course it would not do to give the contract to Messrs. Butler & Carpenter, of Philadelphia, as they gave the lowest estimate on the present set.

Yours truly,

PHILATELIST.

Answers to Correspondents.

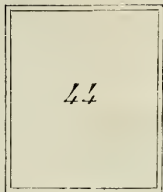
PHILATELIST, BOSTON.—The gentleman who writes for this paper under the non de plume of "Cosmopolitan" is not J. A. Petrie.

O. B. L., STRASBOURG.—We sent your order on the 30th of June, and should like to hear from you.

U. B. M., WATERBURY.—We always send the paper regularly to all our subscribers. If you did not receive the August number the fault lies with the postmaster, not us. Letters asking information should contain stamp for reply, or will not be answered.

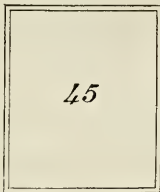
G. H. W. ORANGE.—It is impossible to say who owns the *best* collection. There are several very fine ones in this city. The number is nothing to go by, as a person might have 3,000 in his collection without it being a very fine one. It all depends on what the person collects; if only one variety of every stamp, 2,200 would be about a complete collection.

UNITED STATES.



44

A. Lincoln.

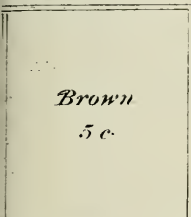


45

U. S. Grant.

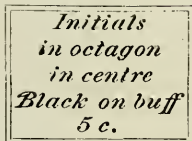
Provisional Issues, 1845-7

issued by the Government, but issued by and at the expense of the Postmasters of—
New Orleans. St. Louis.



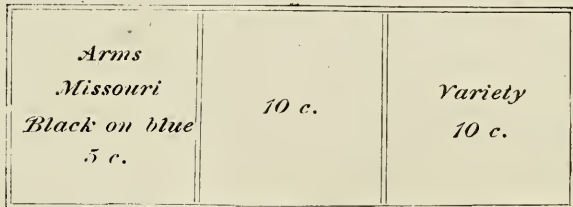
Brown
5 c.

Brattleboro'.



*Initials
in octagon
in centre
Black on buff
5 c.*

1851 Issue.



*Arms
Missouri
Black on blue
5 c.*

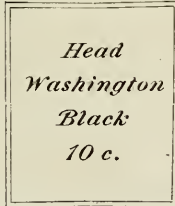
10 c.

*Variety
10 c.*

1847 Issue.



*Head
Franklin
Brown
5 c.*



*Head
Washington
Black
10 c.*

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>Washington Green 10 c.</i> | <i>Washington Black 12 c.</i> | <i>Washington Lilac 24 c.</i> | <i>Franklin Orange 30 c.</i> | <i>Washington Blue 90 c.</i> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|

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NO. 22.

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How our new Postage Stamps are made.

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

Through the kind courtesy of Mr. Nicholls, the gentlemanly superintendent of the printing Department of the National Bank Note Company, I am enabled to redeem my promise to the readers of this journal, and give them a description of the mode of manufacturing our new postage stamps.

Let us commence at the very beginning, and follow step by step the different and interesting processes these little bits of paper are subjected to. In the first place, a number of designs for stamps are furnished the Government by the Bank Note Company. These designs are upon steel, and engraved in the finest style of steel line engraving, and are perfect marvels of art. Should a design be accepted it becomes necessary to duplicate it, as it would be impossible to print the large number of stamps required from a single plate. To do this the original die is transferred to steel plates, 300 designs being upon one plate. The machines for accomplishing this "transferring" are beautifully made and mathematically correct in work, and so accurate that millions of stamps printed from perhaps hundreds of plates are all exactly alike. The plates being finished, they are sent to the press-room, and are ready to receive the ink used in printing. This ink, or rather the different colored inks are made upon the premises, there formulas being very valuable to the company. The printing is done by hand presses, and although seemingly laborious, the company are now printing one million and a half stamps daily. The plate is first inked by an ordinary roller then wiped with a cloth, and finally with the operators hand. This is a very nice operation, and requires much dexterity. The paper used is of a fine variety, manufactured expressly for the company by a firm in Massachusetts, the amount per annum consumed being over sixteen tons. Before being placed upon the plate it is wetted down to enable it to receive the ink evenly. As the sheets of stamps are printed, they are laid carefully away to dry as soon as they are dry they pass to the "Gumming Room" and receive their coat of mucilage. This mucilage is Dextrine, a preparation of starch, and is the same as used by calico printers. It is laid on the backs of the sheets, (which are held fast by an iron frame) with a large brush somewhat resembling those used for white-washing. A dexterous young woman can easily gum 30 or 40 sheets per minute. After receiving the gum they are placed on wire frames and deposited in a drying room, where they remain until entirely dry. This operation being finished, they are consigned to the "encloser," who, with a

remarkably complicated and delicate machine leaves the little square chequer board mark we see upon our stamps. This mark is to permit the obliterating ink to sink into the fabric of the paper so that stamps cannot be readily cleansed. After passing through the Embossing press they are perforated by young girls on peculiarly constructed and beautiful machines, the invention of this company. After being perforated they are subjected to the action of a powerful hydraulic press to get rid of all wrinkles and give the stamp a finished, smooth appearance. The sheets are then cut in half, leaving 150 stamps on a sheet and in this condition are ready for the postmasters, to whom they are sent in registered letters upon a requisition approved in Washington. The stamps printed in two colors require to pass through the press twice as only one ink can be used at a time on a plate. Have my readers any idea of the number of stamps used in the United States and printed by this company.

They reach the fearful aggregate of from 4 to 5 hundred millions per annum. Of the 3 cent stamp there was used last year 37,879,100; of the 2 cent stamp 6,322,500, and the other values in proportion.

I was surprised to find upon inquiry that it is very seldom the company lose any stamps by their employees. At the present time this company employ about 400 workmen and women, but the system is so thorough, and the surveillance so searching that it is impossible for theft to be committed without detection. At present the "National Bank Note Company" are working upon 2 and 3 cent stamps only as the post office authorities propose to call in the rest of the new issue owing, to the manifold objection made by the community at large. The principal cause of complaint is that the stamps are not sufficiently national in character. This objection does not hold good. Take the one cent Franklin head—nothing could be more appropriate, Franklin having been the first Postmaster in this country. The 3 cent stamp is certainly indicative of this nation, thoroughly a go-ahead one, and nothing could be better, according to my ideas, than "Cornwallis's Surrender" and the "Declaration of Independance"—two great events that should be kept perpetually before the eyes of the people. But the fiat has gone forth, and we must submit to the powers that be. New designs are now in course of preparation, and before long we may expect their issue. I am informed that all the new stamps will either represent heads or busts of prominent public men.

The *Philatelist* has just discovered the 500 centavos black Bolivia. It was described in our May number for last year—just fifteen months behind this time.

Postage Stamps Abroad and at Home.

It has been announced that we are to have another new set of postage stamps. The issue now in use will, therefore, be short-lived. We suppose it is indecorous to criticise that which is already moribund; but we may safely say it is not because the present stamps are beloved of gods or men, that they are taken away from us in their youth.

British conservatism is displayed even in these matters. Some thirty years ago the first postage stamps ever produced were issued in England, and among them there were some of the same size, design and general appearance as those of that country at the present day. In all those years the face of the fair Victoria has grown no older; neither time nor the engraver carves wrinkles on her honored brow. In France, on the contrary, the head of Liberty that illustrated the Republic of 1848, was supplanted by that of Louis Napoleon as soon as he became President. A year elapsed and a single word in the stamp was altered: the republic became the Empire. Gradually the government strengthened; the army increased; and in 1863 the mustache of Napoleon III., that had previously drooped, straightened out across the postage stamp, and his forehead was crowned with laurel. The first issues of Spain, in 1850, represent Queen Isabella with a nose upturned at a remarkable angle. Perhaps, subsequently, the shadow of her coming abdication depressed her feelings. It is quite certain that the feature in question was noticeably toned down in later designs.

There has been a great variety of shapes and sizes among stamps. Different nations have produced octagonals, ovals, circles, squares; Cape Colony issued equilateral triangles, and some German States contrived stamps so constructed that each can be divided into four smaller ones. Denmark, in 1851, tried small square stamps of the size of those we are now using, and has since rejected them in favor of longer rectangles.

Various processes are employed in their production. Of steel engravings those of the United States have always been the best specimens. The French stamps are admirably lithographed, some of the details of manufacture being kept secret. There are nations whose stamps are merely type printing; a Turkish principality uses a woodcut; the lettering on those of one of the Roman States must have been dabbed on with a handstamp. Their is stained paper, and bronzed and silvered monstrosities, like the "metallic ring" wherewith our fractions of a dollar used to be afflicted. It would also appear that the human mind has been strongly impressed in different countries with a belief that a stamp ought to

have a raised or embossed surface; although, when the stamps are used, the embossing flattens out and the raised designs become imperceptible. All English stamps are on paper watermarked with a coronet, which is practically invisible, being covered with engraving, somewhat as the Irish gentleman wished to be portrayed in a landscape—just behind a tree. The stamps of Schleswig-Holstein had a silk thread run through them, before the Duchy itself was run through by the needle gun.

There have been some hundreds of attempted substitutes for and proposed improvements upon postage stamps, more ingenious than valuable. A thing which is to be spit upon before it is sent to an esteemed friend can scarcely be called an elegant invention, but it seems to be a civilized necessity. Many contrivances have been tried to produce stamps that cannot be used after cancelation, or that do not need it. The small nutmeg-grater which is now impressed on the backs of United States stamps has some recondite to this purpose.

There is little to admire among the designs of postage stamps. The bust of a sovereign suffers less by the changes of fashion than his kate portrait in the costume of the period; that of Leopold of Belgium might have been a caricature from the pencil of Gilray. National emblems seem appropriate, where they do not affect the devices of heraldry. The messenger of gods and tutelar divinity of thieves, with winged hemlets, frequently appears. Wurtemberg once issued a sort of diminished lampmat; and Brazil used to print a kind of spider-web, with straggling numerals imprisoned in their meshes.

