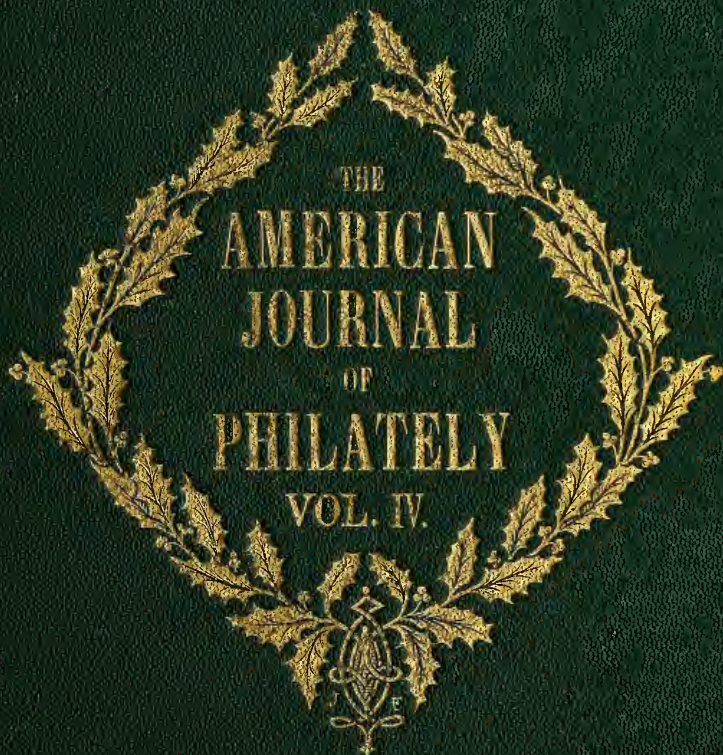


HE  
6187  
A4X  
NPM



THE  
AMERICAN  
JOURNAL  
OF  
PHILATELY  
VOL. IV.













THE

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY

*Illustrated with Colored Engravings.*

VOL.



IV.

NEW YORK:

J. W. SCOTT & CO., DEALERS IN FOREIGN POSTAGE STAMPS.  
75 & 77 NASSAU STREET.

MDCCLXXI.



# INDEX.

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

- American Express Co., 126  
 American Letter Mail Co., 20, 126  
 Angola, 97  
 Answers to Correspondence, 16, 28, 40, 52,  
 88, 100, 112, 124  
 Antiquia, 71,\*  
 Argentine Republic, 10,\*  
 Auction Sale, 112,  
 Austria, 82, 96  
 Azores, 82
- Bahamas, 70  
 Bavaria, 35,\* 119  
 Beer Stamps, 87  
 Belgium, 23  
 Blood D. O. & Co., 126  
 Blood's Dispatch, 127  
 Blood's One Cent Dispatch, 127  
 Blood's Paid Dispatch, 127  
 Blood's Penny Post, 127  
 Blood's Post Office Dispatch, 127  
 Blood's Dispatch for the Post Office, 127  
 Bolivia, 97  
 Boyd's City Express, 19, 97, 134, 137  
 Boyd's Postage Stamps, 97, 134, 137  
 Bouton's City Dispatch Post, 127  
 Bouton's Manhattan Express, 127  
 Brattleboro Stamp, The, 8\*  
 Brazil, 58, 82  
 British Columbia, 108  
 British Honor, 14  
 Burmah, 63  
 Brady & Co., Chicago Penny Post, 137  
 Brady & Co., one cent, 137  
 Brainard & Co., 138  
 Brooklyn City Express Post, 138  
 Brown & McGills U. S. P. O. 138
- Canada, 51, 71  
 Cape of Good Hope, 130  
 Carnes' City Letter Express, 19, 138  
 Ceylon, 108  
 City Dispatch Post, 126, 138  
 Clippings, 27, 51, 63, 87, 112, 134  
 Conveyance of Mails, 51  
 Confederate States Postal Service, Com-  
 mencement of the, 25  
 Correspondence, 16, 99, 134  
 Crosby's City Post, 70  
 Cundinamarca, 11\*  
 Curiosity Cabinet, The, 76  
 Carriers Dispatch, 138  
 Chicago Penny Post, 138  
 Cheever Towle, 138
- City Dispatch,  
 City Express Post, 138  
 Clark & Co., 138  
 Cornwell P. O. 138  
 Cumings City Post, 138  
 C. & W. Bridges Despatch, 138
- Danubian Steam Navigation Co., 97, 110  
 Deccan, 96\*  
 Denmark, 23,\* 34, 46,\* 71  
 Descriptive List of all Revenue Stamps, 12,  
 36, 47  
 Dupuy & Schenck, 139
- Ecuador, 35  
 Essex Letter Express, 79, 139  
 Extracts from the Post Office Report, 21
- Figi Islands, 24, 35, 46,\* 59, 129  
 Finland, 22, 46,\* 97  
 Foot Stamps, 88  
 France, 11,\* 119, 130  
 Fredericksburg Stamps, The, 69
- Germany, 70, 108, 130  
 Great Britain, 35  
 Greenville, 118\*  
 Guadaljara, 59  
 Guatamala, 51, 58  
 Gordon's City Express, 139  
 Grafflin's Dispatch, 130
- History of the Confederate States Post  
 Office, 72, 93, 103,\* 117\*  
 History of the United States Post Office, a  
 short, 5, 17, 29, 41, 53, 65, 77, 89, 101,\*  
 113  
 Holland, 23  
 Hong Kong, 130  
 Hoyt's Letter Express, 20, 139  
 Humbolds Express, 19, 139  
 Hungary, 59, 82, 96  
 Husseys' Express Stamps, 80, 139
- Italy, 140
- Japan, 81, 108,\* 119



Letter Express Free, 20  
Livingston, 118\*  
Livonia, 71  
Luxemburg, 35, 59  
Lyuehburgh, 76

*Masons' Coin and Stamp Collectors Magazine,*  
75

Match Stamps, 63, 44  
Mexico, 129  
Mobile, 119\*

New Foundland, 22\*  
New Granada, 10,\* 130  
New Haven, 59,\* 125\*  
Newly Issued Stamps, 10,\* 22,\* 34,\* 46,\*  
57,\* 70,\* 81,\* 96,\* 108,\* 119, 129

New Postal Envelope, A, 112  
New Zealand, 140  
New Providence, 97  
New South Wales, 64, 97  
New York P. O. 113  
New York Philatelic Society, The, 86  
Notes on the Stamps of New Granada, A  
Collectors, 83, 104, 130

Ocean Penny Postage, 64  
Origin of Post Paid Envelopes, 64  
Our Contemporaries, 75

*Philatelist, The* 75

Philadelphia, 125  
Phillipine Islands, 59  
Philatelic Literature of England and Amer-  
ica, 122, 127  
Pony Express, The, 61  
Portugal, 22,\* 35, 70  
Postal Difficulties in Paris, The Late, 38  
Postage Stamp Collecting, 49  
Prince Edward Island, 71  
Profits of the Stamp Trade in the U. S. 30

Proprietary Stamps, 12, 44  
Provisional U. S. 59,\* 113,\* 125  
Pern, 57\*

Reviews of Philatelic Publication, 21, 100  
Revenue Stamps of Nevada, The, 116  
Roumania, 24\*  
Russia, 23,\* 34, 45, 58, 70,\* 82,\* 130  
Russian Locals, 23,\* 34, 45,\* 58, 70,\* 82,\*

Sandwich Islands, 36, 59, 70\*  
Sarawak, 47  
Selection of an Album, On the, 120  
Sketches of little-known Stamp Countries,  
56

Spain, 10,\* 22, 71, 82  
Spanish West Indies, 22,\* 34  
*Stamp Collectors Guide, The,* 76  
*Stamp Collectors Magazine, The,* 76  
Stamp Stores, 87  
Steinmyers' City Post, 79  
St. Louis, 113\*  
St. Vincent, 108  
Swedea, 108  
Switzerland, 12,\* 46,\* 82\*  
South African Stamps, 16

Tasmania, 23,\* 71  
The Liverpool Locals, 88  
Tolima, 130  
Turkey, 36,\* 70

United States, 46, 70\*  
United States Provisional Stamps, 113,\* 125  
United States Locals, 19, 79, 97, 126, 134  
United States Envelopes, 89, 101\*

Victoria, 82, 96

Western Locals, List of, 108\*  
Winans, 19

THE  
**American Journal**  
OF  
**PHILATELY.**

---

A Short History of the United States Post Office.

*With a description of its various issues of Stamps.*

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

To the casual observer, the title of this article might prove a sign-board of warning not to enquire within; but we feel assured that notwithstanding the seeming dryness of the paper, the true philatelist, one who desires every information, will find in it pleasure and profit, and mayhap something new. The intention of the article is to give, first a short summary of the various workings of the department since its organization, some statistics, and a list of the gentlemen who have controlled and guided this vast machine. It is then proposed to give a correct account and history of every stamp and stamped envelope ever issued by the post office authorities, and we think we can describe a few varieties hitherto unknown to philatelists. Although, not rightly belonging to a history of United States stamps, we shall next take up the United States locals and provisionals, the Confederate stamps and give a description of many U. S. essays. This latter branch of philately has been increasing in popularity the past year, and it is believed, new impetus will be given to the collection of these beautiful objects of the engraver's art. Having unusual facilities for procuring essays, the list will be made as complete as possible.

In the English colonies, which subsequently became the United States, a postal system was inaugurated as early as 1692; but

owing to the spareness of the population, it was not fully organized till 1710. By an act of parliament of that year, the Postmaster General of the colonies was "to keep his chief letter office in New York, and other chief offices at some convenient place or places, in other of Her Majesty's provinces and colonies of America." The revenues derived, were for some years very small, not paying a moiety of the expense. In 1753, Benjamin Franklin was appointed Postmaster General for the colonies, and was guaranteed the sum of £600 per annum as salary for himself and assistants. He brought his well-known executive ability to the work of remodelling and extending the operations of the office, and in a few years largely increased its revenues. He surprised the people of the colonies in 1760, by proposing to run a stage mail wagon, from Philadelphia to Boston twice a week, starting from each city on Monday morning, and reaching its destination by Saturday night. This scheme was looked upon as absurd, and much opposition was made to it; doubtless by the ancestors of those of the present generation, who opposed the lighting of streets by gas, steam transportation and the electric telegraph. In 1774, while in England, Franklin was removed from office by the British government, in consequence of his exposure of the double dealing of Governor Hutchinson of Massachusetts, and his adherence to the cause of the colonies. In 1789, the United States constitution conferred upon Congress the exclusive control of postal matters for all the states; and Congress proceeded immediately upon the adoption of the constitution, to organize the post office department, and to pass the necessary laws for the protection of the mails, etc. In 1790, there were but 75 post office in the country, and the whole amount of postage received was \$37,935, yielding a net revenue of \$5,895 to the government. In, 1800, the number of offices had increased to 103.

In 1816 the rates were modified as follows; a single letter carried not over 30 miles,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  cents; over 30 and under 80, 10 cents; over 80 and under 150,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  cents; over 150 and under 400, 25 cents; and an additional rate for every additional piece of paper, and if the letter weighed an ounce, four times these rates. Newspapers, under 100 miles, or within the state where published, 1 cent; over 100 and out of the state,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cents; magazines and pamphlets,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cents per sheet, under 100 miles; if periodicals, over 100,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents per sheet; if not periodicals, 4 and 6 cents. As the facilities for transportation of the mails by steamboats, railroads, etc., increased, these high rates occasioned much dissatisfaction, and the law was being continually evaded in various ways, thus reducing the postal revenue. For several years large quantities of mail matter was



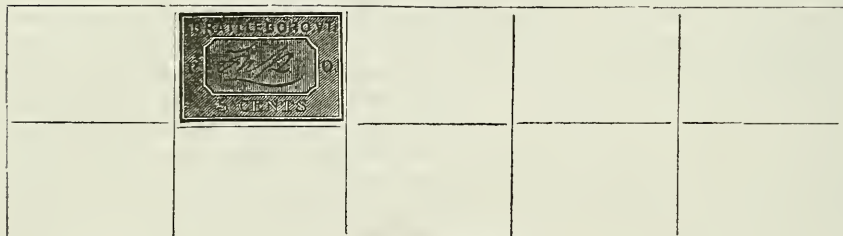
carried between the different cities of the Union by express companies, at a much lower rate than the Post Office charges. The revenue reached its highest point in 1840 and 1842, being, in the former year, \$4,539,265; and in the latter, \$4,546,246. From this point it receded. Even with this revenue the establishment did not pay expenses, there being a deficiency every year subsequent to 1837. The subject of a reduction of rates was continually broached in congress, and measures for that purpose were proposed by Mr. Edward Everett in 1836; but no well digested plan was brought forward. In 1843 the general discontent of the people on the subject was expressed in the form of resolutions by the legislature of several States, instructing their Senators and requesting their representatives in congress to take some measures for a reduction. Mr. C. A. Wickliffe, at that time Postmaster General, made some investigations in regard to the English system, and in an elaborate report advocated some reduction, but not a radical one, on the ground that the department would become a heavy charge upon the government if a large reduction was made. A bill was drafted reducing the rates to 5, 10, and 15 cents, for different distances; this bill passed the Senate, but was lost in the House; the next year it was again brought forward, but again failed. In the next congress a new bill was presented which became a law March 3d, 1845. Its rates were:—for a letter not exceeding  $\frac{1}{2}$  an ounce in weight, whether of one or more pieces of paper, under 300 miles, 5 cents; over 300, 10 cents; and an additional rate for every additional  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce or fraction of  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce. Advertised letters 2 cents additional; drop letters, 2 cents; circulars unsealed, 2 cents; pamphlets, magazines, &c., per ounce,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents; and each additional ounce 1 cent. Newspapers, under 30 miles, free; over 30 and under 100, or any distance within the state where published, 1 cent; over 100 and out of the state,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  cents. Carriage by express was prohibited, unless the postage was previously paid. In the next congress an effort was made to raise these rates, as the postal revenue did not defray expenses; it was unsuccessful in regard to letter postage; but transient newspapers were charged 3 cents, and prepayment required; the postage on circulars was raised to 3 cents; newspaper postage to Oregon and California, was figured at  $4\frac{1}{2}$  cents, and letter postage to the Pacific territories, via Chagres and Panama, at 40 cents.

In 1849 the postage in transient newspapers was reduced to ordinary newspaper rates, but prepayment still required. In 1851 another effort was made to raise the postage, which proved unsuccessful; but a law was passed establishing the following rates: for a single letter, if  $\frac{1}{2}$  ounce weight, under 3000 miles, if prepaid, 3

cts.; or if not prepaid, 5 cts.; over 3000 miles or under 6000, 12 cts.; to foreign countries not over 2,500 miles, except where postal arrangements have been made, 10 cents; over 2,500, 20 cents; drop letters, 1 cent; ship letters, 2 cents; or if delivered where deposited, 6 cents; if sent through the mails the ordinary postage is added. Weekly newspapers to actual subscribers in the county where published, free; under 50 miles and out of the county 5 cents per quarter, over 50 and under 300, 10 cents; over 300 and under a thousand, 15 cents; over 1,000 and under 2,000, 20 cents; over 2,000 and under 4,000, 25 cents; over 4,000, 30 cents. Monthly papers, quarter, and semi-monthly half these rates; semi-weekly, double; tri-weekly, treble; and oftener than tri-weekly, five times these rates; newspapers under 300 square miles, quarter these rates, if paid quarterly in advance, a deduction of one half these rates to be made.—  
*To be continued.*

## The Brattleboro' Stamp.

BY THE EDITOR.



Eng. by Tho's Chubbuck, Bratt'lo. \*

In the January number of Volume II of this paper, we gave the full history or all that was then known concerning the Brattleboro' stamp, but since then an American writer in the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* has thrown new light on the subject, which has opened the way for further discoveries, concerning this interesting stamp. The article in question is also valuable for pointing out some errors in Dr. Palmer's statement, which the writer erroneously attributes to Dr. Petrie, but unfortunately nearly all his own statements are incorrect.

Upon seeing the paper on the Brattleboro' stamp, in the *Stamp*

\* On the original the imprint is in small script, and does not extend over the length of the centre stamp.

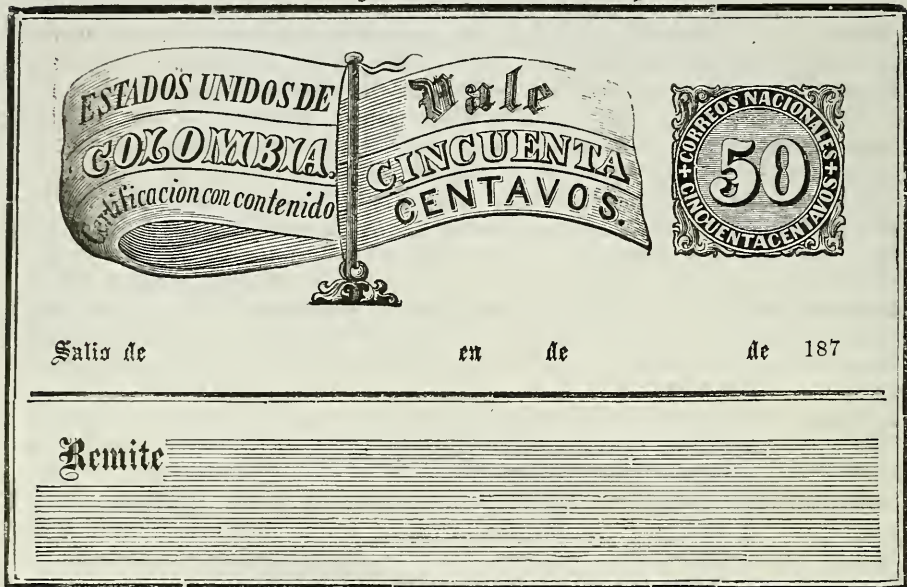


*Collector's Magazine*, in which the writer stated he had a sheet of seven varieties, our publishers being determined to secure the sheet at any cost, immediately wrote the possessor, offering to pay more than any one else whatever the price might be, but that gentleman having already given another party the refusal of them, at what he considered a high figure, they were compelled to purchase of the new owner, at four times the price the discoverer realized; directly upon seeing the sheet we were struck with the curious appearance of the engravers imprint, which instead of being at either end or in the middle, was under the second from the end, upon examining the back we clearly saw traces of the wafers mentioned in L. H. B's letter, of these there were one at each corner of the left hand and one above the stamp, that the imprint was under if the sheet had been stuck down in this way, the two right hand ones would have been loose and liable to turn up, which to say the least was a strange manner of fixing them in a book, these circumstances were sufficient evidence to us that the sheet had originally consisted of *ten varieties*, but we certainly should not have stated it here, unless we could prove it beyond doubt. The Brattleboro' in our own collection, which was obtained from one formed in New Brunswick, and was cancelled by a red ink penmark, was at once consulted, and was found to be *different to any on the sheet*, and to have a wide margin on the left end *which corresponded to the margin on three sides of the sheet*. Letters despatched to two collectors, who were known to have Brattleboro' cancelled by red, in a few days brought the desired stamps and also the owners. The stamps were placed together and found to fit exactly, each one being different. Photographs of the complete sheet was then taken (which by the way will be presented to any one who gets up a club of ten subscribers to the JOURNAL, and to *no* one else under any consideration), and the stamps distributed to their respective owners, in all probability never to be replaced.

A brief resume correcting former errors may not prove uninteresting to our reader.

The Brattleboro' stamp was issued by Dr. Frederick N. Palmer, in the latter part of 1846, and continued in use until the appearance of the government issue the following year, when the remainder of the stock was burnt up, and in our opinion, not ten per cent. of the amount printed were ever used. It was engraved by Thomas Chubbuck, (then of Brattleboro') on copper, the stamp being repeated ten times, making that number of varieties; there was printed 500 impressions of the plate (see page 136, Vol. III, JOURNAL,) which would give 5000 as the number of stamps printed.

## Newly Issued Stamps.



NEW GRANADA.—Above we give a representation of a late addition to this country's series of large adhesive vignettes. We also annex a representation of the new registered stamp that was described in our last number.



ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—The annexed engraving



purports to be the type of one of a series of envelope stamps prepared for this country, but as they are identical with a set of essays emanating from Paris some few years back, we consider it very doubtful if they are genuine.



SPAIN.—We have now to chronicle the issue of a new official stamp, which replaces the one figured on page 59 of our last volume. And also a newly discovered frank stamp issued as early as 1716, it was solely for official correspondence. We understand from the *Philatelist* that correspondence cards will shortly be issued.



CUNDINAMARCA.—We are now enabled to give engravings of the stamps issued by this state. The 10 centavos was noticed by us as far back as last August, but we have not heretofore had an opportunity of presenting their *fac-similies* to our readers.



HOLLAND.—We find we omitted to notice the emission of a new stamp of the arms series from our last number,

the color and value is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cents, violet. We learn from the *Philatelist*, on New Year's day, the uniform price of 5 cents for a single rate was introduced through the country. Post cards and newspaper band stamps, were also issued at the same time.

FRANCE.—The expected stamps of the republic have at length arrived, and if not the prettiest are certainly the most interesting stamps in our albums. What a tale of bloodshed and sorrow is told by these little labels, to us it is too sorrowful to contemplate, and as our business is simply to chronicle their issue, we leave our readers to meditate on the train of circumstances that led to their issue, while we announce the various varieties.



There appears to be two sets of these stamps which are easily identified by, the one being perforated, but close examination will show differences in execution and color. The finer set perforated are said to come from Paris, while the others are supposed to be prepared in Boulogne, we however give this statement for what it is worth, as we know it to be incorrect in some particulars, having seen a letter from Paris with a 40 centimes and two 20 centimes stamps and all unperforated. The set so far as we have seen consists of the following:—

#### UNPERFORATED.

1 centime, olive on green,	2 centimes, brown on straw.
4 “ grey on white,	5 “ green.
10 “ bistre,	20 “ blue.
40 “ deep orange,	80 “ carmine.

#### PERFORATED.

10 centimes, bistre,                      20 centimes, blue.  
The shades of color vary greatly in all the values.





SWITZERLAND.—RIGHI COULM.—We annex an engraving of a stamp purporting to have been issued by the Hotel here, for the same purposes as the Rigi-Kaltbad, the ground and flower is printed in rose, the central oval being blue, we put it in black, as till its authenticity is proven, we do not consider it worth the great expense necessary to give the correct color.

## A Descriptive List of all Revenue Stamps.

*Continued from page 139, Vol. III.*

- ALLEN, MRS. S. A. Female figure in oval. Long, 4 cents, black.
- AYER, J. C. & CO. Inscription. Very long. 1 cent, black.
- AYER, J. C. & CO. Inscription. Star. 4 cents, blue.
- BALM OF 1000 FLOWERS. Flowers in circle. Long, 2 cents, vermillion.
- BARNE, D. S. Head in circle. Long upright, increasing in length, with value of stamp. 1 cent, 2 cents and 4 cents, vermillion, 1 cent, 2 cents and 4 cents, black.
- BARNES, DEMAS. Same as last, with name altered. 1 cent, 2 cents and 4 cents, black.
- BARNES, DEMAS & CO. House in centre. Long. 1 cent, 2 cents, and 4 cents, black.
- BARRY'S, TRICOPHEROUS. Alchemist at work, 2 cents, green.
- BLOW, W. T. Eye in centre. Long, 1 cent, green.
- BRANDRETH PILLS. Arms in centre, 1 cent, black.
- BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES. Inscription. Long, 1 cent, black, 2 cents, green, 4 cents, brown.
- BROWN'S F. ESSENCE OF JAMAICA GINGER. Head Washington in small oval. Very large, 2 cents, black.
- BROWN'S VERMIFUGE COMFITS. Inscription 1 cent, black.
- BULL'S, DR. JOHN PREPARATIONS. Head in oval. Long upright, 1 cent, black, 4 cents, blue.
- CHEESEMAN'S, DR. PILLS. Female head. Long, 4 cents, green.
- CROOK'S, DR. WINE OF TAR. Sketch of the mode of manufacture in a pine forest. Long, 4 cents, black.
- DALLEY'S GALVANIC HORSE SALVE. Horses in pasture, large, 2 cents, green.
- DALLEY'S MAGICAL PAIN EXTRACTOR. Head in oval. Long, 1 cent, black.

- DAVIS, PERRY & SON. Monogram, 1 cent, blue, 2 cents, black, 4 cents, brown.
- DRAKE & CO. P. H. Bottle in centre, Long, 4 cents, black.
- DUPONCO'S PILLS. Female head. Long, 4 cents, black.
- FAHNESTOCK, B. A. VERMIFUGE. Eagle. Long, 1 cent, red.
- FOWLE, SETH W. & SON. Large figure in centre, 4 cents, black.
- HALL & RUCKLE. Eagle on globe, 1 cent, green, 3 cents, black.
- HALL'S HAIR RENEWER. Head in oval. Long, 4 cents, black.
- HELMBOLD'S GENUINE PREPARATIONS. Small figure on shield, 2 cents, blue, 3 cents, green, 4 cents, black, 6 cents, black.
- HENRY, JOHN F. Head in oval. Long upright, 1 cent, black, 2 cents, lake, 4 cents, bistre, 2 cents, blue, 4 cents vermillion.
- HERRICK'S PILLS & PLASTERS. Alchemist at work, 1 cent, red.
- HOLLOWAY'S PILLS & OINTMENT. Eagle in oval, Long, 1 cent, blue.
- HOSTETTER'S BITTERS. Head in oval. Very long, 4 cents and 6 cents, black.
- HUSBAND, T. J. Inscription, 2 cents, vermillion.
- HULL & CO. Head in oval, 1 cent, black.
- JAYNE, DR. D. & SON. House in oval. Long, 1 cent, blue, 2 cents, black, 4 cents, green.
- KELLY'S OLD CABINET BITTERS. Head in oval. Long upright, 4 cents, black.
- KENSETT, T. & CO. Basket of fruit, 1 cent, green.
- KENNEDY'S FAMILY MEDICINES. Head in oval, large, 2 cents, green.
- LAIRD'S BLOOM OF YOUTH. Female head in oval, in centre of label, 3 cents, black.
- LEE'S, CHARLES PILLS. Head in oval. Upright, 1 cent, blue.
- LITTLEFIELD, ALVAH. Monogram, 1 cent, black.
- MCLANE'S LIVER PILLS. Head Washington in oval. Long, 1 cent, black, 1 cent, blue.
- MCLANE'S LIVER PILLS. Smaller, 1 cent, black.
- MCLEAN DR. J. H. House, 1 cent, black.
- McMUNN'S ELIXIR OF OPIUM. Inscription. Long, 1 cent, green.
- MERCHANT'S GARGLING OIL. Horse. 1 cent, black, 2 cents, green.
- MERCUDO & SEULLY. M. & S. in centre. Long, 2 cents, black.
- MISHLER'S HERB BITTERS. Head in oval. Long, 4 cents, black.
- MISHLER'S HERB BITTERS. Different to last, 6 cents, black.
- MOREHEAD'S MAGNETIC PLASTER. Head in circle. Long 1 cent, black.
- PIERCE, R. V. Head in circle. Long upright, 2 cents, black.



POLAND'S, DR. J. W., WHITE PINE COMPOUND. Pine trees and deer. Long, 4 cents, black.

RADWAY & CO. R. R. R. in centre. Long, 2 cents, black.

RANDSOM, D & CO. Head in oval. 1 cent, blue, 2 cents, black.

RED JACKET BITTERS. Head in circle. Very long, 4 cents, black.

RED JACKET BITTERS. Different to last. Very long, 6 cents, black.

RING'S VEGETABLE AMBROSIA. Head in oval. Star, 4 cents, black.

RUSHES' MEDICINES. Inscription. 1 cent, green.

SCHENCK'S MANDRAKE PILLS. Two heads in ovals. Long, 1 cent, green, 6 cents, black.

SCOVILL, A. L. & CO. Female figure seated, 1 cent, black, 4 cents, green.

SOULE, DR, E. L. & CO., ORIENTAL PILLS. Inscription in centre of large wrapper, 1 cent, blue.

SWAIN'S PANACEA. Serpents. Large long, 8 cents, orange.

THOMPSON'S, DR. ISAAC, EYE WATER. Eye in oval, 1 cent, black.

UNITED STATES PROPRIETARY MEDICINE CO. House. Long, 4 cents, and 6 cents, black.

WALKER'S VINEGAR BITTERS. Head in oval. Long, 4 cents, black.

WILDER EDWARD. House. Oval, 1 cent, green, 4 cents, vermilion.

WINSLOW'S, MRS. SOOTHING SYRUP. Child in centre. Long, 1 cent, and 2 cents, black.

WRIGHT'S INDIAN PILLS. Head in oval. 1 cent, green.

WRIGHT, R. & G. A. Arms of Pennsylvania. 1 cent, blue, 2 cents, black, 3 cents, red, 4 cents, green.

---

## British Honor?

Leading British Philatelists have been greatly excited over the discovery of the 20 cent stamp of St. Louis, some doubted their genuineness, others believed in them. The doubters were perhaps justified in their opinions as the stamps had been issued about twenty-five years, and only just discovered; then again none of these stamps had ever been seen in England, and there the genuineness of a stamp is usually decided by the test of its being duplicated in the Philbrick collection, as it is not possible that there could be any old issue not to be found in the collection of this wealthy barrister.

Dr. Petrie wishing to help the science in Europe, wished the

writer to send the two copies in his collection, and with the Dr's one to be examined by one of the leading lights in England, but after due consideration could not trust his treasure with anyone in England, except Mr. Philbrick; our own experience was about the same as the doctors, but we had found two English dealers trustworthy, and one gentleman; but as he was the editor of a paper he could not be asked to write for any other periodical, for it must be understood that we were willing to do anything for the science, but were determined that every thing known about American stamps should be learnt from THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY; that European philatelists have long done this is admitted, but our readers will be surprised when we tell them *that not a single leading collector in England subscribes for it, but borrows it from our English exchanges and reads it regular every month*, this we can prove. We are happy to say, however, that we have many subscribers in England, but they do not belong to the class whose honor is called in question at the head of this article. To cut a long story short, Dr. Petrie sent his collection of St. Louis stamps to Mr. Philbrick, together with the borrowed 20 cent stamps; but upon his written word that he would write an article on them for this number of the paper. This paper was to be for exclusive publication in the JOURNAL. After these written assurances of his were received, the stamps were sent in plenty of time to get the promised article by the first of the month. About the tenth inst.,\* a registered letter, containing the stamps was received, (but if the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* had come to hand first we should never have expected them, for in our opinion any one who would *lie* would steal when they think it would pay them,) but Mr. Philbrick stated that he did not think he could write an article on the stamps that would suit the editor of this Journal, and admitted that he had showed them to Mr. Pemberton. When the above mentioned paper had come to hand, it was found to contain a two page article on the stamps of St. Louis.

We do not believe the editor of the *S. C. M.* was aware of these particulars, or he certainly would not have published the article. It is possible that Mr. Pemberton was not aware of Mr. Philbrick's contract. If he was not, he would do well to state the fact; but if this is a specimen of honor as practiced amongst the wealthy office holders of the English government, we shall blush to call ourselves a Briton, a name we have often been proud of.

---

\* To this is owing our late appearance, but as it is our first offence we hope our readers will excuse us.

## Correspondence.

### THE SOUTH AFRICAN STAMPS.

*To the Editor of "THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY."*

DEAR SIR,—My communication which you published in the "weekly edition" of your valuable paper, appears to have caused considerable commotion in Europe, at this I am not surprised, and should not have taken up my pen to reply to the "heavy letter" that Mr. W. D. Atlee addressed to an English paper, but that with vast ingenuity he transposes my initials to make them pass for an unfortunate American collector, whom he most likely has some grudge against. I am quite willing to leave the case as he states it, and, if after reading his letter (in which he almost admits prompting the P. M. to make the various varieties, &c., for the sake of a few aristocratic collectors,) American collectors do not refuse to admit such worthless trash into their albums, I am very much mistaken in the penetration of my countrymen. In conclusion I may add that sets of twelve varieties can be purchased here at 75 cents the set. Face value 4s. 4d. gold.

Yours truly,

F. K. WEIMER.

## Answers to Correspondents.

O. E. H. NEW HAVEN.—You commence by asking us to violate the postal laws of the country, to save you a three cent stamp. The receipt was returned unsigned accidentally. We never reply to letters that do not contain stamp for that purpose.

G. P. CATSKILL.—The reason of your not receiving the JOURNAL is because it was accidentally delayed. All the December numbers were sent before your subscription was received, we will however send you an extra number.

J. C. F. NEW YORK.—See answer to G. P.

COLLECTOR, BOSTON.—Wurtemberg is so spelled in our published albums, because it is the English way of spelling the name, it is of course written in German on the stamps of the country.

PHILATELIST, ST. LOUIS.—A complete descriptive catalogue is now in press, it will give you all the information you desire. The price we believe is 50 cents.

H. L. L. NEW ORLEANS.—There is a red 5 cent stamp of your city, although we have only seen one specimen.

E. E. M. TOLEDO.—We will consider your proposition, but scarcely think it would interest a sufficient number of our readers.

F. F. W. CLEVELAND.—Thanks for your kind wishes. Brazil issued stamps four years before the United States government.

H. A. PORTLAND.—The United States has issued more stamps than any other country, without counting locals.

L. E. S. NEW BRITAIN.—Scott's American Album is far superior to any imported. There will be a new edition out in a few weeks.



---

## A Short History of the United States Post Office.

*With a description of its various issues of Stamps.*

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

[Continued from page 8.]

Transient newspapers, circulars, and other printed matter 1 cent per ounce under 500 miles; over 500 and under 1,500, 2 cents; over 1,500 and under 2,500, 3 cents; under 3,500, 4 cents; over 3,500, 5 cents. Books under 32 ounces in weight, 1 cent per ounce, if prepaid; if not, 2 cents per ounce. In 1852 the following modifications were made. Letters sent over 300 miles and not prepaid, 10 cents postage, newspapers, circulars, &c., under 3 ounces, 1 cent; every additional ounce or fraction 1 cent; small newspapers and periodicals published monthly, or oftener, and pamphlets of not more than 16 octavo pages, sent in single packages, if not less than 8 ounces, prepaid,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cent per ounce; or if not prepaid 1 cent. Books bound or unbound, less than 4 lbs., under 3,000 miles, 1 cent per ounce; over 3,000, 2 cents per ounce; 50 per cent. added when not prepaid. By the Act of the same year, postage stamps and stamped envelopes were ordered. By a law passed March 3d, 1855, and taking effect July 1st of the same year, the rates on single inland letters were reduced to 3 cents for all distances under 3,000 miles, and 10 cents for all over that distance, and all inland letter postage was to be prepaid. The charge for advertising letters was reduced to 1 cent. The only modifications since made in the law are those of 1860, and a few others, establishing letter boxes on lamp-posts, &c., in cities, requiring all letters deposited in them to be prepaid with a penny stamp to defray the cost of their carriage to the post office, and reducing the carriers fee for the delivery of letters at their address to 1 cent per letter. This has since been altered as no charge is now made for collecting letters from the boxes. Various attempts have been made to abolish the franking privilege, but heretofore without success. The right to frank letters or documents of any size is now granted to the President, Ex-Presidents, the Vice-President, former Vice-Presidents, and the widows of Presidents Harrison and Polk, Members of Congress, and Delegates from Territories, from 30 days before the commencement of each Congress, until the 1st Monday in December, after the expiration of their term of office, and the Secretary of the Senate, and the Clerk of the House of Representatives, during their official term,

can send or receive frank letters weighing not over 2 ounces, or public documents weighing not over 3 lbs. The Governor of any State can send free the laws, records, and documents of the Legislature to, the Governors of other States. The Cabinet Officers and their Assistant Secretaries, the Commissioners of Offices, and Heads of Bureaus, the General in Chief and Adjutant-General and the Superintendent of the Coast Survey and his assistant, may send and receive free all official correspondence, but not their private letters or papers. The Chief Clerks in the departments may send free public official letters and documents. Deputy Postmasters can send free all letters and packages relating exclusively to the business of their respective offices; and those whose compensation did not exceed \$200 for the year ending June 30, 1846, also may send free all letters written by themselves, and receive free all letters addressed to them, not weighing over  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz. Exchange newspapers, magazines, etc., between editors, pass free. All publications entered for copyright, and which under the Act of 1840 are to be deposited in the library of Congress, pass free. Since the close of the war with Mexico, and the annexation of California, the transportation of the mails to the Pacific coast has greatly increased the expenditure of the Department, large subsidies having been paid, during a portion of the time, to the lines of steamships connecting with that coast, and of late many heavy sums for an overland mail. Of course the great Pacific R. R. has materially decreased the cost in that direction. Postal treaties have been concluded with most of the countries of Europe, and through them letters can be forwarded to nearly every part of the world. The maximum postage of a letter weighing  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz. to any known port is 50 cents; the usual rates range from 15 to 30 cts., to which is to be added, inland postage, unless the letter is sent direct from a seaport. Letters not prepaid, (except drop letters when prepayment is optional,) and letters advertised but not called for, and forwarded, after a sufficient time has elapsed, to the dead letter office of the Post office Department, and there opened, and if containing any money or valuables, the writers of the letters are notified, and the amount forwarded to them on application.—*To be continued.*

THE height of pugilistic sarcasm was reached the other day by Jem Mace, who, speaking of a rival accused of beating his wife, said: "What! him? He couldn't lick a postage-stamp."



