

Announcement
of the
Stamp-Lover's Weekly
of
Bethlehem, Pa.

THIS circular letter is sent to every collector who has been on my mailing list, and if it is received by any one who is no longer interested in stamp or coin collecting I hope he will kindly so notify me. Those subscribing or making known their interest in collecting will have the advantage of having their names entered on my new mailing list and receive free printed matter as issued by me.

E. T. PARKER.

The Stamp-Lover's Weekly

A Weekly Magazine-Newsheet devoted
to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies

E. T. Parker
Managing Editor

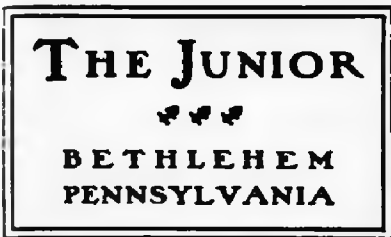
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

DEAR SIR:

We take pleasure in announcing and soliciting your support for a new publication whose name and nature are indicated in the above heading, and whose initial number will appear as soon as our printing plant is ready for occupancy.

THE STAMP-LOVER'S WEEKLY will, we believe, be the most important addition to American philatelic periodicals that has appeared for many years past. Its projectors are philatelists of long experience and ample capital, and no expense or energy will be spared in making the paper distinctly high grade in character and contents. We term it a magazine-newsheet because, while it will appear in newspaper form and deal fully with current philatelic happenings, both in America and Europe, it will also be, to all intents and purposes, a magazine, in that it will contain many articles and essays of permanent interest and value. Above all, it will be our aim to make it really practical and helpful to novices and middle-class collectors.

Not only the advanced collector, but the collector who is in the early or middle stages of stamp study, will, we trust and believe, find its contents both interesting and instructive in the highest degree. The editorial staff of the paper will be a very strong one. Mr. E. T. Parker, one of the oldest and best known of American collectors and dealers, will be the Managing Editor, and with him in the editorial conduct of the paper will be associated a philatelist of long standing, who is also a very able and widely known journalist. We are not permitted to use his name, but could we mention it no collector could ask for further guarantee of the readability of the paper. The minor editorial positions will be competently filled, and the contributors and correspondents will be the best obtainable, without regard to expense.



SOME SPENDING MONEY EASILY EARNED.

THE JUNIOR wants new subscribers and is willing to pay well for them, we have printed a big lot of subscription coupons good for a year's subscription to THE JUNIOR which we will sell for 10 cents to boys and girls willing to act as our Agent. Each coupon can easily be sold for the regular subscription price of 25 cents to some boy or girl who likes good reading, and each coupon sold nets a clear profit of 15 cents to the agent.

Don't you want to try it? It does not cost a penny to at least see what you can do. Fill out the enclosed application blank and we will sent you one coupon free to start with. When you have sold that, send us 10 cents a piece for as many more as you think you can dispose of. Every one you sell nets you 15 cents profit. You can easily induce many of your friends to subscribe by showing THE JUNIOR and explaining its many good points. Try the one free coupon, and see. If you cannot sell it, no harm is done, for it costs you nothing. If you can and do sell it (as we feel sure you will) send us 20 cents for two more; sell them, and make 30 cents on these two. Then buy three or five and sell those - clearing 15 cents on every single one of them. Isn't there a possibility for you to make a nice lot of spending money from this. And remember you do not need a penny to start with - because we give you the first coupon free of cost. You can buy two more coupons out of the profit you make in selling that one. And you can keep on in just the same way, buying fresh coupons with a part of your profits, and always making 15 cents on every one you sell.

Aren't you willing to try it, when we start you free of charge? Don't hesitate. Don't be timid about trying. One never knows what one can do till he tries. Fill out this application blank and enclose 2 cent stamp for postage, and we will sent you the first coupon.

To THE JUNIOR,
Bethlehem, Pa.:

Send me a coupon good for a year's subscription to THE JUNIOR. As soon as received I promise to try to sell it for 25 cents, 20 cents of which I will return to THE JUNIOR for two additional coupons, each one good for a year's subscription.

NAME

NO..... STREET

TOWN.....

STATE.....

REMITTANCE can be made in unused 1 and 2 cent stamps of the United States.
Never send coin by ordinary mail.

PLEASE GIVE FULL NAME AND ADDRESS EVERY TIME YOU WRITE.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
LIBRARY

That THE STAMP-LOVER'S WEEKLY is no half-hearted venture, may be inferred from the fact that we are installing a printing plant for the production of the paper. We shall have expended between two thousand and three thousand dollars on this plant before a single copy of the paper appears.

In a word, THE STAMP-LOVER'S WEEKLY is to be an important publication, and one you will not wish to be without. Advance subscriptions to the new WEEKLY will be of the utmost assistance to us, and we solicit your subscription as per attached blank. We desire to secure a good sized paid-in-advance subscription list before the first number appears, as such a list will ensure our securing second-class postal rates for the WEEKLY, without the delay and trouble usually encountered by new publications. We ask you to favor us with your subscription now, without waiting for the paper's appearance, and, to make it worth your while to do so, will accept advance yearly subscriptions at 25 cents, half the regular rate. We are certain you will want the new WEEKLY, and it will be an advantage to you as well as to us if you will favor us with your subscription now, using attached blank. Subscribe now and save 25 cents.

Yours very sincerely,

THE PUBLISHERS OF
THE STAMP-LOVER'S WEEKLY.

THE STAMP-LOVER'S WEEKLY
BETHLEHEM, PA.

For enclosed 25 cents send THE STAMP-LOVER'S WEEKLY for one year to

Name.....

..... *Street*

Town..... *State*.....

TO THE
SECRETARY OF THE
NAVY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

FOR THE
SECRETARY OF THE
NAVY

FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

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Name.....

..... Street

Town..... State.....



50 cents
a year.

THE

2 cents
a copy.

STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

VOL. I.

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, SEPTEMBER 17, 1904.

No. 1.

LONDON LETTER.

Fred. J. Melville.

The present time is the slack season in London philately. Little of interest will transpire before the beginning of October, when the auctions are started and the societies get to work again.

Every summer the time-honoured subjects of the catalogue for collectors by collectors, the ideal philatelic exhibition, specialism and anti-specialism, used versus unused and others, come up for discussion and re-discussion. This year the matter most to the front is the Index to Philatelic literature which every one is prepared to admit is a very real need. In my mind it is every bit as necessary as the ideal catalogue. While we have excellent substitutes for the collector's catalogue in the valuable compilations issued by the trade, we have no key to unlock the great resources of our literature.

It requires no deep perception, however, to realize that the task of compiling a needed index to stamp periodicals and books is one of great magnitude, and not to be considered lightly. It must be the work of the students of our literature—and how few there are! I know many who collect stamp books and dip into their pages from time to time for pleasure, but there are not half a dozen in England, and perhaps but one in Scotland who can claim real scholarship in this direction—and, granting that there may be so many students, but two are in a position to undertake such an index with profit to the world of collectors.

The one index which has been in the course of compilation in our premier University City is unlikely, in my opinion, to attain completion, for how is one man, with, naturally, other interests in life, to grapple with this very great matter. (No doubt Mr. F. A. Bellamy's work would be of the utmost value if it ever be rendered accessible and collectors cannot be too thankful for his arduous and unremunerative labours. And certainly they must be unremunerative. Even if Prince George were King it is scarcely to be expected that philatelic efforts would be recognized by a Civil List pension.

The index to the greatest philatelic library in the world would no doubt be of extreme value if it should be made accessible, as I have reason to believe the catalogue will be. I refer to the Earl of Crawford's collection, which it is scarcely necessary to remind the readers of the STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY, is based upon the fine accumulation of the late Mr. J. K. Tiffany, of St. Louis. Mr. Edward Denny Bacon, of the Philatelic Society, London, has been engaged upon this index for many months, and as the noble Earl is the

Vice President of the Society, it may not be unreasonable to hope that the index will be issued in the form of one of the excellent volumes emanating from Effingham House.

The British Museum Library, London, and the Bodleian Library, Oxford, are both deplorably weak in philatelic works, a number of the private collections being well in excess of both. Even the journals published in this country are not adequately represented. This is surprising, inasmuch that it is obligatory—by Act of Parliament—to send copies of every printed book or periodical to these and to three other specified libraries. It is probable that in most cases the journals were sent, but some years ago the care and attention given to minor publications was not so great as at present. At any rate, it is unfortunate that the great London Library is not better supplied, as it would be a most valuable adjunct to the Tapling Collection of Postage Stamps and Postal Stationery, which stands in the adjoining room of the King's Library, in our great national institution at Bloomsbury, London.

Writing of the Earl of Crawford's magnificent stamp library, for which it is understood the price of £2000 was paid, his lordship is issuing a want list. It is interesting to note that in spite of the extent of this library, the want list is proportionately great. The list is being printed from month to month in Stanley Gibbons' Monthly Journal and the first instalments occupy two full pages of that large-sized publication. And yet the list of titles beginning with C has not been completed!

Certain it is that few hobbies on the same level as philately have had such an extensive literature—good and bad. So far back as 1889, at the Munich Philatelic Exhibition, as many as five hundred stamp books were shown. Now a number far in excess of that could be amassed and probably will be at the small exhibition of philatelic literature to be held under the auspices of the Junior Philatelic Society next Spring. Mr. E. D. Bacon's library comprises probably not fewer than 2500 volumes of philatelic literature.

This exhibition of philatelic literature should not be confused with the other exhibition to be held by the same society about November of the present year. This will deal with the stamps of Great Britain, and will be of more importance than the literature show, which is purely experimental. The society's "Great Britain" exhibition at Clapham Hall in November, 1903, was so successful that it is intended to repeat it in a more central place.

Apropos of exhibitions, several prominent English philatelists are leaving this week for Berlin, where the Interna-

THE ATTENTION

of Auction Buyers, old and new clients, is directed to the coming seasons sales.

On September 28

I sell a fine lot the property of various owners including some fine M & M, combination lots, a collection etc.

October Sale.

will contain the wholesale and retail stock of the Return Mail Stamp Co.

November Sale.

contains a fine unused collection of Mr. S. G. Collins, of Galveston, Texas.

December Sale.

contains the large general collection of Dr. J. W. Fowler, Dubuque, Iowa.

January Sale.

contains the magnificent collection of Roscoe L. Wicks of Evanston, Ill.

P. M. Wolsieffer
401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

national Exhibition is to be opened on the 25th instant. In an early letter I hope to be able to give some details of the exhibits. English dealers do not appear to be very keen on the event, and one complained to me that he believed the Berliners did not desire much English competition, and so they have not been "booming" it in this country.

Considering the general depression in trade under which Great Britain has been labouring for several years, the last few months have been very satisfactory to the dealers. One Strand manager tells me that his firm's business has been remarkably good for Summer, and he expressed surprise that people should spend so much on stamps at this time of year.

The Gibbons firm, also in the Strand, seems satisfied, though they attribute much of the year's success to an increase of 36 per cent. in their recently founded American business. Since the fire at their premises about two years back they claim to have sold over forty-seven thousand stamp albums. This, for one firm, is a noteworthy total, and as there are albums which are quite as popular this should set the total number of albums sold annually in Great Britain to an enormous figure.

Another English firm, the Colonial Stamp Market, Ltd., congratulates itself on a very big turnover during the past three or four months, so that the walls of the pessimist are being drowned in the thanksgivings of the successful.

But in spite of all the statements as to the increase in stamp enthusiasm, there can be no doubt that there have been influences at work which have retarded the growth of the stamp collecting hobby. One of these is the ubiquitous picture postcard, to which Lord Stanley, our Postmaster General, in his report on the postoffice, gives the credit for the greater portion of the increase in postcards passed through the department in the year ending March 30, 1904.

(Continued on page 3.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States, Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any address in any country in the Postal Union \$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.00 an inch. 60 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

AN EDITORIAL.

PRELUDE.

The STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY pops into being this week with only one cloud to mar the pleasure of its debut—the fact, namely, that it, strangely enough, finds itself, even at its birth, invested with quite a reputation, which it must need fully live up to or sadly disappoint the many stamp folk who have lent aid and encouragement in its launching. Our plans for this journal were necessarily made public a good many weeks ago; and the kindness of our friends has, in the interval, spread widely the impression that this would be an exceedingly big and able publication from the very start. Of the caliber of this natal number, or of the degree of promise it may give as to this journal's future usefulness and interest, it is not, of course, for us to speak. But we are only too keenly alive to the fact that it will require no little time to whip this paper into just the form we wish it to assume as to character and contents. Let no reader fancy that this number represents the fulfillment of our ideals as to what a journal of this character should be. It only very faintly foreshadows the nature of the course we have mapped out for the new weekly. Little by little as the weeks go by you will get an insight into what we mean it to do, and what we mean it to do. There are some points about our policy that can fittingly be made clear now—and of these we speak elsewhere on this page. But as to our deepest aims—as to the broadest purposes of usefulness of which we hope and trust this journal may prove the efficient servant—let our own pages speak as time goes on. For the present we have but to make our bow, with the best grace we may, and solicit for this journal the honor of your better acquaintance.

On the Hobby Side.

Although the term "philatelist" is of the most honorable significance, and although we have the warmest respect for all men to whom it may rightfully be applied, we have resisted the temptation to use the word in any way in the christening of our journal. "Philatelist's Weekly," or "Philatelic Weekly"—these are names of greater dignity, doubtless, than the one we have chosen to employ. But the fact is that we have much hope of being able to render this journal interesting to many stamp-lovers who are not philatelists at all—who never were philatelists, who never will be philatelists, and who do not even want to be philatelists, either now or hereafter. That such benighted beings should exist in any number worth mentioning may seem scarcely credible to those who labor in the innermost sanctuary of philatelic research. Yet this class not only exists, but its name is legion. Philately is the science of the few; stamp collecting the hobby of the many; and it is the intent of the Stamp-Lovers' Weekly to sing of the hobby and its pleasures, rather than of the science and its toils. We deny to the deep students of Philately none of the credit that is theirs by right of no end of good work splendidly done. But the man we most wish to please—and we believe there are tens of thousands in this land—is the man who is just a stamp-lover; the man who likes to finger and fuss with them; who is enamored of stamps for their own intrinsic beauty and significance and attractiveness; who considers stamp collecting a form of play rather than a form of work. We do not say that we shall close our columns to all matters of moment to the advanced, scientific collector. Far from that, we shall endeavor to present, as time goes on, much that the advanced collector may fitly and profitably read. But the fundamental, primary aim of the Stamp-Lovers' Weekly is to increase its readers' pleasure, and interest in stamp collecting for diversion's sake—for the sake of the "fun there is in it."

The "Fun" of Stamp Collecting.

We have placed in quotation marks the concluding words of our last paragraph. In doing so, we have had in mind an article printed many years ago in one of the stamp papers of the period by Alvah Davison, a collector and philatelic writer well remembered, without doubt, by all of our old readers. Mr. Davison, at a time when articles on "Why We Collect Stamps," adducing all sorts of very excellent and very weighty reasons, were rife in stamp periodicals (as, indeed, they have been

ever since stamp collecting first attained any journalistic standing) remarked that he had asked his little boy, aged nine or eleven or some such matter, why he collected stamps, and that the immediate answer had been "For fun, Papa." And what one of us, Mr. Davison asked, really collects for any other reason? What one of us is in stamp collecting because it enlarges our knowledge in any of the many ways in which it is a sugar-coated instructor? What one of us would really collect stamps if it were not that it added an actual element of enjoyment to life, quite irrespective of any and all other considerations? Mr. Davison wrote his article and stated his views long before the days of the collector—speculator and amateur-dealer. But we think his idea is precisely as unassailable to-day as the hour it was written. Every stamp-lover is in stamp collecting because of "the fun in it." And those stamp collectors who are not also stamp-lovers do not rightly "come in" in any philatelic census which is taken on a proper basis.

Agent

Young Collectors.

We may as well say at once the Stamp-Lovers' Weekly will devote no little of its space to matter designed to interest, instruct and stimulate young collectors. We shall print a good deal of matter which will very probably seem trite and trivial to our older readers—because it will deal with elementary points about stamp collecting which are as familiar to experienced philatelists as A B C. But we sincerely hope and trust that none of the learned in philatelic practice will at all begrudge to the rank and file of beginners and collectors that are not far advanced the space required for such information and encouragement as we may be able to give them. Without the constant accession of new recruits our hobby would soon sink into a sad state, indeed. We aspire to be the especial guide, philosopher and friend of collectors that are as yet in the chrysalis state. And if, with that end in view, we see fit to devote certain pages to matter that seems pitifully puerile in the advanced collectors eyes, we beg him to consider the intent.

The problem we face in attempting to really interest and help young collectors is a huge one. It would be a thousand times easier to supply reading that the advanced collector would understand and appreciate than reading in which the youthful, casual class of stamp collectors can take a really keen, live interest. We fully appreciate this fact; nevertheless we face the task with a stout heart, believing that the great bulk of our older readers will fully approve our purpose.

Advertising Department
The Stamp-Lovers Weekly,
 BETHLEHEM, PA.

September 14, 1904.

**To the Dealer
 Whom It Concerns.**

DEAR SIR:

ADVERTISING CONTRACT, 1

REGULAR RATE, \$1.00 PER INCH.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY,
 BETHLEHEM, PA.,

.....190

25 inches for \$23.75.

In consideration of a reduction of 5 cents per inch to ^{me}_{us} ^{we} agree to use 25 inches of space in **THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY** within one year from date and to pay for same at the rate of \$1.00 an inch until \$23.75 shall have been paid. The advertisement can be changed as often as desired. The publisher is authorized to repeat the last advertisement inserted in the absence of other instructions.

It is mutually agreed that the space is for our own use and is not transferable.

All Bills payable on the first of each month.

5 per cent discount for cash in advance.

Preferred position 50 per cent extra.

this journal as a medium?

We enclose blank contract, and rate card. Will you come in with us? Study the paper, read "What The Advertising Manager Has To Say" on page 7; and think the matter over seriously and carefully? Forms will close on Tuesday of each week for the succeeding number.

Trusting to hear from you, we remain

Yours sincerely,

**THE
 STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY**
 BETHLEHEM, PA.

The Shrinkage of Rarities.

It is now some years since Mr. M. P. Castle drew general attention to that factor in stamp collecting which he termed "the shrinkage of rarities"—i. e., the gradual decrease in the world's visible supply of all the older issues possessing any degree of rarity, through accident, loss, wear and tear, etc. The question has recently arisen whether this shrinkage is, after all, a sufficiently tangible factor to need to be reckoned with during the present generation. That some fine stamps are each year lost to Philately through total destruction there is, of course, no question; and there are doubtless quite a good many that, from one mischance or another, become more or less damaged. But is the percentage large enough to cause philatelists any grave concern? Is it not, in fact, so infinitesimally small that many decades must elapse before it will have any very appreciable effect upon supply and demand? We do not overlook the fact that really rare stamps are, as a rule, appreciating somewhat in price each year. But we believe this to be due to increase of demand rather than to decrease of supply. Practically all of the world's fine stamps—save, of course, those that still lie undiscovered in non-philatelic obscurity—are in the hands of the elect—of dealers and collectors who may be depended on to handle them and cherish them with the utmost care. It seems unlikely that one good stamp out of ten thousand suffers either total extinction or serious damage in the course of each twelvemonth.

Philately's Comparative Youth.

The reflection that Philately as a pursuit is little, if at all, more than forty years old, is one that may well cause us to marvel. It is to be doubted if ever in the history of the world any pursuit founded solely on the collecting instinct has attained to anything like similar popularity in a similarly short space of time. Books, paintings and works of art in general have been collected almost since their first existence. Coin collecting (in a primitive form, of course) is believed to date back to the middle ages. All other present day forms of collecting—save stamp collecting only—can trace their origin back to periods quite remote from the present. But stamp collecting dates its rise only since the Civil War. That in this brief space of time it should have achieved all it has is one of the most wonderful developments of a wonderful age. Philately, in the manner in which it is at present carried on, is quite as wonderful a thing as many of the more material innovations of the last half century.

We Seek Some Correspondents.

One of the things we have promised ourselves should prove one of the most prominent features of the **STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY** as time goes on, is a series of weekly news letters from the principal philatelic cities, with occasional letters also from smaller points—wherever any respectable number of stamp collectors are domiciled, and wherever any philatelic news exists. We find it exceedingly difficult to secure persons willing to act as our correspondents in the larger cities; want of time, lack of literary talent, and little opportunity to ascertain what is going on in local stamp circles being the principal excuses offered for declining. We think that among the large number of collectors who receive this initial number of the **STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY** there must be some who have both the qualifications and the willingness to undertake to furnish us with the philatelic news of their respective localities. We hope to hear from those who feel that this paragraph applies to them; and are, of course, prepared to accord suitable remuneration for satisfactory work.

The bulk of our readers, doubtless, are debarred from becoming regular weekly correspondents through the fact of their residing in localities where there are no great number of collectors, no organized societies, and little scope for philatelic news gathering. But we think there is scarcely any collector, no matter in how remote a locality he may reside, who does not occasionally know of some item which such a paper as this would be very glad, indeed, to print. And it is our very earnest wish that every reader may feel himself or herself specially authorized to send us in any item in any way connected with stamps or stamp collectors which they may think would prove of interest to our readers—who, be it remembered, like very much to know what other collectors are doing, in other sections of the country.

We solicit the favor of our readers in this regard, and assure you that whatever you may do for us will not go unappreciated.

LONDON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

The rate of increase in postcards used has long been large, being 6.2 in 1901-02, then 9.9 in 1902-03 and now 25.5. In Scotland the increase this past year was 35 per cent. The estimated number of postcards used during the year with which the report deals is 613,700,000, as compared with 488,900,000 the previous year. This enormous total gives an average of 14.5 postcards to each person in these islands.

The letters are not nearly so numerous in proportion this year, the increase being only .7. Lord Stanley attributes this partly to stagnation in trade, partly to the increased use of the telephone; but it is also "largely the result of the enormous increase in the use of pictorial postcards, which show a tendency to displace letters as well as official postcards. Private postcards," he adds, "are now estimated to be about 77 per cent. of the whole number passing through the post."

STAMP DOINGS IN GOTHAM

As reported by our New York correspondent.

September has come. In this city this means the return to home, school and work of the great majority of those who take advantage of the vacation season to visit seaside, mountain or other Summer resorts. Already the crowded stores and streets give evidence. Collectors will pick up their albums with renewed interest and increased zeal. During the weeks that the collector has been absent things have been happening that affect the interests of all, but not all alike.

The new issues must be secured by some, others may find the stamps they desired to complete sets have suddenly disappeared from the dealers' stocks, and regret the lost opportunity.

In a great city like New York events of minor importance cause but a ripple and do not become generally known. Among more important events we note the death of Dr. H. Tuck, First Vice-President of the New York Life Insurance Company. During forty years of a very busy life Dr. Tuck has been an ardent collector, improving every opportunity to add to his collection. Of the old school, he simply sought to fill the spaces in his album, caring naught for minor varieties and not over-particular as to condition.

The vacation dullness has been much enlivened by the canal zone issue of stamps by our Government. A provisional issue of a few hundred only of the surcharged stamps of the Republic of Panama, surcharged with a rubber stamp, "Canal Zone," was in use about ten days or two weeks. All received here were eagerly bought and the great demand has naturally led to attempts at imitation. These have been so successful that one of our largest firms was deceived. No collector should buy these stamps except from a thoroughly reliable dealer.

Something new in the album line is being prepared by the Scott Stamp and Coin Company. Their standard catalogue is also well advanced in preparation and we hear that the price is to be advanced also.

Saturday afternoon auction sales have been held frequently during the Summer. They seem to be popular. No sales of unusual importance have yet been announced for the coming season.

A flood of forgeries of Panama and Haytian stamps is reported from abroad. The first issue, imperforate, of Hayti and the 1887-1891 "map" stamps of Panama, including not only the original unsurcharged stamps of this issue, but also all the surcharges, and the varieties and errors or surcharge, are reported as having been counterfeited by a Parisian gang. Whether or not any of these are as yet in circulation in this country we cannot say; but it is entirely probable that they will appear here in course of time. Great caution should therefore be exercised in buying any of the stamps above mentioned from any source other than the leading dealers, whose expert knowledge of stamps safeguards their customers from such impositions.

The Eagle Carrier stamp, one of the most interesting of all the early U. S. issues, is supposed to have been principally used in the cities of Cincinnati and Philadelphia.

THE READING TABLE.**What We Find In the Journals of the Hour.**

All stamp collectors, unfortunately, cannot subscribe to all stamp papers, and if they did, could not, in many cases, take time to read them. But the editor of such a paper as this not only receives all current philatelic periodical literature, but is also in duty bound to read them from Alpha to Omega; therefore it becomes yet another duty for him to take upon himself the task of informing his own readers what contemporaneous stamp journals contain, insofar as it can be done by a necessarily brief resume of their leading features. We feel the more obliged to follow the custom in this matter and devote a certain amount of space each week to the analysis of our contemporaries because we feel well assured that the bulk of ordinary collectors do not subscribe to more than two or three stamp periodicals, and that, in particular, very few of them regularly read the leading British stamp journals, to which this review will be principally devoted. This week's reviews are necessarily of journals which bear the date of July (we are still referring to periodicals which come to us from across the big pond); for the British stamp sheets come out late in the month, and the August issues of most of them have not yet come to hand.

As to the American papers, they are nowadays so few in number (considering only those of sufficiently high calibre to deserve attention) that the assumption is strong that most stamp enthusiasts subscribe and read them regularly. We shall therefore touch but lightly on their contents, reserving most of our attention for periodicals of foreign manufacture for a knowledge of whose contents most American collectors depend upon some department similar to this one.

The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, London, England.

The July 25th issue of the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain (the latest number at hand at writing) devotes its first two pages to an interview with a famous English philatelist, who is, we trust, destined to become particularly well known to the readers of the STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY. The gentleman in question is Mr. Fred J. Melville, whom we have been so fortunate as to enlist as our London correspondent, and whose "London Letters" (commenced in this number) we expect to prove one of our most interesting features. Mr. Melville is a well known English journalist and lecturer, and his special title to philatelic fame is threefold; first, as having done much to inform the general public of the fascinations of stamp collecting, by means of his illustrated lectures, "Postage Stamps With Stories," etc., etc.; second, as being the President and prime mover of the Junior Philatelic Society, a London body for young collectors which has no counterpart in this country; and, third, as being the author of "The A. B. C. of Stamp-Collecting," the ablest and most interesting philatelic text book for the novice which has yet been written. That a man of such gifts and accomplishments supplies his interviewer with an exceptionally interesting two pages goes without saying, and only lack of space prevents us from transferring the entire interview to our pages, that our readers might see for themselves "what manner of man it is"

who is to keep us posted on the news events and current club chat of philatelic London. But, as it is, we must forego that pleasure, and depend on Mr. Melville to win his own welcome to these pages—which we feel very sure he will speedily do.

The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain's chronicle of new issues occupies the four pages succeeding, and gives evidence of very judicious editing. Following this is an essay of decided interest to advanced collectors: "The First Issue of Seychelles," by Bertram W. H. Poole; in which a considerable number of little-known minor varieties in that issue are described in detail. The editorial page comes next, and on this we find a very wise little sermon, on the text "Concerning Completeness." We cannot refrain from quoting a paragraph or so which admirably sum up the real facts of this vexed Will-o'-the-wisp of "completeness:"

"Practically every beginner (says our contemporary) starts by forming a general collection, and, if he sooner or later joins the ranks of the specialists, it is (1) by inclination, or (2) because of the continual croaking of his friends, who tell him over and over again that he can never hope to obtain a complete collection of the world's postage stamps. And again we ask 'Is it necessary to attempt to obtain such a collection?' We think, most emphatically, that completeness is not the be-all and end-all of Philately. Rather one should treat the pastime as a real hobby, and reject or include just the stamps that please one, or that one can afford, in forming a collection. A collector of pictures does not endeavor to obtain a painting from the brush of every artist, and when he has, say, a fine Rubens, Holbein, etc., he does not worry himself because his collection lacks a Turner or a Leighton. Neither does he attempt a complete collection of the works of any one artist. To do so would be absurd, as well as impossible. Collectors of china, old furniture or coins, do not attempt to obtain complete collections, though they naturally obtain as many specimens as they can get. And such, we contend, should be the case with stamp collecting."

This is a view in which the STAMP LOVERS' WEEKLY fully coincides. We shall have a good deal to say editorially in future numbers, as to this mad and preposterous notion of completeness in stamp collecting—the chimera of modern Philately.

The "Descriptive Catalogue of European Postage Stamps," which has been running in the P. J. of G. B. for some months past, has progressed as far as Italy, and devotes several pages in the number before us to listing, illustrating and describing some of that country's issues. Next to this are two or three pages of society reports and miscellaneous items; the number closing with its usual excellent "Philatelic Review of Reviews," in which the contents of the more important current stamp journals receive editorial analysis and criticism.

Unlike some of its British contemporaries the P. J. of G. B. loses none of its readability during the vacation months, and the "off season" in stamps.

The Stamp Collector—Birmingham, England.

The Stamp Collector does not seem to be quite itself this month, a number of its usual departments being conspicuously absent. Nevertheless, its supply of good reading is by no means sparse. The issue before us (dated August) opens with an editorial on the used vs. unused question, which, while admitting the collectibility of unused stamps and their superiority over used specimens on the score of appearance, decidedly deprecates the tendency among advanced collectors to exalt the unused specimen and look down upon the used one.

Mr. N. Taar contributes an article "A Suggestion Wanted How to Ear-Mark Forgeries," which contains much food for thought. Inasmuch as the law gives a philatelist no warrant to destroy a forgery which is not his own property, and even if a collector recognizes a forgery among stamps offered him he has no power to confiscate it for the public good, Mr. Taar suggests that some way should be devised whereby the connoisseur could plainly mark its fraudulent character on any forged stamp before handing it back to its owner, thereby making it impossible for less well-posted collectors to be taken in by it. The suggestion is one that is well worth considering.

"The Little Dots of Lubeck," an article of the ultra scientific cast, dealing with certain dots in the stamps of Lubeck visible only under a strong magnifying glass, occupies the next page; and need not detain us. Following it, several pages are given over to extracts from a very interesting historical document: the report of the commission appointed to inquire into the management of the English Post Office Department in 1837, three years prior to the adoption of the adhesive stamp. Much of interest to our readers might be gleaned from our contemporary's summary of this report—for it deals with Dockwra's Penny Post, with Rowland Hill's proposal for cheap postage (which the Commissioners are disposed to treat rather contemptuously, as the visions of a dreamer) and with other quaint matters of pre-postage stamp days that read oddly enough now. But we can hardly spare the space for even the smallest extract from this primitive document, and so must pass it by.

The remainder of the paper contains little matter of moment, aside from a most appreciative review of Messrs. Bartels, Foster and Palmer's newly published work on "The Postage Stamps of the Philippines," one of the most important books (of course, we speak from a philatelic standpoint) that has ever come from an American press.

Other Journals Received.

In addition to the above we are in receipt of the Perforator for August 15th, the Monthly Journal for July 30th, the Australian Philatelist for July 1st, and Mekeel's Stamp-Collector for August 22d and 29th. Review of these will necessarily be deferred until our next number.

REMEMBER We want subscribers Many of them.

C. P. S. OUTING PARTY.



Part of the C. P. S. "Outing" party. In the group from left to right standing up are the Messrs Thlessen, Von Schaetzler, Locke, Boehm, Hirthe, Toelle, Jungmann, Johnson, Oesch; second row, Schade, Saunders, Schlieckert, Gaerte, Staab, Dald; front row Lee, Dodd, Stockner, Stirn, Wolsieffer, Noel, L. Michael, Rosenthal.

The left oval represents Jack Oesch full of confidence after making 2 hits, in the act of striking out.

The right oval represents P. M. in a rather doubtful mood after having struck out twice, in the act of making a single.

Chicago Letter.

The appearance of a new stamp paper is always the occasion of more or less criticism on the part of an exceptionally critical philatelic public and no doubt THE STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY will have to face the music and toe the mark.

Chicago is always willing to give a new venture a hearing, liberal support, and a hearty boost, and your correspondent feels sure that with the well-known name of E. T. Parker as "the man behind the gun" THE STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY will certainly succeed and win its way to public favor.

The event of the week locally was the stag outing and picnic of the Chicago Philatelic Society held at Hennen's Grove in Riverside on the Desplaines River on the 28th. The Elgin and Milwaukee Philatelic Societies were the guests of the C. P. S. on this occasion.

Messrs. Stockner and Saunders represented Elgin and Messrs. Johnson, Toelle, Stirn, Jungmann, Thlessen, Schade, Hirthe and Noel represented

Milwaukee.

A finer day could not have been selected and visitors and members enjoyed themselves thoroughly. It was a regular old-fashioned picnic with its 75 and 100 yard dashes, sack race, three-legged race, backward race, running jump, ball game, etc.

Nearly everybody, irrespective of size or weight, participated and there were but few that did not capture one or more of the prizes, of which there were several for each event.

The location of the grove being in private grounds made it very pleasant, as there could be no curious crowd to make remarks as to the ability of the various participants, some of whom had not been in a race or game of ball for twenty or more years.

Everybody went for fun and a good time and everybody said they had it. Also the next day, the day after and the day after that some of the boys were able to remember that they had indulged in some unusual exercise at some time before.

Charlie Schlieckert made an ideal umpire. No one could bluff him to change a decision, and his ability to maintain his composure under trying criticism from the rooters was admired by the rooters themselves.

Otto Von Schaetzler led the rooters, and it was strongly suspected that he was trying to rattle the umpire, particularly when John Oesch was pitching and Will Staab banged the first ball pitched for a homer.

The score of the game was—well, we had better not mention it, as there were so many perforated hits and no gauge to measure them with that the reader will do better to make a guess at the final results.

It was a slight worth going many miles to see when such men as Stockner, Saunders, Stirn, Johnson, Thlessen and Noel were nearing the tape at the end of the 100-yard dash. Unfortunately, Stan Zajicek, our official photographer, was not prepared at the finish, or we would have had a snap shot of it.

However, Stan did get a few good snap shots, which we reproduce to show what a jolly crowd stamp collectors can be when they all get together. They may be cranks, but they have the ability to enjoy themselves as well as other mortals.

The day's events were not over till darkness set in, when the tired bunch took a train for the city, and after a dinner at the Blismark the merry party broke up.

The only fatality of the day was a collision between the two Eddies (Dodd and Rosenthal), who, while chasing the ball and trying to catch it, came together with a crash that laid both of them out for a minute. Eddie Dodd showed the result with an eye that was entirely closed and Eddie Rosenthal limped for the balance of the day.

Several C. P. S. members started for the picnic, but failed to find the grove. The fact that they mistook the ruins of a brewery for a church is the reason they missed it. Both Charlie Severn and Adams do not know what a brewery looks like anyway.

There was considerable talk by many of the members of the C. P. S. to make this outing an annual affair. Coming right after the convention season it helps to fill out a dull Summer and gets the boys together to talk over the coming season's events.

The Milwaukee society came down in the first train in the morning. Mr. Thlessen, who is quite a joker, came the night before, after telling them all he would not go, so you can imagine their surprise when they found him at the depot in Chicago waiting for them.

Both Eddies (Rosenthal and Dodd) are very game, notwithstanding that they were badly shattered and laid out early in the day, they both continued with the fun and entered into all the sports, winning several prizes in their handicapped condition.

The prizes all consisted of stamps and envelopes and ranged in price from 50 cents to \$15 each. They were contributed by Messrs. Massoth, Dodd, Rosenthal, Staab and Wolsieffer.

At the meeting of the Chicago Philatelic Society held Sept. 1st there was nothing special on the program. It was however, well attended considering the season of the year. The report of the Picnic Committee by Messrs. Dodd, Von Schatzler and Wolsieffer was

received with great amusement, particularly by those members who were not there.

The base ball spirit seems to have broken out in the C. P. S. During recess President Oesch, Severn, Staab and P. M. were practicing with a paper ball. They say the picnic is responsible for it and it may result in an indoor base ball nine this winter.

P. M. Wolsieffer announces his 45th sale for Sept. 24th, the catalogue to be mailed in a few days.

The auction season promises to be lively here this year. P. M. has important sales hooked for six months ahead and another dealer announces that he will hold a sale every month.

Chicago has proved to be a good auction market. Fine stamps listed in fine condition always fetch fine prices. Much of the success of auction sales here can be traced to one thing, and that is careful cataloging and fair treatment.

Staab & Wolsieffer, who recently bought out Archie Doherty's United States Coin and Stamp Exchange at 106 Dearborn Street, report business very satisfactory, with the coin end of it leading the stamp department.

Is Rudyard Kipling a Stamp Collector?

A "Kent and Sussex Philatelic Society" has recently been formed in England; and in the minutes of the first meeting we are somewhat astonished to note the following letter, received by the promoters of the society from Rudyard Kipling:—

"Bateman's Burwash, Sussex.
June 6th, 1904.

"Dear Sir:—Mr. Rudyard Kipling desires me to say that he has your letter of June 4th, but that he fears it would be useless for him to add his name to the list of your society, as he is in England so little that he would almost certainly be unable to attend any of the meetings. Under these circumstances, though he greatly appreciates the honor you do him in asking him to join, he feels that it would be useless for him to do so.

"Yours faithfully,

"K. E. Parker, Secretary."

Are we to infer from this that Kipling is a member of the body philatelic? We fear not—but we wish they could have gotten him to attend some of those meetings.

By the way, President Roosevelt, in an interview with a visiting stamp man, confided that he had once been a stamp collector. Judge Parker is now to be heard from.

Our friends in the Antipodes are decidedly enterprising in the matter of holding philatelic exhibitions of a public character. The latest of which we have record was held at Melbourne in the latter part of June, and is stated to have been highly successful.

News comes, too, of an exhibition of similar sort held recently in Johannesburg, South Africa, under the auspices of the strong philatelic society of that city.

Only in America does the public stamp exhibition remain an iridescent dream.

DETROIT DOTLETS.

That the scarcity of U. S. stamps is continually growing can readily be noticed. In recent issues of different philatelic journals prominent Eastern dealers are offering to pay good prices for certain U. S. stamps.

Thomas McCarthy, one of our leading collectors, has returned from a two months' trip abroad. Mr. McCarthy is a collector of many years' experience and well known among collectors. His collection numbers about 8000, including a number of complete countries.

A. W. Wigle, of Cleveland, was here recently taking in the sights. Speaking of Cleveland from a philatelic standpoint, he says: "It is all right. We have the Garfield-Perry Stamp Club—most prominent collectors belong to this; we have our meetings, and they are well attended. Our collectors take interest in the society and through this we are bound to come out."

While Cleveland is enjoying the benefits of a well-organized society, Detroit has none. We had a good one some years ago, but somehow it lacked enthusiasm and soon went to pieces. Yet as a philatelic centre we stand about as well as any. We have some fine collections, numbering as high as from fifteen to seventeen thousand varieties.

Speaking to the stamp clerk at the post-office the other day as to the sale of St. Louis stamps, he informs me that the demand is not what was expected. At first the demand was fair, but it was due principally to the collectors buying sets for themselves as well as foreign correspondents.

E. S. Heineman and Eugene Bresler, well-known local collectors, have returned from their vacations.

Says the Realm of Boston: "Janitors of large office buildings who collect St. Louis stamps may be said to own a silver mine just now." This must certainly be encouraging to all janitors who read the above, and ought to stir up many of them who have no idea of the value of their stamps. Glancing over stamp papers we can see many dealers offering to pay 10 cents per 100 for the 1-cent, 8 cents per 100 for the 2-cent, and the time consumed in soaking and packing them up, the idea of a "get rich quick," will soon vanish. St. Louis stamps are not as plentiful as were the Columbians, consequently it would take a long time to collect 1000 to make a dollar.

Well, here's success to the new paper. May it live and prosper and be a healthy journal, full of good things for the philatelist.

Herman W. Boers.

Great Britain 40 different including rare and obsolete issues, Army and I. R. officials Gov't Parcels the lot post free only 20c.

"British Empire Stamp Exchange Medium." 1st and 2nd editions containing 750 names and addresses of collectors in all parts of the British Empire only with a list of the stamps wanted and offered in exchange. A real exchange medium post free 90 cents.

"City Philatelist." Specimen copy 2 cents. All the above 40 cents post free.

Bickers, Richmond Terrace,
Cork, Ireland.

If you want to know how to collect read the STAMP LOVERS WEEKLY regularly.

I am writing this "ad" to introduce myself to some new customers. Although I have been in the stamp business now just ten years, and have on my lists over 6000 names, yet there are many, many collectors from whom I have never had an order. To these I can only say that ten years in business means something. My business today is the largest individual one in the United States. On the lines which appeal to the average collector, who spends from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per month, I think I can supply more stamps that are "wanted" than any other dealer. At least this is what my customers say. Assuming that I have not sold you stamps before, may I not have a small "want list" from you, or an order for something from this ad, or if not, let me send you my "B. B." lists. I do not claim to sell stamps cheaper than everybody else, nor am I tied down to somebody's catalogue. I buy my goods as cheap as I can and sell at what is to me a fair profit, if 80 percent. off shows me a profit. This is my price—if certain stamps are priced (but not for sale), at half what they are worth. My price is double catalogue. Here are a few items from some of my recent lists:

U. S. 1c. Pan-American invert mint, \$17.00.

Western Union Tel., 1904, unused, 5c.

Revenue \$20.00, 2d issue, fine used, \$6.00.

Revenue \$50.00, 2d issue, fine used, \$5.25.

Antigua 1884 6d. ca. mint (list \$1.25), 55c.

Barbados 1883 5 sh bistre mint, \$4.80.

British Central Africa 1903 4 sh King mint, \$1.32.

Gold Coast 1894 20 sh mint, \$7.50.

Hawaii 12c. Prov. Govt., black surcharge unused, \$9.50.

Hawaii 1883 \$1.00 rose, unused surcharged, fine, \$6.00.

Iceland Gildi 100 aur, scarce, mint, \$2.20.

Niger Coast 1888 10 sh purple, \$4.60.

Persia 1891 50 kr. mint, \$1.20.

Persia 1898, full set, unused (list \$9.00), only \$2.75.

Persia 1894 4 kr. grey mint (list \$2.50), 50c.

St. Christopher 1887 1 sh. violet mint, \$2.90.

Victoria 1900 5 sh. no postage mint, \$5.25.

Zululand 9d. on English mint, \$3.25.

In twentieth century I have everything as issued. Anything sent on approval to known buyers.

Frank P. Brown,

339 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.

Just To Get Acquainted.

Belgium Packet Post 40, 70 and 90 cents, 1902 (Scott No. 227, 228, 229) are mighty scarce. Worth 60 to 75 cents. The three used for 15 cents to all applying for our 60 per cent discount approval books. State size of collection and give reference. Send for approval lot whether you buy the Belgians or not.

F. W. PICKARD,

Station R, (Wyoming.) Cincinnati, Ohio.



105 VARIETIES of USED and UNUSED STAMPS, including

NYASSA, 1901, Japan, India, Portugal, Egypt, Australia, etc., etc. 81 and 82 U. S. Revenues, and 250 Faultless Hinges, all for 10 CENTS silver and 2c stamp, for postage. Before Oct. 15, 1904, purchasers of this packet will receive free of charge, one 25c Entry of Goods, (cat. 10c.) Order today.

CHAS. A. TOWNSEND
33 Good Street, Akron, Ohio.

NOTHING except the mint can make money without advertising.

What The Advertising Manager Has to Say.

The STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY has refrained from soliciting any advertising for its first number—save from a few personal friends who, when the paper was first talked of, expressed the wish to be represented in its columns from its very first number. We have felt that before extending an invitation to all reliable dealers to use our columns we would like them to see a copy of this journal. We could undoubtedly have secured a large quantity of advertising for this opening number had we so desired—for dozens of dealers responded to our prospectus with offers to take space—but we have not deemed it wise to do so.

We wish to handle the advertising columns of this paper in a way that will make them not only profitable to the advertiser using them, but also interesting to readers. We propose devoting great attention to the developments of philatelic advertising along lines hitherto pursued only by the more progressive members of the trade, constituting only a sad minority of the whole. And the main points of our policy will be to discourage single insertions and transient advertising, to encourage constant change of copy on the advertiser's part, and to educate advertisers to construct their announcements more attractively and effectively.

We wish every dealer of importance in this country to become a regular advertiser in this journal and as time goes on we believe we shall be able to present them with most conclusive proof of the profit and advantage obtainable from the use of our columns. But we wish every dealer to distinctly understand that he cannot gain any results worth mentioning from the single insertion of an ad. in this journal; and that for that reason we shall reserve the option of declining one-time orders, unless they are for the advertisement of some special thing (such as a collection for sale, or the announcement of some notable auction sale), which would gain no advertising force by repetition. To run an ordinary stamp ad. once and expect results therefrom is to expect the impossible—or, at least, the very improbable. It is the constant, regular advertiser that gains the interest, confidence and patronage. All advertising authorities are agreed on this point. The Ladies' Home Journal, the Delineator, and many other of the best periodicals in the general field refuse to accept one-time orders, save in very exceptional cases—because they know that it will not pay them to run an ad. which does not pay the advertiser. No stamp journal has hitherto adopted this policy. With most of them it has been a case of "all's fish that comes to the net." But the STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY is not going, in any case or under any provocation, to run an ad. which we feel morally certain will not pay the advertiser.

Of course, we are taking this stand in our own interests just as much as in the interests of our advertisers. We cannot afford to allow a dealer to insert a single ad. in this paper, and, receiving no results, forever after decry its value as an advertising medium. All we ask from any dealer is a fair trial; and one insertion is not a fair trial. In continuity—keeping everlastingly at it—lies the only road to advertising success; and week in and week out we shall do all in our

power to educate philatelic advertisers to a full understanding of this great truth.

Again, we want those who advertise with us to change copy often. We do not want them to run the same ad. for month after month without alteration. We are aware that most stamp journals like to have their advertisers run the same copy for a considerable period; because, of course, every time the copy is changed it costs something for re-setting. But we believe this to be a penny wise and pound foolish policy, and we shall not only allow our advertisers to change copy as often as they wish, but we shall urge them to do so, and will gladly and willingly assume the extra expense thereby incurred. We want the advertising columns to sparkle with interesting offers, varied and changing from week to week, so that our subscribers will have every incentive to read them carefully and interestingly. There is many a stamp collector who cares about as much for the ads. in a paper as for the reading matter; and we do not wish to disappoint him by presenting the same old ads, week after week. We will do our part to make our advertising columns profitable; our advertisers must do their part also.

As to the third feature of our advertising policy, the improvement of philatelic advertising from a constructive standpoint, we will not take the space this week to enlarge upon our plans in that direction. But it is our intention to devote a column or more each week to advertising matters; and in that space in future issues this point, and many other considerations arising therefrom, will be fully discussed.

We intend making our advertising as much a feature of the paper as the reading. For the present, we have no more to say than that.

The Stamp-Lovers' Weekly as a Bureau of Information.

We wish to make the STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY of the utmost practical use to all its readers—and particularly to those who have not been collecting for very long and need much information and enlightenment on stamp matters. We therefore propose to devote as large an amount of space each week as may be needful—and we trust it may require not a little—to answer such questions as may be put to us by our readers. We shall answer them here on paper, rather than by letter to the questioner, because we believe that this "Questions Answered" column can hardly fail to prove one of the most instructive features of the paper. There is probably no query which any young collector could make whose answer would not prove decidedly interesting to scores of others undecided on exactly the same point. For young collectors the world over fall into the same pitfalls, make the same blunders, and repeat the same experiences.

We ask our readers, therefore, to ask us for aid on any points in any way relating to stamps or stamp collecting on which they find themselves in need of enlightenment; and we can promise them that their queries will be answered here to the full extent of our abilities. Use the STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY as a bureau of information. That is one of the things it is here for.

We Want To Buy

Anything in the line of stamps large or small lots, rare or common, perfect or damaged.

What have you for sale?

Blue Grass Stamp Co.
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY.

Early Issues Unused.

All Guaranteed Genuine Originals.

Bremen.	
No.	
2	1855-61, 2 gr rose \$1.67
11	1866, 2 gr yellow 2.33
13	1866, 7 gr yellow 1.99
14	1866, 10 gr black 3.67
15	1866, 5 sgr green 2.67
Bavaria.	
2	1849, 3 kr blue31
3	1849, 6 kr brown23
5	1850-58, 1 kr pink31
6	1850-58, 9 kr green81
7	1850-58, 12 kr red 1.31
8	1850-58, 18 kr yellow 1.31
Lubeck.	
10	1861, 2s rose30
12	1861, 4s bistre67
13	1861, 1 1-2 red lilac24
14	1861, 1 1-4s brown67
Brunswick No. 11, 1-2 gr, No. 21, 4 gr12	
Hawallan Is. 1853, 5 black blue20	
" 1853, 6 green30	

C. E. HUSSMAN STAMP CO.,
St Louis, Mo.

In Business Constantly for 35 years.

Our new price list containing a list of over 1000 bargains in sets and packets of stamps will be sent you free for the asking.

Our new list of over 130 approval books which may be had on application is also free. These books contain about 1300 varieties of stamps at discount of 50 per cent, 33 1-3 per cent and 25 per cent and are suitable for the beginner who buys only a few cents worth as well as for the advanced collector who spends hundreds of dollars. You are missing a good opportunity if you do not send for one of these lists.

Auction Sales! If interested in auction sales of stamps send for a copy of our October sale which will be out in a few days. It contains a very fine collection in excellent condition numbering 14,000 specimens also a fine lot of entire U. S. Envelopes.

As an illustration of some of our bargains we offer a set of Dominican Republic, 1801 1 cent to 50 cents, 8 var unused for 25 cents priced in 1904 catalogue at \$1.33.

Want Lists! We are in a position to fill orders for stamps of the 19th century from lists of want promptly and satisfactorily at low prices.

Bogert & Durbin Co.,
722 Chestnut Street,
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

A new stamp journal is announced to appear from Charlestown, Natal, South Africa. No information save its name—which is to be the Stamp Recorder—is vouchsafed by the prospective publisher. We believe that South Africa has at the present time no philatelic journal of any sort; the one or two that existed in the Transvaal prior to the Boer War having suffered extinction in consequence of that conflict, and Cape Colony never having had a stamp paper of any sort.

THE CABINET.

A Department Devoted to Coins and Curios.

Explanatory Note.

The STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY proposes devoting some of its space to some of the hobbies that may be called near cousins to stamp collecting. Of these, the collecting of coins and the collecting of curios are most nearly related to stamp collecting, and they will receive the major portion of this department's attention, with occasional matter relating to autographs, picture postal cards and other collectible objects not included in the foregoing classes. We believe that no small percentage of stamp collectors are also more or less interested in some of these other hobbies, hence our conclusion to set aside a certain amount of space for matter relating to them.

We had hoped to have made arrangements for a competent sub-editor to take sole charge of this feature in time for this opening number, but we have been disappointed in securing one or two men whom we had hopes of inducing to accept the post and must beg our readers' indulgence for a week or two until we can make arrangements for the placing of this department in hands that we are sure will do it full justice. Pending the appointment of an editor, we solicit interesting articles and items on coins, curios, etc. For such of which as meet our requirements we will pay a liberal rate.

For this opening installment of "The Cabinet" we have hastily gathered together a miscellaneous array of items from various sources, which we trust may not prove altogether uninteresting. We deem it better to bridge over the emergency by this means than to omit the department altogether.

The first thaler, or dollar, was coined in December, 1484, by Archduke Sigismund, of Tyrol. The "dollar of our daddies," therefore, so far from being a comparatively modern innovation, is a most venerable coin. The word dollar, introduced into this country by the Dutch, means "from the valley," the first dollars having been coined in an Austrian valley.

Coins which are either much worn or pierced have but a small numismatic value, unless they are rarities. Condition and rarity have equal claims on premium.

Of all antiquities, coins are the smallest, yet, as a class, the most authoritative in record and the widest in range. No history is so unbroken as that which they tell; no geography so complete; no art so continuous in sequence, nor so broad in extent; no mythology so ample and so various. Unknown kings, and lost towns, forgotten divinities, and new schools of art have here their authentic record.

The letter u, as well as the letter v, on all ancient coins, and most of the medieval, is represented by v.

The first metallic engravers of the day cannot compete with the high work of art represented on Greek coins 2000 years ago.

Ptolemy Soter, as King of Egypt, B. C. 305-284, was the first monarch who placed his own head upon his coins.

Coins have been issued and made current in gold, electrum, platinum, silver, nickel, copper, brass, iron, lead, tin, wood, porcelain, glass, leather, seal-skin, and parchment.

"So far as we have any knowledge," says Herodotus, "the Lydians were the first nation to introduce the use of gold and silver coin." This statement of the father of history must not, however, be accepted as finally settling the vexed question as to who were the inventors of coined money, for Strabo, Aelian, and the Parian Chronicle all agree in adopting the more commonly received tradition that Pheldon, King of Argos, first struck silver coins in the Island of Aegina.

For odd shapes in coins, China and Japan have the lead; in those of the greatest weight, Sweden excels; the smallest are those of Nuremberg and Nepal. That which represents the greatest value, in a coin struck from dies, belongs to the United States. France excels in experimental pieces.

It was a custom in some of the small South American countries, until a few years since, to cut both silver and copper coins into equal portions to represent fractions of the original coin, and as such they were utilized. The 8 real piece (or dollar) and the 4, 2 and 1 real were all thus utilized.

The earliest coin struck in America was minted in the city of Mexico less than 64 years after Columbus discovered the Western Continent. It was in the reign of Charles and his mother Johanna of Spain, whose names the pieces bear. They are in both silver and copper, and have the mintmark of O M, but without date. The mint was established in 1535, and Charles retired from the throne in 1556.

There is no more delightful companion in historical reading than a cabinet of coins and metals. The strength and energy of Alexander, the ferocity of Mithridates, the philosophic calmness of Antoninus, and the ferocity of Nero are as plain on the coins as in the pages of history.

The ancients do not seem to have made numismatic collections, although they appear to have occasionally preserved individual specimens for their beauty. Petrarch, an Italian poet who lived in the fourteenth century, has the credit of having been the first collector.

The earliest coin known was stamped by the Lydians in Asia Minor about 700 B. C. It is in electrum, and oblong in shape. The obverse has a series of grooved parallel lines; reverse, an oblong punch mark (or sinking) between two square punch marks. It is called a stater; later it was the name given to a gold piece, which in the different parts of the Greek world varied in weight from 112 to 194 grains.

The most remarkable book in the world, so far as its appearance is concerned, is neither written or printed. It is in the Imperial Library of Paris, and the letters have been cut out of tissue paper with a pair of scissors. A sheet of blue tissue, in which the letters are cut, is placed between two pages of white, and so the matter is read.

One can gather together with very little expense an interesting collection comprised wholly of American gems (semi-precious). A few dollars will cover the expense of a grouping of Mexican opals, varying in colors and fire, and a rich display of topaz, agates, amethysts, garnets and sapphires, all from the North American continent, can be secured at a small outlay of time and money. Of course, these gems would not be perfect—there would be something lacking either in shape, size or color that would render them unfit for the trade; but they would be a rare and beautiful collection.

The "elephant beetle" of Venezuela is the largest insect in the world. A full-grown one weighs about half a pound.

"Of all the bores that trouble us before breakfast by means of the penny post," writes Mr. Andrew Lang in one of his magazine articles, "the autograph hunters are by far the worst. Before breakfast this morning," he continues, "I received a letter from a gentleman in 'Phil. Pa.' It was directed to 'The Hon. Edward Lang.' I had scruples about opening it, but there is no Baron, Earl or Viscount of the name of Lang for one of whose sons the epistle might be meant. It enclosed a request for my autograph, and, as usual, an American stamp. So I signed my autograph 'Edward Lang,' stuck on the American stamp, with others of our own post-office, and the admirer of the Hon. Edward Lang's works ought to be happy." It strikes us that the possessor of this autograph, whoever he may be, ought, considering the whimsicality of the circumstance, to prize it much more highly than one of Mr. Lang's ordinary, orthodox signatures.

There is no more attractive field of collecting than the one of shells; land and fresh water specimens can be easily acquired, and then one has before him the acquiring of those from the seas and oceans far and near. A collection of shells is a "thing of beauty and a joy forever," and a very little outlay of cash will gather around you a beautiful group of Nature's rarest treasures. Clean to handle, easy to classify, and not hard to keep in prime condition, we wonder that more lovers of the beautiful do not interest themselves in this branch.

An instance of the way Japanese patriotism has been evoked in the present crisis is given by a millionaire of Tokio, Kebabiro Okahura by name, who offers his private museum for sale in America and England for \$1,000,000, which he proposes to donate to the Japanese war fund. Mr. Okahura has been collecting for thirty years, and his museum contains the most famous private collection in Japan. Included among the many rare curios are over one thousand Tibetan, Chinese, Siamese, Korean and Japanese idols, covering a period of thirteen centuries. The most interesting individual piece is the Shrine of the Fifth Shogun. The offer includes the museum building, into which are built parts of temples, oil ceilings, panels and ancient woodwork. Mr. Okahura hopes that some municipality or museum will purchase and preserve the collection intact.—Collector's Note-book.

Palms never live more than 250 years. Ivy has been known to live 450 years; chestnut, 800; oak, 1000, and yew, 2850.

50 cents
a year.

THE

2 cents
a copy.

STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

VOL. 1. BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, SEPTEMBER 24, 1904. No. 2.

The First Philadelphia

Auction Sale of the Season will take place the last of October. Catalogues will be mailed in a few days. If you are not on our mailing list send for a copy.

The Sale contains a very fine lot of entire U. S. Envelopes and a collection of 14,000 varieties of Stamps in fine condition.

We have received a few sets of Dominican Republic 1902 1, 2, 5, 10, 12, 20 and 50 cents unused o. g. fine, which we offer for 25 cents per set.

List of 140 approval books containing 13,000 varieties mailed free.

Bogert & Durbin Co.,
722 Chestnut Street,
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Philately's Palaeozoic Period.

Whatever relates to the very early history of stamp collecting—particularly in America, where it did not secure as early a hold, by some years, as in Europe—is naturally of much interest to present-day followers of the pursuit, many of whom can scarcely realize that little more than forty years ago stamp collecting was an utterly unknown thing. There are very few known survivors of the first two or three years of American stamp collecting; and the story of the first few years of the pursuit's existence on this side of the Atlantic has never been connectedly written—and probably never will be. An interesting chapter to that story has, however, lately been contributed to an English periodical by S. Allen Taylor, who published at Montreal in 1864 the first stamp journal which ever saw light on these shores; viz., the Stamp Collectors' Record, and whose knowledge of the very first beginnings of stamp collecting on this continent is probably not equalled by anyone now living. Mr. Taylor's account of the status of American stamp collecting in the early sixties is of such historical value and interest that we deem no apology needful for here reproducing it practically entire:—

"The earliest notice in print on this side is, as far as I have ever seen, a paragraph in November, 1860, which stated that young girls were collecting the stamps of different nations. This appeared in a monthly publication called *Littell's Living Age*, published here in Boston. When the Civil War broke out in 1861, the Rebel States quickly issued stamps for themselves—special ones first, like Mobile, New Orleans, Nashville, etc. These were counterfeited by a Philadelphia firm, and were reproduced in six, and sold by newsboys in the streets and in stationers' stores, not at all as Philatelic treas-

ures, but as curiosities of the Rebels. They sold some half dozen sheets for 10c. The words 'Facsimile Rebel Postage Stamp, printed by S. C. Upham, Philadelphia,' were printed in small type on each sheet. This thing was largely instrumental in bringing stamp collecting into vogue. The first person who sold stamps as a business was a man named James Brennan, who opened a small office (a very small place, not over 10 feet square) at 37 Nassau Street, New York, in 1861. He published a list, the type, style, etc., having been copied from a list printed by James Robinson, of Liverpool. This was a foolscap size, 4 pp thing, but the prices were filled in with a pen. Before that one A. C. Kline, now dead, of Philadelphia, had issued a 'Manual,' a copy of Mount Brown's first issue merely. Kline was a dealer in antiques, old coins, armor, firearms, etc., and stamps were only a small portion of his business. He kept a quite good-sized store on the ground floor. Another person, Wm. P. Brown, 212 Broadway, New York, who is still in existence, and who then, as now, is more of a coin dealer and authority than a stamp man, sold stamps, but only through the medium of the mail, not having any office, he being a printer in a weekly newspaper office (of which his father, a distinguished clergyman, was editor). I believe that for some time he had a stand attached to the railing of the City Hall Park, as also had another man named John Bailey, but the business was largely coins and odd things, even military buttons. No one then knew what stamps existed, until the manuals of Mount Brown, Baillie, Potiquet and others appeared. This was all in New York, of course. J. W. Scott, who is a native of London, came to New York in 1863, he being then a lad of fifteen years. He came across Brown at his stand and made exchanges in stamps with him, but shortly after left New York and went to California.

"I was in Montreal from 1860 to 1864. I had gathered some ten or a dozen foreign stamps as far back as 1857-58, France, England, and one 10 gr. Hanover; but I never saw or heard of any collectors until 1862, when I chanced to see the collection (probably forty or so) of a man named J. A. Nutler, and I made exchanges with him for local stamps, as I (having been brought up in New York) knew where the local stamps or posts were. I left Canada in 1864, and after a short time abandoned the druggist business and came to Boston and have been here ever since. J. W. Scott I never heard of until 1867; the previous account of him I got from W. P. Brown. You can depend upon it that no other dealer was earlier than James Brennan in 1863."

THE ATTENTION

of Auction Buyers, old and new clients, is directed to the coming seasons sales.

On September 28
I sell a fine lot the property of various owners including some fine M & M, combination lots, a collection etc.

October Sale.
will contain the wholesale and retail stock of the Return Mail Stamp Co.

November Sale.
contains a fine unused collection of Mr. M. G. Collins, of Galveston, Texas.

December Sale.
contains the large general collection of Dr. J. W. Fowler, Dubuque, Iowa.

January Sale.
contains the magnificent collection of Roscoe L. Wicks of Evanston, Ill.

P. M. Wolgast
401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

An Album Hint for Young Collectors.

While the possession of a sumptuous stamp album, containing spaces for all the major varieties of stamps known to exist, is a source of pride and pleasure to the novice when he first secures it, it is by no means infrequent for its very bulk and spaciousness to dampen his zest in the long run. The growth of the collection seems provokingly tedious, and even the addition of a dozen new specimens each week is utterly unnoticeable, so vast is the desert of blank space. Should any young collector find himself discouraged under such circumstances he will perhaps do best to abandon his printed album entirely, and make himself a blank-book album, divided into countries on the same plan as the printed one, except that instead of leaving several pages blank for the stamps of a country of which he possesses only three or four specimens he leaves no more space than he thinks he is likely to be able to fill. The pages can be ruled off into spaces of the same size as those used in printed albums; and much taste can be employed in the arrangement of these spaces into fanciful designs, so that the stamps, when the page is filled, will be in the form of a cross, a wheel, or any other of multitudinous different designs which will readily suggest themselves to the ingenious. The beauty of such an album is that, when properly laid out, almost every page bears a respectable number of stamps, in strong contrast to the many totally bare pages in the printed album.

A blank album of this sort is, of course, some little trouble to make; but in many cases young collectors will find it far preferable to the printed album—at least until their collections grow to quite formidable proportions.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States, Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any address in any country in the Postal Union \$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.00 an inch. 60 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

"SAFE, SANE

AND CONSERVATIVE."