Stamps are sometimes put to strange uses. There are some issued in the German States to be affixed in the Post Office, indicating not the amount of postage paid, but that to be paid by the recipient of the letter. It is barely possible that this is all the same in Dutch. Our own postage stamps deserve a place in history as the forerunners of legal tender—the little cloud that ultimately rained greenbacks. In the early days of the war, when our silver change went over the border and disgusted the Canadians, the public took to the use of stamps for currency. Shall we ever forget those that were passed about in envelopes, inseparably stuck together? How frequently, after trying all other methods of disposal, did we make a virtue of necessity, and drop them into the contribution plate! The Post Office authorities, equally annoyed by the use of dirty stamps, had a new kind issued, containing many postal devices, exchangeable for postage stamps, and entitled “postage currency.” The new issue was merely intended to relieve temporary inconvenience; it became the entering wedge of a national circulating medium.

Until the present issue, ours were among the handsomest postage stamps in the world. Exception might have been taken to their want of uniformity in design, and the heads on some of them were disproportionate, but taken singly they were excellent. Among the few that bore comparison with them were those of Russia. The latter seem to be lithographs, containing each only two colors, so ingeniously arranged as to appear like the product of four printings. The 30 kopek stamp, for instance, has a faint pink ground, solid pink interior and exterior borders, and a solid green color in an oval centre, while a coat-of-arms and an inscription stand out in pure white relief from the solid colors. Some of these brilliant affects, it would seem, are peculiar to lithography. Could we not have a new stamp in which the peculiar excellencies of both lithographic and steel engraving might be combined? Is there anything to prevent the employment of both processes upon the same paper, and the production thereby of a postage stamp of rich color and artistic finish? We want the best thing of the sort that is in any way possible.—*N. Y. Times.*

Newly Issued Stamps.

SARAWAK.—*The Philatelist* gives us some additional information concerning the stamp issued some time ago by this country:

“In the month of September, 1868, we first presented the cut of a stamp which, although duly certified to ourselves on undoubted authority, has ever since been ignored, and scarcely even deemed worthy of a sentence of condemnation, so determined appeared every philatelic amateur to pooh-pooh it.

“With the stamp in question bodily present, and regularly post-marked on a letter, side by side with a 24 cents of the Straits Settlements, all doubt and derision are once for all at an end. A private letter from Sarawak states that the single adhesive issued is current there only, thus being strictly local. A copy of the government regulations respecting these latest novelties is appended, by which it will be seen that the individuals are used indiscriminately as postals or fiscals.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

On and after the 1st of March, 1869, the following rules will come into force:—

| | |
|---|----------|
| On all letters not exceeding half an ounce | 1 stamp. |
| For every half-ounce in excess, up to four ounces | 1 “ |
| On all Receipts or Paid Bills over 5 dols. | 1 “ |
| On all Bills of Sale, &c., to become legal | 1 “ |
| On all Agreements to become legal | 1 “ |
| On all Bills of Lading or Mate's Receipts | 1 “ |

Sarawak, Jan. 12th, 1869.

By order,

W. M. CROCKER, *Secretary.*

NICARAGUA has at length made an addition to its stock of postal labels by issuing two new values—viz., 10 and 25 centavos. As will be seen by the accompanying engraving, the design is identical with the preceding emission, although the frame work of the 10 c. is slightly different in design, and the wording is submitted to another arrangement on the 25 c., the name being substituted for the word PORTE on the other values. The 10 c. is of a bright vermilion; the 25 c. is pale blue in the specimen we have received, but from the looks of it we do not believe it left the American Bank Note Co.'s office of that particular tint, but think rather that it has been doctored by application of chemicals to take out the cancellation marks, more especially as we notice the ghost of a cross on the specimen before us. *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*, however, gives the same color, but time will prove.

BAVARIA.—We copy the following from *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*, as it exactly expresses our opinion:

"We give the annexed illustration of the type of copies of so-called local stamps under all reserve.

They are introduced to our notice with the usual story that they are the emissions of a company which carries letters and packages between two neighbouring towns, the towns in question being this time Kissengen and Schweinfurt; but apart from the suspicion with which such stamps should



on general grounds be viewed, there is one particular circumstance which, in our opinion, tells very much against them, which is that they are all struck separately from the original die. The copies before us show a margin almost as wide as that of the first Shanghai, and it is idle to suppose that if a sheet were set up a space of nearly three-quarters of an inch would be left between each stamp. No genuine letter-carrying company would be content to have its stamps printed separately, and if it did the public would not be likely to give it the preference over the state post-office, in view of the trouble which they would have in using them. To us the existence of the company at all seems very questionable, but if it does exist, its business must be confined to the conveyance of parcels; and, accepting this hypothesis, it seems strange that a firm of carriers should make use of such finely-executed labels merely to stick on the packages. The company styles itself on the stamps THE PRIVILEGED EXPRESS, but there is not a word to indicate that it undertakes or is permitted to carry letters, nor is it likely that

the post-office would sanction the infringement of its monopoly by any private persons. It is possible enough that some such fraud has been perpetrated as took place in connection with the Bancroft stamps; some dishonest speculator has used the company's title without permission, in order to foist these labels on collectors as of its emissson. M. Moens, from whose journal we obtain the statement on which we have commented, and who gives it without reservation, has no doubt been deceived in the matter, and time will, we believe, prove the corretness of our suspicions.

For the guidance of collectors we have only to mention that of the above design there are (up to the present time) but three values and four colors in existence, viz:—

- 1 (krenzer) green.
- 2 “ carmine-rose and red-brown.
- 3 “ bright blue.

The impression is in relief, color on white, and the copies we have seen are gummed.

The Poetry of Philately.

We are now enabled to give another selection of philatelic poetry as promised in our last.

We commence with a few verses extracted from *The Curiosity Collector's Magazine*, an English paper long since dead.

THE STAMP COLLECTOR

Deem not his mission all in vane,
 Who with his album in his hand,
 In fancy travels o'er the main
 Collecting stamps from every land.
 The little stamp collector learns
 Each country's latitude and place
 Upon the map, and soon discerns
 Their longitude, and clime and race.
 Thus eager in the task he loves,
 With cheerful heart he hurries on,
 While through the field of art he roves,
 Where other youthful friends have gone
 Collecting stamps from every clime,
 Detecting spurious from the true,
 And like the banker learns in time,
 The stamp that's obsolete or new
 With the feelings of a connoisseur
 Doth he behold the stamp that's rare,
 Which often did elude his search
 Thro' many months of anxious care.
 But still in patience, and in hope,
 He wanders on 'neath sun and rain,
 Until the album is complete,
 When toil and love is paid with gain.

Our next is taken from *The Stamp Collector's Magazine*; it is very good which is more than we can say for “Joseph.”

NELLY'S COLLECTION,

Now, cousin Joe, I'll try to prove
 Collecting is a real pleasure;
 And if you'll at my album look,
 You will confess it's quite a treasure.
 Here's German figures, Austrian heads'
 And handsome envelopes of Baden;
 There Hamburg's castle, Brunswick's horse,
 The dove of Easle, and sheild of Sweden.
 Here's Mulready's well-known vignette;
 There the Pope's keys and triple bonnet;
 This set bears good King Victors' head'
 And that has cruel Bomba's on it.
 Those are the French republic stamps,
 And these are little Denmark's issue;
 Those Turkish, with the crescent, are
 On paper of the thinnest tissue.
 The Russian are 'such loves' of stamps,—
 Now, cousin Joseph, don't you think so?
 You're looking over at mamma;
 Oh! what a shame, for you to wink so!

You're all attention ; oh, yes, *now* ;
Well, give it to my Cingalese,—
Have you e'er seen such charming stamps,
Such brilliant envelopes as these ?

The Hong Kong are a pretty set,
With Chinese figures in the border.
It's all Chinese to you ? Oh, fie !
I really must call you to order.

These are the ugly Indian stamps,
And this the issue for Batavia ;
And here are the new Argentine,
With head of Bernard Rivadavia ;

And here are Chili—can't you stop ?
Then cousin Joseph, of a truth
I'll close my book, and leave you still
An uninitiated youth.

The following lines, written by George Arnold, first appeared in *Mason's Coin and Stamp Collectors' Magazine*, and have been extensively copied both at home and abroad. They vividly call to mind the time when postage stamps, pure and simple, were the only small change we had, before the time of postage currency ; but we must take back the word pure, as they generally were any thing but that, being usually in the condition described in the last verse.

THE PLANT OF THE POSTAGE STAMP.

I'm a very dirty little stamp ;
My back is gummed, my face is dimly
blurred ;
And yet I am, in commerce, cot and camp,
Familiar as that well-known household word.
Yet, Oh, to think that I should ever be
Converted into legal currency !

Now on an envelope I'm not so bad,
And I take letters through both cheap and
neat ;
Sticking to one thing was a way I had,
But now I stick to everything I meet :
And Oh, to think that I could ever be
Passed in the place of metal currency !

To do my duty I did ne'er refuse ;
But wo is me ! for I have fallen low ;
I'm passed for vulgar drinks and oyster stews,
And dirty shaves—'tis that that sticks me
so !

Alas ! Alas ! that I should ever be
A victim of the dearth of currency !

Thumbing and gumming have quite worn
me out ;

I'm drab and dingy now, instead of red ;
My back is weak, and soon, without a doubt,
If I'm passed much more I'll lose my head.
Oh sorry day, when I did chance to be
Put to the use of baser currency !

Our next, from the *Stamp Argus*, of New Brunswick, is very amusing.

'YE CONNELLE.'

A Ballad in ye Old Style.

'Ye Connelle is a famous stampe.
Or oughte to be I'm sure,
Since it's gained a notoriétie
That's likelie to endure
Longer than manye kindes of fame ;—
Such baubles oft are but a name.

For this ye brave designer payed
Six hundred pound a yeare,
Or rather lost his salarie,
Which means ye same I feare ;
Six hundred pound to see his fayce
Posting round from place to place.