## United States Local Stamps.

BY J. W. SCOTT.

*Continued from page 134, Vol. III.*

BOYD'S CITY EXPRESS, POST 2 CENTS. Eagle in oval, on plain ground. Eagle's head very thin. This variety was accidentally left out of our last list, and as it is not on the letter we are unable to determine the date, but believe it to be the earliest of the small ones.

WINANS' above, CENTS below, CITY to the left, and post on the right, flying bottle in centre, surrounded by stars and clouds. Black impression on colored paper, 2 cents, white, 10 cents, green. Black impression, on colored glazed paper, 5 cents, straw, 20 cents, vermilion.

These stamps are amongst the scarcest locals known, and for a long time we doubted the existence of authentic copies. The stamps from which this description is taken, was kindly sent us by Mr. Schoen, and were originally in the McCoy collection.

COUNTERFEIT 1st.—These are very good imitations, but the smoke from the neck of the bottle is too distinct, and the corners are finished off too clear, they can, however, easily be distinguished by the following *Test*,—twenty-seven stars are depicted on this counterfeit, in the genuine there are only nineteen.

COUNTERFEIT 2d.—This is not as good an imitation as the preceding one, the bottle not being shaded, and the lettering is not the same, a different style of figure having been used. *Test*—only thirteen stars are found on this variety.

HUMBOLDT'S EXPRESS NEVADA TERRITORY above 25 CENTS, to  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz., ENCLOSED IN OUR FRANKS. LANGTON & Co. Four horse stage in centre, 25 in upper corners. Colored impression, 25 cents brown.

COUNTERFEIT 1st.—This is a very poor imitation and can easily be distinguished from the genuine by the rudeness of the engraving. *Test*.—The lettering of the original is in a groundwork of very fine horizontal lines, but they are scarcely noticeable. In the counterfeit they are very heavy. The mountains in the original are very indistinct, in the counterfeit they are as plain and prominent as the stage and horses.

COUNTERFEIT 2d.—This is a trifle nearer than the last, but still very poor. The *tests* given for the last will apply to this also.

CARNES CITY LETTER EXPRESS enclosing bear in tranverse oval. It is printed from electrotypes of a wood cut. It was used in San Francisco, but we have no means of ascertaining the date of issue.

One we have in our own collection, showing the edge of the sheet has the following imprint, 'S. E. cor. Sans'e and Wash'n. There is a variety of this stamp which has had the word *CARNES* erased, the proprietor having most likely sold out to another party. Both varieties are very scarce, the latter one has not been counterfeited so far, but most likely will be as soon as these lines are published.

COUNTERFEIT.—This is a very fine imitation, and although there are many differences discernable, the following point is the only one distinct enough for a *Test*.—The shading in front of the bear is composed of four lines reaching from it, to near the edge of the oval, and are all above its paw. In the counterfeit the shading is connected with that under the bear, and each line is shorter as it nears the head.

AMERICAN LETTER MAIL Co. surrounding eagle in centre. This stamp was fully described on page 33, Vol. I, of Journal, but since then some old copies have been found printed in blue, these are however extremely scarce.

HOYT'S *Letter Express*. To Rochester. in type border, and same style type as printed. Black impression on vermilion paper, small rect..

This is an extremely scarce stamp, and was used in 1844. We lately found three on some old letters, and amongst them there was one variety caused by the word *letter* being spelt *letter*. They are very scarce, and have never been counterfeited.

LETTER EXPRESS FREE, 20 FOR 1.00, enclosing figure of commerce seated on bales of merchandise, with ship to the left. Black impression on colored paper, pink green.

These stamps (like most locals) are very scarce, they were used in 1844.

COUNTERFEIT 1st.—Like the last is not easily described, but may be known by this *Test*. In the genuine the foot of the figure shows, although very indistinct, whereas in the counterfeit there is not the least sign of one. The streamer from the ship is waved in the genuine, in the counterfeit it is much thicker and simply curved.

COUNTERFEIT 2d.—A slightly better imitation than the last. *Test*—streamer touches the head of the figure. In the genuine it does not. No foot showing.

---

OUR article on revenues is crowded out of this number, it will however be continued in the next, and those issued by California will be described.

## Reviews of Philatelic Publications.

*Scott's American Postage Stamp Album.* By J. WALTER SCOTT. Fourth Edition. Thoroughly revised and enlarged. New York, J. W. Scott & Co.

Again we call our readers attention to this favorite album, which has been, as the title says, "thoroughly revised and enlarged," pages having been prepared for the new U. S. envelopes, Alsace, and Lorraine, &c.

To point out all the excellences of the book would be useless, as former editions have been described at length, and even if these had not been seen the many thousands of copies of the album which are in the hands of collectors throughout the length and breadth of the land, makes it very doubtful if there is a collector in the United States who has not had an opportunity of examining it, we shall, therefore, only point out the principal improvements, and chief of these is the superior quality of the paper used for this edition, which is extra thick and well sized, having been specially made for it by the Griswold Paper Co. The binding of the low priced ones is also greatly improved, and the name has been repeated on the back in handsome gold letters. In opening the book, however, we miss the red border and initial letters which gave a very fine appearance to last edition, but this one fault or omission has been amply counter-balanced by the additional care taken with the press-work throughout the book.

---

## Extracts from the Post Office Report.

The very interesting report of Postmaster General Creswell exhibits the growth of the postal system in this country, which has kept far in advance of the growth of population and wealth. In the first year of Washington's Administration 300,000 letters were carried 350,000 miles. In the first year of Grant's, 590,000,000 letters were carried 97,000,000 miles. Then there was no railway no ocean steamer service, no telegraph; rates of postage were high and service was uncertain, irregular, and unfrequent.

Mr. Creswell recommends the readjustment of compensation given to railroads for mail carriage, and of the arrangements by which mails are transported. Now the mails are carried to suit the convenience of the railways and not that of the public. The matter needs a thorough reformation. Now newspapers mails often accumulate at certain points, to the great damage and detriment of publishers and readers.

## Newly Issued Stamps.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—We are now enabled to present to our readers a *fac-simile* of the new type prepared for this colony. The stamps were fully described in the November number.



SPANISH WEST INDIES.—As usual, commence the new year with a new set of postage stamps, and this time we have a decided change, both in design and monetary value. The figure we take to represent Liberty holding out the olive branch of peace to the world.

PORTUGAL.—A new set of stamps have just made their appearance for this country, and although very similar, are a decided improvement on the last series, the head as usual is in relief. Only three values have so far come to hand, the colors and values are as follows—  
5 reis, black, 10 reis, yellow, 25 reis, rose.



ALSACE AND LORRAINE.—We have lately received two new values of this series. The design is the same as the preceding ones, the colors and values are:—5 centimes, green, 25 centimes, brown.

SPAIN.—It was at first supposed that the new issue for this country would be of the same design as that chosen for the colonies, but it now appears that they will be adorned by King Amadeus' profile.

FINLAND.—M. Moens reports the interesting discovery of a lost pair of early emitted envelope impressions of this country; being of the type of 1850, on thin bluish paper. They are, 5 kopecks, indigo; and 10 kopecks, pink. There is a series of them in the valuable collection of a French gentleman, now residing in Brussels. Being cut square, there is only circumstantial evidence of their precise nature; but an exhaustive amount of proof is afforded of their having originally existed on the flaps of their respective envelopes, in the manner of the 1845 issue. The whole of these resuscitations bear the Wibourg postmark, a solitary one being dated 1857; the rest 1858.—*The Philatelist*.



**TASMANIA.**—The name Van Dieman's Land is apparently laid aside for ever, as the new set of postals which have been issued for this island, have Tasmania on all the values, thus saving us the annoyance of explaining that the 1d, 2d, and 4d, were issued by the same country as the 6d and 1s stamps, which we have had to do hundreds of times, through the different names used on the last issue. The new design of which we annex an engraving, has a very pleasing appearance, and is superior to anything heretofore used in the colony. The colors and values are as follows :

1 penny, red.	4 pence, blue.
2 pence, green.	10 pence, black.

**DENMARK HOLTE.**—We annex an engraving of a local stamp, used in the town of Holte and surrounding district, it represents an extra charge for the delivery of letters. We are told that it has been in circulation for two years past, but it seems very strange that it has only just been discovered, especially when we consider that the town in which it is said to be in use is only six miles from the capitol.



**RUSSIA BELOZERSK.**—We annex an engraving of the local for this town. It was fully described in the October number of this Journal. It should be remembered that the color is black, on a ground of red lines; we, however, print it all in the former color, as it would scarcely pay for the expense of making the two engravings.



**HOLLAND.**—The arms series is now completed by the emission of one of the value of a  $\frac{1}{2}$  cent, the color is redish brown. Further description is unnecessary, as we present our readers with one of them with this number of the Journal.

**BELGIUM.**—This country has followed its neighbor's lead, in the act, if not in the idea of emitting post-cards. The law ordaining their issue was dated the 15th May last, but a change having taken place lately in the government, the new minister felt it his duty to raise certain objections to the design for the card approved by his predecessor, and hence arose a delay in executing the law. However, the cards are at length in circulation; they are of yellowish tint, and bear a brown impression from the 5 centimes die (arms), a circumstance which astonishes our friend M. Moens, who argues that as the arms series is consecrated to the prepayment of newspapers, &c., a "head" stamp ought to have been apposed on

these cards, which, in fact, are intended for written correspondence.

The Belgian cards will have a more limited circulation than those of any other country, as they can only be used for communications addressed to persons within the postal district in which they originate; if they are sent to persons out of that district they are considered as letters, and require the addition of a 5 centimes adhesive, to render the prepayment complete; if this stamp is not added, the card is charged for on delivery as an insufficiently stamped letter. When, however, an amount has to be claimed on delivery, the card must first be put in an envelope by the postal official, and the reason is a curious one. "Pending the issue of official cards," says M. Moens, "the public, who desired to turn to account, without delay, the privilege accorded by the law of the 15th May, 1870, which said 'that the cards should be issued within six months from the promulgation of the law,' put in circulation cards of all shapes. Among the specimens which have been submitted to us, there are some very extraordinary ones: thus, we find an invitation to the last Ghemar fete, serving, thanks to a written inscription, as an invitation to dinner. There were also ball-tickets visiting-cards, and commercial address-cards, which, by the simple application of a five-centime stamp, and the naive inscription 'Carte-correspondance' were utilized in the legal sense. They were at first distributed without any extra charge, then double the rate of an ordinary letter was required, because the cards had not been issued by the post." To this demand the public replied by reading the contents of the cards, and then returning them to the postman without paying the charge; it is to this practice that we owe the 7th article of the ministerial decree, ordaining that insufficiently prepaid cards shall be put in envelopes before being tendered to the recipients.

Beside the impression from the five-cent die, the post-card bears in its centre the national arms, surrounded by a crown, and on either side are placed allegorical figures, representing industry, commerce, &c., &c., the design is completed by inscriptions in Flemish and French, describing the use and value of the cards.—*The Stamp Collectors Magazine.*

FIGI ISLANDS.—The last Australian mail bought a specimen of a stamp in use in these island, it is oblong, printed in black on white, inscribed, FIGI ISLAND POSTAGE, SIXPENCE, similar to the letter-press stamps in use in the Sandwich Islands.—*The Philatelist*

## Commencement of the Confederate Postal Service.

The following interesting clippings were kindly sent us by an esteemed correspondent.

May 25th 1861.

The *New Orleans Picayune*, says :

"One week hence, there will not be any available mode of letter or newspaper express, or telegraphic communication between the Confederate and the United States. Our post-master has announced his determination to assume the discharge of the duties of his office, on the first day of June. From that date all existing U. S. Mail contracts, so far as we are concerned, will have been annulled. Meantime the Washington administration adopt the same policy, and to make intercourse thoroughly impossible, prohibit express companies from carrying express matter, inclusive of letters across the Potomac River."

May 27, 1861.

The *Boston Transcript* of this date publishes the following:

"Post Master General Blair has issued the following order. 'All postal service in the Southern States will be suspended from and after the 31st inst. Letters for offices temporarily closed by this order, will be forwarded to the dead letter office, except those for Western Virginia which will be sent to Wheeling.'"

June 7th, 1861.

The *New York Herald* of this date publishes the following order, of the Post-Master General of the Southern Confederacy, by which the post-masters throughout the Rebel States, are ordered to *retain* the stamps, locks, etc., of the various offices, the property of the United States.

Circ. No. 4.

Confederate States of America,

P. O. Department,

Montgomery.

May 20th, 1861.

SIR:—You are hereby instructed, as the postal service of the United States, within the Confederate States, will be suspended on and after the first day of June next, to retain in your possession; subject to the further order of this department, for the benefit of the Confederate States, all mail bags, locks, keys, marking and other stamps, and all other property belonging to, or connected with, the postal service, and to return, forthwith, to the chief of the appointment bureau of this department, a full inventory of the same.

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN H. REAGAN,

P. M. Gen.

To ———, Esq.

P. M. at ———.

July 30th, 1861.

The following order was made by the Post Office department for the execution of the law respecting soldiers letters.

"Post-Masters, at or near any camp or point occupied by the United States forces, will mail without prepayment of postage, any letter written by a soldier in the service of the United States, and certified to be such by the Major or acting Major of the regiment to which the writer is attached. The envelope should have plainly stamped or written on its face this certificate "Soldier's Letter," signed in writing by the Major or acting Major of the regiment, describing his regiment by its number and its State. The postage due on such letters will be collected at the office of delivery. Commissioned officers will prepay their letters as heretofore."

JOHN A. KASSON, 1st Ass. P. M. Gen.

June 22d, 1861

The *Buffalo Express* of this date published the following:

'Mail communication with the South. Arrangements have been made, by which letters can be safely forwarded to, and received from the Southern States. The following is the plan to get a letter to New Orleans, it must be put in a U. S. stamped envelope (an ordinary three cent stamp on a plain envelope will not do, because the law of congress prevents express companies from carrying letters in any other way than when enclosed in a stamped envelope.) The letter should then be directed in the following manner.

Mr. \_\_\_\_\_,  
New Orleans,  
Louisiana.

Enclose the letter in another envelope with 20 cents worth of United States government stamps, and direct as follows:

American Letter Express Co.,  
Louisville,  
Kentucky.

This must be paid with one or two three-cent stamps, according to weight. The twenty cents worth of postage stamps pays ten cents to the express company for their trouble, and enables them to pay the bogus Confederate postage, which is 10 cents from Louisville to New Orleans, the distance being over 500 miles; but if the letter be intended for a point distant of Louisville by less than 500 miles, than the Confederate postage will be but five cents. It is understood this arrangement has been entered into, with the knowledge and consent of Post-Master General Blair, and if properly carried out, as we have no doubt it will be, must prove a great benefit to the people of both sections of the Union

August 26, 1861.

At this date the following order was issued by P. M. Gen. Blair,  
which prohibited express companies from forwarding letters  
to the Confederate States. P. O. D.

"The President of the United States directs that his proclamation of the 16th inst., interdicting commercial intercourse with the so-called Confederate States, shall be applied to correspondence with these states, and has devolved upon this department, the enforcement of so much of his interdict, as relates to such correspondence. The officers and agents of this department will, therefore, without further notice, lose no time in putting an end to written intercourse with the Confederate States, by causing the arrest of any express agents or other persons, who shall, after the promulgation of this order, receive letters to be carried to or from these states, and will seize all such letters and forward them to this department."

Oct. 19th, 1861.

M, BLAIR, P. M. Gen.

The *Richmond Examiner* of this date published the following

"The first of the new Confederate postal stamps were issued on the 18th of October, and were eagerly bought up. The new stamp is green, with a lithographic likeness of President Davis, within a double oval border, surmounted with the inscription 'Confederate States of America.' Outside the circle and at the head of the stamp is the word 'postage,' and at the lower edge its denomination, 'Five cents.'"



In the "Memphis Appeal" for the same day, is an announcement that "a private post, under the superintendance of Mr. Antonio Costa, will take charge of letters for Europe and places out of the United States. The mails will leave every two weeks, on the 10th and 25th of each month, and the postage will be, to Mexico, 50 cents, to Cuba, 75 cents, and to Europe, one dollar."

The *Washington Republican* gives the following as a plan resorted to, with success by the rebels in lower Maryland, in communication with their friends across the Potomac.

"A large kite is made, and instead of paper, is covered with oiled silk, so as to render it impervious to water. The tail is formed by folding letters or newspapers together, and tying them with a loop knot. When the tail is as heavy as the kite can bear conveniently, a cord, long enough to reach about two-thirds of the way across the river, is attached and the kite raised in the air. After the kite has exhausted the string, or has reached a sufficient height, the cord is cut, and the concern gradually descending, is borne by the breeze to the Virginia shore, where the letters are taken off by those in waiting, and new ones tied on in their stead. With the first favorable wind, back comes the kite to the Maryland shore and *vice-versa*."

The following is the superscription of a letter that passed through the Louisville post office:

"Feds. and Confeds., let this go free,  
Down to Nashville, Tennessee;  
This three cents stamp will pay the cost,  
Until you find Sophia Yost,  
Postmasters, north or even south,  
May open and find out the truth  
I merely say my wife's got well,  
And has a baby, cross as

The *New York World* of July 15th, 1862, has the following:

In consequence of the difficulty of procuring small change, caused by the premium on specie, postage stamps are spoken of as a substitute.

---

## Clippings.

AN English paper tells the following with reference to the new open postal cards: "The Germans have their postal cards as well as we, and abuse the new institution in about the same manner. At Dresden a gentleman received a card some weeks ago, conveying the following message: 'I lost my purse yesterday at the Elabe baths, with three Napoleons in it. I dropped it close to the water-mark, where it must lie still. As you are a diver, pray go a bathing with me this evening at 6.' The gentleman kept the appointment, and was surprised to see two or three postmen go into the baths just before him. Having undressed he went out to the platform, and there his astonishment increased; for, in spite of the unusual hour, there were numbers of men there, some of whom it needed not the sight of the post-office uniforms in the undressing rooms to proclaim post-office clerks, for they were well-known

faces from the receiving counters. They all kept near the watermark, a place generally very little frequented, and took uncommon long dives. The writer of the card was sitting at a little distance, evidently enjoying the sight. As the disappointed clerks returned from their aquatic search they found an inscription in chalk on the door: "Strict secrecy observed with regard to all postal communications." It was only then that they perceived that had been made the butt of a joke."

STAMPS ARE VERY NECESSARY in commercial matters, legal form, &c., and some very trivial transaction require one: even a black-beetle should have a stamp.—Many receipts and other matters are not recognised without a stamp; and some women and children recognise husband and father by his stamp.—When a man makes a will it must have a stamp; and some persons, when they can't have their will, get into a passion, and then they stamp.—There are persons who collect, for some curious purpose or other, used or worn stamps. Now, if these indefatigable collectors were to go to many of the cheap theatres they would assuredly find plenty of worn stamps on the gallery stairs.—Although a paid bill should be stamped when it is receipted, it is not necessary that an old cane chair should be stamped on when that is reseatd.—*Fun.*

---

### Answers to Correspondence.

D. W. J., Newburgh.—Subscription for E. W. received; accept our best thanks for interesting yourself to obtain subscribers for THE JOURNAL.

B. Mc E. W., City.—Your No. 1 is rather an uncommon shade. No. 2 has most likely had the color discharged by some chemical. No. 3 and 4 are some of the first issued; at first, all the 1870 issue of U. S. stamps had the rectangular embossment. No. 5 is very curious. It is a 3 cent stamp of the 1870 issue U. S., which, owing to the paper folding over in printing, has only the lower part colored, and as you say the most curious part of it is that it passed the post. Thanks for your Clippings, which you will find in the present number. Stamps returned by mail.

W. D. M. B., New Edinburgh.—You omitted to send the postage; 25 cents please remit.

L. L. R. Norwalk.—Lallier's Album has places for a few revenues of each country, but they are mixed up with the postage stamps, and quite spoil the book if that were possible.

## A Short History of the United States Post Office.

*With a description of its various issues of Stamps.*

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

[Continued from page 17.]

One of the greatest improvements in the post office department, was the establishment of the postal money order system, during the administration of the Hon. William Dennison, Postmaster General, by an Act of Congress, approved May 17th, 1864, authorising the Postmaster General to establish, "under such rules and regulations as he may find expedient and necessary, a uniform money order system at all post offices, which he may deem suitable therefor," the system to be put in operation during fiscal year ending June 30th, 1865. The plan was accordingly commenced, and 140 money order offices established. Although it may seem almost superfluous to give an explanation of the peculiar workings of this institution, some of our foreign readers may perhaps require it, and we therefore insert here the official description.

"The mode by which safety in the transfer of money is secured, consists in leaving out of the order the name of the payer, or the party for whom the money is intended. In this respect, the money order differs from an ordinary bank draft or check. When a money order is applied for, the postmaster will furnish the applicant with a printed form of application, in which the latter will enter all particulars of amount, name, address, etc., required to be stated in the money order and advice. From the items contained in such application, the postmaster will fill up the money order, and also the corresponding form of advice. The order, when completed, is handed to the applicant, upon payment of the sum expressed therein, and of the fee chargeable thereon. By mail immediately following the issue of a money order, the postmaster transmits the corresponding advice to the postmaster at the office upon which it is drawn. The latter is thus furnished, before the order can be itself presented, with the necessary information to detect fraud if any should be attempted. A money order is rendered invalid unless it is presented to the postmaster on whom it is drawn, within ninety days from its date; but the Postmaster General can issue a new order on the application of the payer,

upon the payment of a second fee. The same course is to be pursued should the order be lost. In this case, the payer is to furnish a statement, under oath, that the order has been lost or destroyed, accompanied by the certificate of the postmaster that it has not been paid, and will not be paid if thereafter presented. The payer may transfer his order to another party by his endorsement to that effect; but more than one endorsement is prohibited." To show the great advantage of this system, as a matter of convenience and usefulness, would state that in 1865 no less than \$403,776.80 was sent home by union soldiers to their families and friends. The total number of orders issued up to the close of the first year of the system was 72,277, amounting to \$1,360,112.52. At the close of the year 1869, the number had been increased to 1,685, the number of orders drawn 1,264,143, representing a value of \$24,848,058.93. It will require but a glance at these figures to see that the system is gaining steadily in popularity, and no doubt will continue so to do. The fees charged are very small, and within the reach of the poorest purse, as only 10 cents is charged for an order not exceeding \$20, and so on in proportion. The highest limit of amount to be sent, is fixed at \$50. This system is almost perfect as far as reliability from loss is concerned, for in 1869, only six money orders were forged.

A few stamp statistics, and we pass to a list of the different Postmasters General. "During the three years which commenced on the 1st of July, 1851, and ended on the 30th of June, 1854, the department issued 166,126,417 postage stamps, and 25,076,456 stamped envelopes, amounting in the aggregate to \$5,507,022.03, of which 92½ per cent were sold.

*To be continued.*

---

## The Profits of the Stamp Trade in the U. S.

BY C. P. S.

Perhaps there is no part of a stamp dealer's business more incorrectly estimated by collectors than his profits. These are usually believed to be something enormous, being set down by the uninitiated at from 500 to 1000 per cent., and while admitting that the profits of some persons who call themselves dealers may reach that figure, still, amongst *bona fide* traders in stamps, they seldom reach one-tenth of the lowest-named figure.



Before we commence to discuss the subject of our title, we may as well call our reader's attention to the fact that, there has never been more than seven persons or firms in the U. S. who made the sale of stamps their business; and at the present time there are only five firms who give their principal attention to this business. This will surprise many of our readers, who are ready to declare that they have traded with double that number in as many months, and have seen the advertisements of as many more; but do they know the persons who inserted the advertisement? Nothing can be easier to start than the stamp business, all the capital required being from 50 to 75 cents. to put a five line advertisement in some amateur paper, and either pocket the funds derived from the investment, or else to send about 10 cents of the dollar to some dealer for a few stamps, and then supply their customer. There is one way of carrying on trade as a stamp dealer. Others will perhaps have \$15, half of which they will spend in some nice note headings and advertisements, the balance in stamps, genuine or counterfeit, as the honesty of the person dictates. Again, there is another class of persons who wish to get a good collection of stamps, but have not the means to do so, they purchase packets of some respectable dealer, keep those they require for their own collection, and sell the balance for all they can get. Then there are boys that have left school, and are employed to run errands, or as clerks in the different cities. these advertise and use their employers post office boxes to transact their business in, some of these steal all the money sent, others send counterfeit stamps for the money they receive (which amounts to the same thing), and others buy what stamps they can from the boys, for little or nothing, and sell them again for what they can get. All these classes make from 500 to 1000 per cent. profit on their transactions; but they are seldom of long duration, as those who carry on business honestly, either get disgusted with it, or being good boys, get advanced in their situations, and then give up the business for want of time. The dishonest ones, if they do not find out that "honesty is the best policy," (which is seldom the case) are compelled to relinquish their evil ways, by their parents or employers. It is owing to this class of people that the stamp business is looked down on by a large part of the community, and mistrusted by those who, from their distance from large cities, are compelled to purchase stamps by mail. We were lately shown several amusing letters by a large house engaged in this business, from which we make the following extracts:

DEAR SIR,

I received the stamps that I ordered the other day, and was very glad to get them. I did not expect to get anything, for most dealers steal the boy's money. . . .

GENTLEMEN,

Please send me your catalogue, send it by return mail, as I want to buy some stamps of you before you burst up. . . .

This is from a boy whose letter was delayed three days:

SIR,

Do you think you can steal my money because I haven't got a father; but I can just tell you you cant, for I have been played that trick two or three times before, and if you don't send me the stamps or money by return mail, I'll tell every boy in the school that you are a thief.

These extracts will show some of the mischief done by these boys; but they have also caused many to give up their collections, on finding the stamps they had bought of these boys all counterfeit, became disgusted with collecting; others whom they have tempted to them large amounts, on the promise of receiving enormous discount, and then stealing the money, have left off collecting, or sold their collections, in disgust with stamps, and anything connected with them, and many have been deterred from commencing a collection, on seeing the great cost of it, owing to the enormous profits made by these boys, who call themselves dealers.

We will now turn to the legitimate dealers, and consider the profits made by them, of course the prices charged by different firms vary, but still the difference is very slight. It will be remembered in the first part of this article, that we stated there were five dealers; but of these five, there are only two that have over ten thousand dollars invested in the business; the others carrying a stock of from one to two thousand dollars. To carry out our argument, we will confine ourselves to noticing the two largest firms, as of course they make the largest profits, from the fact of being enabled to purchase in larger quantities.

These large dealers have agents to purchase their stock in different parts of the world, but these have to be paid; and if all the capital of the stamp trade of the world was invested in one firm, it would not pay to keep a person in every country that issues stamps. One of these dealers, in purchasing new stamps, would buy from one to five hundred dollars of a kind at a time, this is of course a small amount in comparison to the amounts invested in one of line goods by a merchant in any other business, and consequently the stamp dealer has to pay higher commissions, 25 per cent. being about the most favorable terms on which he can purchase: but if there is any difficulty in procuring the stamps at the post offices, he often has to pay 50 to 100 per cent. over the face value. To this we must add exchange and freight, which is about one thousand per cent more than the dry goods dealer pays. because being in small parcels, rarely exceeding two square feet in dimension, they have to be sent by express at high rates. Express companies often charging higher for small parcels than letter

postage. Take for instance the stamps of Canada, there is about as much profit made on these as anything. The set sells for 80 cents, currency. they actually cost the American dealer 56 cents, which may be divided thus: 41 cents, gold, 45 cents, currency; commission for purchasing at 25 per cent, with freight and insurance on money sent--say 11 cents, this is calculating everything at the very lowest cost; but these figures only leave the dealer 30 per cent. profit. Some of our readers may think that this is pretty large. Let us see what are the profits realised in other businesses. Stationers make one-third on book. and about one hundred and fifty per cent. on note paper, etc., but how different the two trades are conducted. The stationer can at any time purchase any goods he desires, to sell at the above profits; the stamp dealer has no wholesale house where he can get his stamps; clean ones in present use, he can of course get by waiting from two weeks to three months; for cancelled stamps, he has to trust to luck entirely, for however dealers may advertise themselves as wholesale and retail, it is simply nonsense; no dealer or any combination of dealers can fill 25 per cent. of an order, such as would be given by a person wishing a good stock of stamps. This is a great disadvantage, if a firm wish to keep up their stock, they must keep an enormous stock, and buy every stamp that is out of use that comes along, for if they do not purchase when they have the chance, when they are in need of any particular stamp, they cannot obtain them. Again, a customer goes into a booksellers and asks for anything he may desire, pays for it and leaves. whereas there is not 10 per cent. of those who enter a stamp dealer's store, have any idea of what they want. "They want to see some stamps," and it is nearly as much pleasure to them to look over the stamps as to buy them, hence it is a safe calculation to say that it takes an hour to sell one dollar's worth of stamps, and as a salesman cannot wait on and answer the questions of over three at one, a large number of hands have to be employed, and large stores occupied to accommodate the customers; and as these have to be in good locations, one thousand per year is about the lowest rent paid, some paying double that figure.

We think if any one will consider the above, they will come to the conclusion that stamp dealers do not make such large profits after all, and will join us in the opinion that, taken altogether, considering the difficulty of obtaining stock, and the class of people who disgrace the business, and are able to make as good a show in the country as the richest dealers, that it is the most tiresome and poorest paying business in which a man can invest his money.



## Newly Issued Stamps.

ROUMANIA.—The government of this country is evidently ambitious of excelling some of its central American contemporaries, in the frequency of its postal emissions, it being only three months since we noted the emission of a newspaper wrapper but ere many of our readers had time to procure a copy, it was numbered with the past, and superseded by one



of the annexed design, for what reason we are unable to say; but if we did not know to the contrary, should have supposed that Prince Charles had carried into effect his oft repeated threat of abdicating, as the profile has not the slightest resemblance to that on its predecessor. The 1869 series are also replaced with a new set, which will only consist of three values. The colors and values are as follows—

5 bani, scarlet, 10 bani, yellow, 25 bani, brown.

Newspaper wrapper size  $1\frac{3}{4}$  by  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches, blue on yellow.

CUBA.—The new set of stamps for the "The Ever Faithful Isle," the style of which we gave in an excellent wood cut last month, are now in active use. The colors are all very delicate and harmonize well with the design, and in our opinion are an improvement on all preseding issues of the country. The colors and values are as follows.

12 c. d. peseta, lilac. 25 c. d. peseta, blue.

50 " " green, 1 peseta, brown.

DENMARK.—The two-colored set, the forerunner of which was given on page 106, Vol. III, of the "JOURNAL," has now been completed by the emission of the following values. They are all printed with brilliant centres and frames of a fine neutral tint, and make perhaps the most attractive set in our albums.

2 skillings, blue centre, frame, slate.

3 " " purple " "

4 " " carmine " "

8 " " brown " "

16 " " green " "

48 " " violet " brown.

RUSSIA—*Longa*.—We are indebted to Mr. Durbin for a sight of a new local for this district. The design which is embossed in white on blue ground, consists of a crowned shield, having a wolf



under a tree in its upper, and what appear to be mortar and pestle in the lower half. This is enclosed in an oval, the inscription reads VILLAGE POST OF LONGA DISTRICT. The value is 5 kopecks, but it is not indicated on the stamp. They appear to be stamped out oval, and issued to the public singly, similar to the Egyptian official stamps.

GREAT BRITAIN.—The first issued size of the newspaper wrapper is obsolete, and three new sizes are now in use. We have also to note a variety that will be more likely to be recognized by American collectors, namely, the circles which were formerly filled with numerals, indicating the date of issue, are now occupied by an heraldic rose.

PORTUGAL.—The values noted last month are now joined by a 50 reis, green, of the same type.

LUXEMBURG.—On the exhaustion of the current 2, 30 and 37½ centimes, they will be suppressed, and new ones of higher values to any heretofore employed, issued to make up the old number.

FIJI ISLANDS.—In last month's *Philatelist*, we noticed a description of a stamp purporting to be from these islands; we waited a month in the hopes that something more might have been discovered concerning them; but as nothing new has turned up, we give their description of this (if genuine) interesting stamp. 'The last Australian mail brought a specimen of a stamp in use in these islands; it is oblong, printed in black on white, inscribed FIJI ISLANDS POSTAGE, SIXPENCE, similar to the letter press stamps in use in the Sandwich Islands.'

BAVARIA—*Regensburg*.—Having lately received a few sheets of these stamps, we are enabled to give the following particulars. They are printed in sheets of 30 stamps, six by five. They are type set, and it appears that the printers letters had run out when he got half way through, as we notice in the sixteenth, he had to commence and end RETOURBRIEF with letters of a different font. Other mistakes of this kind will be recognised by those who have the time and opportunity to look for them. The following, however, are the principal varieties: tenth stamp. no period after "Regensburg," eighth "Oberpostamt" instead of OBERPOSTAMT, twenty-first. "Rotourbrief" instead of RETOURBRIEF.

ECUADOR.—We have lately seen a stamp we take to be a Humbug, purporting to emanate from this republic; the color is ochre, the value 8 reals.

**Retourbrief,**

Kgl. Oberpostamt

**Regensburg.**

TURKEY.—We annex an engraving of a stamp we take to be a bare-faced impostor. It is claimed to be an adhesive, to superceed the circular hand-stamped, Turkish newspaper stamp; but it is evidently the work of the same thief who invented the Clara Rothe concern.



Most likely, owing to the siege of Paris, the designer could get no new design, or perhaps the issue of the bombardment prevented him thinking of anything original.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.—These islands have issued a new set of postage stamps. The denominations are one, six and eighteen cents. The one cent is violet colored, with a vignette of the late Princess Victoria Kamamalu; the six-cent stamp is green, with the likeness of his Majesty the King, and the eighteen cent is pink, with the likeness of his late Highness M. Kekuanaoa. They are all, the Honolulu *Gazette* says, most perfect likenesses.

## A Descriptive List of all Revenue Stamps.

*Continued from page 14.*

Revenue stamps issued by different states for various purposes of state taxation.

### CALIFORNIA.

#### BILL OF LADING.

Value of shipment with amount of tax thereon, in white on colored octagon, BILL OF LADING in curved line above, number below; in straight line enclosed in circular frame, inscribed CALIFORNIA STATE TAX. Red impression on thin bluish paper, circular.

\$100,	First,	Second,	Third and Fourth,	30 cents.
200,	"	"	"	40 "
500,	"	"	"	1,00 "
1000,	"	"	"	2.00 "
2000,	"	"	"	4.00 "
5000,	"	"	"	10.00 "
10000,	"	"	"	20.00 "
20000,	"	"	"	40.00 "

#### EXCHANGE.

Amount of Bill with tax thereon, in white on colored octagon. EXCHANGE in curved line above, number below, in straight line

enclosed in circular frame, inscribed CALIFORNIA STATE TAX. Blue impression, circular.

Above \$100 to \$150, 30 cents, second.

Same as last. Red imp., circ.

Above \$20	to \$50,	8 cents,	First,	Second,	Third.
50	100,	20	"	"	"
100	150,	30	"	"	"
150	200,	40	"	"	"
200	300,	60	"	"	"
300	400,	80	"	"	"
400	500,	100	"	"	"
500	750,	140	"	"	"
750	1000,	200	"	"	"
1000	1500,	300	"	"	"
1500	2000,	400	"	"	"
2000	3000,	600	"	"	"
3000	4000,	800	"	"	"
4000	5000,	1000	"	"	"
7000	10000,	2000	"	"	"
10000	15000,	3000	"	"	"

Same as last issue, with EXCHANGE and number in open letters. Red imp., circ.

The stamps are of the same values and number as the preceding issue, so it is useless to repeat them.

#### INSURANCE.

Same as last, with INSURANCE in solid letters in place of EXCHANGE. Red imp., circ.

Above \$150 to \$200, 20 cents.

"	400	500,	50	"
"	750	1000,	100	"
"	1000	1500,	150	"
"	1500	2000,	200	"
"	4000	10000,	500	"

#### GENERAL ISSUE.

Figure of value in oval on various pattern groundwork, CALIFORNIA above, STATE REVENUE below in curved lines, value in words at sides, and in figures in circles in each corner. Col. imp., rect.

4 cents, orange-yellow.