The words which head our editorial have been much seen of late in the public prints. We print them here with no desire to allude to their political significance, but to serve as a philatelic slogan. Stamp collecting is not being practiced in a wholly safe, sane and conservative way by a considerable body of collectors of ordinary means in this country at the present time. They are running after false gods, and realize the fact as fully as they deplore it, but see no way to reverse their steps. The collecting of trivial varieties, particularly varieties of perforation and "errors" in surcharges, was never so sedulously practiced as now; and never was it fraught with so grave danger to the welfare of the pursuit. The wealthy collector may, of course, indulge his fancy to the uttermost in these directions to excellent and worthy purpose. The serious specialist, possessed of ample leisure and infinite patience, of course finds the class of varieties alluded to an immeasurable addition to his philatelic felicity. But for the average, every-day collector to fritter his time and substance on varieties scarcely perceptible to the nude optic is to vastly multiply the difficulties and the expense of collecting, without, in our judgment, a proportionate addition to its pleasure.

We doubt if many medium-grade collectors can candidly say that they actually care very much for the infinitesimal varieties which play so large a part in the modern catalogue. They collect them because it is the custom to do so, and because all the tendency of the times is to exalt this class of varieties on a pedestal of power and prestige which it is difficult to pass by without falling down and worshipping. Catalogues list these things; catalogues are the masters, not the servants (as they should be) of the average collector; collectors buy

them and place them in their albums. The sequence is as plain as putty; and it is equally plain from whence the remedy must come. If catalogues could be shorn of all varieties that do not properly come within the ken of the ordinary collector the result could hardly fail to be most salutary. And we are of the opinion that this is the only means by which a complete and effectual return can be had to "safe, sane and conservative collecting," for the reason that it is only logical and natural that all collectors save the most advanced should collect on whatever system (or lack of system) they may deduce from catalogue lists. We are aware that cataloguers are utterly opposed to any abridgement, but we cannot see how they can fail to be ultimately convinced of its absolute and imperative necessity.

The pioneers of Philately are gradually passing away. The past year has witnessed the death of Sir Daniel Cooper, M. Berger-Levrault, and a number of other old-time English and European philatelists of less note; and now the name of Mr. Overy Taylor is added to the roll of the departed. Though his death was fully mentioned in all the European stamp journals a month or two since, we speak of it here in the belief that the news may not as yet have met the eye of some American readers familiar with the early history of Philately and the important part played by Mr. Taylor in its development. Overy Taylor was editor of the 'Stamp Collectors' Magazine, the giant of all early English stamp journals, and was, furthermore, the editor of Dr. Gray's Catalogue, a work of note which unquestionably was of vast value to the collectors of its time. Of recent years his connection with Philately has been slight; but the memory of his work in olden days has sufficed to hold his name in a well-deserved place on the honor list of old-time stamp writers and editors.

"Which has Scinde?" asks Major Evans, in remarking upon the entire omission from the great Catalogue Officiel, lately published by the Societe Francaise de Timbrologie, of the three stamps of the Scinde District Dawk. And the humorous side of the matter is that the Major himself was one of the compilers of the Indian section of the Catalogue. Manifestly some one has blundered, but whether it is the Major himself who has sinned (every one of our readers doubtless remembers the tale of the British officer who, having captured the city of Scinde, telegraphed home the single Latin word "Peccavi", whose interpretation, as every school-boy knows, is "I have sinned"), or some one of his collaborators, it is not a thing at which we need much wonder. Considering the complexity of modern catalogue-making,

the only wonder is that there are not hosts of slips of this sort instead of only one or two in a decade.

"No Venice In Italy."

From an old clipping, whose source we are unable to trace (in any case it does not greatly matter) we extract the following rather readable anecdote:

"A Scottish lady who posted a letter in the box of a country village near Florence, Italy, addressed to the proprietor of the Hotel Britannia, Venice, had it returned to her by the postmaster, with the following letter:

"Most Illustrious Signora: I return you this letter, begging you kindly to tell me to which Venice it should be sent. There is no Venice in Italy.

"I have consulted my universal postal guide-book, and I have found seven Venices, a list of which I send, with the countries in which they are: 1. Venice, O., U. S.; 2. Venice, Kan., U. S.; 3. Venice, Ill., U. S.; 4. Venice, Mich., U. S.; 5. Venice, N. Y., U. S.; 6. Venice, Penn., U. S.; 7. Venice, Que., Can.

"I beg you to add the province and kingdom to the letter and then it will be quickly delivered, whereas with Venice alone it will be necessary to send it to all the seven places. My first thought was to send the letter off at once, but knowing for certain that there would be a great delay, I have thought it better to act as I have done. Where I can serve you, please command me. Your Obedient Servant."

The good, careful, courteous postmaster must have been mortified to learn that Venice is only the English form of Venezia. Still he is not altogether to be blamed.

To Remove Hinges.

In removing a hinge or part of one from a stamp, do not give it a sudden pull. Many a good specimen has been torn by so doing; and it need hardly be remarked that a tear decreases value enormously.

Many hinges attach themselves so firmly to the stamp that a quick pull upon them is liable to tear the stamp, or at least to bring away enough of its back to cause a "thin spot." In removing the hinge, draw it slowly, pulling it off sideways, and not down. It should be peeled off, not pulled off.

Despite the improvement in the Russian postal system during recent years, Russian postal facilities are still unquestionably the poorest of those in any civilized land. There are still many Russian towns where mail is delivered only once a month.

The Philatelic**Celebrities of Argentina.**

The following article on the rulers of the Argentine Republic, since 1816, the date of its revolt from Spanish rule, appeared some years since in the *Philatelic Advocate*, the last stamp paper of any excellence published in Canada, and now, unhappily, defunct. We believe our younger readers, at least, will be interested in the essay:

"The separation of the Argentine Republic from the home government was declared in 1816, and from that time until San Martin led his victorious troops into the city of Lima, Peru, the great stronghold of the Spaniards, the Argentines had little hope of independence.

"The war was continued until 1824, when the final victory was gained, although the Spanish government did not acknowledge their independence until 182. With the exception of Rivadavia, San Martin seems to be the most popular of the Argentine patriots for stamp illustration. His portrait appeared on the 15c., 1861; 24c., 1877; 15c., 1888; 1c., 1891; 1c., 1892-99.

"In 1825 Rivadavia was elected President, which office he filled until 1827, when he resigned to prevent civil war. His policy was to form a strong national government, while that of his opponents was for the independence of each state as far as possible. His successor of the opposing party was Vicente Lopez.

"Rivadavia is portrayed on the 5, 10 and 15 cent, 1824-27; the 5 cent, 1827; the surcharged varieties, 1877-84; 8 cent, 1877-87; 5 cent, 1891-99. He stands in America second alone to Washington as the representative statesman of a free people. He was instrumental in securing the independence of Uruguay in 1823. His later days were spent in exile in Europe and he died in Spain in 1845, at the age of 65 years.

"Vicente Lopez, who succeeded Rivadavia, was born at Buenos Ayres. He was President of the republic until succeeded by Dorrego in 1827, and held many important offices until the time of his death. His portrait adorns the 2 cent, 1888-90.

"Dorrego, who was of the same political faith as Lopez, was at the head of the government until 1828, when he was defeated by the opposing party under General Lavalle, and in trying to regain the city was captured and shot, without trial. Lavalle, who had fought under San Martin against Chili and Peru, and the Brazilians, was no doubt a strong partisan of Rivadavia, and bitterly opposed to the government of Dorrego, which must account for the seemingly inhuman treatment of him. Dorrego is portrayed on the 40 cent, 1890.

"Lavalle was Governor, 1828-29, when he was defeated by Rosas. The government was practically in his hands until 1852, when he was defeated by the forces of Urquiza. Under Urquiza a new constitution was declared, on very much more liberal lines than that of the former government. He was elected President for six years, but Buenos Ayres refused to join the confederation, until forced to do so in 1859. Urquiza retained the Presidency until 1860, when he took command of the army until defeated by Mitre in 1861. With this battle the Federalist system came to an end; Urquiza retired to Entra Rios, where he was assassinated in 1870. Urquiza's picture may be found on the ½ cent, 1888-89, and ½ cent, 1890."

Of the later rulers of Argentina the article we are quoting has nothing to say. Perhaps we shall supplement this by a summary of them and their doings in a future issue.

About**Niue and Peurhyn.**

The islands of Niue and Peurhyn have come into much philatelic prominence within the last year, thanks to their having been accorded their own separate stamps, that the following facts in relation to them may prove of interest: "The islands of Niue and Peurhyn lie in the Western Pacific Ocean, the former, which is one of the Tongan, or Friendly Islands group, being distant W. N. W. from the Cook Group, some 600 miles and 1000 miles N. N. E. of New Zealand.

"The island is 15 miles in length and 10 miles in breadth, and contains eleven native villages, with a population of 5000, roughly speaking. The only staple export is copra, of which some 350 tons are shipped away annually. Peurhyn Island is one of six small islets forming the Manihiki Group, and lies about 500 miles due N. of the Society Group and about half as far again from the Cook Islands, which are to the S. W. The area of the whole group is said to be but twelve square miles and the total population some 1000, nearly all of whom are natives. Guano and beche-de-mer appear to be the principal exports."

The Empire State Philatelic Society has formed a New York Branch, whose first meeting was held at the office of L. Beringer, 2960 Third Avenue, on August 31st. New York has had of late years no stamp society in which young collectors were particularly welcome; and this Branch ought to prove a splendid thing for many young collectors in the metropolis who would like to join a stamp club composed of collectors not too far advanced.

More**Exposition Stamps.**

There seems to be good reason for believing that the Post Office Department will accede to the wishes of the promoters of the Lewis and Clark Exposition and issue a series of commemorative stamps for that event, of the same postal status as the present St. Louis set. The *STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY*, for one, will be glad to see them do so. We have little sympathy with the inimical attitude of the foreign stamp press in regard to the St. Louis set. We can see no reasonable ground for decrying the issuance of such stamps, so long as they are in actual postal use throughout the country for a considerable period, and so long as the set is not "padded" with needlessly high denominations. There can be no doubt that such stamps as this beautiful St. Louis set reawaken an interest in stamp collecting in the breasts of many former collectors, who, for one reason or another, have ceased to actively collect. The fact that this is so would far outweigh much more grave objections to "Exposition Stamps" than any that have yet been weighed.

A DVERTISING is like a rolling hoop. When you quit the gentle and regular tapping the hoop begins to wobble.

Deaths**As President.**

It is a pleasure to note the accession to the Presidency of the American Philatelic Association of so able a man and so earnest and enthusiastic a philatelic worker as Mr. H. E. Deats. Not since the retirement of John K. Tiffany has the association chosen an executive from whose administration so much may reasonably be hoped. We heartily congratulate the association on the wisdom of its choice.

Notable Stamp Show**In Australia.**

Philatelists in Australia are nothing if not enterprising. Public exhibitions of stamps are much more common in the "sixth continent" than in our own land, despite our immensely greater number of collectors—which is not a pleasant commentary on the energy of American stamp folk.

The August issue of the *Australian Philatelist*, just to hand, gives a very interesting account of Australia's latest exhibition of this sort—that lately held by the Philatelic Society of Victoria in the Planola Hall, Melbourne. From this account we extract the following: "The hall, which is centrally and conveniently situated, lent itself admirably to the purposes of the exhibition. A projecting ledge, which ran all round the walls, enabled the frames to be placed at a convenient height without wall attachments, and a line of electric lights immediately over the exhibits ensured effective lighting, free from the shadows of the people who crowded around to inspect the exhibits more closely. The frames of stamps extended around the whole hall, two deep in many places. In the centre were large show cases containing philatelic publications, whilst at the end of the hall, opposite the entrance, was displayed the fine exhibitions of the Government Printer and the Victoria Stamp Market.

"The exhibition was open from 2 o'clock until 10 p. m., and during the whole time a stream of interested people came and went. At times the building was uncomfortably crowded, but this was not at any time of long duration.

"The Committee, wearing badges, were assiduous in explaining 'the points' of the exhibits to such visitors as needed the explanations. Numbers of prominent citizens were present during the day, and very many visitors who were not members of the society showed that they possessed a technical knowledge of the subject.

"The ubiquitous press reporter was in evidence, with the result that each of the Melbourne dailies presented its readers with lengthy notices of the exhibition.

"The Committee published a handsome 26-page catalogue of the exhibits, copies of which have been well distributed."

When, oh, when, will our lethargic American societies be found promoting stamp exhibitions of similar character and purpose?

The largest perforation known is the "Susse" perforation of France, 1853-60. The smallest is on the 1864-70 Tasmania. Neither perforation is official, both having been done privately.

THE READING TABLE.

What We Find in the Journals of the Hour.

The Philatelic Journal Of India, Calcutta, India.

The July issue of the Philatelic Journal of India contains some thirty pages of excellent matter calculated to be of special value to the advanced collector; to whom, indeed, the Indian journal is almost wholly devoted. We can, of course, hope to give no analysis here of articles of the highly scientific type; hence our review of the P. J. of I. will necessarily be brief. Its opening article is by the editor, Mr. C. Stewart Wilson, and under the modest heading "Notes on the Postage Stamps of Surinam" deals with that colony's postal issues in as exhaustive a way as does many a pretentious monograph. Mr. C. S. F. Crofton writes on "British Indian Fiscal Stamps Surcharged for Native States." Mr. E. W. Wetherill continues his able series of papers on the stamps of Roumania. From L'Union Postale is taken an interesting account of the history of the Postal Service of Denmark from 1711 to 1808. An article on "The Perforations of New South Wales," by F. H. Napier and E. D. Bacon, is reprinted from the Monthly Journal. "Notes," which treat interestingly of a variety of matters; "Review" (a very scanty one, indeed), and various short articles of minor importance constitute the remainder of the month's reading matter.

The Stamp Collectors' Portfolightly, London, Eng.

The August 13th number of England's most enterprising stamp journal has just reached us as we write, and an unusually good number it is. We quite despair of giving our readers any just idea of the readability and excellence of its contents. First, as always, comes "Philately at Home and Abroad," a department which is part news and part editorial comment, the two being blended with rare journalistic skill. Then, in "From the Auction Rooms" we have an account of some of the most notable prices realized at recent London auction sales. The editorial page, aptly headed "Between Ourselves," the "Review of Reviews" (though not quite as complete as could be wished), and the "Fiscal Notes and Chronicle" are all features of keenly interesting sort. And in addition to these regular departments, the number before us contains two notable special articles: one on "The British Philatelic Press," by Percy C. Bishop; the other on "Scientific Bargain Hunting," by H. Wilfred Plumridge. Mr. Bishop's article is described in a sub-head as "A Peep Into the Pioneer Stamp Journals of Our Own Country," and appears to be the first instalment of a history of the early philatelic press of Great Britain, the nursery of stamp journalism, as it was of stamp collecting itself. The first British journal

wholly devoted to Philately was the Monthly Advertiser (afterward rechristened the Stamp-Collectors' Review), which saw the light Dec. 15th, 1862. Mr. Bishop quotes Thomas William Kitt, an old time philatelist of note, as to its genesis in these words:

"Toward the middle of the year 1862, when Philately was becoming very popular, appearances led me to conclude that a periodical entirely devoted to that subject would prove a great boon to collectors and also a lucrative investment to its proprietors. Accordingly, in the Summer of the year named, I inserted an advertisement in the 'Boys' Own Magazine,' requesting any gentlemen who were of a similar opinion to join me in the undertaking. This advertisement was productive of innumerable replies requesting further information, but not so many as half-a-dozen of them spoke favorably of my scheme. In order to leave no stone unturned for the attainment of the end in view, I had personal interviews with many of the leading English collectors residing in or near London, and in consequence of it being 'Exhibition year' I was also enabled to meet several from the country, but public opinion seemed so much against me that I reluctantly abandoned the enterprise, thinking it folly to undertake what my superiors in the knowledge of Philately thought so unpromising. My voluminous correspondence on the subject and earnest endeavors to bring about the consummation of my wishes were, however, rewarded with success, for Mr. A. Ferris, of Liverpool (one of the few gentlemen who thought favorably of my plans), entered warmly into the matter, but from reasons above stated I declined rendering him any pecuniary assistance, although I placed my pen at his service, of which he availed himself. However—finis coronat opus—on December 15th, 1862, the harbinger of a new style of literature made its appearance in the shape of the 'Monthly Advertiser,' afterwards known as the 'Stamp-Collectors' Review.' This publication, after having proved of great service to philatelists, and, as an investment, tolerably successful, died out in 1864, the last number having been issued on June 16th of that year."

Such is the history of England's first stamp journal (doubtless also the first in any country or any language) and of it Mr. Bishop gives many other interesting details. The words "to be continued" at the end of the article indicate a further feast of the same sort in coming numbers of the S. C. F. Mr. Plumridge's article on "Scientific Bargain Hunting" contains far too excellent matter to be boiled down into a paragraph. In a future issue we hope to find space to deal with it adequately.

The Australian Journal of Philately, Sydney, Australia.

The Australian Journal of Philately for July is a number of extreme readability from the first page to the last. It is both well written and well edited. The leading article is entitled "The Speculative Element," and

treats of speculation in stamps from the standpoint of the collector who does not actually gamble in stamps, but who has, nevertheless, a keen desire to regulate his stamp purchases so that there is a reasonable probability of their ultimately realizing a profit. This is a subject of decided interest to many collectors who are far from being speculators, in the ordinary sense of the word, and our contemporary's treatment of it is full of good sense and profitable suggestions. We are pleased to see that the "new issue craze" comes in for a sharp rap in the course of the article, it being very plainly demonstrated that whatever classes of stamps may be likely to appreciate in price, new issues are certainly not among them.

Considerable space is devoted to "Federal Prospects," under which general heading appears a variety of interesting matter anent the proposed Commonwealth issue and other similar topics. Anent the recent crop of type varieties in the stamps of South Australia, the A. J. of P. commentator has this to say:

"Judging by Ewen's Weekly, the stamps of South Australia bid fair to rival the V. R. I.'s. That journal gives two extended lists of various printings of all the long stamps, in which the value and the word 'postage' are set in different sizes. It would appear from the manner in which these stamps are produced that a key die is used, and type for the word 'postage,' and the 'value' inserted singly; hence the variations. Within the past few months the 'value' of the 3d. was contracted considerably, and an error crept in, the word 'eight' being spelled 'eigt.' This amateurish work savours of a prentice hand, and certainly does not redound to the credit of the postoffice printing department at Adelaide. We have been informed that the type of the word 'postage' in all the values is to be altered similar to that of the 6d. and 1s., and we may therefore expect another crop of varieties. If, as has been intimated, the printing office at Adelaide is to be entrusted with the printing of all the stamps of the Commonwealth, those in charge will require to amend their ways considerably." Further on, the additional comment is made that "Philatelists are getting sick of the carelessness of some stamp printers, and it is high time that the stamps of Australia were issued with the same freedom from blunders as those of other important countries throughout the world."

Next we find a very good and complete account of the Victorian Philatelic Society's recent exhibition (already spoken of elsewhere in our columns), and this is succeeded by a melange of "Notes," which contain much interesting news and comment. The inevitable "New Issues" department, and a paper on the "Paper and Watermarks of New Zealand Stamps" complete an exceptionally good number, to which our brief survey has done but scant justice.

A DVERTISING—the connecting link between buyer and seller.

A Page of Precepts For Young Collectors.

(Conducted by the Editor.)

We hope and expect to enroll thousands of readers among the class of stamp-lovers that are usually called "young collectors"—a term which does not so much refer to the collector's age as to the fact that he is young in philatelic experience. He may be fifteen or fifty; he may be a schoolboy or a grandfather; but so long as he is comparatively inexperienced in collecting methods he is still a "young collector." And as there are ten collectors of this kind where there is one who has all sorts of philatelic wisdom and knowledge at his finger tips, we believe this new paper can do no better thing than devote a great deal of space to the interests of young collectors.

Both Pleasures And Penalties.

Being a young collector has both its own peculiar pleasures and its own peculiar penalties. It is the young collector who finds most delight in the stamps themselves—not in reading about them or talking about them, as is the case with many older collectors, but in getting them, in finding where they go in the album, in arranging, sorting and admiring them. The beauty of being a young collector is that every stamp you secure is a fresh surprise and delight. The man or woman who has been collecting for a good many years has in that time, most probably, seen copies of pretty nearly every stamp that was ever issued—even though they may not personally possess one-quarter of them. But the young collector, even though he may have been at it for two or three years, is constantly running across specimens whose designs are entirely new to him. And there is so much charm in this—such vivid enjoyment in the constant variety of design, coloring and symbolism encountered—that there are few of us older fellows who would not be very glad to be young collectors all over again if we could only forget all we know and commence at the bottom once more.

The penalties of being a young collector are not worth mentioning in comparison. Nevertheless they are bugbears big as mountains to many and many an enthusiastic novice. These penalties are of various sorts, but they may all be summed up in the one brief phrase, "not knowing how to collect." Yes, that is the gist of the whole thing. That is the sum and substance of all these troublesome points—"not knowing how to collect."

The Way To Collect Is To Collect.

But really, if you only knew it, all these doubts and dilemmas that beset the young collector are, after all, mere moonshine. It bothers you mightily, perhaps, to get some of your stamps in the right spaces in the album; you are often confused by the technical jargon of the catalogues; it is hard to tell what to buy and what to leave alone; there are a thousand and one things that combine to puzzle you and make you feel that stamp collecting is a pretty difficult affair. But the way to collect is to collect. It doesn't matter if you make mistakes. Everyone does that, in every pursuit of life. It doesn't matter if you seem to get ahead slowly. On the con-

trary, it is a great pity to get ahead too fast, because in doing so you hurry over pleasures that are best enjoyed when they come slowly and placidly. The way to collect and get unlimited enjoyment out of it is to cease bothering your head over such perplexities in a care-free, entirely irresponsible way—taking what stamps you can get, putting them in your album the best way you can, and paying more attention to the stamps you already have than to the stamps you have yet to get.

Naturally,

You Are Acquisitive.

Naturally, of course, you are acquisitive to a great many points about the stamps already in your albums. That is right and good. The STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY is going to try to tell you a great deal, as the weeks go by, about all sorts of stamps; and to tell it in such a way that the veriest novice will not be at a loss to follow our meaning. But we want to disabuse your minds, in the first place, of some of the "headachy" notions you have gotten hold of through the reading of stamp journals of the scientific type and through the perusal of monumental stamp catalogues and of stamp albums whose bulk frightens and dismays you.

The Album

and the Catalogue.

One's first stamp catalogue always marks an era in one's collecting life. Looking up your stamps (especially those you have gotten off the old family letters) to "see what they are worth" is a very pleasant pastime; and the catalogue itself, with its pictures of the issues of all nations, is a very fascinating book to him who has seen only a few of those issues in the flesh. But after you have had your catalogue for six months or a year it is apt to change into a tantalizing book—because it tells of such an enormous number of varieties, and puts the prices of so many of them at a figure so far beyond your reach. And the album is like unto it. At first it seems a joy forever, but after a time the slowness with which its pages fill up begins to discourage its owner. He looks at the hosts of pages on which only a few stamps appear; he computes the ratio of filled spaces throughout the book to unfilled ones; he estimates the number of years it must take him to fill all those pages respectably. And it is small wonder that his collecting enthusiasm suffers a check and that he does not take as much pleasure in the new stamps he secures as he did before he had made these disquieting calculations and comparisons.

Isn't this so, dear readers? Aren't there many of you who are worried a great deal over these matters and terribly impatient for the time to come when you can afford to spend "big money" on your collections? Of course there are; and this is just the state of feeling that the STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY wants to induce you to abandon before it takes a single step to talk to you about ways and means of getting all possible pleasure and information out of collecting.

One Stamp

As Good

As A Dozen.

There are hosts and hosts of issues in which, for the young collector's purposes, one stamp is as good as a dozen. It is very nice, indeed, to buy stamps in complete sets, and they make a brave show in the album. But there are an infinite number of issues which the young collector cannot get in complete sets without an expenditure altogether too great for his means. Take any case where there are eight or ten stamps in a set, all precisely alike in design, except for the letters of value and the colors in which they are printed. Just one of these stamps will show the design as well as a dozen, and if you can afford only the one, you do not need to regret the absence of the others in the least. The thing to do—the thing that makes a stamp collection really picturesque and interesting—is to show just as many stamps of different design as you can; and from just as many different countries as possible. The interesting thing about stamp collecting is the fact that they are curiosities—that they bear all sorts of emblems and portraits that are characteristic of foreign lands. You do not need to get all of them, or half of them, or a quarter of them, to have an interesting collection. Even advanced collectors do not expect to get everything. Collect what you can and be satisfied. Get a stamp here and a stamp there, as your purse and your fancy dictates. Rome wasn't built in a day. Thank heaven, there is plenty of pleasure in stamp collecting even if you do not add to your collection more than a dozen new specimens a month.

We'll Try

To Help You.

The STAMP-LOVER'S WEEKLY is going to try to help you to get better acquainted with your stamps, along these lines we have been speaking of. The article, "The Philatelic Celebrities of Argentina," appearing elsewhere in this number, is one small case in point, and we expect to print hosts of similar articles and items. Merely knowing the name of the historic personage whose portrait appears on some foreign stamp is scarcely a satisfying degree of knowledge. We believe that every collector, young or old, who is not a mere philatelic automaton, feels decided curiosity in knowing just why any man was deemed famous enough to appear on his nation's stamps—what his part in his country's history, what his public services were. Hence our further belief that we can use our space to no better purpose than by printing such matter as is contained in the article mentioned, the forerunner of many others of similar kind.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

1902-3,	8d 8d or 10d	each	2 .15
	2s	Red	.30
	2-6d	Dark Blue	.45
	5s	Blue-Green	.75
	10s	Purple	1.50
	£1	Brown Orange	3.00

All very fine postally used copies.

EDWARD Y. PARKER,
155 Dowling Ave.
TORONTO, CANADA.

WANTED to buy St. Louis stamps used, state quantity and price.

WHAT'S DOING IN WASHINGTON.

By Joe E. Franklin.

Here's health, happiness and long life to the STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY; may it be all that its name implies and may the family be as the sands of the seashore.

An order has been issued by the Postoffice Department requiring that all mail for the canal zone in Panama must be forwarded from Atlantic ports labeled "Cristobal, Canal Zone, Isthmus of Panama." Mail from Pacific ports will be labeled "Ancon, Canal Zone, Isthmus of Panama."

The question of a two-cent rate of postage on first-class mail from the United States to Europe is being discussed and the Postmaster General has declared in favor of the proposition. Nothing will come of the agitation; at least for years to come. After we get one-cent letter postage in this country it will be time to talk of two-cent postage to Europe.

Collectors generally are handing bouquets out to Third Assistant Postmaster General Madden on account of the rigidity of his spine in heading off another commemorative series of postage stamps—the would-be Lewis & Clarke series. General Madden has done well; he has saved his department an immense amount of useless and profitless labor, and given us a boost in the estimation of world-wide philately. Just as the last-mentioned class had about reached the conclusion that Uncle Sam had lost his mental balance on the subject of postal issues.

It would appear that the young men who manipulate the plates and dies in the big concern at Hartford which holds the contract for the manufacture of United States envelopes must sit up nights fooling with the aforesaid dies and plates. The aforesaid engravers were asked to clear up the design of the two-cent current envelope a little and they have certainly earned their money, in fact, they appear to be keeping right at it. If future generations of philatelists shall be interested in die varieties, these engravers have provided work enough to keep the aforesaid philatelists busy for years. Your correspondent has seen varieties too numerous to mention. It would seem that each engraver must have undertaken to give each die—of which there are, of course, many, although all are supposed to be alike, and which, at the outset were precisely alike—a little distinctive mark, and he has succeeded admirably.

It is probable the catalogue will list three varieties of the current two-cent envelope; at least this should be the case. First, the very earliest printing, which is of an entirely different color—light vermilion—that used at present and for a year and a half. This is not a shade of the color now employed; it is as distinct as lake is from purple. The second variety is that in use until the retouching of a month or so ago. The third is the retouched die in its most aggravated form; that is the variety in which the open work is most noticeable.

The next act of the Department should be to order the manufacturer to engage several strong men, arm them with sledge hammers, and then divide the dies used in printing all the current envelopes, one cent to five cents, among the several strong men with sledge hammers, and

instruct the men to do their worst.

The stamp season in Washington has begun for the season of 1904-5, in fact, there has been no suspension of business in the philatelic line during the past Summer, although, of course, trade has not held up to Winter grade. Washington will have four or five dealers, which will be an increase over last year.

Washington collectors are still mourning their lost child, the Stamp Age, which was a fine philatelic infant, well formed and bright, but which succumbed to the ravages of pneumonia. Perhaps the STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY will step in and heal the wounded hearts. Why not?

The St. Louis Exposition stamps have proven a failure so far as general popularity is concerned. The two-cent denomination is the only one that is used to any extent and these are used in many instances because they are handed out. It is not likely there will be a second requisition on the Bureau of Engraving and Printing for this type of plaster.

It is really provoking how philatelically insensible the officials of the Postoffice Department are. Here the whole stamp-collecting fraternity has gone dotty over the canal zone stamps, genuine and counterfeit, while the Postoffice people go right ahead with the business of issuing stamps and carrying mails. They don't care a rap for the scarce varieties our brethren are breaking their necks to get; all stamps look alike to them.

From a personal friend, who is employed in the Government Building at the St. Louis Exposition, your correspondent learns that the Government's postal exhibit is receiving much more attention now than during the earlier days of the exposition. During the month of August and thus far in September large numbers of visitors, the majority of them non-collectors, have examined quite critically the stamp exhibit at the fair and have apparently been much interested. There can be no doubt but that the exhibit has been of distinct benefit to philately.

Hurrah for Parker! Here's hoping he may be elected—to continue as Managing Editor of the STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY.

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display.

A line will average seven words.

Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press,

Bethlehem, Pa.

Look! Look! Look!

1894, \$5.00, fine used copy, Scott No. 283 \$2.25
1895, \$1.00, " " " 276 .25
1895, \$5.00, " " " 278 1.50
1879, 90c carmine, fine used copy, Scott No. 191 .45

All the above are fine copies. Supply limited. Order quick.

H. F. COLMAN,

725 11th St. N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

I am writing this "ad" to introduce myself to some new customers. Although I have been in the stamp business now just ten years, and have on my lists over 6000 names, yet there are many, many collectors from whom I have never had an order. To these I can only say that ten years in business means something. My business today is the largest individual one in the United States. On the lines which appeal to the average collector, who spends from \$5.00 to \$10.00 per month, I think I can supply more stamps that are "wanted" than any other dealer. At least this is what my customers say. Assuming that I have not sold you stamps before, may I not have a small "want list" from you, or an order for something from this ad, or if not, let me send you my "B. B." lists. I do not claim to sell stamps cheaper than everybody else, nor am I tied down to somebody's catalogue. I buy my goods as cheap as I can and sell at what is to me a fair profit. If 80 percent. off shows me a profit. This is my price—if certain stamps are priced (but not for sale), at half what they are worth. My price is double catalogue. Here are a few items from some of my recent lists:

U. S. 1c. Pan-American invert mint, \$17.00.

Western Union Tel., 1804, unused, 5c.

Revenue \$20.00, 2d issue, fine used, \$6.00.

Revenue \$50.00 2d issue, fine used, \$5.25.

Antigua 1884 6d. ca. mint (list \$1.25), 65c.

Barbados 1882 5 sh bistre mint, \$1.80.

British Central Africa 1903 4 sh King mint, \$1.32.

Gold Coast 1894 20 sh mint, \$7.50.

Hawaii 12c. Prov. Govt., black surcharge unused, \$9.50.

Hawaii 1883 \$1.00 rose, unused surcharged, fine, \$6.00.

Iceland Gildi 100 aur, scarce, mint, \$2.20.

Niger Coast 1898 10 sh purple, \$4.80.

Persia 1894 50 kr. mint, \$1.20.

Persia 1898, full set, unused (list \$9.00), only \$2.75.

Persia 1894 4 kr. grey mint (list \$2.50), 50c.

St. Christopher 1887 1 sh, violet mint, \$2.90.

Victoria 1900 5 sh, no postage mint, \$5.25.

Zululand 9d. on English mint, \$3.25.

In twentieth century I have everything as issued. Anything sent on approval to known buyers.

Frank P. Brown,

339 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.

Absolutely Free.

To interest the younger collectors I will mail to you free of charge.

5 varieties of Pre-cancelled stamps A postal card will bring them.

Send to-day Have 400 lots to offer.

CHAS. A. TOWNSEND
33 Good Street, Akron, Ohio.

Just To Get Acquainted.

Belgium Packet Post 40, 70 and 80 cents, 1902 (Scott No. 227, 228, 229) are mighty scarce. Worth 60 to 75 cents. The three used for 15 cents to all applying for our 80 per cent discount approval books. State size of collection and give reference. Send for approval lot whether you buy the Belgians or not.

F. W. PICKARD,

Station R. (Wyoming.) Cincinnati, Ohio.

NICARAGUA, 1904

Commemorative set, type of our A15:

- 15c lake and black, - - 8.15
- 20c purple and black, - - .20
- 50c olive and black, - - .40
- 1p orange-brown and black, - .75

All unused and, with the exception of the 20c, full gum.
Subject to discount of 10 per cent.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 East 23d St., New York, N. Y.

STAMP DOINGS IN GOTHAM.

As reported by our New York correspondent.

Apropos Canal Zone Stamps.

Philatelic circles have been much excited by the appearance of counterfeit stamps of Panama.

A few experts who scoured early supplies have carefully watched all offerings. The counterfeits were first sold in Europe, whence they found their way directly to New York. A prominent firm, who received them from abroad, sold many. As they had two distinct varieties, experts wondered.

Examination proved part of the European lot to be very bad. Buyers, of course, could secure return of the dollar they had paid for a stamp supposed to be scarce, which had in the meantime become worth several dollars.

Until last week it was not known that any counterfeits had been received here direct from the Isthmus. Then a large number (270) of the 2-cent were offered to several of the dealers. Samples were requested and party asked to call again. Meantime someone had notified the Post Office Inspectors that counterfeit United States stamps were being offered for sale in New York. When the party called for his sample copies an inspector appeared and arrested him, securing the entire lot. While the experts agreed that these stamps are counterfeits, the officials seek confirmation of their opinions, and until the stamps are positively proven to be bad, all details of the matter are known only to those concerned.

We repeat, buyers should be cautious and buy these stamps only from dealers of the highest reputation.

The standard catalogue will be out about the usual time, say Oct. 15th, at the same old price.

New stamps of the Republic of Panama are expected by every mail. Already the registration stamps have been received. The new issue was made by the American Bank Note Company.

The Republic of Columbia recently issued a series of stamps to be sold for gold only. These were used in connection with the stamps representing a depreciated currency, and a postal rate of 10 cents might be represented by a gold 5-cent stamp and a \$5 stamp. Now we hear that a new issue is to appear on a gold basis.

Ballarat, Hawkesbury and other Australian societies seem to be getting on equally well.

The Johannesburg Philatelic Society, South Africa's enterprising philatelic body, has lately held an exhibition of "errors and freaks"—such as stamps with double or inverted surcharges, type errors in surcharges, etc., etc. The show is said to have been very interesting; and the idea is sufficiently novel to merit the attention of stamp clubs that are hard put to it to devise drawing features for their meetings.

We Want To Buy

Anything in the line of stamps large or small lots, rare or common, perfect or damaged.

What have you for sale?

Blue Grass Stamp Co.
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY.

Confederate States Original Covers.

CAT. NO.	ISSUE	CAT. PR.	OUR PR.
200	1861 Issue 5c green	.40	.27
201	1861 Issue 10c blue	.75	.49
202	1862 Issue 2c green strip of (3 & pair 2) 5 copies, perfect	15.00	9.97
203	1862 Issue 5c blue	.50	.33
204	1862 Issue 10c rose	-	1.85
207	1863 Issue 2c rose, strip of 5 perfect	-	3.65
212	1863 Issue 20c green	-	1.33
All above perfect used on covers.			
HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.			
58	1883 Issue, 5c blk blue mint	.40	.20
60	1883 Issue, 6c green mint	.50	.30
5c	Provisional Gov. envel. entire	.25	.12
USED GUAM, OBSOLETE.			
	10c yellow brown	-	.67
	15c olive	-	1.00
	50c orange	-	1.67
	\$1.00 black	-	3.34

No. 94 1881, Br. Guiana 1c on 12c, used, fine .134
No. 5 1873 Bermuda, 3p buff, used fine 2.10
Cuba, Postage Due, 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c mint .65
Beginners Great Bargains.

50 PHILIPPINE, CUBA, PORTO RICO, 27c
Lot consists of 19 Cuba, 1875 to 1898 issues; 11 Porto Rico, 1891 to 1899 issues; 20 Philippine Islands, 1883 to 1898 issues.
Actual Catalogue Value \$1.71, Our Price 27c

AUSTRIA.
1900 Issue, 1 2 3 5 8 10 20 25 30 35 40 50 60h and 1kr. set of 14. Catalogue value 21c. Our price 8c. 1900 Issue newspaper set 2, 6, 10, 20h, Cat. price 10c Our price 4c.

HUNGARY.
1900-1 Issue, 1h to 1kr. set of 15 complete. Actual Catalogue Value 27c. Our price 9c.
An Album goes with each of the above lots
68 page catalogue, unused 10c stamp and \$1.00 coupon FREE.

Hussman Stamp Co., St. Louis, Mo.

CANAL ZONE.

U. S. Stamps Surcharged.

1c, 2c, 5c, 8c and 10c, unused set o. g. complete set, picked copies, 40c. I also have a few complete sets on the original covers of the Canal Zone. Republic of Panama stamps which I will sell for \$6.00 per set. These stamps I fully guarantee in every respect. I will have my guarantee stamped on each envelope.

Republic of Panama I have a magnificent stock, which I will sell at very reasonable prices. Write me if interested.

H. F. COLMAN,

725 11th Street,
Washington, D. C.

Three Things.

- First. Our daily list of Bargains.
- Second. Some scarce stamps on approval.
- Third. Auction catalogue of our first sale.

Any one is worth the effort to write.

Eben S. Martin Co, Inc.
Minneapolis, Minn.

It Is to Laugh.

From an old number of one of the foreign journals we extract the following humorous transcript of some international philatelic correspondence.

"Some very funny messages (writes a correspondent) come to me sometimes from foreign collectors who try to air their knowledge of English. One little French girl, on being asked if she could possibly get a view card of a certain chateau near which she lived, to show how thoroughly she had tried to procure one wrote: 'I overthrew all the warehouses, but, alas! one does not exist.' Another correspondent, an Austrian nobleman, wrote: 'Dear lady—I thank you very much for the cart, I will exchange with you carts, for sorts whout you have, I sent you so match carts as you ml sent; mine brithter address est Baron Paul von S—.' I would here explain that I was not truckling in wheeled vehicles, merely the harmless pasteboard, but the German 'karte' and the English 'card' had proved too great an obstacle for our friend.

"An Italian lady addressed me thus: 'Sweet collector friend, I thank you very much, I pray you expedier me 10 posts cartes of Loncon—my shake nands—Carmelina del—.'

"A German student who was evidently filled with remorse after he had written, put: 'I have the honor of advising that my first answer to you remain undone—I beg to double revenge, yours esteme-fully, I should like one posts cart of your residence. Ah! me, what have I done? Hermann W—.'

"The German word 'revanche' (reply) is a great stumbling block; foreigners so frequently interpret it into our English 'revenge,' which has, of course, a totally different meaning from the one they intend, hence such wording as: 'According to your advertisement I transmit to you this card requesting your complaising answer—Do you send me revenge?'"

The Stamp Clubs Of Australia.

It is pleasing to observe, from reports in the current Australian Philatelist, that the stamp clubs in the leading Australian cities appear to be in most flourishing condition. The Sydney-Philatelic Club has now a membership of seventy-five; the Philatelic Society of Victoria (which meets in Melbourne, where most of its members reside) has sixty-seven members, and the Bathurst

THE CABINET.

A Department Devoted to Coins and Curios.

Modern Coinage.

We find the following essay in an old file of the Stamp and Coin Gazette, one of the most excellent journals of the middle eighties, long since forgotten by all except students of old philatelic literature:

"The coinage subsequent to 1600, though it receives more attention from collectors than any others, must be pronounced, upon all historical grounds, by far the least interesting. And for this reason, if for no other, that our historical documents for this period are so voluminous that the coins can serve little purpose, save as illustrations of these documents; we cannot hope to gain from them any important light upon the times. Still, it cannot be denied that they have an interest regarded as illustrations merely, and some phases of this interest may be briefly indicated.

"First, in a general way, the modern coinage illustrates well the rise of the commercial spirit of the West, which, taking a fresh start with the discovery of America in the fifteenth century, has become perhaps the chief determining force of our modern civilization. For now the coinage of all countries becomes as much improved for commercial purposes as it is artificially debased. The introduction of the 'mill' in the manufacture of coins, in place of the older device of striking them with a hammer, greatly improved their symmetry and the facility with which the money could be counted, while the use of an indented edge (commonly called a 'milled edge') prevented the practice of clipping, which was so frequent in earlier times, and thus tended to keep coins to a just weight, and so greatly to simplify exchange.

In a more particular way the coins of each nation are interesting, as now always, or nearly always, bearing the head of the reigning sovereign of the country. By this means we get a series of historic portraits, which, if not of much artistic excellence, are, on the whole, trustworthy. These are the better from the fact that large silver coins (crowns or thalers) were now generally current in Europe, having been introduced during the preceding epoch. Gustavus Adolphus, Frederick, the Winter King of Bohemia, and other heroes of the Thirty Years' War; Christina, Queen of Sweden; the 'Great Elector' of Brandenburg; Charles XII and Peter the Great; Louis XIV and the contemporary emperors of the house of Austria; Frederick Wilhelm I of Prussia; Frederick the Great and Maria Theresa; an excellent series of the Popes; and, finally, the English sovereigns may be cited as the coin portraits most likely to interest the historical student."

The oldest loaf of bread in the world is in the British Museum. It is supposed to have been baked in the year 500 B. C., resembles a small bun in shape, and is said to be in perfect condition, though just how it would taste no one has had the hardihood to guess.

The collecting of old-fashioned door knockers is one of the latest hobbies in England and promises to spread in this

country. The big brass knocker, held in place by a fleur-de-lis of other metal, which long adorned the door of Dickens' home, recently passed into the hands of an English collector, as did also one from the door of that sage old philosopher, Samuel Johnson.

The largest gold coin now in circulation is the gold ingot or 'loof' of Annam, a French colony in Eastern Asia. It is a flat, round gold piece, and on it is written in Indian ink its value, which is about \$25. The next sized coin to this valuable but extremely awkward one is the 'obang' of Japan, which is worth about \$9, and next comes the 'benda' of Ashantee, which represents a value of about \$5. The California fifty-dollar gold piece is worth about the same as the benda. The heaviest silver ingot is worth about \$15. Then comes the Chinese tael, equal to about \$2, and then the Austrian double thaler.

A coin of considerable interest has lately been sold in Germany. It is one of the few coins in the history of the world which can be accused of having a humorous side to it. In 1679 the Danes descended on the port of Hamburg, but their attack proved unsuccessful. The inhabitants of the town struck a medal to commemorate the occasion. The legend on the coin was as follows: "The King of Denmark has been to Hamburg. If thou wouldst know what he achieved, look on the other side." It is needless to add that "the other side" was blank.

The rose of Florida, the most beautiful of flowers, emits no fragrance. The bird of paradise, the handsomest of birds, gives no song. The cypress of Greece, the finest tree, bears no fruit.

The discovery of a Roman cross in an ancient Aztec temple proves that centuries before Columbus crossed the Atlantic the symbol of the Christian religion was known and revered in the new world. Among these ancient Mexicans the cross had a different significance from that which makes it sacred to Christians. It did not represent the divine sacrifices of a God-man, but was rather the crude emblem by which the early scientists expressed their idea of the immensity of the universe. Through the liberality of a wealthy New Yorker this valuable relic, carved from stone and covered with symbolical figures, has been added to the collection of the American Museum of Natural History.—Collector's Note-book.

A lady recently gave the New York Public Library a remarkable gift. It consists of 1000 menus, each from a different hotel or restaurant. Some are from Hungary, China, Japan and Russia. The donor stipulates that the menus are to be kept sealed until 1950, as it is her desire that the coming generations may see what their ancestors ate.

A book on Central American biology mentions 30,114 insect species belonging to that locality.

The warrant under which John Bunyan was made prisoner in Bedford Jail for six months during the reign of Charles II brought \$1525 at auction in London.

Collectors Societies

Hold Their Elections.

We learn from Mekeel's Stamp Collector that on August 18th (Collectors' Day at the St. Louis Exposition) elections of several of the smaller collectors' societies were held, with the following results:

Southern Philatelic Association: President, Chas. Roemer, San Antonio, Tex.; Vice President, F. G. Fuessel, St. Louis; Secretary-Treasurer, W. P. Kelley, Kansas City; Sales Superintendent, C. Waring, Knoxville, Tenn.; International Secretary, N. Fenton, Cincinnati; Librarian, Dr. R. L. Allen, Waynesville, N. C.; Counterfeit Detector, F. Noyes, Alice, Tex.; Purchasing Agent, H. S. Vanderberg, Lithgow, N. Y.; Attorney, F. D. Goodhue, Cincinnati; Trustees, H. G. Askew, H. A. Herzog, Austin, Texas.

Stamp Collectors' Protective Association: President, E. Chandler, Roanoke, Va.; Vice President, S. E. Moisant, Kankakee, Ill.; Secretary-Treasurer, L. Brodstone, Superior, Neb.; Attorney, H. S. Swenson, Minneapolis, Minn.

American Society of Curio Collectors: President, Roy F. Greene, Arkansas City, Kan.; Vice Presidents, H. Coover, Ohio, and Mrs. Tuttle, Iowa; Secretary, W. W. Warner, East St. Louis, Ill.

Samoa

"Palm Tree."

In the July issue of the Australian Philatelist we discover the following note:—

"A large parcel of the 'Palm Tree' series of Samoan stamps has recently come on the Sydney market. They are said to have been bought by a gentleman engaged in mercantile pursuits as an investment, his intention being to keep them under lock and key until they get scarce. Readers of the Australian Philatelist may perhaps recollect our publishing a communication we received from Mr. Davis (who had obtained permission from the King of Samoa to start a local post between the island and Australia originally) to the effect that the plates of Samoan stamps had been destroyed. Mr. Davis used to transmit the money to Sydney to pay the postage, as the stamps were only considered locals. They were afterward admitted as an authorized issue. That gentleman is since dead and among his effects were found the parcel of stamps referred to. In a future issue we may be able to throw a good deal of additional light on these stamps."

A Philatelist

Honored.

At the risk of repeating news of which many of our readers are already aware, we feel called on to mention the fact that one of the most distinguished of the world's philatelists has lately received the honor of knighthood at the hands of King Edward VII. The philatelist in question is Mr. D. P. Masson, perhaps the most eminent philatelist in India—an author of much valuable matter relating to the stamps of India and a prime mover in all Indian philatelic affairs—who is now Sir David Parke Masson. The attainment of such honor by one of their number must be a matter of gratification to all stamp collectors, whatever their rank and standing. Every influential and prominent man who is an open and avowed stamp collector serves to lend added dignity to the hobby in the public eye.

50 cents
a year.

THE

2 cents
a copy.

STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

VOL. 1. BETHLEHEM PENNSYLVANIA, OCTOBER 1, 1904. No. 3.

On October 22nd, 1904

We shall sell part I of the CHAS. L. STIVER collection, together with some small consignment. This collection contains about 14,000 varieties, and as Mr Stiver was what people call a condition crank the specimens will no doubt suit the most fastidious. Part II will be sold Nov. 5th. Catalogues will be sent to any interested.

We continue to make a specialty of want lists and have the best system of approval books in the country. Send for circular. We have a few more sets of Dominican Republic 182-1, 2, 5, 10, 12, 20 and 50c. unused, for 25 cents

Bogert & Durbin Co.,
722 Chestnut Street,
ESTABLISHED 1869. PHILADELPHIA, PA.

THE BERLIN EXHIBITION,

Synopsis of Some of Its Leading Features.

Just as we go to press we receive the current issue of the Monthly Journal, containing a full description of the exhibits at the Berlin Exhibition, and from this account have compiled a hurried synopsis of some of its leading features, supplementing the brief note anent the awards to be found in another column.

The exhibition was held, we learn from the M. J., at "The Architect's House," a building on the Wilhelmstrasse, close by the Prussian Chamber of Deputies.

The total value of all the stamps exhibited must be estimated at least £125,000 (approximately \$650,000); that being the amount of insurance placed on them during the exhibition.

The jury upon whom devolved the task of making the awards was composed of the following eminent philatelists: Johannes Elster, Dr. P. Kloss, J. Schlesinger, E. Stock and Max Thier, of Germany; Jules Bernheim, of France; Fredrick Breitfuss, of Russia; Dr. E. Diena, of Italy; Anton Van Hock, of Holland; Dr. E. Lyngstrom, of Sweden; Wm. Moser, of the United States; Baron A. de Reuterskiold, of Switzerland; E. M. Ruben, of Denmark, and Robert Ehrenbach and Charles J. Phillips, of Great Britain.

In Section 1, General Collections, the Grand Gold Medal was awarded to Martin Schoder for his colossal and magnificent collection, which required for its display no less than eighty-five volumes for the stamps and twenty volumes for the essays. This collection is stated

to undoubtedly rank as the first in Germany.

Seven other medals of varying grades were awarded to other exhibitors in this class.

In Section II, Special Collections, a great number of different awards were made which it is needless to fully recapitulate here. The following are some of the most noteworthy:—

A Grand Gold Medal to George Koch for his wonderful collection of the stamps of the German Empire, which is especially strong in entire sheets and contains in this line perhaps the most remarkable showing in the entire exhibition.

A Grand Gold Medal to Mr. H. J. Diveen, the famous English collector, for an exhibit of three special countries from his great collection (one of the first half dozen in the world)—to wit, Mauritius, British Guiana and Queensland. The showing includes practically everything, even up to the very greatest rarities, such as the 1d. and 2d. "Post Office" Mauritius (the former a lightly canceled copy on the original letter; the latter a grand unused specimen); a pair of the 2c. rose, 1850, of British Guiana (of which only ten or twelve copies are known) and many other grand things, only a shade less rare and interesting.

A Grand Gold Medal to Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, another well known English Philatelist (whose name will be familiar to all those who read the English stamp press), for a superb collection of the stamps of India, which the M. J. pronounces to be really marvelous—coupled with a similarly fine display of Western Australia, containing as its notable gem a fine, lightly canceled specimen of the 4d., 1854, with the inverted Swan, one of the great rarities of the world.

A Grand Gold Medal to Baron A. de Worms for his world-famous special collection of the stamps of Ceylon.

A Grand Gold Medal to Baron R. Lehmann for a very notable collection, whose exhaustiveness may be judged from the fact that in its formation more than 300,000 specimens were examined for dated copies and special perforations.

A Silver Medal to Mr. E. R. Ackermann, of New York, for a wonderfully fine collection of Norway. Of this collection the M. J. remarks: "It is probably the finest in existence of this country, containing as it does an amalgamation of the collections of Mr. Henry Buckley, of Christiana, with that of Mr. Ackermann. Almost every variety of type die and plate is shown in strips of

THE ATTENTION

of Auction Buyers, old and new clients, is directed to the coming seasons sales.

On September 28
I sell a fine lot the property of various owners including some fine M & M, combination lots, a collection etc.

October Sale.
will contain the wholesale and retail stock of the Return Mail Stamp Co.

November Sale.
contains a fine unused collection of Mr. S. G. Collins, of Galveston, Texas.

December Sale.
contains the large general collection of Dr. J. W. Fowler, Dubuque, Iowa.

January Sale.
contains the magnificent collection of Roscoe L. Wicks of Evanston, Ill.

P. M. Wolsieffer

401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

six, in blocks of four, and in many cases in full sheets."

A Grand Gold Medal to E. Horak for a special collection of Austria, Austrian Italy, Hungary and Bosnia, which Mr. Horak has been nearly thirty years in forming, and which contains nearly all known varieties, both used and unused, and, in addition, a collection of 12,000 varieties of the cancellations of the 1860 issue.

A Gold Medal, with the congratulations of the jury, to Mr. Rob. Mertens for his collection of the stamps of Russian Levant. The special admiration of the Jury was evoked by the fact this exhibit typified an unqualified triumph of philatelic study. By an exhaustive study of the stamps of 1865 (2k.), brown and blue, and (20k.) blue and red, and by means of crossing pairs and blocks. Mr. Mertens demonstrates in his exhibit that the stamps were printed in sheets of twenty-eight varieties, arranged 7x4, in place of in sheets of sixty-three, as was formerly believed.

A Silver Medal to Dr. Emil E. Horrak for a special collection of the stamps of Roumania, containing about 4000 copies.

(Continued on Page 3.)

NICARAGUA, 1904

Commemorative set, type of our A15:

15c lake and black, - - - \$.15

20c purple and black, - - - .20

50c olive and black, - - - .40

1p orange-brown and black, - .75

All unused and, with the exception of the 20c, full gum.

Subject to discount of 10 per cent.

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THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States, Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any address in any country in the Postal Union \$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.00 an inch. 60 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

THE EDITOR DISCOURSETH.

This is

No. 3.

This is No. 3 of a weekly periodical for stamp people, which, as that numeral would indicate, began its career no later than week before last. To those of you who also received Nos. 1 and 2 the above will, of course, seem superfluous information. But as this issue will reach a good many collectors who did not see Nos. 1 and 2, and may not have perused our date line with any special care, we deem the fact worth mentioning.

Not that we wish to plead the privilege of youth for whatever imperfections and shortcomings you may find in this number. There would be good reason for doing so, without doubt. It is an anxious and nerve-racking time when the first few numbers of a new journal are being put together—by a staff working in new surroundings and under new conditions. But we intend to plead no excuses; and mention the newness of this journal simply for the purpose of extending you an invitation to join the ranks of our readers (provided, of course, that you have not already made the necessary arrangements for doing so), and to assure you of our hope and expectation of furnishing much good reading to all the good folk who acquire the "STAMP-LOVERS' WEEKLY habit." We hope they may be many—and we hope you may be one of them.

A Statement

Rather Heretical.

The STAMP-LOVER'S WEEKLY has a good many crotchety notions that it will take pleasure in airing in these columns from week to week; and one of the most heretical of these is that it would be a grand, good thing if used stamps were collected more and unused stamps were collected less. Mind, we do not dream of saying that used specimens are equal to unused ones on the score of appearance. That point is not debatable. Nobody disputes the unused specimens' superior beauty. But the drift of the time in the direction of unused stamps is not, we think, an especially good thing for philatelic interests in general. Un-

used stamps cost, or should cost, more than used ones. The fact that in many cases they do not is simply irrefutable evidence that the unused cult has multiplied the difficulties of stamp-collecting, by inspiring and fostering the "made for collectors' style of stamp issue. Much modern stamp-collecting is a mere matter of traffic, in which the articles handled are only incidentally intended for postal purposes. A new issue or a new variety is produced; post haste, go bales of this "mint state" merchandise, hardy from the press, to the stamp markets of the world; while a meagre balance serve the humbler purpose of carrying letters. And thereby is it that the tail wags the dog. If used stamps were the desideratum with the majority of collectors, instead of unused ones, as at present, would this anomalous condition exist?

It may be objected that were it not for this system, collectors would have great difficulty in securing any of the stamps of certain countries; inasmuch as the number of active stamp collectors in the world is decidedly larger than the total number of stamps actually postally used in a year by the people of some of the smaller states and colonies—particularly the latter. This is unquestionably true, and it is also true that if stamp-collecting had been always confined to used specimens only, not only would many of these states and colonies never have issued stamps at all, but all of them would have gotten along with far fewer varieties than has been the case. And we scarcely think any really thoughtful stamp-collector would regret to have the number of collectible varieties abridged by several thousand.

We do not suggest that the collecting of unused stamps be abandoned, at this late day. That is, of course, impossible. But we do suggest that it would be wise for collectors to pay less attention to unused stamps and more to used ones, so far as they may do so without injuriously altering the whole trend of their collections.

The unused stamp has certainly much to answer for. (May we not hear from some of our readers with their opinions on this subject? It is a matter of the very greatest importance, deserving general attention and discussion.

Cheapening

Stamp Prices.

We observe that a contemporary advocate the cheapening of stamp prices, as a means of enlarging our hobby's opportunities for gaining new recruits, and holding them when gained. The idea, as we gather it, is that it would be well for dealers, instead of selling cheap stamps singly and in sets, to make up little collections, of various sizes, place the stamps properly in an album, and sell both stamps and album to young collectors at the very lowest rate possible. A collection of, say 1000 varieties, with an album, could, of course, be sold for half or less what the very stamps would cost when bought one at a time, or in sets or small packets—for the reason that the dealer would have to expend infinitely

less time, labor and postage in arranging and sending out the collection than in arranging and sending out a hundred or so orders for single stamps or sets.

The idea is one that we would very much like to see tried, but at the same time we fear that it is Utopian and impractical. The majority of beginners are not prepared to at once invest several dollars in a thousand variety collection in an album. Even if they are amply able to do so, it seems to them easier to get a few stamps at a time—not to mention the fact that to the beginner a few dozen stamps constitute a source of enjoyment so great that for the time being he has no desire for a greater number. Nevertheless, the album and collection idea, if taken up extensively and energetically by dealers willing to forego present profits for the sake of gaining new recruits, might do much to solve the ever-present problem of how to carry the young collector successfully beyond the blank book and dime packet stage.

Stamp Societies

In Schools.

Another idea with whose purpose we fully sympathize, though we are not wholly convinced that it would work out well in practice, is the proposition that enthusiastic collectors should endeavor to form stamp societies in the public schools. We do not doubt that the cooperation of teachers could in many cases be readily gained, the educating value of stamp-collecting being self-evident to anyone who takes the slightest pains to inquire into the matter. Nor do we doubt that many pupils in every public school would become greatly interested in stamp-collecting, to both the temporary and the permanent benefit of the pursuit, if magic lantern lectures on stamps (after the English pattern), popular talks on the points that can be learned from stamp study and the pleasant features of stamp-collecting as a diversion, little competitive exhibitions with suitable prizes, and other similar features could be arranged and executed by older collectors. But the difficulty lies in the fact that not one adult collector in ten thousand has the disposition or the energy to take up philatelic missionary work of this class. It is perfectly natural that they should not have. Stamp-collecting is not a religion or a code of morals. It is simply a most pleasant diversion, which stimulates many faculties and broadens one's knowledge in many lines without ceasing to be a diversion while so doing. Such a pursuit, much as we may be attached to it, is not of the sort to inspire its devotees with the blind fervor that would lead them to surmount mountains for its sake. In finding a way to popularize stamp-collecting among the boys and girls that are just on the borderland of manhood and womanhood (the time of life when the stamp germ is apt to engraft itself most successfully into the human system) we must depend upon some method that does not involve onerous personal effort on the part of the private collector.

THE BERLIN EXHIBITION.

(Continued from Page 1.)

A Grand Gold Medal to E. H. Mertzoff for a wonderful collection of the stamps of Greece, containing a great number of even rare stamps in entire sheets.

A Grand Gold Medal to Mr. Henry J. Crocker, of San Francisco, for his famous Hawaii collection, known by repute to all American philatelists.

In addition to the above there were a great number of minor awards, of silver medals, bronze medals and diplomas, which we can hardly spare space to specify.

It may interest our readers to scan the account of the social features incidental to the exhibition, which we borrow likewise from the Monthly Journal:—

Wednesday, August 24th. Social meeting at 7 P. M. at the Prince Albrecht Hotel.

Saturday, August 27th. Excursion to Trepton.

Wednesday, August 31st. Inspection of the Imperial Postal Museum, which was closed to the general public on that day, and only open to stamp collectors who had attended the exhibition.

Wednesday, August 31st. A grand banquet was given in the great saloon of the restaurant in the Zoological Gardens. About ninety ladies and gentlemen sat down at 6 P. M., Dr. H. Lux (Secretary and generalissimo of the exhibition) presiding. Speeches were made, as usual in the German fashion, after each course, and then hands were joined and a trip made round the tables in order to gain a good appetite for the next course. A pleasant feature was the presentation to Dr. Lux of a safe as a birthday present as some little recognition from the jury, committee and some exhibitors of the great amount of work he had accomplished in carrying the exhibition to such satisfactory results.

On Monday, Aug. 29th, the Berlin Philatelic Club gave a reception at the club rooms in the Pfeiffer Restaurant Building. About one hundred visitors were present, and a very enjoyable evening was passed.

Mekeel's Stamp Collector informs us that Bogota, Colombia, rejoices in the possession of a philatelic society, the "Sociedad Filatelica de Colombia," by name, and suggests, if we read aright between the lines of its comment, that the existence of this society may have some bearing on the great floods of new varieties in Colombian stamps which the past few years have fathered. The society also, it is stated, publishes a monthly journal called El Coleccionista.

From the same source we learn of the birth of two new stamp periodicals in far away climes—the Oceania Philatelic Journal, from New Zealand, and El Sello, from Chile.

ALL the time is the best time. Don't wait to begin advertising until you want something. The future will soon be the present, and taking care of to-morrow is taking care of to-day.—The Lyceumites, Chicago.

The Awards**At Berlin.**

In the current issue of the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly appears a full list of the awards at the Berlin Philatelic Exhibition. And it is gratifying to observe that America is not unrepresented in the honor roll of prize winners. Mr. Henry J. Crocker, of San Francisco, figures high up among the recipients of gold medals—the highest award of the Exhibition; Mr. E. R. Ackermann, of New York, is honored with a silver medal, and Mr. J. M. Bartels, of Boston, receives both a bronze medal and a diploma. We have no details as to the exhibits on which these gentlemen received their awards, but hope to receive further information on this point before our next number.

England won a number of honors, among her medal-winners being Mr. H. J. Durveen, the famous art dealer, who is also a philatelist of high degree; Baron Anthony de Warms, Mr. W. Dorning Beckton, Mr. E. Hegibottom, and a number of others.

It is interesting to observe how many different countries figure in the awards. Though the lion's share naturally fell to German philatelists, we find the following cities affixed as the residence of some of the principal medal-winners: Amsterdam, Constantinople, St. Petersburg, Vienna, Paris, The Hague, Lisbon and Brussels. Well may we paraphrase the famous remarks of King Ludwig of Bavaria in regard to art, and exclaim: "Philately has no country; it is universal."

AN ALBUM**For Private Proprietaries.**

Mr. Geo. J. Carter, of Brooklyn, a gentleman widely and favorably known in philatelic circles, is about to undertake the publication of an album for the private proprietary stamps of the United States—a class of stamps for which no existing album makes any provision. The crying need for such a work which has for some time existed (thanks to the continual increase in the number of those who study and collect these exceedingly interesting emissions) would insure a warm welcome for any album providing properly for their reception, even were it not marked by any conspicuous novelty in design or execution. But the album which Mr. Carter has devised is to possess such special adaption to the need for which it is designed, and is in many ways to be such a notable departure in album-making, that we don't see how any collector of private proprietaries can fail to heartily approve and support Mr. Carter's project.

We have a specimen page of this album before us and can greatly commend the symmetrical way in which the spaces are arranged. There is no overcrowding and the general effects is decidedly well-balanced and artistic. A still greater point in its favor is the fact that the spaces are exactly the size of the design of the stamp, so that when the stamp is mounted in its proper place no outline

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Seychelles 90c or 96c mint,	\$2.20
Tobago 1896-1sh brown orange	2.15
Transvaal 1895-10sh brown used	.75
" 1896-2sh 6d mint	2.20
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My list B. B. No. 17 ready.