'Twas gallantrie that prompted him,
As any one might see :
Such business was too servile for
Her gracious Majestic :
A man can rougher usage bear,
Therefore he placed his visage there

Some little minds pretend to see
His vanitie quite playne ;
Yet who e'er hearde of such a sin
Lodged in a manlie braine,
Tho' true upon the stampe you see
Ye looke of kind complaisancie.

Collector, you should bend before
That image on your booke,
Just as ye miser does his gold,
In hidden box or nooke.
Remember that ye essaye cost
Ye salrie—oh "lost ! lost !! lost !!!"

Reviews of Philatelic Publications.

Der Bazar für Briefmarken-Sammler, Organ des Süddeutschen Philatelistenvereines. Heidelberg: W. Faber & Co.

We have received the second number of the above journal. It is a large sized four page sheet devoted to the interest of stamp collectors and the extermination of counterfeiters, but think they go rather a roundabout way to accomplish their object as they offer to buy all the counterfeits sent them at about 3 cents each; it seems to us that some of our American manufacturers would not wish for anything better than this.

We notice that our publishers are advertised as the New York agents of the paper, and although we have no doubt but that they would be glad to extend the circulation of any paper that aims to increase our knowledge of philately, still we are instructed to say that this is the first notice that they have had of it.

We wish the South German Philatelic Society every success, and hope the members will not tire of it as soon as their brethren of Paris, New York, and London.

In the paper before us the greater portion of the space is devoted to advertisements and puffs of other journals, which, by the way, have the peculiarity of being printed in English, French and German, the philatelic news items being rather scanty. There is quite a long article copied from the *Philatelist*. A portion of a column is devoted to answers to correspondents, and the regulations of the South German Philatelic Society are given in full. The subscription price is too high in comparison with other journals of a like nature; but no doubt the editors will do everything in their power to bring the journal up to so high a standard that money will be no object to their readers.

On the whole, the *Bazar* is a right good one, and should be well patronized by the philatelic fraternity. There is room for more journals, and the more the merrier, as competition is the soul of trade.

Clippings.

If the "Third Assistant Postmaster-General" has anything to do besides attending to the issue of new stamps, he must be a very busy man. Some of the post-offices have not yet got rid of the old issues, when announcement is made that the present series not being satisfactory to the general public, new designs will be forthwith prepared, and the trouble of it all is that we seem to be going from bad to worse. The "philatelists" may be delighted, but the "general public is becoming disgusted with the post-office 'spice of life.'"—*Evening Mail*.

THE STAMP that was lately prepared for the Sandwich Isles has been rejected. A full description will be found in last month's number,

DESIGNS FOR THE NEW STAMPS are progressing finely, and will soon be decided upon. One bears the head of U. S. Grant. Will he have more luck with the stamp than he did with the currency? It is evident he wants to get his head on something.

A NEW POSTAL INVENTION.—Some time ago a patent was taken out here for a wagon constructed on a new street letter-box plan, and proposals were at the same time submitted to the Postmaster-General to collect all the mail matter from the street boxes by means of this wagon and horses. The experiment was for the first time made in this city yesterday. The entire work of collecting was done in six hours, the number of boxes being one hundred and seventy-five, scattered all over the city. The Department has not yet adopted this mode of collecting, but still adheres to the old plan of doing the work by the carriers. The idea is to introduce the system into all the large cities of the United States. The inventor claims that it will be a saving in time and money to the government, insuring more efficiency in the collection of the letters, greater protection and more frequent clearances. The whole subject is under consideration. It is also claimed that the new plan will effect a saving of more than half a million dollars to the government annually.

IT IS QUITE ASTONISHING how careless people can be with their correspondence. It is said that fourteen thousand letters, containing over £8,000, were placed unaddressed in English post-offices last year. In this country the number of letters posted without stamps probably reaches one hundred thousand a year. A word to the wise is sufficient.—*Evening Mail*.

THE PORTRAIT ON THE NEW SERVIAN.—The young prince represented on the new Servian Stamps is the grandson of Milasch Obrenovitch, the founder of Servian independence, as chronicled in our first volume, page 50. A bit of Parisian gossip from competent authority states that the youthful sovereign, a pupil from M. Huet's academy during the years from 1865 to 1868, then from ten to fourteen, was often seen playing with a dozen or so schoolfellows in the Luxembourg gardens. Like the Tuilleries, this locality used to be the resort of juvenile and other stamp amateurs, like our own "Change;" and when the first issue of Servian postals appeared, Prince Milan was the first in Paris who received specimens, which he transferred to his young comrades. The portrait on the stamps must be a good likeness, because when they were lately shown to some of the Prince's former companions, the general cry was,

“Tiens, c’est Pot-Casse!” the elegant nickname by which he was known at the Luxembourg.—*The Philatelist*.

NEW DESIGN FOR POSTAGE STAMPS.—In last month’s *Journal* it was stated that another attempt was to be made to give us a respectable and intelligible postage stamp. The present miserable experiments in blue, with a meaningless legend, were to be recalled. It was suggested that if there was not genius enough in the Post-Office Department to invent a new design to let the authorities advertise for one. This suggestion called out some of the genius at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and they at once got up a design which we have had the privilege of examining. It would be a credit to the country to have such stamps, and in addition to the great improvements, it is stated that \$60,000 per annum would be saved to the government by having them produced here. In the centre of the stamp is the head of President Grant, with a handsome border; beautiful waved lines of different colors are put upon some portions of the stamp, which adds much to its appearance, and is a perfect protection against counterfeiting and being used the second time. With the great saving in cost, and the very great improvement in the stamps from those now in use, it would seem as if the change should be made at once.

Correspondence.

DETROIT, MICH. SEPT. 20, 1869.

MR. EDITOR: SIR—

Referring to “The American Journal of Philately,” Sept. 20, you have an article headed “A Plea for Revenue Stamp Collecting” by “Cosmopolitan,” in which he says, “we may also collect the large oblong stamp placed on barrels of spirits.” Now when “Cosmopolitan” penned his article he was not conversant with, or had not the fear of the law before his eyes, or he would not have advocated the collections.

By an Act of Congress, approved, July 20, 1868, Stamps for Distilled Spirits, were authorized to be issued by the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, to the collector of the different districts and by them to the U. S. Gaugers, the Stamps are issued in book form “with a stub attached with the number thereon corresponding with an engraved number on the stamp, and the stub is not to be removed from the book, and the memoranda on the stub shall correspond with the contents of every stamp,” Section 25 of said act, “provides for the affixing of such stamps on the cask or package by the United States Gauger and by him only.” Section 29 of same act provides for the penalty of any deviation from the law, the act reads, “that any revenue officer who shall issue the same (any stamp or

stamps) to any other person than as provided by law (that is other than a U. S. Gauger) shall for every such offence be fined not less than five hundred dollars nor more than three thousand dollars and be imprisoned for not less than six months nor more than three years." You will readily see from the above, that the chances for obtaining an uncanceled stamp is very poor indeed. Now for cancelled stamps—Section 43 reads "That it shall be the duty of every person who empties or draws off, or causes to be emptied or drawn off any distilled spirits from a cask or package bearing any stamp as required by law, at the time of emptying such cask or package, to efface and obliterate said stamp. And any person who shall fail or neglect to efface and obliterate said stamp, at the time of emptying such cask or package, or who shall remove any stamp provided by this act from any cask or package containing or which had contained distilled spirits, without defacing and *destroying* the same at the time of such removal, or who shall have in his possession any such stamp so removed, or have in his possession any cancelled or any stamp which has been used, or which purports to have been used, upon any cask or package of distilled spirits, shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and on conviction shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars nor more than ten thousand dollars, and be imprisoned not less than one year nor more than five years.

I have quoted thus fully to show how utterly hopeless it would be for any one to attempt to collect these stamps, and to place your readers on their guard least some of them might get into difficulty.

Being thoroughly conversant with the whole system of stamping distilled spirits, I will say that it is impossible for any one to obtain an uncanceled stamp without the connivance of the Gauger, who lays himself liable to the penalty proscribed by the law, and any one having in his possession a cancelled stamp, can readily see what position he is in. I would therefore advise all philatelists to have nothing to do with "Stamps for distilled spirits."

Yours truly
JOHN RICE.

Answers to Correspondents.

J. M. Saint Louis.—We have repeatedly expressed the opinion that revenue stamps entirely spoil the appearance of a postage stamp collection. If you have the inclination to collect revenues we can assure you that they will amply repay the small cost and trouble necessary to form a good collection. The high values of the Danish fiscal's and some of our own proprietary stamps are very beautiful and much finer specimens of engraving than can be found on any postage stamp.

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FOR

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THE

AMERICAN JOURNAL

OF

PHILATELY



AN ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOL. II.

NOVEMBER 20, 1869.

NO. 23.

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| 27. Austria—Francis Joseph I | Luxemburg—William III. | 29. Sandwich Islands -- Kamehameha III. |
| 10. Baden—Frederick. | 32. Mecklenburg Schwerin—Frederick Francis. | 36. Sandwich Islands -- Kamehameha IV. |
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| 46. Confederate States—Jefferson Davis. | 4. Norway--Charles XV. | 11. Spain--Isabella II. |
| 3. Denmark—Frederick VII. | 18. Oldenburg--Peter. | 42. Sweden--Charles XV. |
| 37. Denmark—Christian IX | 31. Parma--Robert I. | 25. Turkey--Abdul Aziz Khan. |
| 2. France--Napoleon-III | 17. Portugal--Maria II. | 13. Tuscany--Ferdinand IV |
| 47. Great Britain—Victoria | 40. " Pedro V. | 8. Wurtemberg--William I |
| 14. Greece--George I. | 30. " Louis I. | 15. Wurtemberg--Charles I. |
| | 23. Prussia--William I. | The Author. |
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A few Items not generally known.

LA GUAIRA.—All the stamps issued by the steamship companies are in present use. The $\frac{1}{2}$ real rose and 2 reals green were issued by Messrs Blohm, Nolting & Co., of La Guaira, in 1864, and were used to prepay the postage on newspapers and letters between La Guaira and Caracas Venezuela. The same stamp being affixed at either end of the route.