8 " brown

10 " blue

15 " blue

20 " brown

30 " rose

40 cents,	rose
50 "	violet, yellow, brown
60 "	rose
70 "	orange, brown
80 "	rose
1 dollar,	violet, yellow
1 "	50 cents, green
2 dollars,	violet
3 "	rose, blue
4 "	rose, green
5 "	rose
6 "	rose
10 "	violet, brown
20 "	rose
28 "	violet
45 "	violet

## LOUISIANA.

## LOTTERY STAMP.

Pelican feeding its young, in oval, AUDITOR above, LOTTERY STAMP below in curved lines, CENTS on each side, value in ovals in corners. Col. imp., rect.

7½ cents, green.

## NEVADA.

## STATE REVENUE.

Numeral in oval, on various groundwork, NEVADA above, STATE REVENUE below, in curved lines, numerals in corners. Col. imp., rect.

2 cents, orange, 4 cents, rose, 5 cents, green, 10 cents, blue, 25 cents, vermilion, 50 cents, purple, 1 dollar, rose.

---

## The Late Postal Difficulties in Paris.

At 3 o'clock p. m., on the 18th September, 1870, the last mail-train from Paris was dispatched by the Western Line. The day after the blockade was complete. In twenty-four hours the German armies had surrounded Paris with their iron circle, and during four and a-half months the postal administration had to employ every artifice and exercise their inventive powers to the utmost, to evade the watchfulness of the Germans.

A few days before the investment, the prefect of the Nord and the president of the chamber of commerce of Lille, had the happy



forethought to send 900 pigeons to Paris, belonging to various amateur clubs at Roubaix and Turcoing,

Everybody had heard that the carrier-pigeons, which had their pigeon houses in Paris, were taken out by the balloons, and let loose in the provinces, whence they brought news. But it was carefully concealed that reverse service was carried on also by means of the pigeons from Roubaix and Turcoing, which were dispatched from the Jardin des Plantes, where they were kept. The balloons sufficed to carry out the whole of the correspondence from Paris, so that the pigeons were reserved for the special services of the government dispatches when the winds were unfavourable.

But the return letters presented the great difficulty. Out of about 200 pigeons carried into the country by the balloons (99 since the beginning of December), only 73 returned to the dove-cot; and out of this number, five had no dispatches; three of them bore the celebrated apocryphal dispatches of the German; and ten merely brought the intelligence of the descent of the balloons which took them out.

In presence of so poor a result, the Post-office resorted to the antiquated system of pedestrians. As early as the 23rd September they had endeavoured to hide the letters for the country under the hay and contents of the market-gardeners' carts; but not one of these carts were able to get through. The pedestrians were a little more fortunate; between the 20th September and the 30th October, after which date the Post-office discontinued the attempt, 85 messengers were dispatched. Out of this number nine were made prisoners; one was arrested and afterwards liberated, one disappeared, one arrived, at Tours without dispatches, where also one of the nine prisoners arrived, having made his escape. Five only were able to deliver their correspondence, and out of these two only succeeded in re-entering with correspondence. All the rest after attempting to pass by all the localities round Paris, and by every point of the compass, were obliged to retrace their steps before the string of sentinels who intercepted their way. An investment so absolute, around an area so large, is a fact which is the astonishment of every one who has the smallest notion of military science.

It was necessary to have recourse to other means. One way naturally presented itself, the Seine. It was tempting to think that the peaceable current of the river would bring us news of our families under the very noses of the Prussians. But the enemy who had the wit to mount guns on carriages jointed like the foot of a telescope to reach the balloons, who had prepared falcons and hawks to chase the pigeons, took good care not to forget the river,

and nets barred the course of it. The best intentions of the Post Office were in consequence completely paralysed; nothing could escape the watch of the German Argus.

On the 6th December an agreement was concluded with M. M. Venoven, Delort and Robert, for conveyance to Paris of photographed dispatches enclosed in small hollow floating balls. Great were the hopes;—the delegation had even prepared at the end of December a decree fixing the rules for this correspondence,—but the balls were waited for in vain, they never arrived. Another inventor proposed to substitute corks, of which there are always so many floating down the Seine, but it does not appear to have been tried. Still, it offered some little chance of success. The enemy might have disdained to fish up the rubbish it saw every day.

They passed in the air,—they endeavored to pass by land,—on the water, under the water;—they even endeavored to pass *under-ground*, for messengers offered to try to escape by the catacombs; but not one was able to pass, and one met with a horrible death, engulfed in the mud.

When man failed, they tried the animals; after the birds they tried the beasts. M. Hurel engaged that he would send in shepherd dogs well used to find their way. Five of these dogs were sent out on the 13th January by balloon, but not one returned; perhaps the Prussians, or the franc-tieurs, or the mobiles, have transformed the poor dogs into *gigots!*—*The Philatelist.*

### Answers to Correspondence.

B. W. GENEVA.—Your remittance pays for five numbers. We do not take subscriptions for less than one year.

M. E. S. BINGHAMPTON.—Some of the Hamburg locals were used for a short time by a private letter-carrying company in Hamburg. When they discontinued the business, the plates were sold to a dealer, who reprinted the stamps in a variety of colors and added new designs of his own. These are the ones sold by respectable dealers; the large quantity sold, induced certain New England dealers to counterfeit them, they are, however, poorly executed, and are easily distinguished from the original. The best are little better than humbugs; but the American counterfeits of them are perfect trash.

L. C., Covington, Ky.—The stamps you describe, are the common French stamps, and were never used in the "French West Indies." You will be led into many errors if you take Appleton's Album for a guide, it is the worst published. The arms series of Holland stamps are as follows:  $\frac{1}{2}$  cent, brown, 1 cent, green, 1 cent, black,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pink, 2 yellow,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  violet.

The third stamp you describe, is one of the French colonies.

## A Short History of the United States Post Office.

*With a description of its various issues of Stamps.*

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

[Continued from page 30.]

We could here give, were it deemed necessary, a list, stating how many of every kind of stamp and stamped envelope, have been issued; but will content ourselves by mentioning that in 1869, the issues of stamps were as follows:

Postage stamps, 420,896,540, representing \$12,706,220.  
 Periodical stamps, 150,920, representing \$16,348,00.  
 Stamped envelopes, plain, 46,265,750, representing \$1,332,862.50.  
 Stamped envelopes, request, 31,814,100, representing \$950,726.00.  
 Newspaper wrappers, 3,595,250, representing \$71,905.00, amounting in all to \$15,078,061.50.

We now give a list of the different gentlemen who have been at the head of the post office department, since it has been the "United States Post office, and have endeavored to name some of the most important improvements and changes made in their several administrations. At the head of the list, pre-eminent, stands the name of that sterling old patriot—

Samuel Osgood, Mass., September 26th, 1789.  
 Timothy Pickering, Mass., November 7th, 1791.  
 Jos. Habersham, Ga., February 25th, 1795.  
 Gideon Granger, Conn., Jan. 26th, 1802.  
 R. J. Meigs, Ohio, March 17th, 1814.  
 Jno. McLean, Ohio, December 9th, 1823.  
 William T. Barry, Ky., March 9th, 1829.  
 Amos Kendall, Ky., May 1st, 1835.  
 J. M. Niles, Md., May 25th, 1840.  
 Francis Granger, March 6th, 1841.  
 Chas. A. Wickliff, Ky., September 13th, 1841.  
 Cave Johnson, Tenn. March 5th, 1845.  
 Jacob Collomer, Vt., March 7th, 1849.  
 NOTE.—Stamps were ordered and issued.  
 Nathan K. Hall, N. J., July 20th, 1850.  
 S. D. Hubbard, Conn., September 14th, 1852.  
 Jas. Campbell, Pa., March 7th, 1853.

NOTE.—Stamped envelopes first used. Registration of letters advised, and plan carried into effect. Money order system proposed. New Postal Treaty with Great Britain.



Aaron V. Brown, Tenn., March, 1857.

NOTE.—Attention of Congress called to necessity for Money Order system.

Sub. Post Offices established.

Chorpenning Claim revived.

Postal Treaty with France ratified.

“ “ “ Hamburg made.

Jos. Holt, Ky., March, 1859.

NOTE.—Legally decided that the carrying of mail matter by penny posts was inadmissible according to law of March 2nd, 1827.

Postmaster General acknowledges that the registration system is a failure, a fact which the public at large had recognized some years before.

Defalcation of Isaac V. Fowler, Postmaster of New York City. Amount appropriated \$179,947.67.

Postal treaty between United States and Belgium, Bremen.

Montgomery Blair, Md., March, 1861.

New stamps issued this year. Postal treaty made with Prussia. Great international Postal Conference took place in Paris, May 11th, 1863. The United States were represented by the Hon. Mr. Kasson, M. C.

Wm. Dennison, Ohio, October 1st, 1864.

Railway post offices established. Postal treaties established between United States Bremen and Hamburg. Postal Money Order system commenced.

Alex. W. Randall, Wis., July 24th, 1866.

Postal treaty made with Italy, China, etc. Postal telegraph recommended. Property purchased in Boston for new post office. Trials in chancery in the Dominion of Canada to receiver. \$10,500 worth of U. S. stamps stolen from the ship “Electric Spark,” by the Confederate cruiser “Florida,” decided in favor of the U. S.

John A. J. Creswell, Md., March 5th, 1869.

New set of stamps issued, beautiful and appropriate in design, but not favorably received by the people. Failure with the postal treaty with France. Reduction of postage to Great Britain. Money Order system established between Switzerland and United States. Head and bust series of stamps issued in 1870.

One of the most interesting departments of the post office, is the Dead letter office, to this office are sent all letters that cannot be delivered from whatever cause. Every possible means is taken to find out the owners of these letters, and should they still remain on hand after a certain time, they are carefully opened, and if articles of value, however trifling, are found within, they are placed away, in anticipation of an owner turning up. After a sufficient time has elapsed without a reclamation, they become the property of the government, and are sold. During the year 1869, 3,952,862 dead letters were received at the post office. The amount of money deposited in the treasury from these letters, was \$14,585.63, and \$2,067.05 for the waste paper. I cannot ascertain positively when this department was first organized. I have thus far endeavored to give concisely and accurately, a condensed history of our Post office. I am well aware that many of our readers will think it dull and uninteresting, but as it is most intimately connected with the study of Philately, I have been tempted to give it, avoiding as much as possible facts of little importance. Had it been deemed necessary by the editor of this JOURNAL, a whole year would have barely sufficed to furnish all the facts in my possession. We shall



now give a full description of all the United States stamps and stamped envelopes ever issued, which may be relied upon, as it has been carefully compiled from the records of the post office department, to whose gentlemanly and urbane officers. I hold myself indebted.

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS.

O, upright oval.	W. L. P., white laid paper.
OO, horizontal oval.	B. L. P., buff laid paper.
OOO, circle.	Y. L. P., yellow laid paper.
R R, rectangular.	Ty., typographed.
S, square,	C. P., copper plate.
Ob., oblong.	L. t. L., looking to left.
Per., perforated so many to an inch.	J. t. R., looking to right.
P. C., printed in color.	R., on right upper corner of envelope.
W. P., white paper.	L., on left of triangle.
L. P., laid paper.	W. R., in white relief.
M. P., machine made paper.	

## OBSOLETE STAMPS.

1847, July 1st.

5 cents, brown.

Head of Franklin, L. t. L., frame O. (U.) in upper left corner, (S.) in the upper right corner, post office in a curve between these letters. Five in large Arabic number in each lower corner. (Five cents) in a curve between the numbers. Scroll work underlying design, C. greyish W. P., C. P., R. R., Letters R. W. J. & C. in outer margin.

1847, July 1st.

10 cents, black.

Head of Washington L. t. R. Frame O. (U.) in the upper left corner. (S.) in upper right corner, (Post office) in a corner between these letters. Ten in large Roman number in each lower corner. (Ten cents) in a corner between the numbers. Scroll work underlying design. C. bluish, W. P., O. P., R. R. Letters R. W. H. & E. on centre margin.

NOTE.—Suppressed between 11th June and 30th of September, 1851, on account of the reduction in the rate of postage.

*(To be continued.)*

## Proprietary Stamps.

BY TRAVELLER.

The collection of proprietary stamps is a branch of philately that, in my opinion, has not received the attention it merits : but while advocating the gathering of these beautiful and interesting labels. I wish my younger readers to understand that I do not advise them to be kept with their postage stamps, as that forms a mongrel jumble, unintelligible and uninteresting, and unless arranged with great neatness and taste, is positively ugly ; but even a moderately complete collection of postage or revenue stamps, kept separate, are both interesting and instructive.

Some of the principal advantages proprietary labels possess over postage stamps, may be enumerated as follows: First, a complete collection does not number over four hundred specimens, and the highest price asked for the scarcest ones, do not exceed one dollar, and the majority can be purchased at from three to five cents; but any person in the country can obtain the greater part of them at the expense of a few stamps and the trouble of writing a few letters. But this is not the greatest advantage offered. In collecting postal, no amount of care, time and diligence will procure a complete collection, without a large expenditure of money, and the collector in moderate circumstances is annoyed by seeing the collections of his richer friends surpass his own, although they may not have expended one quarter the labor on their albums. But in collecting proprietary stamps, the case is entirely reversed, for these can only be obtained by diligent search, and nearly anyone who will give the time to it, may procure stamps, that it is next to impossible to duplicate, and those wealthy amateurs cannot control, for as they only sell for small sums, dealers will not take the pains to procure them as they seldom care to hunt up scarce stamps for anyone that they can only sell for a few cents when found. when with less trouble they can sell him fifty dollars worth of postage stamps. Another item in their favor, and I am done. Proprietary labels are, as a rule, much more handsome than postage stamps. There are many beautiful designs figured on the latter, I am willing to admit ; but what postage stamp can equal in beauty Dally two cent stamp. The issues of Greenleaf, Pierce, Orono, Excelsior, Curtis, and dozens of others I might name. To show the popularity, this new branch of philately (or "side show," as it has been termed by a well-known American philatelist) has attained since the first publication of an article on the subject in these pages, lists of the stamps known to the editor have been published in every American paper.

I had almost omitted to mention another claim these stamps have on American collectors, they are an everlasting memento of

the late war, as but for it they would never have been issued, and they give conclusive evidence of the strait for want of money the government was put to when they had to levy a tax of one cent per hundred on matches, and even tax the medicines that are supposed to cure suffering humanity.

As I have many stamps in my collection that have not been heretofore catalogued, I annex a list of all that have not been given in these pages, and hope the subscribers to this JOURNAL will prevail on the editor to give a monthly notice of all newly issued and discovered revenue stamps, the same as he now does for postal emissions.

#### MATCHES.

American Match Co., Eagle, 1 cent, black, 1 cent, green.  
 Barber, O. C., Head in circle, very long, 3 cents, black.  
 Beut and Lea, Arm with torch, 1 cent, black.  
 Brown and Durling, Head, 1 cent, black, 1 cent, green.  
 Curtis, W. D., Deer and tree, diamond, 1 cent, green.  
 Doolittle, W. E., Head, oblong, 1 cent, blue.  
 Orono Match Co., Pine tree, 1 cent, blue.

#### MEDICINES.

Brown, Dr. C. F., Man holding horse, 1 cent, blue.  
 Burnett & Co., Female on horseback, 4 cents, black.  
 Collins Brothers, Head, oblong, 1 cent, black.  
 Davis, Perry & Co., Monogram, 2 cents, brown.  
 Drake, P. H. & Co., Bottle in centre, long, 2 cents, black.  
 Robacks, Dr. O. M., large figure of man, colored wrapper, 1 cent yellow, 1 cent, black.

#### PLAYING CARDS.

Goodall, Charles, Playing cards, 5 cents, black.

#### CORRECTION.

In the list of Match Stamps that appeared in the paper, the following correction should be made.

In place of Baner, George and O. C., read Barber, George and O. C. In place of Barber and Baudel, read Banner and Beudel.

In the *Curiosity Cabinet* list, A. Littlefield's Stamp is classed with the Match Stamps, it should have been medicine Zisemann Griesheim Stamps are both of the value of 1 cent.

The following gentlemen deny having issued more Stamps than have been noted here :—Demas Barnes, Bousfield & Poole, and Joseph Burnett & Co.

## Newly Issued Stamps.

FINLAND.—*Helsingfors*.—We annex an engraving of a stamp



lately issued by this town, to supersede the brown and blue that has done duty here for the last three years. It will be noticed that they have gone back to their national colors. We also give a copy of a stamp that was discovered last year. It is supposed to be an early issue



for this town, but nothing positive is known about it.

RUSSIA.—*Longa*.—We annex an engraving of the local for this district that was described in last month's paper.



DENMARK.—The new set of postals issued by Denmark are to be accompanied by official stamps of the annexed design. Our engraving is taken from a proof and is found in blue, green, rose, brown and lilac. The blank space below is evidently intended for the value, but it has not yet been decided on. We hope to be able to give fuller information in our next.



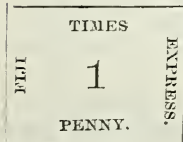
UNITED STATES.—The seven cent stamp described in the August number of the "JOURNAL" has at length made its appearance. The design conforms to the present set, the profile as before stated, being that of Stanton; the color is vermilion.

SWITZERLAND.—The Swiss Government has issued a frank stamp for the use of the soldiers of Bourbaki's army, kept prisoners in Switzerland. The design consists of a simple inscription, which tells its own tale.

Militaires Français  
internes en Suisse.

Gratis.

FIJI ISLANDS.—The representative of these islands, which was



described in our last number, is now joined by a new value, which is represented in the annexed cut. It is printed in black, on thin rose-tinted paper and roulette perforated. We obtain our information from *The Philatelist*.



SARAWAK.—The solitary individual that has heretofore represented this country is now replaced by one of the same color, bearing the head of the present rajah to the left.

---

## A Descriptive List of all Revenue Stamps,

(Continued from page 38.)

### ALABAMA.

Copy of the State Seal. inscribed ALABAMA TAX ON SALES. Col. imp. rect.

1 dollar red, 2 dollars green.

### CANADA.

#### BILL STAMPS.

##### *First Issue.*

Diademed profile of Victoria to left in oval frame, inscribed BILL STAMP, CANADA, value below in straight line, numerals of value in upper corners. Col. imp. rect.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 cents blue.

Same design, large size. 1, 2 and 3 dollars blue.

Diademed profile of Victoria to left in octagonal frame, inscribed BILL STAMP, CANADA, value below in straight line, numerals of value in upper corners. Col. imp. rect.

10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 cents blue.

##### *Second Issue.*

Diademed profile of Victoria to left in oval, CANADA BILL STAMP above, value below, numerals of value on lower angles. Col. imp. rect.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 cents vermilion.

Diademed profile of Victoria to left in octagon, BILL STAMP above, CANADA below, value in straight line at bottom, numerals of value in upper corner. Col. imp. rect.

10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 cents, blue 30 cents, vermilion.

Diademed profile of Victoria to left in circle, inscribed BILL STAMP, CANADA, value below, numerals of value in upper corner. Col. imp. rect.

1 dollar green frame, vermilion centre ; 1 dollar vermilion frame, green centre ; 2 dollars vermilion frame, violet centre ; 3 dollars vermilion frame, blue centre.

*Third Series.*

Portrait of Queen Victoria in widow's weeds, CANADA above, BILL STAMP below, value at bottom, numerals of value in upper corner. Col. imp. rect.

1 cent brown, 2 orange, 3 green, 4 brown, 5 orange, 6 green, 7 orange, 8 brown, 9 green.

Portrait of Queen Victoria in widow's weeds in circle, CANADA BILL STAMP above, value below, numerals of value in lower angles. Col. imp. rect.

10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 cents blue.

Portrait of Queen Victoria in widow's weeds in circle, inscribed CANADA BILL STAMP, value below, numerals of value in upper corner. Col. imp. rect.

1 dollar black centre, blue frame; 2 dollars black centre, vermilion frame; 3 dollars black centre, green frame.

## LAW STAMPS.

Figure of Justice in centre, LAW STAMP on the right, CANADA on the left, value above and below, numerals of value in upper corners, surcharged above, with initials of use in large Roman letters. Col. imp. large rect.

Surcharged L. C. in vermilion.

10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80 and 90 cents green; 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 dollars green, with black centre.

Surcharged L. S. in yellow; 50 cents green.

Surcharged, L. S. in vermilion, 50 cents green.

Surcharged C. F. in blue, 50 cents green.

Surcharged F. F. in yellow, 30 cents green.

\* \* \* There are, doubtless, complete series of each value surcharged, with the following letters: C. F., F. F., L. C., L. S., S., S. C.

## REGISTRATION STAMPS.

Numeral of value on ground of engine turned work in circle inscribed REGISTRATION, LOWER CANADA; CENTS below, leaves in upper, beavers in lower corner. Col. imp. rect.

5, 15 and 30 cents vermilion.

## NOVA SCOTIA.

The last issue of CANADA BILL STAMPS surcharged N. S., above the value on all except the 1, 2 and 3 dollars, in which values it is above the word CANADA. Col. Imp. rect.

1 cent brown, 2 orange, 3 green, 4 brown, 5, orange, 6 green, 7 orange, 8 brown, 9 green. 10, 20, 30, 40 and 50 blue 11 do blue and black, 2 vermilion and black, 3 green and black.

## Postage Stamp Collecting.

One of the things I could and never can thoroughly understand is the passion that inspires some people in the collection of matters utterly worthless in themselves, and of no conceivable value as works of art or curiosity. For instance, the desire to gather together old postage stamps is singularly common. Within the past four or five years so many persons in this city have been bitten by his peculiar fancy that old postage stamps have become as rare, and almost as precious, as old gold. Those who hoard them up insert them with fastidious care in a volume prepared for the purpose, and exhibit them with an air of triumphant pride that is exhilarating to philosophy. They could not show off a row of marble-fronted warehouses on Broadway with a greater display of exultation. Some of them prefer to make a collection of all the postage stamps of *all* nations that indulge in such luxurious postal appliances, and then, of course, they *do* present a museum of some interest, for it involves a notion of the artistic and picturesque. But it cost much less to gather together an assortment of American postage stamps, and it is surprising what a fascination even children can find in such a pursuit! One would suppose that in accumulating these old stamps they were secretly amassing a fortune. Some of them, in fact, are so bewitched with the operation that they actually steal an old stamp to complete a collection of such curiosities, and a youth of the scarce and poetic name of Smith really *was* arrested here the other day for trying to pilfer some of these invaluable novelties! A Mr. Scott, in Nassau street, who is a retailer of such things, detected Smith in stealing ten dollars' worth while pretending a desire to purchase one dollar's worth, and the little rascal confessed that he was in the habit of helping himself *sans ceremonie*, and could not avoid it. He was a victim of kleptomania, in the matter of stamps. The magistrate said he would stamp it out of him, and transferred him to the Tombs.

We copy the above article from Du Solle's New York correspondence to the Philadelphia *Sunday Dispatch*, March 26. Du Solle's understanding in reference to postage stamp collecting is very limited. This correspondent confines his appreciation of a collection of postal issues to the matter of their value as pieces of paper, and their utter want of value "as works of art or curiosity." We reply, for said correspondent's instruction, that certain postage stamps possess a marketable value similar to other articles of trade in fact, all genuine stamps, used or unused, have their price like all articles of commodity whose value is fixed by supply and demand. In reference to the merit and value of postage stamps as works of art and curiosity, we feel constrained to believe that Du Solle has never had the pleasure to fix and feast his critical eyes upon a collection of these interesting, artistic, and, in many cases, curious postal issues. For beauty of design and artistic skill, many of the postal stamps of Europe and America exhibit beauties and merits before which the works of some of our best

manipulators of the pencil and brush, in other branches of fine arts, pale, whose superiority has been admitted by many of our best critics. Curiosities in the postal line are so often remarked upon that we can only refer this correspondent to any dealer's store where he can gaze to the fill upon the stamps of Egypt, China, Moldavia, Cashmere, Turkey, Africa and others. We regret that this correspondence exhibits the fact for the first time that rogues have entered the ranks of the philatelic fraternity; although the temptation to a poor lad, to complete a series of stamps, by theft was great, and though it does not condone the crime it excites sympathy for the criminal whose offence might have been remedied by a recompence to the dealer and a reprimand, instead of branding the enthusiastic but misguided lad a *thief*, and making in all probability his future life one of misery and degradation.

During the last few years we have been personally cognizant of the facts of several cases that have been reported in the papers, and not one of them has ever been given any way near correct, so it is hardly to be expected that the above quotations are correct. We should not have taken notice of the occurrence, but as it has been extensively commented upon, we deem it our duty to our publishers to give the facts of the case to the public.

J. W. Scott & Co., the prosecutors in the above case, do an extensive retail trade in foreign stamps, and during the last year had stolen from their store five dollars worth of stamps a day in the average. Several persons have been sent to the Island for various terms for stealing from them, and many others that have been detected in the act have been pardoned by them on account of their youth.

For several months past the young men, neither of whom, by the way, were named *Smidt*, were suspected of embezzling stamps, but so carefully were their operations conducted that it was a long time before they were actually seen to pocket the goods. A clerk was immediately despatched for an officer, but they, suspecting they had been discovered, ran out of the store, and one of them succeeded in making his escape, but was subsequently arrested. Property to the value of \$10 was found on the other on his being searched at the station house, besides a forged check for a similar amount. The young man's father, who is a wealthy and respectable citizen, searched his house and found stamps to the value of \$300, which the culprit admitted he had stolen from J. W. Scott & Co. These were, of course, restored.

Out of consideration to their parents, one of whom was lying on the point of death; and as it was thought that a sojourn on Blackwell's Island would do them more harm than good, J. W. Scott & Co. kindly asked the Judge to suspend sentence, which he consented to do on consideration of their being sent out of the city.

By this it will be seen what ridiculous sentiments have been ex-



passed for a common thief, who, although supplied with more money than he had any need of, stole for gain, as was shown by the fact that, although they had had part of the stamps for over six months, they had never been arranged, but several lost had been sold.

---

### Clippings.

CANADA has now 3,820 post offices, and the entire postal route is 29,430 miles. The revenue in 1870 was \$1,010,767. The country sent, during the year, six letters and newspapers to the United Kingdom, where it sent one to the United States.

THE PROVINCES OF ALSACE and German Lorraine, formerly belonging to France, having been ceded to Germany, the postal system in those provinces is now under the direction and control of the General Post Department at Berlin. Correspondence for Alsace—the Department of Upper and Lower Rhine—and for German Lorraine, the Arrondissement of Metz. Saargemund, Thionville, Chateau Salins and Saarburg is, therefore, subject to the same rates of postage and conditions of payment as the correspondence addressed to other parts of Germany, and should be sent to the United States and German mails.

GUATAMALA.—This Government has at length issued a series of stamps; and, although not equal in design to the bogus ones that were set afloat some few years since, are still quite creditable. The design is the same as the revenue stamps that have been in use for a number of years, *viz.*: arms (sun rising over shield) in oval band, inscribed “*Correos de Guademaal,*” and value. Design slightly different in each.

The colors and values are 1 centavo bistre, 10 c. blue, 20 rose. They are printed on unwatermarked paper and are perforated.

CONVEYANCE OF MAILS.—The total sum spent in conveyance of mails by railway amounts to £405,192, by road, to £102,000; and by private ships to and from places abroad, to £5,400. The post office packet service now costs £1,089,349; £96,653 of which is spent in contracts for the United Kingdom; £13,000 for Europe; £382,948 for America; £43,700 for Africa; and £541,331 for Asia and Australasia. The chief increase is on account of the last-named item; and the net increase as compared with the previous year, amounts to £280,705. It should be remarked that the estimated increase of extra receipts in the year ending March 31st, 1869, on account of the packet service, is calculated at £237,906; £108,700 of which will be paid by the Indian Government; £30,000 by the United States post-office, for conveying United States' mails

to this country in the packets of Messrs. Cunard & Co. ; £25,316 by the Australian colonies ; and £64,750 for a moiety of the subsidy for the mail-packet service between Point de Galle and Sydney, for which the Australian colonies are also responsible.—*Times.*

AN OCEAN POST-OFFICE IN THE BEGINNING OF THE PRESENT CENTURY.—Immediately after doubling Point Anne, you see, on a rock, a hundred feet high, a great post with a barrel suspended from the top. This barrel is the letter-box. The English sailors must needs go and write up there, "post-office." What have they to do with it? It is the ocean post-office. It isn't the property of that worthy gentleman, the King of England. The box is common to all. It belongs to every flag. *Post-office:* there's a crack-jaw word for you. It produces an effect on me as if the devil had suddenly offered me a cup of tea. I will tell you now how the postal arrangements are carried out. Every vessel which passes sends to the post a boat with despatches. A vessel coming from the Atlantic, for instance, sends there its letters for Europe ; and a ship coming from the Pacific, its letters for New Zealand or California. The officer in command of the boat puts his packet into the barrel, and takes away any packet he finds there. You take charge of these letters, and the ship which comes after you takes charge of yours. As ships are always going to and fro, the continent whence you come is that to which I am going. I carry your letters, you carry mine. The barrel is made fast to the post with a chain. It has a good lid, with a hinge, but no padlock. You see a fellow can write to his friends this way. The letters come safely.—*Toilers of the Sea*, by VICTOR HUGO.

A. LITTLEFIELD has issued a new proprietary stamp, value four cents, color green.

A NEW CONFEDERATE LOCAL has been discovered by Mr. Petrie. Full particulars will be given in our next.

---

## Answers to Correspondents.

A. M. H. GERMANTOWN.—YOUR JOURNAL is always sent to you as soon as published, and as we now have any papers not delivered returned at our expense, subscribers not receiving their numbers have the satisfaction of knowing that they have been stolen.

E. H. R. MACON.—Due out of those you name, all communications must contain stamps for reply.

W. S. W. BALTIMORE.—Copies of the JOURNAL are 12c. each. December numbers were only given to persons who subscribed for Vol. IV during the months of November and December.

## A Short History of the United States Post Office.

*With a description of its various issues of Stamps.*

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

[Continued from page 48.]

1851, July 1st.

1 cent, dark blue.

Head of Franklin L. t. R., Frame O. (U. S. Postage) above, and (One cent) below, in the upper and lower corners of a band around frame. Ornamental work at sides and corners, C., W. P., Ty., R. R.

1851, July 1st.

3 cents, brick dust red.

Head of Washington L. t. L., Frame O. Geometric lathe work, multi-rayed stars at corners. (U. S. Postage) in straight line at top of stamp. (Three cents) in straight line at bottom of stamp. C., W. P., Ty., R. R.

1851, July 1st.

12 cents, black.

Head of Washington,  $\frac{3}{4}$  face L. t. L., Stuart's portrait, Frame O. Geometric lathe work, multi-rayed stars at corners. (U. S. Postage) in corner above head, (Twelve cents) in curve below. C., W. P., Ty., R. R.

1851, September 29.

CARRIERS' STAMPS.

1 cent, bluish tint.

Head of Franklin, L. t. L., Frame O. Geometric lathe work, multi-rayed stars at corners. (Carriers') in straight line in upper margin, (Stamp) in straight line in lower margin. A five-pointed star at each end of each word in brackets. C., W. P., Ty., R. R.

NOTE.—Only 300,000 ever issued. Suppressed immediately, on account of resemblance to three-cent stamp.

1851, Nov. 17th.

CARRIERS' STAMP.

1 cent, blue.

An American Eagle, rising for flight from the bough of a tree, Frame OO. Within the band of the frame, (U. S. P. O. Dispatch) above, (Prepaid, one cent) below. Leaves about the outer corners of frame. C., W. P., C. P., Ob.

NOTE.—Very little used, except in Cincinnati, Ohio, and Philadelphia, Pa. None were issued after Jan. 27th, 1852.

1855, May 4th.

10 cents, green.

Head of Washington, Stuart's portrait,  $\frac{3}{4}$  face, L. t L. Frame O. Thirteen five-pointed stars in a half circle above the head. Ten in Roman numbers, in each upper corner, (U. S. Postage) in a curve between them, (Ten cents) in a waved line in lower margin. Scroll work around edges. C., W. P., Ty., R. R.

1856, Jan. 5th.

5 cents, chocolate brown.

Head of Jefferson,  $\frac{3}{4}$  face L. t. L., Frame small O, engine turned border. (U. S. Postage) above head, five cents between in waved lines. C., W. P., Ty., R. R.

1857, Feb. 24th.

3 cents, brickdust red.

The three-cent stamp of July 1851. Per. 15.

1857.

1 cent, dark blue. 5 cents, chocolate brown.  
10 cents, green. 12 cents, black. Per. 15.

1860, June 15th.

24 cents, lilac.

Head of Washington, Stuart's portrait,  $\frac{3}{4}$  face L. t. R. Frame small O, engine-turned border, band around frame. (U. S. Postage) in band above head, (Twenty-four cents) in band below. Small wrinkle separating letters at each side where they meet. C., W. P., Ty., R. R. Per. 15.

NOTE.—April 24th, 1856, this 24 cent stamp was submitted in black, and accepted but never issued by Government, until it appeared in lilac, and at the date as above. Since, specimens got abroad, but they are only to be regarded as essays. These essays are very beautiful and scarce.

1860, August 12th.



30 cents, bright orange.

Head of Franklin, L. t. L., Frame O., U. S., shield in each corner, surrounded by scroll work. (U. S.) in upper margin of stamp (Postage) beneath the letters in a curve. Thirty in Arabic numbers below frame, (Thirty) on left side of frame, (Cents) on right side, perpendicularly. C. W. P. Ty. R. R. per 15.

1860, August 13th.

90 cents, Indigo blue.

Head of Washington, Turnbull's portrait in regimental uniform,  $\frac{3}{4}$  face U. t. L., Frame straight below and at sides, slightly arched at top, (U. S. Postage) in arched band above frame, (Ninety cents) on a straight band below, scroll work at side. C. W. P., Ty. R. R. Per. 15.

NOTE.—By reason of the civil war, which began in April, 1861, and the consequent desire of the government that they should not be used to the profit of the seceded States, the Stamps issued from July 1st, 1851, were discarded, and with those dating from 1847, (suppressed in 1851) were declared obsolete; but the former were receivable up to September, 1861, and in certain portions of the country, still permitted as legal postage till that time.

1861, Aug. 14th.

1 cent, blue.

Bust of Franklin L. t. R. Frame O, engine turned border, reticulated close up to face. (U. S. Postage) in a curve above the bust, and (one cent) in a curve below within the frame. Figure one in Arabic numbers at each of the upper corners, (U) in the lower left, (S) in lower right corner. Scroll work around corners. C. W. P. Ty., R. R. Per 12.

1861, Aug. 14th.

3 cents, light carmine.

Bust of Washington L. t. L. Frame waved R. R. engine turned border, vertical and close up to face. Figure three in Arabic numbers, in each upper corner, (U. S.) in upper margin of frame. (Postage) in a curve beneath these letters, and between figures; (U) in lower left, (S) in lower right corner. (Three) in a curve just below bust, (Cents) in a curve below (Three), and both between the (U. S.). C. W. P. Ty., R. R. Per 12.

1861, August.

5 cents, brown (chocolate).

Head of Jefferson,  $\frac{3}{4}$  L. t. L. Frame O. engine turned border. (U. S. Postage) in waved line above head. (Five cents) in a curve below. Figure five in Arabic numbers in each upper corner, (U) in lower left corner, (S) in lower right corner. (The first issue of this stamp was of a yellowish brown, altered in September). C. W. P. Ty., R. R. Per 12.

1861.

10 cents, green.

Head of Washington,  $\frac{3}{4}$  face L. t. L. Frame O. Border formed by a band which has (U. S. Postage) around the top, (Ten cents) around the bottom, and four stars of first magnitude in a curve between the numbers; (U) in lower left corner, (S) in lower right corner. Scroll work around letters and numbers. C. W. P. Ty., R. R. Per 12.

*(To be continued.)*

## Sketches of little-known Stamp Countries.

BY DR. C. W. VINER.

### HELIGOLAND.

The small group of islands, or rather islets, of which the subject of this article is the principal, were described by the Egyptian geographer Ptolemy, between seventeen and eighteen hundred years ago, as the Alokeai islands. In the "dark ages" it was called Foretiseland, and was the seat of a peculiar worship paid to an idol, the Hertha, or Mother Earth of the Scandinavians, the venerated Roman Vesta.

A map of the place is extant, imaging the sites of temples, cities, and villages, intermixed with woods and fields: all long since engulfed by the mighty waves of the German Ocean! This ancient deity, whose temple was turned into a monastery in the middle of the ninth century, who shall say how many ages remained the tutelar goddess of eight powerful tribes? Of these, five are known by name only; two of them, the Varini and the Lombards, are represented by existing descendants; the eighth—the bold Angli—while the planet, whose name was derived from the goddess, shall endure, may ever claim pre-eminence thereon.