Yours for the asking.

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

1902-3,	8d 9d or 10d each	\$.15
	2s Red	.30
	2s6d Dark Blue	.45
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All very fine postally used copies.

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WANTED to buy St. Louis stamps used, state quantity and price.

will appear, giving the page identically the appearance of a blank album. This is a splendid idea and its value as carried out is self evident.

Each space is so clearly indicate what variety it is intended for that the merest tyro will experience no difficulty in placing his specimens in the proper spaces. Every design is illustrated and each space bears the catalogue number. Where the variety consists of a difference in paper or mode of separation the fact appears under the catalogue number to further facilitate placing the stamps properly.

A liberal allotment of blank pages will provide space for part perforated varieties, shades, blocks, etc. Spaces will be provided for every variety catalogued in the Standard Catalogue, as well as for many not hitherto listed.

Numerous other features which will greatly enhance the practical usefulness of the book are included in Mr. Carter's plans, but we can scarcely describe them to as good purpose here as is done in the prospectus he has issued, which is a most interesting document to anyone engaged in collecting proprietaries. Mr. Carter's address is 265 Halstead Street, Brooklyn, and he will gladly send a prospectus to any one interested. We face a protest from our advertising manager, doubtless, in thus printing Mr. Carter's address; but as the publication of this album is not in any sense a money-making enterprise, but is largely a labor of love on its publisher's part (the expense of its preparation being very much greater than can be recouped by any amount of sales to be reasonably anticipated) we feel entirely justified in doing our part to help along the good work.

To tell your story quickly and thoroughly to a large number of collectors use the advertising columns of THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

THE READING TABLE.

What We Find in the Journals of the Hour.

The Australian Philatelist, Sydney, Australia.

Two numbers of the Australian Philatelist lie before us, the issues for July and August. And both of them are brimful of readable matter. Nor is the reading of the kind that merely entertains, for much of it is directly and practically helpful to the collector of Australian stamps. Our Antipodean contemporary very wisely devotes the major portion of its space to the stamps of its own continent. The bulk of Australia's collectors, by the way, make the same restriction in their albums. Hence the A. P. does not, perhaps, appeal very strongly to the bulk of American readers. Yet we think we could do many worse things in this column than devote a little time to glancing at the contents of these two numbers.

The A. P. always opens with a page or two of editorials from the pen of Mr. Hagen, who fills the dual role of its editor and its publisher. In the July issue the main editorial deals with the "Commonwealth Issue," the uniform series of stamps for the entire Australian Commonwealth, which is, in the fulness of time, to succeed the present separate issues. The air is full of rumors of its coming and of the kind of design the authorities will choose, and Australian stamp folk are much excited over the matter. But Mr. Hagen believes that to issue a uniform series for the whole Commonwealth at the present time is decidedly impracticable, and we infer that he has small notion of the matter being brought to a head for a good long time to come. His editorial leader gives his reasons for this belief, and we find them decidedly plausible and convincing.

Another editorial is devoted to the "Punctured Official Stamps" made use of by all the Australian States save Queensland, and they are rightly stigmatized as a cumbersome and useless contrivance, well worthy the palmy days of the Circumlocution Office. As most of our readers presumably know, Australian official stamps are punctured with "O S," "O H M S," and a great many other similar combinations of letters, the initials in each case denoting their use in some certain public department, much in the same way that the various departments at Washington formerly had their separate stamps for official correspondence—our own famed "Department Stamps." Editor Hagen has small love for the system (which, as may easily be seen, produces a perfect shoal of varieties in Australian officials), and strongly urges its discontinuance. And here again we heartily applaud his conclusions.

"New Issues and Varieties" next occupy a page or two, and succeeding this is an admirable study of "South Aus-

tralian Stamps and Their Perforations," which we cannot too highly commend to readers who are specializing in Australians. The author is Mr. Geo. Blockey, over whose signature we have of late seen much good work, and the text is supplemented by autotype plates, which greatly simplify the classification and study of the various varieties of perforation dealt with.

Mr. C. A. Gilles is furnishing a serial on "The Dependencies of New Zealand and Their Stamps," and the installment in the number before us deals interestingly and ably with the issues of Niue and Peurbyn Islands. Then come various shorter articles and items, followed by Society Reports, and with these the number closes.

The August number is very like the one for July, so like, in fact, that we need to run over its features very briefly. Mr. Blockey's article on South Australian perforations is continued and concluded. Mr. Gilles's serial work is continued, but not concluded. There is an excellent account of a philatelic exhibition recently held in Melbourne (of which we reprint a portion in our news columns), and the Society Reports occupy this time no less than eight pages. As to Mr. Hagen's editorials, one of them, "The Cheapening of Stamp Prices," is of such importance and interest that we propose referring to it at length in our editorial page. The other again touches on the question of the Commonwealth issue and strongly urges the wisdom of choosing for it some appropriate allegorical designs, rather than the head of King Edward VII. For the sake of the picturesqueness of our albums, we hope the authorities may see the wisdom of Mr. Hagen's suggestions—assuming that they are somewhat more amenable to newspaper suggestion than are the postal authorities of our own land, to whom the suggestions of either the public or the philatelic press form a matter to which they are supremely indifferent.

The Monthly Journal, London, England.

The Monthly Journal presents aside from its editorials, little matter that need engage our attention. The matter with which the bulk of its pages are filled is of the utmost value to the advanced specialist, but of no very remarkable readability or interest to ordinary collectors. A continuation of L. Hancian's monograph on "The Postal Issues of Finland," another installment of Napier and Bacon's "Papers on Perforation," and one of Major Evans' learned studies on "The Stamps of Some of the Native States of India"—these are the principal literary features of the number, and absorbingly interesting as they doubtless are to those especially interested in the subjects mentioned, there is nothing in them which we could profitably analyze or quote from here.

Major Evans' editorials, however, are quite as interesting to ordinary collectors as to the inner circle of the elect. The Major's views are always entertaining and witty, and often really enlighten-

ing; and the three or four pages devoted to them each month supply decidedly pleasant seasoning to the otherwise somewhat indigestible contents. Among the topics that come up for treatment this month is the question of at how early a date stamps were first collected, and on this point the Major begs to differ from some of those who assign the dawn of stamp collecting to a period but a year or two later than the birth of the adhesive stamp. Anent this, he says, in part: "The opinion is expressed 'that stamps were collected soon after they first appeared.' 'Soon after' is, of course, an elastic expression, but it should be remembered that for several years after stamps first appeared not only was the number of varieties in existence exceedingly small, but in all countries 'foreign' stamps must have been very seldom met with, and thus stamp collecting, in our sense of the term, was extremely unlikely to arise. 'Foreign stamps' were the things collected in the days of the infancy of philately, and we may safely assume that until foreign stamps became comparatively common objects no real stamp collecting took place. Accumulations of stamps were made, but with entirely different ideas. There were misguided persons who desired to paper their rooms with them, and special merit was supposed to be attached to the collection of so many as a million, by means of which all kinds of good works were expected to be accomplished—from softening the hearts of implacable parents and guardians to gaining (possibly for the collectors themselves) admission into asylums. It is possible that stamp collecting, as we now know it, grew out of this early and primitive form, but it is an entirely different thing. We well remember one of these accumulations, which must have been made in the quite early fifties. Some quantities of the stamps were laboriously pasted on large sheets of paper, with a view to covering the walls of their owner's bedroom; the majority were naturally the ordinary red pennies, and the comparatively few two-pennies were arranged at suitable intervals, so as to give a little variety to what would otherwise have formed a very monotonous species of wall paper. So far as we remember, there were no other stamps whatever in this collection, which came from many a waste-paper basket, and this would prove our contention that foreign stamps were not sufficiently common, even a dozen or more years after stamps first appeared, to lead to their being collected."

Did space permit, there is much else in this fascinating editorial department that it would be pleasant and profitable to quote. One or two points are raised therein which shall receive further treatment on our editorial pages.

"The bigger the discount, the poorer the stamp," is an axiom that young collectors will do well to remember. Dirty, damaged or very heavily canceled stamps are a poor investment at any price.

A Page of Precepts For Young Collectors.

(Conducted by the Editor.)

The Purpose Of This Page.

We explained last week that a paramount aim of the STAMP-LOVER'S WEEKLY was to be practically helpful to the stamp collector of the less advanced type—those who have been following the hobby in only a small way or for only a short time, and have still a great many things to learn; both in regard to stamps themselves and, equally important, in regard to stamp-collecting methods. We repeat this explanation again this week, because the present issue is being sent to some thousands of collectors who did not see Number One, and we particularly wish every young collector to understand our intentions in this respect—to understand that we shall devote no small amount of our space to reading matter especially aimed to interest and aid the inexperienced collector. This page is a part of the space set aside for this special purpose; and much other matter selected with a similar end in view will be found on other pages.

The Collector Who Stops at the Start.

A good many years' observation of individual cases of "stamp fever" leads us to believe that there are an enormous number of young collectors who "stop at the start." They just get nicely started, they just get to the point where they own a nice, new album and a thousand or two varieties of stamps—and then, somehow or other, their enthusiasm dies out and they cease to actively collect. They may still retain enough interest to save any foreign stamps they see on letters and to ask to look over the old family correspondence in search of stamps when they "go a-visiting;" but aside from that they make little effort to develop their collections. We should not wonder if there were hundreds of young collectors reading this who are in just that state of apathy. And we presume it will surprise them quite a little when we say that they have stopped just in time to miss the pleasantest part of collecting. The first dip into stamp collecting is, of course, always "great fun." Those of us who have been collecting for a lifetime can still recall the keen enjoyment gotten out of our first cheap packet of stamps, the first penny approval sheet we ever saw, the first album we ever owned, however small and inexpensive it may have been. But we look back with far greater satisfaction upon the thousands of hours spent with stamps and album and catalogue and stamp books and journals in the latter years when we had graduated out of the primary class and become genuine, full-fledged stamp lovers.

Not Alone

A Pretty Picture.

A stamp is something more than a pretty picture—a plaything that pleases because of its bright colors and general picturesqueness. It is a curiosity, in the

full sense of the word, and has the many-sided interest that attaches to all articles which are really and truly curious. The beginner is apt to collect more with the idea of seeing how many varieties he can get than with the idea that he is accumulating a private museum of curiosities. Yet a stamp album containing any well-chosen assortment of stamps from all countries is a museum in miniature—and its possessor may well feel proud of it for the reason that he owns something that is strange and interesting and remarkable to the ordinary run of people. Of course, you collect for pleasure; not for the pride of showing curiosities to your friends. But one's own personal pleasure in collecting stamps depends on the keenness of his appreciation for their quaintness and peculiarities. Collecting stamps with the aim of getting as many as possible is interesting enough for a time; but after a while you will have gotten almost all the common ones, and then the growth of the collection will be provokingly slow. This is when the man or woman, boy or girl, whose only thought and ambition is "to get a big collection" loses interest, and parts company with stamp collecting. And yet, as we have said before, they have stopped too soon to get any insight into the pleasantest part of collecting.

The Fascinating

Part of It.

The really fascinating part of stamp-collecting lies in getting acquainted with your stamps—in getting to know what the designs mean, and why they are appropriate in each particular case; in tracing the history and development of all sorts of different nations by means of their stamps; in judging their state of civilization and culture and artistic progress by the same means; in familiarizing one's self with the ways and tastes and customs of all sorts of strange peoples in distant lands and far away isles of the sea, just from what their stamps tell us. This is the higher, bigger, broader side of stamp-collecting; it is the thing which makes stamp-collecting worth while. And one has to collect stamps for quite a good many years, as a rule, before one begins to appreciate this feature of it. There are hosts and hosts of young collectors (not to speak of some that call themselves advanced collectors) who are wholly at a loss to tell whose picture this is, and what that emblem signifies, and what these words mean, as this or that or the other stamp in their collection is pointed out. This isn't the way to collect stamps profitably—and, more than that, it isn't the way to collect stamps pleasurably. The collector of old bric-a-brac can tell you all the interesting facts about every piece in his collection—the country it comes from, the period of history it belongs to, the significance of its shape and ornamentation, and perhaps the name of the very potter that wrought it. The collector of shells or minerals or butterflies knows his specimens like a book and is full to the fingertips of interesting facts concerning them. The same is true of every hobby

that is worth anything at all. And the stamp-collector has got to know his specimens in the same way if he is going to take permanent pleasure and pride in their possession and unending delight in adding fresh varieties and building step by step a really representative collection of the different kinds of stamps there are in the world.

But How

Will He Find Out?

But how (you may very likely ask) will he find out all these things about stamps? How will he make them give up their secrets and reveal the significance of every part of design, wording or printing that has any interest to collectors? The answer is not an easy one, because young collectors do not often enjoy the acquaintance of older enthusiasts who could give them an insight into this broader phase of stamp collecting, and also because the bulk of stamp periodicals assume that their readers know all about this side of the hobby and give most of their attention to the technical part of stamp collecting. But it can be said in a general way that if you once acquire a disposition to learn these things and to study stamps from this standpoint you will be able to pick up a surprising amount of information about them quite incidentally and naturally. If one gets really interested in a stamp it isn't hard to find out all there is to know about it—whose portrait it bears, or what event it commemorates, or what its wording means, or whatever else you may wish to know. If you read the history of a country, the facts there related give a new meaning to many of the stamps on that country's page, and your possession of these stamps gives a new vividness to that country's history. If you study a foreign language, you find no more interesting use for it than in translating stamp inscriptions that appear in that tongue. If you visit the World's Fair and see the strange fellows from far-away climes that are there on exhibition you gain new light on some of the specimens in your album that depict queer native races. And so it goes all through whatever studies or interests may occupy your life; they help you to a better understanding of your stamps, and your stamps, oftentimes, help you to a better understanding of studies that seem as far removed from stamp collecting as anything that could possibly be conceived. And the best of it all is that even the oldest collector is continually learning new things about his stamps—is alighting upon odd, out-of-the-way bits of knowledge that shed fresh light on some obscure point. The pleasure there is in finding out things about stamps is both perennial and perpetual. And the farther one gets into it, the more enjoyment does he get out of it.

Holland has been of late experimenting with an automatic machine to sell postage stamps on the penny-in-the-slot principle; but the experiments have been attended with very slight success, the public not betraying any liking for the innovation.

CHICAGO LETTER.

As reported by our Chicago correspondent.

Truthfully speaking there is more doing in Chicago in activity of the local society and Branch No. 1, A. P. A., than in any other city, and a mere mention of the following facts will prove it.

The Chicago Philatelic Society meets the first and third Thursday of each month; without a break for the entire year, and the attendance is from fifteen to fifty per meeting, according to the time of the year and the attractions offered. Frequently the attendance is greater and close to 100 when some very special attraction is offered.

Chicago Branch No. 1 meets regularly on the second Thursday of each month the year around, and while the attendance is not so great as that of the C. P. S., yet its power and influence is felt each year when the election and convention season comes around, and it seems everybody waits to see what the Chicago Branch is going to do, and then the other branches fall in line and endorse the Chicago ticket.

It has been fortunate for the Association that all the tickets so far named (and elected) by the Chicago Branch have been of a high order, and the Association has prospered as well as it has under the existing conditions of the transformation that is now going on and has been going on in the past five years of the stamp trade relating largely to prices, the condition feature, specialism, speculation, etc.

The success of the constant activity and healthy state of affairs in both the C. P. S. and Branch No. 1 can be attributed mostly to the work and attention given it by a number of so-called "old timers" who are always there to suggest or "to do things" when necessary, and who never fail to respond to any duty or self-sacrifice when called on, which in a measure inspires the newcomers to also give a share of their attention to the work.

There are several of the "old timers" who can count on the fingers of one hand the number of times they have missed a meeting since they joined ten to fifteen years ago, and in most every instance it was because they were out of the city, possibly attending the annual conventions or sickness.

These are records to be proud of and show why the C. P. S. and Branch No. 1 are always in the van, and like treatment is recommended to the "old timers" of other localities and societies where it is said that interest has died out and they cannot secure even a quorum to attend meetings.

There is nothing so helpful as a society that meets regularly and its members can depend on having a pleasant and profitable meeting, and every stamp-collector should make it a point to belong to his local society as well as the National Organization, of which no collector should be without its stock certificate.

At the meeting of Branch No. 1 held Thursday, the 8th, the old officers, consisting of Mr. O. Van Schatzler, President; F. Lefever, Vice President, and L. Michael, Secretary-Treasurer, were re-elected for the year. The official year for the Branch is the same as the parent organization, Sept. 1st to Sept. 1st. The meeting was very interesting and the chair called for remarks from every member present on one subject or another, and while there is a decided scarcity of orators among the stamp crowd that attends meetings regularly, yet they all responded and told some very funny as well as useful stories and information.

The Auction Sale of the United Stamp Company held at the C. P. S. club room was well attended and prices on the better grade stamps in fine condition as usual fetched fine prices.

There has been an average of two auction sales here every month so far for the year, and this record promises to be kept up for the remainder of the year.

Pre-Canceled Stamps Are Doomed.

The following news despatch, from the New York Times of Sept. 21, seems to forecast the passing of the precanceled stamp:

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—Postmaster General Payne promulgated an order today which provides a new and important convenience for the business public in the use of the mails. Hereafter third and fourth class matter in quantities of not less than 2000 identical pieces may be mailed without affixing stamps, the sender prepaying postage in cash.

Postmasters at whose office patrons wish to avail themselves of the privilege must apply to the Third Assistant Postmaster General for authority to receive such mailings. Persons desiring to mail matter without postage stamps affixed must make application to the Postmaster, who will issue a permit for the purpose. Each piece of matter must bear on its address side in the upper left corner the name of the sender and the Post Office of mailing, and in the upper right corner a statement of its class, the amount of postage paid, the words "Paid in money," and the permit number.

The innovation is designed to aid large business concerns who send out books, circulars, periodicals, advertising matter, and proofsheets, but it also applies under the schedule of fourth-class matter to all inserted matter not embraced in first, second and third class matter.

Mr. Melville's Book Commended.

It is pleasing to note in a late issue of the New York Times' Saturday Book Review, a half-column review of Fred J. Melville's "A B C of Stamp Collecting"—a book which has been more than once referred to in our own columns. We half suspect that the editor of the Times' Book Review must himself be a philatelist, in such an intelligent manner does he deal with Mr. Melville's book.



105 VARIETIES of USED and UNUSED STAMPS, including

NYASSA, 1901, Japan, India, Portugal, Egypt, Australia, etc., etc. \$1 and \$2 U. S. Revenues, and 250 Faultless Hinges, all for 10 CENTS silver and 2c stamp, for postage. Before Oct. 15, 1904, purchasers of this packet will receive free of charge, one 25c Entry of Goods, (cat. 10c.) Order today.

CHAS. A. TOWNSEND

33 Good Street.

Akron, Ohio.

LOOK

Newfoundland Stamps cheaper than ever.

1898 1c green	40c per 100
" 2c red	50c per 100
" 3c orange	40c per 100
1897 1c cabot	85.00 per 100
" 2c	3.00 per 100
" 3c	1.00 per 100

No. 1 type surcharged 1c on 8c 25c each
No. 2 type surcharged 1c on 3c 80c each

All stamps in good condition Wholesale list free to dealers. Rare stamps for collectors cheap.

WM. NOFTALL,
St. John's

P. O. Box 121.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Just To Get Acquainted.

Belgium Packet Post 40, 70 and 90 cents. 1902 (Scott No. 227, 228, 229) are mighty scarce. Worth 60 to 75 cents. The three used for 15 cents to all applying for our 60 per cent discount approval books. State size of collection and give reference. Send for approval lot whether you buy the Belgians or not.

F. W. PICKARD.

Station R, (Wyoming.) Cincinnati, Ohio.

Three Things.

First. Our daily list of Bargains.
Second. Some scarce stamps on approval.
Third. Auction catalogue of our first sale.

Any one is worth the effort to write.

Eben S. Martin Co, Inc.

Minneapolis, Minn.

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display.

A line will average seven words.

Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press,

Bethlehem, Pa.

A block of 6 of the 2c lake, 1880 issue, Imperforated \$15.00 1,926 c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

8 Varieties of the World's Fair (Chicago 1893) postal cards, with a 1 cent unused Columbian on each, for 20 cents (The face value is 2 cents each.)

E. T. PARKER, Bethlehem, Pa.

A full sheet of 50 10-cent 1847, Card Board proofs \$20.00 (a single one catalogued at \$1.00) Proof, c/o THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

Mr. Chauncey S. S. Miller, at one time very prominent in New York philatelic circles, is, we believe, the editor-in-chief of the Times, but it is scarcely presumable that the Review can be from his pen.

The First Surcharged Stamp.

It is the custom with many collectors to consider the surcharge as a comparatively modern innovation in stamp production. In reality, the surcharge was resorted to, in at least a few cases, long before stamps begun to be collected—though it is undoubtedly true that stamp collecting itself is directly responsible for at least nine-tenths of the surcharged stamps at present in existence.

The Stamp Collector, of Birmingham, England, recently printed an interesting note on the question: "Which is the First Surcharged Stamp Ever Issued?" and we believe that many of our readers will be interested in the facts therein contained. We quote it in full:—

"Which is the first surcharged stamp ever issued? The answer to this query seems to me to depend in some measure upon the exact construction put upon the word 'surcharged.' It is also complicated by the somewhat peculiar circumstances attaching to the two earliest examples of stamps bearing an overprint. The first of these is—or would have been—a stamp of the first issue of France, and is thus commented on in Stanley Gibbons' latest catalogue:—'The 20c was printed in blue, surcharged in red, "25c," for provisional use, but this was not issued; and the best authorities maintain that the 20c blue was likewise never issued.'

"This was in 1849-50, consequently this stamp may claim that it would have been the first surcharged stamp ever issued, if it had been issued, which it wasn't.

"The next example of a stamp issued with an overprint (I use the word deliberately) appeared in Mauritius on April 8th, 1854, the familiar 'Britannia' type being used in green, overprinted in an arch 'Four Pence' in black, because the need of a 4d. stamp for the single ship-letter rate had long been felt. I call this an 'overprint' because the usual application of the term 'surcharged' is to 'stamps on which a new value or a new name has been printed to render them available for some purpose not originally intended' (Scott). Now, in the case of this Mauritius stamp, we may notice first that it had never existed previously in an unsurcharged state as a stamp available for postage; in fact the stamps of this type, though apparently prepared for use as early as 1848, and sent out by the printers, Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., London, had laid in the postoffice vaults for many years, and the red-brown and blue were never put into circulation. Consequently the overprint of 1854 indicates the original value, and five years later the stamp was issued without the overprint but with the same nominal value, a curious instance of reversal of the ordinary method of procedure.

"To pass on to the first stamp issued bearing a surcharge in accordance with the definition quoted above, we shall find it in the first issue of Cuba and Porto Rico, the 2 reals plate, carmine, being in 1855 surcharged 'Y/4' in black.

What exactly the 'Y' meant is, I believe, uncertain, but the 'Y/4' at any rate was intended to mark the change of value to 1/4 real. According to the common interpretation of the word 'surcharged' it would seem that this stamp supplies the answer to the question.

"The following 'firsts' in various classes of surcharge may also be of interest:—

"(a) Revenue stamp made available for postage, India, 6 au, violet and green, June 28th, 1866.

"(b) 'Official,' 'Service,' etc. India, August 1st, 1866.

"(c) Surcharged for use in another country or district. Straits Settlements, on Indian, 1867.

"(The first issue of Mexico, 1856, bore an overprint indicating the district where they were used, but was a necessary part of the stamp).

"(d) Change of Sovereign, etc., Fiji Islands, 'V. R.' surcharge, Oct. 10th, 1874.

"(e) Occupation by another power, Fransvaal, 'V. R.' surcharge, 1877. Peru, surcharged with Chilean Arms, 1882.

"(f) Change of currency, British Columbia, 1867.

"(g) Commemorative, Hong Kong, Jubilee, 1891."

QUERIES.

E. W. H. asks what is the earliest known use of the surcharge on a postage stamp.

The earliest case known is that of the Hale and Co. local stamp, which, in 1843, was surcharged with a new street number, and issued to the public in that condition. The existence of this variety was unknown for over fifty years, when a couple of copies were accidentally unearthed by Mr. Charles Gregory. There seems to have been no doubt of their authenticity.

(But two countries have ever issued stamps bearing a grule, namely, the United States and Peru.

If you have unused stamps which are pasted on envelopes and desire to remove them with the original gum intact, try the following plan, which is vouched for by one of the best authorities:

First place your envelopes on any even surface, putting a well wet blotter on top over the stamp. After letting it stand for about ten minutes, or time enough for the stamp to loosen, remove the blotter and carefully lift the stamp from the envelope. After it has dried, face downward, the original gum will be found on the back.

One of the oldest errors in surcharging is the surcharge "Un Franc," instead of "Un Franc," on the 37 1/2 cent Luxemburg of 1874.

Do not whisper down a well but proclaim your wares from the house tops. Make a stir.—Advertise in THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

Confederate States Original Covers.

CAT. NO.	ISSUE	CAT. PR.	OUR PR.
200	1861 Issue 5c green	.40	.27
201	1861 Issue 10c blue	.75	.49
202	1862 Issue 2c green strip of (3 & pair 2) 6 copies, perfect	15.00	9.97
203	1862 Issue 5c blue	.50	.33
204	1862 Issue 10c rose	-	1.85
207	1863 Issue 2c rose, strip of 5 perfect	-	3.65
212	1863 Issue 20c green	-	1.33
All above perfect used on covers.			
HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.			
58	1893 Issue, 5c blk blue mint	.40	.20
60	1893 Issue, 6c green mint	.50	.30
5c	Provisional Gov. envel. entire	.25	.12
USED GUAM, OBSOLETE.			
	10c yellow brown	-	.67
	15c olive	-	1.00
	50c orange	-	1.67
	81.00 black	-	3.34
No. 94	1881, Br. Guiana 1c on 12c, used, fine	-	1.34
No. 5	1873 Bermuda, 3p buff, used fine	-	2.10
Cuba, Postage Due, 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c mint	-	-	.65
Beginners Great Bargains.			
50 PHILIPPINE, CUBA, PORTO RICO, 27c Lot consists of 19 Cuba, 1875 to 1886 issues; 11 Porto Rico, 1891 to 1899 issues; 20 Philippine Islands, 1889 to 1896 issues.			
Actual Catalogue Value \$1.71, Our Price 27c			
AUSTRIA.			
1800 Issue, 1 2 3 5 6 10 20 25 30 35 40 50 60h and 1kr, set of 14. Catalogue value 24c, Our price 9c.			
8c. 1800 Issue newspaper set 2, 6, 10, 20h, Cat. price 10c Our price 4c.			
HUNGARY.			
1800-1 Issue, 1h to 1kr, set of 15 complete. Actual Catalogue Value 27c, Our price 9c.			
An Album goes with each of the above lots			
68 page catalogue, unused 10c stamp and \$1.00 coupon FREE.			

Hussman Stamp Co., St. Louis, Mo.

Panama Canal Zone Advanced Again.

2c rose new	85.00
5c blue	2.00
10c orange	2.00
Complete set of 3	8.00
Same on original Cover	8.00

The above stamps are fully guaranteed as being genuine. Unused stamps will have my initials in indelible ink. Used will be stamped on envelope.

U. S. CANAL ZONE.

1, 2, 5, 8 and 10c unused picked copies 40c.

Republic of Panama.

My stock is large and prices right. Let me send you a selection and convince you.

H. F. COLMAN,

725 11th St. N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

Netherland's

x Means Unused.	
5c blue 1852	8.00
15c orange brown 1867	.10
25c dark violet 1867	.20
50c gold 1867	.30
1c black 1869	.30
1 1/2c rose 1869	.08
2 1/2c violet 1869	.10
2 g'd, 50c rose and blue 1872	.40
x 7 1/2c 1888 brown	.15
7 1/2c 1888	.03
x 22 1/2c 1888 green	.50
22 1/2c	.09
1 g'd violet 1888	.08
1 g'd violet 1891	.08
2 g'd 50c 1891 rose and blue	.30
1 g'd brown and olive 1896	.08
5 g'd bronze green and brown 1896	.80
1 g'd 1898 dark green	.06
5 g'd 1899 claret	.70
5c unpaid 1870	.06
10c	.06

PACKETS.

20 varieties of Netherland's	.12
35 " " "	.25
60 " " "	81.00

W. F. GREGORY,

65 NASSAU ST. NEW YORK.

PLEASE mention THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY when answering advertisements.

THE CABINET.

A Department Devoted to Coins and Curios.

[Editorial Note.—We have not yet succeeded in securing a competent sub-editor to take charge of this portion of the paper. We are therefore again forced to fill this page with matter selected from various sources, which, while it does not possess the merits of originality and absolute freshness will not, we trust, be found altogether uninteresting. At the very least, those interested in collecting coins or curiosities may see in the presence of this matter an earnest of our intention to cater to their interests—which they would scarcely gain if we devoted no space at all to these "kindred hobbies to Philately" until such time as our arrangements for a sub-editor were satisfactorily completed.]

Baron Goertz

And His Copper Dalers.

There are few more unique and interesting series of coins known to history than "Baron Goertz' Copper Dalers," also sometimes referred to as the Swedish Necessity Pieces. The "Daler" in Sweden, as might be imagined from the similarity of name, corresponded to our American "Dollar," though it was a much smaller coin, containing very much less silver. A "copper daler" was, therefore, as great an incongruity in Sweden as it would be in this country.

In the early part of the eighteenth century, Sweden had been engaged in a disastrous war with Russia, which left her treasury virtually empty, and so injured her commercial interests that trade was suspended.

Upon the return of Charles XII, King of Sweden, from Turkey, where he had fled for fear of capture by the Russians, he found affairs in such a serious state that he deemed it wise to place the financial management of the state in the hands of Baron Goertz, one of the shrewdest men in Sweden.

The Baron relieved the straightened circumstances of the Government by a masterly financial manoeuvre. He issued dalers of the usual size, but struck in copper instead of silver; and these coins were made by law to pass at the silver value of a daler, heavy punishment being meted out to those who refused to accept them. The coins, as a consequence, went into general use; and the royal treasury was speedily replenished, the profit to the Government on a "copper dollar" being naturally enormous.

The Baron's ingenuity was in the end, however, his own undoing. After using on these coins representations of various familiar personages of mythology (Pallas, Mars, Jupiter, Mercury and others), he finally ventured to prepare dies bearing his own effigy. This action was deemed treasonable by the State; and he was tried for high treason, convicted and executed—a singular instance of Kingly ingratitude—by the very government that he had saved from financial ruin.

Pounds, Shillings and Pence.

Offa, King of Mercia, A. D. 767-796, was probably the originator of the English penny coin. The earliest English piece with a date is one supposed to have been struck for Perkin Warbeck in 1414. From the time of Edward I the penny silver coinage underwent a steady process of degradation, until in 1797, copper pennies, weighing one ounce avordupois each, were first issued by the royal authority. The derivation of the name "shilling" is doubtful, but in mediæval times the word was always Latinized, as *solidus*, a Roman coin which was originally of gold, and about seven grains in weight. Though the term was well known in Saxon times, it was only in use in accounts. Henry VII, who was the first to introduce the pound in gold, also struck the first shilling in silver in 1504. Edward VI was the first to introduce silver crowns, half-crowns, and sixpences, and he also reformed the coinage of shillings, which his father had greatly debased. In 1816 the great recoinage commenced, and by 1819 upwards of 60,000,000 shillings and 30,000,000 sixpences were struck. The pound weight of silver originally corresponded with the money pound of account, there being in it 240 dwts. No gold currency existed in England until nearly two centuries after the Norman conquest, the first gold coin struck having been a gold penny, in the year 1259, which Henry III ordered to be current for twenty pence. In 1343 another attempt to introduce a gold coinage was made, gold florins at six shillings and half and quarter florins being then issued, but they were almost at once called in. They were succeeded by the noble, and in the reign of Edward IV, the angel, each being originally current for 6s. 8d.

In 1489, the sovereign, equivalent to 20s., was coined, the name being derived from the representation on the obverse of the sovereign seated. With various changes in quality and value the sovereign or pound remained in currency until after the Restoration, when the piece obtained the name of guinea, from the gold of which they were made having been brought from Guinea by the African Company, and their value was enhanced to twenty-one shillings.

Curious Fads.

There is seemingly no limit to the list of objects which attract the attention of those who have a fancy for the curious and out-of-the-way. A recent newspaper clipping informs us that the Queen of Italy collects the shoes of historical personages—some of the gems of her collection being boots or shoes worn by Joan of Arc, Mary Queen of Scots, and Marie Antoinette. We hear of another enthusiast who collects thimble and has, it is said, a remarkably interesting collection of them, representative of the various styles and kinds worn at different stages of history. Doubtless there are many other collections in the world fully as unique in character as are these two.

The cochineal bug (which supplies the coloring matter in carmine) is so tiny that 70,000 weigh only one pound.

Cabinets for Arrow Heads.

Every collector naturally wishes to make as good a display as possible with his collection. Having tried keeping my Indian relics in drawers and boxes, gluing them up in frames, and fastening them on cords by wire and thread, I have at last found a way, which, although not original, I consider the best I have seen for a small collection of three to six hundred points. I have made cases 20 in. by 26 in. by 3 in. deep; that is, the door is large enough to take a light of glass of that size. For the back I use soft pine covered with black cloth. This makes a good background for nearly every color. I then lay the points on in any design I choose, each point being fastened by two to four pins with the heads cut off, and the pins bent at right angles. It may seem quite a task to fasten four or five hundred points this way, but with a little practice it can be done quite rapidly. The cases are made of birch and sycamore, and hold about two hundred points each without crowding. The large implements I keep in drawers.

The advantages of this way of keeping relics are many. They are out of the dust, and safe from careless handling, they are on exhibition at all times, and if you desire any point to show a friend, one turn of the pin detaches it, while if kept in drawers or boxes they are apt to be jumbled together and the small ones broken. The cases are set on a bookcase and not a day passes but that I look at them, and as I notice some point I recall where it was found and think of some pleasant trip, some shell heap dug into, etc., and I take a great deal of pride and pleasure in them.

Every arrow when found I wash clean, and mark with a fine brush the locality. A collection of relics looks much better kept by itself than when mixed up with birds' eggs, butterflies and minerals. Another advantage in these cases is a staple in the top at the back, so that they can be hung up and photographed. I have made some very fine pictures in this way to send to friends and collectors, to show what old Massachusetts can do in the way of Indian relics.

CHAS. A. PERKINS.

The monks at the Hospital of St. Jean de Dieu, at Ghent, have in their leisure moments decorated the walls with gorgeous landscapes, glowing with color and full of life, formed entirely by means of the postage stamps of all the nations of the world. Palaces, forests, streams and mountains are represented, butterflies flit about in the air, birds of beautiful plumage perch on branches, snakes and lizards glide about, and innumerable animals find places here and there. The pictures are most artistic in the style of Chinese landscape gardening, and already between nine and ten millions of stamps have been used.—Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

To expect a single ad. to pay is like trying to get fat on one meal. Spasmodic advertising and spasmodic eating are ruinous.

50 cents
a year.

THE

2 cents
a copy.

STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

VOL. 1. BETHLEHEM PENNSYLVANIA, OCTOBER 8, 1904. No. 4.

On October 22nd, 1904

We shall sell part I of the CHAS. L. STIVER collection, together with some small consignment. This collection contains about 14,000 varieties, and as Mr Stiver was what people call a condition crank the specimens will no doubt suit the most fastidious. Part II will be sold Nov. 5th Catalogues will be sent to any interested.

We continue to make a specialty of want lists and have the best system of approval books in the country. Send for circular. We have a few more sets of Dominican Republic 1902-1. 2, 5, 10, 12, 20 and 50c. unused, for 25 cents

Bogert & Durbin Co.,
722 Chestnut Street,
ESTABLISHED 1869. PHILADELPHIA, PA.

DETROIT DOTLETS.

As reported by our Detroit correspondent.

A collector of this vicinity who wishes his name withheld showed amongst the collection here something very unique, viz., a sheet of 200 U. S. Revenues perforated that he had recently procured from a collector for \$2. This same sheet, an Eastern dealer claims well worth \$150. Besides this, he also had a beautiful specimen of the \$6000 Revenue proof, for which he gave \$125, and the same one brought \$175 in an auction, and was considered cheap at that.

Such stamps are a rare sight and you readers who never saw them can readily see that it was a treat to the lovers of stamps.

That collecting of Souvenir Postal Cards is a splendid way to increase a collection at a small cost may not be generally known, but a collector who pursues collecting of cards can tell you better. One of our collectors here, Jas Ball, who perhaps has the finest lot of souvenir cards in the city, tells me that he sends about a half dozen cards to different collectors in foreign countries; in return these collectors put on new issues, and through this way the duplicates he keeps for exchanging with other collectors, and at the same time adds to his book. I have seen stamps that catalogue as high as ten cents each which he got for merely a souvenir card.

Speaking of souvenir card collecting, the craze has reached us for fair here. The clerks at the postoffice say there are thousands passing through continually. Cards are shown in all kinds of stores, and the tourist's first thoughts are of a

We desire to purchase
**St. Louis
Exposition Stamps**
Used copies only.

All values and any quantity up to twenty thousand of each. If you have any for sale send them in together with your lowest cash price.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 East 23d St., New York, N. Y.

postal for home. Many pride themselves with the foreign cards, and I do believe they are instrumental to the beginning of collecting of stamps by many today.

The following is from the Detroit Evening News:—

Col. Bandholts Returns to Constantine.

"Constantine, Mich., Sept. 6.—Colonel H. H. Bandholtz, accompanied by his wife, arrived here from the Philippines yesterday, and will spend his leave of absence with relatives. He is a former Constantine boy, a West Point graduate, ex-Governor of Tayabas and at present assistant chief of constabulary for the same province, with headquarters at Lucena."

Colonel Bandholtz is a well known collector, and recognized as one of the leading philatelists of this country. In Meckel's last issue the following appeared:—

"The following invitation has been received, which shows that a signal honor has been paid an ardent stamp collector, Colonel H. H. Bandholtz: 'Provincial Government of Tayabas. The people of the Province of Tayabas request the pleasure of your company at a reception and ball to be given at the new public school building at Lucena, at 9 o'clock, on the evening of July 14th, 1904, as a mark of their affection for their former governor, Col. H. H. Bandholtz, on the occasion of the departure of Colonel and Mrs. Bandholtz on leave of absence for the United States. Lucena, Tayabas, July the Ninth, Nineteen Hundred and Four. R. Paras, Governor of Tayabas Province.'" All honors to the Michigan boy.

No Rural Routes Over Poor Roads.

Congressman S. W. Smith says that

(Continued on Page 3.)

Commission Business

In the interest of Collectors selling their duplicates is not a new venture with me. My second entry into the stamp Business in 1892 (Columbian year) was started that way. My plan is very simple, costs you nothing to try it, and if your stamps don't sell you are at no expense.

I furnish special sheets to hold 25 stamps "free of charge" and only charge 15c for selling. The sole restrictions are that no stamp of a less catalogue value than 8 cents or any defective stamps be sent in.

My October Auction Sale consisting of the retail and wholesale stock of the Return Mail Stamp Co. will contain stamps that both Collectors and Dealers are looking for. If you are not receiving any explicit Auction Sale Catalogues and keeping posted, you should send for them and have your name placed on my Card Index which is revised and corrected daily.

P. M. Wolsieffer
491 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

CHICAGO LETTER.

As reported by our Chicago correspondent.

The meeting of the Chicago Philatelic Society held Thursday evening was fairly well attended. In the absence of President Oesch, Vice President C. E. Severn presided, and as usual kept the boys in a happy frame of mind, such as invariably he possesses on any and all occasions. Charlie (as he is familiarly known) is by the way one of the "old timers" in society work referred to last week, and has done much to place the C. P. S. on its present high road to prosperity.

P. M. says, when I was Secretary in the early days of the C. P. S., I sent Charlie Severn a notice for each meeting for over two years before he ever attended, but after he came the first time, he never missed a meeting, which certainly is a remarkable record.

One of the features of this meeting was the report of the Lecture Committee, which promises to be of a character when completed that will do much to benefit and advance the science of Philately.

Two applications for membership of the active class were presented and ordered posted.

The affairs of the Exchange Department were temporarily placed in charge of Mr. A. F. Boehm, the librarian, who is acting under the title of Examiner of Sales Book, on account of Mr. Stan Zajicek having asked for and obtained a leave of absence of his official duties, owing to ill health.

(Continued on Page 3.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States, Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any address in any country in the Postal Union \$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.00 an inch. 50 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

YE EDITOR DISCOURSETH.

The Berlin Exhibition.

The Berlin Philatelic Exhibition has come and gone. No detailed account has as yet reached us, but it is known that, as was to be expected, it proved a great success. German philatelists are well organized, and in the promotion of a public stamp show this is an inestimable advantage. The lack of organization is, we think, the only thing which deprives America of exhibitions of the same sort as this one just held in Berlin. It is true that American collectors are organized—after a fashion, New York, Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia and numerous other lesser centers support thriving local societies. The American Philatelic Association also still continues to exist, its members being, however, too widely scattered for any aggressive promotion. What is really needed is the federation of all our local philatelic clubs into one organization, on the same plan as the federated German societies. When that shall have been accomplished, the promotion of a public philatelic exhibition in New York, Boston or Chicago (perhaps in these three cities successively) will, we think, be discovered to be feasible, after all. We are aware that stamp collecting does not hold the position in the public eye in our American cities that it does in London, Paris, Berlin and Vienna. But the public stamp show is a capital way to increase the public acquaintance with philately; and we would much like to see it tried in some American city. Rare books and prints, appealing to fully as small a section of the public as that interested in stamps, form the basis of some very successful little exhibitions each Winter in New York. Why are not stamps equally adapted to public display? Certainly stamp collecting in this country today is a good deal in need of some judicious publicity.

The Lonely Furrow.

Probably many a reader will be inclined to dissent from the above opinion. Probably thousands of collectors are perfectly content each "to plough his lonely furrow," without relation to the general

world of collectors. Stamp collecting could not be any more fascinating, you may say, if the stamp fever went through the land with resistless force making new enthusiasts by the hundred in every community. Granted—but would not all things philatelic take on new life and energy and prosperity if the collecting army were doubled or trebled in the next ten years? And would not every stamp you own be worth more money than it is now, and would you not feel safer in spending money on the hobby to the top of your bent, and would it not be better all around in every way? We think so, and we are going to keep harping on this same string till we waken collectors to more interest in the manifest need of the time for live missionary measures in philately's behalf. They may need a deal of waking, but we rejoice in an unlimited supply of patience.

Wanted: A Society.

One great want in American stamp collecting at this time is a really live, aggressive, ably-managed national society for young collectors—such as the Philatelic Sons of America once was, before it was disrupted by internal troubles. We think both this body and its old-time rival, the Sons of Philatella, did a great deal of good in their day. They made young collectors acquainted with each other, to the result of much pleasant and profitable correspondence between members debarred from "talkin' over stamps" with anyone in their own philatelicly barren places of residence. They promoted much interchange of ideas, information, methods—and stamps. Their exchange departments served a really valuable purpose, because they provided exchange facilities for collectors not far enough advanced to make use of the A. P. A. exchange town and not fortunate enough to live in towns where there were local societies. We wish some energetic young fellow like the once famous "Reading Big Three" or the bevy of clever New Yorkers that pushed the Sons of Philatella forward would build up now a young collectors' body as active and able as either one of these departed organizations. Though all who remember days of yore may not be of our opinion, we, for our part, would gladly welcome the rise of another Kissinger—which, in the field of society organizing, is equivalent to saying "another Napoleon."

An Album for Proprietaries.

We sincerely hope and trust that Mr. Geo. J. Carter may score a great success with his album for the Proprietary Revenue Stamps of the United States. Its appearance is, we believe, partly dependent on his receiving a sufficient number of advance orders to guarantee that the work will not be published at too heavy a loss. It will be a thousand pities if the requisite number of advance orders are not secured. Private proprietaries supply a decidedly pleasant collecting field, and they would be collected far more generally if an album of this sort were available. The fact that no new issues

are to be looked for is one of the happiest features of this special field—and one that will greatly commend it to many whose collections of postage stamps have about reached the present limit of possibility (in other words, to the stage where one's "wants" are altogether among the scarce and comparatively high-priced varieties), and who are looking about them for fresh philatelic worlds to conquer. Once an album appears, a boom in Proprietaries will result that can hardly fail to be pleasing to those who have stuck to this oft-maligned class of stamps through thick and thin. It is not so many years ago that they were in as bad odor with the majority of serious philatelic students as are pre-canceled stamps today. Lewis Robie and other minor prophets of the Proprietary cult will have cause to chuckle with glee when these erstwhile despised emissions attain the dignity of an album all their own.

Limited Edition Books.

Of Dr. Diena's sumptuous handbook on "The Stamps of Sicily" but 250 copies were printed. The edition of Messrs. Bartels, Foster and Palmer's "Stamps of the Philippines" consists of 350 copies only. Why should so limited a printing be deemed sufficient to supply market requirements? Can it be that no more than a paltry two or three hundred copies of such works as these can be disposed of? The idea does small credit to Philately; and the facts seem to imply "something rotten in the state of Denmark." Either philatelists of studious tastes are less in number than is generally believed, or else the publishers of these works limit the editions in order to give the volumes a future rarity which shall render profitable the disposal of a reserve supply at high prices when the original edition shall have become "out of print." We have heard of such manoeuvres in the general publishing field; but are loath to think they made entrance into Philately.

Panama:

Our Newest Possession.

The "Canal Zone" of Panama has received the decisive hall-mark of American possession, in that the United States has now issued special stamps for use therein: the issue consisting of ordinary U. S. stamps overprinted "Canal Zone: Panama." The fact must be anything but gratifying to the anti-imperialist, who will see in it the entering wedge to ultimate absorption of the entire Republic of Panama. But stamp collectors, we imagine, will hail the move with genuine enthusiasm. Whatever the political predilections of American collectors, few of them are otherwise than pleased with the philatelic fruits of "imperialism."

Would it be asking too much of you to let your collecting friend see your copy of this paper, tell him how you like it and ask him if you may not send in his subscription for it?

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

Dear Sir:

You have had the opportunity of seeing several numbers of THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY and are able to judge for yourself whether or not it is likely to be read with interest and attention by the collectors receiving it. If its appearance has pleased and its contents interested you, is it not a fair assumption that the general run of collectors are also finding it a periodical of much interest? And does it not seem to you that it might therefore be to your advantage to get in touch with our readers by means of our advertising columns?

The class of reading matter we are using appeals to the average, everyday collector....the class of buyers that are not tied down to any one big dealer and whose trade is easier to influence through advertising than that of advanced collectors who are "wedded" to some one or two houses. Many of our subscribers, in fact, have been secured from sources which make it probable that they regularly read no other stamp journal; and while these are principally of the young collector class, whose present purchases will not usually be individually large, it must not be overlooked that the securing of their trade now will mean constantly larger and more profitable dealings with them in years to come, when they will have outgrown their novitiate and become full-fledged philatelists.

Of course, our readers are not all young collectors. Probably not half of them belong to this class. But all of them are good, live, active collectors who are interested in stamps now... not, as is sometimes the case with older journals, people who have ceased to take an interest in collecting and have not paid their subscriptions for years.

We believe you would be making a profitable investment in trying our columns for two or three months. We do not ask a large ad. Even a small one will prove to you that we do reach a class of buyers that it is worth your while to appeal to. Note the lowness of our rates, as given on enclosed rate-card; and think the matter over carefully.

Yours sincerely,

E. T. PARKER,

Publisher, THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

N. B.: Read "What The Ad-Man Says" in current number.

DETROIT DOTLETS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

solid free rural delivery in this county depends on the farmers. No mail routes will be laid out over poor roads and it is up to the farmers to put the roads in shape.

HERMAN W. BOERS.

CHICAGO LETTER.

(Continued from Page 1.)

Doings among the trade are somewhat quiet this week. Ben G. Green had a coin auction sale Saturday night that was very successful.

Stevens & Company report business for the month quite good.

Staab & Wolsieffer have no kick coming on the outlook of their new venture, and P. M. Wolsieffer says he has his hands full attending to auction business. P. M. by the way reported a distinguished visitor this week, the well-known Mr. Geo. H. Worthington, of Cleveland, Ohio, who is the owner of one of the finest collections in the States.

Mr. Wolsieffer also announced out of town callers: Mr. Geo. J. Bergman and wife, City of Mexico, and Mr. Geo. Marples, of Omaha, Neb.

Mr. Valentine S. Saxby, of Rockford, Ill., was also a visitor this week among the trade. He was up in the interest of the Rockford Branch American Philatelic Association, which he has worked so hard to complete, and expects soon to obtain the necessary charter. From all accounts Rockford is a booming stamp town, and it is a question if Illinois can stand two live towns with stamp societies within its borders.

Mr. W. O. Staab, the new Sales Superintendent of the American Philatelic Association, is now ready for business, so send in your filled books of duplicates, or request to be placed on circuit.

The Stamp Bourse of Paris.

Doubtless there is not a collector of experience among this paper's readers who has not heard of the open-air stamp bourse of Paris. But many of our younger readers, we believe, would be a good deal surprised to be told that in one of the world's greatest cities there is a certain spot on which, on a certain day of the week, hundreds of collectors meet to buy, sell and exchange postage stamps of all sorts in the open air—and have met there for that purpose every week for the past thirty years or so. We therefore think that it will interest not a few of our readers to reprint a letter regarding the Paris stamp bourse which we recently ran across in some old files of the Metropolitan Philatelist. The writer was a well known American dealer, and his picture of this unique exchange is graphic and picturesque. He writes as follows:—

"The Paris Stamp Bourse is an institution which is unknown in the United States, and in fact is not in operation in any other city in exactly this manner; it is also a sort of myth in the minds of many Americans. So I will describe the Paris Stamp Bourse in

some detail as I found it to-day, a fete day, and consequently well attended.

"The Stamp Bourse is in the open air, on the 'Champ d'Elysee,' or promenade. I found there some two hundred persons, mostly men, a few women and a few young men and boys, richly dressed young ladies in the latest creations in toilets with their pet poodle under one arm buying stamps from perhaps a plainly dressed servant girl. The office boy disposes of his finds in his employer's waste basket to a merchant who is in immaculate Prince Albert and silk hat, diamond-studded fancy dress shirt, and carries a gold-headed cane; the brilliantly costumed army officer and the Arab, with flowing white and blue robes, may exchange together. A Persian with fierce moustache and dreamy eyes, who spoke English, German, French and Persian (a little of each in each sentence) sold me some Persian stamps at genuine bargains. A gentleman whose face and garments proclaimed that he is a second Edwin Booth, the only living tragedian (in Paris) we are assured, needing funds, sells me the high value Obock, in which he had speculated, in fine condition, at under face, and soon wends his way with the gold Napoleons to the first cafe to eat, drink and be merry.

"I had some odd match and medicine stamps in my pocket I had purchased in England and, showing them as samples of what I wished to buy, found the French market quite alive to their value, there being many revenue collectors here, and I sold most of the lot to one amateur present at regular American prices; quite a surprise for me, as I had expected to buy U. S. revenues in Europe, not to sell, all of which adds to my belief that in the stamp business are more surprises and more in pure luck than in any other trade.

"About 4 in the afternoon a brisk shower comes up, but the people are prepared, the umbrella is raised, and standing in little groups the trade continues, and not until it is positively dark does the traffic stop and the enthusiasts and speculators return to their homes."

It may be added to the above that quite recently certain Parisian philatelists have provided in-door quarters for this exchange, without, we believe, succeeding in tempting its habitués to relinquish their open-air dealings in favor of in-door traffic.

Faking Detected by Photograph.

It is said by some philatelists, who are also photographers, that photography will detect the alteration when the cancellation of a stamp has been removed by a fakir. If the cancelling mark has been obliterated the blue or green color will make no impression on the plate, while the black traces of obliteration will appear with great distinctness. Even where the stamps have been well washed and no traces of obliteration can be seen by the naked eye or through the microscope, the photograph will show the tell-tale marks of use with perfect clearness.

One of my customers writes.

"I have been looking for this stamp over a year; wrote to foremost Dealers but could not get it."

This stamp is priced at \$3.00 to \$3.15 in America and English lists, my price was \$2.00 net.

I can supply the Goods

Why not write me?

Frank P. Brown,

339 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

1902-3,	8d 9d or 10d	each	\$.15
	2s	ited	.30
	2s6d	Dark Blue	.45
	5s	Blue-Green	.75
	10s	Purple	1.50
	1l	Brown Orange	3.00

All very fine postally used copies.

EDWARD Y. PARKER,
155 Dowling Ave.

TORONTO, CANADA.

WANTED to buy St. Louis stamps used, state quantity and price.

Blank Approval Books.

Far better than sheets for agents use and for duplicates

We have them printed on good paper with light blue covers to hold 80 and 100 stamps respectively.

Postage free.	Per 12 books	Per 100
No. 1 to hold 80 stamps - - -	\$.10	\$.80
No. 2 to hold 100 stamps - - -	15	.90

Not fewer than 12 sold.

THE JUNIOR, Bethlehem, Pa.

EVERY WEEK

We issue a little paper, it contains some things some times that are not found elsewhere, at all events over 5,000 collectors are paying to receive it. You may receive it 10 weeks on trial for 10 cents.

Mekeel's Stamp Collector

Published Weekly by

C. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUBLISHING CO.

ST. LOUIS, Missouri.

Adhesive Stamps

On Human Heads.

Adhesive stamps on human heads are one of the possibilities of the near future, if a recent story from Paris may be believed. A bald-headed man, in that city of gaiety and originality, let out his cranium for advertising purposes—ignorant, or perhaps forgetful of the fact that advertisements on hoardings in France have to bear a Government adhesive stamp, representing a tax. The man's head had, in legal eyes, become an advertisement hoarding, and a zealous gendarme promptly asked this human out-door advertisement where his stamp was, and upon his failure to show same, conveyed him to the local police station, there to answer a charge of contravening the statutes.—Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

A Page of Precept

For Young Collectors.

(Conducted by the Editor.)

The Fear

Of Forgeries.

Many young collectors become discouraged through gaining, somehow or other, the idea that there are many counterfeit stamps on the market, and that, as likely as not, many of their most cherished specimens are nothing more than out-and-out forgeries. For, of course, the young collector, through lack of experience, is perfectly powerless to protect himself, and if dealers were unscrupulous enough to sell forgeries he could be easily imposed upon. But, as a matter of fact, there is very, very little danger nowadays of forged stamps being foisted on the young collector. Few stamp counterfeiters of modern times give attention to any but quite high-priced and valuable stamps, from which, if successful, they can reap a large return. None but the advanced collectors are confronted by the difficulty of distinguishing the false from the genuine. The percentage of forgeries among stamps costing less than \$5.00 each is not one to a thousand. The young collector, therefore, may with the utmost reason dismiss the forgery bugaboo entirely from his mind.

Surcharges

Or Not Surcharges?

Speaking of forgeries, it is well to note that owing to the ease with which a type-set inscription can be imitated, forged surcharges, even on rather low-priced stamps, are by no means uncommon. And this brings us to the question whether it is wise for the young collector to pay any attention at all to surcharged stamps. Surcharge varieties are unquestionably legitimately collectible. It would have been well for Philately had no such varieties ever been born; but it is not easy to exclude them from our catalogues and albums on any logical frame of reasoning. But collecting them is quite another matter, and we believe it unwise for young collectors to pay out money for surcharged stamps until they have secured a pretty representative showing of all the un-surcharged stamps of the world—which few of them are likely to do this year or next. Practically all surcharged stamps cost a higher price than does the same stamp without the surcharge, and the printing of a line of type across the face of a stamp is certainly no addition to its beauty. No good reason exists, therefore, why the young collector should not choose that a certain design be represented in his album by the clean, undisfigured, un-surcharged specimen rather than by the same stamp with the blemish of a surcharge added to it. Better let the surcharges alone until you have become an advanced collector. You lose nothing by so doing, to say the least. There is, of course, an occasional case where the young collector will find a surcharged variety of historic interest, as in the case of the United States Postage Due

Stamps which were converted into postage stamps for Cuba and Porto Rico by means of a surcharge, immediately after the war with Spain. But these are simply the exceptions which prove the wisdom of the rule as a whole.

Paraguayan

Stamp Portraits.

Probably there are very few of even the best posted stamp collectors who would be able to name with any degree of correctness one-third of the portraits appearing on the stamps of South and Central America. And it is to be doubted if a half dozen collectors in America could give adequate details of the lives of the leaders pictured on the stamps of that most out-of-the-way of South American countries, Paraguay. We believe, therefore, that most of our readers will peruse with interest the following account of the personages whose portraits are found on the 1892 issues of Paraguay (Nos. 32 to 39 and No. 57 in Scott's catalogue), which we borrow from a foreign journal:—

On March 1, 1870, President Lopez of Paraguay succumbed on the banks of the Aquidaban with the last remnant of his army to the united efforts of the Brazilian, Argentine and Uruguayan troops. All Paraguay was in the power of the allies, after a slaughter of five years. The country was devastated; the population had fallen from 1,337,000 in 1857 to a sixth of that number, about 200,000, and consisted of women and children almost entirely.

In July, 1870, a preliminary treaty of peace was concluded at Asuncion between the victorious allies and the provisional government of the republic, and in the beginning of August, Cirilo Antonio Rivarola (on the 1 centavo stamp of 1892) was elected President of Paraguay. Differences having arisen between him and Congress, he pronounced, towards the end of 1871, the dissolution of Congress, which continued its sessions outside of Asuncion. The President applied for aid to the Argentine and Brazilian garrison, but the plenipotentiaries refused to interfere and Rivarola had to resign. The Vice President, Salvador Sovellanos (on the 2 centavo stamp) was called to the head of the state for three years on December 12th, 1871. On October 11, 1874, he was succeeded by Juan Bautista Gill (4 centavo stamp), formerly Secretary of the Treasury, who applied himself to the restoration of the national credit until he was assassinated, together with his brother, Emilio Gill, in 1877. A revolution broke out, and the Vice President, Olgindo Uriarte (5 centavos stamp), took charge of affairs until November 25, 1878. He was succeeded by Bareiro (10 centavo stamp), whose administration was a period of recovery. He exercised the supreme power until November 25, 1882, when B. Caballero (14 centavos stamp) was called to the Presidency. Under Gonzales (30 centavos), elected 1890, this set was issued; so that the higher values appeared in the figure type, because there were no more dignitaries to be honored, until 1901 General Eguzquiza

Confederate States Original Covers.

CAT.	NO.	ISSUE	CAT. PR.	OUR PR.
200	1861	Issue 5c green	.40	.27
201	1861	Issue 10c Blue	.75	.49
202	1862	Issue 2c green strip of (3 & pair 2) 5 copies, perfect	15.00	9.97
203	1862	Issue 5c Blue	.50	.33
204	1862	Issue 10c rose	-	1.85
207	1863	Issue 2c rose, strip of 5 perfect	-	3.65
212	1863	Issue 20c green	-	1.33

All above perfect used on covers.

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

58	1893	Issue, 5c blk blue mint	.40	.20
60	1893	Issue, 6c green mint	.50	.30
5c	Provisional	(Gov. envel. entire)	.25	.12
USED GUAM, OBSOLETE.				
		10c yellow brown	-	.57
		15c olive	-	1.00
		50c orange	-	1.67
		\$1.00 black	-	3.34

No. 94 1881, Br. Gulana 1c on 12c. used, fine 1.34
No. 5 1873 Bermuda, 3p buff, used fine 2.10
Cuba, Postage Due, 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c mint .65
Beginners Great Bargains.

50 PHILIPPINE, CUBA, PORTO RICO, 27c Lot consists of 19 Cuba, 1875 to 1896 issues; 11 Porto Rico, 1891 to 1899 issues; 20 Philippine Islands, 1889 to 1896 issues. Actual Catalogue Value \$1.71, Our Price 27c

AUSTRIA.

1800 Issue, 1 2 3 5 6 10 20 25 30 35 40 50 60h and 1kr, set of 14. Catalogue value 24c, Our price 8c. 1900 issue newspaper set 2. 6. 10, 20h, Cat. price 10c Our price 4c.

HUNGARY.

1900-1 Issue, 1h to 1kr, set of 15 complete. Actual Catalogue Value 27c, Our price 8c. An Album goes with each of the above lots 68 page catalogue, unused 10c stamp and \$1.00 coupon FREE.

Hussman Stamp Co., St. Louis, Mo.

was assigned to the 1 peso.

"One cannot but notice the absence from this Presidential gallery of three persons whose names are celebrated in the history of South America: Francia and the two Lopez. Dr. Francia, during a quarter of a century from 1816 to 1840, exercised such a power that he could decree the complete inhibition of all intercourse between Paraguay and the other countries of the globe, while maintaining peace and welfare within the interior. His nephew, Carlos Lopez, ruled wisely, though despotically, from 1844 to 1862, extended education and resisted the Argentine dictator, Rosas, by force of arms. Francisco Soleno Lopez, son of the preceding and his successor in 1862, was a tenacious and energetic character, a patriot passionately devoted to the advancement of his country and its independence, falling in the front ranks by the side of that young Englishwoman, Elisa Lynch, who had taken his part for love of him and who charged the hostile battalions at the head of her squadron of Amazons. Is it not regrettable that circumstances of a political nature excluded from the series of 1892 the portraits of these three first Presidents?"

We trust every reader of the foregoing will take up his or her album and, glancing at each one of the stamps mentioned in turn, will feel fresh interest in them through knowing at last who they portray and why each personage depicted was thus honored. It is in the acquisition of just such knowledge as this that no small part of the pleasure of Philately lies.

[This "Page of Precept" will be a weekly feature of this journal and we trust to make it of great interest to young collectors.]

Clues to Classification That will Aid the Beginner.

[The following is a chapter from the "A B C of Stamp Collecting," by F. J. Melville, a recently issued book which is of the greatest interest and value to young collectors. We speak of this work in another column, giving some details as to its scope and contents. The present chapter will give a good idea of its great helpfulness to the beginner.]

Throughout the album of the tyro, one will invariably find stamps misplaced. Some governments have not found it necessary to denote, by means of an inscription on the stamps, the name of the country in which they were issued. Stamps of other countries, having different alphabetical characters and signs, are not readily classified by the beginner. Austrian newspaper stamps, which bear no inscription, are frequently to be discovered in the pages devoted to the stamps of Greece, because the design of the head of Mercury has some resemblance to the representation of Hermes on the Grecian stamps. Certain Swiss stamps may also be inserted in his album by the beginner under the heading of "France." This may be accounted for by the fact that the only inscription they bear is the word "Franco," meaning free. This is confused by some of the younger collectors with the name of the French Republic. In order to enable every collector to identify certain stamps with the nationalities of their emission, the following alphabetical list of inscriptions is given. In those cases where the designs are the only or the readiest "clues to classification" they have been included in this list under the name of the predominant part of the design—e. g., "Crescent," "Mercury."

Anotoalkh Pomayia—Eastern Roumelia. Stamps similar in design to those of Turkey.

Bs As—Buenos Ayres.

Chiffre Taxe—On the postage-due stamps of France.

Communicaciones—Spain.

Cpenja—Servia.

Crescent—A crescent appears on stamps of Turkey.

Cross—On some of the early stamps of Switzerland the design includes a cross.

Dansk Vestindiske Oer—Danish West Indies.

Defielt—Peru (postage-due stamps).