The Spanish dollar or peso is used in both places or its equivalent in reals, in St. Thomas it is termed *fuerte peso*, signifying strong dollar, and in Venezuela *senciello peso*, 10 of which go to the *dollar*, whereas in St. Thomas eight reals make the same amount. In 1865, the proprietors finding that merchants in St. Thomas sent to Venezuela to buy their stamps, thereby saving 25 per cent, had the stamps printed in other colors, blue and yellow, which could only be used to take letters or newspapers from St. Thomas, retaining the old ones, rose and green, to carry letters exclusively from Venezuela.

The new stamps are issued by J. A. Jezurun and Son (*Zoon*) of Caracas.

HONDURAS.—The other day we heard of a yellow Honduras stamp, but was unable to see it, and while we were meditating on the difficulty of obtaining conclusive evidence in regard to them, we recollected a passage in *The Stamp Collectors Magazine* for August, 1865, in which we see it stated that three millions were printed in Belgium for the Honduras government, each million being of a different color which would be used in rotation. It is very evident that the green has long been used, and if our information in regard to the yellow one is correct, the pink edition must be exhausted also.

We have not the slightest doubt as to their genuineness, but as we said before, it is next to impossible to get authentic information. Nearly every responsible person in Honduras has been written to, but the inaccuracies in their statements has thrown a doubt on their veracity and the genuineness of the stamps.

We have the information from the head of one of the largest South American houses in this city, who was lately in Honduras, that they are used to carry letters to the coast, and some of the neighbouring republics with which they have postal treaties.

PERU.—Probably there are not twenty-five persons who read this paper, have ever seen a genuine half peso Peru, we only know of one, besides that possessed by the writer in the United States, and as there are several counterfeits of it circulating in the country, we think a description of it will interest most of our readers.

The design consists of, arms on shield, supported by laurels over flags, small wreath above, in circle of solid ground, on ground of verticle waved lines, in square frame, composed of parallel lines, inscribed PORTE-FRANCO above, CORRES below, MEDIO PESO to the left, and A 50 CENTIMOS on the right. The color is dark buff and dull orange. The post-mark bears date 6th November, 1858.

Revenue Stamp Collecting.

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

In the August number of the "Journal" I gave my readers what, I supposed to be at that time, very excellent advice upon the subject of Revenue Stamp collecting. I am now reluctantly compelled to admit, that my views (with some qualifications) were very erroneous and extremely dangerous, in some respects. Upon reference to the October number of the "Journal," it will be seen that Mr. Rice kindly points out, one of my errors, and advises Philatelists against rendering themselves liable to prosecution, for collecting the stamps placed upon barrels containing distilled spirits, unfortunately there are many other Revenue Stamps the collection of which, as will be seen from the facts I purpose to present, render their possessors liable to criminal prosecution. Believing Mr. Rice to be right and accepted his advice with perfect good will, at the same time doubts arose, whether their might not be other stamps that could not be collected. To arrive at a definite conclusion in the matter, a letter was addressed to the Hon. C. Delano, Commissioner of the Internal Revenue, asking whether their were any penalties attached to the possession of cancelled Lager Beer, Cigar, and Tobacco Stamps, kept simply as curiosities, or for the purposes of study and reference.

The following is a correct transcript of his reply, by no means consoling to the unhappy writer of this article who formerly prided himself considerably upon his fine and almost unique collection of the stamps in question.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, }
INTERNAL REVENUE BUREAU. }

Solicitors Office,

Washington, Nov. 1st, 1869.

SIR :—In answer to your letter of the 7th ult. in relation to your having in your possession "simply as curiosities," certain Revenue Stamps which have been used upon Cigar boxes, Lager Beer Casks, and Liquor Barrels. I have to say that section 41 of the Act of July 20, 1868, declares that any person who shall "have in his possession any cancelled stamp or any stamp which has been used, upon any cask or package of distilled spirits, shall be deemed guilty of felony, and on conviction shall be fined not less than five hundred dollars, nor more than ten thousand dollars, and imprisoned not less than one year, nor more than five years."

Section 89 of the same Act provides that any person who shall "have in his possession any stamp," removed from any Cigar Box," shall be deemed guilty of a felony, and on conviction "shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars, nor more than one thousand dollars, and imprisoned not less than six months, nor more than three years."

Without quoting further from the law, it will be obvious to you that your only proper course is to immediately destroy the stamps to which the letter refers.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed),

C. DELANO,

Commissioner.

It will be very clearly perceived from this communication to what penalties a collector of these stamps renders himself liable. I would therefore, earnestly advise my philatelic friends who are not curious enough, to desire to visit the State Penitentiary, or who have not sufficient pocket money to pay the fines, to shun these costly luxuries. Being uncertain in regard to the fiscal stamps, proper and proprietaries, another letter was addressed to Mr. Delano, with the following result.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, }
OFFICE OF INTERNAL REVENUE, }

Washington, Nov. 4, 1869.

SIR:—In reply to your letter of the 3rd inst. that, there will be no objection to your having the stamps mentioned, in your possession, either cancelled or uncanceled.

Very Respectfully,

(Signed),

J. W. DOUGLASS,

Deputy Commissioner.

Why severe penalties should be inflicted upon the owners of one variety of stamps, and not others, is a mystery which the disgusted author of "a plea for Revenue Stamp collecting" dares not approach, feeling he has no right to attempt to question the sagacity of our wise and sapient legislators. But the following extract from a pamphlet on the Revenue laws, it will be seen that even uncanceled stamps, for Tobacco, Snuff and Cigars, cannot be legally obtained for a collection.

"Collectors are authorized to sell stamps to the following parties *only in their own districts*: (1) to manufacturers who have given bonds as required by law; (2) to owners or consignees of Tobacco or Snuff, or importers of Cigars, upon the requisition of the proper Custom House Officer; and (3) to persons required by law to affix the same to Tobacco, Snuff, and Cigars on hand unstamped, that is, to dealers in manufactured Tobacco.

As stamps are only intrusted to collectors for sale, and they are limited in making sales to the three classes of persons above named, and as no sale of stamps can be made by the Government for any less price than the value indicated by the denomination of the stamp, the sale of stamps by any other person, than a collector, is

deemed to be illegal. Manufacturers and dealers are, therefore, cautioned to purchase their stamps only of collectors in their respective districts."

To impress upon the stamp collectors mind the relation in which he stands to these stamps, we quote further.

"This provision of law applies not only to retail dealers, who empty wooden packages by retailing their contents, but also to every person who purchases Tobacco for his own use, and empties such packages. He must destroy the stamped portion. The law in this respect will be sufficiently complied with if the stamp is thoroughly mutilated or destroyed, without destroying the particular part of the box, jar, bladder, bag, or other inclosure used in packing Tobacco, Snuff, and Cigars.

"To sell or give away, buy, accept, or use for putting up Tobacco or Snuff, any empty stamped box, bag, vessel, wrapper, or envelope of any kind, or the stamped portion thereof, renders a person liable on conviction, to a fine of \$100, and imprisonment for not less than 20 days, and not more than one year.

The law states also that "receiving, buying, selling, giving away, or having in possession, any stamp removed from a Tobacco package," is a felony. But now comes the sorest infliction of all the cruelties towards innocent collectors, the following is a true copy from a pamphlet furnished by the Internal Revenue Department.

"It is reported that persons in various parts of the country, and under various pretexts, are collecting cancelled stamps, and, as it is believed, for the purpose of removing the cancelling marks therefrom, and preparing them for further use.

"All Revenue Officers are expected and hereby directed to give this matter their special attention; to acquaint the people with the true object for which such stamps are collected, and with the penalties incurred by all who in any way knowingly and wilfully aid, abet, and assist in the commission of the offense. It is believed that many stamps are gathered from persons who are ignorant of the use to which they are to be put, and innocent of all intent to defraud the Revenue.

The fact that a person is collecting stamps which have once been used is sufficient to arouse strong suspicion, and calls for an immediate investigation; and the possession of washed, restored, or altered stamps is prima facie evidence of guilt. No pains should be spared to insure the detection and punishment of guilty parties."

These statements are believed in the main to be incorrect, and calculated to do injury to a vast majority of persons, who never sold a stamp of any kind in their lives. Further comment is un-

necessary, as a "nod is as good as a wink to a blind horse." It had been the intention of the Editor for some months past, to present to his readers, from the pen of the writer of this article a complete history of Foreign and Domestic Revenue Stamps, and many facts and valuable information had been treasured in furtherance of what appeared to be much needed in Philatelic literature. This project has been crushed in the bud at least for the present. Should time the great consoler succeed in effacing the scars and wounds received in the late encounter with the "Internal Revenue Department," we may present a paper upon the fiscals, proprietaries and Foreign Revenue Stamps, which may be collected with impunity.

"MORAL."

Fiscal, Proprietary and Foreign Revenue Stamps ye may collect.
Tobacco, Lager Beer, and Spirits, eschew as vanities.

It would be hardly fair not to thank Mr. Delano for his kindness in this matter; as he was under no obligation whatever to keep the public informed upon the Revenue laws.

Since the above was written the following letter has been received bearing upon the subject.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, }
OFFICE OF INTERNAL REVENUE, }

Washington, Nov. 5, 1869.

SIR:—The reply dated yesterday to yours of the 3rd inst. inquiring whether you are permitted to have in your possession uncanceled stamps for Distilled Spirits, Lager Beer and Cigars, and cancelled or uncanceled proprietary stamps is hereby recalled, and any permission that may be inferred therefrom is hereby revoked. It was intended to refer only to proprietary and document stamps, as to which it was qualifiedly correct as hereinafter stated; but it is incorrect as to the possession of used or cancelled stamps for Spirits or Cigars.

As a modified answer to the inquiries in your letter above referred to I have now to reiterate the statement of the law made in the commissioners letter to you of the 1st inst., and to add that I do not find any penalty prescribed by law, for having in possession cancelled or uncanceled proprietary or document stamps which have neither been used nor purport to have been used.