Heligoland, or Heiligeland, as it is also called, meaning Holy Land, is about a mile long, and never half that distance broad. On the high ground there are about 350 houses: on the low, only 78, and these are merely fishermen's huts. In the beginning of the present century, the population amounted to 2,200: the odd hundreds must now be subtracted. The soil is cultivated for bar-

ley and oats, and affords pasture for perhaps 60 cows, and 400 or 500 sheep. About £10,000 worth of fish are exported annually. From this and a large oyster bed is derived the revenue of the islands. They manage also to pay £4 per cent. on a respectable National Debt of £5,000. The Governor, General Maxse, at present, is appointed by the English Crown, in whose possession the place has been since September, 1807, when it surrendered to the blockading squadron of Admiral Russell. By the Paris treaties of 1814-15 it was definitely transferred to Great Britain.

Since 1826 it has been resorted to as a bathing place; and, like many other German resorts for invalids, started gambling tables to amuse their healthy companions, or whoever else chose to combine dissipation with rustic felicity; but, last Derby Day *The Times* announced that a storm had been raging in one of England's colonial puddles; that public attention had been called a year or two since to the fact, that while we were censuring the potentates of Hamburg and Baden for sanctioning public play, just such another "little game" was carried on under our eyes in Heligoland, where the governmental revenue was entirely derived from the tax paid by the gambling firm, to whom the right of pillaging the public was farmed out. As a wretched punster observed—the hells of Heligoland, must go out of the land. So thought the governor, and notice to quit was served on the croupiers, &c.

The inhabitants were furious at the consequences of this, viz., a tax to fill the void created: they held indignation meetings, sent petition after petition to Downing Street, and elected a parliamentary pledged to resist the imposition of all taxes whatever. The governor is, however, firm, and gaming is prohibited forever.—*The Philatelist*.

## Newly Issued Stamps,

PERU.—The fall of the dictature (Mr. Mahe's earthquake) having entailed the disgrace of the New York Company's stamps which were suppressed by a decree of 1st of May, 1869, the postal director began to think of replacing the 5c., (Llama) green, then nearly exhausted; (the 10c., was suppressed in consequence of the emission of the 1 dinen green, which was the equivalent), whilst still leaving the 20 centavos brown, in temporary circulation.

The authorization to that effect which he solicited from the minister, reached him in the following shape:

Lima, 15th September, 1866.

To the Director-general of this Post:

On the proposal made by you relative to the rate for correspondence between this Capitol, Callas, and Chorillos, I send you the following decree dated the 4th of this month.

"In view of the present proposition of the Director-general of the post, the decree of the 29th December, 1865, is again put in force. The Postage on letters between Lima, Callas and Chorillos is reduced by one-half; consequently, the Director-general is author-



ized to print postage stamps of 5 centavos, destined for the pre-payment of such postage."

I communicate to you this decree for your information.

God guard you.

RAFAEC VELAREE.



The stamp he referred to is here represented. It will only be definitely put in circulation in April, 1871; nevertheless, for a long time past, obliterated specimens have come over. We transcribe the subjoined document concerning this stamp, in which it is more than ever, question of secret marks.

POST-OFFICE.

Lima, 12th September, 1870.

Pursuant to the authorization conceded to me by the supreme decree of the 18th September, 1869, to prepare 5 centavo postage stamps for the pre-payment of the correspondence between Lima, Callas and Chorillos, I have had a matrix prepared, whence to print a design containing in relief the national shield in centre, with the words POSTE FRANCE; the representation of a locomotive and the words LIMA—CALLAS—CHORILLOS, on the four sides. This type contains secret marks to facilitate the discovery of forgeries, and will be printed by means of the Lecocq machine kept at the post-office. Lastly, the impression will be in carmine, and the stamps will be deposited at the public post until a period to be ulteriorly fixed; meanwhile, the green 5 cent stamp will serve for the same purpose.

(Signed)

DAVILA.

Finding nothing mysterious in the 5 centavos of the new type nor in any of the stamps of preceding emissions, we took the liberty to enquire from Lima in what the secret marks consisted. We were answered that "these secret marks were in a sealed envelope; were kept for the purpose of making comparisons, and that therefore, our request for information could not be complied with." —*S. E. Magazine.*

**BRAZIL** —We are pleased to note a very beautiful addition to the postage stamps of this country. The design consists of the head of the present emperor in a very handsome oval frame of engine turned work; this is printed in green, the outer frame is printed in a rich violet. The value is 300 reis.

From the appearance of this stamp we are led to expect a new set, as it is not likely the government would employ such a handsome stamp for this value, when the higher value is so much plainer. The new comer is from the ATELIER of the Continental Bank Note Co., the old set and also the revenues are the work of the American Bank Note Co.

**GUATEMALA.**—In our list of these stamps last month, we omitted to mention the 5c. brown and 50c. green.

**RUSSIA**—*Iver.*—The ugliest Russian local yet discovered, is issued for the villages of this district. The design consists of a band composed of two circles inscribed IVER VILLAGE POST in Russian characters, inclosing 2 K in blue, which is surrounded by a thin circle of the same color.



BERDIANSK.—This is another local of the same class, issued by a town of this name in the government of Tanrida. The design consists of plough and hut above, with an anchor below. The frame is inscribed STAMP OF BERDIANSK RURAL POST; numerals of value in each corner. The upper part is green, the lower blue, the figures are in black. The value is 10 kopecks.

FIJI ISLANDS.—The set of Express stamps for these islands, a cut of which was given last month, consists of the following values: 1, 3 and 6 pence and 1 shilling.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.—Some months ago we received a letter from these islands, bearing a 5 cent stamp and half of a 1 cent one, and have since seen several letters prepaid the same way. These are interesting forerunners of the new set of stamps which, by the way, we were first to describe.

GUADALJARA.—We have lately had the pleasure of getting a Mexican letter with one of these stamps on perforated. It appears to have been punched out with a hand stamp, the line of teeth following the circle of the stamp, giving it the appearance of a star. It is the 2 reals green, 1867.

HUNGARY.—Is the first country to change its post card, the old one being now superceded by one having a stamp very similar to the 1858 issue: Austria, with the Hungarian arms below the head. The color is the same as the preceding one.

LUXEMBOURG.—The 4c. stamp of this duchy is now printed in green instead of yellow.

PHILIPPIAN ISLES.—These islands are now using stamps the same as the 1870 issue for Cuba, with the exception of the date which is not given.

## Provisional U. S.

In the January number, volume III, of this paper was given, what was then supposed to be, a complete list of these stamps; but since then, through the research of Mr. W. P. Brown, we are enabled to add another stamp to this interesting group. We refer to the New Haven envelope stamp, the *fac simile* of which heads this article.

This stamp was issued by Mr. E. A. Mitchel, the post-master of New Haven, about the year 1845, but as he has unfortunately destroyed his papers, is unable to give us the exact date. They were prepared for the same purpose as most of the other stamps of the series, *i. e.*: to give persons an opportunity of posting letters after the office was closed, which before stamps were used was



impossible, as the money for postage had to be given to the post-office clerk with the letter, who usually stamped it with the word *paid* in red ink. The first one of these stamps we saw some four years since: we suppose to be simply one of these "paid" hand stamps made more fancy than usual, which from the indistinct printing it very much resembled. About a year after we saw another one, and as this looked somewhat better concluded to try and find out something about it. We wrote to the P. O. department, and was informed that E. A. Mitchell was post-master in 1846, and then wrote to a gentleman of our acquaintance in New Haven, asking him to find out if Mr. Mitchell was still alive; but as he informed us that he had been dead several years, we let the matter drop, and was of course much pleased, to find Mr. Brown had succeeded in solving our doubts.

Since writing the above, the following article from the pen of Dr. J. A. Petrie has been handed us:

Within the last month or two, there has been discovered a new stamp, or rather an old one resuscitated, and to Mr. Brown belongs the honor of first describing it. His article, however, is of interest more particularly, in his relating how he discovered the stamp; as it really gives but few particulars concerning the history and other points of interest about it.

Mr. Brown in his article, says: "This stamp (of which he gives an illustration) we obtained in an old collection made up by a prominent lawyer of New Haven about eight years ago, which was stolen from him within a year and sold to us. The book containing his address, we applied to him for information about the New Haven stamp, which is a rather indistinct impression, printed in red with the signature of the P. M., in purple ink.

The owner was quite surprised at our letter as he had not seen the collection for several years, and supposed it lay in some old chest; but upon our returning it, he presented us with the stamp in question."

So much for the way in which this stamp was discovered.

After this, Mr. B., goes on to give a few points as to the rates of postage, &c., but there are many facts as to number used, number printed, varieties and other questions relating to it, which I was anxious to have answered, and therefore I applied to Mr. E. A. Mitchell and made full inquiries concerning it.

I have received from him in reply a letter, of which I append a copy.

New Haven, Ct., May 15, '71.

J. A. Petrie, M. D.

Dr., Sir,

Yours of the 6th and 13th are at hand. Being extensively engaged in business, I have but little spare time to devote to the Postage stamp matter.—My object in getting up this stamp was simply to accommodate the public, as I charged no profit.—The postage was uniform, 5c., for all distances, and weight I think, half ounce; same as at present, but prepaid.

As no letters could be paid after business hours or Sundays, these were convenient for that purpose as well as others.—

Many brought their own envelopes, and I only charged 5c., for the postage.—

The business of the office was so limited, that, to prevent objection by the P. O. Department, or forgery, I signed each one.—

The stamp (or die) is a small hand stamp, and was made by F. P. Gorham, then the principal engraver of New Haven, but now deceased.—I considered the whole matter at the time, of so little importance, that many minor facts in the case are entirely gone from my mind.—I think all were printed on white envelopes, and stamped in red ink and signed in blue ink.—Red ink (vermillion) was used as the office ink in stamping the letters, and think that must have been the color.—

It is possible that buff envelopes were used for a few, but probably not.

I have no way of knowing how many were printed, or when commenced and ended, as all my papers and accounts of current business of the office are destroyed.—The amount sold were few and probably not over 2,000 all together.—They being done by hand and with no motive of profit, they were not generally offered for sale.—I was appointed Post-Master, Sept. 12th, 1844, and was succeeded by John B. Robertson in 1852.

I cannot state the cost of the plate.—

The plate or stamp is a single short-hand stamp. The stamp is of brass. There was only one denomination, that being 5c.—The impression was always on envelopes.—I had not thought of the stamp since leaving the Post office, until I received a letter from Mr. Brown, and after hunting up the stamp, I printed a few myself and sent him, writing on them, "canceled".—Thinking possibly there might be some objection by the P. O. Department to my striking off impressions, I inclosed a copy to the P. M. Gen'l, giving a short history of it, and asking if there would be any objection to my furnishing some to friends and stamp collectors. Unlike his predecessors, C. A. Wickliffe, Cave Johnson and Mr. Collamer under whom I served, who always required any respectful letter to be answered, he has not given me any reply; this is my reason for writing canceled on those sent Mr. Brown.—

So far I have not had over 20 impressions issued.—If I had any on hand when I left the office they were destroyed, as stamps came in use the latter part of my term. I have had three applications for the die, and am offered as high as \$100 for it. Parties also want a stereotype plate made, and others want 1,000 of the impressions.

As the original purpose was not to make money, so I shall *positively refuse* to sell any impressions, or sell the stamp.—

As the stamp seems to possess a centennial kind of value quite unanticipated by me, I have decided to place it in possession of the New Haven Colonial Historical Society.

I shall in a few days have a pad ready so that I can print a few perfect impressions, when I will send you a few more.—

I have not as yet heard of any of the old envelopes coming to light.—As all originals had my own signature, of course I cannot furnish lots to dealers, even if I wished.

I am yours,

E. A. MITCHELL.

## The Pony Express.

However, in a little while all interest was taken up in stretching our necks and watching for the "pony rider"—the fleet messenger who sped across the continent from St. Joe to Sacramento, carrying letters nineteen hundred miles in eight days! Think of that for perishable horse and human flesh and blood to do! The pony rider was usually a little bit of a man, brim full of spirit and endurance. No matter what time of night his watch came on, and no matter whether it was Winter or Summer, raining, snowing, hailing or sleeting, or whether his "beat" was a level, straight road or a crazy trail over mountain crags and precipices, or whether it led through peaceful regions, or regions that swarmed with hostile Indians, he must be always ready to leap into the saddle and be off like the wind.



There was no idling for a pony rider on duty. He rode forty miles without stopping, by daylight, moonlight, starlight, or through the blackness of darkness, just as it happened. He rode a splendid horse, that was born for a racer, and fed and lodged like a gentleman, kept him at his utmost speed for ten miles, and then, as he came crashing up to a station, where stood two men holding a fresh, impatient steed, the transfer of rider and mail bag was made in the twinkling of an eye, and away flew the eager pair, and were out of sight before the spectator could get hardly the ghost of a look. Both rider and horse went "flying light."

The rider's dress was thin and fitted close; he wore a "round about" and "skull cap," and tucked his pantaloons into his boot-tops, like a race rider. He carried no arms—he carried nothing that was not absolutely necessary, for even his postage on his literary freight was worth \$2 an ounce. He got but little frivolous correspondence to carry; his bag had business letters in it mostly. His horse was stripped of all unnecessary weight too. He wore a little wafer of a racing-saddle, and no visible blanket. He wore light shoes, or none at all. The little flat mail pockets strapped under the rider's thighs, would hold about the bulk of a child's primer.

They held many and many an important business chapter and newspaper letter, but these were written on paper as airy and thin as gold-leaf nearly, and thus bulk and weight were economized. The stage coach traveled about a hundred to a hundred and twenty-five miles a day (twenty-four hours); the pony rider two hundred and fifty. There were about eighty pony riders in the saddle all the time, night and day, stretching in a long scattering procession from Missouri to California—forty flying eastward and forty toward the west, and among them making four hundred gallant horses earn a stirring livelihood, and see a great deal of scenery every single day in the year.

We had a consuming desire from the beginning to see a pony rider, but somehow or other, all that passed us, and all that met us, managed to streak by in the night, and so we heard only a whiz and a hail, and the swift phantom of the desert was gone before we could get our heads out of the windows. But now we were expecting one along every moment, and would see him in broad daylight. Presently the driver exclaims;

"Here he comes!"

Every neck is strained further, and every eye wider. Away across the endless dead level of the prairie, a black speck appears against the sky, and it is plain that it moves. Well, I should think so! In a second or so it becomes a horse and rider, rising and falling—sweeping towards us nearer and nearer—growing more and more distinct, more and more sharply defined—nearer and nearer, and the flutter of the hoofs comes faintly to the ear—another instant, a whoop and a hurrah from our upper deck, a wave of the rider's hand, but no reply, and man and horse burst past our excited faces, and go winging away like a belated fragment of a storm.



So sudden is it all, and so like a flash of unreal fancy, that but for the flake of white foam left quivering and perishing on a mail sack, after the vision had flashed by and disappeared, we might have doubted whether we had seen any actual horse and man at all, may be.

MARK TWAIN.

## Clippings.

A HORNED TOAD from the swamps of Nevada came through the mail a distance of three thousand miles to a merchant of Wilmington, Vt., last week, having rode the whole distance encased in a sardine box, from which he was taken out in the best of health and spirits.

A MAN OUT IN IOWA asked the price of postage stamps, and was told "three cents," whereupon he asked if he couldn't have them cheaper if he took four or five. To this the accommodating Postmaster responded: "We cannot sell them at that rate now. We could have done so until lately, but now the Government punches holes around each stamp for the convenience of the people, which so increases the cost that we cannot afford to make any discount." The satisfied customer cheerfully paid three cents.

BURMAH is taking to civilization with a rush, says an Indian paper. The telegraph has been erected between Mandalay and the frontier Custom house at Menhla, beyond the Irrawaddy, and messages are now regularly received. The Burmese language has also been modified to suit the telegraph dial system. The Mint has been improved, and die-cutters are hard at work turning out a more handsome coinage. Stamped papers are about to be introduced, as the King sees in it an excellent way of increasing the Royal income while introducing regularity into his courts of law. The system of law is also to be changed in order to assimilate it with our own, and postage on correspondence is to be introduced.—*Standard*

MATCH STAMPS.—POOR Mr. Lowe, the chancellor of the British Exchequer, is like the man who won the elephant in a raffle, having on his hands one thousand pounds' worth of stamps intended for the match boxes, which branch of industry it was thought prudent, after all, not to tax. There seems no possible use for the stamps, and Mr. Lowe's economical soul is the prey of the bitterest remorse. Eccentric people have been known to collect cancelled postage and revenue stamps for the papering of apartments. Might not the Cabinet Room in Downing street be papered with the match-box stamps to advantage? This, at least, would enable the Chancellor to set down the thousand pounds to the expense account instead of to profit and loss.

OCEAN PENNY POSTAGE.—Mr. Seely, M. P., is proposing a penny post between England and the United States. This would be a halfpenny less than the internal postage in the latter country, and if the system were adopted a letter might be sent from New Orleans to Liverpool for less than is demanded for its transmission from New York to Brooklyn. But, then, letters are carried from Portland to San Francisco, across the continent, for the same rate as across the East River. Mr. Seely's proposition is not simply to reduce the ocean transit to a penny, leaving the inland postage at both ends to be added, for the whole rate is now actually less than this would be; but to secure the sending of a letter from any part of Great Britain to any part of the United States for one penny, or two cents.

ORIGIN OF POST PAID ENVELOPES.—M. Pison tells us that the idea of a Post Paid Envelope originated, early in the reign of Louis XIV, with M. de Velaye, who in 1653 established with royal approbation, a private penny post, placing boxes at the corners of the streets for the reception of letters wrapped up in envelopes, which were to be bought at offices established for the purpose. M. de Velaye also caused to be printed, certain forms of billets or notes applicable to the ordinary business among the inhabitants of great towns, with blanks which were to be filled up by the pen with such special matter as might complete the writer's object. One of these billets has been preserved to our times by a pleasant misapplication of it. Pelisson, Mde. de Levivue's friend and the object of the *bon mot* that "he abused the privilege which men have of being ugly," was amused at this kind of skeleton correspondence; and under the affected name of Pisandre (according to the pedantic fashion of the day,) he filled up and addressed one of these forms to the celebrated Mademoiselle de Lenderi in her pseudonyme of Sappho. This strange billet-doux has happened from the celebrity of the parties, to be preserved, and is still extant: one of the oldest, we presume, of penny post letters, and a curious example of a prepaying envelope, as well as a new proof of the adage "that there is nothing new under the sun."

NEW SOUTH WALES.—Mr. Petrie lately showed us one of the 2 penny embossed sheets of stamped paper that has not heretofore been described. The stamp is the same as the one known in Europe, but it is impressed near the centre of a sheet of unwatermarked white wove paper, size  $10\frac{1}{2}$  by  $8\frac{3}{4}$ . All those that were discovered by Sir Daniel Cooper, are impressed on a half sheet of blue laid foolscap, watermarked with a lion in oval crowned.

12 cents; black.

Head of Washington,  $\frac{3}{4}$  face L. t. L. Frame O., engine turned (U. S. Postage) in a curve above frame; (Twelve cents) in a wavy line below. Twelve in Arabic numbers placed sideways in each upper corner. (U) in the lower left corner, (S) in the lower right corner. C. W. P. Ty., R. R. Per 12.

1861.

24 cents, lilac.

Head of Washington,  $\frac{3}{4}$  face L. t. R. Frame hexagon, engine turned nearly up to face. (U. S. Postage) within the two upper sides of frame, (Twenty-four cents) within the two lower sides: Twenty-four in Arabic numbers within each upper corner, three stars of fifth magnitude between them. Four stars on either side of the frame; (U) in the lower left corner, (S) in the lower right corner, placed sideways on two large stars, forming thirteen stars in all. Scroll work in corners. C. W. P. Ty., R. R. Per 12.

1861.

30 cents, orange.

Head of Franklin L. t. L. Frame O O O., with band and scroll work. (U. S. Postage) in upper corner of band, (Thirty cents) in lower corner. Thirty in Arabic numbers placed sideways in each upper corner, (U) sideways in lower left corner, (S) sideways in lower right. C. W. P. Ty., R. R. Per 12.

1861.

90 cents, dark blue.

Head of Washington, Turnbull's portrait in regimental uniform,  $\frac{3}{4}$  face L. t. L. Frame O., with fluted border; (U. S. Postage) in a scroll across the top of frame. Ninety in Arabic numbers sideways between the scroll at each end and within the band. (Ninety cents) within the lower curve, the two words separated by branches of olive and laurel, which partially conceal the lower portion of frame. (U) in lower left, (S) in lower right corner. C. W. P. Ty., R. R. Per 12.

1863, July 1st.

2 cents, black.

Head of Andrew Jackson in full face. Frame large O., (U. S. Postage) in curve above, (Two cents) in curve below head. Figure two in Arabic numbers placed sideways in each upper corner; (U) in lower left, (S) in lower right corner, beneath the words "two"



and "cents." Scroll work around numbers, and titles above and below. C. W. P. Ty., R. R. Per 12.

1865, October 1st.

STAMPS FOR PERIODICALS (WITHOUT GUM).

5 cents, Indigo blue.

Bust of Washington L. t. L. Frame O O O., engine turned border. Five in Arabic numbers in each upper corner; (U. S.) below and between numbers within border, (Postage) in a curve beneath letters. Five in Roman numbers on each side of bust in border, (Five cents) in a curve below bust, (Newspapers and Periodicals, Sec. 38, Act of Congress approved March 3d, 1863.) in five lines at bottom of stamp. (National Bank Note Company, New York) between outer lines of margin. C. W. M. P. Ty., Very large R. R. Per 12.

1865, October 1st.

10 cents, green.

Bust of Franklin L. t. R. Frame O., reticulated border. Ten in Arabic numbers placed sideways in each upper corner; (U. S.) below and between numbers within border, (Postage) in a curve beneath letters. Ten in Roman numbers on each side of head in border, (Ten cents) in a curve below bust, (Newspapers and Periodicals, Sec. 38, Act of Congress approved March 3d, 1863,) in five lines at bottom of stamp, (National Bank Note Company, New York) between outer bars of margin. C. W. M. P. Ty., Very large R. R. Per 12.

1865, October 1st.,

25 cents, vermilion.

Head of Lincoln L. t. L., Frame ornamental octagon, engine turned border. Twenty-five in Arabic numbers, placed sideways in each upper corner, (U. S.) below and between numbers within border. (Postage) beneath the letters in a curve. Value repeated in Arabic numbers, one each side of head within border, (Twenty-five cents) below head, (Newspapers and Periodicals Sec. 38, Act of Congress approved March 3d, 1863,) in five lines at bottom of stamp. (National Bank Note Company, New York.) between outer bars of margin, C. W. M. P. R. R. Per 12.

1866, April 1st.

ADHESIVE STAMPS.

15 cents, black.

Head of Lincoln,  $\frac{3}{4}$  face L. t. R., Frame O., supported by fascies,



(U. S. Postage) in a scroll above head, with fifteen in Arabic numbers placed sideways, in two ends of scroll in each upper corner, (Fifteen cents) in a curve below head. (U.) in lower left corner, (S) in lower right corner, placed sideways. Scroll work about corners below. C. W. P. Ty., R. R. Per 12.

1867, Aug. 8th.

3 cents, light carmine.

Three cent stamp of August, 1861, embossed over the whole surface so as to facilitate cancellation.

1865, Aug. 8th.

2 cents, black ; 3 cents, light carmine.

The two cent stamp of 1863, and three cent stamp of 1861, embossed only in the centre.

April or May, 1869.

New set of stamps issued, furnished by the National Bank Note Co., of New York, costing in the neighborhood of 12 cents per 1,000.

1 cent, buff.

Head of Franklin L. t. L., Frame double beaded circle, (U. S. Postage) in part of circle above head. One cent in lower part of circle, with large figure 1 in centre between One and cent. Ty., PC. W. P. S. Per 13.

2 cents, brown.

Rider on horse galloping to left, Frame scroll. "United States" at top of frame in small letters, "Postage" in a denticulated curtain in large letters just below. "Two cents" in a scroll at bottom, with large figure 2 in centre between. Ty., PC. W. P. S. Per 13.

3 cents, light blue.

Locomotive to right, Frame ornamental scroll. "United States" in small letters at top in curve ; "Postage" in larger letters in elongated Maltese cross below. "Three and cents" at bottom, each in curved scroll ; 3, in large figure between top nearly touching wheels of Locomotive. Ty., PC. W. P. S. Per 14.

6 cents, dark blue.

Head of Washington L. t. R., in beaded circle with checkered square frame U. S. "Postage" at top, "United States" at each side, "Six Cents" below separated by figure 6 ; large "U" in L. upper corner, S in right. Ty., P. C. W. P. S. Per 14.

10 cents, orange.

Eagle holding olive branch perched on top of shield, L. t. L. In circle behind wings, 13 stars. In upper half of shield words, "United States Postage", in lower portion "10" in large Arabic figures; across apex of shield in scroll "Ten Cents". Ty. P. C. W. P. S. Per 13.

12 cents, chrome green.

Ocean Steamship in oblong C, bow to L. Frame S scroll work. "United States" small letters in curve, "Postage" in large letters below. At each side of the oblong circle monogram "U. S." in small circle. (These letters cannot well be seen without a magnifying glass). In a curve at bottom of stamp, "Twelve cents" separated by large figures "12" in scroll. Ty., P. C. W. P. S. Per 13.

15 cents, brown and blue.

Landing of Columbus printed in blue; scroll work in S frame printed in brown. "U. S." in small German text letters below. At bottom "Fifteen Cents" in waved curve, "15" in large Arabic figures below. Ty., P. C. W. P. S. Per 14.

24 cents, light green and purple.

Declaration of American Independence printed in dark purple or rather Neutral Tint in octagonal frame. Frame around picture broken square with scroll work. Border of oak leaves at top of stamp. "Postage" in waved line below. In each upper corner in O, letters, "U" in left, S in right. At bottom of stamp, "Twenty-four cents" in waved curved ribbon. Below, "24" in large Arabic figures. Ty., P. C. W. P. S. Per 14.

30 cents, blue and carmine.

Eagle on top of shield holding olive branch, L. t. L. both pink; 13 stars behind wings of eagle, in curve. Lettering same as 10 cent stamp with different value. Two American flags on each side of shield, drooping. "Thir" printed in carmine, "ty" and "C" in white, "ents" in carmine; in waved curved line "Ty., P. C." in pinkish white paper, color perhaps derived from ink. S. Per 14.

90 cents, black and carmine.

Three-quarter face of Abraham Lincoln, L. t. R., in O. frame, scroll work with oak branches at sides. "90" in each upper corner; "U. S. Postage" in curve above head, "Ninety" in left lower corner, "Cents" in right in curved ribbon; "U" in German text below Ninety in extreme corner, "S" in right. Ty., P. C. Pinkish paper, S. Per 14.

## The Fredricksburg Stamps.

EDITOR, *American Journal of Philately*.—I am at this time able to add two to the list of Provisional Confederates (called locals) already known. They were issued by the City of Fredricksburg, Va., in 1861, and are of the value of 5 and 10 cents. Their history is the same as all others of this class.

From one of my correspondents, in a letter dated March 12th, 1871, I received the following description of a local which he had in his collection: "The inscription is Fredericksburg Post Office, Virginia, R. J. Thom, almost square, printed in blue on white paper, five cents." He further added that "it was genuine, and post-marked Fredericksburg, Virginia, October 4, and that he took it off a letter himself, addressed to his uncle." At once, upon receipt of this information, I attempted to trace the history and full particulars of this, as yet unknown and undescribed candidate for philatelic honors.

In reply to a letter sent by me to the Postmaster of Fredericksburg, I received a letter informing me that Reuben T. Thom was Postmaster in 1861, and that he died May 7th, 1868, at an advanced age in that city. I further found that he had a daughter living in that city, and at once opened a correspondence with her, to learn the full history of the stamps issued by her father, and try to receive from her every copy of this stamp that she might possibly find among her father's old papers. She could not satisfy my inquiries as to when issued and used, how many, how long, &c., &c.; but in the other particular, she did for me all and more than I could expect. In looking over her father's old papers, she found "a proclamation by the Postmaster-General of the Confederate States," dated at Montgomery, Ala., May 13th, 1861, and directed to all postmasters, together with a quantity of these Fredericksburg stamps of *two values, five and ten cents*, and some other stamps and papers, all in an envelope, post-marked Richmond, September 26th, 1861, and franked by H. St. Geo. Offutt, chief of Contract Bureau. All of these she sent me, (and I now have them in my possession,) except a few of the stamps, which she kept for herself; concerning which, she writes, "The few I have retained, especially those bearing my father's name, I shall give *only* to members of my own family, as "souvenirs of the past."

The description of the stamps is as follows :

They are type set, printed in sheets of twenty stamps 5x4, and no two of which are alike, having slight typographical errors, and the length of the rules separating the different parts of the stamp being of different lengths. The five cent are printed in dark, dull blue, and the ten cent in a dirty, dull red. All are on thin, French-ruled note paper, and inscribed Fredericksburg at top, R. T. Thom in a line underneath; the figures, 5 or 10 in the different values underneath again, and at bottom, post office, Virginia.

It will be seen from the above that here are two well authenticated, but



as yet unknown stamps of the provisional Confederate series ; their character is beyond suspicion, as I can satisfactorily prove to any person, and in my mind, there are yet many to be brought to light. I would, however, recommend the strictest scrutiny and most rigid examination into the history and authenticity of every one of this class of stamps, which has been, or may hereafter be brought to light before accepting it as an authentic issue.

Yours, truly,

J. A. PETRIE.

## Newly Issued Stamps.



SANDWICH ISLANDS.—We are now enabled to present our readers with engravings of the new set of stamps in use in these Islands.



UNITED STATES, *New York*—The list of locals for our own country, have lately received an addition to their number, of the annexed design. The stamp is issued by the old established house of O. H. Crosby, doing business at 19 William Street ; it pays the postage on letters and circulars delivered anywhere in the city. The stamps were designed and engraved by J. W. Scott & Co. They are printed in sheets of twenty-five, are unperforated ; the color is bright carmine.

RUSSIA, *Tver*.—Our next illustration represents the local for this town, described last month ; it should be remembered, however, that the figure of value, and the inside line is printed in blue, the balance being as represented.

BAHAMAS.—We have lately seen copies of the four penny stamps perforated 14x10, instead of 15x11.

TURKEY.—The stamps of this country are now very poorly printed, the values being scarcely distinguishable ; some are only perforated 6x5, which is quite insufficient to tear them apart with evenly.

PORTUGAL.—The 20 and 100 reis of the new series have now made their appearance ; same colors as same values of last series.

GERMANY.—It is stated, will issue a new set of postals on the first of July.





**ANTIOQUIA.**—A one peso stamp of the annexed design has just been discovered; it evidently completes the first set, which it will be remembered lacked that value.



**LIVONIA.**—We are now enabled to give an engraving of the new issue for this State, that was described last October; the central oval should be green, but we do not consider that such common looking stamps as this and the Russia local, pictured in another part of the number, warrant the great expense of printing them in two colors.



**TASMANIA.**—Two more values of the new design have been issued, the colors are: 3 pence brown, 5 shillings violet.

**SPAIN.**—The stamps of this country, bearing the portrait of King Amadeus, are expected next month, and are claimed to be the handsomest set yet used there.

**PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.**—A new set, with the value in cents, are expected for this Island.

**CANADA.**—After all the talk we hear about the progressiveness of our own country, and the old fogyism of the New Dominion, don't it strike our Post Office Department that it is rather curious that they should have got out post cards ahead of us? but unfortunately for the people, such is the case. Philatelists, however, will be delighted with these cards, which are decidedly the most beautiful of any yet issued. The design of the stamp consist of the head of the Queen to the right, same as the current set, in ornamental frame of shaded lines, with the value, ONE CENT, below. The inscription on the card reads CANADA POST CARD, THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE, To, with lines for writing the address. The engravers imprint, "British American Bank Note Co., Montreal and Ottawa," is impressed below in small type. The whole is surrounded with a beautiful border of lathe work—size, 4½x3 in., color pale blue.

**DENMARK.**—The postal cards for this country are very fine, and being printed on glazed white paper, show off the colors well. The stamps in the corners are the same as the adhesive, but are printed in one color only; in the left hand corner is the arms, same as on the fiscal stamps of this country.

The colors and values are 2 sk. blue, 4 sk. carmine. There is also a set of official post cards, of the same design, but inscribed JENESTE-BRERKORT, signifying official correspondence card. The official stamps for this country figured in the April number, have now made there appearance. The colors and values are 2 sk blue, 4 sk carmine, 16 sk green.

"On and after this date, all persons must lick their own stamps, as my tongue's give out," is a notice I saw in the small Post Office at Fairfax, Iowa, in a recent trip to that State.

## History of the Confederate States Post Office.

BY J. W. SCOTT.

It is now over eighteen months since I gave a description of all the Confederate provisionals, that were then known to have been issued by the different Southern postmasters. In the course of my opening remarks, I stated that there were probably dozens of these stamps that had never been described in any of the philatelic journals, or ever been seen by any prominent collectors. I am happy to add, however, that subsequent events have proved the truth of my assertions, the publication of that article being doubtless the means of bringing several of these interesting stamps to light. I now propose to give the most complete history of the Confederate States Post Office, possible, but unfortunately for causes explained hereafter, the article cannot be pronounced complete, although no expense has been spared to make it as perfect as possible.

So that my readers may be able to see what ground I have been over, and what my means of information are, I shall briefly state the way I went to work, and give the results from each trial, hoping that some collector will be able to see my errors, and so achieve better results, or at least find some untrodden field in which to operate; for whatever is to be done in this line, must be done quickly, as every day lessens the chance of success.

My first trial before publishing the article on "The Confederate Provisionals," was by writing to our extensive list of customers in the South, asking each one what locals they had in their collection, and a description of each; by this means, I gained considerable information, but scarcely enough to pay the expense and vexation caused by persons describing stamps which I recognized as counterfeits or humbugs as soon as I saw them; for strange as it may seem, the trash advertised as Confederate *fac-similes*, have apparently found a large sale in the South, and are to be seen in nearly every small collection in that section of the country. One rather amusing instance is worth relating, as it shows that all statements by persons not experienced collectors, should be taken with considerable grains of allowance. A gentleman residing in Nashville, informed me that he had a five cent stamp of that city, but not knowing if it was genuine, he took it to Mr. McNish, with whom he was acquainted, and asked his opinion concerning it; Mr. McNish at once pronounced it genuine, and endorsed his name on the back; sometime after, it was shown to me, and I recognized it as one of the twenty-five cent packets of *fac-similes*. Mr. McNish doubtless had never heard of such a thing as his stamps having been counterfeited, and as he recollected that his stamp had a figure 5 in the middle, and his name on, considered it genuine at once.

I next took to writing to prominent citizens of the South, editors of newspapers, &c., but with still less success. I also interviewed Mr. H. St. George Offutt, Postmaster-General of the Confederacy, but could only learn from him that he had turned over all the papers and records of his

office to the authorities when he was taken prisoner ; these were contained in eleven large boxes, and included among other valuable papers, two complete sets of official reports. These, he thinks, it would be impossible to duplicate ; but thought they could be found among the rebel archives in Washington, and inspected ; but being unable to spare the time, and as I considered the article needed, did the best I could with the help of my friends.

My third effort made in conjunction with the firm, redounded more to our joint interest than the particular object I had in view. We printed an extra edition of twenty thousand *Journals*, each one of which was furnished with an extra four pages of advertisements, specially directed to postmasters, in large type, and offering them one dollar each for all the Confederate stamps they could get, other than those issued by the government. These were directed to every postmaster in the seceded States. These brought in a few of the common ten cent stamps, accompanied by a note requesting us to send the same number of dollars by return mail ; but we did not succeed in getting a single local out of the lot. This was a loss of over one thousand dollars, the postage alone costing four hundred.

Determined to get the stamps if there were any to be had, I started on my fourth experiment in connection with the firm, and caused the following advertisement to be inserted in all the Southern papers for various terms :

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—J. W. SCOTT & Co. pay \$1.00 each, either used or unused, for the Stamps issued by the Confederate Postmaster of this town, in 1861. Address, J. W. SCOTT & Co., dealers in Old Stamps, 34 Liberty Street, New York City.

Liberal prices paid for all Confederate Stamps.

It will be seen by the above, which was worded the same in every case, that we presumed that a stamp was issued in every city. This was done to call attention to the advertisement, as persons would be likely to ask their friends if they had ever heard of such a thing, and so bring it before persons who might not otherwise have seen it. This speculation cost almost as much as the last, but it paid better, through it we purchased several good lots of the first issue of the Confederacy ; but we only succeeded in getting one local, and that was a blue Mobile, and it had a large corner torn off.