Eagle—The stamps of Bosnia bear a design showing an eagle.

Escuelas—Venezuela.

Espana—Spain.

Estensi—Modena.

Franco—Switzerland.

Franco BoHo—Italian States.

Franco Scrisorei—Roumania.

Franqueo—Peru.

French Colonial stamps surcharged. The following initials are used to denote the particular colony for which the stamps were used:

A. and T.—Aman and Tonquin.

C. Ch.—Cochin China.

G. P. E.—Guadeloupe.

M. Q. E.—Martinique.

N. C. E.—New Caledonia.

N. S. B.—Nossi Be.

S. P. M.—St. Pierre et Miquelon.

Greek Inscriptions. The stamps of Greece and Crete bear inscriptions in Greek characters.

Helvetia—Switzerland.

H. H. Nawab Shah Jehan Begam—On the stamps of Bhopal.

H. I. and U. S.—Hawaiian Islands.

H. R. Z. G. L.—Holstein.

Iouikan—Ionian Islands.

Island—Iceland.

K. G. L. Post Frm—Denmark (value denoted in shillings) Danish West Indies (value denoted in cents).

Kais Koenigl Post—On many of the stamps of Austria.

Land Post—Baden.

Lion—A lion forms the subject of designs on several Persian issues.

L. McL.—Trinidad local.

Losen—Sweden (postage-due stamps).

Magyar—On stamps of Hungary.

Mapka—On many Russian rural stamps.

Marakech

Maroc

—Morocco.

Mejico—Mexico.

Modonesi—Modena.

Napoletana—Naples.

Nederland—Holland.

Ned. Indie—Dutch Indies.

Norge—Norway.

N. S. W.—New South Wales.

N. Z.—New Zealand.

Oesterr—Austria.

Oriental inscriptions appear on the stamps of the Native States of India.

Ottoman Empire—Turkey.

P. (surcharged on stamps of Straits Settlements)—Perak.

Pacchi Postali—Italy (parcel post).

Para or Plaster—On the stamps of both Egypt and Turkey. When surcharged on the stamps of Great Britain, they denote the special issues for the British post-offices in the Levant. Similarly, when surcharged on the stamps of Austria, Germany, etc., they denote issues of Austrian, German or other foreign postoffices in the Levant.

Pen—On stamps of Finland.

Posthorn—A posthorn appears on the newspaper stamps of Hungary.

Post Zegel—On the early stamps of Holland.

P. S. N. C.—Pacific Steam Navigation Co. Queen Victoria is depicted on her throne on one of the early stamps of Victoria with only the value "Two Pence" inscribed.

Rayon—On some of the stamps of Switzerland.

Recargo—On some of the Spanish issues.

Reichs-Post—On the stamps of Germany.

Sachsen—Saxony.

Segnatiessa—Italy (postage-due stamps).

Sid or Soldi—On some Austrian stamps.

S. U.—Sungel Ujong.

Sverige—Sweden.

Takca—Bulgaria (postage-due).

Te Betalen—Holland and Colonies.

Thurn and Taxis—On some of the German stamps.

Toscana—Tuscany.

BEHIND THE SCENES.



Comedian—"Kitty Files says she stamps her foot when she is angry."
Soubrette—"Does she use a 2-cent stamp every time?"
Comedian—"No; such a foot as that would need a dollar stamp."

Chicago News.

Uku Leta—On some stamps of the Sandwich Islands.

Ultramar—On the Spanish issues of Cuba.

U. S.—United States.

Z. A. R.—South African Republic.

How Many

Know These Facts?

It is one of the stock arguments of those who preach the educational value of stamp-collecting that its practice familiarizes the collector with the location and the nature of many countries and colonies which he would otherwise know very little about. We think it is further true that it gives him not a perfunctory, but a really sympathetic interest in foreign lands—a cosmopolitanism, so to speak, to which the average non-philatelist (unless a considerable traveler) is a comparative stranger. Bearing this point in mind, it has occurred to us that many of our readers (particularly among the younger portion) might be somewhat interested in the derivation of the names of some of the countries with which stamp-collecting has made them familiar, and we therefore devote a page or so this week to a little lesson in etymology, which no stamp-collector, young or old, will be the worse for reading. We rather suspect that not a few of our older readers would be at a loss to state the derivation of some of the names below dealt with.

Our authority for the following is an old number of a paper long since forgotten, the Western Philatelic Empire, which during a brief career some thirteen or fourteen years ago printed much good matter. We are satisfied that its derivations, as given below, are, in the main, correct:

1. Argentine Republic. The name is derived from the Latin word "Argentus" (silver). The Spanish discoverers found rich silver mines in the country; hence the name.

2. Barbadoes. Derived from the Latin "ficus barbata" (fig tree) on account of the abundance of fig trees on the island; a British colony since 1625.

3. Bermudas. Named in honor of her Spanish discoverer, Juan Bermudez, who landed there in the year 1615.

4. Bolivia. So named in honor of Simon Bolivar, who liberated the country from Spanish rule in the year 1824.

5. Bolivar. Also named after Simon Bolivar, "the Washington of South America," who freed it from Spain in 1825. It is now one of the constituent states of the United States of Columbia.

6. Brazil. The Portuguese discoverers took Brazil for an island and called it "Ilha da Verao Cruze," or the Island of the True Cross. The discoverer, Pinzon, who landed in Brazil May 1st, 1500, erected at the sea coast a wooden cross, the sign of Christianity. The wood of this cross was of a shining red color, called by the natives "Ubera Pitzanger." The special name of the "glowing" of this wood, which is abundant in Brazil, is, in the Portuguese language "O Brazil," which means "the glowing land" (e. g., the intensely hot land.)

THE READING TABLE.

What We Find in the Journals of the Hour.

The Perforator, New York City.

The Perforator, be it said with regret, is now almost the only remaining philatelic monthly in America which is worthy the slightest consideration by a reviewer. Of course, we except the American Journal of Philately. But aside from this, the weeklies (of which there are now some four or five very excellent ones) seem to have entirely driven the monthlies from the field. The current number of the Perforator (dated Aug. 15) is scarcely up to its ordinary size, doubtless on account of its coming in vacation time, but the reading matter shows no falling off from ordinary standards.

The front page is adorned, as usual, with a reproduction of one of the rare "original covers" from the famous Seybold collection—the one this time pictured being a Western Australia cover, bearing three very desirable stamps, namely, No. 1, No. 2 and No. 4 of Western Australia, as numbered in the catalogue. The editorial remarks anent this cover add no little to the interest of the picture.

On the next page we find the continuation of Mr. Frank C. Young's able series of articles on "War-Time Stamps." This month he is dealing with a very interesting series of war stamps, those born of the war between Peru and Chile, and the consequent Chilean occupation of Peru. A page of short notes, under the apt heading of "Perforations," is the next feature to meet our eye and provides pleasant reading, both on account of its bright, breezy style and the aptness of its comments on matters of current philatelic import. The editorial

page contains a number of thoughtful and well written editorials, the most interesting of which is one on "United States Stamp Portraits." It contains so much that will be new to even the best-posted reader that we need make no apology for reproducing it in full, as follows:

"Asked as to what prominent citizens of the United States had been honored by having their pictured lineaments depicted upon the various stamps of the United States, few indeed of our philatelists could give even an approximately complete list.

"In reading an old stamp paper the other day we met with a paper by Robert S. Hatcher on this subject. And there were giants in those days in the field of philatelic journalism. Few of the stamp writers in America today are doing such work as was done a dozen or more years ago by such writers as Mr. Hatcher, E. R. Sterling, Chas. B. Corwin and many others.

"Harking back to the portraits, most of which are to be found on the tobacco and spirit stamps, we find mentioned many which are not at all well known, among them Hon. James B. Beck, Senator from Kentucky; Gen. Philip H. Sheridan, General Grant, during his lifetime; Thaddeus Stevens, Chief Justice Morrison R. Waite, the last Chief Justice of the United States before the present incumbent; Wm. Pitt Fessenden, Gen. Jas. A. Garfield, years before he was elected President; Gen. Taylor, who is also represented on the postage stamps; Hon. Wm. Orton, who was Commissioner of Internal Revenue in 1855 and afterward for many years President of the Western Union Telegraph Company. Mr. Orton's autograph will be familiar to many collectors on the telegraph stamps of the last-mentioned company.

"During the time when portraits of prominent men during their lives were used on stamps, a practice which was discontinued about 1875, several Secretaries of the Treasury were so honored, among others Salmon P. Chase, afterward Chief Justice of the United States; Lot M. Morrill, afterwards a Senator and one of the best-known public men in the nation; Hugh McCulloch, whose portrait was used on no less than three stamps; Wm. A. Richardson, James Harlan, John Sherman and Geo. S. Boutwell.

"Among the ex-Presidents who have never been depicted on postage stamps are John Quincy Adams and Millard Fillmore.

"Among other prominent men thus honored were Hon. John W. Douglass, of Pennsylvania, at one time Commissioner of Internal Revenue; Senator Henry L. Dawes, of Massachusetts; Hon. Columbus Delano, of Ohio, who held the same office in 1869 and was Grant's Secretary of the Interior for several years thereafter; Hon. W. W. Belknap, of Iowa, Secretary of War; Hon. David K. Carter, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia; Francis E. Spinner, Treasurer of the United States, whose characteristic signature

Absolutely Free.

To interest the younger collectors I will mail to you free of charge.

5 varieties of Pre-cancelled stamps A postal card will bring them.

Send to-day Have 400 lots to offer.

CHAS. A. TOWNSEND.

33 Good Street.

Akron, Ohio.

LOOK

Newfoundland Stamps cheaper than ever.

1898 1c green	- - - -	40c per 100
" 2c red	- - - -	50c per 100
" 3c orange	- - - -	40c per 100
1897 1c cabot	- - - -	\$3.00 per 100
" 2c "	- - - -	3.00 per 100
" 3c "	- - - -	1.00 per 100
No. 1 type surcharged 1c on 3c	25c each	
No. 2 type surcharged 1c on 3c	80c each	

All stamps in good condition Wholesale list free to dealers. Rare stamps for collectors cheap.

WM. NOFTALL,
St. John's

P. O. Box 121.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display. A line will average seven words. Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press,

Bethlehem, Pa.

A block of 6 of the 2c lake, 1890 issue, Imperforated \$15.00 1,928 c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

8 Varieties of the World's Fair (Chicago 1893) postal cards, with a 1 cent unused Columbian on each, for 20 cents (The face value is 2 cents each.)

E. T. PARKER, Bethlehem, Pa.

A full sheet of 50 10-cent 1847, Card Board proofs \$20.00 (a single one catalogues at \$1.00) Proof. c/o THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

WANTED to buy Western Union franks issue of 1887. Bradley c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

I want to buy Italy, 1861, 2c black newspaper stamps in any quantity. State number you have and give price. Bradley c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

Free 30 different foreign to all applicants for my sheets enclosing stamp for postage Reference required. BASIL PERRY, Coolspring, Delaware.

U. S. stamps for beginners and medium collectors at 50% of catalogue. Columbian Stamp Co., Hartford, Conn.

on the paper money of the nation is well remembered by those of our older readers who were so fortunate as to possess it, and Gen. John A. Dix, of 'shoot him on the spot' fame.

"While this list is far from complete, enough has been said to prove that these stamps, in the matter of portraits, at least, are among the most interesting ever issued, but at the present time very scarce and hard to get."

The "Fraud Reporter," a department devoted to the exposure of dishonest collectors who fail to return approval sheets of stamps entrusted to them, and a report of the seventh annual convention of the Empire State Philatelic Society conclude the number.

What the AD-MAN says.
A Department for Dealers.

There has been some criticism of the attitude we have taken in regard to transient advertising. Many dealers write us that they would be pleased to insert one or two trial ads in our columns, and if results from these were satisfactory, to then take space on a regular contract basis.....and they do not seem to fully understand our reasons for refusing to accept advertising from them on any such terms. The matter is, however, as simple as A B C. We refuse ads which the advertiser wishes to run only once or twice as an experiment, because such ads will not bring results to the advertiser; and because it is highly unprofitable to us to insert any advertising which does not bring results.

The main end to be derived from advertising in this or any other stamp journal is the gaining of what we may term "the prestige of publicity." A stamp dealer who advertises regularly in the columns of a paper, with attractive, businesslike announcements, the same copy never being suffered to appear twice, becomes, to that paper's readers, one of the recognized sources of stamp supply. He is a dealer who is known to them. If he advertises some desirable stamp at a desirable price, they feel tenfold more inclined to send for it than if it were offered by some dealer with whom they were less familiar. If they wish an approval selection, or have a want list to submit, he naturally receives the preference over the dealer whose ads have met their eyes only three or four times a season. Continuity counts. Prestige and standing in the reader's eyes is the main point to be striven for and "an ad now and then" will help little towards securing it.

It cannot be expected that many dealers can make a direct profit from the orders received from their ads. They can do so occasionally (in some cases, quite frequently) by putting forward separate varieties at tempting figures, or attractive packets and sets at prices which appeal to the younger trade. But no dealer can expect to keep this up week in and week out for a whole season. He must view many of the ads he puts out as intended, not for the sake of immediate profit, but as a casting of bread on the waters, to strengthen his name and fame with collectors at large. Prestige is a very great business asset. It is one of the biggest assets that any stamp business, or any other business, can possess. And it certainly cannot be gained by spasmodic advertising.

We do not propose to accept any advertisement on false pretenses. We do not propose to encourage any dealer to think that one ad in this paper or two ads in this paper are going to benefit his business. A single swallow does not make a Summer. It will take steady, intelligent use of our columns on the advertiser's part to make them profitable to him, just as it does in any and every other stamp journal, however unwilling the publishers of many of them (who derive

no little revenue from transient advertising) may be to admit the fact. You cannot make bricks without straw. You cannot make an impression on readers without going at them again and again—and with the proper ammunition.

If stamp dealers would more fully appreciate that each ad they print is not a lone entity, but is, instead, simply one link of a chain—if they would plan their ads for the season as a campaign, rather than as a series of sporadic skirmishes—stamp advertising would be more generally profitable than it is. The dealer should be constantly striving to make a distinct impression in regard to some particular feature of his business—some specially strong "talking point" which may be depended on to fasten itself in time into the reader's mind.

For example, if we were writing the ads of the Scott Stamp and Coin Company, we should never send out an ad which did not distinctly mention the Standard Catalogue and its price, post-paid. Hundreds of young collectors, who only receive an occasional copy of any stamp paper, actually do not know where to buy this Catalogue, as no small number of letters received by the STAMP LOVERS WEEKLY during the past fortnight will tangibly testify. Selling the Catalogue to them would mean getting a permanent hold on the trade of many of them; merely mentioning it would be a constant reminder to every reader of the position of the Scott Co. as this country's only cataloguers. We should certainly play on this string "for all it was worth" if we were handling the Scott Co.'s advertising.

To take another example, Mr. Wolsiefer's advertising is admirable, because it constantly reiterates (in as constantly different wording) the great salient fact about his business—that he makes a specialty of selling stamps at auction in one of the best markets in the country. The Bogert-Durbin Co.'s ads in our columns have brought out an equally strong point, in constantly emphasizing the fact that this company is so old in the business and as a corollary, so rich in experience and knowledge of stamps. Frank P. Brown has put his own individuality into his ads, in a way that serves to differentiate them from the ads that are mere price lists only. We need not multiply instances; these will serve to illustrate our argument. To advertise profitably, one must advertise regularly, and must, also give individuality and character to the ads. We are vitally interested in the kind of advertising that appears in this paper, and in seeing that no dealer wastes his money in using our space. We cannot exercise censorship over the style and copy used by our advertisers, but we can and shall do all in our power to assist them to wise use of such space as they may take with us. And we can and shall adhere to the policy of refusing "one-time trial insertions," knowing them to be as little to the advertiser's benefit as they are to our own.

THE ADVERTISING MANAGER.

Panama Canal Zone
Advanced Again.

2c rose new	- - - - -	\$5.00
5c blue	" - - - - -	2.00
10c orange	" - - - - -	2.00
Complete set of 3	- - - - -	8.00
Name on original Cover	- - - - -	8.00

The above stamps are fully guaranteed as being genuine. Unused stamps will have my initials in indelible ink. Used will be stamped on envelope.

U. S. CANAL ZONE.

1, 2, 5, 8 and 10c unused picked copies 40c.
Republic of Panama.

My stock is large and prices right. Let me send you a selection and convince you.

H. F. COLMAN,

725 11th St. N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

Netherlands

* Means Unused.

5c blue 1852	- - - - -	\$.06
15c orange brown 1867	- - - - -	.10
25c dark violet 1867	- - - - -	.20
50c gold 1867	- - - - -	.40
1c black 1869	- - - - -	.80
1 1/2c rose 1869	- - - - -	.08
2 1/2c violet 1869	- - - - -	.10
2 g'd. 50c rose and blue 1872	- - - - -	.40
7 1/2c 1888 brown	- - - - -	.15
7 1/2c 1888 "	- - - - -	.08
*22 1/2c 1888 green	- - - - -	.50
22 1/2c "	- - - - -	.08
1 g'd violet 1888	- - - - -	.08
1 g'd violet 1891	- - - - -	.08
2 g'd 50c 1891 rose and blue	- - - - -	.80
1 g'd brown and olive 1896	- - - - -	.08
5 g'd bronze green and brown 1898	- - - - -	.80
1 g'd 1898 dark green	- - - - -	.08
5 g'ds 1899 claret	- - - - -	.70
5c unpaid 1870	- - - - -	.06
10c "	- - - - -	.05

PACKETS.

20 varieties of Netherlands	- - - - -	.12
35 " " "	- - - - -	.25
60 " " "	- - - - -	\$1.00

W. F. GREGORY,

65 NASSAU ST. NEW YORK.

OCTOBER BARGAINS.

My specialty is Netherlands and Colonies. If you are desirous of completing your collection of these interesting countries at reasonable prices send me your want list.

o-new. CURACAO	*-used.	
*1891, 25c on 30c pearl gray	- - - - -	\$0.30
DUTCH INDIES.		
o1870-74, 2g 50c green and violet	- - - - -	\$2.00
BURINAM.		
o1900, 50c on 2x50c green and orange	- - - - -	\$2.25
NETHERLANDS.		
*1852, 5c blue	- - - - -	8.00
*1872-75, 2x50c rose and ultramarine	- - - - -	.40
*1888, 7 1/2c, 22 1/2c, 1g., the set	- - - - -	.24
*1886, 50c em. green and yellow brown	- - - - -	.08
*1898, 1g brown and olive	- - - - -	.10
*1896, 5g. green and r. brn. - rare	- - - - -	1.00
*1899, 2x50c brown lilac	- - - - -	.25
*1899, 5g. claret	- - - - -	.75

Postage extra on orders under 50c. Don't forget that Want List.
A. M. McNEIL
1252 Bergen street, Brooklyn, New York.

Just To Get Acquainted.

Belgium Packet Post 40, 70 and 80 cents. 1902 (Scott No. 227, 228, 229) are mighty scarce. Worth 60 to 75 cents. The three used for 15 cents to all applying for our 60 per cent discount approval books. State size of collection and give reference. Send for approval list whether you buy the Belgians or not.

F. W. PICKARD.

Station R. (Wyoming.) Cincinnati, Ohio.

Three Things.

First. Our daily list of Bargains.
Second. Some scarce stamps on approval.
Third. Auction catalogue of our first sale.
Any one is worth the effort to write.

Eben S. Martin Co, Inc.

Minneapolis, Minn.

THE CABINET.

A Department Devoted to Coins and Curios.

COIN OF ALL REALMS.

Money of the Prehistoric Ages to the Present Day Shown in Interesting Array and Consecutively Through the Centuries at the World's Fair.

By Farran Zerbe,

Chief of the Souvenir Coin Department at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition.

In the various numismatic exhibits at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition is presented an abridged history of the divisions, governments, people, languages, customs, art, architecture and commercialism of the civilized world from the eighth century B. C. to the present day, representing three periods of time—ancient, medieval and modern, and the twenty-eight most progressive centuries of man.

The specimens of early metal mediums of exchange shown by Oriental countries are from a remote past, regarding which there are no records as to the authenticity of time other than they antedate by centuries the earliest known money to which the coinage of today traces its origin.

The archaeologist in his research has brought to light that which is not only accepted as having been the currency of a time and people far removed from the period of barter, which preceded the earliest coins—those of the ancient Greeks and Lydians—but they link the lands of the now widely separated divisions of the globe and contribute to confirming the once contiguity of the two great hemispheres. Specimens have been found in the mounds that skirt the waters of the Mississippi and within the bounds of the Louisiana Territory, coinciding in shape and ornament with the relics exhumed from the sepulchral repositories of the ancient Egyptians and Etruscans. This aboriginal "money" is found in many various forms, inscriptions and materials. The best authenticated specimens approach regular shape and a similarity of ornament, and are of stone, coal, lignite, bone, shell, chalcidony, mica and jasper with a very few in gold and silver.

The earliest preserved specimens of what is known to have been the early money of the Orient, particularly that of the Celestial empire, is particularly interesting. Some are rudely fashioned from metal bearing undecipherable inscriptions and in the shape of a razor blades, keys, spades and other implements. Many are accepted as the products of more than thirty centuries ago, and all are sufficiently perfect to indicate that they had their origin centuries before. A characteristic of this Oriental currency, which is more than three thousand years old, is that all were made with an opening or hole, and evidence that it takes more than time to eradicate

or change the customs of China. Thirty centuries ago they carried their money strung on strings and in continuation of that custom the minor coinage of the Chinese empire today, called "cash," is made with a hole in it for carrying conveniences.

The "money" of the aborigines and of the Orient, which lack data is not of particular interest to the numismatist. The earliest specimens that command the serious consideration of the collector and student are classed as "ancient coins" to whose origin the present coinage of enlightened man is uninterruptedly traced.

From about 700 B. C. the precious metals—gold and silver—are found in attempted circular shapes, but the primitive coinage methods did not permit regularity as to form, weight or inscription. To particularize on the noteworthy ancient and medieval coins that are shown would be to follow and refer to the divisions and subdivisions of the globe during these periods. Among the most interesting are the gold and silver coins of Greece in Asia Minor, bearing animal devices and no inscriptions, and crudely fashioned, and which led a few centuries later to a perfection in metal stamping, that is today in many respects a lost art. Later day methods do not approach them in certain details of perfection. The earliest copper coins, those of the Roman republic, developed from the square shaped "As" to a series of metal money approach the art of those of Greece. They tell the tales of ancient cities. The portraits of the long list of Caesars are preserved on the coins of their time. The Celtic "ring money" and that of the ancient Egyptians and Persians, the incused coins of Sybaris and the cup shaped money of the Byzantine; the Jewish Shekel and "widows' mite," with their biblical associations, are all shown at the World's Fair and are interesting money specimens of antiquity. Later money oddities are those of early Britain, shaped as rings and bracelets and conveniently carried as articles of personal adornment. None will more depict a fallacy than the "plate money" of Sweden. These are plates of thick, cheap metal, weighing several pounds and in size up to ten inches square, of a stamped value of from one to ten "dalers." This was the extremity of an attempt to popularize base metals for currency and was repudiated by its own people. The bullet money, "ticals," of Slam, the cobb money of Mexico and the sected coins of many countries are of interest to the World's Fair visitor, as is also the square and diamond shaped coins of more recent periods. The papal coins are particularly interesting, not on account of their excellence of production, but because they tell the story of church and state for eleven centuries. Interest will be found in the oblong ingots and vessel shaped gold money of Japan and China. A coin of ancient Philadelphia, the Greek city of love, is shown for comparison with the new products of modern Philadelphia, the home of United States coinage.

An exhibit of coins always attracts because it is money, but the study imparts a knowledge of man in the day of their issue. The art of coinage is portrayed from the hammer and die to the crucible and mold, and from the screw press to the powerful stamping machines. Of "ye moneyer of olden days" none seemed to have commanded the specific attention as those thus favored by early Britain. To be "colner to the king" was to enjoy the greatest of privileges and those commanding it are pictured in jestures of extreme delight, likened by historians unto that of the king's fool.

History and science acknowledge their indebtedness to the stamped metal currency that has survived the destroying agencies of centuries. That which has been preserved for modern times has proved invaluable in establishing or confirming epochs of the past, of which there are no other accepted records. The intrinsic worth of a collective exhibit of the coins of the world would be very considerable, but the great rarity or uniqueness of many specimens have multiplied their value a thousand-fold.

At the Louisiana Purchase Exposition nation vie with nation in presenting its treasures. Archaeology welds well each link in its chain of co-operative research, and history presents its pages, omitting naught worthy of record. In doing this the numismatic treasures of the world form a part and are contributed to by the students of the science of numismatology who take pride in exhibiting their prized possessions. Where there are a number of coin exhibits, they largely present the metal money of modern times. The money of antiquity is shown in many different displays by the respective countries whose dominions, if not continuous from the scenes of the products, are successors to the lands, religion or language, and the "money" of the aborigines is found in the division of archaeology.

The Farthings

Of Queen Anne.

The farthings of Queen Anne are represented by seven varieties. The type of the obverse of all is a bust in profile left (one is within an oval) with important variations in legends, under the following styles: Anna Augusta, Anna Die Gratia, and Anna Regina. The reverse shows greater variety, having at least four types. The dates are 1713, 1714 and 1715 (the latter the year following her death, a circumstance unaccounted for). One of 1714 is probably all that really had a circulation; the others may be considered as patterns. There are pattern half-pennies, also of Anne, and of the same number as the farthings; they are, however, even rarer than the latter, and none is thought to have been placed in circulation. Some wonderful stories of nonsense have been related about the farthings of Anne, the popular and most contagious one being that only three were struck when the dies were broken. In all instances, such fables originated with and were repeated or polished by those who knew absolutely nothing of the science of numismatics.

50 cents
a year.

THE

2 cents
a copy.

STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

VOL. 1.

BETHLEHEM PENNSYLVANIA, OCTOBER 15, 1904.

No. 5.

On October 22nd, 1904

We shall sell part I of the CHAS. L. STIVER collection, together with some small consignment. This collection contains about 14,000 varieties, and as Mr Stiver was what people call a condition crank the specimens will no doubt suit the most fastidious. Part II will be sold Nov. 5th catalogues will be sent to any interested.

We continue to make a specialty of want lists and have the best system of approval books in the country. Send for circular. We have a few more sets of Dominican Republic 1902-1, 2, 5, 10, 12, 20 and 50c. unused. for 25 cents

Bogert & Durbin Co.,
722 Chestnut Street,
ESTABLISHED 1868. PHILADELPHIA, PA.

LONDON LETTER.

Fred J. Melville.

The Berlin Philatelic Competitive Exhibition is now over and several prominent English philatelists are the richer by the awards of the acting jury. With an approximate total value of 2,500,000 marks, or about \$625,000, a very large proportion of the value was made up from the British collections shown. In fact, Mr. C. J. Phillips, of the Gibbons firm, estimates that the stamps he took over on behalf of English exhibitors represented nearly a quarter of the whole value, viz., \$150,000.

Little wonder, then, that the number of medals of all classes that were awarded to British exhibitors was highly satisfactory. Mr. H. J. Duveen, of London, who showed Mauritius, Queensland and British Guiana, received a grand gold medal, as also did Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, of Weybridge, who displayed India and Western Australia. In this latter country Mr. Hausburg showed the very rare 4d. 1864, with the center inverted. This stamp was purchased by Mr. Hausburg a few months ago at public auction for \$2000 and is certainly the rarest of the inverted centre curios. Baron Anthony de Worms, of Egham, also received a gold medal for his superb collection of the stamps of Ceylon.

A smaller gold medal was awarded for a display of French to Mr. Franz Reichenheim, a well-known collector resident in West Kensington, who recently had the good fortune to amalgamate with his own collection of the stamps of France that formed by Mr. Marconnet. Mr. Reichenheim previously had a very fine general collection, which I believe was sold by auction, the sale extending over

(Continued on Page 8.)

The American Journal of Philately.

A high class philatelic magazine published monthly.

Annual subscription...beginning either with the January or July number.

United States, Canada and Mexico \$1.00.

Foreign countries, excepting Canada and Mexico, \$1.25.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 East 23d St., New York, N. Y.

What's Doing in Washington.

By Joe E. Franklin.

The probability is that before a great many months the Philippines will be supplied with a distinctive series of postage stamps. It is quite true that there may be no surface indications of this interesting fact, just at the present moment, but from observations that have been made and hints that have been dropped, your correspondent is inclined to the opinion that the days of the present surcharged stamps are numbered.

There are two reasons for believing that a change will be made, one a business reason, the other a sentimental reason. The current Philippine stamps cost more than a distinctive series would cost, per thousand, after the plates were once prepared. At present, to the first cost of the United States stamps must be added the cost of the second printing for the "Philippines" impression. The cost of the Philippine stamps is probably several cents a thousand more than current United States stamps, and, of course, the cost comes out of the Government. There is no compensating revenue. So much for the business reason.

The sentimental reason is that the surcharged Philippine stamps are not creditable to this Government. They are a makeshift, pure and simple, conveying the impression that they are merely of a temporary nature. In the very nature of things they cannot be satisfactory to the people of the Philippines. It is a well-known fact that the United States stamps surcharged "Cuba" were not pleasing to the Cubans, and were con-

(Continued on Page 8.)

On October 22nd,

Is the date of the Auction Sale of the Retail and Wholesale Stock of the

Return Mail Stamp Co.

so be sure to mail your bids for it promptly. Other sales to follow as indicated in this space for the last few weeks. Catalogues of all sales are free.

If You Mention

"The Stamp-Lovers Weekly" ordering one of my useful Pocket Ed. Stock Books to hold 500 stamps cloth bound I will mail it to your address for only 20 cents.

P. M. Welsieffer
401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

CHICAGO CHAT.

A quiet week is about what might be termed the situation here this week.

The events that are regularly scheduled were the first regular meeting of the Chicago Philatelic Society for the month and the auction sale of the United Stamp Company on Saturday evening.

From a glance around the trade we find that two large size collections have been brought to Chicago to find buyers. One comes from Mexico and the other known as the Levison collection from the Pacific Coast. In both cases the condition feature was not up to present day requirements, particularly in the rarities, and dealers hesitate putting up large sums for stamps unless they are in such condition that a fair return may be reasonably expected for the amount advanced.

It is surmised that both of these collections have been offered elsewhere, and, not finding buyers, came to Chicago as a last resort; in fact, in one instance it was admitted that the collection would not be turned over to any one unless a deposit of no less than five thousand dollars were placed with the holder, a price which would probably not have been realized at auction under the most favorable conditions.

Collectors who form a collection and are many years in building it up generally have a fair idea of its true value, all points considered, and are very reasonable in their expectations when they come to sell, but let such a collection pass to another who has little or no experience and knowledge of stamp collecting and the value of it immediately

(Continued on Page 8.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted
to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States, Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any address in any country in the Postal Union \$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.00 an inch. 40 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

THE EDITOR DISCOURSETH.

Stamps Fiscally-Cancelled.

Two or three foreign contemporaries are earnestly discussing the question whether fiscally-used postage stamps should be admitted into a postage stamp collection. There seems to be considerable difference of opinion on this point. The balance of belief, however, being rather against their inclusion. The matter is not, in any case, one of the first importance. We may, however, record our opinion that a fiscally-used postage stamp does not properly belong in a postage stamp collection. We all concede that a fiscal stamp used postally does belong there, the facts of its use making it to all practical intent just as much a postage stamp as if it had been issued by the government for that especial purpose. Why is not the converse of the proposition equally valid? If a fiscal stamp becomes a postage stamp when used postally, why does not a postage stamp used fiscally become a fiscal stamp? We may not care very much about the matter one way or the other. As long as we do not know that a postage stamp was diverted to fiscal use, it is as good as one not so used. But we are very much mistaken if it is not true that the moment one discovers any evidences of such use on any stamp in his collection dates as the moment from which that stamp loses caste in the eye of its owner. No one likes to collect fiscally-used postage stamps, if he knows it. But probably most of us harbor some of them unawares.

The Large-Heartedness of the Fiscalist.

Apropos of the last paragraph, it may be noted that the fiscalist places no embargo on fiscal stamps that have so far overshoot their intended purpose as to do postal duty. There is nothing small, no weighing of hair-splitting technicalities, about the collector of fiscals. The largeness of his field makes him large of heart. Whatever form of adhesive stamp has served to denote the payment of a tax is his to have and to hold. No pent-up Ulster contracts his horizon. And in our heart of hearts we decidedly admire

this trait, and wish that in postage stamp collecting a similar catholicity of spirit might be feasible. But we of the postal cohorts must, alas, be cruel to some classes of stamps in order to be kind to ourselves. There is much which we would like to collect, which the general philatelic welfare obliges us to agree to consider uncollectible. The overprints which denote the conversion of a stamp to some entirely different use from that for which it was intended, as, for instance, the British Officials, and the stamps of European nations surcharged for special use in the Levant, are a case in point. There is undoubted interest in this class of stamps. They are catalogued and many people collect them ardently. But as sure as night follows day they will in the end be dropped from catalogues and disappear from collections—simply because philately cannot afford to countenance them, in view of the constant increase in the existing number of regular postage stamps. All these side issues must in time be crowded to the wall. The postally-used fiscal, the postage-due stamp, the registration stamp and every other item of philately's excess baggage will have to be cast overboard by catalogues in the course of time. The postage stamp, in its original, unmodified state, is, after all, the stamp that counts. Twenty years from now we will wonder at the thought that anyone ever collected overprints or plate numbers or precancels or any one of a half dozen other much-wanted features of modern philately. These abandoned classes will doubtless continue, for far more than twenty years from now, to find some honor in the albums of specialists. But we apprehend that, by the time we speak of, they will be as little regarded by collectors in the average as are, let us say, Russian Rurals at the present time.

How Many Have Philatelic Libraries?

The discussion in England over the need of a complete index to all philatelic literature (spoken of at some length in our London Letter of last week) has also directed public attention to the question of whether any great percentage of philatelists really own good philatelic libraries. The general disposition seems to be to place the number of such libraries at a relatively very small total, as compared with the whole number of adult collectors. And some color is lent to these estimates by the pitifully small editions stated to have been printed by some recent philatelic works of notable importance. We referred last week to the reprint of that of Bartels, Foster and Palmer's "Stamps of the Philippines" only 50 copies were printed, and that an edition of 350 was deemed sufficient in the case of Dr. Diener's "History of the Postage Stamps of Sicily." It may, however, be remarked that, after all, both of these works are, in a measure, specialists' handbooks, and perhaps little likely to appeal to a great body of general collectors who would secure and preserve the files of stamp periodicals treating a wider range of philatelic matters. We

doubt if there is one really enthusiastic stamp-collector out of ten who throws away or destroys his stamp magazines. Very likely, only a small proportion actually bind their volumes, and get their libraries into presentable and referable order. But we believe that hosts of collectors own a great many shelves of old stamp journals, which they prize only next to their collections themselves; and that they do refer to and read these journals much oftener than some writers seem to imagine. We cannot see how anyone who is collecting stamps on any thoughtful basis can fail to be very greatly interested in stamp literature, both past and present. Certainly this literature is a vast aid to the ardent collector and an equally great source of pleasure. We do not know that many of them would want, or make much use of a general index to all philatelic literature. But we cannot agree with the assertion that only a very few philatelists own good libraries of books and papers relating to their hobby—unless it is an indispensable qualification of a library that its contents shall be bound, labeled and numbered.

Extending

The Stamp Market.

We wonder why the stamp dealers of this country have not long since banded together into a sort of missionary syndicate to put stamps on sale in news-stores, cigar-stores, etc., throughout the country, after the European plan. "How can we start young people to collecting?" is always a very live question with the trade. If agencies for the sale of cheap stamps, packets, sets, albums, etc., could be established in suitable stores in all cities and villages where such commodities are not at present on sale, the result could hardly fail to be beneficial and profitable to the stamp trade. Young people need only to see stamps to become interested in them; and a considerable crop of new collectors could, we think, be produced annually by this means of cultivation. Doubtless, only a small percentage of the total number would be permanent recruits; but we think the trade agrees that it is worth while going to quite a little trouble and expense to start one really good collector.

We would like to have the opinions of some of our dealer friends in regard to the expediency of such a syndicate.

A Journal

For Fiscalists Only.

The continued increase of interest in fiscal stamp collecting abroad is evidenced by the fact that France is about to have a journal devoted exclusively to the interests of fiscalists, after the manner of Morley's Philatelic Journal in England. The new periodical is to be named "Bulletin Fiscaliste," and is to be edited by M. Forbin l'Haste, compiler of the complete catalogue of fiscal stamps lately published by M. M. Yvert and Tellier, of Amiens, France.

Infuse individuality in your advertising and you will do good advertising every time.

LONDON LETTER.

(Continued from Page 1.)

four days. Until a couple of years back he was the possessor of the finest collection in this country of the stamps of the German Empire. But this he renounced when he began to get enthusiastic over his French stamps. He is a keen accumulator of proofs and essays. Mr. Hugo Griebert, a prominent dealer in this city, also received a gold medal for his stamps of Turkey.

An English lady, with a general collection of 16,000 varieties, took a silver medal. She is Mrs. H. L. Hayman, of West Hampstead, wife of the well-known specialist in Tonga and British East Africa. Another lady collector, Mrs. F. M. Bridson, of Dartmouth, received a bronze medal for a Portuguese collection.

Mr. Ernest Heginbottom, of Rochdale, is an earnest exponent of the superiority of the used stamp, and his collection of postally used stamps is really colossal. In this exhibition, despite the obvious disadvantages of used stamps for display purposes, he succeeded in getting a silver and a bronze medal and also a diploma.

Mr. Dornling Beckton, of the Manchester and London Philatelic Societies, received a silver medal for St. Helena and British Bechuanaland, and another for his Norway, Denmark and Iceland displays. Mr. C. J. Daun, a well-known member of the London Society, also received two silver medals for two selections of rare stamps. Other awards were silver medals to Mr. J. C. North, of Huddersfield, for stamps of the British Colonies in Europe; Mr. Douglas Ellis, of Hitchin, for Japan; Mr. Richard Lilienfeld, for rare stamps on letters, and bronze medals to Mr. W. N. Terry, of Birkdale, for Victoria, and Mr. W. T. Wilson, of Birmingham, for rare stamps on letters.

Altogether, the English awards were numerous and have given great satisfaction in this country. It would seem that the dealer who—as I mentioned in my last dispatch—complained that our German confreres were not anxious for English competition at this international exhibition, was rather wide of the mark. It is very generally conceded that philatelists in this country contributed largely to the success of the show, and, further, that they have been gracefully and amply rewarded by the generous distribution of medals.

The season here will soon be commencing. Already two European catalogues for 1906 are to hand in the Senf and the Kohl publications, and Messrs. Whitfield King's catalogue will not be long after them. The Gibbons works are not yet announced for any special date, but probably the British Empire section will be ready in November, as usual.

The London Society, unlike most of the stamp clubs in this country, opens (instead of closes) its session with its annual dinner. This is to be held on Thursday, Oct. 13, and on the following day the first ordinary meeting will be held at the residence of the Earl of Crawford, who is to display his stamps of Great Britain and other countries.

What's Doing in Washington.

(Continued from Page 1.)

continued in use but a comparatively short time. As a matter of fact there was really less occasion for the United States to have prepared a new series of stamps of distinctive design for Cuba than there is for the Philippines. Cuba was, in a few months, to become a separate and distinct nation, and there would have been logic in the view that the stamps surcharged "Cuba" would do very well until Cuba cut loose and paddled her own canoe, after which the postal authorities of the new nation could devise and prepare a new series of stamps in accordance with their own desires and tastes.

The people of the Philippines have worried along with our stamps with a black line defacing the portrait for half a dozen years. There have been no general complaints from the far-away islands, but scattering hints have come to the department that the Filipinos would be pleased with a series of stamps that were distinctively Philippine on their face. The Government gave the Philippines a series of distinctive coins; they are just as much entitled to stamps of their own and the cost of preparing stamps would be trifling compared with the coinage undertaking.

Of course, in the event of the election of Judge Parker next month the situation might change. Mr. Parker is in favor of self-government for the Filipinos. Give them an independent government and they would quickly cease the use of the makeshift surcharged stamp.

The department recently received an order for stamps from the Philippines now in process of printing at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The denominations and quantities are as follows:

- 1,500,000 one cent.
- 10,000 two cent.
- 5,000 three cent.
- 100,000 five cent.
- 2,000 six cent.
- 2,000 eight cent.
- 2,000 ten cent.
- 500 two dollar.
- 100 five dollar.

It is believed this order completes the entire list for the stamps printed upon the current series of U. S.

The department does not propose to have any of the St. Louis stamps on hand when the first of December arrives. An order has been issued to postmasters to work off the big labels before that date. Of course, postmasters may return those unsold at that time, but the department wants them used.

The new law permitting the mailing of third and fourth-class mail matter, when in the form of identical pieces of matter in quantities of not less than 2,000 pieces, at pound rates, without the affixing of stamps, has gone into effect, the Postmaster General having issued the order last week.

Local trade starts off this Fall with a boom. Presidential year does not seem to be having any effect upon the stamp trade.

One of my customers writes.

"I have been looking for this stamp over a year; wrote to foremost Dealers but could not get it."

This stamp is priced at \$3.00 to \$3.15 in America and English lists, my price was \$2.00 net.

I can supply the Goods

Why not write me?

Frank P. Brown,

339 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

1902-3,	8d 9d or 10d each	\$.15
	2s Ited	.30
	28d Dark Blue	.45
	5s Blue-green	.75
	10s Purple	1.50
	£1 Brown Orange	3.00

All very fine postally used copies.

EDWARD Y. PARKER,
155 Dowling Ave.

TORONTO, CANADA.

WANTED to buy St. Louis stamps used, state quantity and price.

Blank Approval Books.

Far better than sheets for agents use and for duplicates

We have them printed on good paper with light blue covers to hold 60 and 100 stamps respectfully.

Postage free.	Per 12 books	Per 100
No. 1 to hold 60 stamps - - -	\$.10	\$.60
No. 2 to hold 100 stamps - - -	15	.80

Not fewer than 12 sold.

THE JUNIOR, Bethlehem, Pa.

EVERY WEEK

We issue a little paper, it contains some things some times that are not

found elsewhere, at all events over 5,000 collectors are paying to receive it. You may receive it 10 weeks on trial for 10 cents.

Mekeel's Stamp Collector

Published Weekly by

C. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUBLISHING CO.

ST. LOUIS, Missouri.

The department has concluded a parcels post convention with Norway, which goes into effect today. Under the new arrangement parcels weighing 4 pounds and 6 ounces may be sent at the rate of 12 cents per pound.

Stamp collectors with whom we have talked, who have seen the Stamp-Lovers Weekly, pronounce it a most interesting and instructive journal, with a splendid field of endeavor.

Henry James

buys a Three-Cent Stamp.

The first thing Mr. Henry James did, upon his return to America after an absence of twenty years, was to go to a post-office and ask for a three-cent stamp! Which is rather an interesting reminder to those of us who are not in the first flush of youth that we used to put three-cent stamps on our letters as a regular thing.

A Page of Precept For Young Collectors.

(Conducted by the Editor.)

Items

For the Novice.

BITS OF INFORMATION FOR THOSE WHO ARE JUST BEGINNING.

Stamps should not be kept in a very warm place. If they are so kept they are likely to curl up.

It is a good idea, in all albums where both sides of the page are used, to place sheets of tissue paper between the leaves to prevent the rubbing of specimens on opposite pages.

It should be scarcely necessary to say that stamps should never be handled except when one's hands are perfectly clean. The majority of stamps are printed in colorings that readily show the marks of smudgy fingers. In any case, stamps should be fingered as little as possible when once they are in the album. "Hands off" is a good precept to impress upon everyone to whom you show your collection.

Do not use the fingers to press down a stamp on the page when it is first put in. Cover it with a piece of clean blotting paper and rub across that gently. If you are putting a considerable number of stamps in at one time, have a number of blotters and leave them on the pages where you have just put in the stamps, placing the album to press for a few hours under several heavy books.

To paste stamps in with mucilage or flour paste is barbaric (especially in the case of unused stamps), as it is practically certain to damage the specimens whenever necessity arises to remove them into another album. The gummed hinges sold by all stamp dealers should be used by every collector, no matter if he does not own a hundred stamps and has no better album than a pocket memorandum book.

To remove stamps from envelopes without damaging either, place them over the steam from a tea kettle, and in a few moments they can be readily peeled off. The peeling should, however, be gently done, as any quick pull on the stamp is likely to tear it.

Old deeds, mortgages, leases, etc., are frequently found to bear very desirable revenue stamps. The same may be said of old photographs, dating back to the Civil War period. Almost every beginner can enlarge his collection by stamps secured from these sources.

Do not cut out the embossed stamps appearing on stamped envelopes—known in stamp collecting as "envelope stamps." It is far better to preserve the whole envelope just as it is, without cutting or mutilating it in any way. When you have become an experienced stamp collector you will learn that there were ample reasons for so doing, even though it may seem incomprehensible to you now. Postal cards should, of course, be preserved in precisely the same way. Of course, neither cards nor envelopes will go into your album in this shape, but it is not at all needful that they should.

Do not exchange away any old United States stamps you happen to discover, even if you have a number of copies of each, until you are fully posted as to their value. Hosts of beginners have unknowingly bartered away valuable stamps for very common ones, and have, of course, bitterly regretted it when they later on discovered their mistake.

Many collectors find a great deal of pleasure and interest in collecting the "pre-canceled varieties" of United States stamps. The "pre-canceled varieties" are those on which is overprinted the name of some city, with the addition, in many cases, of a date. They are thus canceled in whole sheets at the post-office and sold in this way to large houses wishing to send out heavy quantities of catalogues or circulars, thereby saving a great amount of labor for the postal folk. A great deal of advertising matter goes out under "pre-canceled stamp" and there are several hundred varieties of them. Any young collector can easily accumulate a good many different kinds, as the pre-cancellation is almost wholly used on the common one-cent and two-cent stamps of current issue.

The commemorative series of stamps issued in behalf of the Exposition at St. Louis consists of five denominations, 1c., 2c., 3c., 5c. and 10c. In unused form they make a beautiful set, and no young collector can invest twenty cents to better advantage than by going to the post-office in his town and buying an unused set for his album.

Bigness

Not Essential.

We spoke a while back of the building up of a representative collection of the different kinds of stamps in existence. This does not mean a big collection, nor necessarily an expensive one. In stamp collecting of the truest, pleasantest sort, quality is better than quantity. One cannot get everything; that is impossible. Even the very biggest collections in the world, formed by men of practically unlimited wealth, are incomplete, through the lack of just a few tantalizing little varieties. No one need expect to ever get all the varieties of stamps that were ever issued, even if he lives to be as old as Methuselah and possess the purse of Fortunatus, for new varieties are constantly being issued and the number of stamp-issuing countries is steadily on the increase. But when once one gets thoroughly interested in stamps for their own sake—not for the sake of getting a bigger collection than somebody else—the size of the collection will not so much matter, as long as he is able to make a few modest additions now and then and prevent the collection from falling into a stagnant, stand-still state. There is just as much pleasure to be gotten out of a three thousand variety collection as out of one of thirty thousand—provided the three thousand are carefully and judiciously chosen, so as to represent as many different countries and as many different issues of each country as possible. It is all nonsense to say

that stamp collecting calls for a heavy expenditure. In almost every set there is at least one cheap stamp, to be bought for a few pennies. There is scarcely a great rarity in the world whose design is not practically duplicated on some comparatively cheap specimen. The designs of little-priced stamps are just as interesting as those of high-priced ones; the colors are just as attractive; there is equally as much pleasure in their study. What a mistaken idea to think that because one cannot get the high-priced stamps one will not collect at all. As well refuse to wear a diamond because you cannot afford to buy the Kohinoor.

(This "Page of Precept" will be a regular feature of each number of the STAMP-LOVER'S WEEKLY.)

A Block Of Sydney Views

New York Collector Gets Them At A Good Price.

The following clipping is from the New York Sun of Sept. 29:—

Stanley Gibbons has just sold to an American collector an undivided block of four New South Wales penny stamps of the issue of 1850 for \$1,600. The firm says that this is probably the rarest block of stamps that has ever passed into the hands of an American collector, as most of the choice stamps are sold to European collectors. The first issue of New South Wales consisted of a small square stamp with the word "Postage" at the top and "One penny" at the bottom, and contains what was supposed to be a view of the harbor of Sydney. The stamps have always been rare unused, and some of the canceled copies bring as high as \$40 to \$50 apiece.

1905 Catalogues.

We learn from the foreign press that the 1905 editions of the two leading German stamp catalogues have already made their appearance—an anticipation of their date akin to the modern newspaper enterprise which leads to your being offered "Evening papers, sir, Sun, World or Journal" on the streets of New York at ten o'clock in the morning.

The catalogues in question are the 1905 "Senf," issued by Senf Bros., of Leipzig, and for many years regarded as the chief catalogue published in the German language, and the 1905 "Kohl," a newer work, issued by Paul Kohl, of Chemnitz, which in the few years it has been issued has won a really surprising amount of popularity.

The new editions of both works are stated to contain many improvements over former editions—good news to German-speaking philatelists in America, whose number is legion, and few of whom, presumably, will fail to send across the water for one or the other (or both) of these indices to stamp values in the Fatherland.

"All things come to those who wait" it is said; but it will not do to wait for customers. They must be gone after; advertised for.

A Talk About Shade Varieties.

By Henry Herbert Huff.

Shade varieties form a subject that has always been looked upon by young collectors as being too technical for them to meddle with, and consequently few are in any measure familiar with them.

Three things may be responsible for a shade variety:

The first to be mentioned, and the one most frequently the cause of shade differences, is the mixing of the ink. The process of mixing printing ink to produce a certain shade or color is very similar to that employed in mixing ordinary paint. Into white ink (corresponding to white lead) is stirred a quantity of color sufficient to produce the desired shade. The chemist finds it an even more difficult matter than the painter to mix a second supply that will be exactly the same shade as the ink first mixed, as more care is needed in mixing ink than paint. In fact, it is almost impossible to make two supplies that will be of exactly the same shade. As a result, the stamps printed in one supply of ink are of a different shade of color from those printed in another supply and we have the many shade varieties. The greatest variety of shades occurs when more than one color is mixed with the white ink to produce the required shade. A good illustration of this class is the one-cent values of the U. S. 1902 series, a stamp that has appeared in fully a dozen or more distinct shades. This is due to the use of both blue and yellow with the white to produce the shade of green used. In one mixing too much yellow is used and in another too much blue, giving as a result a variety of shades ranging from a yellow to a bluish green. There are fewer and less marked varieties of color in the other values of the series because only one color is used with the white, thus lessening the danger of getting too much or too little of the color in the compound. However, we have quite a few important shade varieties in stamps that are printed in ink consisting of but one other color than white. Prominent in this class is the first designed two-cent stamp of the 1902 series, which appeared in several shades, and the one-cent blue of 1890, which appeared with a complexion varying from dark blue to light. The shade varieties of U. S. stamps are much less striking than those of other countries because our Government employs only the most experienced chemists, who exercise the greatest care in mixing inks. The governments of many countries employ various bureaus and companies to print their stamps and these are careless in mixing the colors, even going so far as to purposely make "mistakes" for the collector's benefit (?).

A second class of shade varieties is due to worn plates. Continued use causes the printing plates to become worn and, consequently, stamps printed from them have much lighter lines in the design than if the impression is from new plates. Shade varieties caused by worn plates

are quite easily distinguished from color varieties, the difference being in the appearance of the design, not the color. When a plate becomes worn to a certain degree it is withdrawn from service and an expert "retouches" the worn places, making the plate as good as ever.

A third cause of shade varieties is the fact that printing ink is affected by oxygen and various chemicals that may be near it. Whenever a part of some newly-mixed ink is used and the remainder let stand for a time the stamps printed in that ink will be in a slightly different shade from those printed in it when first made.

Shade varieties caused by the fading of the color, either from exposure to the sun, contact with water, or age, cannot rightly be admitted into a collection of

I think the collecting of shade varieties would prove an interesting side line for advanced philatelists, and I do not see that engaging in it in a mild way would do the young collector any great harm. The one-cent 1902 series of the U. S. is probably the best stamp to specialize on shade varieties.

as such a large number of varieties are readily accessible. Shade varieties have no place in the ordinary stamp album and their best home is not in an album of any kind. A neatly ruled sheet of pasteboard is the best receptacle for shade varieties and the best way to arrange them on it is in the order of the degree of darkness of their shades—the lightest first, then the next darker, etc., as this enables one to see the distinct difference between each specimen even though it be very, very slight. A card bearing the shade varieties of a certain stamp so arranged, when neatly prepared and framed, would make an interesting and attractive decoration for a philatelist's "den."

The A B C Of Stamp Collecting.

A Book That Deserves Its Name.

There have been a number of attempts made to provide a handbook on stamp-collecting which should serve as the guide, philosopher and friend of the young collector. But of the several books published for this express purpose none, in our judgment, is so happily adapted to the requirements of the novice as Mr. Fred J. Melville's "A B C of Stamp Collecting," published in London this year. It is a work of such helpful, stimulating nature, so saturated with enthusiastic explanation of the pleasures of collecting and so replete with good, practical, common-sense talks on all sorts of puzzling points in relation to collecting methods that we wish a copy of it might be in the hands of every young collector in the land.

We believe we can in no way give a better idea of the scope and character of the book, though of course no idea can be conveyed of the clear, cogent and illuminating treatment of each topic taken up—than by mentioning the titles of some of the chapters into which the book is subdivided:

The Story of the Stamp.
The Romance of Stamp Collecting.
How Postage Stamps Are Made.
On Starting a Collection.
Further Hints for Collectors.
Stamps of Great Price.
Provisional Issues and Surcharged Stamps.
Local Postage Stamps.
Reprints and Reminders.
Errors.
Forgeries and Fakes.
Clues to Classification.
Postal Cards and Covers.
Portraiture on Postage Stamps.
History in Postage Stamps.
Stamps as Instructors in Geography.
Famous Collectors and Their Collections.
Freak Collections.
The Philatelists' Bookshelf.

And twelve other chapters, totalling 156 pages—and supplemented by 237 illustrations of interesting stamps mentioned in the course of the book. The "A B C of Stamp Collecting" can be procured from its publisher, Henry J. Drane, Salisbury House, Salisbury Square, Fleet St., E. C., London, Eng., for 30 cents, post-paid.

Will M. Clemens Heard From.

Will M. Clemens, twenty years ago a philatelic writer of some note and doubtless well remembered by those of our readers whose philatelic experience dates back thus far, figures quite prominently, we note, in connection with the "Lalmeber case," a recent New York murder mystery with which all newspaper readers in the East are doubtless familiar. We read, in all the accounts of the case, that it is receiving investigation from "Will M. Clemens, the expert criminologist, a cousin of Mark Twain," and there is no doubt that this is the once editor of the Old Curiosity Shop in a new role.

A few years since, during the height of the poster fad, Mr. Clemens published and edited The Poster, a periodical devoted to poster collecting. He was ever a clever and versatile fellow, and we should not wonder if he should yet attain no little fame as a writer on criminology.

Sweden, Norway, Finland and Denmark—the four stamp-issuing nations of Scandinavian ancestry—form a decidedly interesting and not too difficult field for the would-be specialist who desires to take up some specialty a little outside of the beaten path.

It is on record that a well-known French collector, in writing to an American collector, expressed himself as follows on the subject of stamped envelopes: "I collect not the envelopes complete because then they are of too great size and include too much space to keep them. Then you cut them small and say 'cut square.' I do not want them so, because to so mutilate them is to ruin them. So I think to myself I collect not the envelopes at all." Which is doubtless pretty much the way in which a great many collectors look at it.

How Many Know These Facts.

(Continued from last week, page 6.)

7. Buenos Ayres. As the Spanish discoverer on July 14, 1552, landed at this point, the commander-in-chief came on land and suddenly exclaimed "O Buenos Ayres" (what a good air)! He erected a military fort, and called it Buenos Ayres. This small settlement growing up to a city, the name went over to the city and surrounding country.

8. Canada. As the French discoverer, Jacques Cartier, in the year 1535 landed, the country discovered "until that time" was called "Arcadia." But after the expulsion of the French by the English in 1763 the whole country was called "Kanata," an Indian word, signifying "a lot of huts." In later time, as the settlement became larger, the name was modified to "Canada;" and it was as "all Canada" that Gen. Amherst took possession of it in 1760, in the name of the King of England.

9. Cordova. The Spanish discoverer, a native of Cordova, in Spain, gave it the same name.

10. Colombia. Named in honor of Columbus, its discoverer.

11. Costa Rica. This name is composed of two Spanish words, meaning in English, "Rich Arts." Their applicability in this case is not very evident.

12. Dominica. This name is derived from the Spanish, and means "Sunday Island." It was so named by Columbus, who landed there on Sunday, Nov. 3, 1493.

13. Dominican Republic, also called, in Spanish, Santo Domingo. In May, 1496, the brother of Christopher Columbus began a settlement on the eastern part of the island of Hayti, and as the settlers (Spaniards) were ready for anything on a Sunday, he called this new settlement "Santo Domingo" (Holy Sunday). For their capital the settlers chose a small city and also called it Santo Domingo (1499). In the year 1844 the Republic was proclaimed and capital and country are called the same.

14. Ecuador. Takes its name from the equator.

15. Prince Edwards Island. Named in honor of Edward, Duke of Kent, who as commander of the English army occupied the country in 1799.

16. Falkland Islands. Named after Lord Falkland, who took possession of the islands in the year 1665, in the name of Great Britain.

17. Grenada. Named by Columbus, after the Spanish city of Grenada.

18. Guadeloupe. Discovered and named by Columbus on his second voyage to the new world. He had given a promise to the nuns of a monastery called "Nuestra Señora de Guadeloupe" to so name the first island he should discover.

19. Guatemala. A word of Indian origin. The natives called it "Quauthenmal-laux." The Spanish navigator, Cortez, modified this cumbersome name, which means "a rotten tree," to Guatemala.

20. Hayti. This is the original native name, meaning "rough land."

21. Honduras. As the Spanish navigator

and discoverer, Alonzo de Yeda, in 1499 tried to land there, he could not find a safe landing on account of the dangerous waters and rocks near the coast. He therefore called the country "Hondo" (Depth), and in later times this name was modified to Honduras.

22. Jamaica. The name is derived from the Indian word "Xaimaca," and means "Springs."

23. Martinique. Derived from the Indian word "Martiniou," also called "Matiqui." When the French took possession of the island they made the word suitable to their own language and called it Martinique.

24. Mexico. The name is derived from the Indian word "Mejiltli." When the Spanish navigator, Cortez, in the year 1535 had conquered the country he found a large Indian settlement and also a temple of a leading "wooden god," called by the natives "Mejiltli." This name went over to the whole country and in later time was modified to Mejico—Mexico.

25. Montserrat is derived from the Spanish words "Monte Serrato," and means "Splitted Mountain." Columbus called it so on account of the singular splitted condition of the country.

A Rumored War Issue.

The Monthly Journal speaks of a rumor that Russia is to put out a new issue, at least indirectly incident to the present Russo-Japanese War. The rumor is to the effect that a special issue is to be made for the purpose of raising funds for the benefit of soldiers' widows; that the stamps are to be of the postal value of 3, 5, 7 and 10 kopecs, respectively, and are to be sold at 6, 8, 10 and 12 kopecs, thus producing a surplus of 3 kopecs each, to be applied to the purpose named. The M. J. adds that as a certain person professes to have acquired the right of exclusive sale of these stamps, which seems unlikely on the face, they are inclined to place little credence in the report.

Death of

A Prominent Philatelist.

We learn, from Mekeel's Stamp Collector, of the death on Sept. 2 of Dr. Henry Tuck, of New York, an enthusiastic philatelist of more than twenty-five years connection with the hobby, and the owner of one of the best stamp collections in New York City. Dr. Tuck had been Vice President of the New York Life Insurance Company since 1885.

New Stamps

For the Philippines.

Under the heading "Important, If True" (which would seem to betoken that there is some doubt as to its correctness) Mekeel's Stamp Collector publishes the following item:

"The Philippine Postoffice Department is having dies prepared for a distinct issue, which will be printed in the islands, to take the place of the present surcharged series. The plates are being engraved. I understand, in the United States. No information has as yet been given out as to the details of the series."

Bargains in Newfoundland Stamps.

1887	1c Cabot	-	-	per 10	\$0.35
"	2c Cabot	-	-	" 10	.30
"	3c Cabot	-	-	" 10	.30
1898	1c green	-	-	" 100	.40
"	3c orange	-	-	" 100	.40
"	5c duke	-	-	" 10	.25
"	4c duchess	-	-	" 10	.30

Write for wholesale list free to dealers.
Rare stamps send on approval to responsible Collectors.

WM. NOFTALL,
St. John's
P. O. Box 121.
NEWFOUNDLAND.

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display.
A line will average seven words.
Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

A block of 6 of the 2c lake, 1890 issue, Imperforated \$15.00 1826 c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

8 Varieties of the World's Fair (Chicago 1893) postal cards, with a 1 cent unused Columbian on each, for 20 cents (The face value is 2 cents each.)

E. T. PARKER, Bethlehem, Pa.

A full sheet of 50 10-cent 1847, Card Board proofs \$20.00 (a single one catalogue at \$1.00) Proof, c/o THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

WANTED to buy Western Union franks issue of 1887. Bradley c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

I want to buy Italy, 1881, 2c black newspaper stamps in any quantity. State number you have and give price. Bradley c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

Free 30 different foreign to all applicants for my sheets enclosing stamp for postage. Reference required. BASIL PERRY, Coaling, Delaware.

U. S. stamps for beginners and medium collectors at 50% of catalogue. Columbian Stamp Co., Hartford, Conn.

New Buying List of Coins and Stamps 8.00 10 Coins all different .25
J. B. Aldred, 176 Allen st., Buffalo, N. Y.

1c to 10c Omaha or Pan American \$1.00
1c to 10c Columbian or St. Louis50
250 Int'l Exchange, fine00
Post. extra. Send coin (well wrapped) or P. O. order. W. T. Poppenger, 717 Castle St., Barberton, Ohio.

Closing out, Collectors Own Catalogue 5cets. Geo. A. Knight, 90 Meridian st., Boston.

Fine approvals, 50% discount, Reference. Useful present free. Send 8c for U. S. stamp catalogue \$1.00 F. C. List, 1707 N 3rd street, Philadelphia, Pa.

A Distinguished British Collector On Tour in America.

We learn from the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly that Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, one of the leading members of the Philatelic Society of London and the possessor of one of the finest collections in England, is paying a visit to the United States, from whence he is to return home by way of Australia—not the shortest way round, by any means. Mr. Hausburg enjoys the honor of being one of the three English-speaking philatelists to win gold medals of the first class for exhibits at the recent Berlin Philatelic Exhibition—the other two being Baron DeWorms and Henry J. Crocker, of San Francisco.

THE READING TABLE.

What We Find In the Journals of the Hour.

The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain,
Aug. 25.

The current issue of the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain contains, as usual, some twenty pages or so of right good philatelic reading. Indeed, we could find it in our hearts to wish that this able English journal appeared oftener than once a month, for its arrival is an event which always insures us an evening of unalloyed enjoyment. Its contents is scarcely of the sort, however, that permits any very detailed critical analysis, and we are at some loss how to review it with any justice to the readability of the many features, whose full degree of interest could only be indicated by more copious quotations than the space at the disposal of this review will allow us to indulge in.