It is at the same time evident from the provisions of the laws relating to stamps that they are not, even when uncanceled, and not having been placed on any article, intended to be bought or sold, or given away or received by other persons than those who are required by law to use them. And it is peculiarly objectionable to have in possession cancelled stamps, even of the kinds as to which no penalty is prescribed for such possession, inasmuch as, in the case of document stamps, the Government has been largely defrauded by the washing and restoring of such cancelled stamps, in view of which the possession of a stamp which can be shown to have been washed, restored, or altered is made, by the Act of 10th April last, *prima facie*, proof that such stamp has been once used and removed *by the possessor thereof*, from some instrument or writing charged with taxes.


As to proprietary stamps the law (s. 156), prescribes that they shall be so affixed on the box, bottle or package, that in opening the same, or using the contents thereof, the stamp shall be effectually destroyed, and a penalty is prescribed for failure to do so. Consequently

the possession of such used proprietary stamps, not effectually destroyed, involves the violation of this provision of the law. I would be obliged if you will return to me the letter of yesterday, which in the pressure of business was inadvertently signed.

Respectfully yours,

J. W. DOUGLAS,

Commissioner.

 I am now obliged to say do not collect American Revenues at all.

[We should not advise collectors to destroy their document and proprietary stamps, as we will give the case our attention and hope to have it definitely settled during the month.—ED.]

Newly Issued Stamps.

Our list of novelties is remarkably small this month, we only having two that are really worth mentioning, our first is for

FRANCE.—The long expected 5 fr. having at length made its appearance. The design consists of the Laureated head of Napoleon in circle EMPIRE FRANCIS above, TIMBRE POSTE below, with a large 5 to the left, and F to the right, Greek bordering at sides. This new addition to our albums is unique in shape, and has much the appearance of a Revenue Stamp, it is exactly twice the size of any other stamp—of the series, being the same height, and double the width. The color is violet, we need scarcely add that it is perforated but unwatermarked.

NICARAGUA.—We are pleased to be able to inform collectors that another value has been prepared for this country, which from its low value, and beautiful appearance is destined to become a great favourite with youthful collectors.

The design is the same as the other values of the set, and its color is a beautiful brown, value one centavo. Our surmises concerning 25c. noticed last month prove correct, the genuine color being bright green.

NORWAY.—*Drammens*.—This little Norwegian town, or more probably some swindler in it, has issued eight stamps of the annexed

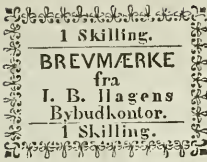


two skilling.

designs, which will in all probability be increased to ten times that number if collectors are fools enough to buy them, we give the designs, and may add that the colors are at present blue on white, violet, and blue on rose for the ones, with lilac on white, violet, and green, for the



two skilling. The last magnificent specimen of impudence, and



humbug is printed in black on yellow, and red paper. The most we can say for them is, that if genuine, they are a disgrace to any album, and if humbugs which we believe, are an insult to every collector.

SWITZERLAND.—Our next belongs to the same tribe, but may possibly be entitled to a little better treatment at our hands. It purports to have been issued by J. Muller the proprietor of a bathing establishment on the mountains. The value is 5c. it is printed in green on white paper, and is unperforated.



THE PHILATELIST says, "This stamp supersedes one of which all the specimens were exhausted before there existance reached philatelic ears. They were

small octagonal oblongs on red glazed paper bearing the words RIGE SCHEIDECK in relief.

ST. VINCENT.—We learn from the same authority that the shilling stamp of this colony will shortly be issued printed in brown, and that the four-penny stamp has also changed color.

United States Local Stamps.

BY J. W. SCOTT.

(Continued from page 78.)

W. WYMAN, above, 6 Court Street & 3 Wall Street, 20 Stamps for One Dollar, surrounding oblong, enclosing steam engine and tender with car attached, flower buds in corners. It is printed from a steel plate, black impression, on white paper.

COUNTERFEIT.—This is a first class imitation, and is well calculated to deceive the unwary. *Test*: In the genuine, the points of the flower in the left hand, upper corner, are at equal distance from the top and side lines of the border; whereas, in the imitation the lower point of the flower nearly touches the left hand border. In the counterfeit the foremost part of the engine nearly touches the line of the oval, and the *f* in *for* touches the top and bottom of the small oval enclosing it; also, the *o* in *20* touches the line of the large oval. In the genuine there will be found a clear space at all the places named.

METROPOLITAN P. O. EXPRESS TO MAIL ONE CENT, WM. H. LAWS, P. M.—In embossed white letters on colored ground, shield shape, red ; blue.

METROPOLITAN P. O., 13 AMERICAN BIBLE HOUSE, N. Y., WM. H. LAWS, PROPRIETOR.—In embossed white letters on colored ground, octagonal, red ; blue. We are unacquainted with any counterfeits of this or the preceding stamp, they have been reprinted in the original colors and can be had cheap.

JEFFERSON MARKET POST OFFICE, BY C. SCHMIDT & CO., SURROUNDING, oblong, oval, enclosing an eagle perched upon a rock. This is probably one of the scarcest locals that has yet been discovered. We owe a description of it to Mr. H. E. Stockwell, to whom we are indebted for many similar favours. We need scarcely add that owing to its extreme scarcity it has never been counterfeited.—*To be continued.*

Reviews of Philatelic Publications.

Scott's American Postage Stamp Album, by J. Walter Scott. New York: J. W. Scott & Co.

Complete copies of this really magnificent work now lie before us, and we are pleased to say that it fully verifies our previous remarks concerning it.

The binding is at once elegant, strong and neat and, the clasps are strongly affixed.

The guards are of sufficient length to easily allow supplementary pages to be inserted, which will be prepared by the publishers when ever they are required ; altogether, it is decidedly the best Postage Stamp Album ever published.

Little Buyers.

BY C. P. S.

Sometime since I had the pleasure of reading in your valuable paper an article styled, "Little Dealers," and if you think my experience of "Little Buyers" would interest your readers you are welcome to them. Now there are two kinds of Little Buyers, there is the deminutive specimen of humanity who buys, also the collector who buys little, each affording an equal amount of amusement to the looker on, and the same amount of annoyance to the clerk who has the pleasure? of attending to their wants. One "Buyer," I shall never forget, I was seated in the office of a large stamp dealing firm quietly looking over a large collection, in search of some scarce

varieties needed to complete my Australian sets. The door opened, and in walked a gentleman dressed in the height of the fashion, walking to one of the tables he asked, "Have you any very scarce stamps," Oh! yes, do you require *very* scarce ones. "Yes." Now they have a practice in that establishment of keeping all stampsets worth over five dollars in a large envelope in the safe, and they are always shewn by one of the partners, after the clerk had announced the gentleman he was shewn into the private office, and five or six hundred dollars worth of scarce stamps spread out before his eyes. He went quietly through them enquiring the price of some uncancelled Buenos Ayres stamps, and then asked "have you a 1 cent French Stamp." The dealer was rather taken back, but produced the desired specimen, when the gentleman capped the climax by saying, "I have some scarce stamps which I should like to exchange for it, as I do not buy any stamps, but trade off those that I get for others. Would you give the French stamp for any of these?" producing six or eight dirty North German Stamps. The dealer did not say anything, his heart was to full for utterance, but merely telling his customer to go to one of the clerks, called for Mr. G. to come in, and through the closed door could be heard "Sold," the worst sell I ever had in my life.

Our next "Little Buyer" belongs to the class first enumerated, he was a handsome little fellow dressed in a black velvet suit, he takes off his hat at the door, and marches up to a table, "Good morning Mr. S., papa said I might either come down and get some stamps, or go to the Matinee at Booth's with mama, so I thought I'd come and see you, I want to get some very scarce stamps. Now wont you sell me some stamps that no one has got. I'd like to get some very scarce indeed. While he is running up a bill for twenty dollars, and giving order for it to be sent down to "father's office," our attention is called to a new comer; by his dress he is evidently a bricklayer, and he is in his working dress. He looks at the carpet and his own dirty boots, and then at the clerks, "say Mister do you sell stamps here for collections," yes sir, take a seat, and down he sits with his little dinner pail beside him. "Now look here Mister, I dont know anything about this here business, but the old woman wants me to get her some Foreign Stamps, as she is going to make a collection, just throw out some cheap ones for me to look at." But while he is looking at some one and two cent stamps, two young ladies enter with their mother, he does not seem to be at home in their company, so he pays for the fifteen cents worth he had selected and leaves. It is quite amusing to see people come in asking for German, French, or Irish stamps as the case may be. "Have you any French stamps," and on being informed that they

have, says "I want to send a letter to France, and seeing your sign, thought I could get a French stamp here, they dont sell them at the Post Office." But he scarcely comes under our head, for on it being explained to him, that he must put United States Stamps on his letter to take it to France, he does not buy at all, but possible has several hundred questions to ask. "Then if you dont sell them to take letters to Foreign Countries, what do you sell them for." For collection. "Collection who's he." Why persons who are collecting one of every variety of Foreign Stamps for curiosity. "You dont mean to say that people are fools enough to pay money for those things only to look at." But there is another class of "Little Buyers," who I am sorry to say are "Little Stealers" also, they come in lots of six or eight together, and all want to get stamps, which they buy in quantities of 3 cents at a time, and are generally over an hour in making the purchase, and during that time generally succeed in stealing several dollars worth, one that was lately caught in the act, on being searched was found to have over \$30 worth in his pockets, he was quickly sent to the Tombs, to meditate on the difficulty of forming a complete collection.

Another class of "Little Buyer" comes in the shape of a well-dressed gentleman, who wants to complete a collection for "his son," a young lady, or somebody else, he only wants to get the common ones, he has all the scarce stamps, he left off collecting two years ago, and at that time had a "complete collection," had everything, it is no use shewing him anything scarce for he has everything, that was issued up to 1867. But he looks over the books and generally buys a few Saxon, perhaps 1 f. French Republic that got torn in his collection, but he seldom goes as high as 10 cents for a stamp, after purchasing 25 cents worth of stamps, and occupying a clerk for over an hour he leaves, on suddenly finding that it is — o'clock, and he has an engagement, he will call in when he has more time. Perhaps one of the principals hearing of the sets of original Natsals. British Guiana, Reunion Isles, and others of a like scarcity contained in his collection, asks to see it, but we need scarcely say without success, although he always promises to bring it down next time, once Mr. — offered a gentleman who had a complete collection, and bought 25 cents at a time, \$10 to shew it him but without avail. These complete collections are never forthcoming.