Determined not to be beat after the heavy loss I had sustained, I set to work to devise some new method of obtaining the desired information, and after careful study of the names on the various Provisional Confederate, and comparison with official records, concluded to put into operation the following plan : I first obtained all the known locals, and found that none had been issued by any Postmaster who in 1859, had returned a less revenue to the government than \$40—so concluded it would not be worth the expense of writing to officials doing a less business than this. After all the preliminaries had been settled, I procured a supply of three sizes of stamped envelopes, the two larger sizes being printed "if not delivered in 10 days, return to J. W. Scott, 75 Nassau Street, New York City." I next had printed by the Autographic Lithographic process the following circulars :



75 Nassau Street, New York, May 20th. 1871.

Dear Sir:

I have lately heard that during the time you were Postmaster under the Southern Confederacy, you issued a postage stamp for use in your city, and being greatly interested in the postal affairs of the confederacy, (in fact am now writing the history of its postal department) would deem it a great favor if you would oblige me with all the particulars in your possession, and a specimen of the stamp or stamps if possible; would be willing to pay any necessary expenses for the papers, or purchase any of the stamps. If you know of any other Postmaster who issued stamps during the same period, would be greatly indebted to you for their names &c. The only apology I can make for thus troubling a stranger, is the wish to enlighten individuals who are deeply interested in everything connected with the "lost cause."

Hoping you will find time to reply to this,

I am your obedient servant,

J. W. SCOTT,

P. S.—Will take pleasure in sending you a copy of the work as soon as published.

This together with one of the smallest sized envelopes, address "J. W. Scott, 75 Nassau Street, New York City," was securely sealed in one of the larger envelopes, and this again was enclosed in one of the largest envelopes, with the following circular, and addressed to every Postmaster in each of the seceded states, who had returned a larger revenue than forty dollars to the government in 1859.

75 Nassau Street, New York, May 20th, 1871.

Dear Sir:

You will confer a favor on the undersigned by addressing the enclosed letter to the gentleman who was postmaster of your city in the year 1861, or if deceased to his heirs, and if you do not know his or their residence, by returning it to me, as it contains papers of importance.

By giving this your early attention, you will much oblige,

Your obedient servant,

J. W. SCOTT.

In about four days the answers began to come in, but it was a melancholy sight to see the numbers that came back with the second seal unbroken, and endorsed "all dead;" the excitement and privations attending the war, were too much for men who had already past their prime. Every letter as it came in was entered in a book, which forms a valuable "Confederate post office directory," a work, which unfortunately was never completed during the war, this book will be of great service, in case any one should attempt to fabricate fictitious locals, as we have the autograph letters of hundreds of southern post masters stating that they never issued stamps. We should like to publish the replies of each gentleman, but it would take up more room than most of our subscribers would wish, we shall, however, give a few extracts, showing the various styles of replies. Some we received with our circulars enclosed tore up, others, simply returned them without replying, one ignorant "Carpet Bagger" returned both circulars (showing that he had opened the letter that he was simply requested to address) endorsed, Go to—you—rebel. Some sent the letters as directed, and then wrote and informed me where they had sent them, but as was to be expected, I found all classes of men amongst the present post masters. In regard to the former ones, some instead of answering my questions, wrote four pages of letter paper, to explain to me that they had



always been union men, and only left the office because they were compelled to. Others would write long wretchedly written letters, explaining what they lost by the war. Others gave me a vast amount of useful information, which will be embodied in these pages. Most informed me that I had been misinformed, and that they had never issued any stamps, or ever heard of anyone who had. One gentleman(?) wrote "You must be a fool if you think every southern post master had nothing to do but make stamps." Some politely hinted that I was either a fool or a knave, but they did not know which, anyway they could not help me any. But what is of more interest to collectors, I have received descriptions of many provisionals that I had never before heard of, all of which will be fully described in their proper order. I am sorry to say that some information that is embodied in this article, has obtained surreptitiously by other publishers, but as they cannot complete the information they have attempted to give, it is but a matter of small moment.

One cheering piece of information to persons in moderate circumstances is the fact, that I have succeeded in obtaining the dies of some of the stamps, and discovered a large quantity of another, which will place some varieties at least of these interesting stamps within the reach of all.

[To be continued.]

## Our Contemporaries.

THE PHILATELIST.—The last number of this excellent publication is now before us, and contains its usual number of readable articles, and a number of fine engravings. In their descriptions of newly issued stamps, we are surprised to notice that they do not remember the head on the seven cent U. S. stamp, seeing that it was described in our August number, the editor's memory of *The Stamp Collector's Magazine* is also at fault in this particular. In the same article, they notice a different appearance of the one cent Newfoundland, evidently forgetting the information given in the November number of the JOURNAL, that the stamps had been re-engraved by a different company. The variation from the original is easily noticed in the foliage in the lower corner. The valuable paper on the "envelopes of Germany," is continued, as also the "Spud papers;" these, together with "postal scraps," &c., make up the number.

*Mason's Coin and Stamp Collector's Magazine* contains the usual amount of interesting reading. In an article on the "Secrets of the Treasury Vault," we notice P. Eichell & Co., the St. Louis Match Manufacturers, have deposited \$20,000, as security for their revenue stamps. Speaking about revenue stamps reminds us that in the last page, amongst their list of proprietary stamps, John J. Sooy, 5 cents, black; this we had never heard of, and our efforts to find it proved in vain. A friend suggested that it might be a misprint for John J. Levy, 5 cents, black playing cards, and it seems probable to us that it is. We are pleased to note that five pages are devoted to the Philatelic department in the current number.

*The Stamp Collector's Magazine* contains Mr. Overy Taylor's "Papers for Beginners," which we hope to reproduce in our columns shortly. This is followed by "Our Contemporaries," and we are pleased to note that in reviewing *The American Stamp Mercury*, they credit our old friend Mr. Tiffany, with having written the best philatelic article ever published in America; and as all the best articles from the European papers have been reprinted here, it is equivalent to saying that he is the best philatelic writer in the world; a position we are happy to accord him. In an article on Western Australia stamps, Mr. Pemberton catalogues seventy-eight varieties of these stamps, a considerable advance on the usually accepted number.

*The Curiosity Cabinet* opens with an article on "Our Country Contemporaries," in which they take occasion to remark that their circulation is only 300; this is doing very well for the first year, as they are pretty certain to more than treble it on the commencement of the next volume: Persons seldom like to subscribe to any paper the first year; this, we think, is the experience of all publishers. In a list of the Confederate locals, they catalogue some from Mr. Scott's private collection, that have not heretofore been given. The writer places Rheatown in Virginia, it is in Greene Co., Tennessee; but this is perhaps a misprint, which is more likely, as he leaves the city blank for the R. H. Glass stamp, which he was unacquainted with. This is a decided improvement on the plan adopted in Dr. Gray's catalogue, who calls it a Memphis stamp, because it looks something like the five cent stamp issued by that town; conclusively showing that in England, stamps are catalogued as genuine if found in the collections of wealthy amateurs; we had shown the stamp to Mr. Scott years ago, but he refused to insert it in his list till he could *prove* it genuine. This, we understand, he has since done, and informs us that it was issue by Col. R. H. Glass, for use in the Lynchburgh, Virginia, post office during the early part of the war. Unfortunately half the paper is usually occupied with coin matters, and one page printed in a style of writing that few people can understand; otherwise, notwithstanding, its small size, we have no doubt, but that it would contain more information than some papers six times its size.

*The Stamp Collector's Guide* for May, contains a paper on "How the stamp business is done, a description of some counterfeit stamps, a piece on some Confederate provisionals, and also states that Prince Edward Island will shortly issue a new set of stamps, similar in design to the present issue, but with the value expressed in cents in place of pence. The change will be occasioned by the adoption of decimal currency; dollars and cents, in lieu of pence and shillings now in vogue."

The editor misquotes us in regard to the new Sandwich Isles' stamps. We stated that we first *described* them; we are aware the *Guide* first announced them. We are pleased to notice that its publishers are succeeding in business so well.

## A Short History of the United States Post Office.

*With a description of its various issues of Stamps.*

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

[Continued from page 63.]

This set of stamps, probably as beautiful as any country ever produced, did not suit a few carping critics of the public press, and before they had been in use a single year, new dies were ordered, approved, and in 1870 the "head" set made its appearance. These were furnished by the "National Bank Note Co.," and although beautiful in design and color, are not, in the opinion of many, as appropriate as the 1869 set. For a fine description of the manufacture of our stamps by the Bank Note Co., the reader is referred to the "AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY," 1869. We will now describe the 1870 set.

1 ct., Head of Franklin, Blue.

Bust of Franklin, L. t. L., in O. of white line, heavy shading of blue below, under border of O., body of oval fine lines, (U. S. Postage) in curve above, (one cent) in scroll below, separated by a large figure 1; three dots in each side of top of figure; those on right side being larger than left, ornamental scrolls form a border, ground work of fine lines underlie design. P. C., W. L. P., Ty. R. R. Per 13.

2 cts., Head of Jackson, Brown.

Bust of Jackson, L. t. L., in O. of white line, heavy shading between lower border, ground work of fine crossed lines; in oval, (U. S. Postage) in curve above head; (two cents) in scroll below, separated by figure 2. Shield underlying design; oak leaves to left, a line in right of bottom of shield, ground work behind shield of horizontal lines; P. C. W. L. P. Ty R. R. per 13.

NOTE.—This stamp has been printed in different shades of brown, all resembling more or less the original color, but still sufficiently distinct to constitute varieties.

3 cts., Head of Washington, Green.

Bust of Washington, L. t. L., in O. of white line, heavily shaded below; (U. S. Postage) in curve above head; (three cents) in scroll below, separated by figure (3). Ground work of oval horizontal lines; pointed shield underlying design, ground work of vertical lines; ground work of shield horizontal lines. P. C., W. L. P., Ty R. R. per 13.

6 cts., Head of Lincoln, Red.

Bust of Lincoln, L. t. L., in O., same as preceding ones; (U. S. Postage) in curved oval above head; (six cents) in scroll below, separated by figure 6. Ground of oval, crossed lines; frame underlying design, broken square or rectangle, ground of fine horizontal lines, ground of body behind, vertical. P. C., W. L. P., Ty R. R. per 13.



10 cts., Head of Jefferson, Brown.

Bust of Jefferson, L. t. L., in O., same as preceding ; (U. S. Postage) in curve above head, (ten cents) in scroll below ; shield underlying design, ground of oval horizontal lines ; ground of shield vertical, ground of frame horizontal lines. P. C., W. L. P., Ty R. R., per 13.

12 cts., Head of Clay, Dark Purple.

Bust of Henry Clay, L. t. L., in O., same as preceding ones ; (U. S. Postage) in curved band above head ; (twelve cents) in similar band below, separated by large figure (12) ; ornaments at side of oval ground of crossed lines ; paneled frame underlying design ; heavy shaded lines beneath figure (12), ground work of vertical lines in frame. P. C., W. L. P., Ty R. R., per 13.

15 cts. Head of Webster, Orange.

Bust of Daniel Webster, L. t. L., in O ; (U. S. Postage) in curved band above head ; (fifteen cents) in curved band below, separated by figures (15) ; at lower ends of upper curved band, small shaded balls ; paneling at sides, ground work of horizontal lines in oval frame, underlying design ; square with sunken panels in corners ; ground work of vertical lines in square. P. C., W. L. P., Ty R. R., per 13.

24 cts., Head of General Scott, Purple.

Bust of General Scott in O., L. t. L. ; above the head over oval, 13 stars, (U. S. Postage) in centre oval at bottom in curved band ; (twenty-four) just below (cents) in straight band ; ground work of oval horizontal lines ; in both upper corners, figures (24), surrounded by scroll ornamentation ; in lower right corner of frame, pile of muskets, in lower left corner, flag, cannon, and pile of balls ; ground work underlying whole design of horizontal lines. P. C., W. L. P. Ty R. R., per 13.

NOTE.—This stamp is the gem of the present set, as regards design, color, etc., and the rich ink used in printing it, is the nearest approach to the rich and varied tints employed by De la Rue & Co., for many of the English Colonial stamps.

30 cts., Head of Hamilton, Black.

Bust of Alexander Hamilton, (looking more like Stephen Douglas), L. t. L., in O ; (U. S. Postage) in double curved band above head ; (thirty cents) in curved scroll below, separated by figures (30), in a shield, ground work of oval ; crossed lines ; frame work beneath oval, a shield with broken margins ; ground work beneath whole design, horizontal lines. P. C., W. L. P., Ty R. R., per 13.

90 cts., Head of Perry, Carmine.

Bust of Com. Oliver Perry, L. t. L., in O. ; (U. S. Postage) in curved band with ornamented ends above head ; (ninety cents) in band below, supported by a rope with rings over top of oval frame, the words separated by figures 90 ; ground work of oval, crossed lines ; in upper corners, a star, in lower, anchors ; heavy shaded lines at top, bottom and both sides of outside frame ; ground work of vertical lines, underlying whole design. P. C., W. L. P., Ty R. R., per 13.



This ends the "head" set, and before closing, it is necessary to warn the collectors of them, that the colors given, vary with almost every lot printed, the author having in his collection the twenty-four cent stamp in four different shades of purple.

A new seven cent stamp has been prepared and printed to pay postage to the German Empire, but few are to be had. The design is somewhat similar to the set described, and bears on its face the head of Edwin Stanton, late Secretary of War. We now take up the envelope stamps of the United States, and cannot help congratulating the enthusiastic collector at the rich mine of varieties we are able to describe. The last set issued, has already no less than forty-three distinct individuals; at least, the author has been able to discover that many; whether more are to be had, is not at present known. In envelope stamps, we are far behind our European contemporaries. The paper used is poor, and the designs, are, for the most part, blurred and indistinct. We have in our possession a set of envelope essays offered to the government, which, had they been adopted, would have left nothing to be desired in point of beauty, clearness of design and appropriateness. These we shall describe at length in our section upon essays.

*To be continued.*

## United States Local Stamps.

BY J. W. SCOTT:

*Continued from page 20.*

STEINMEYER'S CITY POST, PAID 2 CTS., in small oblong frame, composed of six pieces of type, each exactly the same. Black imp., rect.

2 c. pink, slate, yellow.

1ST COUNTERFEIT.—A passable imitation, but is easily distinguishable by the following *Test*: in the centre of the upper and lower frame is inserted an additional piece, in the form of a crescent. As usual it is printed in a variety of colors.

2ND COUNTERFEIT. This has the same fault as the last, but the additional piece of border in this case is oval instead of circular.

ESSEX LETTER EXPRESS, 2 CTS., on four sides, enclosing ship sailing to right in oval, s.x. on flag at main-mast. Black imp., on glazed paper, rect.

2 cts., vermilion.

1ST COUNTERFEIT.—A pretty good imitation, but can easily be distinguished by the following *Test*: s.x. below the water at bottom of oval; the genuine has the water continued to fill the space occupied by these letters in the counterfeit.

2D COUNTERFEIT.—This is a better copy than the last, but has a s.x. too little, *Test*—the genuine has s.x. on the flag, this counterfeit has a streamer without any letters on.

## HUSSEY'S EXPRESS STAMPS.

The numerous issues of this gentleman enables us to adopt the chronological arrangement, similar to that employed in cataloguing Boyd's; but this list, we are happy to state, is correct, as when we experienced any difficulties in determining the date of emission of the earlier issues, we were able to apply to Mr. Hussey, whom we always found ready to give the desired information, and give it intelligibly, which is something much rarer than most people imagine.

1854. BANK AND INSURANCE NOTICE, DELIVERY OFFICE 82 BROADWAY, surrounding a view of the Bank of America. Colored impression on white paper, rect.

blue.

This has not been reprinted.

Similar to last, no dots outside frame, less flourishes round the inscription. Col. imp., rect.

blue.

This has been reprinted.

1856. BANK AND INSURANCE LETTER, CITY POST, 82 BROADWAY, surrounding copy of letter box. Col. imp., rect.

black.

This has not been reprinted.

Similar to last, no dots outside the frame, less flourishes round the inscription. Col. imp., rect.

red, black.

Has been reprinted.

Similar to last, hand-stamped on paid letters. Col. imp. on various paper.

black.

Has not been reprinted.

1857. similar to 1856 issue, address, 50 WILLIAM STREET. Col. imp., rect.

black, red.

Has been reprinted.

1858. Similar to last, but larger, and with the addition of \$1.00 per 100, at sides of box and BASEMENT below. Col. imp., rect.

red.

Has been reprinted.

Similar to last, without value, hand-stamped on paid letters. Col. imp., on various papers.

black.

1860. Similar to 1854 issue, with address changed to 50 WILLIAM STREET. Col. imp., rect.

blue.

Has been reprinted.

1861. HUSSEY'S ONE CENT STAMP, OR CENT EACH DELIVERY, 11 A. M.,

CITY POST, 50 WILLIAM STREET, BANK AND INSURANCE, in frame. Col. imp., rect.

1 ct. red.

Has not been reprinted.

1862. HUSSEY'S BANK AND INSURANCE SPECIAL MESSAGE, POST 50 WILLIAM STREET, CLOSÉS AT 11 A.M. 1 CENT DELIVERY, in frame. Col. imp., rect.

1 cent black, blue, green, red, brown, violet, yellow.

These stamps was printed in the above colors chiefly for collectors, but all frank letters to which they are affixed.

1863. Same as last issue, with date above. Col. imp., rect.

1 ct. blue, green, yellow, brown.

2 cts. blue, red, brown.

HUSSEY'S S. M. POST CENTS, 50 WILLIAM ST., N. Y. Mercury on horseback in centre. Col. imp., on colored paper, obl.

5c. black on red, 10c. bronze on green, 15c. gold on black, 20c. black on white, 25c. gold on blue.

These have not been reprinted.

1864. Same as 1862 issue, dated. Col. imp., rect.

2 cts., blue.

1865. Same as 1862 issue, dated. Col. imp., rect.

2 cts., blue.

1866. Same as 1862 issue, dated. Col. imp., rect.

2 cts., blue.

1867. Same as 1862 issue, dated. Col. imp., rect.

2 cts., blue.

1868. Same as 1862 issue, dated. Col. imp., rect.

2 cts., blue.

1869. Same as 1862 issue, dated. Col. imp., rect.

2 cts., blue.

1870. Same as 1862 issue, dated. Col. imp., rect.

2 cts., blue.

1871. Same as 1862 issue, dated. Col. imp., rect.

2 cts., blue.

None of the issues, subsequent to 1863, have been reprinted.

*To be continued.*

---

## NEWLY ISSUED STAMPS.

JAPAN.—We have lately seen some beautiful engraved stamps from this country, which the owner believed to be for postal purposes, but as his correspondent omitted to give this important particular, there is a possibility of their being for fiscal purposes.

The design consists of an elaborately engraved border of dragons, &c., with Japanese characters in black in the centre, partly different in each case. We are unable to give the values and even the color of one; we have seen one vermilion and one pale green.

PRUSSIA, *Nvogorod*.—We annex an illustration of the local for this district. A comprehensive list of these stamps will be given in our next number.



SWITZERLAND.—The Republic of Switzerland has lately issued two newspaper band stamps on trial, but we understand that if the experiment answers, they will soon be followed by some of higher values. The color is rose for each stamp, the values are 2 and 5 centimes; both are issued on two sizes of

wrappers.

HUNGARY.—As was to be expected, the postal cards for this section of the Austrian Empire, has been followed by a complete set of stamps. The design consists of the head of the King to right, in circle, arms below, and value in circle in lower left corner, and KR. in a similar circle in the lower right corner. The colors and values are:—

2	kreuzers,	yellow.	10	kreuzers,	blue.
3	“	green.	15	“	brown.
5	“	red.	25	“	violet.

We have only seen the 5 k. yet; they will only be issued as the same value of the present set is exhausted. A money order card of the same design is also in use; it is large size, printed in brown, on green card.

A new newspaper stamp has also been issued; the design is very simple, consisting of a crown and horn in plain circle, in ornamented rectangular frame; no value is indicated, the color is red.

AUSTRIA.—The 25 kreuzer is now printed in puce or violet brown.

SPAIN.—We annex an illustration of a variety of the official stamps figured on page 10, vol. IV, of the JOURNAL.

VICTORIA adds another to the already extended list of surcharged stamps; the new comer is the current tenpenny, with NINEPENCE printed across in blue.

BRAZIL.—We have in our collection a 2,000 reis fiscal stamp, that prepaid a letter from that country to a friend of ours in this city. It is rather extraordinary, as it could not possibly have been mistaken for a postage stamp, as it is nearly three times the size, and the high value would seem to show that it could not have been done accidentally.

AZORES.—We have lately seen AZORES printed across the stamps of the new issue of Portugal, but we do not believe them to be genuie, as by looking over a sheet of them, we do not find the surcharged words put in





an even line in any direction, which would seem to show that each one was printed separately, which would preclude the possibility of them being genuine. The words on the old authentic ones, are always found in even lines across and up and down the sheet.

---

## A Collector's Notes on the Stamps of New Granada.

“Tritus et e medio Fortunae ductus acervo.”

Having chosen an album with movable pages, we have prepared a note book on the same principle to correspond, and enter in its proper place from time to time a brief abstract of each article we have read on a particular Stamp or issue, noting where the original is to be found, adding occasionally an observation of our own, and a table showing the varieties mentioned by each author, until a little book has been formed, which, when properly digested, arranged and completed, would make quite a valuable Encyclopædia of Philately, and very nearly realize the idea of a work proposed by our publishers of a complete history of all that has been written about every Stamp. We venture to recommend the plan to others, as it amply repays the time and labor expended upon it, and now present to our readers, in a condensed form, such of our notes as relate to the issues of New Granada, in the double hope of saving them some of the trouble and expense which these interesting stamps have cost us, and of inciting some more experienced and better informed Philatelist to correct the errors and clear up the doubts which have presented themselves to us.

The history of this country of many revolutions and changing boundaries has not been chronicled with minuteness, and we have been able to ascertain only a few of the exact dates at which the several names were in use. Discovered by Columbus in 1498, conquered in 1538, made a vice-royalty with Eucador in 1732, with the other South American Colonies it declared itself independent in 1811. Though the wars which followed were not terminated until 1824, New Granada, Venezuela and Eucador had, in 1819, formed a Confederation under the name of Estados Unidos de Colombia, a union never very harmonious, and broken up by the withdrawal of Venezuela in 1829, and of Eucador in 1830, leaving the remaining State to adopt the official name of Estado de la Nueva Granada in November, 1831. In April, 1843, the Reformed Constitution changed the name to Republica de la Nueva Granada. Revolutions and internal dissensions soon succeeded one another, until in June, 1858, a new government christened itself by the name of Confederatio Granadina. Whether the Estados Unidos de la Nueva Granada was the successor or predecessor of this we have been unable to ascertain, but on the 20th of September, 1861, (one writer says November) the old name of Estados Unidos de Colombia was again taken up, and is retained until the present day. The country, for a long time, has been divided into nine divisions, seven States and two

Territories at first, now the nine States of Panama, Bolivar, Magdalena, Santander, Antioquia, Boyaca, Cundinamarca, Cauca and Tolima, represented on most of the stamps by nine stars. The official history of the stamps has, we believe, not yet been written, and the catalogues are at variance as to which of the three earlier issues is first, second, or third. Though we have examined a goodly number of specimens of all these issues, we have found no postmark with a date, on the contrary, the large mark of Bogota appears on every issue, down to that now in use. Reserving our own opinion as to the order of issue, and following Mahe, Levrault and others, we shall first examine the issues inscribed Confed. Granadina, which, from the similarity of their design, are often mistaken for one another. After describing the general design, we shall point out the differences between these issues, then note the variations we have observed in each issue, and conclude with a table of the varieties mentioned by several of the leading authors.

The design, then, consists of a centre, ground, border or frame and inscription, we describe each in its order :

*Centre.* Arms of the State, displayed on a solid colored disk, ornamented with a wreath of white beads, and bounded by a broad, white and fine colored circle, and consisting of a Norman shield, bordered by a fine colored and broader white line, and divided into three parts, nearly equal in width by two bars, each composed of a broad white between two fine colored lines. *Emblems :* In upper third, two cornucopias of flowers with large flower between openings. In middle third, a liberty cap with long tassel to left. In lower third, the Isthmus of Panama, with ship sailing to left above and below.

*Ground.* Of alternate white and colored parallel lines filling all the space between disk and frame, with numeral of value in color above and below.

*Frame* Octagonal, being a rectangle with corners cut, composed of a broad colored band, bordered by a broad white and fine colored line within and without, inscribed.

*Inscription.* Below, between ornaments and figures of value denomination in letters, on left, top and right, Confed. Granadina.

The sheet divided into rectangles by fine colored lines.

#### Characteristics of the Issues.

##### I.

Shield. (a) Width at top  $\frac{31}{100}$  inches, height  $\frac{36}{100}$ , values and specimens quite uniform.

(b.) The points of shield nearly touch wreath of beads, dividing it equally into thirds.

##### II.

Width at top  $\frac{27}{100}$ , height  $\frac{31}{100}$ , values and specimens vary.


The points of shield farther from wreath of beads, dividing it unequally.

	I.	II.
	(c.) Upper point equi-distant from sides.	Upper point not equi-distant from sides.
	(d.) White border, distinct and broad.	White border, indistinct and narrower.
	(e.) Dark border, very even.	Dark border, uneven.
	(f.) Upper third shaded by perpendicular lines. Middle third shaded by horizontal lines. Water in lower third shaded.	No shading. No shading.
	(g.) Large flower between cornucopias.	Large flower above cornucopias.
Disk.	(a.) White circle, clear and broad.	White circle irregular and narrow.
	(b.) Dark circle, continuous, and just touching inside line of frame.	Dark circle broken, and joining inside line of frame, so that the white lines run together.
	(c.) Little of ground of disk shows.	More of ground of disk shows.
	(d.) Beads small, 46 to 51 in number.	Beads larger, 43 to 47 in number.
	(e.) Diameter of ground of disk 40.	Diameter of ground of disk, 45.
	(f.) Diameter of outer colored circle, 45.	Diameter of outer colored circle, 47.
Ground.	(a.) Straight lines.	Waved lines.
	(b.) Figures of value broad, thick and large.	Figures of value not so large.
Frame.	(a.) Inside dark line continuing, just touching dark circle of disk.	Inside dark line broken, uniting with dark circle of disk.
	(b.) Inside white line quite even and not so broad as outer, and does not run into white circle of disk.	Inside white line uneven and narrower, nearly same width as outer, and runs into white circle of disk.
	(c.) Dark band not quite so broad.	Dark band rather broader.
	(d.) Outside lines even.	Outside lines not so even.
	(e.) From top to bottom, dark inside line, 62.	From top to bottom, dark inside lines, 62.
	(f.) From top to bottom, dark outside line, 82.	From top to bottom, dark outside lines, 82.
	(g.) From side to side, dark inside line, 45.	From side to side, dark inside line, 44.

## I.

- (h.) From side to side, dark outside line, 65.  
 (i.) Width of frame from colored lines, 10.  
 (j.) Outside diagonal of corner, 15.

*Inscription.* (a.) In thick white letters, not uniform in size.

- (b.) The two letters *ad* and *re* in upper corners.  
 (c.) Letters and figures of value on band quite small and thick.  
 (d.) Ornaments dividing inscription, diamonds, 

## II.

- From side to side, dark outside lines, 64.  
 Width of frame from colored lines, 10.  
 Outside diagonal of corner, 20.

In thinner, longer, more regular white letters.

- The letters *adi* or *adin* and *orr* or *rre* in upper corners.  
 Letters and figures of value on band thinner and larger.

- Ornaments dividing inscription, stars, 

The first set has only three values, 5, 10 and 20, very clear in engraving and printing, varying chiefly in the letters and ornaments of the legend, which vary much in size in the same stamps. In the 5, the C of *Confed* and the s of *Nationales* are just opposite the inside corner of the frame, the ornament at the top is square, that at the bottom on the left much larger than the right. In the 20 the s is lower, and in the 10 much lower than the C, and the top ornament is a diamond, and that in the left at bottom is a square in both. All values seem to be exactly the same in size, but the measurements given above are given with some hesitation, from the great difficulty of getting exactly such small distances, even under a powerful glass. The colors are: 5, blue, lilac, violet shading into grey or slate. 10, yellow shading into orange and brown? 20, blue, varying. We have never seen the blue 5 or brown 10, both of which we doubt the existence in this type, as well as the 2½ green or 1 Peso, but give them in the table with their authorities,

*To be continued.*

## THE NEW YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

An informal meeting of some of the old members of the above named body, was held at the residence of Mr. Pettigrew, for the purpose of reorganizing the old society.

In the course of the evening, it was proposed by Mr. Scott, that to stimulate collecting, it would be advisable for the Society to have a series of medals of an appropriate design, prepared at the U. S. Mint, and awarded to collectors for the best collection, and a number of specialties, on the following plan:

A gold medal for the best collection of postage stamps; a silver medal for the second best; a silver medal for the third best. Silver medals for



the following specialties: The best arranged collection, with special reference for the keeping of entire envelopes; best collection of Confederate provisionals; U. S. locals; U. S. stamps; Revenue stamps; U. S. Proprietary stamps; and for any other branches of the science, deemed advisable to offer for competition. A gold medal for the best postage stamp album. He also thought it advisable to prohibit any exhibitor from taking more than one prize, so as to allow all a chance, as the collection that takes the first prize would be likely to take several others. He also thought a sufficient quantity of the medals should be struck in copper, to give one to each member; but of course the reverse of these would not be engraved.

A meeting was called for some time in August, to complete arrangements and to elect officers, when Mr. Scott's proposition would be more fully considered.

Any stamp collector wishing to join, can obtain full particulars of any member of the Society, or of the editor of this paper.

W. R. PETTIGREW.

P. O. Box 151, Williamsburgh, N. Y.

---

## Clippings.

STAMP STORES.—The following excellent description of J. W. Scott & Co's, Nassau Street store, appeared in *Mason's Coin and Stamp Collector's Magazine*. "A week's visit to New York, among the dealers in postage stamps, has convinced us that this traffic is increasing rapidly. In one large establishment, we witnessed a pleasing sight. Seated at a large table were persons of every age, enthusiastically scanning the dealer's stock. Three persons were constantly engaged in assorting and counting the stamps, while a cashier, behind a wire-protected desk, was busy taking the fractional currency. Albums of every kind and value lined the shelves; some particular fine ones retailing for the modest sum of fifty dollars. In the show window, front, was a huge inverted cornucopia, from whose capacious mouth thousands of postage stamps were protruding. From the crowds entering and leaving this establishment daily, we should suppose the business unusually profitable."

BEER STAMPS.—By the annexed clipping from the *Herald*, we become acquainted with a fact, which we believe new to revenue stamp collectors: The following statement shows the numbers and denominations of beer stamps issued by the Commissioners of Internal Revenue during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1871: 385,210 hogsheads; 1,704,480 barrels; 1,920,850 half barrels; 185,352 third barrels; 12,927,780 quarter barrels; 1,413,376 sixth barrels; 4,166,760 eighth barrels. Total, 22,703,808 stamps; representing \$7,485,462; being an increase over the previous

year of 3,297,653 stamps and \$721,562. By this it will be seen that the present issue of beer stamps includes a one-third barrel, but it is most likely an addition to the set, if not, its use must be very limited.

**THE LIVERPOOL LOCALS.**—The bird represented on the stamp of which we gave an engraving last month is the liver, (the vowel pronounced *long*, or else, which we believe is most correct, as if it were spelt *leever*), a fabulous bird, somewhat resembling a crane, which is firmly believed by that equally fabulous being, “the oldest inhabitant,” to have been once upon a time peculiar to the marshy district, upon which the town of Liverpool was afterwards built. If it ever existed, which is more than questioned by naturalists, it has certainly for centuries past been extinct. It is represented on the common seal of the town, and its name is still adopted by local institutions, such as the “The Liver Insurance Company,” &c. As the marsh occasionally became a pool in consequence of the overflowing of the Mersey, the town is said hence to have obtained the appropriate name of Liverpool. —*The Philatelist*

**FOOT STAMPS.**—An old negro woman lately gave a letter to the mail agent on the Carolina train, at the station near Branchville, United States, and asked him to send it for her. The agent said the letter must be stamped. The old woman became indignant, said the darkies were free, and ‘Whar war de use of freeing the cullud pussons ef you didnt free de letters to?’ and finally yelled out, ‘How many stamps hé want, eh?’ The mail agent said, ‘Three.’ Down went the letter, and down went the old woman’s heel. ‘Dar! Dar! Dar! Dar’s three stamps! Dat enuff, eh?’ She was in angry earnest, and the bystanders were amused accordingly. The agent saw the joke, volunteered to pay the money for the stamp, and thus doubly stamped, the letter was sent to its destination.—*Mason’s Stamp-Collector’s Magazine.*

## Answers to Correspondents.

A. E. L., BOSTON.—Your communication is respectfully declined. We should, however, be pleased to hear from you on some other subject.

B. W. P., IONIA.—It would be impossible to say “which is the scarcest known stamp,” and give you its value, as there are many so scarce that they bring whatever price the owners choose to ask; seventy-five dollars is the highest price we recollect selling one for, but have been offered double that amount for some in our private collection.

W. D. A., BIRMINGHAM, ENG.—We never prepare extra covers for the Journal, as persons wishing them bound in our style usually send them to us for that purpose. We send you the required JOURNALS, they amount to \$1.30. For prices, see advertisements. Please remit balance.

Vol. 4 Jan 20 1871

# A Short History of the United States Post Office.

*With a description of its various issues of Stamps.*

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

[Continued from page 79.]

## Stamped Envelopes.

1853, July 1st.

3 cent note and letter size—red.

Head of Washington in W. R. L. t. L., frame O., engine-turned work at sides, terminating in a curve (three) above head (cents), below C. W. L. P. B. L. P. Ty. Large O. R.

1853, August 3rd.

6 cents, official size—red.

Same stamp, paper, etc. (six cents) in place of three cents, engine work, finished off in a straight line.

1853, Sept. 3rd.

6 cents, letter size—green.

Same stamp, paper, etc., but different slight shades of color.

1854.

These stamps being imperfect and liable to counterfeit, the greater portion of them were destroyed March 18th, 1854, and new dies issued of same design. Some of the old set dies retained as available, have the engine-turned sides, with curves close up to the letters, thus constituting several varieties. The new ones all have straight lines, more or less near to the letters.

1855, April 2nd.

10 cents, green, letter size.

Same stamp, paper, etc., with substitution of word (ten) in place of six.

1859, October 7th.

Self-ruled envelopes, 3 cents, red.

Same stamp, paper, etc, with the addition of three black bars printed upon the inner side of the right hand flap, so as to present, when folded, these lines to the writer, and thus insure a straight address. Running along diagonally the right side of lines are the words (Pat. Nov. 20th, 1855).

Self-ruled envelopes, 3 cents—red.

Letter and note sizes, B. L. P., W. L. P.

1860, October

- 3 cents, red, note and letter sizes.
- 6 cents, red, letter and official sizes.
- 10 cents, green, letter size.

Head of Washington, L. t. L. in W. R., frame small O., value in letters around top of frame (U. S. postage), around the bottom, a star of sixth magnitude on each side separating the letters above and below, C. W. L. P., B. L. P., Y. L. P., Ty. O. R.

1860, October.

Same stamp of 3ct red, same paper, etc, with the addition of three black bars, &c.

1860, December 18th.

1 cent, dark blue, letter size.

The first were made without gum in the flap to use for circulars. Head of Franklin, L. t. R. in W. R. frame, small O, (one cent) around top of frame, (U. S. Postage) around bottom of frame ; a star of fifth magnitude in each side, separating the letters above and below. C. L. L. P., B. L. P., Ty. O. R.

NOTE.—There are many varieties of paper upon which these stamps were printed, the writer having seen six, in one variety no period after word postage.

1860, December.

Same as above, with the addition of three black bars.

1861, January.

1ct. blue and 3ct. red, letter size,

Same stamp, &c., as above, in W. L. P. also.

NOTE.—These were to serve for prepayment of city postage, as well as transit by mail

1861.

Same stamps, paper, &c., with the addition of three black bars, &c.

NOTE.—Proving unpopular these envelopes were not reproduced after a small issue.

1861, January, ready but not issued until August 1st.

- 12 cents, bistre and red, official size.
- 20 " blue and red, " "
- 24 " green and red, extra official size.
- 40 " black and red, " " "

Head of Washington, L. t. R. in W. R., frame O., with value in band above head ; (U. S. Postage) in band below ; value in Arabic numbers in a small O. O. O. in each side, partly within and partly outside of band ; little branches framed in lines above and beneath O. O. O., outside of band C. T. L. P., Ty. elliptic, O. O. O. R.

Not put in circulation until August 1st, 1861.

The civil war, which began in April, 1861, necessitating new stamped envelopes as well as new postage stamps ; the recently issued 3ct., 6ct. and 10ct. were called in, but their use was permitted in certain remote sections, and under certain circumstances until September. The 1ct. blue was still considered valid. The above described large denominations which



had just appeared, and were not yet distributed in the seceded states, remained unaltered.