For instance, our contemporary's monthly biographical sketches of well-known philatelists are a feature which we personally find very fascinating. It is more than ordinarily pleasant to gaze upon the lineaments and learn something concerning the lives of the philatelic notabilities of Britain; but as to borrowing enough from these accounts to give our readers any accurate taste of their quality, we candidly confess ourselves unable to do so. The well-known philatelist whose personal appearance and whose philatelic career are, at one and the same time, made familiar to us in the P. J. of G. B.'s current number, is Mr. G. B. T. Nicholl, the possessor of one of the finest collections of English stamps in the world; and two pages are devoted to the story of his collecting experiences and to his views on the absorbing philatelic questions of the hour.

Several pages are given over to the usual Chronicle of New Issues and Varieties, and following this is the editorial page, devoted this month to discussing the feasibility of the proposed Index to Philatelic Literature, which the P. J. of G. B. considers to be neither very likely of accomplishment nor of any very widespread value even if it could be successfully compiled and published. The attitude taken in the editorial is that before any collector could properly appreciate a philatelic index he would require a fairly extensive philatelic library, and that such libraries are few and far between. Assuming this to be the case, the argument that such an index is widely needed by philatelic students falls to the ground. But as we ourselves have before remarked, we cannot bring ourselves to believe that reasonably good libraries of philatelic periodicals and books of reference are as scarce as some of the English journals seem to think. There are admittedly tens of thousands of close students of stamps within the confines of the four or five leading stamp collecting countries—say, the United States, England, France, Germany and India—

and it is incredible that the major portion of these can be pursuing their studies without the aid of the books and papers that are such important tools of the craft. No, we refuse to believe it, and we agree with Ewen's Weekly that such an index as proposed would be of infinite value to philately. As to whether or not it is feasible—why, that is another story.

Under the heading, "New Leaves To Cut," we find a very appreciative review of "The Stamps of the Philippines," America's latest contribution to the philatelist's bookshelf; and further on appears the continuation of the "Descriptive Catalogue of European Postage Stamps," which has for some time been appearing serially in the P. J. of G. B. and which furnishes especially valuable reference lists for young and medium-grade collectors. It has now progressed as far as Lubeck. "Society Reports" come next, and then that always entertaining feature, "The Philatelic Review of Reviews," as crisp and clever a bit of journalistic work as the whole philatelic press can boast of. The stamp papers of America, of England, of India and of Australia, all these engage the attention of the P. J. of G. B.'s reviewer, and of each he manages to summarize the salient features in a way that makes us quite painfully conscious of our own critical shortcomings. We only miss one thing from this English review—the comments on English and German stamp journals which used to be such a feature under the Brown-Bishop regime. But perhaps its present reviewer labors under our own disadvantage of being little learned in any tongue save English.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly,
Aug. 27-Sept. 10.

We have been dilatory in giving attention to this bi-weekly visitor, and the consequence is that we now face two numbers instead of one—the issues, namely, of Aug. 27 and Sept. 10. The former is mostly taken up with staple and familiar features, such as the chatty page headed "Philately at Home and Abroad," the special department on "Postal Cards and Covers," the taking editorials which are aptly entitled "Between Ourselves," and the ever-interesting miscellany of correspondence, questions and answers, called "Twixt Editor and Reader." And all of these stock features are brimful of interest. But what we have liked best in the whole number is the second installment of Mr. H. Wilfred Plumridge's article on "Scientific Bargain Hunting." The subject sounds like a dry one. In Mr. Plumridge's hands, however, it becomes vastly entertaining. Mr. Plumridge is a keen and practical stamp man, one of the best-known of London stamp auctioneers, and he speaks "from the inside." We do not think we can do better than to quote a section of his article, as follows:

"It will probably astonish not a few people to learn that in the past most of the greatest bargains have been purchased from dealers. The painstaking collector who takes a keen interest in

Panama Canal Zone Advanced Again.

2c rose new	- - - - -	\$5.00
5c blue	" - - - - -	2.00
10c orange	" - - - - -	2.00
Complete set of 3	- - - - -	8.00
Name on original Cover	- - - - -	8.00

The above stamps are fully guaranteed as being genuine. Unused stamps will have my initials in indelible ink. Used will be stamped on envelope.

U. S. CANAL ZONE.

1, 2, 5, 8 and 10c unused picked copies 40c.
Republic of Panama.

My stock is large and prices right. Let me send you a selection and convince you.

H. F. COLMAN,

725 11th St. N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

OCTOBER BARGAINS.

My specialty is Netherlands and Colonies. If you are desirous of completing your collection of these interesting countries at reasonable prices send me your want list.

o-new.	CURACAO	*used.
*1891, 25c on 30c	pearl gray	- - \$0.30
o1870-74, 2g	50c green and violet	- - \$2.00
o1900, 50c on 2g	50c green and orange	- \$2.25
	NETHERLANDS.	
*1852, 5c	blue	- - \$.08
*1872-75, 2g	50c rose and ultramarine	- .30
*1888, 7½c, 22½c, 1g.	the set	- .24
*1896, 50c em.	green and yellow brown	- .03
*1896, 1g	brown and olive	- .10
*1896, 5g.	green and r. brn. - rare	- 1.00
*1899, 2g	50c brown lilac	- .25
*1899, 5g.	claret	- .75

Postage extra on orders under 50c. Don't forget that Want List.

A. M. McNEIL

1282 Bergen street, Brooklyn, New York.

To any person sending the names and addresses of 25 young persons, together with 3 cents to pay for postage and packing, to

THE JUNIOR,

Bethlehem, Pa.

There will be sent a Handsomely Embossed Nickered Pencil Holder and Protector Combined.

Three Things.

First. Our daily list of Bargains.
Second. Some scarce stamps on approval.
Third. Auction catalogue of our first sale.

Any one is worth the effort to write.

Eben S. Martin Co, Inc.

Minneapolis, Minn.

his hobby, and who has generalized and specialized, unquestionably has a far greater knowledge of both stamps and values than have ninety-nine stamp dealers out of a hundred. The greatest bargain I personally ever picked up took the form of a slip of unused stamps, casually offered me by a dealer in an auction room while we were waiting for the auctioneer to start the sale. I bought the slip for £6 and sold it soon afterward for £100. I know a prominent collector who purchased a very scarce unused Colonial from a then well-known city dealer for a few shillings and who obtained nearly £50 for it when he sold his specialized collection of that particular country under the hammer. It is even said that a well-known collector, waiting in Gibbons' shop until Mr. Phillips should be disengaged, amused himself by looking through some of the firm's stock books, and not only made a

good many purchases, but subsequently sold a good proportion of them at a handsome profit to Mr. Phillips himself in the back office. I cannot vouch for this story, but it is quite likely to be true.

"Although many bargains can be picked up in dealers' approval and stock books, I cannot too clearly point out in this connection that the dealer loathes and rightly loathes the 'messer.' The dealer makes his living on the difference between his buying and selling prices, and probably does not care overmuch whether his customers get bargains or not if they will actually transact business. The messer is the man who after spending two or three hours in looking through approval book after approval book, generally looking up the list price of every stamp he sees in the catalogue that apparently never leaves him night or day, ultimately spends a few pence and says he will call again. The successful bargain hunter must have a strain of the sportsman in him, for he must recognize not only that the dealer's time is money, but that an occasional loss will only make his gains all the sweeter. There is a certain dealer in Paris who frequently gets some lovely out-of-the-way things, but who cannot be induced to allow anyone to see the best of his stock unless he thinks it likely that his trouble will be adequately rewarded. I believe it to be a fact that certain gentlemen whose footsteps are sometimes directed to a building not a thousand miles from Effingham House, aware of this peculiarity, have found from experience that it is well worth while, in order to put the shrewd Frenchman in the humor to show them everything that is to be seen, to begin business by casually purchasing for 200 or 300 francs some rare stamp or other, whether they want it or not."

Mr. Plumridge has much more to say in a similar vein, and his precept and his anecdote are equally good. The main lesson he inculcates, however, is the old, old one that if a collector is going to study stamps at all it pays to study them well—that the more you know about stamps the more profitably can you collect. And it is one that it does no harm to repeat again and again. We have little sympathy for the man who studies stamps solely in order that he may buy and sell them at a profit (we except, of course, the bona fide dealer), but to study stamps thoroughly and minutely with the idea of procuring specimens for your collections at the most advantageous rates the market affords is, of course, entirely laudable.

We have devoted overmuch space to the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, we fear. Of the number for Sept. 10, we will therefore say little—which is the easier to do because it contains no notable special article to tempt us from the resolve. Mr. A. Preston Pearce's "Fiscal Notes and Chronicle," a department in which every ardent fiscalist will rejoice: an "Asked and Answered" department, of something more than the usual interest, and a list of the awards at the Berlin Exhibition form its principal features,

aside from the regular departments mentioned as appearing in the preceding number, which are, of course, again in evidence in this one.

The Australian Journal of Philately, Sydney, Australia.

The Australian Journal of Philately is a periodical of the highest value and interest to Australian philatelists, but its contents is in the main of so insular a nature (if the term may be used with propriety in regard to philatelic interests in the "sixth continent") that we fear any lengthy review of its features would prove wearisome to our readers. We do not imply that there is in this any discredit to our Antipodean contemporary. The reverse of the proposition would presumably be true in case Mr. Smyth were to essay the review of any American stamp journal. The disability, however, does not extend so far as to preclude intelligible reference (at this end of the line) to a few main features of the issue of the A. J. of P. now on our table, bearing date (need we say that we refer to the periodical, not the piece of furniture), of August 10th.

Its opening feature is an excellent essay on "Philatelic Societies and Their Work," in which strong ground is taken that the true work of every society lies along the lines of stamp study, to the enlargement of its own members' practical, workable knowledge of stamps. The dominance of the commercial note in stamp societies is strongly deprecated, and the whole essay teems with truths which the members of stamp bodies could wisely ponder and heed.

"Federal Prospects" deals, as usual, with matters relating to the still seemingly distant Federal Issue for the entire Australian Commonwealth. "Notes" are of the varied nature the heading would imply, and contain no little excellent information. A "Review" of the "Postage Stamps of the Philippines," by Bartels, Palmer and Foster, bestows high praise on this American product; and Mr. Melville's "A B C of Stamp Collecting" also comes in for well-merited praise. The serial article on New Zealand Paper and Watermarks (a most excellent piece of work, by the way), comes to a conclusion. There are numerous interesting society reports and various other articles and items diversify the pages we have not noted. We regret not to give this excellent journal a review more in accord with its real merits.

CHICAGO CHAT.

(Continued from Page 1.)

advances tenfold or more, and the new owner becomes indignant if any price less than double catalogue is suggested. Minor varieties in his estimation are very great rarities, and the unpriced stamp in the catalogue means in his idea of philately that fifty or a hundred dollars is excessively cheap as an estimate.

The writer had an interview with the owner of one of these collections, who complained that it was a very easy matter to buy stamps (although he never purchased one), but when you

come to sell it was another story, and he threatened to write an article about stamp collecting when he finally sold this collection, which is to knock stamp collecting into a cocked hat, and then there will not be any more money foolishly expended for a fad that has nothing to recommend it, and where a man fails to get back what he has put into it when he comes to sell.

It is to be regretted that a stamp collection does not fall into more appreciative hands, the mere money value it may have only appealing to the one who later on becomes its owner, and owners of big collections should provide for such a contingency.

The meeting of the Chicago Philatelic Society on Thursday evening was very well attended, upward of thirty members and a number of visitors being in attendance. In the absence of President Oesch, the Vice President, Charlie Severn, presided in his usual happy manner and with his come-to-stay smile. There were two applications presented, one new member elected and one resignation, in addition to a large amount of routine work. Mr. Staab was relieved from his duties on the House Committee and Mr. A. Dahl appointed to fill his term and also to assist the Librarian. Mr. Mudge, chairman of the Entertainment Committee, gave us a very interesting talk about his visit to a recent meeting of the Boston Philatelic Society and told us how they "do things" at the Hub. Two exhibitions have been provided for, one for a silver medal given to the C. P. S. by the Boston Society, to be held Dec. 1st, and to consist of an exhibition of the Possessions of the United States. The other exhibition for next meeting to be "Numeral Stamps" only. This meeting was certainly a good seasons' opener.

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P. M. Wolsieffer
491 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

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good many purchases, but subsequently sold a good proportion of them at a handsome profit to Mr. Phillips himself in the back office. I cannot vouch for this story, but it is quite likely to be true.

"Although many bargains can be picked up in dealers' approval and stock books, I cannot too clearly point out in this connection that the dealer loathes and rightly loathes the 'messer.' The dealer makes his living on the difference between his buying and selling prices, and probably does not care overmuch whether his customers get bargains or not if they will actually transact business. The messer is the man who after spending two or three hours in looking through approval book after approval book, generally looking up the list price of every stamp he sees in the catalogue that apparently never leaves him night or day, ultimately spends a few pence and says he will call again. The successful bargain hunter must have a strain of the sportsman in him, for he must recognize not only that the dealer's time is money, but that an occasional loss will only make his gains all the sweeter. There is a certain dealer in Paris who frequently gets some lovely out-of-the-way things, but who cannot be induced to allow anyone to see the best of his stock unless he thinks it likely that his trouble will be adequately rewarded. I believe it to be a fact that certain gentlemen whose footsteps are sometimes directed to a building not a thousand miles from Effingham House, aware of this peculiarity, have found from experience that it is well worth while, in order to put the shrewd Frenchman in the humor to show them everything that is to be seen, to begin business by casually purchasing for 200 or 300 francs some rare stamp or other, whether they want it or not."

Mr. Plumridge has much more to say in a similar vein, and his precept and his anecdote are equally good. The main lesson he inculcates, however, is the old, old one that if a collector is going to study stamps at all it pays to study them well—that the more you know about stamps the more profitably can you collect. And it is one that it does no harm to repeat again and again. We have little sympathy for the man who studies stamps solely in order that he may buy and sell them at a profit (we except, of course, the bona fide dealer), but to study stamps thoroughly and minutely with the idea of procuring specimens for your collections at the most advantageous rates the market affords is, of course, entirely laudable.

We have devoted overmuch space to the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, we fear. Of the number for Sept. 10, we will therefore say little—which is the easier to do because it contains no notable special article to tempt us from the resolve. Mr. A. Preston Pearce's "Fiscal Notes and Chronicle," a department in which every ardent fiscalist will rejoice; an "Asked and Answered" department, of something more than the usual interest, and a list of the awards at the Berlin Exhibition form its principal features,

aside from the regular departments mentioned as appearing in the preceding number, which are, of course, again in evidence in this one.

The Australian Journal of Philately, Sydney, Australia.

The Australian Journal of Philately is a periodical of the highest value and interest to Australian philatelists, but its contents is in the main of so insular a nature (if the term may be used with propriety in regard to philatelic interests in the "sixth continent") that we fear any lengthy review of its features would prove wearisome to our readers. We do not imply that there is in this any discredit to our Antipodean contemporary. The reverse of the proposition would presumably be true in case Mr. Smyth were to essay the review of any American stamp journal. The disability, however, does not extend so far as to preclude intelligible reference (at this end of the line) to a few main features of the issue of the A. J. of P. now on our table, bearing date (need we say that we refer to the periodical, not the piece of furniture), of August 10th.

Its opening feature is an excellent essay on "Philatelic Societies and Their Work," in which strong ground is taken that the true work of every society lies along the lines of stamp study, to the enlargement of its own members' practical, workable knowledge of stamps. The dominancy of the commercial note in stamp societies is strongly deprecated, and the whole essay teems with truths which the members of stamp bodies could wisely ponder and heed.

"Federal Prospects" deals, as usual, with matters relating to the still seemingly distant Federal issue for the entire Australian Commonwealth. "Notes" are of the varied nature the heading would imply, and contain no little excellent information. A "Review" of the "Postage Stamps of the Philippines," by Bartels, Palmer and Foster, bestows high praise on this American product; and Mr. Melville's "A B C of Stamp Collecting" also comes in for well-merited praise. The serial article on New Zealand Paper and Watermarks (a most excellent piece of work, by the way), comes to a conclusion. There are numerous interesting society reports and various other articles and items diversify the pages we have not noted. We regret not to give this excellent journal a review more in accord with its real merits.

CHICAGO CHAT.

(Continued from Page 1.)

advances tenfold or more, and the new owner becomes indignant if any price less than double catalogue is suggested. Minor varieties in his estimation are very great rarities, and the unpriced stamp in the catalogue means in his idea of philately that fifty or a hundred dollars is excessively cheap as an estimate.

The writer had an interview with the owner of one of these collections, who complained that it was a very easy matter to buy stamps (although he never purchased one), but when you

come to sell it was another story, and he threatened to write an article about stamp collecting when he finally sold this collection, which is to knock stamp collecting into a cocked hat, and then there will not be any more money foolishly expended for a fad that has nothing to recommend it, and where a man fails to get back what he has put into it when he comes to sell.

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E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

YE EDITOR DISCOURSETH.

The Suggested Philatelic Index.

In our "Reading Table" for this week we reprint an editorial from the Monthly Journal on the proposed Index to Philatelic Literature, which we have felt would be of no little interest to such of our readers as own philatelic libraries and make use of them, and are therefore in sympathy with the agitation for a work of the kind suggested. As is remarked in our brief comment in the "Reading Table," Major Evans' views on this matter in many ways coincide with our own. But we utterly fail to see why he, or any other of the English philatelic editors who have been discussing the matter should waste a moment's time in considering either the desirability or the feasibility of a complete index. Nobody wants a complete index to all existing philatelic literature, and nobody, manifestly, will ever have the time and patience to compile one. What is really wanted—and what is wanted by practically every experienced collector who is not a mere philatelic automaton—is a thoroughly practicable general index to all the really important philatelic literature existing in the English language. Observe that we say "the really important," and then observe how greatly this simplifies the task. It eliminates from the reckoning probably seven-tenths of such a library as the Earl of Crawford's—to cite a conspicuous instance of an unusually fine and complete library of stamp periodicals and books of reference. A library of this cast, in which it is sought to preserve a copy of every number of every journal devoted in any way to stamp collecting, no matter how insignificant that journal may have been from a practical standpoint, necessarily contains thousands and thousands of pieces that can be wholly excluded from consideration in the compiling of any such work as this suggested index. Take the stamp periodicals of our own land, for example. Hundreds of different stamp papers have, at one time or another, seen the light in America. But

how many of them contained, as a regular thing, matter of sufficient permanent importance to justify the compiler of such an index in dealing with them? Certainly not over a dozen—perhaps scarcely that. If we were engaged in such a task, which—God forbid—we should deem it totally unnecessary to pay any attention to any other than the following American journals, including all that have appeared between 1864 and today: The Stamp Collector's Record, the American Stamp Mercury, the Philatelic Gazette, the American Journal of Philately, the American Philatelist, the Philatelic Journal of America, the Metropolitan Philatelist (in its old monthly form), and the Postoffice. There have been other American papers which were very good in their way, and for their time; but an index to the above would fully serve every purpose. The weekly philatelic newspapers of recent years would not need to be included, as they are molded on essentially newspaper rather than on magazine lines, and hardly come within the proper scope of such a work.

Among English periodicals, we should include the Stamp Collector's Magazine, the Philatelist, the Stamp Collector's Journal (possibly), the Philatelic Record, the Monthly Journal, the London Philatelist, the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, the Stamp Collector, the Philatelic Journal of India, and the two Australian papers. These, with the American journals heretofore noted, would provide all the material needed—and all the material desirable. Furthermore, it should not be lost sight of that it would be by no means necessary to provide a complete index to all these periodicals. Much of their contents would be found to be of a nature that could be skipped, without detriment to the value of the index. We need not indicate what this matter is. Every stamp journal, no matter of how advanced a type, necessarily contains much matter that is of ephemeral interest only—any attempt to index which would simply complicate and enlarge the work, without any commensurate addition to its practical value.

We do not see why a practical index of the important part of the contents of the above journals (with the addition, of course, of adequate references to all important philatelic handbooks) is not to be considered feasible. Even this would of course be a task requiring years for its proper accomplishment, and entail an infinite amount of rarely arduous labor. But it is at least possible of accomplishment, whereas the idea of a complete index to all philatelic literature must be dismissed as hopelessly and utterly impracticable.

One great objection which has been raised to the proposal to open a subscription list for the purpose of obtaining funds wherewith to compile and publish a complete index—the objection, namely, that it would, when completed, be of use only to that small minority of philatelic students who own or have access to extensive philatelic libraries—would apply with much less force (if it applied at

all) to the amended plan above suggested. A great many collectors do own or have access to libraries which contain files of at least some of the periodicals above referred to, and even if every index reference could not in all cases be looked up, for lack of the volume to be referred to, enough of them could, in most cases, be seen and studied to fully meet the requirements of the average user of the index. We believe, furthermore, that the existence of such an index would prove a great stimulus to collectors to complete their files of such valuable journals as have been previously named, and that it would make many a now useless and unclassified accumulation of old stamp journals a valuable adjunct to their possessors' collecting paraphernalia. In a word, it would facilitate stamp study—an end which every sincere well-wisher of philately will concede to be eminently desirable.

We would like to see the discussions of this matter removed from the domain of moonshine—we, of course, except Major Evans' very sensible editorial, to which we only object that it still has a lingering fondness for the "complete" idea—and talked over in a practical, common sense way, with some eye to the fact that, under reasonable limitations, a philatelic index is less impracticable of accomplishment than it would at first sight seem.

[Since writing the above we have received the September number of the Stamp Collector of Birmingham, England, containing an article on the index question which expresses very much the same views as the above. The coincidence confirms our belief in the correctness of our own deductions.]

"The Harmless Maniac."

While recently reading the remarks of a leading English newspaper (not a philatelic one, but a member of the lay press) upon some features of stamp-collecting that it chanced to think worthy of comment we struck into rather a novel vein of thought. The item commenced thusly: "The harmless maniac who collects postage stamps has now the opportunity," etc., etc. (the remainder is immaterial); and the thought that suggested itself was this: English newspapers are forever titting at collectors and collecting, picking out philatelic idiosyncrasies and making them the target of derisive paragraphs. In America, the newspapers seldom say anything at all, good, bad or indifferent. Now is it not possible that some part of the immense vogue which stamp-collecting enjoys in England (there is no question of its vogue being greater in England than in this country) is due to the interest aroused in the subject by this very class of newspaper comment? If a book is pronounced unfit for respectable persons to read, it is at once assured of a large sale; if a public place of any sort is condemned and ridiculed, curiosity is led to lead hosts of people thither (for a concrete example, witness the now famous Subway Tavern); may there not be some analogy between these facts and the

great spread of stamp-collecting in a country whose press (with, of course, some exception) for fifty years has delighted in belaboring the stamp-collector's back? "If you can't say something good about me, say something bad about me—but say something." That was Barnum's theory. And we rather think it would be better for stamp-collecting in this country if the newspapers abused it roundly, than if they remained loftily unaware of its existence—as seems to be the present rule. We can't help thinking what a grand advertisement Philately would get if the New York Sun, or the Louisville Courier-Journal, or some other journal of equally strong dislikes and equally able powers of vituperation, should contract a grievance against Philately.

CHICAGO CHAT.

(Continued from Page 1.)

constitutes the finest stamp. It was admitted that the stamp selected by the judges was a very handsome stamp, yet a number of members had favorites of their own. Mr. Wolsieffer heartily endorsed the stand taken by Miss Amy Swift on the subject and his choice of the handsomest stamp from all viewpoints being the 90-cent Purple of 1888 of the United States. Mr. Staab and Mr. Fred Michael favored the \$1 black Omaha. Mr. Mudge rather favored the 1d. red of Great Britain and Mr. Severn was partial to the 90-cent Purple. Opinions varied as to the method of conducting such an inquiry and the judges were given great credit for their selection under somewhat trying conditions.

The usual stamp drawing, which is a feature of Branch meetings, took place and Mr. Mudge was the lucky winner, the Society Collection getting its share of the prizes, which is one of the rules.

Items among the trade are scarce this week. Stevens & Company have just issued a new edition of their coin book. Mr. Staab, of the United States Coin and Stamp Exchange, is getting out a new edition of their Premium Coin Book, which enjoys a very large sale. Mr. Wolsieffer says business is good notwithstanding the approaching election and he reports two visitors, Mr. Duncan Kay, of Cincinnati, and Mr. F. E. Humeston, of Rockford, Ill. Mr. Green is getting ready for another one of his popular Coin Auction Sales and reports business good, so on the whole Chicago seems to be very much awake in both stamps and coins. Nothing sounds so good to the correspondent's ears as to be told "business is good and I have no time to talk to you this morning, please excuse me."

Would it be asking too much of you to let your collecting friend see your copy of this paper, tell him how you like it and ask him if you may not send in his subscription for it?

DETROIT DRIFT.

(Continued from Page 1.)

of the case to him and offered him 30 cents for the lot. After a few minutes' arguing he accepted and went away, a sadder but much wiser man.

L. G. Rodrigues, of Georgetown, Demerara, British Guiana, has taken up his residence here. He has long been one of the most prominent collectors in British Guiana, and has amassed a particularly fine collection of South and Central Americans. He has also an excellent collection of British Colonialists. He will be warmly welcomed by the local philatelic fraternity.

STAMP DOINGS IN GOTHAM.

(Continued from Page 1.)

The board of trustees chose as their officers Mr. J. M. Andreini, President, Mr. A. Perrine, Secretary, Mr. W. W. Dewing, Treasurer.

Among the collections shown on Monday evening none attracted more favorable notice than that of Baron von Hodenberg. It is a specialized collection of the old German States and probably without equal in this country.

All the dealers are being offered by the letter carriers the card of a South American stamp dealer enclosed in an envelope. All are taxed 6 cents postage due, and of course all are refused.

What penalty may be inflicted on the sender when they are returned to him I do not know but his attempt to secure foreign trade will prove a dismal failure. And all through ignorance of the postal laws. His very neat card, conforming to the postal requirements, stamped and addressed, was enclosed in an envelope through which a circular hole had been cut disclosing the stamp. The fact that the card bore writing, i. e., an address, rendered it liable to letter postage. No doubt he has circularized all published names available.

Personal Mention.

Mr. Rich, who has been trying for the past six years to obtain a file of the Polish journal, *Polaski Filatelista*, has just succeeded in finding it.

On Thursday, October 6, I. A. Mekeel, formerly owner and manager of Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News, and now manager of the Dry Goods Economist delivered an address on "Trade Paper Publicity" before the members of the International Advertising Association at St. Louis.

W. James Wurtele has discontinued the Montreal Philatelist through failure to make the paper earn an adequate return on the time and labor expended in issuing it.

H. W. Boers of Detroit is in St. Louis attending the Fair.

In giving advice to young business men an expert says: "Advertising space is as much a part of your business and property as is the window in which you display goods or the office where you do business. Get rid of the woefully mistaken idea that advertising is something outside of a business—a mere external aid, but not an integral part of it. Advertising is a vital part of business."

One of my customers writes.

"I have been looking for this stamp over a year; wrote to foremost Dealers but could not get it."

This stamp is priced at \$3.00 to \$3.15 in America and English lists, my price was \$2.00 net.

I can supply the Goods!

Why not write me?

Frank P. Brown,

339 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.

Bargains in

Newfoundland Stamps.

1897	1c Cabot	- - -	per 10	\$0.35
"	2c Cabot	- - -	" 10	.30
"	3c Cabot	- - -	" 10	.10
1898	1c green	- - -	" 100	.40
"	3c orange	- - -	" 100	.40
"	5c duke	- - -	" 10	.25
"	4c duchess	- - -	" 10	.30

Write for wholesale list free to dealers.

Rare stamps send on approval to responsible Collectors.

WM. NOFTALL,

St. John's

P. O. Box 121. NEWFOUNDLAND.

Blank Approval Books.

Far better than sheets for agents use and for duplicates

We have them printed on good paper with light blue covers to hold 60 and 100 stamps respectively.

Postage free. Per 12 books Per 100
No. 1 to hold 60 stamps - - - \$ 10 \$.60
No. 2 to hold 100 stamps - - - 15 .80

Not fewer than 12 sold.

THE JUNIOR, Bethlehem, Pa.

EVERY WEEK

We issue a little paper, it contains some things some times that are not

found elsewhere, at all events over 5,000 collectors are paying to receive it. You may receive it 10 weeks on trial for 10 cents.

Mekeel's Stamp Collector

Published Weekly by

C. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUBLISHING CO.

ST. LOUIS, Missouri.

To any person sending the names and addresses of 25 young persons, together with 3 cents to pay for postage and packing, to

THE JUNIOR,

Bethlehem, Pa.

There will be sent a Handsomely Embossed Nickeled Pencil Holder and Protector Combined.

Three Things.

First. Our daily list of Bargains.

Second. Some scarce stamps on approval.

Third. Auction catalogue of our first sale

Any one is worth the effort to write.

Eben S. Martin Co, Inc.

Minneapolis, Minn.

A Page of Precept For Young Collectors.

(Conducted by the Editor.)

Note: This department is more particularly intended for stamp collectors of the primary and intermediate grades, and not for advanced scholars of Philately. Any of the latter class who may care to read it do so at their own risk.

The Technicalities Of Collecting.

Many people make a great ado about what they are pleased to term the technicalities of stamp collecting—as if the study of stamps were like the study of law or medicine, bristling with obscure and knotty problems, only to be mastered by the most intense and earnest application. As a matter of fact, there is nothing about these technicalities which need in any way alarm even the youngest and most inexperienced stamp-lover. For it is not needful for anyone to attempt or expect to learn all about them at the very beginning, or, indeed, for quite a good long while. The pleasure to be gotten out of stamps is not at all dependent upon expert knowledge of how to distinguish different varieties of type, paper, perforations, etc.; and perhaps the less one dabbles in these sub-varieties during the first few years of his collecting the better it is in all ways.

The fact, however, that so much of the matter appearing in philatelic periodicals treats of technical varieties naturally leads the young collector to wish to at least know the meaning of these technicalities—a wish which we shall do our best from time to time to meet in these columns. And let it first be understood that the main end to be served by taking cognizance of such things as differences in the paper or the perforation or the watermark of two stamps whose designs and color are precisely alike is this: it helps the great authorities on stamps to more accurately classify various emissions of a country, according to their dates of issue. These little differences in stamps supply the clue to many facts that would otherwise never be learned. That is why they have been and are being studied so diligently. Long as stamps have been collected there are still many points about some of the issues of various countries which remain to be cleared up. And the essays which are so full of consideration of technical points about stamps are obliged to resort to this minute analysis in order to prove the facts they set out to demonstrate. View the technicalities of stamp collecting in this light and you will readily see that your main interest for the present lies in knowing about them, from a theoretical standpoint, and not in attempting to make use of them in your own collecting—save in such small ways as we shall seek to indicate hereafter.

Different Kinds Of Paper.

A stamp is primarily nothing more

than a bit of paper. Varieties of paper are therefore logically the first class of technical varieties to enlist our attention. When a country decides to print its stamps on a radically different kind of paper from that it has hitherto used, although without any change in the designs or colors of the stamps, the stamps on the new paper are considered by collectors to be an entirely distinct issue from the old one. For example, the United States had never used a watermarked paper for its stamps up to the year 1895. In that year it was decided to do so; and the authorities commenced printing all the U. S. postage stamps on paper watermarked "U. S. P. S." No change whatever was made in the designs—nevertheless it is deemed a new issue. It is not at all needful for the young collector to collect the two sets one on watermarked paper and one on unwatermarked paper, unless he wishes to. The designs are just alike, and, as we have before said, your first consideration in building a collection should be to get as many stamps of different design as possible. Nevertheless, as these are very recently used U. S. stamps and you may be able to get hold of nearly complete sets of both the watermarked and the unwatermarked series without any cost, by searching through letters sent during the nineties, many of you doubtless will gladly include both sets in your collection. To do so is perfectly justifiable from a philatelic standpoint. This adoption of watermarked paper by our government was really a very notable innovation—was precisely one of those things in which stamp collectors take greater interest than other people, because they see points in such an innovation which the general public does not. The average man, in reading at the time that our government had decided to use watermarked paper gave no thought to the significance of the move—indeed, had no notion of its significance. The stamp collector of experience knew, however, that watermarked paper had played a great part in stamp production; that scores of stamp issuing nations had printed their stamps on this class of paper as a safeguard against forgery; that these watermarks included many of decidedly fanciful and ingenious design, which writers on stamps had taken pains to list and describe; that the United States had used watermarked paper for its envelopes, but never for its stamps; and so on. Can it not readily be seen why the advanced collector would reasonably wish to mark this departure from established precedent in the making of U. S. stamps by placing in his album a set of the new watermarked issue? And can it not also be seen how the change from one class of paper to another in the stamps of any country possesses decided interest to those who are seeking to know all they can about the issues of that country?

Wove Paper And Laid Paper.

The most important distinction in regard to varieties of paper, as recogniz-

ed by stamp collectors, is not, however, that which depends on the presence or absence of a watermark. You will constantly come upon the terms "wove paper" and "laid paper" in your philatelic reading, and these two kinds of paper form the basis of so many important distinctions in stamp collecting that it is well to take some pains to learn to identify them, even though you may not often wish to collect both the wove and the laid paper varieties of the same set. We will not take space to describe the processes of manufacture which differentiate these two kinds of paper. Their difference in appearance is this—laid paper on being held to the light and closely scrutinized shows close parallel lines across its surface; wove paper, on the other hand, on being held to the light discloses no such lines, but a perfectly plain surface. It takes some practice to be able to distinguish between the two; but the matter is not, in the main, a difficult one. By looking up in the catalogue some one of your stamps which is never found on any other than wove paper, and carefully comparing its texture with that of some other stamp which the catalogue tells you is never found save on laid paper—and by repeating the process with other specimens chosen in a similar way—you can, we think, readily familiarize yourself with the different appearance of the two kinds of paper. It is the more worth while to do so because a stamp is often very common and low priced on one of these two kinds of paper and much rarer and higher priced on the other—and should you happen to secure the rarer one, it will, of course, be of interest to know it.

Other Varieties Noted.

There are various other varieties of the paper on which stamps are printed (all of them being subdivisions of these two classes, "wove" and "laid") to which philatelic writers make more or less frequent reference. We shall not take space to describe them minutely, as there is really very little need for you to pay much attention to them, but the main points of difference in a few of them may be briefly told.

Batonne Paper is a class of laid paper in which the parallel lines are much more noticeable and much farther apart than usual. It has very seldom been used in stamp printing.

Diagonally and Horizontally Laid Papers are terms which designate the direction taken by the parallel lines. In diagonally laid paper they take a diagonal course across the stamp, while in horizontally laid they assume a horizontal direction. The difference is one of very slight importance.

India Paper is a very fine grade of specially made paper, used for proofs of stamps, being too expensive for regular use.

Native Paper implies a rough, coarse paper of primitive make by some people remote from the great paper-making centres. Many of the stamps of the Native States of India are on this class of paper.

Pelure is a thin but tough kind of fibrous wove paper, which was occasionally used in the early days of stamp manufacture.

Ribbed Paper is a very coarse kind of wove paper showing ribbed lines.

Silk Thread Paper is that into the fibre of which a silk thread is woven, as a precautionary measure against forgery. Instances of its use in stamp making are very rare.

Thick and Thin Paper are relative terms, not easy to exactly define. They are, of course, used to distinguish cases where paper of different thickness is employed, but the young collector will have little occasion to attempt to decide between them.

Tinted Paper is, of course, that in which some color other than white is found on the space outside the design of the stamp proper.

A Roman States Puzzle.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, in its "Asked and Answered" column, recently propounded the following query: "What was the use or object of the cross (St. Andrew's Cross, I believe), sometimes impressed on the stamps of the Roman States?"

The current number contains the following note among the answers received, which seems to show that the object of the cross in question must be set down as another of the unfathomable mysteries of stamp history:

"We have had a great variety of replies to this question, but we are not in a position to single out any one contribution as being quite the true solution of the mystery. Several readers repeat the old story that these stamps bearing the sign of the cross are a relic of the days when Rome was scourged by the cholera plague. In 1864, we are told, it was represented to Pope Pius IX that letters leaving Rome might carry infection. His Holiness thereupon had the sheets of stamps brought before him and blessed them, after which all the stamps of these particular sheets were marked with the St. Andrew's Cross in token of the Pope's blessing.

"It is a pretty story, but we should like a little solid evidence in support of it. Many continental writers have poo-hooed this and similar stories, and we well remember the Deutsche Briefmarken Zeitung declaring that the cross was simply the postmark for the little town of Ferrara. On the other hand, Mr. J. H. Anheisser some years ago formulated a theory that the St. Andrew's Cross was a mark indicating, not the Pope's blessing, but a formal disinfection by the postal authorities.

In an early number of the Fortnightly Dr. Bryant quoted a clause from a postal convention entered into by the Papal States and the Austrian Empire as showing that the cross was "an official sign or mark" applied to letters to show that the correct proportion of the amount payable for local and foreign postage had been duly calculated in accordance with agreement. The mark was not necessarily applied to the stamp, Dr. Bryant explained, but was often placed

A Corner For Philo-Bibliophiles.

We propose devoting a column or two (perhaps occasionally a page) to matters of interest to "philo-bibliophiles"—that is to say, to those who are ardent collectors of philatelic literature—if not every week, at least once or twice a month. The editor of this journal is himself a very ardent "philo-bibliophile" and he cannot forbear getting a word in now and then regarding his favorite hobby. Communications concerning any point of interest to philatelic literature collectors are cordially invited.

The Earl of Crawford, possessor of the world's largest and most complete library of philatelic literature, is advertising his want list in a leading English journal, as was mentioned by our London correspondent in a recent number. Doubtless his Lordship is willing to pay a good price for any of the periodicals specified, and we therefore print below the American section of the list. Should any of our readers possess any of the following and be desirous of selling, we will, upon request, inform them of the address of the Earl's London representatives, who have the present matter in hand. The list:

Bay State Philatelist, Melrose Highlands, Mass. All Vol. 1; Nos. 2, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, Vol. II; Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 12, Vol. IV; and any after No. 2, Vol. V.

Bi-Monthly Collector, McGraw, N. Y., 1899. All after No. 1, Vol. I, to No. 2, Vol. II; and then after No. 3, Vol. II.

Brooklyn Philatelist, New series, New York, 1897. Any after No. 1.

Buckeye Philatelist, Tippacanoe City, O., 1899. No. 4, and any after No. 6.

Bay State Collector, Marlboro, Mass., 1897. No. 5.

Canadian Weekly Stamp News, Toronto, 1895. No. 11 and any after No. 18.

Columbian Philatelist, Windsor, Conn., and New Oxford, Pa., 1896-97. Any after No. 13.

Connecticut Philatelist, Meriden, Conn., 1896. Any after No. 2.

Canadian Philatelic Magazine, Toronto, 1897. All after Vol. III, No. 12.

Capitol Philatelist, Springfield, Ill., 1893. Nos. 3, 1, and any after No. 5.

Chronicle, Philadelphia, 1895-86. No. 2.

Collectors' Journal, Lynchburg, 1896. Nos. 1, 2.

Collector, Philadelphia, 1885-87. Vol. I, No. 1; Vol. II, Nos. 7, 9, 11, 12; Vol. III, Nos. 7, 9, and any after No. 11.

Curiosity Collector, Oberlin, O., 1893. No. 2.

Chair City Collector, West Gardner, Mass., 1894-85. No. 4, and any after No. 5.

Chariton Gazette, Chariton, Ia., 1896-87. Any after No. 1, Vol. II.

Common Sense and Exchangers' Friend, Mexico, N. Y., 1897-89. Nos. 21, 22, 23.

Collectors' News, Danesburgh, N. Y., 1899-90. No. 7.

Coin Collector's Journal, Middlebury and Torrington, Conn., 1891-93. Nos. 2, 3,

on the cover in addition to the ordinary "Annulate" cancellation." Which is one to believe?

Panama Canal Zone Advanced Again.

2c rose new	- - - - -	\$5.00
5c blue "	- - - - -	2.00
10c orange "	- - - - -	2.00
Complete set of 3	- - - - -	8.00
Same on original Cover	- - - - -	8.00

The above stamps are fully guaranteed as being genuine. Unused stamps will have my initials in indelible ink. Used will be stamped on envelope.

U. S. CANAL ZONE.

1, 2, 5, 8 and 10c unused picked copies 40c.

Republic of Panama.

My stock is large and prices right. Let me send you a selection and convince you.

H. F. COLMAN,

725 11th St. N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

4 and 5.

Collectors' Magazine, Paterson, N. J., 1891. Nos. 2, 3.

Canada Stamp Sheet and Energy, Quebec. All numbers.

California Stamp, San Francisco, Cal., 1897. Any after No. 2.

Clipper, Sioux City, Ia., 1899. Any after No. 7.

Collector's Journal, Fayette, Ia., 1901. No. 2, and any after No. 4.

Columbian, later Columbus Philatelist, Columbus, O., 1901. Nos. 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and any after No. 9, except No. 1, Vol. II.

Collectors' Journal, Brooklyn, N. Y., 1888. No. 2.

A study of the above list is interesting to the literature collector in not a few ways, and especially in reminding us that even the best of philatelic libraries must have many gaps. The editor has been running through this list to see how many of them happen to be in his own library, and has jotted down these stray memoranda on the subject. Perhaps they may interest other owners of libraries.

Brooklyn Philatelist. I have never seen a copy.

Bay State Philatelist. This paper died less than three years ago, and many collectors must possess complete files. It was a fair stamp publication of the juvenile class.

Canadian Weekly Stamp News. I have no number later than No. 18. Were any issued?

Canadian Philatelic Magazine. Does this refer to the advertising sheet issued sporadically under that name by W. R. Adams?

Collector's Journal. Have never seen a copy.

Common Sense. I have only been able to secure a few scattering numbers of this paper. It is one of the most interesting journals of its era.

Canadian Stamp Sheet. This is a comparatively recent publication, of which there should be many complete files extant. I have all but one number.

California Stamp. Did not this paper stop with No. 2?

Columbus Philatelist. There ought to be plenty of copies of this still procurable.

Collectors' Journal, Brooklyn. I have No. 1 only, dated August, 1887. Were there any others?

THE READING TABLE.

What We Find In the Journals of the Hour.

The Monthly Journal, London, England.

The Monthly Journal for August 31st is principally notable for its very complete and excellent account of the exhibits at the Berlin Philatelic Exhibition, occupying no less than twelve of our contemporary's liberal-sized pages. The report is from the pen of Mr. Chas. J. Phillips, himself one of the judges of the Exhibition; and the leading points of each exhibit honored with a medal (in all over one hundred medals, of different classes, were conferred on the various exhibitors) are analyzed in a way which makes the reading of the account only second in interest to a personal visit to the exhibition. The very reading is enough to make one's mouth water. Such a conclave of rare and interesting specimens has seldom been recorded in all the annals of philatelic exhibitions; and one reads on and on in sheer bewilderment at the energy and enthusiasm which could suffice to bring together, even if for but one brief week, such thousands of philatelic gems, from every quarter of Europe. We last week gave a greatly condensed summary of this report—the merest skeleton of the original—and must refer the interested to the pages of the *M. J.* itself if they desire an exhaustive description of all the more notable exhibits. We cannot spare space to treat the matter as it should be treated, even if it were permissible to avail ourselves, in a wholesale way, of our contemporary's report. But we can spare space to praise as good a piece of work of its kind as we have ever seen, and we heartily congratulate Mr. Phillips on having so successfully analyzed for his readers the real pith and marrow of each exhibit deserving extended mention.

The length of this Berlin report has crowded out, it would appear, all other leading articles from the number. The *Chronicle of New Issues and Varieties* is, however, in evidence, with its customary quota of wit, wisdom and authority. And so are Major Evans' always pithy and pertinent editorials. The principal editorial is on that very much discussed will-o'-the-wish, "The Philatelic Index," and is so saturated with sound sense that we believe we may be pardoned for quoting it entire, as follows:—

"A good deal of interest seems to have been aroused of late in the question of compiling a General Index of Philatelic Literature. It is not a new subject; indeed, like the old 'Permanent Album' and the more modern 'Ideal Catalogue,' it has been discussed more than once, with the invariable result that the eminent desirability and the extreme difficulty of its accomplishment were equally fully acknowledged. We have also been given to understand, on more than one occasion, that some progress was being made

with this great work in various quarters, but of what extent that progress is, and whether it keeps pace with the vast increase to the material to be indexed that is turned out year after year, we have no means of knowing.

"The great utility of such a work to students of philately, and most especially to those who are engaged in adding to the material alluded to above, will be universally admitted; but at the same time it must not be forgotten that such an index may be regarded from two entirely different points of view, which we may perhaps venture to term the Practical and Bibliographical. A complete Philatelic Index, like a complete Philatelic Library, will contain innumerable items that are of no practical use to anyone in the world. The great rarities of the library will be the little, early catalogues, some of which are certainly of considerable interest, and the little magazines that never got beyond one or two numbers, the great majority of which are of no interest whatever. To make his index complete, the compiler of it must have access to a complete library, a thing which we believe does not exist, or he must get other people to index for him the books, etc., which he is not able to examine personally, and it appears to us that under existing circumstances the work is never likely to be complete and up to date. Again, the person who wants to make use of this complete index and to study all that has been published about the stamps of some special country, must also have access to an equally complete library, and he will be likely to find that at least 50 per cent. of the references to his subject are entirely useless to him. The complete index must include everything, useful or useless, and if all are so classified and arranged, so as to show what is the nature of the information to be found in each place, the work will be a huge one, too expensive and unwieldy for ready sale or common use.

"We cannot lay claim to any special knowledge of the very difficult science of indexing; we strive year after year to improve the index of our own annual volume, but we are fully aware that it is far from perfect. In the using of the index of other philatelic journals and books of reference we have had a good deal of experience, and we are led thereby to believe that for all practical purposes something very much less elaborate and cumbersome than a complete index would be amply sufficient. What the student wants to find are, first, the principal articles and handbooks dealing with the subjects that he is studying, and, secondly, contemporary chronicles showing the dates at which new issues and varieties were first noted. For the first, and we may almost say for the first alone, he wants a general index, showing him where the articles he requires are to be found, and what special works on the subject have been published; for the second, he must in any case hunt through the magazines, and a search through a couple of volumes of one of the leading magazines of the period will probably be sufficient. A gen-

eral index to the 'New Issues' columns of the various magazines may be of some service if separated from the index to articles, but it would be necessary to show the date, as well as the number, of the volume referred to; and the rest of the complete index, relating to little scraps of information, such as we give in our 'Answers to Correspondents,' or to descriptions of the rarities contained in certain collections or exhibited at certain exhibitions, or to the thousand and one little personal and other items that help to fill the columns of periodical literature, will for the most part be quite useless."

We will not take space here to add any comment of our own to this thoughtful and very practical editorial, but we deem the subject of such interest to philatelic students in general that we deal with the matter at some length in another column.

Morley's Philatelic Journal, London, England.

Morley's Philatelic Journal possesses the distinction of being the only periodical in the world devoted primarily to the interests of collectors of fiscal stamps. Its columns are not absolutely closed to matter concerning postage stamps. Occasionally an item or article relating in some way to postage stamps finds a welcome in its pages. But its chief glory is as the organ of fiscalism—and to whoever delves seriously in the fiscal field it is an indispensable publication. Fiscal stamps are still in the investigative stage—to coin a rather unorthodox adjective. Of few countries, indeed, can it be said that all its varieties of fiscal stamps are known and listed; and in many it is likely that not half the actual varieties have as yet been listed. Morley's Philatelic Journal is naturally, therefore, largely given over to lists of varieties in various fiscal issues, compiled and revised by various sedulous workers. It is, in fact, much the same sort of journal as was *La Timbre Poste* during the early days of postage stamp collecting—a paper too busy in collecting information as to what varieties of stamps existed to pay much attention to the literary graces. The man who seeks diversion from his stamp journal would give scant shrift to Mr. Morley's paper. But the dyed-in-the-wool fiscalist will find immense pleasure and profit in its pages—and, of course, he, not the chance reader, is the man for whose behoof it is prepared.

The current (August) issue—Morley's Journal is not always remarkable for punctuality—contains as follows: "The Revenue Stamps of Dominican Republic," by Walter Morley; "The Newspaper Tax Stamps of Great Britain," also by Mr. Morley; "Editorial," "British Railway Stamps," by "K;" "Some New Railway Stamps," by G. W. J. Potter; "The Marine Insurance and General Duty Adhesives of Great Britain," and a "Fiscal Chronicle." A diversified contents, indeed, and it is not for us to even attempt to review it. But we can, of a certainty, heartily commend Morley's Philatelic Journal to all collectors who have any inclination to amass and study foreign fiscals.

An Abridged Philatelic Dictionary.

Philatelic Terms and Phrases Defined For The Benefit of Beginners.

Editorial Note.—The following has been compiled from various sources, the largest number of definitions being taken from Egan and Kissinger's "Stamp Collector's Hand Book," an excellent work published in 1894, but now, we believe, out of print. We make no claim of completeness for this list, which is simply intended to define in as few words as possible a few of the more important technical words and terms in Philately's special vocabulary.

Albino.—An albino is a stamped envelope showing an impression of the design, but with the color entirely wanting. The outlines of the die show with perfect plainness where it is embossed on the envelope, but not a particle of color appears in any part of the design. The existence of albinos is due to error in printing, whereby it is accidentally neglected to charge the die with ink. Albinos are of some interest as curiosities, but have no special market value.

Aniline Colors.—Stamps are described as printed in aniline colors when made with inks that are not impervious to the action of water. Stamps of this kind will lose part or all of their colors if immersed in water. Example, Russian stamps.

Arabesque.—A graceful pattern often used ornamentally in stamps. See those in the corners of the Austrians of 1867.

Canceled to Order.—Canceled to order stamps are those which are sold to collectors and dealers already canceled, although they have not been used. The presence of the cancellation mark is intended to create the false impression that they have seen actual postal duty. There is no incentive to cancel stamps to order except in cases where a stamp is more valuable in a used than in an unused state. The fact that such stamps appear on the market implies, in each such case, dishonest collusion between the postal official authorizing the sale of them and the dealer or collector who buys them.

Changelings.—Stamps changed in color by the use of chemicals. The color of many stamps can be quite visibly changed by the use of certain acids. No one, of course, seeks to make such changes except for dishonest purposes—that is, to change some common variety into the semblance of some rare one, only of greater rarity on account of difference of shade. Changelings are nowadays rarely met with.

Cleaned Stamps.—Cleaned stamps, in the philatelic sense of the term, are used stamps from which all trace of the cancellation mark has been feloniously removed, in order that they may sell as unused specimens. Such stamps are, of course, regummed, to give them every possible appearance of being

new. Such stamps used to be frequently met with, but are now seldom seen.

College Stamps.—Private stamps issued by certain English colleges many years ago, for the prepayment of fees on letters delivered by the college messengers. These college stamps were ultimately suppressed by the British Government as an infringement on the Government's special postal privilege.

The "Connell" Stamp.—The 5-cent, 1861, of New Brunswick (No. 12 in Scott's Catalogue). One of the most famous of stamps, through the peculiar circumstances attending its issue. Postmaster General Connell, of New Brunswick, placed his own portrait on this stamp, without consulting his official superiors. The British Government deemed the act a decided impertinence on his part (especially as the face of no subject of England had at any time been permitted to appear on any English Colonial stamp—that honor being tacitly understood to be reserved for Royalty itself) and suppressed the entire issue, save some few copies that had already passed through the post, at the same time requiring Mr. Connell to resign from his office. The "Connell" is one of the most rare and interesting of all stamps.

Continentials.—The name commonly given to the very commonest class of European stamps.

Cut Squares.—This term, with its companion one, viz., Cut Round, refer to the shape in which an embossed envelope stamp is cut out from the envelope by the collector. Cut Round Envelopes are those in which the scissors have closely followed the outer edge of the design; Cut Square Envelopes are those in which the scissors assume the course of four straight lines, one on each side of the design. These definitions are perhaps a trifle vague, but the terms being almost self-explanatory, we need not, we think, make any attempt to render our meaning clearer.

Double-Perforated Stamps.—Those which, through accidental displacement in the perforating machine, receive an extra row of perforations, running through some portion of the stamp.

Essays.—An essay is an experimental stamp, submitted to the authorities with a view to the adoption of its design for forthcoming issues; but rejected as unsuitable by those having the matter in charge. Essays, not being postage stamps in any sense of the term, but merely specimen designs for postage stamps (printed, of course, on the same kind of paper and in the same colors as would be used in actual stamp printing) have no actual philatelic status. They are, however, often intensely interesting as showing "what might have been."

Entires.—Entire Envelopes, Post Cards and Wrappers. Some collectors of these cut out the stamp and throw away the rest of the envelope, postcard or wrapper. The collector of "Entires," on the contrary, does no cutting, but preserves the envelope, etc., in its original form.

(To be Continued.)

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display. A line will average seven words. Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

A block of 6 of the 2c lake, 1860 issue, Imperforated \$15.00 L228 c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

8 Varieties of the World's Fair (Chicago 1886) postal cards, with a 1 cent unused Columbian on each, for 20 cents (The face value is 2 cents each.)

E. T. PARKER, Bethlehem, Pa.

A full sheet of 50 10-cent 1847, Card Board proofs \$20.00 (a single one catalogues at \$1.00) Proof, c/o THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

WANTED to buy Western Union franks issue of 1887. Bradley c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

I want to buy Italy, 1861, 2c black newspaper stamps in any quantity, State number you have and give price. Bradley c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

Free 30 different foreign to all applicants for my sheets enclosing stamp for postage Reference required. BASIL PERRY, Coolspring, Delaware.

50 varieties Australian 25 cents, Geo. A. Knight, 90 Meridian st., Boston.

100 U. S. mixed (1c to \$1.00)..... 9c. 1 to 10c. Columbian or St. Louis..... 11c. List free. R. R. McGill, 7 Burton Pl., Chicago.

12 colored Souvenir Postals of California, 25c. C. Farman, Golden Gate, Oakland, Cal.

50 fine stamps; 50 stamp hinges and 1 duplicate album, all for 10 cents. In order to introduce the above lot to all who send me 6 cents extra I will send 10 fine views of The Great Baltimore Fire. Albert Turner, 2566 McCulloch Street, Baltimore, Md.

100 var. U. S. (in env.) fine 30c. Stamps on appr. 60c. H. Wendt, Dunlap, Iowa.

FREE! a 2c Treasury Dept. to all applying for my 50c sheets. Clarence B. Rogers, So. Orange, N. J.

Stamp Collectors: Canadian Stamps 10 varieties 6c. Tobacco Stamps very rare, 25 varieties, 75c. 50 varieties \$1.40. Kings Head 5 varieties 12c. E. Harris, 300 George St. Toronto, Canada.

100 var. foreign 10c. 200 var. 25c. 4 Newfoundland 6c. 15 Canada 5c. Fine approvals at 50%. M. M. Grey, Davidson, N. C.

12 Guatemala, no duplicates	10c
25 Hungary,	10c
10 Nicaragua,	"
10 Salvadore,	10c

R. Van Benchooten, Hudson, N. Y.

75c off! Send for my fine Approval sheets, containing good stamps. Reference, M. Tausig, 29 East 111th St., New York City.

Suit, overcoat and trousers made to order, in exchange of stamps, circular, woolen samples and price list, send on application. Great Western Stamp Exchange Jos. E. Goldblatt, Mgr. 688 N. Irving Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Six uncanceled Blocks of Four from United States, Guatemala etc. only 12c. Fine approvals at 50%. Reference required. C. L. Babcock, Jr. Wortendyke, N. J.

Just received large consignment of U. S. stamps. To sell quickly, we will send 3 oz (1000-1200) for 10 cents in coin. Contains no common 2 cent red. A. C. Hoessler, 27 Club Bldg. Denver, Colorado.

St. Louis stamps wanted for cash any No. taken in good clean un-damaged condition. Cash same day. Per 100 viz: 1c 15cts., 2c 5cts., 3c \$1.75., 5c \$1.75., 10c \$2.00., 8 and 10 ct. wanted at once. FRANK B. KIRBY, 227 Arnold st., New Bedford, Mass.

Good Copies, 12 purple 1872, 20 cents, 12 1873, 25c; \$5.00 3rd Rev 15c; \$1.00 current postage 20; Price list free. CHARLES KING, 141 East 19th st., New York City.

THE CABINET.

A Department Devoted to Coins and Curios.

\$1100 for

An 1804 Dollar.

No auction sale of coins held in recent years has attracted such wide attention, not only from numismatists, but also from the general press and public, as the disposal of the H. G. Brown collection—sold at the Collectors' Club, New York, on October 11th, under the auspices of Lyman H. Low. The cause of this interest was, primarily, the presence in the sale of a specimen of the famous 1804 dollar, the rarity of rarities among all American coins, of which only thirteen are known to exist. It had been some time since an 1804 dollar had appeared in the market, and it was confidently predicted before the sale that the specimen offered would be disposed of at a price which would break all previous records—\$1500, the sum paid by Mr. Brown for this same piece, being the record price. As it turned out these predictions were not justified. Mr. W. F. Dunham, a Chicago amateur, secured the piece for \$1100—a figure which has been exceeded on at least two previous occasions.

Aside from this rare coin, the Brown collection contained many other pieces beloved of numismatists, and the entire collection realized nearly \$7000. Dollars of 1836, 1838, 1839, 1851, 1852 and 1858 brought from \$15 to \$150 each. An 1804 dime sold for \$8 and a half dime of 1782 for \$8. A copper cent of 1856 sold for \$15. Four half-cents went for \$42 each. And many other notable prices were realized which space does not, unfortunately, permit us to quote.

About twenty-five bidders were present in person and hundreds of mail bids were received from all over the country. The sale as a whole seems to have been one of the most successful of recent years.

A Famous

Autograph Collection Under the Hammer.

(From the New York Telegraph).

When the Avon poet wanted to know "What's in a name?" and then answered his own question by pooh-poohing the value of the commodity, he had never seen a stunning autograph collection on sale or fondled a Morgan or a Rockefeller check.

There was very much in a name, for example, when a part of August Toedteberg's fine autograph collection—the finest in the country—was put up for sale at the Anderson auction rooms in West Twenty-eighth Street.

The collection included autographs and letters of Keats, Garrick, Carlyle, Irving, Keat, Kemble, Meyerbeer, Booth, Sheridan, Forrest, Siddons, Jenny Lind and many other notables. There were also letters of Abraham Lincoln, Longfellow, Poe, Scott, Whit-

tier, De Quincey, Emerson, Burr, Lee, Benjamin Franklin, Mazarin, Bonaparte, King Edward, Queen Victoria and Richelieu.

Garrick and the Fighting Parson.

One of the gems of the collection was the correspondence which took place between David Garrick and the "fighting parson," afterward Sir Henry Bate Dudley, which led to the first appearance of Mrs. Siddons on the London stage. It was sold for \$180.

An amusing letter of Benedict Arnold to his wife, Margaret, concerning a shipment of wood, sold for \$15, bidding having started at 15 cents.

The letter of Henry Gratiot de Bertrand to Cardinal Fesch, announcing the death of Napoleon, sold for \$41, and a letter of Edward VII to the Duke of Wellington, inviting him to pay a visit to Sandringham, sold for \$22.

Benjamin Franklin's letter to David Hartley, of London, who negotiated the treaty of peace between England and America with Franklin, was sold for \$12.50. The letters of Edmund Kean brought \$23.25, and one of Washington Irving brought \$41. A love letter of Keats to the unappreciative Fanny Browne brought forth spirited bidding and was finally sold to E. D. North for \$210.

Lincoln Letter

Brings \$200.

A letter of Abraham Lincoln, dated at Washington, January 8, 1848, to W. H. Herndon, referring to a speech which Lincoln was about to make about the Mexican trouble, went for \$200.

Letters of Louis XIII and XIV brought from \$3 to \$4 apiece. An order of Marie Antoinette for 1200 livres to pay for court ceremonies sold for \$37. A letter of Edgar Allan Poe, alluding to the attack on him by the Post and his suit against the Mirror, went for \$55.

The sale comprised 790 autographs and letters and many photographs. The total amount realized was \$2250.

Siamese Gamblers' Counters.

In Mr. Joseph Haas' work on "Siamese Coinage" is found the following account of the Siamese Gamblers' Counters, one of the most unique series of coins (if they can be rightfully so called) ever issued by any government:

"In Siam gambling is practiced on a large scale; not only is it sanctioned by the authorities, but it actually forms a source of revenue to the government. As gambling became more and more a recognized institution, the bullet-shaped small coins—*Saluang* and *Fu'ang*—were found inconvenient to handle, namely, the gambler squatting down on an oblong mat, at one end of which the cashier or croupier was seated in a kneeling attitude, the coin has often to be thrown to a considerable distance to reach the croupier, and it was very apt to roll off in the wrong direction. To remedy this inconvenience the owners of

gambling establishments introduced special Counters, made of porcelain, glass or lead, and representing various shapes, such as stars, cash, butterflies, door tablets, etc., on which were inscribed, in Chinese characters, the name of the Hong, the value, and some favorite motto or classical quotation, and also in Siamese characters, again, the value which the counter is supposed to represent. With very few exceptions, these gambling houses are farmed by Chinese and the majority of the customers are of the same nationality.

"These counters being issued under authority granted in the gambling license or concession, they rapidly became a favorite medium of exchange, and were found to fill a long-felt want of small money so well that the circulation went beyond its legal sphere. Such a facile field for forgery was, however, not to be left long unexplored by the enterprising Celestials. Gradually a large quantity of imitations were thrown into circulation, and in self defense the gambling Hongs were compelled to call in and exchange for money their counters, which they continually substituted by new ones of varied colors and shapes.

"In this way originated the great variety of counters, consisting, as far as I can ascertain, of about 800 different kinds. The control by the government became naturally more and more difficult, and at last, in 1871, it became necessary to prohibit and stop completely all circulation of these counters."

Preservation of Coins.

Mr. Lyman H. Low gives these instructions for the proper preservation of proof and uncirculated coins:

All pieces are best protected in their original state when placed in a draw made of almost any wood excepting oak and cedar, the bottom to be lined with heavy, unbleached cotton flannel. Velvet and velveteen are also used, excepting black and blue; the flannel, however, is preferable. Proofs require greater care than uncirculated pieces. Some collectors keep them in the original paper they are received in from the mint, but time is sure to tarnish them. Drawers may be partitioned off, and even individual spaces made for coins, but they should have ample room in order that they may be easily taken up and replaced. Coins should never be allowed to come in contact with one another.

We are indebted to Mr. J. H. Houston, of Washington, for a very interesting clipping from the Washington Star, dealing in an appreciative way with a number of collecting fads of the hour—more particularly the picture post-card craze. We lack space this week to quote the clipping entire (it occupies nearly a newspaper column) and think our readers will be most interested in the following portion of it:

WHEN you're busy, advertise and remain so; when not busy, advertise and get so.

50 cents
a year.

2 cents
a copy.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Vol. 1.

BETHLEHEM PENNSYLVANIA, OCTOBER 29, 1904.

No. 7.

Part II of The Chas L. Stiver, collection

will be sold on Nov. 19th. It is rich in stamps of the 20 century. The sale also includes an unusually fine lot of scarce old issues, separated into one stamp to the lot. Catalogues free.

If you have not seen our list of approval books at 50., 33 $\frac{1}{2}$., 25. net you should send for one. Our approval books are arranged according to countries, and the list describes nearly 150 books any of which we send on approval.

We have a few more sets of Dominican Republic 1902, 1, 2, 5, 10, 12, 20, 25c white, which we sell at 25 cents per set.

Price list of our 1000 sets and packets free.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,

722 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.
Established 1880.