I may at some future time give a description of New York collectors and their collections, should the readers of the Journal wish it.

The 15, 24 and 30c. stamps of the 1869 issue, are now for sale at the post office, in this city but the 1861, 90c. are the only ones of that value procurable.

Clippings.

The East India postal officials protest against the Oriental flowers of language. Here is the address of a letter received at Bengal: "Most worshipful and whose feet are worshipped Father Thakur with prosperity Noble in mind. This letter to be respected pair of feet."

WE SEE IT STATED that the post office department are considering the advisability of reducing the registration fee on inland letters to 6c. It is most devoutly to be wished that such is the case, as it would prove a great benefit to both stamp dealers and collectors by the present rates it costs 18c. to send a registered letter to Brooklyn, and only 11 cents to send the same letter to Canada. In the event of the registration fee being reduced to 6c. we shall register every letter we send.

POSTMASTER GENERAL'S REPORT.—We give a few extracts that will be of interest to our readers.

760,000,000 letters passed through the mails during the past year, an increase of 40,000,000 over any previous year. This is 20 letters per head for every inhabitant.

The number issued during the year was 421,047,460, value \$12,722,568; stamped envelopes 78,079,850; value \$2,283,588; news wrappers 3,595,250; value \$71,595. Total number of stamps, envelopes, and wrappers, 502,722,560; total value, \$15,078,061.

Number of letters sent to the dead letters office during the year was: ordinary letters, 2,837,472; drop letters, 450,000; unmailable, 361,984; hotel letters, 26,528; fictitious letters, 17,417; registered letters, 33,672; returned from foreign countries, 62,603; foreign letters, 193,186; total, 3,952,862. Of the above, 18,227 were found to contain \$94,710, in sums of \$1 and upward—of which number, 16,187, containing \$82,570, were delivered to the writers or persons addressed; and 2,040, containing \$12,040, were filed for reclamation. Dead letters are retained four years for reclamation, and the money deposited in the Treasury. The number inclosing sums less than \$1 was 14,323, containing \$3,472,77, of which amount \$2,788,29 was delivered to writers, and \$684,48 filed for reclamation. Amount taken from letters and deposited in the Treasury, \$14,585. The number of letters containing bank checks, drafts, deeds, letters of exchange, &c., was 16,925; nominal value, \$3,011,354, of which 15,286, nominal value \$2,799,114, were delivered to owners, and 16,038 returned or filed for reclamation. Of the unmailable letters, 286,307 were detained for postage, not being prepaid as required by law. They were either wholly unpaid, not prepaid one full rate, or were stamped with illegal or revenue stamps; 70,429 were mis-

directed—the post office, State, or some necessary part of the address omitted ; 2,678 had no address whatever, and 2,570 were addressed to places where there was no mail service. Amount realized by the sale of waste paper was \$2,067.

The English Government are considering about issuing a half penny stamp to pay postage on newspapers under two ounces in weight. If it is not better looking than its elder brethren, they can keep it for all the thanks they will get from Philatelists.

REDUCTION IN OCEAN POSTAGE.—From intelligence received through Mr. Thornton, the British Minister, it appears her Majesty's government is prepared to reduce the single rate of postage for pre-paid letters between the United States and the United Kingdom to three pence. It will be remembered Postmaster-General Creswell submitted a proposition to the British Post Office Department on the 8th ult. to reduce the letter rate of postage from twelve to six cents, to take effect on and after the 1st of January, 1870, of which two cents would be sea postage and two cents inland postage of each country. There is little doubt therefore of the early adoption of this measure of postal system, so earnestly desired by the people of the two countries.

Correspondence.

NEW YORK, SEPT. 28, 1869.

EDITOR OF THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY :

DEAR SIR,—I regret exceedingly that I have lost my book, original MSS. and other papers referring to the "chronological system" recently contributed to your Journal by myself, and consequently will be unable to complete the article. Perhaps I may eventually find them and will then be pleased to conclude the piece.

Meanwhile, I am, Yours Respectfully

WILLARD. K. FREEMAN.

[Should Mr. Freeman be unable to find his papers the article will be concluded by some other gentleman.—ED.]

Answers to Correspondents.

A. C. B. NEBRASKA.—The 2 and 4c. Laureated Head France were issued in 1863. Silk threads are woven in the paper of some stamps to prevent counterfeiting. By the letters in the corners of the British stamp the authorities can tell the time they were printed, it also acts as a check against counterfeiters.

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THE
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 PHILATELY



AN ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

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DECEMBER 20, 1869.

NO. 24.

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
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|---|---|--------------------------------------|
| 43. United States—G. Washington. | 16. Holland—William III. | 12. Roumania—Couza |
| 44. United States—A. Lincoln | 39. Italy—Victor Emanuel II. | 38. Russia—Alexander II. |
| 45. " —U. S. Grant | Luxemburg—William III | 29. Sandwich Islands—Kamehameha III. |
| 27. Austria—Francis Joseph I. | 32. Mecklenburg Schwerin—Frederick Francis. | 36. Sandwich Islands—Kamehameha IV. |
| 10. Baden—Frederick. | 34. Mecklenburg Strelitz—Frederick William. | 22. Sandwich Islands—Kamehameha V. |
| 28. Bavaria—Maximilian. | 7. Mexico—Maximilian I. | 9 Saxony Frederick Augustus |
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| 46. Confederate States—Jefferson Davis. | 31. Parma—Robert I. | 25. Turkey—Abdul Aziz Khan |
| 3. Denmark—Frederick VII. | 17. Portugal—Maria II. | 31. Tuscany—Ferdinand IV. |
| 37. " —Christian IX. | 40. " Pedro V. | 8. Wurtemberg—William I |
| 2. France—Napoleon III. | 30. " Louis I. | 15. " —Charles I |
| 47. Great Britain—Victoria. | 23. Prussia—William I. | The Author. |
| 14. Greece—George I. | " Frederick William IV | The Publishers. |
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Essays, Specimens and Proofs.

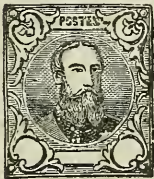
BY C. P. S.

A few words on these heretofore neglected stamps will not be out of place to the majority of our readers, and although we strongly depreciate the practice of collecting specimens to the exclusion of postals proper, still we think a few genuine specimens on essays add considerably to the beauty of a collection, and to the student are of vast importance. Take for instance the beautiful essays prepared in 1865, for Moldo-Wallachia, there is ample food for reflection here, was it that the engraver of the adopted design feed the officials higher? or was it that the authorities did not know what beauty was? certainly they did not believe with Keats that

“A thing of beauty is a joy forever.”

or this really beautiful design would have been adopted.

Some time since a number of essays were prepared for the Belgian government, bearing the head of the present king, two of which we annex engravings of. Should his majesty be called away from the seen of his earthly labors before Belgium changes her stamps, these will be the only “postage stamp portrait” of Leopold II.



The United States has probably furnished more essays than any other country, there having been quite a large number prepared at each change, amongst which may be mentioned the entire set of 1869, with figures of value half the size of those that adorn the present set. Then the almost unique 2c. essay bearing a post cart as the principal device, also the 30c. essay similar in design to the present 15c. having for the central picture the surrender of Burgoyne.

While on this subject we should like to correct the common error of calling the 2c. 1863, stamp printed in various colors an essay, as it is nothing but a specimen, that is, it is printed from the genuine plates in another color, so that the government could not be defrauded by it, but made by the company as a specimen of their work to send to parties from whom they are likely to get contracts. A proof is a copy of the accepted design sent to the government printed in a variety of colors for the officials to choose from, and are usually printed on India paper. We annex a copy of a newly discovered essay for Bergedorf, but are inclined to think it an original devise that was modified to make the adopted design, as we should not think it at all probable that the authorities would make a change for so little difference, and certainly not for the reason that the *Philatelist* gives,



as it is coarser than the well known set, that they say it was intended to replace on account of their being so much counterfeited.

In conclusion we should certainly urge those collectors who have the means, to adorn their albums with some of these beautiful works of art, but we advise the amateur to procure first all the regular issues of every country, and then fill up with "essays, specimens and proofs."

The Postage Stamps of British Guiana.

'DAMUS PETIMUSQUE VICISSIM.'

ONE of the best informed of our English writers on these subjects has declared that the stamps of South America present peculiar difficulties to the collector; and the accuracy of this remark will be abundantly verified by any one who sets to himself the task of forming a complete series of this colony. The difficulty of the collector is, however, far less than that which is involved in an attempt to describe completely the various issues of this country; and yet the very obstacles themselves seem to have induced some of the more zealous European amateurs to try their hands at classifying these stamps. Mons. Herpin, whose name is well known as that of a most distinguished and discriminating collector and author, in the December number of *Le Collectionneur de Timbres Poste*, published an article containing much valuable information, but also exhibiting some inaccuracies, which probably arose from descriptions being given without access to the stamps, and from suppositions hazarded, plausible enough in themselves, but which the result of inquiries as to the facts does not verify. Several papers relating more or less to this subject have also appeared in the journal published by M. Moens, at Brussels.

After a careful analysis of these papers, and from information directly received from the postmaster of George Town, the following list has been compiled. Every stamp described has been verified by actual comparison with undoubted specimens, and the greatest care taken to present a reliable and complete catalogue up to the present time; it is therefore hoped that the amateur may find in the subjoined lines a trustworthy guide.

FIRST ISSUE.

1850. The postal system was first introduced into the colony of British Guiana in this year, solely for inland purposes, and the rates of postage were fixed according to the distance which the letter had to travel, viz.: 4, 8, and 12 cents for single, double, and treble postage respectively.