3 cents, pink, letter and note size.

6 " pink, official size.

Head of Washington, L. t. L. in W. R., frame O., (United States,) double lined letters above head ; value in double lined letters below head, and in W. R., the value is repeated in Arabic numbers on each side of head, surrounded by a small circle. C. W. L. P., L. L. P., B. L. P., Ty. O. R.

1861.

The 3 cent stamp of July, with the addition of three black bars, &c. 1861, August 1st.

Letter and note sheet, 3ct. pink,

Same stamp, sheet and envelope combined, C. blueish W. P., Ty. O. R. Doubtless taken from the numerous envelopes.

NOTE.—Not proving popular, no more were produced after first issued. 1861, August 1st.

10ct. green, letter size.

Head of Washington, L. t. L. in W. R., frame O., (ten cents) in band around frame above head ; (U. S. Postage) in band below head ; value in Arabic numbers on each side, surrounded by a circle, which is partly within band ; little branches framed in lines above and below circle outside of band. C. W. L. P., B. L. P., Ty. O. O. R.

1861.

Same stamp, paper, &c., with the addition of three black bars, &c. 1861, December.

### Newspaper Wrappers.

1ct. Dark Blue.

Head of Franklin, L. t. R. in W. R. frame, small O. (one cent) around top of frame, (U. S. Postage) around bottom of frame ; a star of fifth magnitude in each side, separating the letters above and below. C. T. L. P.. B. L. P.. brown, L. P. (many different tints,) Ty. O. R.

1863 June 18th.

2ct. Black.

Head of Jackson, L. t. L. in W. R., (U. S. Postage) above head, (two cents) below ; value in Arabic numbers on each side, in a lozenge, &c. W. R. C., B. L. P., Ty, in shape of a shield, R. Without gum and used for circulars.

1863. July 1st.

2ct. Black.

Same stamp, with gum ; T. L. P., B. L. P. Course brown paper for newspaper wrappers also.

1864, September.

2ct. Black.

Same stamp for same purposes, and in same paper, with the alteration of the letters to (U. S. post.) The die is broader and the letters and numbers larger.

## Request Envelopes.

1864.

Same as August, 1861, stamp, paper, &c., with the addition of three black bars, &c.

1864, September.

3 cents, pink, letter and note sizes,  
6 " " official size.

Head of Washington, L. t. L., frame O., (United States) above head ; value in letters below, and in Arabic numbers on each side. The whole in W. R. C., W. L. P., L. L. P., B. L. P., (many shades.) Ty. Large O. R. 1864.

The 3ct. stamp as above, same paper, &c., with the addition of three black bars, &c.

1865.

2 cents, black.  
3 " pink, letter and note size.  
6 " " official size.  
10 " green, letter size.

The 2ct. stamp of 1864, the 3ct. and 6ct. stamp of 1864, and the 10ct. stamp of 1861, same paper, &c., with the inscription: "If not delivered within 10 days to be returned to"—printed from the bottom to the top of the left side of the envelope.

1865.

Same 3ct. stamp, same paper, &c., inscription out, with the addition of three black bars, &c. Letter size.

1865, June.

The 2ct., 3ct., 6ct. and 10ct. stamps, with addresses of various firms and individuals added to inscription. L.

1865, August.

3 cents, brown, official size.  
6 " violet, letter size.

Head of Washington. L. t. L., frame O., (United States) above head ; value in letters below head, and in Arabic numbers on each side. The whole in W. R. C., W. L. P., B. L. P., Ty. large O. R.

1865.

Same stamp, paper, &c., with inscription, "If not delivered, &c., return to, &c.

1865, December.

	9 cents, yellow, official size.
12	“ bistre, “ “
18	“ red, extra, “ “
24	“ blue “ “ “
30	“ green, “ “ “
40	“ pink, “ “ “

(*To be continued.*)

## History of the Confederate States Post Office.

BY J. W. SCOTT.

[*Continued from page 75.*]

On the 20th of December, 1860, the Legislature of South Carolina passed “an ordinance, to dissolve the Union between the State of South Carolina and other states united with her under the compact entitled, ‘the Constitution of the United States of America.’” The action of this State was rapidly followed by Florida, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Louisiana. In conformity with a resolution passed by the legislation of Mississippi, a Congress of the seceded States was called for, which was at once responded to by several States, and met fifteen days later at Montgomery, Ala. This Congress represented South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Florida and Texas, but the members from the latter State did not arrive in time. On the 3d of February a provisional constitution was adopted, which was the same as that of the United States with some alterations and additions, on the succeeding day Jefferson Davis was elected President of the Confederate States. On the 11th of March, the permanent Constitution was adopted by Congress, and amongst its clauses we find one providing that the Post Office Department must pay its own expenses from its own resources after the first day of March, 1863.

The Post Office Department was now organized, with John H. Reagan as P. M. General, but the chief work devolved upon H. St. George Offutt, who from his long connection with the Post Office department, was eminently fitted to perform the difficult task. Mr. Offutt occupied the position of Chief Clerk of Auditors office at the secession of South Carolina, but relinquished that position to join the confederacy, although his native State (Missouri) did not leave the Union. The valuable library of postal works, (the only complete one in the U. S.) which he took with him, must have

been of incalculable benefit in starting such a complicated machine as a post office department for a large country; however, on the 1st of June, 1861, we find the department prepared with everything necessary for the successful operation of the offices contained within its territory,

The following gentlemen occupied the principal positions in the new department:

- John H. Reagan, Post Master General.
- B. Fuller, Chief Clerk.
- H. St. G. Offutt, Chief of the Contract Bureau.
- J. L. Harrell, Chief of Finance Bureau.
- \*B. N. Clements, Chief of appointment Bureau.
- Bolling Baker, Auditor.

The official seal of the department was of the following design: Four horse stage in the foreground, with steamer in the distance, seven stars above; this is surrounded with the inscription, CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT, which is enclosed by an engine and twelve cars, forming a circle round the whole; it is about three inches in diameter, and is embossed on green glazed paper with scalloped edge.

Most of the old U. S. Postmasters were retained on their taking the oath of allegiance to the Confederate States, and in one case at least, a competent man was allowed to keep his post without taking the prescribed oath; the few Union men who held office at the south, were compelled to retain their office till a new appointment could be made. A majority of the postmasters remitted the full amount due the United States Post Office department up to the 31st of June, and returned all the stamps and post office property that was in their charge; others less honorable, either kept the property, or turned it over to the Confederate department. Subsequently the department issued a circular, ordering all postmasters to send all U. S. property, stamps, &c., to Richmond, where they were utilized in various ways, but this was not till after the war began.

Circulars of instruction were now issued to the different postmasters, but unfortunately I have only succeeded in obtaining about twenty, although I have gone to great expense and trouble, in endeavoring to find those missing. I annex extracts from the principal ones.

EXTRACTS from a PROCLAMATION issued by J. H. REAGAN on the 13th May, 1861.

“Whereas, by the provisions of an Act, approved March 15th, 1861, and amended by the first section of an Act, approved May 9th, 1861, the Postmaster General of the Confederate States is authorized, on and after a

\* Chief Clerk in charge of the inspection office, under Postmaster-General Holt before the war.



day, to be named by him for that purpose, to take entire charge and direction of the postal service in the Confederate States ; and all conveyance of mails within their limits, from and after such day, except by authority of the Postmaster General thereof, is thereby prohibited :

Now, therefore, I, John H. Reagan, Postmaster General of the Confederate States of America, do issue this, my proclamation, notifying all postmasters, \* \* \* that on and after the 1st day of June next, I shall assume the entire control and direction of the postal service therein ; \* \* \* and the said postmasters are required to forward to this department without delay, their names with the names of the offices of which they are postmasters, (giving the State and County,) to be directed to the chief of the appointment bureau, Post Office Department, Montgomery, Alabama, in order that new commissions may be issued under this government : and all postmasters are hereby required to render to the Post Office Department at Washington, D. C., their final accounts and their vouchers for postal receipts and expenditures up to the 31st day of this month, taking care to forward with such accounts all postage stamps and stamped envelopes remaining on hand, belonging to the post office department of the United States, in order that they may receive the proper credits therefor in the adjustment of their accounts, \* \* \* until a postal treaty shall be made with the government of the U. S. \* \* \* Postmasters will not be authorized to collect U. S. postage or mail matter, sent to or received from those States ; and until supplies of postage stamps and stamped envelopes are procured for the pre-payment of postage within the Confederate States, all postage must be paid in money, under the provisions of the first section. of an Act, approved March 1st, 1861."

EXTRACT of LAW, APPROVED March 15th, 1871.

LETTER POSTAGE.—“ For every single sealed letter, and for every manuscript or paper of any kind, upon which information shall be asked for, or communicated in writing, or by marks or signs, conveyed in the mail for any distance between places within the Confederate States of America, not exceeding five hundred miles, five cents, and for any distance exceeding five hundred miles, double that rate ; \* \* \* and all drop letter or letters, placed in any post office not for transmission, but for delivery only, shall be charged with postage at the rate of two cents each ; and in all the foregoing cases the postage must be prepaid by stamps.”

NEWS PAPER AND PRINTED MATTER.—“ All newspapers published within the Confederate States not exceeding three ounces in weight, and sent from the office of publication to actual and *bona fide* subscribers within the Confederate States, shall be charged with postage as follows, viz : The postage on the regular numbers of a newspaper, published weekly shall be ten cents per quarter ; papers semi-weekly, double ; three times a week, treble ; six times a week, six times the amount ; daily papers seven times the amount.”—Papers weighing more than three ounces were charged in proportion, printed matter other than books, two

cents for three ounces, and two cents for every additional ounce. Books not weighing over four pounds, two cents per ounce for any distance, "and upon all newspapers, periodicals and books as aforesaid, published beyond the limits of the Confederate States, there shall be charged portage at double the specified rates." Publishers could exchange one copy of each paper, with each one free of postage. "All newspapers, unsealed circulars, or other unsealed printed transient matter, placed in any post office not for transmission, but for delivery only, shall be charged at the rate of one cent each."

**FRANKING PRIVILEGE.**—This privilege was abolished with the exception of the post office department, who were not required to use stamps on official business.

**PAYMENT OF POSTAGE IN MONEY.** SECTION 1 provides that payment for postage can be made in money, "until postage stamps and *stamped envelopes* can be procured and distributed."

**LETTER REGISTRATION.**—The registration of letters was not allowed in the Confederacy, and the old U. S. law on the subject was accordingly repealed. In Mr. Offutt's opinion, the government ought to take all the precaution possible to prevent any letters being lost or stolen, consequently it was a swindle to take more money for doing what they ought to do in every case.

**MAIL MATTER BY EXPRESS CO'S.** SECTION 5 allowed express companies to carry letters, provided that the required number of stamps had been affixed.

**SOLDIERS AND SAILORS** were allowed to post letters unpaid, the postage to be collected on delivery.

(To be continued.)

## NEWLY ISSUED STAMPS.

**HUNGARY.**—We annex a representation of the newspaper stamp lately issued by this country.



**DECCAN.**—We also give an engraving of one of the stamps of this State, and hope shortly to give a full description of all its issues.

**VICTORIA.**—It is stated that this country will shortly issue post cards, and half-penny newspaper stamps.

**AUSTRIA.**—The inscription on the post cards of this Empire has been entailed to ADDRESS, on the obverse, and.....AM.....187... on the reverse.

DANUBIAN STEAM NAVIGATION Co.—This Company have again changed the color of their 10 soldi stamp; it is now printed in carmine.

BOLIVIA.—*The Philatelist* notices a variety of the 5 and 10 centavos of the current issue, and thinks that they are the forerunners of a new issue. The new comers have eleven stars instead of nine.

FINLAND.—Envelopes with the values in pennia have at length been issued by this government; the designs correspond with the current adhesives, and are of the following values, 20 pennia, blue; 40 pennia, rose.

ANGOLA.—The color of the 25 reis stamp has been changed from flesh to vermilion.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—This Colony has lately issued an envelope stamp the design and color is the same as the one penny adhesive.

NEW PROVIDENCE.—We learn from *The Philatelist* that this island (Providence Island they call it, but suppose they mean New Providence), has a set of stamps of which there are twelve varieties; they appear from the description to be identical in design to those issued in the City of Providence, Rhode Island, some quarter of a century ago.

---

## Boyd's Postage Stamps.

BY C. H. COSTER.

### A C R I T I C I S M.

In the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* for July I notice the commencement of a series of "Notes on the United States Locals," by W. Dudley Atlee, who, after a few introductory remarks on U.S. locals in general, begins by describing all the varieties of the stamps of Boyd's City Express Post known to him. In the course of his remarks on this subject, he comments rather severely on a list of the stamps of the same concern which appeared in Mr. J. W. Scott's series of valuable articles on "Our Local Stamps" in these pages, and which was largely compiled from dated envelopes in my possession. As however, his attempted corrections are full of the usual blunders of English writers when they take up the U. S. local subjects, I trust that you will find room in your next number for the following remarks on his list:

That he is wrong in his assertion that Boyd's post was started in 1846, is, I think, shown by the following:

In the New York City Directories up to and including the one compiled to May 1, 1844, we find John T. Boyd, Auctioneer, &c., &c. On the 1st of May, 1845, however, we find his name as proprietor of his City Express Post; hence, it must have been started between May 1, 1844, and May 1, 1845. The next question is to determine the exact date. This I have not been able to do, but, as I have seen a letter dated



July 25, 1844, bearing the black on yellow Pomeroy stamp, also one of Boyd's hand stamps, the exact date is some time between May 1 and July 25, 1844.

He is also mistaken when he says that at present Boyd's only carries printed matter, as I have recently received several sealed letters through this concern; and, moreover, of what use would the two cent stamp, which Mr. A. alludes to as "current," be, if printed matter only were carried? for which the charge is only one cent.

Nextly, he says that what he classes as the first type issued (and which I believe to have been the third) was only in use a "short time." That it was current from 1845 to 1849, or fully *four years* I can prove, by dated specimens in my possession.

Now we come to his list of these stamps. He omits the large size two cent, of which, however, he asks for a full description. Large rectangle, exactly the same size as the well known Pomeroy letter stamps. The general design is the same as in the other Boyd's, although, of course, all the proportions are larger. This was described in the list in vol. III of the Journal, and was probably issued in 1844. Next probably came the small size two cents noticed in vol. IV. p. 19. This is also omitted from his list, which begins by describing the two cent black on green, given in Mr. Scott's list as issued in 1848-50. As before stated, I have it on a letter dated 1845. The two cent gold on white of this type I have never seen.

As regards the next two types (Mr. A.'s types, *I b* and *I c*; Mr. S.'s 1851-52 and 1853 issues), both gentlemen are wrong as to the order in which they appeared, for I have the type given as type *I c* by the former and 1853 by the latter, on a letter dated 1849, therefore placing it *before* the 1851 issue. The two cent gold on white of the 1849 stamp, was used on visiting cards, invitations, &c.

His types II., III., IV., V., are very much mixed up as to the order in which they were issued. They should be arranged as follows:

Type III.—1854. Black, on glazed green paper.

(I have never seen it on blue, perhaps it is a discoloration?)

V.—1856. Black, on dull green paper.

V.—1857. Red, on white paper. (Several shades varying from orange to red.)

II.—1857. Black, on green paper.

IV.—1860 (?) Black, on vermillion.

IV.—1060 (?) Gold, on blue, green and crimson paper.

V.—1865 (?) Black, on red paper (many shades).

Both lists agree about the *types* of the one cent stamps, but give slightly different *colors*. They should be as follows:

1st issue. Black, on green.

2nd " " " pale blue, bright lilac.

3rd " " " " "



Mr. Atlee omits the variety of the second issue reading one cents, as well as the following envelopes :

2nd issue on yellow, and lemon, buff and blue paper

3rd " " , lemon, and blue paper ; also the black and red impression noticed by Mr. S.

I have also a few words to say in defence of the golden, colored paper adhesive series, as he seems to doubt their ever having been intended to pre-pay postage. I will not pretend to say what the original intention in issuing them was, but as I have them all on envelopes on which they have prepaid the postage, they certainly are entitled to a place in collections.

His remarks that the date 1857 for the earliest one cent must be an error, "as that stamp is from an altered dye of type II., which was issued (*ante*) 1854," is easily explained by the fact that it was his type III which was issued in 1854, and that type II. was not issued until 1857, as per my list of the correct order of his types II. and V. above.

I do not understand what he means when he refers to a red on white and black on green two cents of type VI., for in his list we only find under that type ;

"One cent black on lavender, one cent black on blue," and I do not hesitate to say that there never were any *two* cents stamps of type VI. issued.

He concludes with a list of the hand stamps used by Boyd, but only mentions four varieties ; I have, at least, 7 or 8, but do not think a description of them would be worth the space it would occupy.

---

## Correspondence.

To the EDITOR of *The American Journal of Philately*.

Gentlemen.—A short time ago I was looking over the Post Office laws for 1866, and I noticed the mention of "Stamped Letter and Note Sheets," being issued by the Department. Not having seen anything of the kind mentioned in any Stamp Magazine, I wrote to the P. O. Department and received the following answer :

"POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,

Washington, D. C., Aug. 1st, 1871.

HENRY S. SMITH, Esq.,

Sir:—Yours of the 27th ult. is received, and I reply to your interrogations as follows .

1st. Stamped letter and note sheets were first issued by this Department on the 1st August, 1861, and their issue was discontinued in April, 1864.

If any are still outstanding they will be recognized in payment of postages, if tendered.

2d. They cannot be procured at the Department, and it is not known that any are still out among the Post Offices, for orders were long since given for their recall.

3d. The only denomination issued was three cents ; and only two sizes, note and letter—the price of the former \$3.68, and of the latter, \$3.88 per hundred.

4th. From the foregoing you will see that I am unable to tell you where you can procure specimens.

Respectfully yours,

(Signed.)

## Reviews of Philatelic Publications.

*The Philatelists Album.*—SECOND EDITION. NEW YORK, J. W. Scott & Co.

The second edition of the small size of this justly celebrated Album now lies before us. The publisher, acting up to the adage "let well enough alone," have not made any alterations in the style of the book, but have confined themselves to providing spaces for all the new issues, and bringing the catalogue up to the present time. 325 additional spaces have been provided and many new and well executed engravings have been added. If there is any part of the book that requires special mention, it is the binding, which is a great improvement upon the last edition, and the low price at which it is published (50 cents.), must at once commend it to every boy who is not already supplied.

## Answers to Correspondents.

W. N., ALBANY.—Please remit postage still due on the JOURNAL. Pre-paid postage on the JOURNAL is 24 cents per year.

J. B. L., EVANSVILLE.—There are four styles of the album you named, the prices being 50c., 75c., \$100 and \$150, respectively. The 3 cent 1851 issue, U. S. were only printed in red; a great number of shades can be found, but they are mostly caused by discoloration. There has never been an album prepared specially for revenue stamps; our publishers are preparing one, but it will not be ready for some months yet.

A. E. C., SACKVILLE.—The word *Ultramar* stands for "Beyond the Sea," and *Correos* for "Postage." The meaning of the word "Colon" on the Chilian stamps has never been definitely settled; both interpretations you give have been advocated. The Hungarian stamps mentioned in the JOURNAL for January, 1869 were revenue stamps. There is every likelihood of the present series of U. S. postage stamps being in use for a number of years.

H. L. L., BALTIMORE.—We have not yet been able to see a  $\frac{1}{3}$  of a barrel stamp, but suppose there is such a one.

E. F. E., OMAHA.—Some persons collect the western franks printed on U. S. envelopes; our publishers purchase them.

PHILATELIST, PORTLAND.—Should suppose that you could find our publishers albums in any book store in your city; if they have not the one you want, they will certainly get it for you.

COLLECTOR, SAN FRANCISCO.—For list of California revenue stamps, see March number of JOURNAL. The article on revenues will be continued shortly.

S. S., NEW ORLEANS.—Stamp collecting had not acquired any degree of importance prior to 1860, but many persons claim to have commenced collecting in 1848.

# A Short History of the United States Post Office.

*With a description of its various issues of Stamps.*

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

[Continued from page 93.]

## Stamped Envelopes.

Head of Washington, L. t. L., frame O., with band ; value in Arabic numbers on each side in a small circle, and in letters above the head ; (U. S. Postage) below the head ; little branches above and below circle outside of band. The whole in W. R. C. ; different shades of B. L. P., Ly. O.O. R. (Common cast envelope, new.)

The present set of envelopes in use after a long warfare between different makers, was finally awarded to G. H. Reay.

They are beautiful and appropriate, and embrace enough varieties to render glad the heart of the most enthusiastic "French school collector." The set I will describe is one said to be complete, although others may be issued before this paper reaches philatelists.

1 ct., ultramarine blue.



Bust of Franklin, L. t. L. in O., of heavy white lines ; outside border the same ; body of entire frame between the two lines of geometrical work ; (U. S. Postage) above head in frame ; figure 1 on both sides of head in small O ; (one cent) below. P. C., W. L. P. and B. L. P. in relief, R. watermark. (U. S. P. O. D.) as given already in "American Journal of Philately. (2 varieties, both

letter size.)

NOTE.—We may here state that all new envelopes have the same water-mark, and are adhesive, except the 2 cents on orange paper.

2 cts.. brown.

Head of Jackson, L. t. L., same frame as last, except figures 2 on sides in O. O. O., instead of O. P. C., W. L. P. Buff, L. P. Y., L. P. R. ; 4 varieties of sizes ; W. B. and Y. ending letter. Y. large letter size.



2 cts., brown, Newspaper Wrapper.

Same stamp, printed in R. on manilla paper.



3 cts., green.

Head of Washington, L. t. L., same frame as those already distinguished; figure 3 on sides in O. O. O. Letters of legend at bottom smaller than those above. P. C. R. on B. L. P., W. L. P., Y. L. P. and a pinkish shade of buff. 15 varieties, 2 small letter sizes, 4 medium, 4 large letter sizes, 4 extra large letter, and 1 official letter size.



6 cts., crimson.

Head of Lincoln, L. t. L., same frame; figure 6 in O.; letters of legend same size. P. C. R. in B. L. P., W. L. P. and pink buff. 11 varieties, 4 large letter, 4 extra large letter, and 3 official letter sizes.



10 cts., brown.

Head of Jefferson, L. t. L., same frame; figures in scalloped circle, forming bulge in outer frame; letters of legend same size. P. C. R. in B. L. P. and W. L. P. 2 varieties, both large letter size.



12 cts., (intended for purple, has more of a sepia.)

Head of Clay, L. t. L., frame same, bulged at sides by figures in O. O. O., P. C. R. on pinkish buff, and W. L. P. 2 varieties, 1 medium official size and 1 large official size.



15 cts., orange.

Head of Webster, L. t. L., frame same, figures in O. O. at sides, forming a bulge in frame; letters of lower legend smaller than upper. P. C. R. in W. L. P. 1 variety, large official size.

24 cts., Purple.

Head of Scott, L. t. L., same frame; figures in shield running outside of outer border; letters of lower legend smaller than upper. P. C. R. on pinkish buff paper and W. L. P. 2 varieties, 1 official letter size, 1 large official letter size.



30 cts., black.

Head of Douglass, L. t. L., same frame; figures at sides in parallelogram, clipped at corners, running outside of outer border. P. C. R. on pinkish buff and W. L. P. 2 varieties, 1 official letter size, and 1 large official letter size.



90 cts., scarlet.

Head of Perry, L. t. L., frame same; figures at



sides in pointed shield running outside of outer border ; letters of legend same size. P. C. R. on W, L. P. 1 variety, large official letter size.

Most of the smaller value envelopes are furnished with a "Request" for a return of the letter if not delivered within ten days, printed on the left-hand end of the envelope. They are also furnished by the Department to private individuals and firms with their names printed thereon, if purchased in quantities over 500 at one time, free of charge. In these latter envelopes, there is a great variety, impossible to describe.

This description embraces all the envelopes known at this date, (May 10th, 1871.) It is more than probable that many other varieties in size and color of paper will be issued from time to time by the authorities ; as they appear, they will be duly chronicled in the JOURNAL. We will next take up the subject of the United States locals, and we trust it may develop a taste for these interesting stamps.

*To be continued.*

---

## History of the Confederate States Post Office.

BY J. W. SCOTT.

[*Continued from page 96.*]

ERRATUM.—The commencement of third paragraph, on page 95, should read "extract of law, approved March 15th, 1861."

On the 20th of May, the Capitol of the Confederate States was removed to Richmond, the States of Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina and Tennessee having seceded and joined the Southern Confederacy. The new government had now nearly all its departments in running order, and the one, we are specially considering, lacked only one thing to make it perfect. The stamps, unfortunately, were not ready, and the want of these caused a vast amount of complications in the department, and left nearly every postmaster to supply himself. The results of their efforts, we shall endeavor to make our readers acquainted with.

The stamps I am now about to describe, were, I believe, all issued during the year 1861, although some postmasters have given me a much later date, but as they have not any papers in their possession to prove their dates by, I think my readers will agree with me that my conclusions are more likely to be correct than their recollections, as I have in nearly every case proved that the statements they have made to me to be incorrect, whole or in part.

Before commencing to describe the adhesive, I must say a few words about a class of stamps that have heretofore been entirely overlooked. I allude to



### ENVELOPE STAMPS,

that were probably made by nine-tenths of the 10,000 postmasters in the Confederate States. The large number of stamps would make a list well calculated to frighten most collectors even if they did not get a chance to be scared by the ugly originals. The design usually consisted of the dating stamp of the office, with (to use a Hibernianism) the date left out, and the figures of value either printed or written in its place. In some cases, they were authenticated by the initials

of the postmaster, written across or on the back. Some such as the Statesville and Columbia, which have a distinct design, I have included in the list. As I said before, the large number of these stamps, together with the impossibility of making a list of them, owing to the many deaths that have occurred among the old postmasters, and others refusing information or forgetting, what they considered so trifling a circumstance, which occurred ten years ago, will probably deter most amateurs from trying to obtain a collection; but as they are as genuine and authentic stamped envelopes as any ever issued by any government, and fully as interesting as the much sought-after British Guiana provisionals, I should certainly advise every collector to endeavor to obtain a few varieties of them. They were issued like all other provisionals, because the postmasters could not get government stamps, and found it impossible to carry on their offices by taking the pay for each letter; and, when we consider, that in the South there was not at that time any change under a dollar, it will at once be seen that it was simply impossible to take the pay and give change for each letter. This accounts for the enormous number of these stamps issued, as the dullest P. M. in the service had either to devise some kind of stamp or give up his office, and as office holders are not unusually prone to do that, the result was the simple contrivance that has been described. These stamped envelopes were usually sold nineteen for a dollar for five cent ones, or were stamped free when the parties brought their own envelopes for that purpose.

### A Collector's Notes on the Stamps of New Granada.

*Continued from page 86.*

The second set has five values, 2½, 5, 10, 20 and 1 peso. The lines are much coarser, the printing inferior; done, according to Dr. Magnus, in lithographic ink, and also with colored powder. The lettering is, however, more uniform than that of the preceding issue. We find a slight variation in the different specimens of the same value as to size, while the 2½ is smaller than the others in most dimensions. The shield is quite irregular. On the 2½, whether from bad engraving, transferring or printing, its white border is only indicated by slight traces on the left corner of the paper.

On the next page of our note book we have collected some few items about the issue with the legend *Estados Unidos de Nueva Granada*, designated by the catalogues as the third in order of the year 1861.

Large rectangles. The charming and unusual uniformity in the lists of these authorities, in all the particulars of date, design, values and colors, as though each had copied from the other, the profound silence of the writers in the magazines, broken only by the articles of Mr. Pemberton on forgeries (*Philatelist*, vol. I. 131), and that of Dr. Magnus on reprints (*Timbrophile*, page 464, reprinted *S. C. Magazine*, vol. III.), like a calm between storms is a great relief from the discussion about the issues just described, and not to occupy our attention, but indicates clearly the fact of their great rarity, and the little known about them. Their rarity, the peculiar character of the engraving, the great dissimilarity in their size and design, when compared with the issues usually said to precede and succeed them, led us some time ago, to suspect that Bellars and Davie, though standing alone, gave the right date, and that this was the first issue in 1858 instead of the third in 1861. Not finding that any of the authorities gave any reason for so unanimously assigning 1861 as the date of issue, we have searched long and carefully to find the exact date when the title in the legend was in use, with the unsatisfactory result of learning only that in addition to the names and dates given in our former article, there was a change of some kind in the constitution and name in May 1853, and to have our suspicion partially confirmed by the statement of several writers, that the Grenadine Confederation was merged in the United States of Columbia in 1861. In this connection the remark of the *S. C. Mag.* vol. V., 78, that an American contemporary states that the postmaster of Columbia declared the issues of 1860 and 1861 to be unauthorized emissions by "the rebels" is rather significant, and increases our anxiety to have the date and history of these emissions definitely settled. Leaving the question for the present, we shall proceed to describe the stamps themselves.

Most of the collections we have had the privilege of examining have contained only forgeries of these stamps, of which, unfortunately, several complete different sets are current, or what have appeared to us to be reprinted, so that we are compelled to rely upon the few hints we have from the authors quoted in our former article, and the few genuine specimens that have passed through our hands, from which the six specimens now in our collection were selected, following the same order as before. The design, similar for all the five valued, consists of:

*Centre.*—Arms of the country, displayed on a solid colored oval, bounded by a broad white inscribed oval band, and consisting of a Norman shield, more elongated, and bordered by a fine colored and broader white line. Shield measures at the top 26 and in length 36, and is divided into thirds by single colored lines or bars, the upper third shaded by horizontal parallel colored lines, on which the cornucopias and large flower above their openings are rather indistinct, the middle third unshaded, the cap smaller than in the last described



issues, the lower third unshaded, the isthmus solid, and the ships mere lines. The colored oval measures 56 by 39 outside. The white oval is bounded outside by a single colored line, measures outside 78 by 62, and overlaps the frame at sides and below, just touching it above, and is inscribed in colored block letters, *Estados Unidos de Nueva Granada*, with no ornaments, but the nine stars arranged in the lower part in two rows, 4 and 5 in d row.

*Ground*—or spandrels—of rather coarse alternate white and colored parallel horizontal lines, filling all the space between oval and frame.

*Frame*.—Octangular, composed of a broad white band, bounded by a fine colored line inside, and a heavier colored line outside, measures inside 77 by 58, outside 100 by 80.

*Inscription*.—On oval, as above; on frame occupying about two-thirds of each side and the top, *Correos Nacionales*, so arranged as to have an *o* in each upper corner, set diagonally, the value in Roman letters and figures occupying the bottom of frame, figures not repeated. The peso has *Un Peso*, not *1 Peso*, as in some counterfeits.

There are five values printed and lettered respectively :

2 i. $\frac{1}{2}$ Centavos,	black,	figures measuring 12,	letters 9.
5	“ yellow and buff	“ 12	“ 9.
10	“ shades of red	“ 9	“ 9.
20	“ shades of blue	“ “	“ “

*Un Peso*, shades of rose, no figures, letters 9.

The words *un peso* in the higher value and the word *centavos* in the 5 centavos measure 60 in length, while the word *centavos* measures only 50 in the other three values. The insertion of the conjunction *i* (standing for *and*) in the lower value is to be remarked, though not usually noticed by the catalogues. As traces of the 2 and the final *s*, of the dot of the *i* and the  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the fraction are plainly visible on some if not all the specimens of the peso, it would seem that the higher value was printed from the stone used for the lower, with the value altered, these two values being perhaps the least used. The specimen before us bears those marks which were first noticed by Dr. Magnus in the interesting article on the probability of reprints of these stamps above referred to, in which he mentions that the stone for reprinting the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  and 2, must have been remade; the top of the 2 in each case inclining to the left, while in the genuine stamps, it rather inclines to the right if any thing. We note further that Pemberton, in the *Philatelist*, mentions an orange besides the yellow and buff 5, and also, with regret, that the *S. C. Magasin*, vol. III, page 69, erroneously states that the typical stars number only 8, a characteristic of one set of counterfeits, and no where corrected in that publication, unless by the subsequent reprinting of the article by Dr. Magnus. Dr. Gray's valuable catalogue in the 4th edition, also has the *Peso* as if lettered *1 Peso*, as in the counterfeits. We append in full our table of the lists given



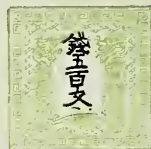
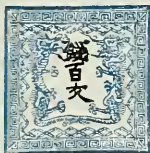
by our authors, with the addition of Mount Brown, fifth edition, and the S. C. Magazine as follows, omitting only the the descriptions :—

Authority.	Date.	2 i. f.	5.	10.	20.	Un peso.
Timbrophile ..	61	Gris noir	.....	.....	Rouge 3 n.	.....
Mahé Manuel.	61	Noir..	.....	Blue, pale	Rouge brun	Rosé.
Levrault . . . .	60-1	Noir..	.....	Ochre e. c.	Rouge brun	Rose.
Bailieu . . . . .	3	Noir.	.....	Jaune fonce	Rouge .....	Rosé.
Moens. . . . .	61	Black.	.....	Trinclair ..	Red .....	Rose lilac.
Mount Brown.	61	Black.	.....	Buff .....	Red .....	Rose.
Bellar & Davie	58	Black.	.....	Buff .....	.....	.....
Gray, Dr. . . . .	..	Black.	.....	Pale brown	Brown .....	.....
A Smith & Co.	..	Black.	.....	Buff .....	Red .....	Rose.
S. C. Mag . . . .			Merely notices five values in six colors, the five being in two.			
Philatelist . . . .	..	Black.	Orange	Dark blue	Orange red	Rose.
Bauschte . . . .	..	Schwarz	Orange	Blaue	Blas roth ..	Rosa.
Scott Cat. . . . .	..	Black.	.....	Blue .....	Red .....	Rose.
A. J. Philately	..	Black.	.....	Blue .....	Brick .....	Rose.
Triffet Cat. . . .	..	Black.	.....	Blue .....	Red .....	Rose.
A. S. M. . . . .	..	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

To be continued.

## Newly Issued Stamps.

JAPAN.—The appearance of these stamps has caused quite a stir amongst philatelists, sufficient to cause one of our contemporaries to state that they were the first to chronicle them. As this is not true, it shows how excited they must have got about it, for all their readers well know that



they never made a misstatement, and every word in any American paper is a lie (see any number of their papers). Since our description of them in our July number, we have been favored with three of the stamps to copy, and a few particulars concerning them, from a valued correspondent whom we are frequently indebted to. The set consists of four stamps; the colors and values are:— $\frac{1}{2}$  tempo brown, 1-tempo blue, 5 tempos green—vermillion.

ST. VINCENT.—Too late to be noticed in last number. We received some of the penny stamps of this island, printed in black instead of red. We expect to see the six-pence in a new color now, as it is the only value that has not been changed since it was issued.

SWEDEN.—Is reported to be preparing a new set of adhesives of the same values as the present set, with an additional one of the value of 1 rix-dollar; there is also to be an envelope and post-card, both of the value of 12 ore.

GERMANY.—Has issued a post-card, but as an adhesive stamp is used with it we do not attach much importance to it.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.—We understand is shortly to have post-cards.

CEYLON.—Is likely to have a new set of stamps. The  $\frac{1}{2}$  penny is reported to have been lately printed in rose.

## List of Western Locals.



We extract the following list of these interesting stamps from the *Curiosity Cabinet*, a paper that has unfortunately ceased to appear.

These stamps are all printed on United States stamped envelopes, in accordance with the law requiring all express companies to pay the U. S. postage on all mail matter carried by them:

- Atla Express (view) black, printed on 3 cent envelope of 1853 issue.  
 Bacon and Hardy, scroll.  
 Bamber, J. & Co., Contra Costa express, paid, oval, blue, on 1861 issue.  
 Bamber and Co.'s paid express, scroll with fancy ends, black, on 3, 12 and 24 c. 1861 issue.  
 Bamber & Co.'s paid express, curled scroll, on 3 cents white, and buff 40 cents, 1865 issue.  
 Bamber and W. B. Hardy's office, on 3 cents white and buff, 1864 issue.  
 " " " on official size, 6, 12, and 24 cents, 1861 issue.  
 Buchanan and Co. Cannon City express, black and red, on 1864 issue.  
 Ballou & Co.'s Cariboo express, paid, oblong, black on—  
 British Columbia and Victoria express Co., paid from Victoria to Lytton or Lillooet, round, black on—  
 British Columbia, paid from Victoria to Tale or Douglas, black on white.  
 Bedford & Co.'s express to California, 2 Astor House, large 10 in centre, black on—  
 Central Overland California and Pike's Peak express Co. San Francisco, red, on ordinary envelope.  
 Dodge & Co., Panama—  
 Dougherty and Martin's Half Moon Bay and Pescadero express, blue, on 3 cents, 1861 issue.  
 Downie Villa and Howland Flat express—  
 English and Wells Moore's Flat and Eureka Express, oblong, black on 3 cent, 1864 issue.  
 Evarts, Wilson & Co., oblong, black on—  
 Evarts, Davis & Co., black on—  
 Freeman & Co.'s ex. over our Cal. and coast routes, scroll, red on 3, 1853 issue.  
 Fox's Chester P. Half Moon Bay and S. F. ex. —  
 Gregory and English's Moore's Flat and Eureka ex., paid, connecting with Wells and Co. at Nevada City, brown and black on 3, 1864 issue.  
 Greathouse and Slicer, on 10, 1853 issue.  
 Greenwood and Newbauer, Northern ex., oblong, black on buff, 3 1861 issue, 3 1864 issue.  
 Grant and Taggart's Weaverville and Shasta ex., black on 3 buff, 1864 issue.  
 Harrier's D. W. ex. black on—, purple on—, red on—, 1864 issue.  
 Henderson's & Co.'s. Coast ex., oval, blue on—  
 Holladay, Overland Mail and ex., black on 3 buff, 1864 issue.  
 Holland, Morley & Co.'s ex., scroll, black on 3, 1861 issue.  
 Holland and Wheeler's ex., scroll, red on—  
 Hopkinson's ex. obl., red on—  
 Hunt & Hart's Warren ex., 50 c. black on 3 1864 issue.