Proofs and Essays

of

United States Stamps.

Are you interested in them? If so, write to us for a selection of them upon approval. We have a fine lot of them for sale at attractive prices.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 EAST 23rd ST., New York, N. Y.

Remember Nov. 19th.

is the date of the Auction Sale of that fine unused U. S. and Br. Colonies collection the property of Mr. S. G. Collins, Galveston Texas. Catalogues free.

Chicago Pre-Canceled 1904, 15c - 8 06
" " " " 50c scarce - 29
France 1819, 10c No. 1 - - - - 52
" " 1 Fr. No. 9 - - - - 63
Great Britain 1856, 1sh. No. 28 - - - 11
Switzerland 1855, 1 Fr. No. 40 (cat. 81.) - 33
Wurtemberg 1857, 9kr. rose No. 11 - - 28

In ordering if you mention this ad. I will include free one of my Vest Pocket Stamp Books.

P. M. Wolsieffer
401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

LONDON LETTER.

Fred J. Melville.

Mr. Ernest Heginbottom, a well-known collector in Rockdale, has hit upon a particularly happy phase in an article in the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly when he describes some of the best known collections of stamps as "set pieces." He applies the familiar pyrotechnic expression to the collections and parts of collections belonging to the leading wealthy philatelists who display their possessions over and over again at every competitive exhibition in Europe. Mr. Heginbottom is of the opinion that a distinguished collector after having secured the highest award at one international exhibition for his, let us say, Ceylon or Cape Colony stamps, should be content in the future to display his stamp under the heading "not for competition."

This is capital in theory and if it were possible to carry it out would do much to encourage the rank and file of collectors, who at present know for a certainty that it is useless for them to enter into competition (however assiduous they may have been in their personal researches and endeavors) with the displays of monied men who have purchased and "bloated" a country for which they have received medals at every exhibition for the past decade or more. But I fear that the men who take medal after medal for the same exhibit at each successive competitive exhibition are, unfortunately, not likely to take up Mr. Heginbottom's suggestion with any enthusiasm. They have invested their wealth—or part of it—in one exhaustive collection (in

(Continued on Page 3.)

CHICAGO CHAT.

The regular meeting of the Chicago Philatelic Society was held Thursday evening, the 20th. There was a splendid attendance, increased no doubt by the Secretary's notice of an exhibition but either the members were too lazy to fix up their exhibits or afraid they would not win a prize, and it certainly was but a poor reward for Mr. Mudge and the Entertainment Committee to have but one exhibit entered after their labors and work to arrange for such an exhibit.

Possibly Chicago has been surfeited with Competitive Exhibitions and the members desire some new form of entertainment, although this exhibition had new features and unique ideas governing it.

The circular issued by the Committee described it as a "Competitive Exhibition" of stamps on which numerals form either the principal or a considerable portion of the design," and from remarks made at the previous meeting the committee fully expected there would be good competition. As it was Louis Wolsieffer was the only member who rose to the occasion and put in an exhibit, which by the way was very credible and indicated what could have been done by some of the older members with large collections, had they made an effort. Strictly speaking there was no competition and the judges consisting of Messrs. Severn, Aldrich and Van Schaezler awarded first prize to young Wolsieffer for his interest and support of the Entertainment Committee work.

(Continued on Page 3.)

ROCHESTER REMARKS.

Just at present this city is supporting several fine collections in a state of very elegant leisure; elegant, if the interior of a fireproof safe can be so considered. This, however, is not to be taken as an indication that they are abandoned; on the contrary the owners are among the most enthusiastic of local collectors.

The collection of Mr. George W. Loomis is in safe keeping because its owner is traveling in Europe and will likely be there for some time to come. Mr. Loomis' albums contain about 25,000 varieties and it is to be hoped that that large number will be considerably added to upon his return. Aside from the stamps of the United States the collection is particularly strong in the postal issues of the French and British colonies. He is a very persevering collector and those stamps which he lacks, in the countries favored by his patronage, may be considered as well-nigh unattainable.

The attractions of the St. Louis Exposition have proven sufficient to draw Mr. J. C. Woodbury, another of our prominent collectors, from his favorite pursuit. Stamp collecting has been a pet hobby with Mr. Woodbury for many years and though he has many other important interests in life the fascination of philately has never lost its zest.

To use a mining expression—are not stamps a mine of pleasure?—active operations will be soon begun by these collectors and some others who are out of the city temporarily.

(Continued on Page 5.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States, Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any address in any country in the Postal Union \$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.00 an inch. 60 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

THE EDITOR DISCOURSETH.

The Ideal Catalogue.

Somebody remarked the other day that the Ideal Catalogue and the Ideal Album were phantom fancies, perennially discussed but never a jot nearer attainment. We are not so sure of this. In fact, in view of certain recent developments, we are rather inclined to raise the question whether the advent of both these things has not already occurred. Ideal is, of course, a vague word. It may be taken as describing some standard of perfection quite beyond the bounds of possible achievements. And if we accept this as its meaning, it would be idle to further pursue our present train of thought. But is not the word "ideal" in this connection to be understood in a limited, comparative sense—to be taken as implying, not a work that is so inherently perfect as to be beyond criticism, but one which, in basic plan, rather than in the mere matter of execution, is of superlative excellence? From this point of view, the ideal catalogue would seem to have already arrived, in the form of the superb "collectors catalogue" lately issued by the French Society. It seems to answer all the fundamental specifications. It is a catalogue for and by collectors, trade influences having had no hand whatever in its making. The compilation of the lists of each country's varieties has been delegated to some great authority on those particular issues, and in many instances the list represents the collaboration of several such authorities. The work, as it stands, is the result of the united labors of some scores of the world's greatest philatelists. The plan and purpose of the work admittedly could not be bettered. Fault is found in some quarters with some features of its execution—but any defect therein is, it seems to me, a minor point. The important thing is that the long-talked-of collector's catalogue is at last an accomplished fact, and that in plan and scope it is on a grand scale than most of us have dared to dream could ever be possible. Is there

not good reason to believe that before many editions of this great French Catalogue have appeared the ideal catalogue question will be considered as fully settled?

The Ideal Album.

The essentials of an ideal album—what body of philatelists would be found to fully agree in regard to them? One thinks this and another that—scarcely any two in the gathering will fully coincide in their views. But this makes it all the more likely that all can meet on the common ground of approval when the perennial album question is solved (if we may be pardoned the seeming bull) by the appearance of a device that is not an album at all. We refer of course, to the Cistafle, that ingenious adaption to philatelic uses of the unit filing system, which has lately appeared and gained great vogue in England. It may be that American collectors will never take kindly to the device; and of course it is not to be expected that it will ever supersede the album among novices and medium grade collectors. But we think it is destined to come into pretty general use among advanced collectors and specialists. It seems to be remarkably well adapted to the requirements of all collectors who have outgrown the printed album stage. It permits greater freedom in the arrangement of a collection than any album that was ever devised; its superior convenience from all points of view is indisputable; it is capable of unlimited expansion with the growth of the collection, and it does away entirely with the unsightliness and unsatisfactoriness of blank spaces and pages that are arid wastes. This latter point is the one that appeals to us most of all. The evidences of incompleteness can never be wholly masked even in the most cleverly arranged blank album—far less in the printed one. But they have no visible existence in the collection mounted in a Cistafle.

We hold no brief for this device. We do not seek to give it an advertisement. We simply suggest the question—has not the Cistafle invention practically solved the question as to how fine and large collections shall be displayed and classified?

Displaying

One's Collection.

One thing we especially like about the Cistafle is the faculty with which it permits the display of any desired portion of one's collection to the chance visitor. "Showing a collection" is considered by many philatelists a great bore. And through a disinclination to undertake the task of piloting the non-philatelic visitor through the many pages of a bulky and well filled album, each page of which requires its meed of explanation and comment, we lose many a chance to favorably advertise the hobby. Taking pains to display one's collection whenever fitting opportunity occurs may not always (or indeed, often) inspire the inspector to go and do likewise. Few persons are converted to the philatelic faith at a single

sitting. But prodigality in the display of one's philatelic treasures has certainly this effect—that it opens the eyes of the stranger without our gates to the fact that stamp collecting is far more than child's-play and that it gives him much greater respect for the hobby. And, care as little as we may for the opinion of the outside world, the advantage to Philately of a better public appreciation of its standing as a pursuit is too obvious to require argument.

The use of the Cistafle makes it easy for the philatelist to bring out a few stamps for the inspection of his guests without going through the whole collection. Say that the conversation turns on the Russo-Japanese War. How apropos to the topic, and how interesting to any intelligent person, would be the display of a few characteristic Japanese stamps. And how often, in similarly casual way, could the collector whose stamps were mounted in this manner find appropriate occasion to bring out a few of his stamps for inspection, to the pleasure both of his visitor and himself.

Stamps are curiosities. Their owners, it would seem, should be both willing and proud to display them. The modern stamp collection is, we think, too much kept in hiding. A philatelist's den, or smoking room, or library (whatever he may chance to call his own particular holy of holies) might profitably bear many visible evidences of his philatelic proclivities. We like the notion of mounting a few picturesque sets (such as our own Columbians and other commemorative issues, or any other stamps of piquant and out-of-the-ordinary design) on a large sheet, framing it, and hanging the same on the wall, where all who drop in may see. Almost every collector has many stamps not belonging in his collection which might well be thus utilized—serving the double purpose of adorning his walls and of stirring up interest in stamps in the breasts of his visitors. Other means of displaying stamps about one's room will readily occur to the ingenious. Really, we see no reason why the ardent stamp-lover should wholly hide his light under a bushel.

The "Merry Microbe."

The current number of the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain contains the following sportive paragraph:

"South Australia. The Australian Philatelist states that the current long stamps are causing some dissatisfaction, owing to the extra cost of manufacture, the large area that requires licking, and the fact that the extra surface supplies a proportionately larger field for the merry microbe to sport upon. Referring to this latter objection the Monthly Journal remarks: 'We have heard of this microbe theory before, and one of the reasons given by a poetical friend of ours for always buying his stamps at an office where there is a very nice-looking young lady behind the counter is that he is sure no unfavorable microbes could flourish there!'"

LONDON LETTER.

(Continued from Page 1.)

some cases within my knowledge they have not added or needed to add to it for years) and are now content to go on collecting—medals.

At last it is definitely announced that the Philatelic Society has changed its address and its meeting place. No longer is Effingham House in Arundel Street likely to be the rendezvous of the foremost of British philatelists. Within its precincts the society has held many delightful functions and interesting exhibitions, and has welcomed to them such august and distinguished collectors as the Prince of Wales, the late Duke of Saxe Coburg-Gotha, the late Earl of Kingston, the Earl of Kintore, Lord Crawford and many other English and foreign celebrities.

It has been known for some time, however, that a removal was to come. The rooms were not particularly commodious and the rental was comparatively high. The new rooms are at No. 4 Southampton Row, W. C., but they are used for meetings only. The business address and offices of the society are at 10 Gracechurch Street, E. C. The change removes from the Strand quarter (where are situated many of the dealers) the fountain head of elite philately. The first meeting in the new rooms will be held on October 28, when Mr. M. P. Castle, J. P., will display his collection of Sydney Views.

Sydney Views have always figured largely in the philatelic career of Mr. Castle. Although he sold his first collection of Australian stamps in 1894 for £10,000 and then confined his attention to Europeans, yet he never was without a good selection of Sydney Views, at one time having them in hundreds, but never having less than a score or so in his possession. I remember him affirming something to the effect that at his death some Sydney Views would be found in the nape of his neck.

The season will have commenced in earnest by the time these lines appear in print. Already the Junior Philatelic Society's first meeting (Saturday, October 8) is past; the members of the premier society dine on Thursday next, the 12th inst., and on Friday, the 14th, they visit the Earl of Crawford residence to examine his stamps of Great Britain; the Manchester Society opens a sale on the 14th, the Herts on the 15th and the Enterprise on the 19th.

An interesting philatelic memory is aroused by a paragraph in the London Daily Mail announcing that Mme. de Moelly has been arrested on the charge of obtaining articles of jewelry worth £4000 and disposing of them at absurd prices. This lady turns out to be Mlle. Yvonne de Mayrena, daughter of the notorious Marie I, the King of the Sedanges, who issued the absurd set of stamps about 1889, purporting to be for use in the country of the Sedanges, somewhere, I believe, in the hinterland of Annam. King Marie's

life story is a strange one and will be known to many of the older generation of stamp collectors. He died in a lonely island in the Pacific from a cobra bite.

A new form of exchange fraud has just been perpetrated. The victims are the members of the Palace Philatelic Exchange. Some unscrupulous member has withdrawn a number of the "inside" sheets in their entirety, and thus the other member who examined the packet could have no suspicion that a robbery had been committed. The extent of the loss to the society is stated to be about £70. This untoward incident should at least lead to the numbering of sheets in an exchange packet. It is perhaps unlikely that even when sheets are numbered the members will examine and check them. But one often finds in reading a book or manuscript that without even noting the numbers at the top of the pages one is generally unaccountably arrested by a misnumbered page and this might prove the case in exchange packets if the Secretary numbered the sheets consecutively from the first to the last. At any rate a discrepancy would scarcely go all round the members without someone noticing and reporting it.

CHICAGO CHAT.

(Continued from Page 1.)

Mr. Eames, an applicant for membership in the C. P. S., brought a delegation of young stamp collectors to the meeting, all members of a Stamp Club organized among the boys of the West Side Y. M. C. A.

Both Mr. E. R. Aldrich and Edgar Nelton, who are members of the C. P. S., were present at this meeting and responded to the invitation of President Oesch to address the meeting. Mr. Aldrich told of meeting with the C. P. S. eleven years ago and put in a plea for all collectors to support our National organization, the American Philatelic Association. Mr. Nelton also spoke of his previous visits to C. P. S. meetings and his travels around the country seeing stamp people.

An informal auction sale closed a very interesting meeting even if the main feature, the Exhibition, was a failure. If the boys don't come out for the Dec. 1st exhibition a silver medal given by the Boston Philatelic Society they better put up a sign, "We have enough exhibition diet, give us something new," and then Mr. Mudge's committee will not be doing a lot of unnecessary work.

The writer has no doubt that a distinctive issue of stamps for the Philippines is quite near. The director of Posts is now on the way over or already here in the interest of this very issue. The regular Philippine Government has set aside five thousand dollars for the special dies of a set, the values to be determined later. Furthermore, Philatelists of note are to be approached and asked for their views in determining and suggesting certain

To any person sending the names and addresses of 25 young persons, together with 3 cents to pay for postage and packing, to

THE JUNIOR,

Bethlehem, Pa.

There will be sent a Handsomely Embossed Nicked Pencil Holder and Protector Combined, and a sample copy of our magazine.

designs of appropriate subjects which will indicate Philippine history with a blending of United States sovereignty. It is possible of course that pressure from regular U. S. P. O. Department influence may prevent aid being sought from outside sources.

Mr. Wolsieffer reports a number of visitors from out of town this week. Mr. F. S. Parmelee, Rockport, Texas; Leroy Payne, Tacoma, Wash.; Col. H. H. Bandholtz, Tayabas Province, Philippines; Edgar Nelton, New York City; and E. R. Aldrich, Benson, Minn.

Mr. F. S. Parmelee expects to return to Omaha his old home next spring and give more time to his stamp business, which has received but little attention during his two years vacation in Texas.

Governor Col. Bandholtz was on his way East, having attended Government inspection of the Philippine Constabulary at the St. Louis Exposition. The exhibit of his province was awarded a number of medals and diplomas.

Edgar Nelton swears by Battle Creek and its health food establishment and says it is the only place for a stamp man to recuperate and get his shattered nervous system in good shape. His search for postal cards last year in Chicago broke him up, he did not find any.

From the reports of local dealers the boy trade is showing signs of activity somewhat earlier than usual. Mr. Staab of the United States Coin and Stamp Exchange says he is selling packets, sets and cheap stamps to boys in sufficient quantities to prove that something has started them early this season and gives the St. Louis Fair stamps the credit of doing this missionary work.

It has been rumored around town for several weeks that all first-class mail matter (domestic) was limited to four pounds, the same as other classes. If such a law or regulation is enforced it is easy to detect the fine Italian hand of the Express Companies. Also to what use will the \$2.00 and \$5.00 stamps then be put. Possibly our Washington correspondent can ascertain from headquarters.

Henry Ades Fowler, one of Canada's old-time philatelic publishers, has resided in Chicago a number of years and attended the last C. P. S. meeting. He has just passed a successful examination for Attorney before the Bar Association, at Springfield and became a naturalized American citizen and voter all in one week, an honor any gentleman from abroad may well be proud of.

A Page of Precept

For Young Collectors.

(Conducted by the Editor.)

Items for the Novice.

The terms "embossing" or "grilling," as applied to some of the older issues of United States stamps, are usually utterly incomprehensible to the beginner. They refer to a special process whereby a square of small dots (resembling pin-pricks in appearance) was impressed in the stamp in order to break up the fibres of the paper and thereby allow the cancelling ink to sink in so deeply that it would be impossible to wash off the cancellation. The device was adopted at a time when the United States Government was being greatly annoyed by people who made a practice of cleaning used U. S. stamps and selling them for new ones, thereby, of course, defrauding the government of postal revenue. Its use was ultimately abandoned as of little value for the purpose desired. Peru has also made use of "embossing," but finally ceased to employ it some years since. It is well not to trade off any U. S. stamps of the issues between 1862 and 1871 that show any traces of this embossing, as certain special varieties of "embossing," not easily to be identified by a beginner, are quite valuable.

Tete-beche is another puzzling term frequently to be seen in the pages of stamp periodicals. It is a French phrase, used to describe an error in "making up" a sheet of stamps, whereby one or more stamps are printed upside down on the sheet. A tete-beche stamp is, of course, only recognizable when it is one of an unsevered pair or block of stamps, in which the other specimen or specimens retains its normal, right-side-up position. Tete-beche varieties are only found in the stamps of a very few countries, some of the earlier issues of France furnishing the most conspicuous examples.

Reference is often made in philatelic print to "Seebecks." The term refers to certain stamps of Ecuador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Salvador, which were supplied to these different republics, on a rather peculiar basis, by the Hamilton Bank Note Company of New York. Under the agreement, this company supplied all the stamps and postal stationery required by these republics entirely free of all cost to them. The only recompense asked by the company was the right to print larger quantities of each issue than was needed for actual postal use, this surplus stock belonging to the company, and being, of course, sold by them to collectors. The President of the Hamilton Bank Note Company (and the prime mover in the arrangement with these republics) was a Mr. N. F. Seebeck, a prominent New York collector, and the name "Seebecks" was bestowed on these stamps for that reason. The arrangement provoked a great outcry from stamp collectors, and on Mr. Seebeck's death a few years ago the arrangement ceased. The "Seebeck issues" are those of Ecuador from 1884 to 1896; those of Honduras from 1891 to 1898; those

of Nicaragua from 1890 to 1899, and those of Salvador from 1890 to 1899. They appear in all the catalogues, and most collectors include them in their collections, though all agree that the principle on which they were supplied was a pernicious one. They include some of the handsomest stamps that were ever issued.

"Essays" are impressions from designs submitted for approval by artists in cases where a new stamp is to be issued, but which are rejected by the authorities as in some way unsuitable. "Proofs" are trial printings of stamps just about to be issued and often made in many different colors to decide what shades are best adapted to bring out that especial design. Neither "proofs" nor "essays" are priced in modern catalogues. They are not, of course, in any sense regularly issued stamps, as neither an "essay" or a "proof" could by any possibility be good for postage. Almost all proofs and essays are decidedly scarce.

The stamps of Spain and Spanish Colonies found with a hole punched in the center have been used as telegraph stamps. This is a peculiarity which puzzles almost all young collectors.

Stamp

Surgery.

Every young collector acquires in one way or another a good many stamps that are torn or otherwise disfigured. Often the novice will place a poor specimen in his album rather than leave the space vacant. A little ingenuity will fix these stamps over, in many cases, so as to give them a very presentable appearance; and it will pay well to give some time and pains to studying how defective specimens can be patched up so as to appear presentable.

The first point which many novices need to learn is never to place in their album a stamp which has paper adhering to the back. It is entirely unnecessary to put stamps in that are thus handicapped, because the superfluous paper is easily removed. Lay the stamp, face up, on a damp cloth for a few moments, and the paper can then easily be peeled off. Then lay the stamp, face down, on a piece of blotting paper and hold over a lamp or gas jet until the paper is hot. Then lay it on a smooth surface, place a dry cloth over it and rub with the finger nail till dry. This removes all creases, and if you have never tried it you will be surprised at the improvement in the stamp.

In the case of a torn stamp, an ordinary gummed hinge will often help it wonderfully. If it is simply torn and none of it gone, a piece of stamp hinge carefully applied and rubbed smooth will make it almost as good as new. If a corner or part of the perforation is gone, take a perforated hinge or part of another stamp and place it so it will fill out the missing space. Of course, the mend will show, but it will be far better than to use the specimen in its original mutilation.

A hole in the middle of a stamp can often be rendered hardly noticeable by

One of my customers writes.

"I have been looking for this stamp over a year; wrote to foremost Dealers but could not get it."

This stamp is priced at \$3.00 to \$3.15 in America and English lists, my price was \$2.00 net.

I can supply the Goods!

Why not write me?

Frank P. Brown,
339 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

Inserting a piece cut from a less valuable stamp. Such stamp surgery as this needs to be delicately done to be effective; but the improved appearance of the stamp so treated will amply compensate for the time and trouble.

The Shell of Travancore.

From the current number of the Stamp Collector, of Birmingham, England, we extract the following note regarding the significance of the curious object which forms the central feature of design in the stamps of Travancore. We hope many of our readers are sufficiently observant of out-of-the-way stamp designs to have long since become curious as to the identity and meaning of this decidedly peculiar emblem. This is the explanation:

"Mr. J. H. Maguire, Dublin, writes: Philatelists must have been frequently puzzled to account for the curious shell design which appears on the stamps of Travancore, and on that account I have made a note of an explanation which I found in a recently published work on 'Spirals in Nature and Art,' by Mr. A. T. Cook. The stamps of this Indian State bear a crude but recognizable representation of a conch-shell, with the entrance on the left, instead of on the right, as usual.

"The conch, as most people will know, possesses a curious internal formation, of a spiral nature, but few will have noticed that this spiral, or 'helic,' as it is called usually, turns to the right with the opening likewise on the same side. A conch of the form illustrated on the stamps of Travancore is a very rare occurrence, and it will be readily understood that savages, noting the curiosity, attach a superstitious value to it. Such shells are frequently used as money in countries where there is no regular currency, and the natives of Travancore regard them as manifestations of the Deity and value them accordingly. It is not hard to understand, therefore, why they chose this peculiar design for their postage stamps, but it is, nevertheless, not a little curious that they should have exposed the sacred shell to the risk of being besmirched by the obliteration."

An ordinary two-cent stamp is worth its weight in gold.

Rochester Remarks.

(Continued from Page 1.)

But there are collections here, and it would be interesting to know how many, that seem to be shelved for all time. In one or two cases more vital interests have prevailed to draw the one-time collector's attention from his stamps. There are other collectors who have passed the Great Divide and whose neglected albums are in the possession of unappreciative heirs.

In this manner many a fine collection falls into the hands of persons who have no interest in the stamps and whose means are such that they do not care to place the collections upon the market. Such an instance was brought to my attention a few days ago. The original collector of the stamps died some time since leaving a very fine collection of the postal and fiscal issues of the United States. The last time I called upon him he exhibited a pair of \$1.90 Inland Exchange, imperforate, and beauties that he had "picked up" for less than a song. He had a wonderful faculty for making finds and from all over the country was in constant receipt of valuable stamps at most ridiculously low prices. The collection of U. S. stamps and envelopes is practically complete and it costs the owner nothing but his time. The man, I believe, had no children and the collection is preserved as one keeps a lock of baby's hair.

If external evidences are to be taken as proof, Rochester did not develop the stamp boom that seemed due to strike here this year. This is one of the greatest mail order towns in the country and the number of mail packages delivered here monthly runs into the hundreds of thousands, but with this wealth of material within reach the boy collector is indeed a scarce commodity. Some time he will emerge from his crystal in good season to kick himself for lost opportunities.

LYMAN SEELY.

Servia's

Coronation Stamps.

The long-delayed coronation of King Peter of Servia was made the occasion for a special series of stamps, to remain in use for a limited time only—evidently with the usual idea of making the philatelist pay the piper. The series consists of eight values, 5, 10, 15, 25 and 50 paras and 1, 3 and 5 dinars; and we imagine that collectors will view them with rather more interest than is the usual case with special issues, on account of the tragic circumstances preceding King Peter's elevation to the Servian throne and the much which has been written regarding the new monarch since his accession to a throne to which his hold is manifesting none too secure.

The coronation stamps are to be in use only till October 30th and all then remaining unsold will be

withdrawn and destroyed. The par values bear effigies of King Peter, and of his ancestor "Black George" founder of the Karageorgovitch dynasty, who drove the Turks from Belgrade about a century since.

On the higher values is an allegorical design typifying the freedom of Servia.

The New Catalogues.

In addition to the appearance of the new Senf and Kohl catalogues for this season already noted in these columns, we learn that Whitfield King & Co's catalogue for 1905 is already on the market and that Bright's catalogue is expected to be out early in November. On this side of the water, the advance sheets of a large portion of the Scott catalogue for this season are now in the hands of subscribers and he complete work is, we believe, expected to appear within the next fortnight.

As In A

Looking Glass.

It is the custom (perhaps more honored in the breach than the observance) for periodicals of tender age to print in their own columns a selection of the compliments elicited by their appearance in the journalistic ranks. It is doubtless one of the signs of youth, in periodicals as well as in men, to be easily moved by praise; and though later on the editorial heart may grow as callous to compliment as to censure, it is not in human nature to expect it at first to be entirely impervious to kindly words of greeting and appreciation. In many a journalistic field far more dignified than that in which this journal appears, no class of matter is deemed too sacred to be lifted from the forms in favor of the column of compliments culled from other journals or from the letters of subscribers. And who are we that we should run counter to accepted journalistic practice and refuse to publish some of the good things that are being said of us (and to us) by stamp folk who seem to see some promise of future usefulness in these necessarily imperfect early numbers, of whose manifold failings, both from a typographical and from a literary standpoint, we are well aware?

The reading of the following is not, of course, compulsory. It may be skipped without losing the thread of connection between page 1 and page 7.

"Allow us to congratulate you on the fine appearance and interesting reading matter in your initial number of the STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY. We believe your paper, if continued on its present lines, will prove a great success."

C. E. Hussman Stamp Co.,
St. Louis.

"I am very much pleased with the first number of the STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY."

Herbert E. Morey,
Boston.

Panama Canal Zone

Advanced Again.

2c rose new	- - - - -	\$5.00
5c blue "	- - - - -	2.00
10c orange "	- - - - -	2.00
Complete set of 8	- - - - -	8.00
Same on original Cover	- - - - -	8.00

The above stamps are fully guaranteed as being genuine. Unused stamps will have my initials in indelible ink. Used, will be stamped on envelope.

U. S. CANAL ZONE.

1, 2, 5, 8 and 10c unused picked copies 40c.
Republic of Panama.

My stock is large and prices right. Let me send you a selection and convince you.

H. F. COLMAN,

725 11th St. N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

Blank Approval Books.

Far better than sheets for agents use and for duplicates

We have them printed on good paper with light blue covers to hold 60 and 100 stamps respectively.

Postage free.	Per 12 books	Per 100
No. 1 to hold 60 stamps	- - - \$.10	\$.80
No. 2 to hold 100 stamps	- - - .15	.90

Not fewer than 12 sold.

THE JUNIOR, Bethlehem, Pa.

"Permit me to extend my hearty congratulations upon the appearance of your new paper."

J. W. Russell,
New York.

"I received the STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY today, and am more than pleased with the first number."

Robert W. Parsons,
Terre Haute, Ind.

"Your first number presents a fine appearance. Success to you."

C. H. Mekeel,
St. Louis.

"Am very much pleased with the STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY and think it is destined to hold a high place in philatelic journalism."

Alfred E. Cole,
New Jersey.

We could quote many other letters in like strain—but we refrain.

Some Stamp Statistics.

Messrs Whitfield King & Co make a practice of compiling a sort of philatelic statistical summary at the time of issuing each successive edition of their catalogue. Their latest contribution is as follows:—

The total number of known varieties of postage stamps issued by all the governments of the world up to the present time is 19,942; of this number 205 have been issued in Great Britain and 5,711 in various British Colonies and Protectorates leaving 13,326 for the rest of the world. Dividing the total amongst the continents, Europe issued 4,089, Asia 3,628, Africa 4,005, America including the West Indies 6,095, and Oceania 1,425. A comparison of these figures with those published in March, 1903, will show that 1,860 new varieties of stamps have been issued throughout the world in the space of eighteen months.

Stamp Collector's Fortnightly.

THE READING TABLE.

What We Find in the Journals of the Hour.

The Stamp Collector, Birmingham, England.

The Stamp Collector for September opens with an admirable editorial on the Philatelic Index question, expressing views coinciding so exactly with our own (as previously expressed in this journal) that it would be mere reiteration to mention them here. The Stamp Collector believes, as do we, that an index of the contents of the leading stamp periodicals, rather than of all stamp journals, good, bad and indifferent, is the only kind which will prove to be at all practicable. And in the aforesaid editorial it justifies its belief on very common-sense and convincing grounds.

The next two pages of the S. C. are devoted to its Queries and Replies Competition, space excellently and worthily used; and next we find a couple of pages devoted to the usual chronicle, which our contemporary readers a little different from the usual, however, by employing the title "New Issues, Discoveries and Varieties," rather than the familiar and somewhat overworked term "Chronicle."

The "Note Book and Philatelic Diary," a department for miscellaneous philatelic pick-ups—a sort of literary scrap-bag, as it were—contains a number of readable items; and "In the Library Chair" interestingly reviews the 1905 editions of the two leading German catalogues, Senf's and Kohl's.

The only sustained article in the number is one by Mr. N. Yaar, entitled "Notes on the Surcharged Forgeries of the Transvaal," which is supplementary to a former article from Mr. Yaar's pen on the same subject, which the S. C. published some time ago. We have not space here to go deeply into Mr. Yaar's further notes on forged Transvaal surcharges, but it is an interesting and uncommon fact to record that he strongly believes the bulk of these forgeries to have been engraved and printed by the very same man who manufactured the originals themselves, and has strong proof in support of this theory. The man thus believed to have been a Jekyll-Hyde of stamp manufacture—turning out genuine stamps for the Transvaal government with one hand, while with the other he made forgeries of these very same varieties for sale to collectors—was one A. Otto, now deceased. But the axiom to say nothing but good of the dead will hardly prevent collectors who find, on perusal of Mr. Yaar's notes, that they own some of Mr. Otto's spurious wares from speaking in the harshest terms of such a flagrant double villainy—an offense

both against the government which he served and the collectors of the world. Similar instances of breach of trust on the part of government printers and engravers are, fortunately, but rarely met with in philatelic history.

The Perforator, New York.

The Perforator is one of the only three remaining philatelic monthlies in the American field which really amount to anything, to use a homely phrase. The other two, it may not be amiss to remark here, are the American Journal of Philately and the Philatelic West—the one, our most admirable exponent of advanced philately, the other a most useful guide, philosopher and friend to the young collector. The Perforator is of quite a different cast from either of these, and perhaps that is why it appears to have found a place for itself in the affections of collectors. It is a bold, vigorous sheet, with a more pronounced journalistic individuality than most periodicals, and we always greatly enjoy reading it. It is edited by Frank C. Young, one of the few able writers whom American philately can boast of at the moment; but the number before us (that of Sept. 15th) appears to be mostly the work of R. F. Baldwin, a young writer of considerable promise who has of late bobbed into print quite frequently in the stamp periodicals of the day. Mr. Baldwin contributes no less than three separate articles to this September number, and all of them are excellent reading. The first is on "The Aesthetic Side of Philately," with special relation to United States envelope stamps; the second is on "British Plate Numbers," and the third deals with "The Advantages of Collecting Revenue Stamps." We shall not review them at length, because many of our readers doubtless receive the Perforator and have already perused it. For the same reason we will do no more than mention the titles of the number's remaining articles: "War Time Stamps" (a serial), by Editor Young himself; "The Philatelic Seven Ages," for which the editor is likewise responsible; "As It Was In 1867," by William Evans; "The Fraud Reporter," by F. B. Stedman, and various editorials and minor items.

The Philatelic Journal of India, Calcutta, India.

A philatelic magazine of higher aims than the Philatelic Journal of India, or one of greater achievements in the domain of scientific philately, would be, indeed, difficult to find. And its latest number to hand, that of August, is too full of valuable and interesting matter to permit our doing the slightest justice to it in the space at our command. We would love to make extracts galore from its pages, and to go into an elaborate critical analysis of all its leading articles, but are obliged to curb these desires, and dispose of the number in the following style—a

Bargains In

Newfoundland Stamps.

1887	1c Cabot	- - -	per 10	\$0.35
"	2c Cabot	- - -	" 10	.30
"	8c Cabot	- - -	" 10	.10
1898	1c green	- - -	" 100	.40
"	3c orange	- - -	" 100	.40
"	5c duke	- - -	" 10	.25
"	4c duchess	- - -	" 10	.30

Write for wholesale list free to dealers. Rare stamps send on approval to responsible Collectors.

WM. NOFTALL, St. John's

P. O. Box 121. NEWFOUNDLAND.

EVERY WEEK We issue a little paper, it contains some things some times that are not found elsewhere, at all events over 5,000 collectors are paying to receive it. You may receive it 10 weeks on trial for 10 cents.

Mekeel's Stamp Collector

Published Weekly by

C. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUBLISHING CO. ST. LOUIS, Missouri.

Three Things.

- First. Our daily list of Bargains.
 - Second. Some scarce stamps on approval.
 - Third. Auction catalogue of our first sale.
- Any one is worth the effort to write.

Eben S. Martin Co, Inc.

Minneapolis, Minn.

sort of reviewing adaption of the quick lunch method of refreshment.

"The Evolution of the Post Office in India" is an intensely interesting paper on the primitive postal methods formerly employed by various of the Native States. Mr. C. S. Y. Crofton's article on British Indian Fiscal Stamps is continued in this number. "Luath" contributes an entertaining essay on "Fickle Fortune in Philately." An instalment of Major Evans's work on Native States Stamps is reprinted from the Monthly Journal. Mr. E. W. Wetherell's work on the stamps of Roumania (one of the most thorough and able monographs on this subject which has yet appeared) occupies a considerable number of pages. Another serial article is "The Postal Service of Denmark from 1711 to 1808," borrowed from L'Union Postale. Mr. N. Yaar, the indefatigable Dutch writer, so much in evidence in philatelic journals nowadays, is represented by an article on Transvaal Fiscals, and Mr. Crofton makes his second appearance in the number with an article on Ceylon Telegraphs. "Notes" and "New Issues" are self-explanatory headings which meet our eye. All in all, the August number of the Indian Journal is one from which any advanced philatelist could extract hours of pleasant companionship.

An Abridged Philatelic Dictionary.

Philatelic Terms and Phrases Defined For The Benefit of Beginners.

(Continued from last week, page 7.)

Fiscalism.—The study and collection of Revenue Stamps, rather than Postage Stamps. Fiscalism is gaining a great hold in Europe, but has comparatively little following in this country. "Fiscal" stamps is the accepted European name for what we term Revenue Stamps in this country.

Government Reprints.—Reprints made by a government itself rather than by some private party. See reprint.

Grille—also called "Embossing."—A series of indentations, in the form of a square, resembling several parallel lines of tiny pin pricks, which is found on various United States stamps of 1867-71. The grilling was intended to break the fibre of the paper, so as to prevent the washing off and reuse of the stamp. Its use was ultimately abandoned as cumbersome and unnecessary. Grilles are classified according to the extent of surface they cover—one designated 8x11, for instance, would measure 8 millimetres one way and 11 the other.

Hamburg Locals.—A series of 116 different varieties of stamps, at one time supposed to have done local postal service in Hamburg, Germany—one of the "free cities" in the old Hanseatic League. They have been proven, however, to be rank frauds, issued solely for the purpose of fleecing collectors, and are no longer often seen in the market.

Imperforate.—Means the same as unperforated and is the preferable term.

India Paper Proofs.—Proof stamps, i. e. trial impressions of a stamp about to be issued—are usually printed on Indian Paper, which is a very superior fibre made paper, too light for actual postal use, but especially well adapted to receiving a very clear-cut impression from the printing plate and thereby bringing to view any point in design or shade that needs to be changed before the stamps are issued to the public.

Inverted Centres.—Some stamps are printed in two colors. In such cases the sheet of stamps has to be run twice through the press, only one color being printed at a time. Should the sheet be accidentally inserted upside down, the central part of the design will be printed "wrongside up." The Pan-American issue is a familiar example of two-color stamp printing, in which this mistake was made on a few sheets of one or two varieties, resulting in "inverted centre" varieties of decided interest and rarity.

Jubilee Stamps.—Issues intended to commemorate some joyful anniversary in a country's history, or some current event of national importance and patriotic interest. Example, the Jubilee issue of Canada, commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of Queen Victoria's accession to the throne of England.

Local Stamps.—Local stamps, commonly spoken of simply as "Locals," are those issued, not for general use throughout a country's whole territory, but for some restricted area—as, for instance, for some special city. The many United States Locals were issued by private letter carrying companies at a time when the postal service of our Government was not as well organized or as efficient as at present. Confederate Locals owe their existence to a similar cause—the lack of adequate Government postal facilities during the early days of the Civil War.

Millimetres.—The standard of stamp measurement, borrowed from the French. A millimetre is approximately one twenty-fifth of an inch.

Mint Condition.—Stamps are said to be in "mint condition" when unused, with the original gum intact and every portion of the stamp immaculately perfect—as fine, in short, "as a newly minted penny."

Obsolete Issues.—Stamps that have been retired from use, even if not actually demonetised (i. e., no longer good for postage). An obsolete stamp does not lose its power to carry a letter, no matter how long out of use, unless it is expressly demonetised by the Government.

Oddities.—A term which covers almost any "freakish" variety in stamps, such, for instance, as albinos, double-perforated stamps, etc.

Originals.—Genuine varieties, as distinguished from reprints, which latter class of stamps is considered by many collectors as little more worthy of collection than forgeries themselves—from which they are but a shade removed.

Original Gum.—A specimen is said to have the "original gum" when the gum on its back is fresh and perfect. All unused stamps are considered much more desirable when they bear the original gum than when it is damaged or has been removed.

Pane.—In printing a sheet of stamps it is not always practicable to use one large plate for the purpose, but preferable to use two or more smaller ones set close together so as to form practically one plate. These sub-divisions of a plate are referred to by philatelists under their technical name of "panes"—for instance, "the sheet consisted of 240 stamps, in four panes of 60 stamps each."

Pre-canceled Stamps.—Large firms sending out great quantities of advertising matter are permitted to use sheets of stamps already canceled with the name of the postoffice issuing them—it being a great saving in labor where a concern mails many thousands of circulars in one day if the matter does not have to be canceled at the postoffice before being sent out. Any U. S. stamp on the face of which is printed the name of some city or town may be instantly recognized as one of these "Pre-canceled Stamps." There are several hundred varieties of them and many people consider them interesting and collectable. They are not catalog-

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display. A line will average seven words. Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

A block of 6 of the 2c lake, 1880 issue, imperforated \$15.00 L228 c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

8 Varieties of the World's Fair (Chicago 1893) postal cards, with a 1 cent unused Columbian on each, for 20 cents (The face value is 2 cents each.)

E. T. PARKER, Bethlehem, Pa.

A full sheet of 50 10-cent 1847, Card Board proofs \$20.00 (a single one catalogued at \$1.00) Proof, c/o THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

WANTED to buy Western Union franks issue of 1887. Bradley c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

I want to buy Italy, 1861, 2c black newspaper stamps in any quantity, State number you have and give price. Bradley c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

Free 30 different foreign to all applicants for my sheets enclosing stamp for postage Reference required. BASIL PERRY, Coolspring, Delaware.

100 U. S. mixed (1c to \$1.00)..... 9c.
1 to 10c. Columbian or St. Louis..... 11c.
1st free. R. R. McGill, 7 Burton Pl. Chicago.

12 colored Souvenir Postals of California, 25c. C. Farman, Golden Gate, Oakland, Cal.

75% off! Send for my fine Approval sheets, containing good stamps. Reference. M. Traubig, 20 East 111th St., New York City.

Suit, overcoat and trousers made to order, in exchange of stamps, circular, woolen samples and price list, send on application. Great Western Stamp Exchange Jos. E. Goldblatt, Mgr. 689 N. Irving Ave., Chicago, Ill.

St. Louis stamps wanted for cash any No. taken in good clean un-damaged condition. Cash same day. Per 100 viz: 1c 15cts., 2c 6cts., 3c \$1.75, 5c \$1.75, 10c \$2.00, 3 and 10 ct. wanted at once. FRANK B. KIRBY, 227 Arnold st., New Bedford, Mass.

40 varieties, Japan, price 30 cents Geo. A. Knight, 89 Meridian st., Boston.

100 var. U. S. (on env.) line 30c. Stamps on appr. 60c. H. Wendt, Dunlap, Iowa.

Fine and cheap, 1, 2, 3, 5 marks Germany 27c., \$2.00 St. Sett. King Head 30c., \$5.00 Grey uncut 12c; \$1.00 postage 18/6 18c; Price list free Charles King, 141 East 19th st., New York.

Collectors: Send your want list for Canada and Newfoundland. Prices right. Canada 24 varieties 18c. Newfoundland 10 varieties 22c. New Brunswick, unused 6 varieties 66c. E. Harris, 309 George St. Toronto, Canada.

100 var. U. S. good value 25c
500 all different foreign 60c
50 different British Colonies 18c
R. Van Benschoten, Hudson, N. Y.

2c Playing Cards blue cat. 25c 6c
5c " " 75c 18c
\$2.50 Inland Exchange " 12c 3c
Postage extra: Cheap, medium priced or rare U. S. on approval for commercial references. Wendover Neefus, 211 Eddy st., Ithaca, N. Y.

We are selling fine approval sheets that contain 20 different stamps for only 10c each, or 8 sheets for 25c. Postage 2c. Sterling Stamp Co., 2117 25th Ave., So., Minneapolis, Minn.

It is bad business to let anyone look in vain for an advertisement of your business.

ued, nor given room in any of the printed albums.

(To be Continued.)

THE CABINET.

A Department Devoted to Coins and Curios.

Early Coinage of New England.

[Note.—This article is taken from the Old Curiosity Shop, a coin curio journal of the middle eighties.]

From the very first the New England colonies were embarrassed by want of a standard currency. The careless management of the coinage by the predecessors of King Charles made money scarce even in England; the Colonists were mostly poor men, the amount of coin, therefore, brought to the New World was exceedingly small. To supply this need various devices were resorted to. The Indians were accustomed to use as currency, wampum, a sort of bead made from certain sea shells. A currency so easy to obtain, and so well adapted for trade with the natives, recommended itself to the Colonists, and they adopted it, establishing as its value in English coin one-sixth of a penny for white beads, one-third of a penny for blue. It was an unwieldy, bulky medium at best, but did very well as long as it was current. Barter was, however, the favorite of trade. Corn was the medium mostly used, but beaver-skin, fish or cattle passed current. Lumber is mentioned in the Colonial records as offered by the firm of Salesbury for taxes, and Sir Edmund Andros in 1687 accepted the rates of the town of Hingham in milk-pails. The general court regulated, as well as it could, the values of these articles and amounts in which they should be accepted as legal tender. But they had to make court and changes, and the collections owed treasurers often sustained heavy losses from shrinkage in value. There were many objections to barter; it was inconvenient; the transportation of "taxes" cost the State a large percentage of the sum assessed; foreign trades refused to accept produce for goods which were necessary to the Colonists. The ships which traded with Holland and the Indies brought in small quantities of coin, but it was scarce and seldom of standard fineness. From England came almost none, its exportation being prohibited by Parliament.

Accordingly, May 31, 1652, the general court passed an order establishing a mint at Boston. Jno. Hall was appointed master and authorized to coin shillings, six-penny and three-penny pieces, "flat and square on the sides, and stamped on the one side with N. E., and on the other side with the figure XII. VI. III, according to the value of each piece." The alloy was of the British standard, but the weight less by one-sixth. A building was erected for the mint, one story high and sixteen feet square.

Hardly was the new coin issued when it was found that it offered unusual advantages for fraud. The stamp occupied but a very small part of the

coin, leaving wide margins for "clippings," and was so wide that it required no great skill to counterfeit it. This coinage had a brief existence, being superseded two months after its first issue by the famous "pine tree" coinage. This was issued in the same denominations and had the following design: "A double ring on either side with this inscription; Massachusetts and a tree in the center on one side, and the year of our Lord on the other. These coins were issued for a period of thirty-five years, a two-penny piece being added in 1662. There were several different dies, but the date—except on the two-penny—is uniformly 1652. The pine tree raises with the artistic skill of the engraver; on one die it is so unique a pine that it is commonly called a "scrub oak," and was pointed out to King Charles by Geo. Temple as a representation of the "Royal Oak."

But even the mint could not supply lack of money. The Indian wars had left the State deeply in debt; English traders drained the purses of the Colonists; English officials denounced their coinage as treasonable, and as injurious to the standard of the British mint. The Colonists tried in vain to propitiate the king. Coinage ceased, and the functions of the mint were limited to testing and stamping with the value in New England money, foreign coinage. The old hard times returned. The general court, which had some time since ordered taxes to be paid in coin, was now glad to accept produce and even wampum, and offered to abate one-fourth of all taxes paid in coin. When William came to the throne the Colonists petitioned for authority to coin their own money. But he refused to grant this, and no further attempt to revive the mint was made. It had an existence of about thirty-five years of continual warfare with the greed and jealousy of the mother country.

An

Interesting Publication.

So far as we are aware, there is at the present time only one periodical in America devoted to all-around curio collecting, that is to say, confining itself to no particular specialty, but treating of anything and everything in the curiosity field. We refer to the Collectors' Note Book, of Camden, N. J., a well-printed thirty-six page monthly, which is likely to prove decidedly interesting to any one in any way in touch with curiosity collecting. The diversity of its contents may be judged from the following list of articles appearing in the current (September) number:

"The Preservation of Wild Animals (describing the method in vogue at the United States National Museum); "The Pigeon Post of Great Barrier Island;" "U. S. Encased Postage Stamps;" "Pictorial Post-Cards a Popular Fad;" "American Coins and Coinage; A Condensed History of Nearly Three Centuries;" "The British Museum;" "Harvard's Gems," and many articles and items of lesser note.

American Coinage.

The act which established the first United States Mint was passed on March 3, 1791. The corner-stone of the building was laid in a plot of ground in Seventh Street, Philadelphia, in July, 1792, and work began late in the same year under David Rittenhouse, whom Washington had appointed director. It is recorded that the first purchase of metal for coinage consisted of six pounds of old copper. The earliest coinage that can be called American was ordered by the Virginia Company, and was minted in the Bermudas in 1612. But then and long afterwards the standard currency of Virginia was tobacco. In 1615, however, the Virginia Assembly, after reciting that it "had maturely weighed and considered how advantageous a course would be to this colony, and the great wants and miseries which do daily happen unto it by the sole dependency upon tobacco," provided for the issue of copper coins of the denominations of twopence, threepence, sixpence and ninepence. But the law bore no fruit. Seven years later—in May, 1622—the General Court of Massachusetts passed an order which created a "mint house" at Boston, and which directed the coinage of twelve-pence, sixpence and three-pence pieces which shall be for forme flatt, and stamped on one side with N. E., and on the other side with XII d., VI d. and III d. according to the value of each piece."

This mint produced the "oak tree shillings" and the "pine tree shillings," and it continued its operations for 34 years. During the reign of William and Mary, copper coins were struck in England for Carolina and New England; and for Maryland, Lord Baltimore caused silver shillings, six-pences and four-pences to be coined in London. In 1776 Connecticut and Vermont established mints of their own for the striking of copper coins, and New Jersey followed in 1786.

From Mekeel's Stamp Collector we copy the following list of some of the most notable prices realized at a recent auction sale of coins, held under the auspices of Ben G. Green, of Chicago. The 1836 proof half-cent brought \$40.00; 1793 wreath cent, v. g., \$6.75; 1856 flying eagle cent, unc., \$9.10; 1857 proof 2-cent piece, \$3.10; 1864 very fine silver 3-cent piece, \$3.50; 1797 fine half-dime, \$7.00; 1799 and 1797 half-dollars very good, \$90.00 for the pair; 1815 half-dollar, \$4.20; 1796 dollar, v. g., \$5.25; 1798 fifteen stars, v. g., \$6.40; same thirteen stars, small eagle, \$5.00; 1850 fine, \$4.50; 1854, extra fine, \$7.10; 1855 very fine, \$6.00. A set of Redback fractional currency, printed signatures, brought \$10.50. A collection of Masonic mark pennies, 165 chapters, brought 5 cents each.

An Odd Fact.

The greatest number of varieties in the American coinage occur in the odd years. The coinage began in one and the only year the cents were not coined is also an odd year.

50 cents
a year.

2 cents
a copy.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Vol. 1.

BETULEHEM PENNSYLVANIA, NOVEMBER 5, 1904.

No. 8.

Part II Of The

Chas L. Stiver, collection

will be sold on Nov. 19th. It is rich in stamps of the 20 century. The sale also includes an unusually fine lot of scarce old issues, separated into one stamp to the lot. Catalogues free.

If you have not seen our list of approval books at 50c, 33c, 25c net you should send for one. Our approval books are arranged according to countries, and the list describes nearly 150 books any of which we send on approval.

We have a few more sets of Dominican Republic 1902. 1, 2, 5, 10, 12, 25, 25c which we sell at 25 cents per set.

Price list of our 1000 sets and packets free.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,

722 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.
Established 1869.

Philadelphia Gleamings.

Business increases as the weather grows colder in Philadelphia. It is really wonderful what a great tonic cool weather is to philately. It puts new life into it as if by the magic of the conjurer's wand. There follows the general resurrection of albums all along the line, the good work begins in earnest and the man behind the stamp counter is once more happy.

There is promise of Scott's catalogue being put on sale a little earlier than usual this year. They are progressing rapidly with the advance sheets and I was told that the catalogue would be out about the middle of November, but it seems to me that there is room for considerable improvement yet in this direction as it is a well known fact that a great many collectors abstain as much as possible from buying until they receive the new catalogue. Conceding this point, is it not a fair argument to assume that if the book was issued in, say, the early part of October, it would be better for all concerned? The collector would certainly be stimulated to taking an interest and buying earlier after the summer months than he does now, with the result that his joys and pleasures would be so much the longer lengthened, while the busy season would be extended accordingly. In the opinion of your humble scribe, the American catalogue compilers, could, with advantage, follow the example set by their German brothers across the pond, whose progressive-ness was shown by the publication of two standard catalogues in early October.

(Continued on Page 3.)

We still desire to Purchase St. Louis Exposition Stamps.

Used copies only.

For those in good condition we will pay the following cash prices:

1c	\$1 00	per 1,000
2c	51 "	1,000
3c	20 10 "	1,000
5c	20 10 "	1,000
10c	20 00 "	1,000

Any quantity up to twenty thousand of each value will be accepted.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 EAST 23rd St., New York, N. Y.

Nov. 19th. Sale.

consists of almost entirely unused stamps, fine stamps, very fine stamps, perfection stamps. For condition as a feature it will probably not be equalled this season. It is the S. G. Collins, Galveston, Texas collection and will be sold without reserve. Be sure to send in your bids early.

U. S. Dues 1896. 1c to 50c (cat. \$1 03) \$ 42
*Cuba 1899, Special Del. 10c No. 361 on U. S. 27
Persia 1882, 50c grey No. 56, scarce - 42
Rhodesia 1899, 1sh No 63 - - - - 12

You need a "Pocket Ed. Stock Book" holds 500 stamps, cloth, only - - - 25

P. M. Wolsieffer
401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

CHICAGO CHAT.

A recent applicant of the American Philatelic Association reported that within ten days after his application was published in the official journal he received eighteen different unsolicited selections of stamps from various parts of the United States and Canada and in only one of them was return postage enclosed.

He enquired what he was expected to do in such a case and was informed by several indignant members to put the trash in the fire, to hold it till they sent postage plus registration, to drop them a card stating amount of postage necessary for its return and various other stringent measures of reproof, nearly any of which would have resulted in his being denounced by said dealers and placed in the black list or attorney's hands for collection.

An examination of the various lots proved very interesting, as seventeen out of the eighteen could easily have been offered at 90 per cent. from the "marked prices," for catalogue prices were generally ignored. Mexican, Canadian, foreign revenues and tax stamps and much other trash, such as reprints, represented fully a half of the consignments. Strange to say, the only respectable lot of the eighteen was the one that enclosed return postage, and this would indicate that the seventeen rather expected to lose the trash they sent out.

It might be supposed that the majority of these dealers were small fry beginners, but a list of the eighteen would surprise the readers of this paper as to the character and stand-

ing of some of these concerns, a few who have been in business many years.

Very frequently when collectors of the old school are invited to join a society they give it as an excuse that the publicity would result in their being bothered with stamps on approval from all over, and evidently they know what they are talking about from the experience above stated.

This is a question stamp societies might take up and agitate for the benefit of all. As it is agreed the "unsolicited approval selection" is a nuisance, particularly to a busy man, some good might come out of the agitation.

A member of the Chicago Philatelic Society is in receipt of a letter from Major J. M. T. Partello stating that he and his family were caught in that awful Missouri Pacific Railroad wreck. The Major escaped with a bad knee, his wife badly bruised and lies in a critical state in St. Joseph's Hospital, Kansas City, Mo.; his daughter badly bruised, and his little son injured about the face and head.

Major Partello has a very large circle of friends among stamp lovers and they will no doubt regret this misfortune which has come to him while in the best of health and spirits.

The usual quiet just before a National election is felt in the stamp trade locally, although Mr. Wolsieffer attributes it to the fact that the collectors are waiting for the new 1905 catalogue, which in his opinion should be on the market not a day later than Oct. 1st of each year. He claims that every day after that is partly lost, as many collectors will not resume activ-

(Continued on Page 3.)

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E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

YE EDITOR DISCOURSETH.

Who Collects

French Colonials?

"We know not if any of our readers are sufficiently persevering as to collect French Colonials. If there are any such, they may be interested to learn that Dahomey has now received its full set in the usual type."

How it sets the old-timer musing of the changes which Time's whirligig has brought about in the stamp lover's world when he reads such a paragraph as the above in the current Philatelic Journal of India. Once French Colonials (few in number and respectable in origin) were as respected issues as any; now, none so poor as do them reverence. But it is not this on which the old-timer will most greatly ponder, but, rather, that it should have come to pass that there are nowadays so many sections of hemispheres and so many groups of colonies whose stamps "nobody much" seems to care to collect. If we may trust to such indications as are furnished by the neglect these stamps receive at the hands of our class press. Nobody collects French Colonials, nobody collects Central Americans, nobody collects Portuguese Colonials, nobody collects this country or that—how often we see remarks of this tenor in the journals of our hobby. Of course, we understand that these statements are not meant to be taken quite literally—that the "nobody" is used in a comparative sense only. There are doubtless tens of thousands of people who collect French Colonials—nor do all of these misguided persons, we believe, reside in France itself. But, of course, it is true that a good bulk of general collectors of experience and acumen to fight rather shy (if we may use the phrase) not only of French Colonials, but of a good many other issues that have seemed to be much more varied and numerous than there could have been any possible need for. And it would be a bold man who would say

that in so doing they were not acting the part of sound collecting policy.

What a change, however, has come over the spirit of our dream in the past ten or a dozen years, in that the collector—even into the generalist himself, whose philatelic appetite is supposedly omnivorous—picks and chooses his countries, including some and excluding others, with this almost uncanny insight into governmental motives. Though holding the speculative stamp in as great abhorrence as any in our craft, we must confess that we dislike to see these offending countries abandoned entirely. And we will try to tell you why.

Two Sides

To Every Question.

There are, proverbially, two sides to every question. The question of tabooring the stamps of countries whose postal officials have administered their trust in a way obnoxious to philatelists and inimical to the interests of philately is no exception to this rule. There are very grave reasons for doing our utmost to discourage "issues for collectors." There are, also, we think, decidedly valid reasons for not being wholly unreasonable in our treatment of these issues, which, bad as they are, in most cases have actual postal standing. To begin with, these issues to some extent broaden the horizon of stamp collecting. Every stamp which emanates from some country or colony hitherto not known as a stamp issuing state; and every stamp from whatever source, which embodies some novelty of design, adds something to the general interest of the pursuit. The whole charm of stamp collecting, in our belief, lies in its bringing us vividly in touch with the life that is lived in other lands or in other times than our own. No stamp (or perhaps we should say, no issue of stamps), was ever brought forth that did not in some way give us an insight into some facts about other peoples or other lands. If stamps did not do this they would be sorry objects of collection. And it follows, as the night the day, that even stamps issued with the direct speculative intent possess an interest intrinsically, which the circumstances of their issue is perfectly powerless to affect.

Let Us

Cite An Instance.

Let us cite an instance among these same despised French Colonials. There was, not so very long ago, an appalling disaster at Martinique. And Martinique was, and is, one of the numerous French dependencies that is needlessly accorded the honor of separate stamps. Yet is there any collector reading these lines possessing a single specimen from Martinique at the time of that disaster who did not feel a keener, more personal interest in that calamity than would have been the case had Martinique never figured as a stamp issuing colony?

To take another case, all agree that the recent issues for Niue and Penrhyn were wholly unjustifiable. Yet can any one thoughtful philatelist assert that he has not found it interesting to learn of the existence of these little far-away islands—of where and what they are, who inhabits them, how the inhabitants live, and other facts that have come to light in philatelic print since Niue and Penrhyn stamps entered the lists.

There are doubtless few American stamp men who collect with any great zest the issues of the various native States of India. Yet our knowledge of the composition and character of the Indian Empire has been infinitely enlarged from the facts the existence of these stamps have taught us.

We might multiply examples indefinitely, but deem further illustration unnecessary. Stamps such as those special ones which we have been speaking of—and a hundred others from out-of-the-way corners of the earth—do widen the boundaries of philatelic interest. We fail to think of a single stamp issuing state that we could conscientiously advise general collectors to wholly and utterly neglect.

The Application

Thereof.

We would not be understood as advising the collecting of everything from these countries that have offended against philately. To complete one's sets of all the different French Colonies, for instance, would be a task as unnecessary as it would be Herculean. One or two specimens from each colony will fully answer the general collector's purpose; one Niue stamp and one Penrhyn stamp are all we should personally care to place in our album. A very few specimens from each of the Indian native states will suffice for all practical purposes; and so on, through many a page of the catalogue which lists needlessly padded issues. The primary idea of general collecting is to amass a representative showing of the stamps of the whole world. Complete sets are not so essential to a truly complete general collection as is the presence of one or more specimens of every issue of every country. The wider range of countries and issues covered by a collection, the greater its intrinsic interest.

An

Interesting Possibility.

Our Chicago correspondent in a recent letter mentions that the Chicago Philatelic Society listened, at one of its late meetings, to a report from the "Lecture Committee" of that body and intimates that the details will be revealed in the near future and will present a pleasant surprise to philately. Does the Chicago society, we wonder, propose to establish a Philatelic Lecture Bureau, or has the committee made a slip and printed "lecture" for "literature?" We rather feel

the latter is the case, and that our correspondent meant to refer to a Literature Committee, charged with some bibliographical duties in the society's behalf. But we have a glimmering hope that the compositor read aright and that the energetic Chicago body does actually intend to make a start in philatelic lecturing. Mr. Fred J. Melville has been very successful abroad in his public lectures on stamps and we would much like to see some one essay a similar experiment here. It would perhaps hardly be possible to enlist the attention of large general audiences, but such lectures as Mr. Melville's, illustrated with stereopticon views of picturesque and interesting stamps, ought not to prove a bad "attraction" for Y. M. C. A.'s, social clubs and the like on this side of the water. There are several very good after-dinner speakers among the members of the Chicago society. May it not be that some of these are destined to attain philatelic fame on the platform?

Commendable Activity.

Another recent item from the Windy City has impressed us as worthy of editorial comment. We refer to the news that Rockford, Ill., has formed a branch society of the American Philatelic Association, thanks to the activity of Mr. S. Valentine Saxby, of that city, who has been the moving spirit in getting it together. We wish that every considerable town in this land boasted a philatelic organizer of Mr. Saxby's ardor, earnestness and energy. Philately is greatly in need of workers—most of us are drones, so far as doing anything to spread the popularity of the hobby is concerned, and especially we who live in small towns, where stamp men are few in number. We take pains to thus prominently allude to and commend Mr. Saxby's efforts in the hope that it may stir some of us sluggards (we frankly admit that there is no stamp club in the town where ye editor abides) to at least make an attempt to go and do likewise.

Philadelphia Gleamings.

(Continued from Page 1.)

Bogert & Durbin's Oct. auction sale was fairly well attended and prices realized were in some instances, good but on the majority, the bidding was low and spiritless. In some cases however the price almost approached the catalogue value and in one instance exceeded it. A feature of this sale was a collection of U. S. entires, among which were some fine specimens of rare envelopes and they went at bargain prices. Another sale is announced for Nov. 5th.

Speaking of entires reminds me that several collectors in this vicinity have taken up this branch of the hobby lately and I hope to see many more do the same, as it certainly is worthy a great deal more attention

BRIGHT & SON, Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers. NOW READY. THE 6th EDITION "A. B. C." Catalogue

Nearly 900 pp., and with about 6,000 ILLUSTRATIONS, giving all varieties of WATERMARK, PERFORATION, PAPER, TYPE, etc., for stamps, and full list of POST CARDS, ENVELOPES, WRAPPERS, etc. Price 2s. 6d.; or post free, 2s. 10d.

In response to the wishes of many of our customers, we have decided to publish in a SEPARATE VOLUME of 650 pp., the section of the above Catalogue containing ADHESIVES ONLY. This will contain STAMPS OF ALL COUNTRIES in alphabetical order. Price 1s. 6d.; or post free, 1s. 9d.

This is a marvel of cheapness, and no collector should be without it.

Bright's Stamp Market for the purchase and exchange of Collectors' Duplicates. Write for full particulars.

SELECTIONS sent on APPROVAL to all parts of the Globe.

Price List of Sets, Packets, Albums, etc., etc., Post Free. Interchangeable Albums from 8d. upwards.

164, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

than what it has been getting. It is an interesting field for those who care for study and if you once take it up there is no danger that you will discontinue it.

Mr John N. Luff visited town last week and was extended a cordial welcome by Philadelphia's philatelists. He showed his U. S. postage collection which was contained in two albums, it was simply superb.

It strikes me that there are comparatively few of the "St. Louis" stamps being used these days. The public appear to be getting tired of commemorative issues, or has the novelty worn off? At any rate they are little called for and consequently should prove good "holding" in the future. Better lay aside a few extra sets!

Stamp collecting has always been more or less a mystery to the general public and those not initiated in the art. Why it was that a person should spend time and money on such a pursuit was an open question, but of late the dear public has been considerably enlightened on the subject, with the result that the hobby is the more appreciated by the non-indulgents, but I was hardly prepared for the shock, one day recently, when on passing a pawnbroker's office my vision was greeted with a large sign that adorned the front of the building with the information that "money would be loaned on stamp collections." What more publicity does philately want?

Stamp Designer Dead.