The design of these first stamps was of the simplest description, consisting merely of a rough circle formed by a single line, at times approaching an oval; within this line the words BRITISH GUIANA in Roman capitals were printed (in moveable types) in a circular shape, following very irregularly the outside line of the stamp. In the middle of the stamp is the value in figures, followed by the word CENTS in italics, printed in one straight line. This issue is printed on colored paper in black ink, viz.:—

| | | | | |
|----------|---|---|---|------------|
| 4 cents | - | - | - | yellow. |
| 8 cents | - | - | - | green. |
| 12 cents | - | - | - | deep blue. |

Every stamp, before being issued for circulation, was authenticated by the initials 'G. R. D.,' written with pen and black ink across its face, by Mr. G. R. Dalton, the then and present postmaster of George Town. These stamps were printed in the colony, but no stock of them was ever kept; the supply was only made to meet the current wants, and the issue was never intended for other than a preliminary and temporary expedient.

The shades of colored paper used vary in deepness, especially the green. Some specimens exist in collections which do not bear any initials, having evidently never been issued for circulation. The extremely rude design of this issue, and its consequent liability to imitation and forgery, rendered it one which could only serve a temporary purpose, and its ugliness by no means tended to recommend it. It is scarcely to be wondered at, that almost immediately new stamps were ordered, and the very short period this issue was in use accounts for its exceeding rarity, and the proportionately high prices these stamps command when to be met with.

Mention has been made of a stamp of this issue on pink paper, the value of which has been variously stated at 4 and 8 cents. No specimen is known to exist, nor has the writer any authentic information which would justify him in inserting such a stamp in this list.

Since the above was in type, the writer's attention has been called to a copy of the yellow 4 cents stamp: uninitialed, but bearing the usual Demerara postmark, and the date 27 November, 1850: probably a case of accidental omission of the signature of the postmaster.

SECOND ISSUE.

1850, 1851. Large upright rectangular stamp, printed in black on colored paper; device, ship sailing to the right in a Norman escutcheon; legend, BRITISH on left, GUIANA on right; value above, DAMUS PATIMUS QUE VICISSIM below, a fort in the distance.

The design of these stamps was engraved on steel, and some small and inconsiderable variations exist between different stamps from this plate.

| | | | | |
|---------|---|---|---|-------------------|
| 1 cent | - | - | - | magenta. |
| 4 cents | - | - | - | ultramarine blue. |

At the meeting of the Combined Court of Policy of Demerara, held in 1850, it was resolved to adopt one uniform rate of postage for letters, namely, 4 cents, and to impose a charge of 1 cent upon newspapers forwarded by post from one part of the colony to another. Stamps of these two values were ordered from England, and Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, stationers, of London Wall, were intrusted with their execution and printing. To this firm is due the famous error which has given an almost fictitious importance to the issue. The error 'PATIMUS' for 'PETIMUS,' for which Lord Macaulay's traditional schoolboy would be deservedly flogged, has unfortunately been fathered on the colony, which thus had to undergo the ridicule of choosing a motto it could not spell, when the blame of this most unfortunate error rested in London. But there is nothing which happens without compensation, and the firm who at the onset unfortunately passed this issue, has more than redeemed the blunder by the eminent beauty of some of the types we shall presently notice. The stamps of this issue were printed on brightly-colored paper, and were in circulation from the end of 1850 till about 1853. They are of an ungainly size and unmanageable shape, which, combined with the engraver's error, soon compelled a fresh commission to England. In 1853 the newly-ordered series was produced, but meantime, the supply of the second issue failing, came the third series.

The stamps of this issue are, and always have been, of excessive rarity, especially the blue, and classed among the gems of a collection. Their rarity is not diminished by the fact that in September, 1864, a reprint of the issue took place, at the instance of the colonial authorities, chiefly to enable them to gratify the wishes of foreign governments and others. These reprints were executed by Waterlow & Sons; the paper is of a brighter tint, showing the presence of the new colors; and, to crown all, these reprinted stamps are perforated. It has been asserted the plates are now destroyed; one thing is certain, the value of the old issue is still unchanged; the reprints sell for a very trifling sum comparatively, and every real lover of stamps will at once discriminate between the worthless reprint and the almost unattainable original issue.

THIRD SERIES.

Oblong rectangle, printed in black on colored paper; BRITISH above, GUIANA below; POSTAGE to the left, FOUR CENTS on the right; in the centre, a ship—barque rigged—sailing to the right; DAMUS PETIMUS above, QUE VICISSIM below.

On deep magenta.

On dark azure blue.

These stamps are engraved on wood, and printed in the colony; a sheet or so only was printed on blue, to replace the old blue 4c. upright rectangle, but the supply of blue paper failing, they were also printed on pink paper, the shape sufficiently guarding against confusion with the former issue. The circulation of these stamps was of the most limited duration, both kinds are of the highest degree of rarity—few indeed are the happy possessors of either, while those who have the blue may be reckoned twice over on the figures of one hand, and may be congratulated on having probably the very rarest stamp known to collectors. Two English collections, it is believed, and two only, boast of this matchless blue; while on the continent a specimen is not known to exist. The pink is also of but one less degree of rarity, scarcely known even among the *elite* of collections. All stamps of this issue, which the writer has ever seen, bear an initialed signature, in addition to the usual post-mark. In their perfect state these stamps have a margin of considerable width.

FOURTH SERIES.

1853. Rectangle, vessel in full sail to left, in oval, bearing the motto prefixed to this paper; POSTAGE above, value below, BRITISH to left, GUIANA to right, date 1853, one figure in each corner.

1 cent - - - red (vermilion).

4 cents - - - blue (azure).

These stamps were engraved and printed in England, the die is well executed, and the whole appearance of the stamp is fine and artistic. Proofs in black of both values, and in red-brown of the 1 cent, are extant, these show well the beauty of the engraving. Unhappily, this issue has also been reprinted, with the other in 1864. The newly-printed stamps are perforated, and the colors are,—

1 cent - - light red (verging on orange.)

4 cents - - light-blue (bleu-du-ciel).

Unused specimens of the original issue are very scarce; the post-marked copies known usually bear the date 1853 in the defacing mark.

FIFTH ISSUE.

1860. Rectangle, vessel in full sail to right, encircled by garter bearing the motto above mentioned, GUIANA above, value below, BRITISH to left, POSTAGE to right, date 1860, one figure in each corner ; colored impression printed on white paper.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 cent, rose-pink. | 8 cents, rose-pink. |
| 1 cent, red-brown, 1862. | 12 cents, pearl-grey. |
| 1 cent, deep brown, 1862. | 12 cents, lilac. |
| 1 cent, black, 1863. | 12 cents, mauve. |
| 2 cents, deep orange. | 24 cents, green. |
| 4 cents, blue (a dull tint). | 24 cents, green, a bluer shade |
| 4 cents, azure-blue, 1864. | |

The colors of this issue vary much ; a fresh set printed in 1864, showing generally much brighter and clearer colors throughout the series. There exist proofs of the 1 cent in black printed on thick paper which are not very difficult to meet with ; besides the thickness of the paper, the care of the impression and the absence of perforation will prevent the proof being confounded with the stamp.

The stamps of this issue are correctly described and perforated, but copies are to be found which do not bear the marks of that process ; copies are also to be met with obliterated with the word *Specimen*, in red ink printed across the face ; the latter are impressions, as their name imports, struck to show the die and the proposed stamp ; they are not uncommon and their value is by no means great. The changes of color of the 1 cent as above detailed are singular ; while it stood rose, it was almost identical in hue with the 8 cents ; the red-brown was no very permanent hue, and was not the contrast desired ; the deep brown again is a color which never lasts on any-issue of stamps for long ; why, printers and ink makers best can tell, and it certainly is liable to be simulated by the accidental or designed changes of other tints. Recourse at last seems to have been had to black, at first of a greyish dusky shade, now of an unmistakeable deep hue, and this last expedient really seems the best under the circumstances to avoid confusion in the value of the series.—*To be continued.*

REVENUE STAMP COLLECTING.—We have been unable to obtain the desired information, in regard to the legality of collecting Revenue Stamps, but hope to be able to lay the whole matter before our readers next month.

Newly Issued Stamps.

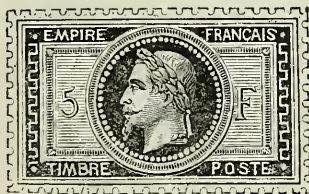
We will commence our article this month with the stamps that most of our readers feel most interested in, namely : the new issue in course of preparation for the

UNITED STATES.—The department having selected the following designs. One cent, Franklin, by Burton, of the Franklin Institute, Philadelphia ; two cents, Jackson, by Powers ; three cents, Washington, by Houdon ; six cents, Lincoln, by Volk ; ten cents, Jefferson, by Powers ; twelve cents, Clay, by Hart ; fifteen cents, Webster, by Clerenged ; twenty-four cents, Scott, by Coffee ; thirty cents, Hamilton, family bust ; ninety cents, O. H. Perry, by Wolcott. Some of the designs have already been engraved, and are ready for printing.

The portraits will all be in profile busts, taken from standard original marbles, executed by artists of acknowledged reputation. They are engraved and furnished by the National Bank Note Company, from photographs, by Brady.

We scarcely think they will be ready before February, but from the specimen, we have had the pleasure of examining, think they will repay us for waiting.

FRANCE.—We annex an engraving of the beautiful addition to the



French page of our album. The shape making it probably the most attractive stamp in the book. It is to be hoped it will soon become as plentiful as the five shilling English stamp. By the way, it is a curious fact, that while the postage is being daily reduced, both for home and foreign countries, the different governments

keep issuing stamps of higher denominations than any that appear to have been heretofore needed.

BELGIUM.—On another page of this number will be found an article on essays, giving illustrations of some neglected designs for the new series of stamps that have long been expected for this country.