- Kennedy & Co.'s Half Moon Bay and Pescadora ex., obl., blue, on 3, white, buff, 1864 issue.
- Kennedy, Long & Co.'s. Half Moon Bay and Pescadora ex., black on—, 1864 issue.
- Kenson's Owen's River ex., oblong, red on—
- Kersey's J. D. ex., black on—
- Lamping & Co.'s pd., obl., black on 3 lemon, 1864 issue, black on 6 rose on buff 1864 issue, black on 12 1861 issue.
- Langton's paid Pioneer ex., fancy transverse oval, black on 3 1853 issue, blue on—, red on—, fancy obl., black on white 3 1864 issue.
- La Porte ex. Co., paid, obl., black on 3 lemon, 1864 issue, black on 6 buff, 1864 issue.
- Lotta Mountain ex., paid, obl., 2 varieties of blue on 3, 1864 issue, black on
- Lockwood, C. M., & Co.'s Canyon City ex., black on 3, 1864 issue.
- Langton's Nevada Mail and ex. Co., paid, black on 3 buff, 1864 issue.
- Mead and Clarke's ex. over our Clear Creek route, black on—, 1864 issue.
- Nevada City and Meadow Lake ex., black on—, 1864 issue.
- Nicols & Co.'s ex., black on 3 white, 1853 issue.
- Norman's G. H. ex. obl., black on—, 1864 issue.
- Oroville and Susanville ex., paid, oval, blue on—, 1864 issue, blue on 3, —W. F. & Co.
- Organ and Tibbett's Excelsior ex.—
- Overland ex. *via* Los Angeles, red on—, 1853 issue.
- Pacific ex. horseman, black on—
- “ Stage and ex. Co., paid, obl., black on, 3 1861 issue, blue on 3, 1861 issue, red on
- Pacific Union ex. Co., paid, scroll, rose and red on white and buff, 3, 6, 1864 issue, rose on 12, 1865 issue.
- Pattison's ex. obl., black on—
- Pauly's N. O. ex. obl., black on—
- Pauly and Northman's ex.
- Public letter box, 5 Kearney st. obl., blue on—, 1864 issue.
- Public P. O. horseman.
- Private P. O., obl., 15 and 25 c. blue on—, 1864 issue.
- Robinson & Co.'s San Francisco ex., scroll, blue—
- San Francisco Letter ex. horseman, blue.
- Salmon River and Nez Perce's ex., paid, 75 cents, oblong, black on—
- Swift & Co.'s ex., black on 10 white, buff 1853 issue
- Thomas and Skaden's ex., Susanville and Reno, connecting with Wells, Fargo & Co., on 3 buff white, official 6, 1871 issue.
- Tibbett & Co.'s Excelsior ex., obl., black on white, 1864 issue.
- Tinnin & Owen's Weaverville and Shasta ex., obl., black on—, 3 white, 1864 issue.



- Truman and Chapman's ex., obl., black on 3, 1861 issue.  
 Truman & Co.'s ex. Office in S. F., obl., blue black on—, 1864 issue.  
 " " paid, black on 3, 1864 issue.  
 " " Merchant's Exchange Buildings, Battery St., opposite  
 P.O., black on 3, 1864 issue.  
 " " S. F. and S. I. R. ex., black on 3, 1864 issue.  
 Tracy & Co., Oregon ex., paid, streamer, black on 3 white, 1861 issue.  
 Wand and Davis ex., oval, blue on—, 1864 issue.  
 Wells and Herring's Moore's Flat and Eureka ex., connecting with  
 Wells, Fargo, on 3 lemon, 1871 issue.  
 " " paid through, angle blue on 3 white, 1864 issue.  
 Wheeler's ex., scroll, black on 3 white, yellow, 1864 issue.  
 Whiting & Co.'s Feather River ex., brown on—, 1864 issue.  
 " " black on 3 buff, white, 1864 issue.  
 " " handstruck, oval, black on 3, 1864 issue.  
 Wheeler, Rutherford & Co.'s paid ex., scroll, black on 3 white, 1861  
 issue.  
 Wells, Butterfield & Co.—  
 Wood & Co.'s ex., black on 3, 1864 issue.  
 Zack's Snow Shoe ex., obl., black on

### WELLS, FARGO & CO.'S PAID ENVELOPES.

- Cal. and Coast routes, black on all envelopes from 1853 to present date.  
 Boise Mines, 50 c. in red on 3 white, 1861 issue.  
 China and Japan Ex.  
 Victoria and Brit. Col., yellow envelope.  
 " Vancouver's I., white envelope.  
 Mexican Coast and Cal. ex., 25 c. in black on 3 white, lemon, buff, 1864  
 issue.  
 For Mexican ports, paid, 25 c. in red on—, paid, 25 c., black on—,  
 1861 issue.  
 Mexican and Coast routes, 25 black on 3, 1864 issue.  
 Cal. and Coast routes are also printed at the end of various U. S. enve-  
 lopes, with different advertisements at the top.  
 Cal. and Atlantic ex., red on 10 buff, 1853 issue; 10 white, 1861 issue;  
 black on envelope from 1861 to 65.  
 ½ oz. paid St. Joseph to Placerville, per Pony ex., on end of 10 white,  
 1861 issue.  
 Paid *via* Omaha N. T., in red scroll, on 3 white, 1853 issue.  
 Paid 2½ c. for the interior of Lower California, only plain env. brown,  
 buff.  
 39 and 40, Court Square, Boston—  
 25 c. ½ oz. Pony Ex., rose on 3, 1861 issue.

## Clippings.

A NEW U. S. REVENUE of the old type has just made its appearance, 6 cents proprietary.

AN AUCTION SALE of Stamps will come off on October 9th, at the Clinton Hall Sale Rooms, under the management of J. W. Scott & Co. This makes the fifth auction sale of stamps. We understand that two more collections are preparing for sale.

A NEW POSTAL ENVELOPE.—The London Society of Arts has issued a specimen envelope, which it suggests as a substitute for the postal card. It is a small oblong sheet of thin paper, the top side being shaped off in the form of the usual envelope flaps. The inside of the sheet having been written on, the two sides are folded in, the bottom folded over them, and then the flap brought down and fixed in the usual way with moistened gum.

The whole is simple and light, weighing two grains less than the post card. Both in regard to public and postal convenience, it seems in every way preferable to the post card.

A LIVE CAT was found in the mail bag at a town in Maine one day last week. The postmaster made diligent search through all the United States postage laws to find the amount of postage on the animal, but found nothing touching the case.

"HENPECK" is the name of a post office in Alexandria, Co. Illinois. It does a small business. The males avoid it.



## Answers to Correspondents.

L. H. H., CITY.—If you will send us the stamp we can inform you, but it is impossible for us to tell you if a stamp is genuine from your statement, that it has the head of Andrew Jackson on it.

COUNTRY PHILATELIST, NEW MARKET, N. H.—The 5 c. laureated French was not issued; you will find the mistake corrected in later editions. We can only recommend the last-named dealer. Thanks for your suggestion, we will endeavor to carry it out.

C. H. A., ST. LOUIS.—A description of some of the Confederate locals will be given in the next number. We believe it is the intention of our publishers to give a colored illustration of each one. It will not be completed under six numbers.

PHILATELIST, PHILADELPHIA.—Are sorry so many collectors in your city are disappointed. The article on revenues will be continued shortly.

ENGLISHMAN, CITY.—We agree with you that it is a great pity that the papers of your country should act in the manner they do, as they injure the reputation of English collectors, and destroys their credit in this country. Of course their motive is patent to their youngest reader.

## A Short History of the United States Post Office.

*With a description of its various issues of Stamps.*

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

[Continued from page 103.]

### United States Provisional Stamps.

These stamps were prepared at the expense of the different Postmasters of the cities in which they were issued ; acknowledged by the general government, but not official emanations.

New York P. O. 5 cts. black.

Head of Washington, L. t. L. O. (Post Office) in curve above ; (Five Cents,) in curve below ; (New) in left upper corner ; (York,) in right upper corner ; (Ornamented,) leaves in lower corner ; P. C., W. L. P., T, Y. R., No perforation.

The plate for these stamps was engraved by Messrs. Rawden, Wright & Hatch, of New York, about 1846. The Specimens met with are nearly all cancelled and easily obtainable.

St. Louis Post Office.



As these stamps have for some time attracted much attention, we cannot do better than re-produce some of the statements in regard to them. On page 10 of the "American Journal of Philately," Jan. 20th 1870, in a very excellent article on United States Provisionals by the Editor, will be found the following :

These stamps have probably attained more notriety than any of the series. They were first noticed by the *Stamp Collector's Magazine* in 1867, but the editor remarks that "unfortunately he has never been able to get even a glance at one." About a year after, the same paper gives engravings of two varieties, the five and ten cent stamps, which were taken from another paper, but still without being able to see one himself, which will give some idea of their scarcity. They were first noticed in *Le Timbrophile* in the same year, and a few months afterwards appeared a letter in the same paper denying their authenticity, but the writer after filling up a page or so with his opinions, and experience proves, but one thing, and that is, that he is totally unacquainted with geography and English, as he supposes that they were used as a "trade mark or advertisement."

In the September number of the *Stamp Collector's Magazine*, we find it stated that a member of the New York Philatelic Society had sent the editor a specimen of the 10 cent stamp for his inspection, and also a letter from a gentlemen in St. Louis, which gives some valuable information, which, strange to say, has been entirely overlooked. He states the engraver "prepared *two* plates, each containing *six* stamps," from which we should infer that there were six varieties of each ; but after years of labor and search, we have been unable to discover more than three varieties of each stamp, and so conclude, that the second plate was merely a transfer of the first, which contained three 5 cent and three 10 cent stamps, each engraved separately.

To Mr. L. W. DURBIN belongs the honor of discovering the second die of 10 cent, while Mr. PEMBERTON, first noticed the variety of the 5 cent, and after careful study, and examining a number of specimens, have discovered another die of each.

The variety in the 5 cent consists of the following differences, which are quite sufficient to distinguish them by, although in comparison, many minor variations can easily be discerned.

<i>Die A.</i>	<i>Die B.</i>	<i>Die C.</i>
1. The buckle (to garter in centre) turns down to the left side.	1. The buckle points down to the right side.	1. Same as Die B.
2. Corner ornament over LOUIS formed of eight strokes.	2. Ten strokes over LOUIS.	2. Seventeen strokes over LOUIS.
3. Bear in shield on ground of vertical lines.	3. Same as Die A.	3. Bear standing on ground of horizontal lines with vertical lines above.

The distinguishing marks of the three dies of the 10 cent may be set down as follows :

<i>Die A.</i>	<i>Die B.</i>	<i>Die C.</i>
Three dashes under POST OFFICE.	Six dashes under POST OFFICE.	Eighteen dashes and dots under POST OFFICE.

But the greatest discovery we have to lay before our readers consists in the finding another value, namely, a 20 cent stamp. The first time we saw it, we had but a slight look at it, and thought it was a counterfeit ; afterwards, on closer examination, we came to the conclusion that it had been altered from a 5 cent stamp, the 5 having been scratched out and a 20 put in by hand, it being formed so badly, but after soaking it off the paper, and holding it up to the light, we could find no difference in the thickness of the paper. We, however, would not have pronounced it gen-



uine on that specimen, but the same party having two more specimens, we compared them carefully, and find that two of them are exactly alike, and have evidently been altered from the original plate, (*die C*), on the other, the figure 20 is slightly different, and is altered from *die B*. From slight marks found on them, we are of opinion that the original dies of the 5 cent stamp were altered to 20, or at least two of them.

This extract gives a full and excellent description of all the known varieties.

The plates for these stamps were engraved in copper by Mr. J. W. Kershaw for Mr. J. H. Wymer, Postmaster at St. Louis, and printed black, on blueish paper; most of them are cancelled with black ink pen strokes, but we have seen them with the postmark in red ink. Many European collectors doubt these stamps, and with a perverse obstinacy refuse to be convinced, possibly because they cannot obtain specimens for their albums. We would refer our readers to the "Journal" for the last three years for all the pros and cons of the subject.

Providence, R. I. 5 cts. black. 10 cts. black.

O. O. enclosing words (Post Office) in curve, (Providence, R. I.) in straight line, (five cents) in curve below ground of fine lines, ornamental scroll work in four corners, Ty., P. C., W. L., P. R. R. No perforation.

These stamps were engraved by a Mr. Hidden, who has, it is said, counterfeited them. The engraved plate still exists, and is in the State Treasury, in Providence, R. I. A peculiarity concerning this stamp is, that the sheet contained 11 varieties of the 5 cent stamp, and in the lower right hand corner was a 10 cent stamp.

Brattleboro, Vt. 5 cents black on buff.



Octagonal frame, enclosing "F. N. P.;" ground work of diagonal waved lines, at top (Brattleboro, Vt.,) on right hand side (O,) on left (P.) at the bottom (5 cents.) Ty., R. R., B. P., P. C. No perf.

This stamp was engraved in 1846 by Thomas Chubbuck on copper, and issued by Dr. Fred N. Palmer, 10 varieties, and about 5000 specimens were printed in all. For further information consult Jan. No. of Journal for 1871. These stamps are fearfully scarce, and are held at prices far above the pockets of ordinary collectors.

(To be continued.)

---

## New Revenues.

Most of the new revenue stamps have been issued; they are all printed in two colors, the proprietary, in green and black, and those for general use in blue and black; they are all the same size as the corresponding values of the old issue.

## The Revenue Stamps of Nevada.

In view of the general dearth of knowledge in relation to the above stamps, a few facts in regard to them, which have cost me much trouble to collect, may be of interest to many of the readers of the JOURNAL.

March 9th, 1865, an Act was passed by the State Legislature, and approved, entitled "An Act to provide Revenue for the support of the State of Nevada." This law was made for the purpose of augmenting the general revenues of the State, the finances of which, at that period, were in a very low condition. The Act took effect in December, 1865, at which time the stamps were first issued.

No changes have been made in the law, until the last session of the Legislature, (1871), when a portion of the Act was amended, but as the amendment relates only to the operations of the law, it has no philatelic interest.

As an illustration of the heavy taxation which the people of Nevada have to bear, it may be mentioned that it is necessary to place upon legal papers, the Revenue Stamps of the United States, as well as those of Nevada.

The stamps are lithographed by the firm of Britton & Rey, of San Francisco, Cal.

### DESCRIPTIVE LIST.

2 CENTS.—Rect.: *centre device*, double star in oval disk, with large figure 2 in centre of star : *above and below*, scrolled labels containing the words, [NEVADA] and [STATE REVENUE] : *at sides*, the words, [TWO] and [CENTS] in white letters. White numerals of value in circle of color, at each corner.

COLOR : *Orange*.

5 CENTS.—Rect.: *centre device*, large figure 5 in centre of oval disk : *above and below*, covered labels, containing the words, [NEVADA] and [STATE REVENUE] : *at sides*, the words, [FIVE] and [CENTS] in colored letters. White numerals of value in circle of color at each corner.

COLOR : *Green*.

10 CENTS.—Rect.: *centre device*, large figure 10 in centre of oval disk : *above and below*, curved labels, containing the words, [NEVADA] and [STATE REVENUE] : *at sides*, the words, [TEN] and [CENTS] in colored letters. White numerals of value in circle of color, at each corner.

COLOR : *Blue*.

25 CENTS.—Rect.: *centre device*, large figure 25 in centre of oval disk : *above and below*, scrolled labels, containing the words, [NEVADA] and [STATE REVENUE] : below the word NEVADA is the word, [TWENTY-FIVE],

and above the words STATE REVENUE is the word [CENTS], both in white letters on the colored groundwork of the oval disk: *at sides*, ornaments. White numerals of value in circle of color at each corner.

COLOR: *Red*.

50 CENTS.—Rect.: *centre device*, large figure 50 in centre of oval disk: *above and below*, scrolled labels, containing the words, [NEVADA] and [STATE REVENUE]: *at sides*, the words, [FIFTY] and [CENTS] in white letters. White numerals of value in circle of color at each corner.

COLOR: *Mauve*.

1 DOLLAR.—Rect.: *centre device*, the word [ONE] in colored letters over the large character [\$] in white, both in centre of oval disk: *above and below*, curved labels, containing the words, [NEVADA] and [STATE REVENUE]: *at each side*, the words, [ONE DOLLAR] in white letters. White figure of value in circle of color at each corner.

COLOR: *Pink*.

The above list may be considered as authentic, it having been taken from an unused set in the possession of the undersigned, which was obtained direct from the State Comptroller of Nevada.

F. A. GRAY.

---

## History of the Confederate States Post Office.

BY J. W. SCOTT.

[Continued from page 104.]

### ALABAMA.

This State has an area of 50,722 square miles, and is situated between 35° N. latitude, and between 85° and 88° 10' W. longitude. It is bounded on the North by the State of Tennessee, on the East by the States of Georgia and Florida; on the South by Florida and the Gulf of Mexico, and on the West by the State of Mississippi. The State is divided into two Districts and fifty-two Counties. The principal cities are Mobile. (the largest), Montgomery, (the Capital), Tuscaloosa, (the former Capital) Wetumpka, Huntsville, Marion, Talladega, Florence, Athens, and Jacksonville. All of these have a population ranging from 10,000 to 60,000. The population of the State in 1855 was 841,704, of whom 464,456 were white, 374,782 slaves, and 2,466 free colored. In 1859, there were 711 post-offices in the State.

Alabama is a word of Indian origin, signifying "here we rest." It originally formed part of Georgia, but in 1793, the county, now included in the States of Alabama and Mississippi, was organized as a Territory, called Mississippi. In 1817, the western portion was admitted into the union as the State of Mississippi, while the eastern part remained as the territory of Alabama till 1819, when it was admitted as a State, having at that time 127,901 inhabitants, of whom 41,879 were slaves.

On the 11th January, 1861, Alabama passed an ordinance of secession in secret session, 61 members voting Yea, Nays 39. A proposition to submit the ordinance to the people, was lost, Yeas 47, Nays 53. The Confederate constitution, was ratified on the 13th of March, Yeas 87, Nays 6,

#### GREENVILLE.

Is the county seat of Butler County, and is situated on the Mobile and Great Northern Railway, forty-five mile from Montgomery. It has a population of 7,000. Alexander McKellar was United States Postmaster at the breaking out of the war, but I am unable to find out if he retained his position as postmaster when the State seceded. In 1856 the office returned a net revenue to the department of \$350,14.



PAID-FIVE.  
Greenville, Ala.



The stamp or stamps issued by the postmaster of this town are among the scarcest of the provisionals. Only one specimen is positively known to be in existence; this was kindly lent us by the owner, R. C. Davis, Esq., of Philadelphia, for our artist to copy. The excellent engraving here given, makes description unnecessary, excepting to state that it is printed on heavy glazed paper.

A correspondent in Baltimore informs us that he has the five, and also a ten cent with blue letters, and red frame printed on same kind of paper; but as he would not sell either, and declined to lend them for examination, I cannot add the ten to my list. Having only seen one copy, I am, of course, unable to note any varieties; but as the lettering appears to have been printed in by hand, should suppose they once existed.

Having been unsuccessful in my efforts, to communicate with the gentleman who issued this unique stamp, I am unable to give any further particulars.

#### LIVINGSTON.

Is the county seat of Sumter County, and is situated on the Selma and Meriden Railroad, about eighty miles west of Selma. It has a population of about 1,800. Robert F. Houston was Postmaster at the breaking out of the war. In 1856 it returned a net revenue to the department of \$372,92



Of equal rarity with the last described, is the beautiful original of the accompanying engraving, which, by the way, does not do it justice; the stamp being a very fine lithograph, and is one of the handsomest issued in the confederacy. Only two specimens are known to be in existence, and it is doubtful if there is any variation in the type, as the stamp shows itself to be the work of

a master hand.

For the reason given with the last, I am unable to give any particulars in regard to its issue. Unfortunately, this will too often be found the case in the present papers.



## MOBILE.

Is the county seat of Mobile County, and is the largest city in Alabama, having a population of 60,000. It is situated on the Mobile River, near its entrance into the Bay. The city has a large commerce, and next to New Orleans, is the largest cotton mart in the United States. Lloyd Bowers was Postmaster at the commencement of the war. In 1856 the post office returned a net revenue to the department of \$13,541.13.



The stamps here represented were among the earliest of the provisionals, to be known to collectors, but although I have no positive information on the subject I should not assign them an earlier date than July, 1861, that being the earliest date I found on any of the blue ones, and of these I have seen



about fifty. The two cent ones are of the first degree of rarity.

Have never discovered any varieties of these stamps, except slight difference of shade in the five cent one. From the workmanship, should think it probable they were the work of the same artist as the Livingston.

*To be continued.*

## Newly Issued Stamps.

FRANCE.—By a late Postal law, passed by the French Deputies raising the rate of postage, five new stamps are likely to be issued by the government, two of these have already made their appearance, a 25 centimes, blue, and 15 centimes, bistre, and are exactly the same shade as the 10 and 20c. they have superseded. A 3c. 70c. and 1fr. 20c. we suppose will soon follow, and the 1c. 10. and 20c. will most likely be withdrawn.

BAVARIA.—The unpaid letter stamp for this State has now a companion, one of the value of 3 kreuzers, having made its appearance. The color is black.

DANUBIAN STEAM NAVIGATION Co.—It appears that the 10 soldi red stamp for this Company, which was lately noticed, was only a printers' error, and that the green stamp will still continue in use.

JAPAN.—The following extract from the *Hiogo News*, sets the question of the postal character of these stamps at rest. "We have just seen for the first time, some specimens of the new Japanese postage labels. They are all of the same design, but of four different colors; the brown represents 48 zeni, or half a tempo; the blue, one tempo; the red, two tenpos; the green, five tenpos; *i e* about five cents. These stamps are square in size."

"They are apparently engraved from copper plates. The outer border of the design is not unlike the well-known Etruscan key border; next to this

is an ornamental edging of a Vandyke pattern ; inside this is a repetition of the well known and seemingly irrepresible Riu, or dragon, whose portrait figures so conspicuously upon the old Kinsatz and on the new coins. Finally, in the centre, are some characters printed in black ink, which stand for, in the case of the red stamps, the words "Zeni, Nihyaku mon," the amount which the stamp represents. The postage for a letter weighing five momme, ( $\frac{2}{3}$  oz.) is 5 tenpos, about half a bee, or say 12 cents. A foreign merchant of Osaka, in form s us that he sent a letter recently through the Imperial Post Office, and has since heard that it was received in Yedo within three days of the date of its dispatch from Osaka. Advantage has also been taken by foreigners to forward letters by this route, when the steamers leaving Kobe has been missed, in order to catch the mail before leaving Yokohama."



## On the Selection of an Album.

To determine what to collect and how to arrange the stamps when procured, are the greatest difficulty the stamp amateur has to contend with ; far greater than the procuring the stamps, for there is scarcely a person who cannot with diligence obtain a very respectable collection, by searching the papers of his own family, and trading the duplicates with his friends ; but of course money makes the stamps accumulate much faster and the assortment is likely to be more varied, but these advantages are more then counterbalanced by the lack of interest felt in the collection ; directly the number of stamps is looked on as representing so much cash, the chief pleasure of this delightful pursuit is lost.

To arrange a collection systematically and yet have space for new issues, is the great problem with stamp collectors, and thinking that my experience may be of some use to them, I give it for what it is worth.

The first stamps I obtained were gummed in a copy book ; each county on a separate page, with the name written above ; this book contained about one hundred and fifty stamps. When Mount Brown's excellent catalogue found its way into my hands, I reorganized my collection and arranged the stamps in a new blank book, in sets as far as possible, allowing plenty of room for all the varieties he described. As my collection increased in numbers, and new issues continually made their appearance, together with stamps for countries not heretofore represented, I found my book getting uncomfortably crowded. I had just commenced to place my stamps in a larger book of the same description, when Scott's American Album made its appearance ; one of those I immediately purchased and for a long time it gave me entire satisfaction. In the course of a year or two a second and greatly improved edition was published, and I changed again mentally vowing it should be the last time. My collection now consisted of one copy of nearly all the government stamps issued, with some locals (of these I may speak about in another paper).

Having now obtained nearly every stamp that came at all within my means, I was tempted to buy some very fine and distinct shades of New South Wales stamps, and from this I rapidly drifted into collecting every stamp that showed the slightest difference of color, perforation, or water-mark. To arrange these now became a question of some moment, but was at last accomplished to my entire satisfaction. I purchased five hundred sheets of fine quality of white paper 9 in. by 10 in. and an equal number of sheets of violet tinted card of the same size; these I had the centre cut out of, leaving a border of two inches in width all round, with the inside upper angles rounded off; these cards I pasted on the sheets of paper and then cut out the names from my five dollar album, and pasted them at the top of the pages as required. I then cut out the spaces containing the stamps from my old album and mounted them on the new sheets; the raised card edge preventing them from getting rubbed or soiled in the least. My stamps had previously been mounted in my album on the following principle: I first prepared narrow strips of paper about one inch long by one-eighth broad, gummed on one side only; my stamps were then stuck to this by the top occupying one half the width of the slip; when this was dry it was doubled under and stuck in the frame made to receive it; by this plan a stamp can be raised for examination of its water-mark without injury, or can be removed from the album without damaging either one. Stamps fixed in this way lay as flat in an album as if gummed solid. My order of arranging these stamps was first to take a complete set of the first issue of the country, selecting the finest and darkest colors obtainable, commencing with the lowest value and progressing to the highest; directly under this set I placed a similar set, with the exception that these are composed of the lightest obtainable specimens; and if there are great variations of color, like in the 10 centime, 1856, issue of Italy, I select a dozen or so of the value that shows the greatest variations, and arrange them side by side, commencing with the lightest and gradually shading to the darkest. The additional frames for the purpose I procure by purchasing additional leaves of the album from the publishers.

The pages of my album being movable, and never having more than one country on a sheet, and seldom more than one issue, makes it no trouble to add any required number of blank pages at any necessary place; and as these are not placed with the full ones till wanted, the collection always looks full. I keep my pages (with a sheet of stiff card-board above and below,) wrapped up in a large piece of linen, this effectually keeps out the dust.

One great advantage of this style of album is that I can always take a part of any collection to show a friend without having to lug round the entire book to show one stamp.

This album is only intended for adhesive stamps, and I consider them as distinct from envelopes as I do from post cards. An envelope stamp

is only part of an envelope, and in many cases of no postal value if cut from the envelope on which it was printed, besides it is impossible to cut some without spoiling the design; the Mulready English and City Hand-over for instance. All the envelopes I have are entire. I would not accept the scarcest impression, if cut from its envelope; but my collection of these is quite small. I should be very thankful to any of your contributors, if they would teach me how to keep them so as to be comeatable. I at present keep them in a drawer, but they get rubbed and soiled, and each set has to be handled to get at any desired one, so that in a few years they would not be fit to be seen.

Post cards and money order cards, form another branch of philately; and how any album maker can make place for these to be pasted into, is more than I can understand. I should think that an album similar to those used for photographs might answer, but that would be rather clumsy; but suppose when the envelope question is settled the same plan will answer for the cards, and as the numbers are not great at present, they can afford to wait.

## Philatelic Literature of England and America

Having been repeatedly asked to prepare a list of all the stamp papers published in the English language, we are happy to present our readers with the following, which was compiled for us from the most complete library in the U. S., and we believe is full and correct in every case.

### LONDON.

International Postage Stamp Review,				
first issued Aug. 1st, 1863,	-	-		9 numbers published.
National Postage Stamp Express.				
first issued, Jan. 15th, 1864	-	-	-	7 " "
London & N. Y. Stamp Collectors Review,				
first issued, Jan. 15th, 1864,	-	-		2 " "
Universal Stamp Gazette,				
first issued, Sept. 15th, 1864,	-	-	-	1 " "
W. D. Atlee's Stamp Circular,				
first issued, Sept. 10th, 1865,	-	-		4 " "
Boys Telegram,				
first issued, Sept. 15th, 1866,	-	-	-	1 " "

### LIVERPOOL.

Stamp Collectors Monthly Advertiser,  
(afterwards called the Stamp Collectors Review),



first issued, Dec. 15th, 1862, - - -	19	“	“
Liverpool Stamp Advertiser, (afterwards called Liverpool & Newport Stamp Advertiser), first issued, May 1st, 1863,	14	“	“
Liverpool Stamp Collectors Journal, first issued, April 1st, 1865, - - -	3	“	“
Stamp Dealers Advertiser, first issued, July 1st 1866, - - -	2	“	“
DEWSBURY.			
Stamp Courier & Curiosity Advertiser, first issued, Oct. 15th, 1866, - - -	2	“	“
Stamp and Curiosity Circular, first issued, April 15th, 1867, - - -	1	“	“
International Stamp Recorder, first issued, May 1st, 1868, - - -	1	“	“
BATH.			
Stamp Collectors Magazine, first issued, Feb. 1st, 1863, - - -	104	“	“
Bath Stamp and Coin Gazette and Advertiser. first issued, June 1st, 1865, - - -	2	“	“
New Curiosity Times, first issued, Dec. 15th, 1865, - - -	1	“	“
MANCHESTER.			
Once a month, first issued, Sept. 1st, 1863, - - -	14	“	“
British and Foreign Stamp & Coin Advertiser, first issued, May 1st, 1864, - - -	8	“	“
Stamp Collectors Pocket Companion, first issued, April 1st, 1865, - - -	1	“	“
PRESTON.			
Curiosity Collectors Magazine, first issued, Oct. 1865, - - -	2	“	“
Collectors Circulars, first issued, Dec. 6th, 1865, - - -	12	“	“
WEYMOUTH.			
Weymouth Stamp and Crest Advertiser, first issued, Nov. 1st, 1863, - - -	7	“	“
Stamp Collectors Miscellany, first issued, July 1st, 1864, - - -	11	“	“
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.			
Newcastle and Gateshead Stamp Advertiser and Review, first issued, Jan. 1st, 1864, - - -	7	“	“
Northumberland and Durham Stamp Advertiser, first issued, Feb. 15th, 1864, - - -	11	“	“

## HARTLEPOOL.

Stamp Collectors Journal,  
first issued, July 1st, 1863, - - 1 " "

## BARNARD CASTLE.

North of England Stamp Review,  
first issued, July 1864, - - - 5 " "

## HULL.

Collectors Herald,  
first issued, Jan. 1st, 1865, - - 10 " "

## LEAMINGTON.

Stamp Collectors Examiner,  
first issued, May 1st, 1865, - - - 3 " "

## HORSHAM.

Boys' Agency Circular,  
first issued, March 1st, 1866, - - 2 " "

## BRIGHTON.

Philatelist,  
first issued, Dec. 1st, 1866, - - - 58 " "

## EDINBURGH.

Stamp Collectors Budget,  
first issued, Jan. 1st, 1868, - - 2 " "

By the foregoing list it will be seen, that there has been 32 different papers devoted to the study of stamps published in Great Britain. These magazines have issued an aggregate of 323 numbers. Six of them have consisted of only one number. Only two of these are now in existence.

*(To be continued.)*

---

## Answers to Correspondents.

J. H. READING.—The postmaster was probably out of stamps when the letter was sent, or perhaps had not received his supply.

H. G. VORIES, St. Joseph.—Neither of the persons you name sell genuine stamps.

J. B. L., EVANSVILLE.—The back numbers of the JOURNAL for this year will cost you twelve cents each.

COUNTY PHILATELIST, NEW MARKET.—The 6 cent of the 1869 issue of Belgium, has not been issued. I do not think the stamp has been counterfeited, but if you will send it, we will give you our opinion.

A complete set of provisional United States and Confederate States could only be obtained after years of search, and would cost from 500 to 1,000 dollars.

## A Short History of the United States Post Office.

*With a description of its various issues of Stamps.*

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

[Continued from page 115.]



New Haven P. O. 5 cts. Envelope Stamp.—This very rare stamp has lately been discovered through the energy of Mr. W. P. Brown, a well-known collector and Philatelist of New York City. The facsimile representation which ornaments this article, shows the appearance of the stamp better than any description can convey. It was issued in 1845, by Mr. E. A. Mitchell, at that time Post-master of New Haven, Conn. but the exact time of the emission cannot be ascertained, as all the official papers relating to it have been destroyed. They were prepared for the same purpose as most other provisionals, viz: to give persons an opportunity of posting letters after the offices were closed. The impression was hand-stamped, in vermilion ink, upon the purchasers' envelopes, and each stamp was signed by the Post-master, with blue ink. The die was prepared by Mr. E. P. Gorham of New Haven, and is supposed to be in possession of the New Haven Colonial Historical Society. I should mention, that most of the impressions were on white envelopes, but it is possible that there were some on buff paper. For fuller particulars, in regard to this interesting discovery, the reader is referred to No. 41, of the "Journal" for May, 1871. Another discovery, no less important than the last, has been made lately, viz: a provisional stamp for the City of Philadelphia; for particulars of the emanation of this stamp, I am indebted to a gentleman occupying a prominent position in the General Post Office, who was engaged in the Philadelphia Post Office, at the time the stamp was first issued. The exact date of its issue cannot be definitely ascertained, but it was during the administration of Dr. Geo. F. Lehman, Post-master of Philadelphia, between 1845 and 1849. It can hardly be called a stamp proper, as Dr. Lehman had, simply, an arrangement, by which parties, who might be compelled to mail letters after the close of the office, could have the necessary stamps placed on them by the clerks, and charged to their accounts, or collected by the carriers. In most cases, this was a band in which the letters were enclosed and endorsed by the parties; but in other cases, there were small slips *printed* and pasted on one corner of the letters. There were several varieties of them used, but unfortunately the

most careful search has revealed no specimens, as yet. There is no possible doubt, but that they were actually used, and in numbers, as my informant recollects them from 1845 until 1849, and even afterwards. Should any be procured, an illustration will be given in a future paper. Some Philatelists may demur to accepting these stamps, as entitled to a place in their albums, but if these are thrown out, the New Haven, Brattleboro, and St. Louis must follow suit.

## United States Locals.

We shall now take up the U. S. locals, which, from their great variety and dissimilarity of design, lend a peculiar interest to collectors. In describing them, we must be necessarily brief, and we have endeavored to make the list as complete as possible, omitting all such as are considered doubtful by good judges.

In describing the "Locals," we follow the plan originated by Mr. Scott, to whose valuable papers we are greatly indebted for much of the information given below.

The inscription and reading found on the stamp is first named, the description following,

AMERICAN LETTER MAIL Co.—

In arch above, (20 for a dollar) below, Eagle on rock, in centre, surrounded by sea and clouds. Flourishes in spaces at sides, spandrills filled with leaves, Steel plate. Ty. P. C. W. P. R. R. Black.

AMERICAN LETTER MAIL Co.—(The) surrounding Eagle in circle, the whole in square frame of three lines, color black and blue square.

This stamp was printed from a very fine steel plate, by Ormsby, whose imprint is in the lower corners. Used in 1844, and are very scarce.

AMERICAN EXPRESS Co.—Postage Two Cents Paid. Type printed in black on green glazed paper, oblong. Genuine ones are usually cancelled with word Paid.

BLOOD & Co's (D. O.)—In arch above, Design, man with mail bag on shoulder and parcel under arm, stepping over tops of houses. On the bags, words, (City Dispatch Post), on parcel, word, (Paid). In lower outside border is maker's imprint, viz: (Lith. of Wagner McGuigan, 100 Chestnut St.), (J. Smith) in very small letters. Lith. in black on W. P. Sq.

BLOOD D. O. & Co.—Similar to above described, but has (City Dispatch) crossing centre of Stamp in curved line, word (Post) omitted from the bag. Lith. Black on W. P. Sq.