A note in the "Collections de Timbres-Poste" informs us of the death of Mons Joseph Blanc, the Parisian artist, who designed the current French stamps of 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 centimes. He was born in 1846, and won high artistic honors at Rome at the age of 21. He was an officer of the Legion of Honor,

Stamp Collector's Fortnightly.

CHICAGO CHAT.

(Continued from Page 1.)

ity in collecting till the new catalogue arrives. Even then it takes probably two weeks longer for them to check it up and note the changes. It is getting to be quite the fashion to check your catalogue and thus keep an exact inventory of your collection.

Mr. W. O. Staab, the new Sales Superintendent of the American Association, says he is delayed in sending out circuits because his bond has not been approved by the Directors of the Association. It seems strange there should be any such delay, as he is supposed to get busy at once, and practically two months of his term has passed.

The U. S. Coin and Stamp Exchange has just issued a new edition (the 16th) of its Premium Coin Catalogue. It is a great improvement over previous editions.

Stamp Exhibition in London.

London is to have a public stamp exhibition this Winter, thanks to the energy of the Junior Philatelic Society and its indefatigable President Mr. Fred Melville, since it is to be held under the auspices of the former and the direct management of the latter. The Exhibition is not to be a great, ambitious venture, such as the late Berlin affair; but nevertheless gives promise of bringing together a series of exhibits that will be rarely interesting and instructive to English collectors, inasmuch as it is to be wholly and solely a show of British stamps. It is to be held on February 3 and 4, 1905, in Exeter Hall, London, described in the prospectus as the largest hall ever used for an English philatelic exhibition. It is to be hoped that the number of exhibits sent in and the number of visitors to the show will render even so large a hall all too small for the purposes of the exhibition. In other words, we trust that the exhibition may be so highly successful that, in the vernacular of the theatre, it will be obliged to "turn people away."

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There are doubtless few American stamp men who collect with any great zest the issues of the various native States of India. Yet our knowledge of the composition and character of the Indian Empire has been infinitely enlarged from the facts the existence of these stamps have taught us.

We might multiply examples indefinitely, but deem further illustration unnecessary. Stamps such as those special ones which we have been speaking of—and a hundred others from out-of-the-way corners of the earth—do widen the boundaries of philatelic interest. We fail to think of a single stamp issuing state that we could conscientiously advise general collectors to wholly and utterly neglect.

The Application

Thereof.

We would not be understood as advising the collecting of everything from these countries that have offended against philately. To complete one's sets of all the different French Colonies, for instance, would be a task as unnecessary as it would be Herculean. One or two specimens from each colony will fully answer the general collector's purpose; one Niue stamp and one Penrhyn stamp are all we should personally care to place in our album; a very few specimens from each of the Indian native states will suffice for all practical purposes; and so on, through many a page of the catalogue which lists needlessly padded issues. The primary idea of general collecting is to amass a representative showing of the stamps of the whole world. Complete sets are not so essential to a truly complete general collection as is the presence of one or more specimens of every issue of every country. The wider range of countries and issues covered by a collection, the greater is its intrinsic interest.

An

Interesting Possibility.

Our Chicago correspondent in a recent letter mentions that the Chicago Philatelic Society listened, at one of its late meetings, to a report from the "Lecture Committee" of that body, and intimates that the details will be revealed in the near future and will present a pleasant surprise to philately. Does the Chicago society, we wonder, propose to establish a Philatelic Lecture Bureau, or has the commissioner made a slip and printed "lecture" for "literature?" We rather fear

the latter is the case, and that our correspondent meant to refer to a Literature Committee, charged with some bibliographical duties in the society's behalf. But we have a glimmering hope that the compositor read aright and that the energetic Chicago body does actually intend to make a start in philatelic lecturing. Mr. Fred J. Melville has been very successful abroad in his public lectures on stamps and we would much like to see some one essay a similar experiment here. It would perhaps hardly be possible to enlist the attention of large general audiences, but such lectures as Mr. Melville's, illustrated with stereopticon views of picturesque and interesting stamps, ought not to prove a bad "attraction" for Y. M. C. A.'s, social clubs and the like on this side of the water. There are several very good after-dinner speakers among the members of the Chicago society. May it not be that some of these are destined to attain philatelic fame on the platform?

Commendable

Activity.

Another recent item from the Windy City has impressed us as worthy of editorial comment. We refer to the news that Rockford, Ill., has formed a branch society of the American Philatelic Association, thanks to the activity of Mr. S. Valentine Saxby, of that city, who has been the moving spirit in getting it together. We wish that every considerable town in this land boasted a philatelic organizer of Mr. Saxby's ardor, earnestness and energy. Philately is greatly in need of workers—most of us are drones, so far as doing anything to spread the popularity of the hobby is concerned, and especially we who live in small towns, where stamp men are few in number. We take pains to thus prominently allude to and commend Mr. Saxby's efforts in the hope that it may stir some of us sluggards (we frankly admit that there is no stamp club in the town where ye editor abides) to at least make an attempt to go and do likewise.

Philadelphia Gleamings.

(Continued from Page 1.)

Bogert & Durbin's Oct. auction sale was fairly well attended and prices realized were in some instances, good but on the majority, the bidding was low and spiritless. In some cases however the price almost approached the catalogue value and in one instance exceeded it. A feature of this sale was a collection of U. S. entires, among which were some fine specimens of rare envelopes and they went at bargain prices. Another sale is announced for Nov. 5th.

Speaking of entires reminds me that several collectors in this vicinity have taken up this branch of the hobby lately and I hope to see many more do the same, as it certainly is worthy a great deal more attention

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than what it has been getting. It is an interesting field for those who care for study and if you once take it up there is no danger that you will discontinue it.

Mr John N. Luff visited town last week and was extended a cordial welcome by Philadelphia's philatelists. He showed his U. S. postage collection which was contained in two albums, it was simply superb.

It strikes me that there are comparatively few of the "St. Louis" stamps being used these days. The public appear to be getting tired of commemorative issues, or has the novelty worn off? At any rate they are little called for and consequently should prove good "holding" in the future. Better lay aside a few extra sets!

Stamp collecting has always been more or less a mystery to the general public and those not initiated in the art. Why it was that a person should spend time and money on such a pursuit was an open question, but of late the dear public has been considerably enlightened on the subject, with the result that the hobby is the more appreciated by the non-indulgents, but I was hardly prepared for the shock, one day recently, when on passing a pawnbroker's office my vision was greeted with a large sign that adorned the front of the building with the information that "money would be loaned on stamp collections." What more publicity does philately want?

Stamp Designer Dead.

A note in the "Collections de Timbres-Poste" informs us of the death of Mons Joseph Blanc, the Parisian artist, who designed the current French stamps of 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 centimes. He was born in 1846, and won high artistic honors at Rome at the age of 21. He was an officer of the Legion of Honor,

Stamp Collector's Fortnightly.

CHICAGO CHAT.

(Continued from Page 1.)

ity in collecting till the new catalogue arrives. Even then it takes probably two weeks longer for them to check it up and note the changes. It is getting to be quite the fashion to check your catalogue and thus keep an exact inventory of your collection.

Mr. W. O. Staab, the new Sales Superintendent of the American Association, says he is delayed in sending out circuits because his bond has not been approved by the Directors of the Association. It seems strange there should be any such delay, as he is supposed to get busy at once, and practically two months of his term has passed.

The U. S. Coin and Stamp Exchange has just issued a new edition (the 16th) of its Premium Coin Catalogue. It is a great improvement over previous editions.

Stamp Exhibition in London.

London is to have a public stamp exhibition this Winter, thanks to the energy of the Junior Philatelic Society and its indefatigable President Mr. Fred Melville, since it is to be held under the auspices of the former and the direct management of the latter. The Exhibition is not to be a great, ambitious venture, such as the late Berlin affair; but nevertheless gives promise of bringing together a series of exhibits that will be rarely interesting and instructive to English collectors, inasmuch as it is to be wholly and solely a show of British stamps. It is to be held on February 3 and 4, 1905, in Exeter Hall, London, described in the prospectus as the largest hall ever used for an English philatelic exhibition. It is to be hoped that the number of exhibits sent in and the number of visitors to the show will render even so large a hall all too small for the purposes of the exhibition. In other words, we trust that the exhibition may be so highly successful that, in the vernacular of the theatre, it will be obliged to "turn people away."

A Page of Precept

For Young Collectors.
(Conducted by the Editor.)

(Note:—Young collectors are cordially invited to write us for any information they may desire on any point regarding either stamps or stamp collecting methods. Address, Editor, The Stamp-Lovers' Weekly, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.)

Neatness

In Collecting.

It may seem rather like an affront to young collectors in general to devote space here to the subject of neatness in collecting. But when we speak of neatness in this connection we do not necessarily refer to the matter of keeping the pages of one's album free from dirt or sundry finger marks or to keeping the stamps themselves free from soil through injudicious handling. There are very few collectors, even amongst beginners, who do not take sufficient pride in the state of their stamps and albums to guard both from dust and dirt as well as possible. But there are not a few whose collections are far from being notable for neatness of appearance in other ways.

The eagerness of the novice to fill as many spaces as possible often leads to the inclusion in his collection of many specimens that decidedly detract from its attractiveness. There are very few collections made by young people that do not contain a greater or lesser percentage of faded, dirty, badly canceled or torn specimens. It is entirely natural that such should be the case, because the young collector's zest for stamps leads him to hail with enthusiasm any new specimen, whatever its state of preservation. Many a stamp is more or less damaged in its removal from the envelope by impatient, eager fingers—a corner is torn off, or a big slice from one side, but as the collector has no other like it, the mutilated specimen goes in the album just the same. Then, too, some of the stamps in cheap packets are oftentimes smudgedly canceled, discolored and in poor preservation generally. So it is not to be wondered at that a good many crippled and unsightly stamps find their way into the novice's album.

Now the presence of stamps of this calibre is a blemish that detracts much from the satisfaction that is to be gotten out of a collection.

A

Philatelic Blemish.

There is little incentive for you to continue along in collecting if you cannot take real pride in your collection, and find real enjoyment in looking through its pages day after day. One of the main reasons for wishing to procure new specimens is to add to the beauty and attractiveness of this page, or that page, or the other. If you have a dozen nice specimens on

a page, the wish to add a thirteenth to them and make the page still more satisfactory is a great incentive to continued effort. You will speedily tire of collecting if you do not fall really in love with stamps and thereby become earnestly interested in building up a really fine collection of them. And one is not likely to become actually infatuated with stamp collecting if after collecting a few hundred specimens his album harbors only a sorry-looking medley of varieties, half of which are so poor in appearance that they spoil the looks of the other half. This is the great fault of poor specimens—three or four of them will pretty nearly spoil the looks of a whole page. The other occupants of the page may be ever so comely, but the tattered and dirty fellows will give the whole page a shabby, ragged look.

Just See

If This Isn't So.

If there are some pages in your album that contain disreputable looking specimens—apologies for stamps that you have always been a little bit ashamed of, but have never had courage to pluck out bodily—just take a glance at those pages, then compare them with other pages where all your specimens are bright, clean and whole, and see if you don't think all that is above said is really true. Young collectors are accustomed to accumulate stamps with a joyous haphazardness that doesn't take such things as these much into account—but when you do consider it, cannot you easily see how much a poor specimen takes away from the looks of the good ones alongside it, and the others around or near it? Perhaps you have never realized it, but the interest and charm of collecting stamps is dependant on the attractiveness of the specimens one secures. If all stamps were canceled with big, black smudges of canceling marks, such as some nations have, unfortunately, seen fit to use at times, there isn't anyone who would care to collect stamps very long. It isn't the "seeing how many stamps you can get" that makes stamp collecting a delightful diversion—as we have before remarked more than once—but the almost unending variety of picturesqueness of design and coloring in the different stamps of the world. Stamps that are not attractive—that are in any way disfigured, either by heavy cancelations that cover up most of the design, or by being faded or discolored, or by being torn or incomplete—are not going to teach you anything, no matter how interesting their designs may have been in the first place; because, even if you keep them in your collection, you are not certainly going to admire them and bestow on them the same loving scrutiny of every feature that better-looking specimens will receive.

Most business men now know that advertising pays, but many never suspect how much it can be made to pay in their own case.—Printers' Ink.

HAWAII

1864	15c Chocolate, mint, fine	\$1 15
	25c used very fine	1 20
	50c unused good	3 20
	10c used very fine	4 25
1893	12c set surcharge mint	2 50
	12c block " "	8 50
	\$1.00 mint fine	2 10
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In offering this lot in a way of explanation will say that single copies will be picked copies, all others in wholesale condition, the same as purchased by me.

		per	per	per
		1	10	100
1871	90c carmine	\$ 00	\$5 00	\$
1879	90c "	50	4 50	
1883	4c green	02	08	50
1888	30c orange	25	2 00	
1890	3c purple	01	08	50
"	4c brown	01	04	25
"	5c "	01	04	25
"	6c red brown	03	20	1 50
"	8c lilac	02	08	50
"	10c green	01	04	25
"	15c blue	05	35	2 25
"	30c black	05	35	2 25
"	90c orange	30	2 50	21 00
1893	3c green	03	20	1 50
"	4c blue	02	08	50
"	5c chocolate	02	12	75
"	6c purple	04	30	2 25
"	8c magenta	03	15	1 00
"	10c black	02	12	75
"	50c slate	25	2 25	
1891-95	3c purple	01	05	25
"	4c brown	01	03	18
"	5c "	01	04	20
"	6c red-brown	02	12	75
"	8c puce	02	08	40
"	10c green	01	04	20
"	15c blue	03	15	1 00
1895	50c orange	08	65	5 00
"	\$1 00 black	25	2 25	18 50
"	\$5 00 green	1 50	12 25	
1898	50c sage green	18	1 50	12 50
"	\$2 00 orange br	1 50	12 50	
1898-99	4c brown	01	03	20
"	5c blue	01	04	25
"	6c lake	02	12	80
"	10c brown	01	04	25
"	15c olive	03	20	1 50

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D. T. Eaton, Muscatine, Iowa.

Poor Specimens

Are a Dead Weight.

These poor specimens are a dead weight on a collection and a dampener on your collecting ardor. It is better to leave a space vacant than to fill it with a stamp you are ashamed of. Every young collector will do well to remove from his collection all specimens that are so much below its general average of condition that they stand out conspicuous as blotches on its pages. Of course, every young collector must decide for himself just where the line of condition is to be drawn. One point of the matter is very plain, however, and that is, that stamps which are not complete—as those which have a big piece torn out of one side or a chunk missing in the centre, and so on—should be candidates for instant removal. In cases where but a slight bit of the stamp is missing—say, a tiny bit of one corner—and it is otherwise a bright, pleasing specimen, it is well enough to let

It remain, especially if it is a copy of some stamp that is rather rare, and not to be replaced without quite a little cost. Badly faded and discolored stamps should be given quick riddance. Any considerable number of them in a collection harms its appearance and intrinsic interest even more perhaps than an equal number of torn and tattered stamps. Stamps that are simply dirty can in many cases be so brightened and freshened up by laying them face up on a bit of blotting paper and scrubbing them carefully with warm water applied with a soft camel's hair brush that they will be quite worthy to shine in the best of company. As to very heavily canceled stamps, these are not quite so disreputable as the other classes we have been considering, but they are very unsatisfactory, and should at most be considered only as temporary makeshifts, to be replaced by some other copy of the same stamp as soon as it can possibly be secured.

Seemingly

Harsh Advice.

The above may seem like harsh advice. Weeding out these stamps in poor condition leaves a good many gaps in formerly complete sets, and makes the collector feel as though his collection had received a decided setback. In reality, with these stamps gone, he is in a much better position to make satisfactory progress with his collection. A humorist once said, "It is better not to know so much than to know so many things that aren't so." Similarly, it is better to have not so many stamps than to have so many that are not of satisfactory calibre. It is a good thing to weed out the poor specimens and become a little more particular as to what goes into your collection. We do not advise young collectors to carry this to great limits—to be so fastidious as to putting none but fine stamps in their albums that they can really be called finicky. But we do not think there is any danger of one young collector in a thousand going to this length.

Constant

Improvement.

In addition to filling new spaces in your album, constant improvement should be sought in the way the old spaces are filled. Take, for instance, your set of the current St. Louis stamps, or the regular U. S. stamps now in use. Keep your eye open for specimens of these that are more lightly canceled than those you already possess. Now and then, one will meet with specimens that hardly show the cancellation at all. Do not be satisfied that you already have fairly good specimens of these stamps in your album—keep your eye open for still better ones, for some of these that have almost wholly escaped obliteration. It is a lamentable fact that many young collectors have placed in their albums, and seem perfectly contented with, specimens of recent U. S.

stamps that are far from being up to reasonable condition standards—and this in face of the fact that they could easily have had their choice of dozens and dozens of copies without a cent of cost, many of which would doubtless have been of far better appearance than the one first chosen. Young collectors pay too little care to this point. When once a certain stamp is represented in their albums they consider the matter settled for good and all; and never think of replacing it with a better specimen. "I have that already" is their thought when they run across this better specimen in packet or approval sheet. Don't get into this attitude. Get in the habit of looking out for better specimens of the stamps you already have, just as much as you do for entirely new varieties. It pays to do so. It pays extra dividends of pleasure and satisfaction. A collection that isn't constantly growing better in quality just as much as in quantity is a poor, milk-and-water affair. Don't give all your attention to enlarging your collection—give some of it to improving it.

Mr. Carter's New Album.

We have received the following letter from Geo. J. Carter, who is now preparing for publication an album for the Revenue and Private Proprietary Stamps of the United States. Our regular readers will recollect our reference to the matter in a recent number and our warm commendation of the projected work. We owe amends to Mr. Carter for not having fully indicated the scope of the work in the course of our remarks—a vagueness which we much regret, as we are greatly in sympathy with the aims of this new album. Mr. Carter makes it clear that it is to contain spaces not only for Proprietaries, but for all the U. S. Documentary Revenues as well, as may be fully seen from his letter, which we print in full, as follows:

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

Bethlehem, Pa:

I must thank you kindly for your notice in the issue of Oct. 8, which I have only just seen owing to my absence from home. I was forced to look it up from the number of letters (which I read before the papers) enquiring about my album. Originally it was my intention to publish an album solely for the Private Proprietary stamps but so many requests were made to include the U. S. Revenues that I finally decided to do so. My album will have illustrations and spaces provided for every U. S. Revenue imperforate and perforate, besides every proprietary stamp; in fact everything mentioned in the Standard catalogue from number 2800 to 3628, besides a large number of varieties not mentioned therein. I find that quite a number of readers of your splay, original paper were under a wrong impression as to the contents of my album and will thank you very much to make this corrected announcement. The title of my book will be:

The Revenue and Private Proprietary Stamps of the United States.

Yours very truly,

Geo. J. Carter.

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"Panama Republic.	1904	2 var.
"Cuba. Newspaper	1894	4 "
"Egypt. Soudan Camel		2 "
"Guatemala	1901 complete	
Mexico	1886	5 var.
"New Brunswick		2 "
Nicaragua	1899	4 "
Persia		4 "
"Peru	old	8 "
Peru	1895	4 "
Peru	1901 complete	
Queensland		7 var.
Roumania	1891	7 "
Roumania	1893	9 "
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"Salvador	1889	4 "
"Salvador	1891	4 "
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Venezuela	1900	8 "

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Fine approvals 60% discount; reference.

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Blank Approval Books.

Far better than sheets for agents use and for duplicates

We have them printed on good paper with light blue covers to hold 60 and 100 stamps respectively.

Postage free. Per 12 books Per 100
No. 1 to hold 60 stamps - - - \$.10 \$.60
No. 2 to hold 100 stamps - - - .15 .90

Not fewer than 12 sold.

THE JUNIOR, Bethlehem, Pa.

Philatelic Lecturing In Australia.

England and Mr. Melville no longer possess a monopoly to the philatelic lecturing field. We learn from the latest issue of the Australian Philatelist that Mr. A. F. Basset Hull, Australia's most eminent writer on philatelic subjects, delivered on September 21, in St James Hall, Sydney, a public lecture on "Popular Philately," illustrated with lantern views. We trust it may not be long before someone in America essays a similar experiment.

Anything that appeals to stamp and coin collectors can be profitably advertised in THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

THE READING TABLE.

What We Find in the Journals of the Hour.

The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, London, England.

The issue for Sept. 25th of the above named English journal opens with a portrait and sketch of Mr. William Martello Gray, an English philatelist whose name we have never hitherto heard, but for whose philatelic attainments we cannot but feel the greatest respect after a perusal of this account of his collecting. Mr. Gray's philatelic recollections date back to 1866; and the whole story of his collecting career reads so interestingly that we know we will be forgiven for quoting a portion of it here.

"I soon acquired a love for collecting stamps, and my recollection is that this special hobby had made considerable progress amongst my young friends in 1866; the time to which I refer. I also remember that there was generally doubt amongst us as to the value of the various specimens, none of us possessing either catalogues or albums, and the assistance of the advanced collector, of mature years was not to be had.

"My juvenile collection existed only about three years, and in an impecunious moment was sacrificed for a small sum, possibly some valuable Mauritius or Cape error being included therein.

"I forgot all about the philatelic hobby till 1890 when I began to lay aside any stamps received in the course of business. This I continued to do until 1894 when an accidental conversation with some legal friends, one a serious collector of twenty-five years standing, again directed my attention to philately. I then began to collect generally, everything that came in my way, and very soon got together about 8,000 varieties. Soon, however, I experienced a feeling of disappointment, since the more stamps I obtained the further I seemed to be from having anything like a complete or satisfactory collection of any country. I thereupon determined to discontinue this collection, and turned my attention to Africans and West Indians, of which I soon obtained a fairly moderate number of good specimens. Still not being satisfied with my efforts, I seriously took up in 1900 the collection of Great Britain, as I had come to the conclusion that the stamps of one's own country were particularly interesting from a philatelic standpoint and might also ultimately prove of commercial value.

"After four years experience I still believe these views are sound. I have obtained both amusement and instruction in getting together this special collection, which now numbers about four thousand unused stamps, nearly

all in mint condition.

"The stamps in this collection are arranged upon sheets of thin plain card, which are placed loosely in volumes interleaved with best tissue and cartridge paper. This I find an excellent method of arrangement, as the card sheets may be readily moved, and increased or decreased at will.

"In the course of an extremely arduous professional career, I have collected many artistic objects, but in none of these have I experienced the charm and fascination which I have derived from stamp collecting. I therefore do not hesitate to recommend others, however busy they may be in the affairs of life, to take up the hobby, as I am satisfied that they will find in it a pleasant and profitable occupation for moments of leisure."

The P. J. of G. B.'s editorial leader of the month is on the oft-discussed topic of catalogue prices and their relation to catalogue value. And on this subject our contemporary discourses with such acute good sense that we must even have recourse to the scissors once more, and repeat at least a part of the editorial. We choose the following portion as most interesting:

"There is no method that can be cited for general use in valuing stamp collections—so much depends on the stamps it contains and the condition they are in. Collectors, we are afraid, rely a little too much on catalogue prices and too little on their own judgment. Some make quite a fetish of 'half catalogue,' and never under any circumstances pay more for a stamp, whereas many varieties are worth much more than catalogue in fine condition and others are very dear at half catalogue. It must be remembered that a catalogue is primarily a price list of the goods its publisher has for sale, and though on the whole the prices give one a very fair idea of the value of different stamps they should not be too implicitly followed.

"Instead of worrying about catalogue prices and the percentage of them he is likely to get when selling his collection, the philatelist should pay attention to condition, for it is practically certain that if he chooses only really fine copies, he will always be able to obtain at least as much as he paid for them. Until he has gained some idea of the relative scarcity of different stamps the beginner should be careful to expend only such money in his collection as he can afford and look upon philately as a hobby, pure and simple. Then later, as he gains experience, he will doubtless be able to make stamps a pretty good investment should he desire, and combine the pleasure of collecting with the thought that his treasures are yearly increasing in value. But in this, as in every other collecting hobby—as old china, furniture, books, coins, etc.—the man who hopes ultimately to make a good investment must not be afraid at first of buying his experience, and then he will not need to trouble about the vagaries of

Bargains in

Newfoundland Stamps.

1897	1c Cabot	- - -	per 10	\$0.15
"	2c Cabot	- - -	" 10	.15
"	3c Cabot	- - -	" 10	.15
1898	1c green	- - -	" 100	.15
"	3c orange	- - -	" 100	.15
"	5c duke	- - -	" 10	.15
"	4c duchess	- - -	" 10	.15

Write for wholesale list free to dealers. Rare stamps send on approval to responsible Collectors.

WM. NOFTALL,

St. John's

NEWFOUNDLAND.

P. O. Box 121.

EVERY WEEK

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found elsewhere, at all events over 5,000 collectors are paying to receive it. You may receive it 10 weeks on trial for 10 cents.

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- First. Our daily list of Bargains.
- Second. Some scarce stamps on approval.
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Any one is worth the effort to write.

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catalogue prices when estimating the selling value of his collection."

An account of the Berlin Philatelic Exhibition, with list of awards and notes on many of the exhibits, written by Mr. F. E. Wilson, occupies the next few pages, and is to be continued in the October number.

Under "New Leaves to Cut" we find short but appreciative and able reviews of Senf's 1905 Catalogue, and of M. Forbin L'Hoste's Catalogue of Fiscal Stamps—the latter being reviewed by the great English authority on fiscals, Mr. A. Preston Pearce. Over 35,000 varieties of fiscal stamps, it may be noted in passing, are listed in this catalogue, and another fact worth noting is that only one column of prices appears, no distinction being made in fiscal circles, so far as price is concerned, between used and unused specimens.

The P. J. of G. B.'s European Catalogue deals this month with the stamps of Luxemburg, as clean and interesting a country, philatelicly speaking, as any in Europe. And the "Philatelic Review of Reviews," extending over some six pages or so, brings the number to a close.

Collectors may guess what you have in your stock; if you tell them they'll know.

An Abridged Philatelic Dictionary.

Philatelic Terms and Phrases Defined For The Benefit of Beginners.

(Continued from last week, page 7.)

Proofs.—Proofs are trial impressions of postage stamps about to be issued. They are struck off for the purpose of seeing if any corrections need to be made before printing for actual use is commenced—in fact, have the same relation to an actual stamp as do the proof sheets of a book to the actual book itself. Proofs are not catalogued, but are not infrequently to be met with in fine collections, where they are highly prized as oddities.

Provisionals.—Provisional stamps are those made for merely temporary use, to meet some special emergency. For example, the United States recently acquired jurisdiction over a portion of Panama, and wishing stamps for immediate use in its new territory, took some of the regular Panama stamps and surcharged them with the words "U. S. Canal Zone," and used them until the arrival of a supply of United States stamps of regular issue. These "U. S. Canal Zone" stamps are, therefore, provisional stamps, and not regular issues. Provisionals are generally catalogued and are, as a rule among the scarcer of class stamps.

Reay Envelopes.—A series of United States Stamped Envelopes, given this name by philatelists because they were printed by the Reay Company, and to distinguish them from a later issue printed from the same dies by another concern, the Plimpton Company. Envelopes of this latter issue are generally spoken of as "Plimpton Envelopes."

Remainders.—Unused stamps remaining in the hands of a government after that particular issue has been superseded by a new one—or when a country or colony ceases altogether the issuance of stamps. Remainders are sometimes sold, and sometimes sold in bulk to the highest bidder—stamp dealers being, in many cases, very eager to secure them.

Reprints.—Impressions made from the original dies of obsolete stamps. When an issue of stamps becomes obsolete the dies and plates are in some cases destroyed, and in other cases preserved by the government. Where the latter course is pursued postal administrations sometimes use these old dies to print fresh copies of these obsolete stamps for sale to collectors. Cases have also been known where dies have been sold to private parties, who have used them in making fresh copies. Reprints are primarily made for the purpose of deceiving collectors; their purchasers being usually unaware that they are not genuine originals. Fortunately, there are usually points of difference between reprints and originals (differences in the paper used, the color, or some other detail of manufacture) that permits collectors to distinguish between them. No reputable

stamp dealers sell reprints—which are considered only a grade better than forgeries.

Rouletted Stamps. Rouletting was a mode of stamp separation extensively employed prior to the general adoption of the perforating machine. It separates the stamps by tiny lines of indentures pierced through the paper at regular intervals, which present something of the form of dashes, thus — — —. It was, in all ways, a far less efficient method than perforating, and is now practically out of use. Many old issues of stamps were rouletted.

Russian Rurals.—Certain local stamps of Russia, whose use is in each case confined to a specified city or district. The Imperial Russian Post provides only very scanty postal facilities for many of the remoter sections of Russia, and local posts exist in many places to supplement the government's service. These posts have authority (within certain limits) to issue their own stamps; hence the great number of these Russian Local (or Rural) issues. They are not catalogued, but are collected by many specialists.

Seebecks.—Certain issues of Central American stamps, made by the Hamilton Bank Note Company, of New York, on an agreement, first, that there should be an entire new issue each year; second, that all stamps needed should be supplied by the Bank Note Company to the governments entering into the compact, entirely free of cost; third, that the Bank Note Company print as many stamps in excess of postal requirements as they pleased and should own, to do with as they wished, all the remainders on hand at the end of each year. The practical effect of this compact was that the Bank Note Company purposely printed millions more stamps than were needed for postal purposes, and at the end of each year put all these stamps on the market for sale to collectors. N. F. Seebeck was the President of the Hamilton Bank Note Company and the originator of the idea; hence collectors gave the name "Seebecks" to all stamps issued under this agreement. Collectors made such an outcry against the system that it was ultimately abandoned. The Seebeck issues are Honduras, 1890 to 1898; Nicaragua, 1890 to 1900; Salvador, 1887 to 1899; and Ecuador, 1892 to 1899.

"Specimen" Stamps.—These are stamps (either original or reprints) which are overprinted with the word "specimen," denoting that they are not good for postal use. Sets of stamps resented to foreign governments when a new issue comes out, as an act of international courtesy, are sometimes so overprinted; and some governments have taken pains to stamp the word on their reprints, to fully indicate their nature.

(To be Continued.)

A MAN that never advertises is much like the man without a home; no one knows where to find him.—Michigan Tradesman.

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display. A line will average seven words. Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

Free 30 different foreign to all applicants for my sheets enclosing stamp for postage. Reference required. **BASIL PERRY**, Coolspring, Delaware.

100 U. S. mixed (1c to \$1.00)..... 100
1 to 10c. Columbian or St. Louis..... 100
List free. R. R. McGill, 7 Burton Pl., Chicago.

12 colored Souvenir Postals of California, 25c. C. Farman, Golden Gate, Oakland, Cal.

75c off! Send for my fine Approval sheets, containing good stamps. Reference. M. Tausig, 20 East 111th St., New York City.

Suit, overcoat and trousers made to order, in exchange of stamps, circular, woolen samples and price list, send on application. Great Western Stamp Exchange Jos. E. Goldblatt, Mgr. 689 N. Irving Ave., Chicago, Ill.

100 var. U. S. (on env.) fine 30c. Stamps on appr. 60%. H. Wendt, Dunlap, Iowa.

80c brown 1898 unused; fine - - - 40c
The want lists of all United States and Canada specialists solicited. Discounts liberal. References required.
Wendover Neefus, 211 Eddy st., Ithaca, N. Y.

U. S. 1879, 15 cent orange - - - 07
" 1893, 50 cent Columbian - - - 22
" 600 all different foreign - - - 65
R. Van Benschoten, Hudson, N. Y.

Free 100 Foreign and United States and 1893 set Borneo catalogued \$1.38 for 35 cents. The Harvard Stamp Co., 627 Main Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

St. Louis set - - - 10c
Buffalo set - - - 10c
Omaha 1 to 10c - - - 10c
Columbia 1 to 10c - - - 10c
J. H. Houston, 337 Penn Avenue N. W. Washington, D. C.

Advertisers if you are looking for a good stamp, Coin and Curio medium try the American Monthly at 20 cents an inch. It reaches the people you are looking for. Buyers 6 months sub. to same for 10 cents. Sample copy 4 cents. None free. **BASIL PERRY**, Coolspring, Delaware.

Big Snaps. 2 blue P. Card 7c; 10 For. Ex. 12c. 600 well mixed rev. 60c \$1.00 passage ticket 60c; Price list free. Charles King, 141 East 19th st., New York.

30 varieties, Sweden price 10 cents
Geo. A. Knight, 90 Meridian st., Boston.

Washington Match cat. \$2 00 65c
U. S. and foreign on approval For reference Edmo. C. Getty Jr., 306 Eddy st, Ithaca N Y.

1898, 15 cent olive (cat. 5 cent) - 2c
100 U. S. (face 1c to \$1 00) well mixed - 9c
List free. R. R. McGill, 7 Burton Pl. Chicago.

A block of 6 of the 2c lake, 1890 issue, Imperforated \$15.00 L928 c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

8 Varieties of the World's Fair (Chicago 1893) postal cards, with a 1 cent unused Columbian on each, for 20 cents (The face value is 2 cents each.)
E. T. PARKER, Bethlehem, Pa.

A full sheet of 50 10-cent 1847, Card Board proofs \$20.00 (a single one catalogues at \$1.00) Proof, c/o THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

WANTED to buy Western Union franks issue of 1887. Bradley c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

I want to buy Italy, 1881, 2c black newspaper stamps in any quantity, State number you have and give price. Bradley c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

The man who wants to be busy to-morrow must plan for something to happen to-morrow.

THE CABINET.

A Department Devoted to Coins and Curios.

Tokens.

The name given to a kind of money which was, at certain periods, current in Britain by sufferance, and not by authority. Tokens first came into use in England in the reign of Henry VIII, in consequence of the want of any authorized coins to represent the fractions of a penny. In the reign of Elizabeth, stamped tokens of lead, tin and even leather, issued by vintners, grocers and other tradesmen passed largely from hand to hand, and were payable at the shops where they were issued. The corporations of Bristol, Oxford and Worcester had also their tokens.

In 1613 a royal proclamation authorized Lord Harrington to issue farthing tokens and prohibited the issue of private tokens under penalties. This prohibition was renewed by Charles I, who granted to the Duchess of Richmond, Sir Francis Crane and others, the exclusive right of coining authorized farthings for 17 years, but the farthings made by these patenters were the subject of much discontent, as they were greatly below the intrinsic value of the metal. In the face of these prohibitions, private tokens, principally of brass, continued to circulate and were especially abundant during the Civil War. Numerous tradesmen's tokens, mostly of copper, were again struck during the scarcity of money at the close of the eighteenth century. On account of the scarcity of silver money previous to the new coinage of 1817, silver pieces, known as Bank Tokens, of the respective value of 5s., 3s. and 1s. 6d., were issued by the Bank of England. They were called in on the revision of the coinage.—Chamber's Book of Days.

Matchbox Stamps.

Another potent distraction is the fad for amassing matchbox stamps, especially Japanese ones, and when these are prettily arranged they are quite attractive, although not of any great educational or artistic value.

Not so well known or overworked are the seaweed collections. When at the seashore the graceful and dainty sea flowers that come floating up on the sand are a fascinating study and form a beautiful collection. The enthusiasts take a pail with them down to the water's edge and catch the Neptune blossoms as they float in with the tide. Then the trophies are thrown into a large bucket of cold water, and the briny substance is thoroughly soaked out of them. The next move in the modus operandi is to have ready a piece of bristol board of a convenient size, and after selecting the special piece of weed to be worked up slip the cardboard under the treasure and arrange it in an artistic fashion, separating meanwhile the delicate tendrils of the sea flowers with a steel hat-pin. A great deal of the seaweed is deli-

cately colored. When different shades are combined a bouquet equal in variety and beauty to the flowers of the land garden is the result. When the card is painted with the moss a thin cloth is laid on top and a heavy weight placed on it. The mounts should harmonize with the tint of the sea moss, and in this way lovely marine pictures are evolved.

This work when really well done is an art, and one enterprising Florida girl has put her talent in this direction to a marketable account by making smart dinner cards for the rich northern visitors to the fashionable resorts of the gopher state.

These cards come in sets of twelve. They are cut in different shapes, with the edges beveled or ragged. Guests' books are attractive when covered with the mounted moss, and at bazaars these mounted marine pictures sell like wildfire at wonderfully good prices.

From the "Collectors Note Book."

A \$10,000 Cameo.

The famous Marlborough cameos, purchased in London for the Museum of Fine Arts, have arrived. The rarest cameo of the collection is the work of an engraver before the time of Alexander the Great, and for this one gem, measuring 6 by 5 1/4 inches, the sum of \$10,000 was paid. Connoisseurs say it is the finest cameo in the world. This cameo humorously represents the hymeneal procession of Cupid and Psyche. The relief is in flesh color upon a background of black. The designer, Triphion, lived and died in Macedonia long before Alexander the Great was born. A case is to be made of steel and plate glass in which the collection will be exhibited.

Fantastic Bindings.

Extravagance in binding has frequently furnished an opening for the display of fantastic tricks and fads. In a bookseller's catalogue at hand is an advertisement of a Latin copy of Apuleius' "Golden Ass," bound in the skin of a Jerusalem ass, the leather being still unshaved.

A book by Jeffrey Hudson, the noted dwarf, was bound in the silk waistcoat of Charles I., the dwarf's patron saint. A de luxe edition of Fox's historical works, specially fitted up for Edwards, the Philosopher, was bound throughout in fox skins, forty-seven pelts of these little animals being required to complete the job.

O'Connell, who so delighted in the possession of a first edition of Bacon's works, had the entire set rebound in pig skin, and always lovingly referred to them as his "Bacon-rind" books. During the French Revolution, "when death stalked through the land and murder lurked in every dark corner," some of the philosophers who had become hardened with their nightly revels, "where skulls were used as drinking cups," carried their love of

the gruesome and the horrible so far as to rebind whole libraries in human skin.

The writer of this note once had the pleasure of handling a copy of a murderer's confession which was bound in the tanned skin of the murderer himself.

Where Are They?

One may get a notion of the number of pennies lost from the history of the old half-cents. Of these 800,000 were issued. Where are they now? A few are in the cabinets of coin collectors. None has been returned to the Mint for coinage, or are held by the Treasury. Nobody sees them in circulation. All of them, except some hundreds saved out by urio hunters, have disappeared. Of the old copper pennies 119,000,000 still remain unaccounted for, save once in a long while one sees a specimen. There are more than three million bronze two-cent pieces somewhere out of 4,500,000 of them that the Government issued. Of nickel three-cent pieces nearly two million are yet outstanding, although it is almost never that one of them is come across.

A \$50,000 Bible.

A manuscript Bible of the eighth century, said to be worth \$50,000, the property of J. S. Morgan, nephew of J. Pierpont Morgan, was held by Deputy Collector of the Port Williams and sent to the appraiser's stores to be valued. The Bible is a magnificent one of great rarity. The headings of each chapter are illuminated in an exquisite manner, and the cover of the book is set with precious stones.

Engraved pieces are of trifling interest to numismatics. Coins and medals are counted as of general interest and value only when they are struck from dies.

Counterstamps appear on coins from the earliest date. The greater part of them are unsolved problems, and are likely to forever remain mysteries. The following are explanations for those interpreted: A ruler recognizing the coinage of his predecessors; foreign coins made current by the impress of arms or emblems of countries and cities which for convenience, desire to accept them; to prevent counterfeiting, and to discriminate against frauds; to increase or reduce values; to keep the metals, which may have become precious, within the borders of the place of issue.

There are few greater curiosities in the whole American coinage than the 1853 half-dollar, which has neither arrows at side of date, nor rays behind the eagle, on reverse. The weight of the piece is 201 grains, or 9 more than the common issue of the same year.

It doesn't do to be afraid of the cost of advertising. Keep at it. One reply may mean a sale amounting to many dollars.

50 cents
a year.

2 cents
a copy.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

VOL. 1.

BETHLEHEM PENNSYLVANIA, NOVEMBER 12, 1904.

No. 9.

Part II Of The

Chas L. Stiver, collection

will be sold on Nov. 19th. It is rich in stamps of the 20 century. The sale also includes an unusually fine lot of scarce old issues, separated into one stamp to the lot. Catalogues free.

If you have not seen our list of approval books at 50c, 83 $\frac{3}{4}$ c, 25c net you should send for one. Our approval books are arranged according to countries, and the list describes nearly 150 books any of which we send on approval.

We have a few more sets of Dominion Republic 1902, 1, 2, 5, 10, 12, 20, 25c which we sell at 25 cents per set.

Price list of our 1000 sets and packets free.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,

722 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA

Established 1869.

LONDON LETTER.

Fred J. Melville.

A magnificent example of higher philately is afforded by the collection of original drawings, proofs, essays and specimens of stamps of the United States, compiled by the Earl of Crawford. His lordship's stamp sanctuary at 2, Cavendish Square, London, is a large one, with the albums in wall cases, which occupy a large portion of the wall space. It is reached through a long passage almost completely lined on one side with philatelic books, the library of which Mr. T. K. Tiffany's collection formed the nucleus.

The noble Earl's method in his philatelic researches is thoroughly scientific and the best preliminary explanation of it is to say that he has traced the history of each several stamp of the United States from its inception, through all stages of modification, right down to its actual usage. When, for example, an authoritative power like the Government of the United States decides upon the issue of a stamp or series of stamps, it first secures a number of suggested designs, or original drawings suitable for the purpose. Of such original sketches his Lordship has a very large number in his fifty or sixty volumes. Some of them were actually adopted, others never got beyond the experimental stage.

Then follow die proofs, first for approval generally in black, then trial colour proofs in various shades, then the artists signed proofs in the colour selected; plate proofs on India paper; the Exhibition proofs of 1875, 1882 & 1892; the stamps as issued for

Tasmania.

£1 green and yellow.
Mint Copy.
Never has had a hinge.
Price \$48.00 net.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.
18 EAST 23rd ST., New York, N. Y.

use, also the same overprinted "specimen," and with varieties of paper, perforation, watermark, grille etc; reprints and re-issues with their respective die and plate proofs. His Lordship also shows, so far as he possibly can, the use of the Die before its adoption as a stamp design, and the sketch and design from which the Die was made.

This truly gigantic display is but a portion of Lord Crawford's philatelic possessions. The library I referred to in a former letter. The walls of the large "stampery" are well nigh covered with another library of stamp albums kept in bookcases with glass doors. In these are extensive specialised collections of Great Britain and many of the Colonies, and other countries. There can be no doubt that Lord Crawford is one of the foremost of philatelists, and there is more science in his method than in that of many of the "bloating" philatelists whose displays on this side of the Atlantic are often wearisome and of little interest, save to a select few.

That stamp dealers should be the recipients of conscience money, seems to me to show how unpleasantly the approval system works in schools. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co. of Ipswich, tell me that just lately they received a letter from Mexico from an Englishman who says that in 1887 when at school in England, he had a sheet of stamps belonging to the firm which he sold to his schoolfellows, and spent the money on sweets. Now after seventeen years his conscience pricks him, and he has sent Messrs. Whitfield King a bank draft for the value of the sheet with sev-

(Continued on Page 8.)

Don't Be Sore

If your candidate was not elected for we will have another chance next time.

Forget It,

and send in those bids at once for the very fine Auction Sale on November 19th. of the Collins Collection.

800 Varieties \$2.75

this packet only contains foreign stamps and I have but 40 to offer at that price. Money refunded if all sold.

Vest Pocket Stamp Book.....	10c
" " " " cloth.....	15c
Pocket Ed. Stock Book, cloth.....	25c
Woolsteffers Approval Cards, per. doz....	20c

P. M. Wolleffer
401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

CHICAGO CHAT.

In the current number of the official journal of the Chicago Philatelic Society a prize contest is being held on the subject of "The Ideal Philatelic Paper" and of the contestants one recommends as the 3rd proposition "I should strengthen my general news column, increase what is going on in other centers besides Chicago.

This was commended on by a few members of the C. P. S. who discussed it as very funny, for the reason that since the new departure of that paper in cutting out all city correspondence the Chicago subscribers of that paper have felt they did not get a fair show and in consequence were less interested.

Either the reflection on Chicago is a compliment or the reverse, but at all events it has manifested one subscriber's views that Chicago is very much awake, and shows that the C. P. S. and its following is keeping bright the fires of the philatelic furnace.

In speaking of an awakening of philatelic interest it is very pleasing to note that the Quaker City is coming to the front once more. That is right boys, get together a good strong society and have regular and interesting meetings and you will be surprised at the results. Nothing like society work to keep up the interest.

Edgar Nelson is prolonging his stay here and making his headquarters at P. M's. He made several good sized finds of cards as a result

(Continued on Page 8.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted
to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States, Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any address in any country in the Postal Union \$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.00 an inch. 60 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

WE EDITOR DISCOURSETH.

Not Yet

In Apple-Pie Order.

Our staff of correspondents and contributors is not yet in apple-pie order, there being some vacancies in the list which it seems we are not able to fill quite to our satisfaction. Perhaps a statement of our needs here may have the happy result of making us acquainted with readers who possess both the qualifications and the willingness to undertake the work desired.

We are very anxious to secure a well-posted collector or dealer to furnish us a weekly or bi-weekly news letter from Boston, a philatelic center whose stamp news we much desire to adequately cover. We also wish a capable correspondent from each of the following cities—Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Cincinnati, Cleveland, St. Louis, Denver, New Orleans, and San Francisco. We are aware that in some of these cities it might be difficult for a correspondent to scrape up enough live "copy" for a weekly letter; and would be entirely content with less frequent contributions wherever dearth of material so elected. In any other town where there is a live society or any considerable number of collectors there is a chance for someone to become our correspondent.

Again, we are still at a standstill as regards an editor for the coin and curio department. We are not ourselves especially well acquainted with the principal laborers in this field; and would be greatly indebted to any of our readers who will suggest to us the names of any coin and curio authorities competent to assume charge of this section of our paper. The two or three men whom we

should prefer, above all others, for this post have thus far been adamant to our advances. But perhaps we have entirely overlooked someone equally able, who would be perfectly willing to relieve us of this portion of the editorial burden—of course, for proper compensation.

We apologize to our readers for using Editorial space as a provisional "Help Wanted" department. But really the editorial mind is much exercised over this coin and curio matter and will not be at rest until it is satisfactorily settled. So we think you will very readily pardon "this intrusion."

New Issues

of Roman States.

Would it not be a picturesque and interesting instance of the value of our albums as a record of History, if a year or so hence we should be able to place in them a new series of stamps for the States of the Church—generally, though erroneously, classified in catalogue and album as "Roman States." If we may place precedence on current newspaper gossip, many things might be counted as more unlikely. It is very strongly hinted that the Kingdom of Italy and the Vatican are on the eve of an understanding which would restore to the Church of Rome a portion, at least, of her ancient temporal rights. The political situation in Italy is known to be fraught with grave menace to the present monarchy. The Socialists are constantly gaining strength in the Italian Chamber of Deputies, and, among the people at large—more especially in the larger cities of Italy. The Government sorely needs both the votes and moral support of the large and influential body of Italian electors who, as faithful Catholics, abstain from voting or in any way taking part in public affairs. Unless a truce with the Church can be arranged and the influential Catholic class be brought into hearty and active support of the present monarchical system, the downfall of that system, in favor of a republic, is freely predicted. The Pope and his advisers would certainly accept no truce which did not restore in some measure the temporal sovereignty of the Church; and, bitter as it would be to the Italian Government to make any concession to its old adversary, it is believed that its dilemma will soon become so grievous as to admit no other alternative. Over what city or what territory the sovereignty of the Church would be recognized, in such event, is, of course, a matter of conjecture merely. But it is to be remembered that the removal of the Papal residence to some other city

than Rome is not entirely without precedent, as several incumbents of the chair of Peter made their residence at Avignon, instead of Rome; and that an understanding might therefore be reached without placing Rome itself under the sovereignty of the church—it being in the highest degree improbable that even in the sorest straits the government would agree to any division of power in the capital city itself.

We believe that the mass of stamp lovers are intensely interested in any political changes, actual or prospective, which would be reflected in our albums—which is our reason for speaking at such length of a matter that might seem, at first sight, outside the domain of philatelic discussion.

A Postal Anomaly

In Panama.

Among the grievances of the Republic of Panama against our Government is one that concerns stamps. The action of the United States in establishing its own postoffices in the canal zone has led to curious consequences. It requires only a two-cent stamp to carry a letter from one of these canal zone offices to the United States, whereas from any Panama postoffice five cents is the rate. Practically the entire business interests of Panama are centered in the city of that name and the canal zone postoffice near that city is in a very accessible location. Consequently the thrifty folks of Panama, whenever they have occasion to post letters to the United States (and not a little mail matter now comes to this country from that source) patronize Uncle Sam's two-cent office in place of their own. The consequent loss of postal revenue to the Panama government is one of the causes of the strained relations existing at this writing—which, we trust, may have been happily adjusted before this appears in print.

The general progress of events in Panama has from the very beginning of its revolt from Colombian rule been eagerly watched by philatelists, and we believe that not a few collectors are now earnestly seeking to complete their sets of the old Panama stamps (issued by it as a Colombian province) in the belief that the entire territory of Panama will sooner or later be acquired by the United States. If Uncle Sam continues to add to his dominions "U. S. and dependencies" will soon be a decidedly large field—provided that collectors accept the additional acquired in a retroactive spirit.

LONDON LETTER.

(Continued from Page 1.)

enteen years compound interest.

On one of the latest lists published by the same firm is quoted another case, the letter accompanying the remittance reading, "Kindly accept enclosed 'conscience money' of £1, with writers sincerest regrets for having defrauded you."

It must be rather pleasing to receive settlement for accounts long given up for lost, and it is certainly gratifying to know that there are stamp collectors who have consciences to "gnaw." If my atlas be correct, there is a certain philatelic publisher a hundred miles or so from New York, whose "conscience gnawing" might mean money for me.

I notice in the editorial columns of THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY, for October 8th. & 15th., just to hand, references to the very small editions of two important philatelic works. These are, I doubt, not genuine editions of the stated numbers, for I feel sure that the publishers will not very readily dispose of an entire edition of 250 copies of such books. In the course of two years or so, the books may be out of print. The philatelic reading public is absurdly small for the vast number of people who take an interest in stamps.

I can give no figures of American philatelic journals and books, but my impression is, that they circulate much better than their contemporaries in this country. Except for one trade organ, there is not a philatelic journal in England which can claim over a couple of thousand subscribers. The subscription lists of most of the magazine journals do not probably attain four figures. Yet it must be granted that England possesses several very creditable stamp magazines.

The same applies to the books. My statement will not be questioned when I affirm that some of the finest and most scientific works have emanated from the publishing houses and the scientific societies of this country. Yet their sale is strictly limited. The Premier Society with a membership of something over 200, presents a copy of each of its works to its members as issued, and only a very small surplus is printed for sale to outsiders. Unquestionably the most sumptuous work on the stamps of any country that of Messrs. Miraubaud and Reuterskiold, on the postal issues of Switzerland, had three editions; one in French, one in German, and one in English. Both the continental editions, if I remember rightly, consisted of 250 copies each, while the English edition was only 150. Perhaps the widest circulation ever attained by specialist works were those of Messrs. Hastings Wright & Creeke's book on the British Isles, and Mr. Luff's on the United States. I should imagine that Mr. F. Marcontet would come next with

BRIGHT & SON,

Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers.

NOW READY.

THE 6th EDITION

"A. B. C." Catalogue

Nearly 300 pp., and with about 6,000 ILLUSTRATIONS, giving all varieties of WATERMARK, PERFORATION, PAPER, TYPE, etc., for stamps, and full list of POST CARDS, ENVELOPES, WRAPPERS, etc. Price 2s. 6d; or post free, 2s. 10d.

In response to the wishes of many of our customers, we have decided to publish in a SEPARATE VOLUME of 650 pp., the section of the above Catalogue containing ADHESIVES ONLY. This will contain STAMPS OF ALL COUNTRIES in alphabetical order. Price 1s. 6d; or post free, 1s. 9d.

This is a marvel of cheapness, and no collector should be without it.

Bright's Stamp Market

for the purchase and exchange of Collectors' Duplicates. Write for full particulars.

SELECTIONS sent on APPROVAL to all parts of the Globe.

Price List of Sets, Packets, Albums, etc., etc., Post Free. Interchangeable Albums from 8d. upwards.

164, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

"The Stamps of France." But even of these works the editions could in no wise be called large. Of general works probably Earee's "Album Weeds" and Major Evans "Stamps and Stamp Collecting" come first.

In my mind it would appear that if large editions of such works are ever to be attained, there must be an enormous increase in elementary stamp literature to prepare a reading public for works of higher and more technical kind. Elementary books on stamp collecting are very rarely undertaken in the right spirit. What is wanted is a literature of "The Compleat Angler" type. There are few non-fishers who can read with pleasure honest Izaak Walton's lively discourses, and if a determined effort were made by the writers of our elementary handbooks, to present our hobby in as pleasing a manner as Walton did his, it would not only make a large proportion of its readers stamp collectors, but it would also inspire them to delve deeper into the great resources of our technical philatelic literature.

I am led into these remarks after cursory glances into two or three elementary handbooks, which on opening, present a little more to the eye than a catalogue of technicalities, or of stamps which the young collector is never likely to possess. This much is certain, that a young collector or a collector in the first stages, can not sit down and enjoy the literary beauties of a mere catalogue! It would be better if he could have some light and entertaining yet substantial reading which imbue him, perhaps all unconsciously, with a sense of the real fascination and charm of the stamp collectors pastime.

No matter how many stamps you sell this week there will be other people buying next week. The way to get their trade is to keep on advertising.

CHICAGO CHAT.

(Continued from Page 1.)

of hustling and visiting the old rag picker and paper shops.

At a meeting of the Chicago Philatelic Society on Thursday evening the attendance was very good, about 34 members and visitors being present.

In the absence of President Oesch Vice President Severn called the meeting to order and P. M. Wolsieffer acted as Secretary in the absence of Mr. Dickinson. Much routine work was disposed of by the Governing Board while the other members swapped stamps, stories etc.

Some one sent out a political circular in the interest of one of our local candidates and signed Louis Wolsieffer's (who is a minor) name to it. All the members received one of them and young Louis had his hands full explaining that he did not have anything to do with it or knew anything about it.

Three new members were elected and two applications posted.

The matter of a lost circuit was referred to the Secretary for adjustment between the two members interested.

A Nominating Committee of three members Messrs Zajicak, Lee and Rosenthal were appointed to secure candidates and present a ticket to be voted on at the coming Annual Election of the society.

Mr. Mudge's hardworking Entertainment Committee reported what was on the programme for the next few meetings, and urged the members to make an effort to bring about a successful exhibition for the medal of the Boston Philatelic Society.

After an exhibition of the society's collection and an informal auction sale the meeting adjourned at 10.45 p. m.

The catalogue for the widely advertised Collins Collection to be sold at public auction sale November 19th

is out and Mr. Wolsieller say that never before has he had the pleasure of describing so many lots in a sale as fine, very fine and perfection. A glance through the pages of the catalogue indicate the condition of the sale as a whole to be far above the average.

Affairs of numismatic character seem to be looking up here since one of our local collectors succeeded in landing the famous 1804 d. Lar at Low's recent New York auction sale, Mr. Green's auction sales are well attended, the Chicago Numismatic Society is prospering and new collectors are taking up this branch of collecting.

Stevens & Co. have issued a new edition of their Premium Coin Book and increased the price to 15 cents. It is a much larger and better book than formally and contains many improvements.

Kurdistan And Mesopotamia.

Our ever interesting English contemporary, the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, informs us in its latest issue of the appearance of series of stamps for three subdivisions of the Orient—Mesopotamia, Kurdistan and Armenia—thanks to the enterprise of Messrs. Anderson, Neary, Jones & Co., a firm of manufacturers and exporters, whose main offices are in Alexandria, Egypt. This firm, it seems, is anxious to tap the philatelic pocket; and has adopted the same methods as those pursued by Baron Harden-Hickey of Trinidad, Jacques Lebandy, the promoters of the Clipperton Island stamp, and divers other ingenious persons who have attempted to mulct philately, by means of stamps issued under purely private auspices.

The Alexandrian concern has, it appears, sent out a circular regarding its "stamps," which we take leave to copy from the S. C. F., believing its perusal will both afford our readers some entertainment and convince them, now and forever, that these so-called stamps are no more within the pale of philately than is a green or purple trading stamp.

The circular is headed "Irish Wits Against Turkish Methods," and runs as follows:—

"East and north of Damascus in the Sanjacks (provinces) of Kurdistan, Mesopotamia and Armenia, where we have some of our branch Oriental factories in the most officially corrupt part of the world, regular government postage stamps are not always obtainable at the local offices.

"They are either lost or sold out—purposely so when and where the postmaster can go shares with an irresponsible desert caravan conductor, a non-official Bedouin free lance, who takes a letter on camel back say 300 miles for 5 to 10 dollars, or the best bargain circumstances allow him.

"Letters so carried are seldom delivered. To avoid the imposition we

introduced through our Irish manager our private Inter-official postage (with happy results) to be produced by our agents and affixed by officials when and where sold out. Face value by arrangement ("for a consideration") to be collected on delivery. These stamps are for use between our sub-offices and small scattered factories under Turkish rule, and our firm being Celtic-Anglo-American, commercially loyal to Great Britain and U. S. A., partly under Turkish rule, and head offices in Egypt, our manager therefore has represented all five nations on our Kurdistan stamp, the green background being as sacred to Kurds as to Irishmen, with lion couchant, eagle, crescent and star, pyramids and monolith, each stamp marked 'Kurdistan.'

"Same design for Armenia, with red background to suit local popular ideas, and 'Armenia' on each stamp.

"Same design for Mesopotamia, with brown background to coincide with local taste and 'Mesopotamia' on each stamp. Eight nations are actually represented on the three stamps, which are also used surcharged 'I Groosh' and 'Girshein,' making a complete set of 9. The curious circumstances have produced many inquiries from philatelists and collectors, to all of whom we can't reply, and hence the above explanation which we send them printed. The stamps are worded in plain English, an official and courteous concession to our commercial language. Each stamp is nominally equal to 2½ pence, or 5 cents, but the surcharging makes the total face value equal to 2s. 2½ d., or 52½ cents. This is merely their value to ourselves, and so for the future collectors wishing a set must be charged by us 60 cents American, 2s. 6d. English currency to cover our out-of-pocket expenses for postage, stationery, employee's time, etc.

"Our many customers are again reminded that a more suitable arrangement may be adopted any time by the Turkish officials, and these stamps cease to be issued, thus enormously enhancing their intrinsic value, as all keen philatelists are well aware of."

Comment on this diverting document would be superfluous. Were the issue more skillfully brought forward, the matter might be serious, but as things stand, assuredly "it is to laugh."

Another Book By Mr. Melville.

Our London correspondent, Mr. Fred J. Melville, not content to rest upon the laurels gained from his "A. B. C. of Stamp Collecting" (to which we have more than once made complimentary reference in these columns) has distinguished himself afresh with a new book just issued in England, entitled "The Postage Stamps of Great Britain." The work is not intended for the scientific philatelist, but is written in a popular vein,

Transvaal 1901 2sh brown,		
mint, rare	-	\$1 20
1902 2sh yellow, mint		66
Montserrat 5 sh King,	"	1 62
Jamaica 5 sh Queen,	"	1 62
St. Helena 2 sh 1902,	"	66
Falkland Isles. 2sh 6p Queen	"	90
" " 5sh " "		1 70

All King's head single C. A.

Send for my B. B. Lists,
Auction Sale on Dec. 7th. send
for catalogue.

Frank P. Brown,
339 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

ELECTED AS USUAL.

Election is over and as usual I was elected to stay at home and sell stamps. It is not becoming of me to say they are the finest on the market. I will leave it to you.

FRENCH COLONIES.

900	French China	1 fr	used	8	08
115	French Colonies	5c blue	new		02
1	Guadeloupe	20 on 30	"		75
2	"	25 on 35	"		30
14	"	1c lilac	"		02
15	"	2c brown	"		02
5	Martinique	15 on 20	"		60
11	"	1 on 2c	"		04
13	"	5 on 20	"		16
53	New Caledonia	5 on 4c	"		08
9	Reunion	5 on 30	"		18
34	"	2 on 20	"		05
23	St. Pierre Mtq.	15c blue	"		15
34	"	10c lavender	"		20
34a	"	10c	"		35
41	"	2 on 25c	"		04

Do you collect Entire Envelopes? I can furnish a full set of current envelopes for \$2.00, and a set containing many scarce vermillion shades for \$3.00. Don't wait until they cannot be had.

D. T. Eaton, Muscatine, Iowa.

for the guidance of the young collectors of Great Britain, who take, of course, as special an interest in the stamps of their own land as do the young collectors on this side in the issues of the United States. And all authorities seem to agree that the book is admirably adapted to its purpose; and will be of infinite assistance to the young philatelist who wishes to understandingly collect British stamps.

We cannot refrain from remarking in this connection how vastly the general interests of philately may be promoted through the efforts of one individual, when that individual chances to possess special gifts as an organizer and promoter and is, into the bargain, a zealous and enthusiastic worker. The work which Mr. Melville is doing in popularizing philately in England by his books and lectures on stamps and stamp collecting (both books and lectures being couched in popular phraseology, not beyond, but especially adapted to, the understanding of those who are only slightly acquainted with philately) must be incalculably beneficial to British philatelic interests. But we view with even more admiration his skill in the conduct of the Junior Philatelic Society, of which he, as President and founder, may be said to be "the whole thing"—if our readers will pardon the slang. Mr. Melville has built up a wonderfully thriving society of young collectors in the British metropolis;

and succeeds in not only holding the interest but in continually increasing the philatelic ardor of its members and their proficiency as collectors. He has done this by making that Society's meetings as interesting and instructive as the average stamp meeting is dull and listless. We have been much struck with the variety and interest of the features he provides (doubtless with the aid of an executive committee) for each meeting's entertainment; and believe that the Junior Society's program for this season is of sufficient interest as showing "how it should be done," and as offering suggestions to stamp clubs in this country who wish to render their meetings more lively and resultful, to justify us in printing here.

We think every reader will agree, on perusal that he would much like to belong to the Junior Philatelic Society, and enjoy the feast of reason which it provides for its members this Winter.

This is the program:

Oct. 22—Display, "The Stamps of France," by R. S. Farden.

Nov. 5.—Paper, "Corea" by B. W. H. Poole; Display, British Colonies, Part 2. Barbados; Display of Members' Albums.

Nov. 19—Paper and Display, "War Envelopes," by K. Dingwall; Debate, "How to Value A Stamp Collection."

Dec. 3—Display, British Colonies, Part 3. Dominica and Grenada; Display, "The Official Stamps of Great Britain," by H. J. Bignold; Display of the Society's Forgery Collection, with Notes by C. Nissen.

Dec. 17—Display of Postal and Philatelic Literature, by members; Paper, "Postal and Philatelic Literature," by R. Halliday; Paper, "American Philatelic Literature," by an American collector; Paper, "How to Compile and Index a Philatelic Library," by Henry D. Roberts, Member of Council of the Library Association; Debate, "The Philatelic Index; Is it Practicable?"

Jan. 7—Display, "Uruguay," by H. Lee; Display, British Colonies, Part 4. Jamaica, Montserrat and Nevis; Paper, "Cook Islands," by H. F. Johnson.

Jan. 21—Paper and Display, "Fiscal Notes; The Rapid Progress Made by This Branch of Philately," by W. Schwabacher, Chairman of the Fiscal Society; Debate, "Should Fiscally-used High Values be Included in a Postage Stamp Collection."

Jan. 28—Second visit to the Tapping Collection of Postage Stamps at the British Museum.