We had almost given up looking for them, when we received some of the new 10c. on a letter received from Brussels, but have since received specimens of the 1 centime. The series consists of ten values, printed in five colors with two designs. The national arms being employed for the five lowest, and the profile of Leopold II. adorning the higher values. Hoping to be able to present our readers with an engraving of them in our next, we omit any extended description. The colors and values are as follows :—

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 centime, (arms) green. | 10 centimes, (head) green. |
| 2 " " blue. | 20 " " blue. |
| 5 " " amber. | 30 " " amber. |
| 6 " " carmine. | 40 " " carmine. |
| 8 " " violet. | 1 frank, " violet. |

The *Stamp Collector's Magazine* says:—"Honor to whom honor is due. Mr. Hendrickx the engraver of the series." We certainly cannot agree with our contemporary, as in our humble opinion they are the poorest set that have been produced by any civilized country during the two years that we have been called upon to express our views on the artistic merits of the postal emissions of the world, and are far inferior in design and execution to the set they replace.

SOUTH AFRICAN REPUBLIC.—We have just received copies of three values for this state. They are little if any, superior in execution to the cut given in the September number of the *Journal*, in fact they are so poor that we are almost inclined to believe that some European scoundrel is trying to play "Paraguay" dodge on collectors, should it turn out as we think, probably our publishers will refund the cash for all they have sold. In a description of them in our April number the colors were 1 penny green, and the shilling red, but in the stamps before us the colors are reversed, the 1d. being red, and the 1s. green.

SPAIN.—Is reported to be contemplating a new issue on the first of the year.

LEITMERITZ.—It has got to be a regular thing for us to have to describe a lot of trash devised by a pack of as arrant knaves as ever existed, their last production is of the annexed design, and is printed in ten values ranging from 1 to 50 kreuzers. We cannot see how the proprietors make it pay, certainly they do not find many dupes this side of the water.



TRINIDAD.—The above named *Journal* notes the entire series of the stamps of this colony overcharged with the words **TOO LATE**. We have a 6 penny stamp that has been in our collection three years, that bears the same words, but always attributes it to the fact that the letter it prepaid was posted too late for the mail, and the fact was stamped on it, so that the person to whom it was addressed could tell the cause of its detention.

STUDY YOUR STAMPS.—Oh that I could shout those three words into the ears of every stamp collector, or that I had the power to confiscate the collections of every one who maliciously accumulates scarce and often almost unique specimens, and have about as much regard for them as the dollars they represent. I know 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 ring 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 shews his collection to give you an idea of his wealth.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the American Journal of Philately.

DEAR SIR,—On my return to the City I was pleased to find all my numbers of the Journal awaiting me, and especially gratified to find in the July number an article by C. P. S. on "Schools of Philately." In it the writer lays down the truesystem of collecting stamps. That is, when a person has obtained one of every type, and value of postage stamps he should be deemed to have a full collection. And I think you cannot too strongly depreciate the practice of "filling up" the various foreign albums that are pretty generally used here, with varieties.

I think I am not far out in asserting that the average number of stamps in each collection is not over 800, and that is excluding the hundreds of collections, commenced by boys, who never get over 300 stamps. I know of but seven collections numbering over 2,700 stamps, and those possessing 2,000 specimens can easily be counted. Now as I have shown how few stamps are possessed by the majority of collectors, it is not absolute necessary that those few should be distinct varieties?

I think that persons in your position should possess every variety of every stamp as a reference, but for amateurs having only a few hundred stamps, to collect perforated and unperforated stamps, the different watermarks and various shades like the two sets of Hong Kong stamps figured in Lallier's album is perfectly absurd.

I wish you would give your opinion on the subject.

And remain truly yours,

ONE OF A KIND.

We entirely agree with our correspondent in the matter and should not advise our friends to collect more than one variety of each stamp, except the very strongly marked shades, as for instance the 9c. yellow brown Hong Kong, which we think he must have forgot when using that country for an example.

But he is not as well acquainted with the different prominent collectors as he might be, but there are not over 25 collections in this City and vicinity that pass that number.—*Ed.*]

Clippings.

One of the neatest and most curious of *specialite* magazines is the *American Journal of Philately*, an illustrated magazine for stamp collectors. The collection of postage stamps forms the amusement of some thousands of persons in this country, two thousand of them being subscribers to the journal named. This little magazine is excellently gotten up, with fine wood-cuts of new stamps, at only fifty cents a year. The publishers, J. W. SCOTT & Co., 34 Liberty Street, who are the largest dealers in postage stamps in the country, issue also a nicely illustrated price list of "every postage stamp that has ever been issued in any country in the world," which they sell at fifteen cents.—*Express*.

NOTICE TO TOBACCO CONSUMERS.—Where parties are in the habit of borrowing chews, the government will furnish each man with a note book, in which the time of day, the size of the quid, whether plug or fine cut, the quality and the time which the amount is to be refunded, must be strictly recorded.

Those parties who have been innocently using unstamped tobacco will call on the nearest revenue officer and give in, as near as possible, the amount which they believe has been consumed. The officer will furnish the necessary stamps, and if they are chewed up in his presence the government is then satisfied that no criminal wrong was meant.

No tobacco box must have more than two spigot holes in it, and the stamps must be pasted directly over these.

When a quid has been exhausted, the government strictly forbids it being thrown away until two red chalk marks have been made across it, and a label attached bearing these words:—"The fellow who chewed this has complied with all the requirements of the law, and persons are hereby warned not to chew this quid again."

Tobacco consumers must constantly bear in mind, that the more stamps there are on a package of tobacco the cheaper does the weed become—in a horn.—*Telegram*.

NEW POSTAGE STAMPS.—The *Herald* says: "Another attempt is to be made to give us decent postage stamps. We suppose it will fail as so many have hitherto. Our postal authorities try too much. If they will only take the Italian or French stamp and put Washington's head in the place of Napoleon's or Victor Emanuel's they cannot fail; but they will try some improvements and spoil all."

We suppose the French, English and Italian stamps comprise the whole of Bennett's collection.

Answers to Correspondents.

G. D. W. BATAVIA.—We return the stamps by mail, they are all poorly executed counterfeits, and you must expect to get bogus stamps if you buy for less than the market value.

H. A. C. ORANGE.—*Herzogth* on the Schleswig and Holstein stamps, signifies Duchy.

BATH.—Nearly all stamps of European manufacture are water-marked, the devices being as diverse as the stamps themselves. In some stamps, the Tuscan for instance, the water mark consists of one design covering the entire sheet, only a portion being found on any individual stamp. We annex a cut of the new water-mark on the Queensland Stamps.



C. VAN RINSUM.—We have forwarded the stamp as desired. No. 6 is the last number of the C. P. M. that we have received.

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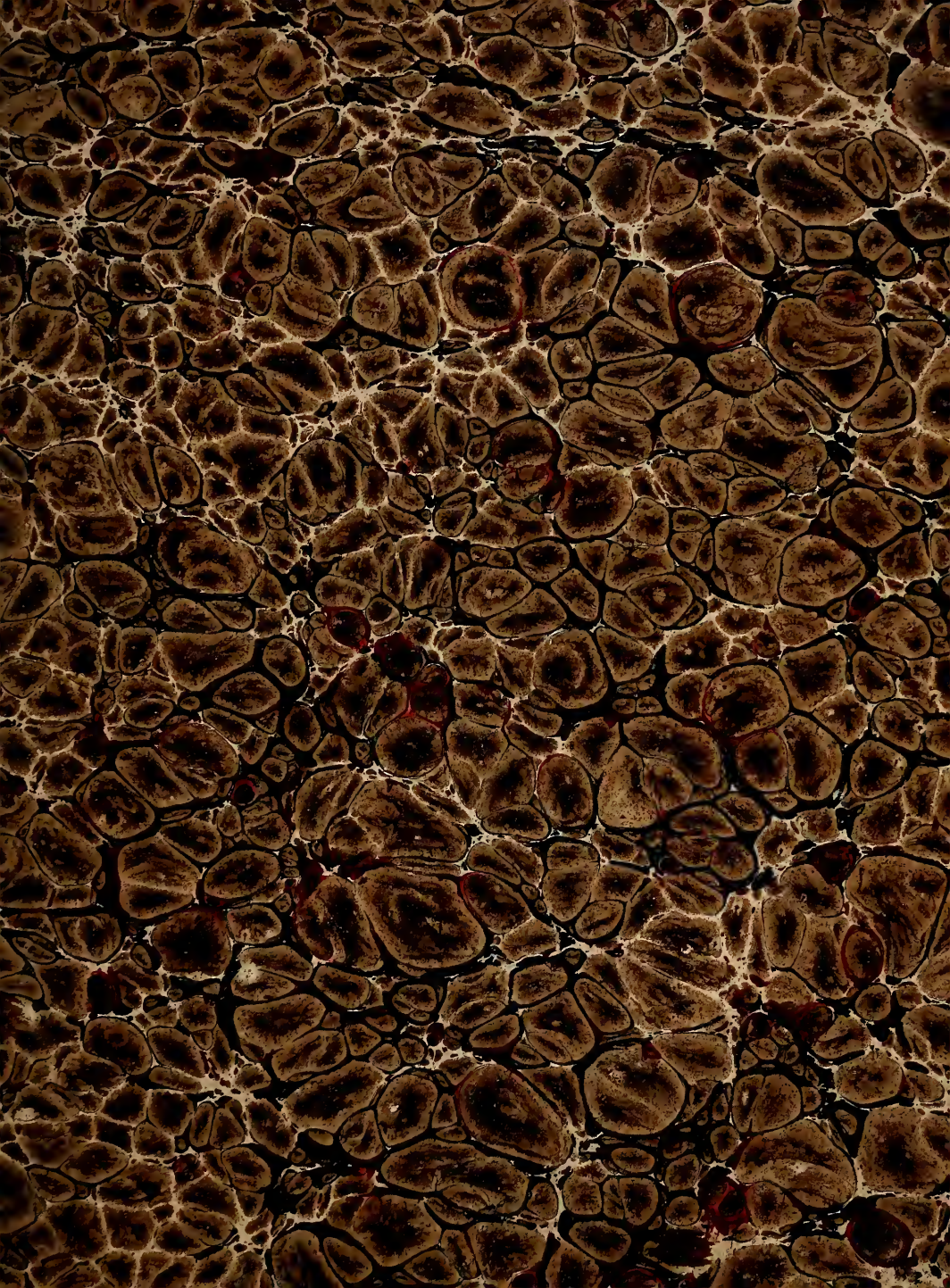
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