CITY DISPATCH POST (BLOOD'S).—On bag, and with the exception of the name, is the same as first stamp of Blood's described.



BLOOD'S DISPATCH. In oval surrounding, a dove carrying a letter inscribed (Paid), wood block Black, O. White, Green.

BLOOD'S ONE CENT DISPATCH.—Black lettering on bronze ground Small R. R.

BLOOD'S PAID DISPATCH.—Black lettering on bronze ground. Small R. R. Black glazed paper.

BLOOD'S PENNY POST, PHILADELPHIA.—Blue impression, ground of Pink, dashes, blue tinted paper. Same on blue paper.

BLOOD'S POST OFFICE DISPATCH.—Black impression on bronze ground. Black paper.

BLOOD'S PENNY POST, KOCHESPERGER & Co., PHILAD'A.—Surrounding oval, head enclosed, black, oval.

BLOOD'S DISPATCH FOR THE POST OFFICE.—In scrolls printed in black, on pale blue ground. (Blood's) in script capital s, shown on tinted ground under black inscription. P. C. W. P. Ty. O.

BOUTON'S CITY DISPATCH POST.—On scrolls above and below, head in oval. (Rough and Ready, 2 cents). Copperplate. P. C. Black W. P. Blue tinted paper, R. R.

BOUTON'S CITY DISPATCH POST.—Slightly different from above; oval, large dots, in corners.

BOUTON'S MANHATTAN EXPRESS.—In oblong oval, enclosing (2 cents).

---

## Philatelic Literature of England and America.

*(Continued from page 124.)*

In continuation of our Philatelic literature, we present to our readers, this month, a full and concise list of the various periodicals devoted to Philately, which have hitherto been published in America.

This list, having been carefully compiled, we believe to be without a single error, and we will pay the sum of one dollar for a legible copy of any American Philatelic Periodical not here enumerated. Our subscribers and readers are requested to inform us of any errors, which their superior intelligence may be able to notice, and which we will be happy to acknowledge.

### NEW YORK.

	First Issued,	Nos. Published
The American Journal of Philately,	March, 1868.	47
The Weekly " " " "	Sept. 3rd, 1870.	12

## BOSTON.

The Stamp Collectors Record, (originally published in Albany,)	Dec. 15th, 1864.	39
The Stamp Collectors Review,	Oct. 1st, 1866.	1
The Postage Stamp Collectors Monitor,	June 1st, 1867.	1
The American Stamp Mercury,	Oct. 25th, 1867.	39
The New England Journal of Philately,	Jan. 1st, 1869.	3
The Timbrophilist,	Sept. 1st 1869.	3
The Stamp Collectors Magazine,	Jan. 1st, 1871.	1

## ST. JOHN, (NEW BRUNSWICK).

The Stamp Collectors Gazette,	June 1st, 1865.	24
The Stamp Argus,	July 15th, 1865.	5
The Postman's Knock,	May 1st, 1866.	21

## MIDDLETOWN, (CONN).

The Stamp Journal,	Aug. 1st, 1867.	3
The Stamp Buyer,	Jan. 1st, 1868.	2
The American Stamp Collectors Guide,	April 15th, 1870	5

## ELIZABETH, N. J.

The Stamp Collectors Guide, (original- ly published in Meriden, Conn.)	Dec. 1870.	9
The American Philatelist,	July 1st, 1871.	1

## CINCINNATI.

The Stamp Circular,	Nov. 25th, 1865.	2
---------------------	------------------	---

## MERIDEN, (CONN).

The Postage Stamp Reporter,	Aug. 1867.	1
-----------------------------	------------	---

## MONTREAL, (CANADA).

The Stamp Collectors Record,	Feb. 15th, 1864.	2
------------------------------	------------------	---

The following Journals were partly devoted to stamps, but a considerable portion of their columns was occupied with items relating to coins, medals, autographs, "curiosities," Philology and other matters of a non-Philatelic nature, and while not being entitled to be styled *Stamp Journals*, they are, notwithstanding, accorded honorable mention, as *semi-philatelic* publications.

	Published in	First Issued.	Nos. Published
The Coin and Stamp Journal,	Chicago,	May 18th, 1865,	12
The Curiosity Shop,	Chicago,	July 1st, 1865,	6
The Collectors Guide,	Newport, R. I.	May 15th, 1866,	8
Mason's Coin and Stamp Magazine,	Philadelphia,	April 1867.	56

The Coin and Stamp Journal,	Meriden, Conn.	Jan.	1868.	3
The Boys Stamp Gazette,	Worcester, Mass.	Jan.	1870.	1
The Curiosity Cabinet,	New York,	Sept.	1870.	12
The American Coin and Stamp Review,	Allentown, Pa.	May	1871.	4
Deakin's Old Curiosity Shop,	Chicago,	Aug.	1871.	1

It will thus be seen that, up to October, 1871, twenty Journals devoted entirely to Philately, and nine, partly advocating the science, have been published in America; four of them having been located in the British provinces, fourteen in the Eastern States, seven in the middle states, and four in the west, having had an aggregate issue of 324 numbers.

Only four of these are now in existence.

## Newly Issued Stamps.

FIGI ISLAND.—We are indebted to an esteemed correspondent for the following:

U. S. CONSULATE, FIGI.

Leouka Ovalou,

Sept'r 9th, 1871.

Sir,

Your favor of June 20th touching the Postage stamps of Figi is received.

The Figi Times Express Office have issued a stamp upon their own responsibility.

The Figi Gov't have not yet issued a stamp. It is probable that such will be done within a few months.

I do not know that I can give you any further information, I remain

Yours Very Truly,

J. W. BROWN,

U. S. CONSUL.

The government issue referred to in the above, was to make its appearance on Oct. 1st, and will consist of three stamps of the values of 3, 5 and 10 cents; the first for inland postage, the second for letters to Sydney, and the third for letters to the United States; they will be adorned with a likeness of King Thakomban, or, as he is now called, Ebenezer.

The set lately issued by the Figi Times Express consist of the following values: 1d, 3d, 6d, 9d, 1s.

MEXICO.—The 12 cent stamp is now printed on brown paper, same as that used for the 6c; we understand that the other values have also been changed.

GERMAN EMPIRE.—Our correspondent informs us that the new stamp will be issued early in January ; the design consists of the imperial eagle in circle, DEUTCHE REICHSPOST above, value below. The values and colors for the adhesives remain unchanged ; the envelopes and wrappers are as follows : envelopes, 1 groschen, 3 kreuzer ; wrappers,  $\frac{1}{3}$  groschen, 1 kreuzer.

FRANCE—The *Philatelist* informs us that this country has issued three new chiffre-taxé adhesives. They are precisely similar in type as the obsolete 10c., a *percevoir* value of course excepted ; colored impression on plain white paper, 25c. black, 40c. blue, 60c. buff.

A correspondent sends us a 4c. stamp, 1863 issue, post-marked PARIS. L. BONAPARTE, Sep. 22, 71.

RUSSIA.—*The Stamp Collectors Magazine* inform us that this country will shortly issue postal cards of two values—3 kop for town delivery, and 5 kop for cards from town to town through the empire.—There is also to be a new adhesive imperial postage stamp, value 25 kop, for registered letters throughout Russia. These novelties will probably make their appearance about New Year.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—A five shilling stamp has just made its appearance, of the same design as the other values, color a bright orange.

HONG KONG.—The 30 cent stamp is now printed in violet.

NEW GRANADA.—*Tolima*.—*The Stamp Collectors Magazine* says that a 10 centavos stamp exists for this state.

---

## A Collector's Notes on the Stamps of New Granada.

[Continued from page 107.]

The three issues now described are all that properly come under one title, since all the succeeding series were issued after the State had changed its name, and bear the legend Estados Unidos de Colombia, more or less abbreviated. We shall, however, proceed with the succeeding issues in their order, as the territory where they circulated remained nearly the same, notwithstanding the change in name, first inserting our tables of the issues with the legend Confed. Granadina, omitted by our publishers in their order, an omission which, perhaps, is of less importance, as by inserting the tables here, will give the issues in what we surmise to be the more correct order.





Table of that issue of New Granada, distinguished by ground of straight lines with large figures of value, diamond ornaments, *ad* in angles.

Authorities.	Date.	10 Cent 10.	20 Cent 20.	Un peso.
Timbrophile .....	1859	.....	.....	.....
Mahe Manuel .....	1859	Jaune, c. c. . . . .	Braune jaune . . . . .	Bleu de ciel, bleu fonce . . . . .
Levrault .....	1859	Jaune .....	Brun Jaune .....	Blue fonce, bleu .....
Bailieu .....	1 em	Orange .....	Brun ocre .....	Bleu .....
Moens .....	—	.....	Brown .....	Lilas rose .....
Mount Brown .....	1860	.....	Brown, Cinnamon .....	Blue .....
Bellar & Davie .....	3 em	.....	Yellow Brown .....	Indigo blue .....
Dr. Gray .....	1859	Yellow .....	Cinnamon .....	Blue .....
Smith & Co .....	1859	Yellow .....	Brown .....	Blue .....
S. C. Mag .....	1st	printed in two colors not given.	.....	One color .....
Philatelist .....	1860	Yellow .....	shading through intermediate col's into cinnamon .....	Blue .....
Bauschke .....	1860	Gelb .....	.....	Bleu .....
Scott's Cat. .....	1859	Yellow .....	.....	Blue .....
A. J. Philately .....	1859	Yellow .....	.....	Blue .....
Triflet Cat .....	1860	Yellow .....	Brown .....	Blue .....
A. S. M. .....	—	.....	.....	.....

Table of the issue of New Granada, distinguished by ground of waved lines, with small figures of value, diamond ornaments, *ad* in angles.

Authorities.	Date.	2½ Cent 24.	5 Cent 5.	
Timbrophite ..	1860	Vert, 3 shades .....	.....	.....
Mahé Manuel.	1860	Vert, 3 shades .....	Lilas .....	Blue, violet
Levrault .....	1859	Vert, vert jaune .....	Violet .....	Gris .....
Bailieu .....	1st en.	Vert .....	Violet, pale .....	Blue .....
Moenz .....	—	Light green, olive green .....	Violet .....	Blue .....
Mount Browe.	1859	Green .....	.....	Blue .....
Bellar & Davie		Green .....	Puce .....	Brown .....
Gray, Dr. ....	1860	Green, yellow green .....	Lilac .....	Blue .....
Smith & Co...	1859	Green .....	Lilac .....	Blue .....
S. C. Mag ....	2d is.	Merely notes that there are five values printed in twelve colors,	Lilac .....	Blue .....
Philatelist .....	1859	.....	Purple blue	Dark and pale blue
Bauschke ....	1859	Green, 3 shades .....	.....	Blau .....
Scott Cat. ....	1860	Green .....	Violet .....	Blue .....
A. J. Philately	1860	Green .....	.....	Blue .....
Triffet Cat' ...	1860	Green .....	.....	.....
A. S. M. ....	—	.....	Lilac .....	.....

(To be continued.)

## Clippings.

—The Postoffice Department in Washington have recently received a box containing 19,500 cancelled postage and revenue stamps, by a Bridgeport, Conn., lady, who says she was told by the Superintendent of her Sunday school that if she would collect 1,000,000 stamps the government would give her \$300, and she therefore forwards a part, and requests pay for them pro rata. She has been informed by the Postoffice Department that the rumor that the Government will pay for defaced stamps is a “sell.”

---

## Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE “AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHILATELY.”

Dear Sir:—

The Stamp Collectors Magazine for November, 1871, is before me, and in it Mr. Atlee's letter in reply to what he is pleased to term “that intended crushing criticism,” relative to his list of Boyd's Stamps, which “crushing criticism” was written by myself and appeared in your paper. My statement that his list was “full of the usual blunders of English writers when they take up the U. S. Local subjects,” gives him a first rate opportunity to get rid of a half a page of “gas,” (excuse the word), but which I am happy to note, from a remark at the end of said half page, has had the good effect of “easing his mind.” I sincerely trust that his mind may stay in a tranquil state in future, so as to save him the trouble of again resorting to similar means to accomplish that much to be desired end.

There is only one sentence in his introductory remarks that I consider worth replying to, and that is his supposition that, “among English blunders” must be classed Mr. Pemberton's monograph on the Locals of California. I beg to call his attention to the fact, that in referring to English “blunders,” I did not say “invariable,” as he would seem to think, but merely “usual.” I might quite properly have said “invariable with but one exception,”—say Mr. Pemberton's list above referred to.

But now to his defense of his list of Boyd's.

He says he will not admit the variety of the 2c, small size having a plain back ground, because the specimen Mr. Scott described was not on the original letter. In defense of this type I would say that—the canceling is exactly the same to that found on the type to which I gave the date of 1845, (but which, from circumstances that have recently come to light, I am inclined to think was used even still earlier).—The owner assures me that he took the stamp in question *from the original envelope himself* some years since, before it was generally customary to collect locals on the entire letter.

His question ‘how is it that if Mr. S. obtained *all* his dates and *information* (the italics are mine) from me in 1870, that I should, in 1871, deny the accuracy of most of those dates, and a large portion of that information.’ Mr. Atlee, in his vain endeavors to defend his own list, entirely loses sight of the fact that, my object in publishing my criticism, was not to defend Mr. Scott's list, as he seems to think, but rather to get at the true facts of the case. But, then again, I have to remind Mr. Atlee, that neither Mr. S. nor I, state anywhere, as far as I can find, that Mr. S. obtained *all* his dates or *any information* from me: and, moreover, such dates as I furnished Mr. S. in 1870, were taken from such specimens as I then had in my possession; but, having since that time obtained many new specimens, am enabled to determine several dates, more exactly than I then could.



Next, he says that he "never attempted to give the dates of issue of any of the types, but simply endeavored to approximate the dates given in Mr. Scott's list to the various emissions described by him (Mr. A.), and that it is, therefore, 'coming it rather rough on him to say that he (Mr. A.) gave 1848 as the year in which his type I *a* first appeared."

I cannot find that I ever made any such accusation, but to prove that he was mistaken when he said that the type in question was only "in use a short time." I stated that I could prove from dated envelopes in my possession, that it was in use from 1845 to 1849, or fully four years;—and further on, in speaking of the same type, I said that his list "begins by describing the two cent black on green, given in Mr. Scott's list as issued in 1848—50." The above extracts contain all I wrote about this type, so where the "coming it rather rough" comes in, I can't see.

He will not yet acknowledge that his dies *b* and *c* were placed in the wrong order by him, but says that he "still thinks that he is right, for the substantial reason, that he has an envelope franked by *b*, and dated 1852, and two covers franked by *c*, both marked 1853." This may all be, for I have several copies of *c* on 1853 letters, but also have one of the same type on a letter dated 1849, therefore, placing it before the type given by him as 1852, and which I also have on one dated a year earlier. Whether there was a surplus stock of type *c*, when their use was discontinued in 1850—51, and this surplus brought back into use in 1853, or not, I cannot say. I confess that I am rather at a loss to explain this anomaly, but nevertheless, I am quite positive that my arrangement of these types is correct.

He asks what I mean by saying that I never saw his type III in blue, as he "never mentioned or saw any such stamp." I regret to say that, through a typographical error, the word "green" was omitted in my article, which should read "blue green." He mentions type III in that shade, but being quite unable to see any blue in it, I suggested that "perhaps it is a discoloration."

He acknowledges that my arrangement of his dies III to V is correct.

He follows with a summary of the types as arranged by me, to which he makes the three following objections, viz:—

That the genuineness of the second type is not proved.

That there is, without doubt, a gold on white of the 1845 issue.

That the dates of IV and V types are incorrect.

The incorrectness of the first and third objections I have shown above, and, as to the second, I never said that there was no gold on white of the 1845 type, but merely that I had not seen it.

He next says, in reply to my statement, that the variety of the 1 cent of the second type reading 1 CENTS was omitted from his list, that such is not the case, and yet, in another part of the same paragraph, he says, "I shall not believe in the existence of a specimen showing a well defined *S*, until I see one." To use his own favorite expression, "[SIC]." I have merely to mention, in this connection, that I have sent a specimen of the 1 "CENTS" stamp from my collection, showing the *S* perfectly distinct, to the Editors of the "*Stamp Collectors Magazine*," with a request that, if they find it as represented, they will insert a notice to that effect in their next No. Should they comply with my request (as they doubtless will), I trust that this point will be satisfactorily settled.

He seems to think that we did not know of two dies of the current envelope design, until he "blundered" upon it (to use his own expression). I beg to assure him, that the two varieties in question have been well known here for many years.

His closing remark, "It is rather hard that we should be obliged to publish doubtful information, so as to obtain the truth," I do not altogether understand. If any "fling" at my article is intended, I can only say, that if any one will carefully read over all that has lately been written on this subject, he will be quite convinced that my remarks in the "Journal" for August last, were in *every particular perfectly correct, and are fully supported by facts*, which, unfortunately, Mr. Atlee's list is not. I do not state this in any egotistical spirit, but merely in self-defense.

I will now attempt to point out such "blunders" as have occurred in Mr. Atlee's "Notes," not from any ill will towards that gentleman, but simply for the same reason that I wrote my original criticism on his notes on Boyd's Stamps, namely:—that the true facts of the case may be known, as far as it is in my power to state them. Let us take up his notes as they appeared in the different numbers of the S. C. M.

*S. C. M. Aug't, 1871.*—He omits several varieties of the American Letter Mail Stamps, but includes them all in a later number, with the exception of the small size on thin yellowish paper.

He opens his article in the *S. C. M. for Sep'r*, 1871, by correcting the error into which he previously fell—the idea generally existing abroad—“that Congress has abolished *all* private posts,” by quoting, in substance, what Mr. Taylor stated in his article, published some time ago in the “*Mercury*,” but does not give Mr. Taylor credit for same.

Why he should, perfectly seriously describe “GAY’S EXPRESS FROM BOSTON” as a genuine local, (for in the last No. of the *S. C. M.* he boasts that he has “never chronicled a counterfeit as a genuine impression, and has always endeavored to impose imposters,”) and give 1845 as the date of its emission, I cannot understand. Some time ago, I came across a copy of this stamp in black on deep flesh colored paper, and after considerable trouble, succeeded in hunting up the Proprietor, who, in response to a letter from me, sent the following answer:—

New York, May 11, 1871.

MR. COSTER,

Dear Sir:—

In answer to yours of the 10th I would say—

A similar stamp or label, as the term then was, was used in 1844 by Gay’s Express, and posted on *parcels transported* by said Express, between New York and Boston.

Gay’s Express was for freight and parcels, not *letters*.

Yours truly,

(signed) E. LITTLEFIELD.

Should Mr. Atlee doubt the existence of the above letter; for, since he doubts the 1 Cents Boyd’s, he may doubt this, I can only refer him to Mr. Pemberton, who has seen the original

He is quite mistaken when he says that the die of Graffin’s Dispatch “has fallen into the hands of a re-printer.” His error, however, is one that is generally believed in. I have recently obtained from an undoubted source, a genuine canceled copy of this rare stamp, quite different from Mr. Atlee’s “reprint,” or from the counterfeit described by him. The following will serve for a test.—In the counterfeits, the monument, owing to the perspective, extends on the left hand side almost to the end of the railing, whereas, in the *genuine*, there is about an equal amount of railing on either side. There are also many other distinct differences, but the above will suffice. I may also mention that Mr. Hussey, to whom I suppose he refers, says, that the stamps of this Dispatch, sold by him, are not re-prints, but merely imitations.

He is altogether out of the way when he says, that Pomeroy’s Express was started in 1849—I have seen the black on yellow on an envelope dated 1844, and their name is found in the directory of May, 1843.—Among the Locomotive type he includes some on thin paper which are generally considered here as re-prints, and omits the black on thick red paper, but as I know nothing positive about these stamps, I will not contradict him. He does not mention that the blue and the black of the “Female” type are found on two slightly different thicknesses of paper. Those on the thinner quality are generally considered re-prints, and this idea is somewhat supported by the fact, that all those that I have seen canceled are on the thicker quality. He makes no mention of the brown on white, which I have only seen uncanceled, and on the thinner quality.

*S. C. M. Oct'r*, 1871.—In this he describes a forgery of the smaller Pomeroy, but does not give the well-known forgery of the Locomotive stamp. The following will serve as a test:—in the genuine, there is a period after each of the words in the corners, viz:—New York, Albany, Buffalo, Toronto, whereas in the counterfeit there is not.

The handstruck impression of Hanford’s Pony Express, is also found in orange, blue and brown.

*S. C. M. Nov'r*, 1871.—He need have no reserve in including the Cummings on green in his list, as I have seen it in that color.

I defer making any comments on his notes on Blood’s, until he completes his list of these stamps.

His remarks on the Essex are very much mixed up; suffice to say that there is a streamer at the mast-head in the genuine, and that the same (the streamer, I mean) is inscribed SX. In the counterfeits, the inscription is altogether lacking, or else is found *below* the ship.

I must protest against his admitting the Livingston, Wells & Pomeroy as a *genuine* Local, but as I have not as yet completed my inquiries concerning it, I refrain from saying anything for the present.

Yours truly,

CHA’S H. COSTER.

New York, Nov'r, 1871.

## A Short History of the United States Post Office.

*With a description of its various issues of Stamps.*

BY COSMOPOLITAN.

[Continued from page 127.]

1844.—BOYD'S CITY EXPRESS POST 2 CENTS.—in oval band, Eagle on globe in centre, large size, black on green paper.

1844.—BOYD'S CITY EXPRESS POST 2 CENTS.—in oval band, eagle on plain ground; eagle's head very thin. 2 cents, black on green glazed paper.

There are many varieties of Boyd's stamps, for different years, which we will now describe.

1845-50.—BOYD'S CITY EXPRESS POST 2 CENTS.—in oval band, eagle in centre on globe. Globe slanting, narrow fig. 2, Black on green glazed paper, gold on white glazed paper.

1851-2.—Same as last, inside oval line heavier. Fig. 2 better shaped. Black on green glazed paper.

1849-53.—Same as last with period after cents, Black on green, gold on a W. P. glazed.

1854-55.—Similar to last, Eagle's wings different. Globe upright, broad fig. 2. Black on green.

1856.—Similar to last, but Eagle's right wing does not touch side. Broad white line inside. Black on green.

1857.—Same as last; red on white, 1860 Black on vermilion glazed paper.

1857-60.—Part of Eagle's wing covered by oval; large headed fig. 2. Black on green.

1865.—Similar to last; Eagle's right wing curved against side of oval. Black on vermilion glazed paper. Gold on green, blue and crimson glazed paper.

1857-60.—BOYD'S CITY EXPRESS POST ONE CENT.—Eagle in oval altered from 2 ct. stamp, Black on green glazed paper.

1860-70.—Altered from 2 ct. stamp; variety reading, (1 Cents), Black on pale blue glazed paper; black on bright lilac.

1870.—Differently engraved; no period after cents. 2 cents blue, 2 cents lilac.

For further information in regard to these stamps, see Mr. Coster's article in Aug. No. of "Journal."

BRADY & Co's CHICAGO PENNY POST ONE CENT.—above, in oval, on ground work of horizontal lines. P. C. O. Lilac.

BRADY & Co., ONE CENT.—On letter box. Red on yellow paper. R. R.



BRAINARD & Co., N.Y., 58 WALL ST.—In circle, enclosing 14 EXCHANGE, ALBANY 20 FOR ONE DOL. ; TROY, 230 RIVER ST., colored impression ; black. blue.

BROADWAY ABOVE, POST OFFICE BELOW.—in octagon ; steam engine in centre Lith. Black on white paper.

BROOKLYN CITY EXPRESS POST 1 CENT.—Surrounding oval enclosing dove carrying a letter. Black on colored glazed paper. Blue on colored paper.

BROOKLYN CITY EXPRESS POST 2 CENTS.—Same design. Black, Blue, Pink.

BROWN AND MCGILL'S U. S. P. O. DESPATCH.—In oblong oval, surrounded by leaves enclosing an eagle perched upon a branch. Blue, R. R.

CARRIERS' DISPATCH ONE CENT,—on one cent piece, in centre of oval forming an eye, carrier pigeons in corners. P. C. Red, Blue, Ob.

CARNES' CITY LETTER EXPRESS,—enclosing bear in transverse oval. Printed from electrotype of wood cut. Used in San Francisco, but date of issue not known. Very scarce.

CHICAGO PENNY POST,—surrounding oval enclosing bee hive. P. C. Orange, R. R.

CHEEVER & TOWLE, 7 STATE ST., CITY LETTER DELIVERY 2 CENTS, 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 enclosed in a circle of colored ground, surrounded by a circle of white. P. C. W. P. Blue, Red.

CITY DISPATCH, ONE CENT DELIVERY.—Figure of Justice, not blindfolded, holding scales and resting on sword. Black, O.

CITY DISPATCH POST, TWO CENTS.—Surrounding bust of Washington in oval. C. C. on each side of his neck, ornamental corners. P. C. on glazed paper, green and white.

CITY DISPATCH POST THREE CENTS.—Same as above, with the exception of the C. C., which are wanting. P. C. Black. White and green glazed paper.

CITY EXPRESS POST,—occupying three sides of rectangle, enclosing numeral of value. P. C. cent Blue, Black, 2 cents, Blue. Black.

CLARK & Co., ONE CENT.—On letter box P. C. Red, on yellow paper. Wood cut.

C. & W. BRIDGES' DISPATCH,—surrounded by heavy border, Bronze on colored paper, oblong, green.

CORNWELL POST OFFICE, MADISON SQUARE,—surrounding head in circle. Wood block, poor engraving ; used in New York about 1850.

CUMMINGS CITY POST, 2 CENTS,—surrounding circle enclosing letter. Square, black on pink paper. Is a miserable affair, and was used in New York about 1846. Very scarce, and has been largely counterfeited.



DUPUY & SCHENCK,—over-arching bee-hive. PENNY POST at bottom, whole surrounded by double ruled line, black on drab; green ones scarce.

ESSEX LETTER EXPRESS.—2 cents on four sides, enclosing ship sailing to right, in oval; s. x. on flag at main mast. Black on glazed paper rect., 2 cents vermilion.

GORDON'S CITY EXPRESS,—in circle surrounding letter carrier, 2 on left and cents on right, whole enclosed in square of four single lines. Black on green glazed paper, square.

GRAFFLIN'S BALTIMORE ONE CENT DISPATCH,—on rect. frame enclosing monument in upright oval. Black on white paper. Original impressions are very scarce, but any number of reprints can be had.

HOYT'S *Letter Express*.—To Rochester in type, border same style type as printed. Black on vermilion, small rect. Very scarce stamp, and was used in 1844. No counterfeits known.

HUMBOLDT'S EXPRESS NEVADA TERRITORY.—Above 25 cts., to  $\frac{1}{2}$  oz., enclosed in our franks, Langton & Co. Four horse stage in centre, 25 in upper corners. Colored impression, 25 brown.

#### HUSSEY'S EXPRESS STAMPS.

1854. BANK AND INSURANCE NOTICE, DELIVERY OFFICE 82 BROADWAY, surrounding a view of the Bank of America. Colored impression on white paper, rect.

blue.

This has not been reprinted.

Similar to last, no dots outside frame, less flourishes around the inscription. Col. imp., rect.

blue.

This has been reprinted.

1856. BANK AND INSURANCE LETTER, CITY POST, 82 BROADWAY, surrounding copy of letter box. Col. imp., rect.

black.

This has not been reprinted.

Similar to last, no dots outside the frame, less flourishes round the inscription. Col. imp., rect.

red, black.

Has been reprinted.

Similar to last, hand-stamped on paid letters. Col. imp. on various paper.

black.

Has not been reprinted.

1857. similar to 1856 issue, address, 50 WILLIAM STREET. Col. imp., rect.

black, red.

*To be Continued.*

## Newly Issued Stamps.

NEW ZEALAND.—One of our correspondents sent us the 6d. printed in pale blue, the other values have also been changed, but, as yet, have not made their appearance.

NEW GRANADA.—has again presented us with a new stamp entirely different in design to any ever before issued. It consists of the figure 2 on a background of heavily draped flags. The arms of the country are enclosed in the upper part of the figure; in the upper corners are the words LIBERTAD and ORDEN, in the lower corners, small figure of value in curved line over large 2 is EE. U U. DE COLOMBIA, on large 2 is the inscription CORREOS NACIONALES Dos CENTS. color, brown.

TOLIMA.—We have before us two stamps, reported to have been issued by this State; the values and colors are 5 cents, brown, and 10 cents, dark blue. The 5 consists of the arms in circle in centre; in circle surrounding arms the inscription EE. UU. DE COLOMBIA E S. DEL TOLIMA CORREOS DEL ESTADO, in line at top CINCO CENTS at bottom, figure 5 in each corner. The 10c. consists of arms in centre, 10 on each side, EE. UU. DE COLOMBIA in line above ESTADOS DEL TOLIMA, in circular line below, CORREOS DEL ESTADOS, in curved line on solid ground at top. DIEZ CENTAVOS, in curved line on solid ground at bottom, X, in corners.

RUSSIA.—There has lately appeared a number of Locals for this country. We will endeavor to give a complete list of them in a future number.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The 10d. stamp has appeared, printed in red, sucharged nine-pence.

ITALY.—The 10c. SÈGNATASSE, same design as the set lately issued, has just made its appearance.

PRINCE EDWARDS ISLAND.—We have received official information regarding the new issue for this country; they will appear on or about New Year.

UNITED STATES.—The December number of *The Stamp Collectors Magazine* contains an engraving of what they choose to call "the lately issued 15 cts. envelope." If the editor of the above-named magazine had turned to page 46, vol. III of the JOURNAL, they would not have made such an error; on said page will be found our description of "several beautiful essays for the new envelopes," which contains the following: "The next design was probably prepared at the time the 15 cent envelope was first talked about; the design is identical with the 2ct. envelope, with the head of Lincoln in place of Jackson." We are not surprised at their error, for they, as a rule, seem to think that what appears in American magazines is not worthy of notice,

A Collectors Notes on the Stamps of New Granada.  
Continued from page 133.

Table of the issue of New Granada, distinguished by ground of waved lines, with small figures of value, diamond ornaments, *adi* in angles.

Authorities.	Date.	10 cent 10	20 cent 20.	Un peso.
Timbrophile ..	1860	.....	Blue ..	P. azure carmine
Mahé Manuel.	1860	Rouge orange	Blue,.... 3 shades.	Rose and... Carmine...
Levrault .....	1859	Jaune Orange	Bleu .....	P. uctus Carmine
Bailiën .....	1st en	Ocre ..	Bleu .....	Rose and... Carmine...
Moens .....	—	.....	Bleu .....	Lilac rosa .
Mount Brown.	1859	Yellow	Blue .....	Carmine....
Bellar & Davie	2d en	Yellow	Blue .....	Rose red and carmine....
Gray, Dr. ....	1860	.....	In'go blue	Dark red... and carmine
A Smith & Co.	1859	.....	Blue .....	Rose and... carmine....
S. C. Mag ....	2d is	Merely notes that there are five values printed in twelve colors, and also the ten—green, and the blue paper		
Philatelist....	1859	& Intermedi- ate colors,	Deep and light blue	Un peso
Bauschke ....	1859	Gelbroth... .....	Dark blue hellblau.	Dull rose on b. paper
Scott Cat. ....	1860	.....	Blue .....	Carmine... bluish p
A. J. Philately	1860	.....	Blue .....	.....
Triffet Cat....	1860	.....	Blue .....	.....
A. S. M. ....	—	.....	.....	.....

The first issue with the new name, is very similar to that described as the second with the Confed. Granadina legend, and might almost be said to be the same with the whites and colors, except in the shield and disk exchanged. The date usually given is 1862, Levrault alone giving 1861, and as the new name was not adopted, until the end of September, 1861, it is hardly possible that the stamps could have been in circulation before the beginning of the next year. But to proceed in order. The design similar to the second Confed. Granadina issue is composed as follows :

*Centre.*--Arms, a Norman shield of greater length than breadth, bounded by a single colored line, measuring at the top 28 and in length 35, is divided into unshaded thirds by single colored lines or bars, with same emblems as before in color. the flower above the cornucopias which touch each other, the liberty cap large, pole distinct, ships very indistinct, displayed on a small radiated disk of alternate white and colored lines, forming the rays, equal in diameter to the length of shield. These are superimposed upon a large solid colored disk, 44 in diameter, ornamented by a circle of some 44 or 46 white beads near the border, and bounded by a white and colored circle of nearly equal thickness, measuring outside 48 in diameter.

*Ground*—of alternate white and colored wavy lines, with five six-rayed colored stars above, and four below the disk in arcs of a circle, concentric with outer circle of disk. These stars are not very regularly formed, and have a white spot in the centre.

*Frame.*—Octagonal, being as before a rectangle with corners cut, composed of a broad white inscribed band, bordered within and by a fine white between two colored lines measuring inside 46 by 64, and outside 66 by 85, the angles measuring outside 20. The inside colored line of frame broken, and joining outer colored circle of disk at sides, so that the white line of frame and white circle of disk run into each other.

*Inscription*—below, between colored ornaments \* the value in colored figures not repeated and block letters, peso has an peso. On the left side, angle and half of top, E. U. DE COLOMBIA, in colored block letters; on the right side, angle and half of top, CORREOS NACIONALES in same letters, the final S being lower than the first E on left. The letters MBI and RRE in the angles. At centre of top colored ornament \*.

The sheet divided into rectangles by fine colored lines.



Table of that issue of the United States of Columbia, distinguished by stars above and below arms, and two disks superimposed.

Authorities.	Date.	5 Cent.	10 Cent.	20 Cent.	50 Cent.	Un peso.
Timbrophite ..	1862	Mentions this issue only in the article on reprints of Dr. Magnus.				
Mahé Manuel.	1862	.....	Bleu fonce .....	Rouge .....	Vert tendoe v. force	Lilas .....
Levrault .....	1861	.....	Bleu .....	Rose .....	Vert tendoe v. easse	Lilas .....
Baillieu .....	4 em.	Jaune .....	Bleu .....	Rose .....	Vert .....	Lilas .....
Moens .....	1862	Yellow .....	Blue .....	Rose red .....	Green .....	Lilac .....
Mount Browe.	1862	.....	Blue .....	Rose .....	Green .....	Lilac .....
Bellar & Davie	5 em.	.....	.....	Rose .....	Green .....	Light purple
Gray, Dr. ....	1862	.....	Blue .....	Rose .....	Green .....	Lilac & grey
Smith & Co....	1862	.....	Blue .....	Red .....	Green .....	Lilac .....
S. C. Mag .....	4 em.	Does not specify colors, but says there are 5 values in nine colors,				
Philatelist .....	1862	.....	Bright blue .....	Rose red .....	Pale green .....	Lilac .....
Bauschke .....	1862	.....	Dunkel blau .....	Rosa .....	Green .....	Lila .....
Scott Cat. ....	1862	.....	Blue .....	Rose .....	Green .....	Violet .....
A. J. Philately	1862	Yellow .....	Blue .....	Rose .....	Green .....	Lilac .....
Triffet Cat' ...	1862	.....	Blue .....	Rose .....	Green .....	Lilac .....
A. S. M. ....	—	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

(To be continued.)

## Correspondence.

*To the American Journal of Philately.*

Some time since a series of articles upon revenue stamps appeared in your journal, giving all the revenue stamps of the U.S., known to the compiler, among others—For the information of those of your readers who collect such, perhaps you may think it worth while to insert the following. On the sixth of July, 1797, an act of Congress was approved, providing for the raising and collecting of a stamp duty at the annexed rate, on every skin, piece of vellum, or parchment, or sheet or piece of paper on which were written or printed,

A certificate of naturalization. \$5  
 License or certificate of admission of attorney, \$10  
 Grants and letters patent, \$4  
 Certified copy of same, \$2  
 Charter party or respondentia bond, \$1  
 Probate Receipt. 25 cts., 50 cts. \$1  
 Policy of Insurance, 25 cts.  
 Exemplification of court record, 50 cts.  
 Bonds, single or penal, 10 to 75 cts.  
 Bills, promissory Notes for or ind. ex. 10 to 75 cts.  
 Protest or Notarial act 25 cts.  
 Letter of Attorney, 25 cts.  
 Certificate of draw-back of Customs, \$1 to \$3  
 Bills of lading, inland, 10 cts. ; foreign, 25 cts.  
 Inventory 50 cts. ; Stock certificate, 10 cts.

The Secretary of the Treasury was to provide one stamp or mark for each distinct rate of duty, and supervisors were to be appointed to stamp such documents according to certain provisions. The act was to be in force 5 years. It was amended in March 1798. In April 1800, a general stamp office was created and afterwards abolished. Again, from and after Dec. 1813, stamp duties were to be collected on all notes issued or discounted by banks, which continued to be the case until Dec. 23, 1817. Has anyone ever seen any of these stamps ?

PARCI PARLA.













SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION LIBRARIES



3 9088 01549 3331