Feb. 3 and 4—Two Days' Exhibition in Exeter Hall, Strand, of the Stamps of Great Britain.

Feb. 18—Paper, "The Poetry of Stamp Collecting. With Some Examples," by F. J. Melville; Paper, "Victorian versus Edwardian Issues," by E. Heginbottom, B. A.

Mar. 18—Sixth Annual Conversation and Dance, Brixton Hall, S. W.

The program continues on to May 20th—but we refrain, lest we make

our readers mouths water beyond the point of endurance and be thereby the innocent agents of a general philatelic immigration to England.

We wish there were several Melvilles in this country. American Philately could use them.

Government Seizes Card Cases.

Made in Imitation of the United States Return Postal.

A peculiar case of technical counterfeiting has caused Secret Service Operative Matthew Griffin, under orders from Chief Wilkie, to seize a large quantity of fine imported leather card cases, which have been on sale in Philadelphia, Atlantic City and other places. The cases are made of light colored morocco leather in the shape of the duplex or return postal card issued by the Government. Card pockets are between the folds, but on the outside are facsimiles of the postal. The McKinley head and all the wording on the regular postal are reproduced. The workmanship is of the finest, and the cases are a costly novelty. No detail is omitted which is calculated to give the outer surface of the case the appearance of a genuine postal. Even the cancellation stamp is reproduced.

A dealer who carries on business in this city would have the cancellation mark of the Philadelphia post office printed on the cases. If the cases were for sale in New York the stamp of the office in that city would be used, the cancellation mark furnishing a key to the place of purchase for souvenir hunters. The cases are made in Austria, and since the Government cannot arrest those who make them, its agents are seizing all of the objectionable cases they see offered for sale. Under the criminal code it is as much an act of counterfeiting to reproduce a seal, postal card or official document as it is to make money in facsimile of that issued by the Government.

Another State of India.

The Philatelic Journal of India informs us of an addition to the list of Indian native States issuing their own postage stamps, Jaipur being the State that has thus awakened to the convenience of preparing postage by means of stamps, or, which is rather more likely, to the market for stamps which exist in the collecting world. We quote a portion of the Indian Journal's reference: "Jaipur has long had a post office of its own and has allowed private correspondence to be sent by it. But it has managed hitherto to do without postage stamps. In place of stamps it used a system of postmarks to indicate whether a letter had been paid or not and also to distinguish registered letters. This information we have had for some years, but as it had no direct concern with philately we made no mention of it in the Journal. A good many British post offices are

CHEAP SETS.

"Panama Republic.	1904	2 var.
"Cuba. Newspaper	1894	4 "
"Egypt. Moudan Camel		2 "
"Guatemala	1901 complete	
Mexico	1886	5 var.
"New Brunswick		2 "
Nicaragua	1899	4 "
Persia		4 "
"Peru	old	3 "
Peru	1895	4 "
Peru	1901 complete	
Queensland		7 var.
Roumania	1891	7 "
Roumania	1893	9 "
"St. Thomas & Prince Isl.		3 "
"Salvador	1889	4 "
"Salvador	1891	4 "
"Venezuela		6 "
Venezuela	1890	3 "

5 cents per set.

Orders for less than 50c Postage extra. Price List of over 400 cheap sets Free upon application.

H. F. COLMAN,

725 11th St. N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

To any person sending the names and addresses of 25 young persons, together with 3 cents to pay for postage and packing, to

THE JUNIOR,

Bethlehem, Pa.

There will be sent a Handsomely Embossed Nickeled Pencil Holder and Protector Combined, and a sample copy of our magazine.

Blank Approval Books.

Far better than sheets for agents use and for duplicates

We have them printed on good paper with light blue covers to hold 60 and 100 stamps respectfully.

Postage free.	Per 12 books	Per 100
No. 1 to hold 60 stamps - - -	\$.10	\$.60
No. 2 to hold 100 stamps - - -	15	.90
Not fewer than 12 sold.		

THE JUNIOR, Bethlehem, Pa.

scattered all over the State, and we fancy that the correspondence carried by the State post is largely limited, as far as private articles are concerned, to purely local letters for or from the smaller places in the State. We were very sorry to learn that the State had started its own stamps from the first of August. The first intimation of this tragic event came to us from Messrs. Ram Gopal, the stamp dealers of Alwar. As far as our inquiries have led us up to now, there are only three values, viz., 1/2 anna, blue; 1 anna, vermilion, and 2 annas, yellow-green. Jaipur is no insignificant State. Its area is 15,579 square miles, and its population 5,627,505. Its capital city has a population of about 160,000. So, if it sticks to its three values, we need not bear any great grudge against it."

Allow me to congratulate you again on your new stamp paper, THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY, I think it is the boss stamp paper; in fact I think it is the most interesting paper published. Now this is not taffy that I am giving you but real facts. I shall not fail to put in a good word wherever I can for THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

Yours truly,

Jno. F. Seybold.

THE READING TABLE.

What We Find in the Journals of the Hour.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, London, England.

The issue for September 24th of England's only fortnightly stamp journal is full of good and pleasant reading—much of it in the form of short squibs and newsy paragraphs which come outside the province of a review of this kind. The occasional department on Postal Cards and Covers makes one of its periodical appearances in this number, much to the joy, doubtless, of Fortnightly readers who confess allegiance to the fascinating *Entree*. The feature of the number, however, is a decidedly caustic essay from the pen of W. E. Imeson on the style of collecting fostered by the modern ultra-scientific school of philatelists. Mr. Imeson's remarks are so much to the point that we take from them the following quotation:

"There are some collectors who would raise Philately to the dignity of a science—they claim, in fact, that it has been brought to an 'exact science.' Exactly so, but would not 'exacting science' be nearer the truth?"

"The aim of these over-keen, if well meaning, enthusiasts is to encompass the Stamp Kingdom with a 'scientific frontier.' Yet, by so doing, they may be excluding desirable recruits, or making a road (paved with the best intentions) that practically invites the attack of the phillistine or unbeliever. Extremes and extremists meet, as when the creators of an 'exact science' are brought in contact with those who denounce that 'science' as a mere craze or fad. The collision results in mutual hard knocks, productive only of mutual contempt. Yet were a middle course taken by the scientific specialist might not a truce be proclaimed, and the scoffer become the convert.

"Popularity is the breath of life to Philately, but it will never be popularized through the arduous but misdirected labours of the ultra-advanced school. If there be 'sport' in Philately, the minutae-hunter is, in the long run, likely to spoil the game. Let him be warned in time, lest the Goddess Philately herself should cry: 'Enough! Save me from my friends.'"

Mr. Imeson's style is a trifle over-flowery, but his ideas are sound. The sport there is in stamp collecting is the thing that keeps it going. We are glad to see that even in England, where the scientific idea most notably runs rampant, this fact is beginning to be realized in some quarters—as witness Mr. Imeson's note of protest against scientific over-zealousness.

Various other matters in this number of the S. C. F. are worthy of attention here, but lack of space forces us to pass them by, for the present at least.

The Monthly Journal, London, England.

Major Evans, in his editorial leaders opening the current number of the *Monthly Journal* (bearing date of Sept. 30), treats felicitously a variety of more or less important philatelic topics. The late philatelic exhibition at Berlin draws forth some sage remarks as to the desirability of having a few less classes, and a little more real competition in future affairs of similar kind. The classification of the exhibits at the Berlin show seem to have been arranged in such a way that "almost everybody who was anybody" secured a prize of some sort. There were one hundred and thirty exhibitors and one hundred and six medals were awarded, so that, even granting that there may have been some "repeaters" who captured more than one medal, it is readily seen that "the winning of a medal" was by no means an absolutely overwhelming distinction. It is of course pleasant to tangibly reward as many as possible of those who, by the display of choice sections of their collections, aid the success of the exhibition; but there is such a thing as overdoing it and cheapening the honors which the exhibition confers. And, without in any way venturing to criticize the managers of the Berlin exhibition, who deserve and will receive high credit and honor for the great success which has attended their labors, we agree with Major Evans that a smaller number of competitive classes, permitting more entries in each class, and, as a consequence, more zest in the competition, would be decidedly advisable in future national stamp exhibitions.

A very forcible editorial on "Commemorative Issues" scores roundly the governments responsible for the issue of sets of pretendedly commemorative character, which in reality owe their being far more to the hope that they will extract tribute from philatelists than from any loftier motives, and very plainly indicates the belief that they should be adjured by collectors—a belief to which we give our cordial adherence.

"How to Value a Collection" is another meaty editorial, which, however, really sheds no fresh light on this interesting question—doubtless because, as Major Evans points out, hard and fast rules are of little avail in such a connection, since everything depends on the character of the collection and not on its apparent catalogue invoice.

M. Hanciau's monograph on the Postal Issues of Finland continues to occupy several pages per month in the M. J. The envelopes are now under consideration and are being treated in a manner which leaves nothing to be desired.

Mr. Chas. J. Phillips contributes an interesting article on the Imperial Postal Museum, at Berlin, its grand collection of stamps and envelopes (one of the best in the world) natur-

Bargains in

Newfoundland Stamps.

1897	1c Cabot	-	-	per 10	\$0.85
	" 2c Cabot	-	-	" 10	.80
	" 3c Cabot	-	-	" 10	.10
1898	1c green	-	-	" 100	.40
	" 8c orange	-	-	" 100	.40
	" 5c duke	-	-	" 10	.25
	" 4c duchess	-	-	" 10	.30

Write for wholesale list free to dealers. Rare stamps send on approval to responsible Collectors.

WM. NOFTALL, St. John's

P. O. Box 121. NEWFOUNDLAND.

MEKEEL'S STAMP COLLECTOR

Issued 52 Times a Year

You may have it Ten Weeks upon Trial for 10c.

EDITED BY
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It contains some things not found in any other paper and has nearly 6,000 paid subscribers.—'Nuf said.

C. H. Mekeel Stamp & Publishing Co.
St. Louis, Mo.

Three Things.

First. Our daily list of Bargains.
Second. Some scarce stamps on approval.
Third. Auction catalogue of our first sale.
Any one is worth the effort to write.

Eben S. Martin Co., Inc.
Minneapolis, Minn.

ally receiving the larger share of his attention. Major Evans' articles on Indian Native States this month deal with the stamps of Simoor. Mr. Bertram W. H. Poole contributes some instructive notes on the first issue of China. Society Reports, Answers to Correspondents and various other minor matter completes the number.

The Rarity Of Reunions.

Many collectors may possibly not know that one cause of the great rarity of the Reunion Islands stamps, first issue, is that their use was not compulsory. The authorities made no effort to bring them into use, complacently accepting coin for the pre-payment of letters and only bringing out the stamps when they were expressly called for, which, considering the small European population, was doubtless very seldom. It is even stated in a French work of some authority that only 6 francs' worth of these stamps were sold during the seven years in which they were current. But this, even for the early fifties and so tiny an island, seems scarcely credible. Certain it is, however, that but 7500 of each of the two values were printed, and that all the unsold ones were burnt in 1860, stamp collecting being then too newly born to have the attraction of the authorities of Reunion, who considered these obsolete stamps as so much worthless waste.

It is a great pity that postal authorities do not hold more bon-fires nowadays, for modern stores of "remainders" are oftentimes far too inexhaustible for the philatelic good.

But as to these Reunions, we would willingly have had some of them preserved. As it is, they are far too much like the old print which Boughton, the artist, discovered in an out-of-the-way Dutch shop. He asked the price, and the vendor, describing a look of prosperity about the questioner, named an inordinately high figure, adding, in his best English: "Dot picksher, he is very seldom—he is almost never now." And thus, alas, it is with these Reunion stamps.

An Abridged Philatelic Dictionary.

Philatelic Terms and Phrases Defined
For The Benefit of Beginners.

(Continued from last week, page 7.)

Split Proofs.—Proofs fraudulently altered to give them the appearance of genuine stamps. Proofs are often printed on cardboard instead of India paper. These cardboard proofs are sometimes split, perforated, gummed and offered as genuine originals by unscrupulous persons. Needless to say, only rogues of a high order of ingenuity could undertake this work, and cases of collectors being deceived and defrauded by this particular form of roguery are extremely rare.

Specialism.—Collecting the stamps of one country only, or of a limited number of countries, instead of the issues of all countries throughout the world.

Surcharge.—An overprint applied to the face of a stamp, to denote an alteration in its use or value. For example, our Government overprints all the regular U. S. stamps sent over for use in the Philippines with the words "Philippine Islands." A stamp so overprinted is said to be "surcharged," and would be considered a stamp of the Philippine Islands rather than of the United States. Again, it is the custom in many countries, when there is a shortage in stamps of some one value (as, say, a two-cent stamp), to take stamps of some other value of which there is an abundant supply (for instance, five-cent stamps), and alter their postal value by means of an overprint (the five-cent stamp, in this suppositious case, being thereby converted into a two-cent one). The process of surcharging is very widely resorted to, under these and some other circumstances, and surcharge varieties form no inconsiderable proportion of the items listed in the catalogues.

Telegraph Stamps.—Stamps issued to telegraph companies to denote prepayment of charges on telegrams. Many telegraph companies, both in this and other countries, have issued such stamps—some of them of quite handsome and elaborate execution, but they are of very trifling philatelic interest.

Tete-Peche.—A French term, meaning upside down. It is occasionally the case that in a sheet of stamps one or more of them will be found to be printed upside down, due to an error in the making of the plate. A stamp thus inverted is called a tete-beche speci-

men. It would, of course, be only identifiable as such if in an unsevered pair or block.

Timbrology (or Timbrophily).—The French name for philately—at one time in use in almost all stamp collecting countries, but now seldom heard or written outside of France.

"Too Late" Stamps.—Issued by only a very few countries. They are stamps affixed to such letters to be sent by ocean mail, as arrive at the postoffice before the sailing time of some steamer that could convey them, but after the postoffice has sent its last load of mail to the steamer. The "Too Late" fee, indicated by the stamp, secures delivery of the letter to the steamer by special messenger. These stamps bear, therefore, some relation to the "Special Delivery" stamps of our own land.

The Quetzal:

Bird of Freedom.

On a great many of the stamps of Guatemala is displayed, in one form or another, one of the most picturesque and peculiar members of the feathered kingdom, the quetzal, which occupies some such position in the hearts of Guatemalans as does the American Eagle in the affections of the citizens of our own country. The quetzal is, in a special and almost pathetic sense, the real bird of freedom, for so powerful is its love of liberty that it invariably dies in captivity after only a very short period. It is said that if one is captured and released after only the shortest detention it will drop lifeless after flying only a few yards—a picturesque and unexplainable fact, if it be really true.

Few birds possess more brilliant plumage; its two tall feathers are extremely long, and its head is superbly crested.

The Guatemalan issues of 1859 and 1882 supply the best portraits of this remarkable bird, though naturally they cannot portray the true brilliancy and beauty of its plumage.

On practically all the stamps of Uruguay, save those that bear the name "Montevideo," the capital and principal city of Uruguay, as most of our readers need scarcely be informed, the full title of the republic is given as "Republica Oriental del Uruguay." The name indicates the position of the country on the eastern (or oriental) side of the Uruguay River, just as the name Transvaal indicated the country across the Vaal River.

It is frequently very difficult to decide whether a stamp is engraved or lithographed. When in doubt as to this, a pretty accurate (though not absolutely infallible) test is to take a bit of very thin, smooth tinfoil and press it down on the face of the stamp with considerable force. If the stamp is lithographed the tinfoil will show no impression of the design; if engraved, the colored lines of the stamp will in most cases have made little ridges on the tinfoil's surface.

Adlots

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display. A line will average seven words. Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press,

Bethlehem, Pa.

12 colored Souvenir Postals of California, 25c. C. Farman, Golden Gate, Oakland, Cal.

Free 100 Foreign and United States and 1893 set Borneo catalogued \$1.38 for 35 cents. The Harvard Stamp Co., 827 Main Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

St. Louis set	- - -	10c
Buffalo set	- - -	10c
Omaha 1 to 10c	- - -	10c
Columbia 1 to 10c	- - -	10c

J. H. Houston, 837 Penn Avenue N. W. Washington, D. C.

Orangewood Mailing Cards are a decided novelty and an attractive one. 15 cents each; two for 25 cents. W. A. IMBLER, 1083 West 46th St., Los Angeles, Cal.

A U. S. stamp catalogued at 50 cents. Free to approval applicants. Elmer Smith, Pontoonac, Illinois.

Bargains \$1.00 Manifest 15 cents, \$10.00 Black uncut 15 cents, \$100.00 Rev. \$1.50 \$1.30 2nd. 75 cents. Price list free. Charles King, 141 East 19th St., New York.

100 foreign cat \$4.00 or 100 pre-cancels for 80c Wendover Neefus, 211 Eddy St., Itasca, N. Y.

A block of 6 of the 2c lake, 1890 issue, Imperforated \$15.00 L928 c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

8 Varieties of the World's Fair (Chicago 1893) postal cards, with a 1 cent unused Columbian on each, for 20 cents (The face value is 2 cents each.) E. T. PARKER, Bethlehem, Pa.

A full sheet of 50 10-cent 1847, Card Board proofs \$20.00 (a single one catalogued at \$1.00) Proof, c/o THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

WANTED to buy Western Union franks issue of 1887. Bradley c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

I want to buy Italy, 1861, 2c black newspaper stamps in any quantity, state number you have and give price. Bradley c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

Chilian Telegraph Stamps.

It appears that the Chilian Telegraph Stamps, recently surcharged for postal use, display a curious zoological idiosyncrasy, which is, we think, scarcely paralleled in the whole range of stamp design. We can best indicate the nature of this oddity of design (in the absence of an illustration) by quoting the allusion to it found in the current Monthly Journal: "There are two distinct varieties of the animal that forms the supporter on the dexter side of the arms of Chili, as displayed upon the recently surcharged Telegraph Stamps. One variety has neither mane nor tail, the other has the mane of a horse and the tail of a cow. Whether both exist in nature, or only in art, we do not know, but the tailless one is the more common upon the stamps, we believe." Can any kind friend enlighten us as to the zoological status of this peculiar type of animal, "with the mane of a horse and the tail of a cow." Nature has made strange fellows in her time, the poet tells us; but the stamp designer, it would appear, can give nature cards and spades in this direction.

THE CABINET.

A Department Devoted to Coins and Curios.

FOREIGN COPPER COINS.

By Frank W. Doughty.

[Note: The series of articles of which this is the first originally appeared in the *Keystone Stamp and Coin Gazette*, in 1885. We believe, they are no less interesting now than they were then, and that we can do no better than reprint some of them here, pending the appointment of a sub-editor who will be able to fill this page with original matter.]

1. Ancient Copper Coins.

In the minds of a very large percentage of American collectors, there is excited instant rebellion at even the bare suggestion that it might be at once profitable and wise to collect anything in coins outside of the regular American series, with its interminable rows of cents, half dollars and dimes; its booby heads and silly heads; its large dates and small dates; its heads of liberty to right and left, and in every conceivable form and shape, with varieties having a curl cocked over the left ear, or a braid containing one solitary hair more or less than some certain other braid, and so on forever until the heart groweth sick.

To such collectors the very thought of placing in the drawers of their cabinets any coin of foreign origin, especially if that coin should happen to be struck on copper, is relegated to the category of the absurd at once. Let one who has spent twenty-two years collecting these despised bits of metal speak a word to his brethren in the numismatic world.

First, what have the ancients to offer in the matter of copper coins? The answer cannot be qualified—they offer much. Above the head of the writer, as he pens these lines, hangs a photographic representation of an "Aes" of the Roman republic, struck upon a square mass of copper, or rather bronze, measuring 6 by 3½ inches, and weighing nearly, if not quite, a pound. It bears stamped upon it one of the most graphic representations of the elephant which we have ever seen; but one specimen is known to exist, being in a princely collection in Milan. Here we have a noble monument of antiquity to begin with in the shape of a foreign copper coin. It needs but a moment's reflection to see what a world of history it opens up; how it carries us, in thought, backward into the vanished ages, and if a proper understanding of its true place be arrived at, makes positively necessary the acquirement of a vast fund of historical information, new, we dare say, to nine-tenths of the collectors of United States half dollars and cents among us today.

But this is only one specimen. Long before Rome existed as a power at all, copper money was in active circulation in Greece, Syria, Egypt, Bactria and other places as well. It formed the more humble coin of these various nations, the money used in the every day minor transactions of Athens, Macedonia, Carthage, Tyre, Sidon, Damascus, and many other of the cities of ancient Europe and the East, by those famous poets, sculptors, historians and warriors whose works in literature and art still live to remind us of the greatness of their age.

We will now consider the copper coinage of these nations, briefly and in a general way; attempting no elaborate descriptions, but reviewing each prominent series as a whole. In this field, as in all else appertaining to ancient science and art, Greece stands pre-eminently foremost; the copper coinage of that remarkable nation and her colonies being in beauty of execution and design, unexcelled even at the present day. A collection of the copper coins of Greece forms a perfect treasury of art and history in themselves, and are in every way worthy the attentive consideration of any collector who desires to enroll himself as a numismatist in the truest and highest sense of the word.

(To be Continued.)

Numismatic Art.

The art of sculpture, of which coin-engraving is the offspring, receives the greatest illustration from numismatics. Not only is the memory of last statues preserved to us in the designs of ancient coins, but those of Greece afford admirable examples of that skill by which her sculptors achieved their great renown. The excellence of the designs of the very many Greek coins struck during the period of the best art is indeed so great that, were it not for their smallness, they would form the finest series of art studies in the world. The Roman coins, though at no time to be compared to the purest Greek, yet represent worthily the Graeco-Roman art of the empire. From the accession of Augustus to the death of Commodus they are often fully equal to the best Graeco-Roman statues. This may be said, for instance, of the dupondii struck in honor of Livia by Tiberius, and by the younger Drusus; of the sestertii of Agrippina; and of the gold coins of Antoninus Pius and the two Faustinas, all of which present portraits of remarkable beauty and excellence. The mediaeval Italian medals are scarcely less useful as records of the progress and characteristics of art, and, placed by the side of the Greek and Roman coins, complete the most remarkable comparative series of monuments illustrating the history of the great schools of art that can be brought together. Ancient coins throw as great light upon the architecture as upon the sculpture of the nations, by which

they were struck. Under the empire, the Roman coins issued at the city very frequently bear representations of important edifices. The Greek imperial coins struck in the provinces present similar types, representing the most famous temples and other structures of their cities, of the form of some of which we should otherwise have been wholly ignorant. The little known art of painting among the ancients does not receive so much illustration from the coins. The best Greek pieces are of too severe a style to admit of an approach to pictorial treatment, although we perceive such a tendency in the works of important schools, and during the period of decline. The Roman coins sometimes present groups which have a very pictorial character, traceable to the tendency of the sculpture of the period; this is principally about the time of the Antonines. They are, however, never so pictorial in treatment as the mediaeval Italian medals. The art of gem-engraving among the ancients is perhaps the most nearly connected with their coinage. The subjects of coins and gems are so similar that the question of authenticity of gems receives aid from the study of coins.

—R. S. Poole.

The Number of Collectors.

Mekeel's Stamp Collector prints in a recent number the following estimate of the number of stamp collectors in the whole world at the present time, classified, by nations, as follows. The estimate is taken from a German journal and represents the conclusions of Theodor Haas, one of the leading philatelic editors and writers of Germany. As to how nearly it approaches correctness, that is a matter on which no one, of course, can speak with actual authority. Mr. Haas estimates the numerical strength of stamp collecting, according to countries and continents, thusly:

Germany	440,000
Austro-Hungary	110,000
Great Britain	363,000
Russia, Scandinavia, Spain, Portugal, Italy and the Balkin States	60,000
France, Belgium, Netherlands, Switzerland, Luxemburg	300,000
Total for Europe	1,273,000
United States and Canada....	484,000
Mexico, Central and South America	20,000
Africa and Australia.....	10,000
Asia	20,000
Total for the globe.....	1,807,000

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THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

VOL. 1.

BETHLEHEM PENNSYLVANIA, NOVEMBER 19, 1904.

No. 10.

British Protectorate 1901, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 24, cancelled fine	\$ 40
do Labuan & Borneo 10, 16, (6 var) cancelled fine	35
Nyassa 1903, 15, 25, 65, 115, 130, cancelled fine	35
Venezuela 1903, 5, 10, 25, 50, 1b, No 170 to 174 unused	50
do do do No 175 to 180 unused	50
do do do No 181 to 185 unused	50
do do do No 218 to 222 unused	50
Cuba 1878 1p unused o. g.	35
do 1888 10c unused o. g.	10
do 1891 20c unused o. g.	50
Dominican Rep. 1900 1, 2, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50c 1p unused o. g. fine (cat at \$3.25)	50

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CHICAGO CHAT.

In No. 8 I note the Editor refers to one of my recent items about the work being accomplished by the Lecture Committee of the Chicago Philatelic Society, and fears it may have been a typographical error and means "Literature" instead of Lecture. It is pleasing to be able to state that Mr. Compositor made no mistake and that Lecture is the correct word.

Mr. Jas. Abbot the Chairman of that Committee has written a popular lecture on stamps, for the general public, and it will be illustrated with from 50 to 100 slides, some of them colored. The idea is to give this illustrated lecture before societies and lodges not interested in stamps and endeavor to make converts for Philately and start up same old time collectors, or bring it to the attention of the man who collected stamps when he was a boy. It will be entirely different from anything else heretofore attempted, and will not treat of the philatelic or scientific side at all, simply plain old fashioned stamp collecting. Minor varieties, shades, and differences will not even be hinted at.

The Chicago Philatelic Society has contributed liberally, and various members have pledged themselves to guarantee certain amounts to finance the project. Probably other societies will be given a chance to buy duplicate sets of the slides and the lecture may be published, but that is all left in the hands of the Committee for future consideration, the main object being to popularize

1905 Catalogue!

The new, or 84th, edition of our Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue will be ready for delivery about December 5th.

It has been thoroughly revised and brought up to date of going to press.

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18 EAST 23rd ST., New York, N. Y.

Philately in Chicago. There are hundreds of Lodges here that would jump at the chance of such an entertainment if offered free of cost which is the intention of the C. P. S.

"Dandelion Cottage" shortly to be issued by Henry Holt and Company is the work of C. W. Rankin of Marquette a well known stamp enthusiast.

The supply of the St. Louis issue of stamps is evidently being used and not replenished in Chicago. Nearly all of the Postal Stations are out of one or more values which makes it necessary to go to the main office for a complete set.

Chicago Branch No. 1 A. P. A. had its regular monthly meeting last Thursday evening the 10th, and it proved to be an animated one. The meeting was well attended and several visitors were present. Mr. Wolsieffer started a discussion on the subject of "Minor Varieties, Shades and Inconsistances" in the various catalogues and gave his opinion that the exploitation of them was harmful to the future of Philately as it discouraged the beginner, general collector etc. He stated that specialism should be confined to those advanced collectors who have fully mastered the intricate points of collecting and had the time, knowledge and finances to back it up, but that it was a mistake to parade it before the beginner and average general collector. He strongly advocated an album and catalogue which would cut out every minor variety even including watermarks, grills and perforations and quoted J. W. Scott as being the originator of this idea. Mr. Edward Rosenthal took the

P | Under the Hammer. | M

December the 19th. at Public Auction the fine general collection of Dr. J. W. Fowler of Dubuque, Iowa.

January.
The splendid U. S. Postage, Revenue and M. & M. collection of Mr. Roscoe L. Wickes, Evanston, Ill.

February.
The fine collection of Mr. J. Allen Dietz of Chicago containing some very rare U. S. proofs etc.

March.
The well known U. S. collection of Mr. J. B. Henderson, Crowder, Indian Ty.

April.
Accumulations of various owners partly wholesale, job lots etc. with other sales to follow. Catalogues are free to all auction buyers.

P | P. M. Wolsieffer | M
401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

opposite view and quoted some of his early experiences in collecting. He makes a specialty of entire U. S. envelopes and is therefore well equipped for an argument on minor varieties. His idea was that the catalogue should contain as it now does the minor varieties in small type and that the general collector and beginner would demand it if it was not there.

Mr. Fred Michael went still further and gave it as his opinion that even the small boy would reject a catalogue that did not have everything in it, and gave as an illustration his many experiences with the 15c stamp of 1869 and how few collectors among the general class could tell the difference, yet knew there was a difference of some kind.

Mr. Mudge gave his idea in regard to this interesting subject based entirely on his own experience and work and being greatly interested in color varieties quite naturally had a leaning towards all minor varieties.

Mr. Severn took a matter of this kind very seriously and contended there were good points on both sides of the question which he illustrated in various ways, and stated the main features of the question could possibly be sifted down, taking both sides and assimilating them in such a manner as to produce much good.

Mr. Wolsieffer admitted that he spent many hours searching for dies A and B on British Colonials, Caps on 2c stamps, and other minor varieties, yet he felt and wanted to show that the collecting of minor varieties had a bad effect on general collecting which we must admit was the

(Continued on Page 3.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

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YE EDITOR DISCOURSETH.

A Stamp For Alaska.

It is a bit strange, when one thinks of it, that Alaska has never had a stamp of any sort. We have a dim remembrance that in the first Klondike days some one did bring forward a stamp purporting to have been in use on some local dog-post, but whatever this stamp was, it was speedily buried in oblivion. One can easily imagine that Alaska's stampless state would long since have been alleviated had it happened to be possessed by any of the great European nations that are so indefatigable in increasing by every possible means the geographical horizon of philately. The United States Government has been commendably abstemious in this regard—in other instances beside this Alaskan one—so that even if the Colombian issue was a wee bit speculative (and we dare not wholly deny the charge) so slight a lapse from so generally good a record may easily be forgiven.

By the way, speaking of Alaska, how very, very few are the names of the world's geographical sub-divisions, including both large and small, which do not figure in some way in the philatelic scheme of things. Siberia is a philatelic terra incognita. Greenland and Labrador are other names that have no philatelic associations—though neither of these bleak and desolate lands is uninhabited or lacking in means of postal communication. The European republic of Andorra—that tiny mountain commonwealth which it has never been worth the while of either France or Spain to conquer—is the only European state which has never had stamps of its own. There are, of course, no stamps of Scotland or of Ireland; and Corsica is in a like case. What other names on the map of Europe awake no answering echo in the philatelic mind. In Asia, Arabia and Syria join our list; in Af-

rica and Oceania we seek in vain for further additions; and in Australia we find only the comparatively modern sub-divisions, North Australia and Alexandraland. South America has nothing to add to the list; nor is our own continent in different case. There is not much unoccupied territory of the sort we are looking for, and that's the truth. But, then, of course there are the innumerable islets of the sea; and, after Niue and Penrhyn, who shall say what one of these is not a possibility as a stamp issuing state?

Post Card Collecting.

We sometimes wonder that there are not more collectors of post cards in this country. We do not refer, of course, to the simon-pure, unadulterated philatelic article. The interest in post card collecting in America seems to have pretty nearly died out. It is not so many years since there was quite a flourishing American society composed of enthusiastic collectors of this form of postal stationary. Once upon a time, too, there was an excellent little monthly called the Post Card, which was not at all big or sumptuous in style, but which preached the post card cult, in season and out, with a vigor and enthusiasm that made many and many a convert. We wish another Watson would appear to promote such another little paper; and another Lohmeyer, to found and furnish momentum for another such society. For post card collecting is one of the very pleasantest of philatelic sidelines—its enjoyment being as great as its expense is little. Its inexpensiveness ought to appeal to many a collector whose stamp collection has gotten to a point where it grows too slowly to keep pace with the philatelic fever in his blood. There is little market for post cards and they are to be bought at prices which, compared with stamps of equal rarity, are as doughnuts to dollars. Again, the field is one of constant freshness and surprise—not compassed about by catalogues, but full of little-explored corners where varieties yet unknown may very likely lurk, and where the varieties you meet, even if already listed, are at least new to you. If your stamp collection now lacks nothing save the great rarities and you wish to take up some other branch of philately, why not try postal cards? For our part, we consider post cards quite as interesting as fiscals—if not a wee bit more so.

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Transvaal 1901 2sh brown,		
mint, rare	-	\$1 20
1902 2sh yellow, mint		66
Montserrat 5 sh King,	"	1 62
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St. Helena 2 sh 1902,	"	66
Falkland Isles. 2sh 6p Queen	"	90
" " 5sh " "	"	1 70

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Send for my B. B. Lists,

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Frank P. Brown,
339 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

Some Information About Antigua And Bermuda.

Believing, as we do, that the study of stamps leads to an interest in the main facts relating to the countries or colonies issuing them which is one of the most material mental benefits accruing from the practice of Philately, we give space here to some general information regarding Antigua and Bermuda, taken from an article on the stamps of these colonies in the current Stamp Collector.

Any young reader owning any of the stamps of Antigua and Bermuda ought, we believe, to take some interest in matter of this sort.

"Antigua—This island was discovered by Columbus in 1493 and called by him after 'Santa Maria la Antigua, the first English settlement was in 1632; then the French took it; but by the Treaty of Breda it was finally handed to the English in 1667. Its capital is St. John. Its total area, taking in the adjacent island of Barbuda, is 108 square miles; population 33,000; length 25 miles; and breadth 15 miles. The centre of British authority in 'the Leewards' is held at St. John. Its Government consists of a Legislative Council, of twenty-four members, six official, six non-official, appointed by the Governor, and twelve elected, two from the Capital, and one each from ten other divisions. The suffrage is restricted; higher qualifications are necessary for council membership.

The Governor who resides in Antigua, appoints the President and Vice President of the Local Council and controls its action. There is an English Bishopric. The products of Antigua are fruit, mostly pine-apples.

The island of Barbuda is under Antiguan rule; it is really private property, being ceded to the Coddington family about 1680, and since then purchased by private treaty by capitalists. Its area is 160 square miles; breadth, 8 miles; length, 10 miles; and population, 1,000."

"Bermuda is the chief of a cluster of islands about 100 in number situ-

ated in the Atlantic, 580 miles from the North Carolina Coast. They were discovered by Spain in 1522, and annexed to Great Britain in 1609, owing to Sir George Somers in that year being shipwrecked there and forming the first English settlement. There are now military and convict stations there and it is the leading naval station of the district. The climate is healthy, and it is a favorite American writer resort. Its capital is Hamilton, with a population, of 2,000; area, 18 square miles; total population, 16,000; chief products: vegetables and arrowroot, also an abundance of turtle in the sea around and fish, etc. etc.

There is a Governor who is also Commander-in-chief of the forces, which are always stationed there. The revenue in 1894 was £32,000 and the expenditure £34,000. The imports from the United Kingdom were £100,000 and the exports thither £925."

CHICAGO CHAT.

(Continued from Page 1.)

bone and sinew of our hobby, when made too much of, or when permitted to overshadow the small collector and his efforts.

Before adjournment the meeting passed a vote of congratulations to its President Mr. Otto von Schaetzler who has just taken to himself a wife.

Philatelic visitors from out of the city reported by the several dealers were Mr. C. H. Mekeel and F. R. Cornwall both of St. Louis and Mr. J. Pike, Lake Geneva Wis.

There do not appear to be any stamp collectors in this neighborhood who voted the wrong way. That probably counts for "Teddy's" huge vote. Look out Pennsylvania or Illinois will soon catch your popular majority.

The Chicago Sunday Tribune had the following item:

ASKS FOR "MOURNING" STAMPS.

Fashionably Dressed Woman Causes Amusement by request of New York Hotel Clerk.

New York, Nov. 5.—[Special] A fashionably dressed woman in mourning caused some amusement at the Hotel Imperial last evening by asking for a dozen "mourning" postage stamps to place upon letters she had just written. When the clerk explained that none was to be had she remarked that "America is slow."

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EDITED BY

CHARLES HAVILAND MEKEEL

It contains some things not found in any other paper and has nearly 6,000 paid subscribers.—Nuf said.

C. H. Mekeel Stamp & Publishing Co.
St. Louis, Mo.

**"Prince Henry the Navigator"
Stamps of Portugal.**

From the current Philatelic Journal of Great Britain we extract the following succinct resume of the leading facts anent the "Prince Henry, the Navigator," stamps of Portugal. They will not be new to some of our readers, but many of the younger clan can, we think, find interest in the excerpt:

"Portugal has just reason to be proud of her navigators, but of none more than Don Henrique, surnamed the Navigator, who was one of the initiators of the grand Portugese discoveries which commenced in the fifteenth century. His mother was an Englishwoman, being sister to John o' Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster.

"The first idea of issuing a series of stamps commemorative of his birth emanated from the Town Council of Oporto, in which city he was born.

"Parliament was asked on the 3d of July, 1893, to grant permission for the special issue of stamps, the receipts, after deducting a certain sum for the postoffice and the cost of manufacture, etc., to go to the erection of a monument in Oporto to the navigator's memory. Permission having been granted on the 27th of July, 1893, a contract was entered into with the firm of Giesecke and Deorient, of Leipzig, for the engraving, printing, gumming and perforating of 500,000 stamps of each value up to 100 reis, inclusive, and 30,000 stamps of each of the higher values. The Town Council of Oporto was allowed to choose the designs, and they accepted three of the Portuguese artist, Senor Salgado. It was originally intended that all values should be engraved, but as there was not time for this the values up to 100 reis, inclusive, were lithographed.

"The first design, applied to the 5, 10, 15 and 20 reis, represented Don Henrique seated on the prow of one of the old ships called a 'caravella' (the same as the 'caravels' of Columbus). The

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STAMPS,

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second design, affixed to the stamps of 25, 50, 75, 80 and 100 reis, represents the navigator standing on the promontory of Sagres watching the departure of the first expedition. The third, comprising the stamps of 150, 300, 500 and 1000 reis, shows him seated between two terrestrial globes.

"The net amount handed over to Oporto amounted to 28,500,000 reis—equal to, at the time, between £4000 and £5000—a disappointing amount when the expenses of the festivities in Oporto had to be deducted.

"The remainders of the stamps have all been destroyed."

Mexico has a new stamp journal—the first to appear in our sister republic for some years—christened the Mexico Filatelico. It is published under the auspices of the Mexican Philatelic Society.

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Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers.

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THE CABINET.

A Department Devoted to Coins and Curios.

Money Hunting.

"The reader will perhaps enjoy with me some reminiscences of my own experience in money hunting in Oriental lands. They embrace many years of patient research and in many places. I have for half a day together patiently followed the 'fellah,' as he plodded behind his little plow, giving me the opportunity to inspect the newly stirred soil. What a variety of objects, I have picked up, and the most of them worthless. A copper piece with nothing visible on it but the big M, showing it was a Byzantine, the M standing for Mounia, or the quantity 80, and the specimen not older than the 5th century. Next comes a shell of the Ammonite family. Then the metal stud of a bridle, the remnant probably of a gallant steed that fell here in deadly conflict. Next a copper piece of Alexander Severus (A. D. 220) in fair condition. Next another Byzantine, a trifle older than the last. Then a Greek Imperial in copper, upon whose front I recognize the well known lineaments of Protus (A. D. 268). Next a Cufic piece (A. D. 700) whose curious forms of Arabic letters would puzzle anybody but an antiquary. Then perhaps the same series over again, and out of the gleanings of half a day's walk, enough to fill a pint cup, and not half a dozen coins legible enough to enter a respectable cabinet.

To understand how so much metallic currency turns up in the old world, we have but to consider that in the times which numismatic history treats of, the only currency was metallic, gold and silver to a moderate extent, but copper to the extent of nine-tenths the popular traffic. The circulating medium was large. Even in the daily purchases of the poorer classes, the number of pieces necessary to a city of ten thousand people was very great, as a moment's reflection will show.—Robert Morris, LL. D.

Brief Numismatic Items.

[Compiled from various sources.]

Twenty cent pieces in Silver were issued as early as 1791 for the Sierra Leone Company in Africa.

Neptune, as depicted on the reverse of the Barbados penny and half-penny of 1792 is a copy of the great seal of the island.

Store cards, or tradesmen's tokens, formed a large part of our small currency from 1837 to 1845 and during the war of the rebellion. The latter period furnished about 4000, in types and varieties.

Prices From the H. G. Brown Sale.

Though it is rather late in the day, we believe some of our readers may be interested in the following record of some of the prices realized at the sale of the famous H. G. Brown cabinet on October 12th. We copy this list from the only one of our philatelic contemporaries that makes any attempt at presenting coin news; viz, Mekeel's Stamp Collector.

Gold Dollar	1836	(Pattern)	\$ 18 00
" "	1863		17.00
" "	1864		14 25
" "	1865		17 25
" "	1875		46 00
Quarter Eagle	1796		15 00
" "	1806		16 50
" "	1864		12 75
Three Dollar	1873		32 50
Four Dollar	1879	(Pattern)	43 00
Five Dollar	1854	old type	25 00
Bechtler's			\$2 50
" "			21 00
" "			\$5 00
" "			25 00
" "	1834		\$5 00
" "			40 00
C. G. & Co.	1860		\$10 00
" "			38 00
Morman	1849		\$2 50
" "			19 50
" "	1849		\$5 00
" "			19 50
" "	1849		\$20 00
" "			150 00
Moffatt			\$16 00 (oblong)
" "			130 00
Miner's Bank			\$10 00
" "			70 00
Colo. Bermuda			six pence
" "			shilling
" "			42 00
" "			32 00
Chalmers 3d	1781		6 70
Half Cent	1796		16 00
" "	1811		40 00
" "	1836		37 50
" "	1840		41 00
" "	1841		34 00
" "	1843		42 00
" "	1844		42 00
" "	1848		42 00
Cent	1793		13 75
" "	1801		7 10
" Fly'g Eng.	1856		15 00
Half Dime	1792		9 00
Quar. Dollar	1853		6 75
Half Dollar	1796		7 00
" "	1797		54 00
Dollar	1804		1100 00
" "	1836		14 00
" "	1838		150 00
" "	1839		50 00
" "	1851		54 00
" "	1852		52 00
" "	1858		32 50

Coins which are either much worn or pierced, and copper if cleaned or brightened, have but a small numismatic value, unless they are rarities. Condition and rarity have equal claims on premium. In handling coins, touch the edges only.

Familiarity with the portraits of the Roman Emperors assists materially in identifying and naming their coins.

To beginners we say, never clean coins. Think the matter well over and you will decide that you can neither improve their appearance, nor enhance their value.

Collectors who are without books to guide and instruct them in forming their cabinets, lose one half the pleasure the science affords.

"Spielmarks," counters and pieces inscribed "Jetton" belong to a large

class, and may be briefly termed "gamblers chips." Invariably they are in brass, and range in size from the half-dime to the half-dollar, and from a thin, poorly executed piece to a fine example of medallie art.

A few of the better perfected are close representations of gold coins and have milled edges. Our own twenty-dollar gold piece was at one time copied fairly. The obverses generally have portraits of some of the sovereigns of Europe. Napoleon I and III, Alexander I, William IV and Victoria are most frequent. Appollo, Pallas and Minerva are also given, and the head of Liberty, and that of Washington are favorites as well. Few, if any, have been struck in America. London, Paris and Berlin artists have contributed the most of them.

AFTER ELECTION.

To those who were so unfortunate as to be on the losing side, I will say, don't be discouraged. I still have some stamps that will make you smile, and to those who were successful and already have the smile, you will receive the same kind of stamps.

VICTORIA.			
No. 204	2sh	blue	used \$ 30
" 205	5sh	red & blue	" 75
" 209	1sh	yellow (re-engraved)	" 12
" 503	2p	brown & blue	" 12
" 504	1p	" "	" 25
" 512	1p	red	new 06
" 513	2p	" "	" 12
VIRGIN ISLANDS.			
No. 13	1/2p	green	new 08
" 15	2 1/2p	blue	" 35
" 16	4p	brick red	" 85
" 19	1p	carmine	" 06
" 20	1sh	brown	" 1 75
" 27	1sh	ochre	" 35
WESTERN AUSTRALIA.			
No. 72	1/2	on 3p brown	new 45
" 77	2p	yellow	" 06
" 80	9p	orange	used 18
" 202	2p	on 3p lilac	" 50
" 210	1p	lilac	" 02

Above are all in fine condition. Postage extra on order less than 50c.

D. T. Eaton, Muscatine, Iowa.

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display. A line will average seven words. Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

12 colored Souvenir Postals of California, 25c. C. Farman, Golden Gate, Oakland, Cal.

Orangewood Mailing Cards are a decided novelty and an attractive one. 15 cents each; two for 25 cents. W. A. IMBLER, 1093 West 46th St., Los Angeles, Cal.

Imperf-1888 Official Seal brown unused cut. by Scott \$1.00 my price each 25c, pairs 55c. Clarence B. Rogers, So. Orange, N. J.

Approval selections from want-lists References required. Wendover Neetus, 211 Eddy st., Ithaca, N. Y.

1200 Foreign Postage cataloging \$18.00 Better class than in usual variety packet. The bunch \$4.00. Write me. G. W. Brindle, Norwalk, Ohio.

A block of 6 of the 2c lake, 1880 issue, Imperforated \$15.00 1.926 c/o STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

A full sheet of 50 10-cent 1847, Card Board proofs \$20.00 (a single one catalogued at \$1.00) Proof, c/o THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

50 cents
a year.

THE

2 cents
a copy.

STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

VOL. I. BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, NOVEMBER 26, 1904. No. 11.

British Protectorate 1901, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 24, cancelled fine	\$ 40
do Labuan & Borneo 10, 16, (8 var) cancelled fine	35
Nyassa 1903, 15, 25 65, 115, 180, cancelled fine	35
Venezuela 1803, 5, 10, 25, 50, 1b, No 170 to 174 unused	50
do do do No 175 to 180 unused	50
do do do No 181 to 185 unused	50
do do do No 218 to 222 unused	50
Cuba 1878 1p unused o. g.	35
do 1888 10c unused o. g.	10
do 1891 20c unused o. g.	50
Dominican Rep. 1900 1/4, 1/2, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50c 1p unused o. g. fine (cat at \$3.23)	50

Our list of approval books containing 10,000 varieties of Stamps will be sent on request. It will pay to look it over.

We make a specialty of filling orders from lists of wants and have pleased thousands. Will you give us an opportunity to please you.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,
722 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

LONDON LETTER.

Fred J. Melville.

A new monthly journal for young philatelists is about to be published in this country by Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. The imprint of the firm in question should ensure its success and if a strict policy be adhered to as regards what to give in the matter of minor varieties, it should do something to stimulate general collecting not only among youngsters but among their big brothers. The new paper is to appear about December 18. There have been two other attempts to establish a paper for young collectors in England. The first "The Junior Stamp Collector" started in January, 1897, and published three volumes or thirty six numbers and was then transformed into the still lively paper for grown-ups "The Stamp Collector," of Birmingham. The Young Stamp Collector started in March, 1900, only published six monthly parts when it was amalgamated with the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

Many philatelic literaturists on both sides of the Atlantic have the first two parts of the London Philatelic Society's work on the postal issues of Africa still unbound and waiting for the appearance of the third and final part. They will be interested therefore in Lord Crawford's reference to this at the recent dinner of the society at the Imperial Restaurant. "This cannot be rushed," said his lordship, "there are not many people able to do this class of work, and those few have only time to make a reference list of the stamps. But there is much more to do than this—such as plating certain stamps, and other de-

(Continued on Page 8.)

1905 Catalogue!

The new, or 64th, edition of our Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue will be ready for delivery about December 5th.

It has been thoroughly revised and brought up to date of going to press.

Price 50 cents. Post free 58 cents.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.
18 EAST 23rd ST., New York, N. Y.

Philadelphia Letter.

If enthusiasm and good attendance be criteria, the Quaker City is promised some interesting things philatelic during the season from the new Philadelphia Philatelic Society. This organization was effected on Oct. 5, since which time three meetings have been held. That of October 19 was a red letter event, in that the society was afforded an opportunity of inspecting the magnificent collections of Mr. John L. Luff and Mr. George L. Toppan. Mention has already been made in these columns of Mr. Luff's collection, but it may be interesting to readers to hear of a few of the eye-openers contained therein. Only United States postage and provisional were shown, but these occupied two volumes. A collection of New York Postoffices, arranged in shades, was one of the handsomest things shown; a beautiful block of twelve 3-cent "pink" of 1861, said to be worth \$600; a semi-tete beche of Scott's No. 352; a good collection of "splits" and other oddities on covers; New Haven envelopes and re-arranged plates of a number of semi-official issues also occupied a prominent place. Of essays, proofs and special printings there seemed to be everything possible, while imperforates seemed to be almost as plentiful as perforates. Among the things not noticed was the 4c Pan-American invert, and Mr. Luff gave a very knowing smile when its absence was alluded to.

Not far behind in splendor, though less attractive to the general collector, was Mr. Toppan's collection of envelopes. These were all cut

(Continued on Page 7.)

P DECEMBER 17th. M

is the correct date for the **Dr. Fowler Collection.**

to be offered at Public Auction without reserve. If you are an auction buyer and not receiving my explicit catalogue of sales every month, you are simply not one of my twenty five hundred card index clients, and a postal card request with your name and address will place you there.

In January I sell the R. L. Wickes Evanston, Ill. collection; February the J. Allan Dietz Chicago collection; March the J. B. Henderson Crowder, I. Ty. collection; April the Amos G. Cartwright collection with a possibility of several others sandwiched between and to follow.

P P. M. Wolsieffer M
401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

CHICAGO CHAT.

The members of the Chicago Philatelic Society enjoyed a rare treat in the hour's talk of Mr. Jas. Abbott at their regular meeting on Thursday evening last.

Mr. Abbott gave them a lecture which he was pleased to term "The Growth of the Post Office" and in his opening remarks he stated that this lecture was simply the "cullings" of the Lantern Slide Lecture for the general public that he is preparing, material largely of a technical and statistical character that he had collected and could not use.

You can therefore imagine the surprise of the members when he had finished at the end of one of the best talks on stamps and the Postal Systems of the World that they had ever listened to.

If this is a fair sample of the lecture itself we certainly may expect something out of the ordinary. The stay-at-home members missed one of the most interesting meetings ever held.

As it was the meeting was largely attended by members as well as visitors, two from out of town Mr. F. R. Cornwall of St. Louis and Mr. C. H. Price of Aylmar, both being impressed sufficiently with the importance of the Societies work to land in their applications on the spot, and both making very pleasant remarks during the meeting having been called on by the Chair, a courtesy always extended to strangers by the C. P. S.

(Continued on Page 8.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States, Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any address in any country in the Postal Union \$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.00 an inch. 80 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

YE EDITOR DISCOURSETH.

A Neglected Branch of Philatelic Study.

We mentioned in a recent number the death of M. Joseph Blanc, the distinguished Parisian artist who designed the current stamps of France. We wish we might feel more certain than we do that our readers generally were interested in the paragraph. Like the prophet who lacks honor in his own country, the designer of stamps is the most inconsequential of persons in the present scheme of philately. All else that pertains to stamp production has been made the theme of exhaustive study. Let a new perforating machine be installed in the Government Printing Office of New Zealand, and all philately rings with the news; let there be discovered an error of printing in the stamps of Nowanugger, and philatelists discuss the matter with bated breath; but the personality, yea, even the identity, of the artists whose creative power has brought forth the world's stamp designs is a matter over which philatelists at large seem to be profoundly unconcerned. We do not see just why it is that collectors care so little about this particular phase of stamp production. We should think it might be made a vastly interesting branch of philatelic study. If we collectors are to give any consideration to postage stamp art in the abstract—to the pictorial progress displayed in stamp making from 1840 to the present day—we can study the subject much more understandingly if we acquaint ourselves with the names and standing in the broader world of general art of the men who drew the designs. The number of postage stamps that owe their design, directly or indirectly, to artists of real note, is not small. Of cases where the indebtedness is indirect, we may mention as a familiar example the busts of Washington and Jackson, reproduced on so many of our own country's stamps; and the famous Gil-

bert Stuart portrait of Washington, which has been more than once pressed into service. Far greater in number, however, are the cases where the design in its entirety has been devised by a living artist, for that one specific purpose. It is true that many of these designs which boast distinguished parentage have not proven as suitable, from an utilitarian point of view, as the less elaborate designs gotten up by humbler workers. But this does not diminish the interest that would seem to lie in their study. Nor would the interest in this branch of investigation be confined, we imagine, to stamps designed by famous artists. Many a postage stamp designer whose work in this line is admirable descended doubtless from far higher artistic aspirations to the post of designer-in-chief for some engraving company or governmental printing bureau; and it would be but poetic justice if their names could be known and held in high honor in that field of human interest which their work has enriched.

We would like to see someone publish a book, tracing, as far as is possible, the artistic origin of each stamp design in the world's emissions. This task, in proper hands, would lead, we think, to an intensely interesting and important addition to the store of philatelic knowledge. It is singular that no philatelic author should ever yet have turned to this particular field of investigation, but doubtless it is due to the fancied difficulty of securing accurate information. We say "fancied" difficulty, because we believe it would be found by no means insuperable. The stamp papers of past years would be a veritable mine of information as regards the older issues, for the philatelic editors of the sixties and seventies took far more interest in ascertaining the identity of a stamp's designer than do their modern brethren of the quill. And information as to issues of recent years ought to be easily securable from governmental sources. Where is the philatelic student who will take it on himself to blazon a path in this untrodden maze and give to philately a new and fertile field of interest?

The Freedom of Our Columns.

We cordially extend the freedom of our columns to stamp clubs that may wish to publish the minutes of their meetings in some fitting medium. We are thinking more particularly of stamp societies in the smaller cities, whose membership would like the philatelic world to know something of what is done at their meetings, how their organizations are prospering, and so on. We want to render all the encouragement we can to such societies, for their number is, unfortunately, all too few. We know of any number of cities ranging in size from ten thousand to a hundred thousand people, where there are enough adult collectors to form the nucleus of a good

and useful society, but somehow or another they do not get together. The value of a stamp club composed of earnest enthusiasts, no matter if they muster no more than half a dozen to a meeting, ought to be self-evident. The interchange of ideas and experiences at its meetings is both helpful and inspiring. A good stamp club is, in fact, a sort of local clearing house for all sorts of philatelic facts and information, much of which would never "go the rounds" were it not through some such agency. It makes the collectors of a city acquainted with one another and in too many ways to discuss here decidedly enlarges the pleasure derivable from the hobby. There cannot be too many such societies, and we hope, now that Winter has fairly set in, and outdoor recreation is no longer practicable, that we shall hear of many now dormant societies awaking to fresh energy, and many brand new stamp organizations springing up throughout the country.

England

Puts Us to Shame.

England certainly puts us to shame in the matter of the comparative number of stamp clubs which the two countries support. So does Germany, for the matter of that; but the comparison is not so constantly forced upon us, and therefore not so keenly disrelished, as in the case of England. The stamp bodies of England, as we read of them in the British journals, seem almost incredible in number. There are half a dozen societies in and about London, and scarcely a city of any importance in the Kingdom seems to lack its philatelic society—to say nothing of the many "county societies," such as the one lately formed for Kent and Sussex, with the famous Edward J. Nankivell at the head. And then there are the multitudes of English "exchange clubs," which exist solely for the purpose of exchanging stamps by mail, whose membership is scattered far and wide through England, Scotland and Ireland. There must be thirty or forty of these in Britain, and all seem to flourish mightily. Poor, indeed, are we of this country by comparison. No fault can be found with Boston and Chicago. These two cities support magnificent societies, well worthy of comparison with the best of the European bodies. New York does fairly well, with its Collectors' Club and one or two minor organizations. A few others of our cities have fairly prosperous societies, but, as a whole, it is a sorry showing for a land that boasts as many philatelists as ours. The truth is, the United States is a bit too big geographically. Our collectors are scattered too widely to permit of local organizations appealing to more than a small fraction of them. In England, Mr. Nankivell, for example, can preside over his Kent and Sussex Society tonight; tomorrow a few hours' ride will carry

(Continued on page 8.)

CHICAGO CHAT.

(Continued from Page 1.)

In the absence of both President and Secretary Mr. Severn and Mr. Wolsieffer attended to the duties of those positions. 29 members and 3 visitors attended. 4 applications for membership were posted and all other routine work was dispatched in a hurry.

Mr. Edw. Rosenthal of the "Nominating Committee" presented a report and with appropriate remarks placed each candidate in nomination as follows:

For President, H. N. Mudge.

For Vice President, C. E. Severn.

For Secretary, Chas. F. Mann.

For Treasurer, E. C. Dodd.

For Director, P. M. Wolsieffer.

For Director, L. Michael.

This was as far as Mr. Rosenthal's Committee went and stated that precedent instructed them to let the other three places for Directors open for the society to fill, which was done by the nomination of the following gentlemen Messrs. Abbott, Rosenthal, Dickinson, Massoth, Dahl and Williams.

Taking this meeting as a whole it was one of the most interesting and instructive held for a long time, and there was so much doing in all parts of the room, it would be impossible for one correspondent to record it, therefore if I have missed any important items the interested member will have to overlook it.

Sentiment among the trade seems to be crystalizing on the fact that what is needed most of all is an album and catalogue that will match, listing only type varieties leaving out all minor varieties, watermarks, perforations, shades, grills etc. or in other words come back to the old time general collecting of only one stamp of a kind.

J. W. Scott has been preaching this doctrine for years and the multiple watermark and other minor variety extremes are beginning to direct attention to his theory on this all important subject of how to interest the general public and beginner. Certainly to show a present day catalogue to a prospective stamp collector is sure to confuse him and discourage him right at the start. As catalogues and albums are now made they are all right for the initiated and advanced collector, but what of the new recruit?

This problem will have to be handled sooner or later and no half way measures will do, such as a recent attempt at an album which comes from across the water, giving shades of certain stamps and ignoring the same shades in others. Consistency is evidently not a virtue over there where they have certain kinds of stamps they desire to make a market for.

BRIGHT & SON,

Stamp Dealers and Philatelic Publishers.

NOW READY.

THE 6th EDITION

"A. B. C." Catalogue

Nearly 900 pp., and with about 6,000 ILLUSTRATIONS, giving all varieties of WATERMARK, PERFORATION, PAPER, TYPE, etc., for stamps, and full list of POST CARDS, ENVELOPES, WRAPPERS, etc. Price 2s. 6d; or post free, 2s. 10d.

In response to the wishes of many of our customers, we have decided to publish in a SEPARATE VOLUME of 650 pp., the section of the above Catalogue containing ADHESIVES ONLY. This will contain STAMPS OF ALL COUNTRIES in alphabetical order. Price 1s. 6d; or post free, 1s. 9d.

This is a marvel of cheapness, and no collector should be without it.

Bright's Stamp Market for the purchase and exchange of Collectors' Duplicates. Write for full particulars.

SELECTIONS sent on APPROVAL to all parts of the Globe.

Price List of Sets, Packets, Albums, etc., etc., Post Free. Interchangeable Albums from 8d. upwards.

164, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

LONDON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

tails, which add so much to the pleasure and the science of Philately." Both parts I and II of this work are now out of print I believe.

The Fiscal Philatelic Society of London is one of the newest clubs here yet it is a brisk and energetic society, which has already decided to follow in the lines of the Junior Philatelic in holding an exhibition this season. This exhibition will be for fiscals only and will be under the management of our foremost exponents of the fascination of fiscals, such as W. Schwabacher, President of the Society; Walter Morley, A. Preston Pearce, Oswald Marsh, L. Fulcher and A. B. Kay.

The American philatelic conventions have no real parallel in this country, yet the convention, or "conference," as it is more generally termed on this side, is popular in many other professions and pursuits. Why it should not be the same with philatelists is difficult to understand. There is much to be gained by meeting one's brother collectors from time to time in business and in social intercourse. The Exhibition Committee of the Junior Philatelic Society are endeavoring to include as many features as possible of the American philatelic conventions in their forthcoming two days' exhibition at the great Exeter Hall in the Strand. Arrangements are being made to provide accommodation for visitors from this country and abroad. A good refreshment and luncheon room will be attached to the exhibition. There will be music and lantern lectures, all free to the general public. Further there will be meetings of philatelists in a side hall, and a long promenade underneath the balcony will be used as a stampic bazaar, stalls being let to the principal dealers. Such is the preliminary program of this display, which is to be held on Feb. 3 and 4 next. Any American philatelists who

are visiting this country at the time of the exhibition will receive a hearty welcome from the Exhibition Committee.

There is some talk of a Don Quixote commemorative series of stamps from Spain, of which I hope to be able to say more in my next letter. To collectors of parcels stamps it may be of interest to learn that the Edinburgh and Leith Tramways Corporation started on Oct. 13 a parcels service, with labels from 2d. to 7d. in facial value. It will be remembered that an Edinburgh firm was the first to start the Circular Delivery Companies, whose stamps were all suppressed by the Postmaster General in August, 1867. In an early letter to the Stamp Lovers Weekly I may be able to give some details of this new enterprise in the Caledonian capital.

An Exhibition of Fiscals.

Strong indication of the spread of Fiscalism among English philatelists is found in the announcement that a public exhibition of British Colonial Fiscal Stamps will be held in London during March or April next, under the auspices of the Fiscal Philatelic Society. If held as proposed, this exhibition will be, we believe, the first of its sort in the history Philately. Fiscal displays have been admitted to some of the great international stamp exhibitions as a sort of side show, but this is their first appearance as sole occupants of the big tent.

We trust the Exhibition may meet with a very high measure of success. We deem Fiscalism a branch of Philately which is worthy of all possible encouragement.

New Zealand has a new philatelic magazine, the "Oceania Philatelic Journal," the second of its class to appear in that colony—the other being the "New Zealand Philatelist," now a successful and established publication.

A Page of Precept For Young Collectors.

(Conducted by the Editor.)

[Note: Young collectors are cordially invited to write us for any information they may desire on any point regarding either stamps or stamp collecting methods. Address, Editor The Stamp-Lovers Weekly, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.]

About Buying a Catalogue.

We have received a good many letters from those interested in this department, asking for information about stamp catalogues—what they are, where published, what they cost, and whether they are really indispensable to the young collector. We trust those of you who already know all about stamp catalogues will pardon us for devoting a little space this week to the benefit of those who do not—for the subject is certainly one of no small importance in the education of the young collector. We address our remarks this week almost wholly to the primary class.

A stamp catalogue, as most of you doubtless understand, is a complete price list of all the varieties of postage stamps ever issued in the world. Some catalogues also price all the varieties of stamped envelopes and postcards, while others do not. These catalogues give illustrations of all the different designs used by the different countries, so arranged as to make it easy for even the beginner to determine to what issue a specimen belongs. The number of existing varieties of postage stamps is now so great that these catalogues form books of several hundred pages, and as they are illustrated with several thousand cuts of different stamps, and as the cost of printing them is very large, it is manifestly impossible that they should be distributed gratis—as many young collectors seem to think should be the case. They are not to be considered as dealers' price lists (although practically all of them are published by stamp dealing houses), for each one of them is in a sense a stamp collecting encyclopaedia—a reference guide to all the issues of the world and their market value. A stamp catalogue is a very different thing from the ordinary dealer's price list. Many dealers publish more or less elaborate lists, of from four to fifty pages, but these lists price only a very small fraction of the world's specimens and in only a very incomplete way, whereas the catalogues price everything in the whole field of stamp collecting, excepting only some few of the great varieties whose value it is very difficult to even approximately determine, and various minor varieties whose value it is equally difficult to estimate.

The Utility of a Catalogue.

The utility of a catalogue to the young collector is twofold—first, in furnishing him the means of ascertaining the value of his specimens, and, second, and decidedly more important, in being a book from whose study he can plan and carry on his collecting to much better purpose than without it. Most young collectors who buy a catalogue do so for the first of these purposes. Almost every energetic beginner picks up various old United States varieties, from the old letters of relatives or friends, or by exchanges with other young enthusiasts, and it is but natural that he should be decidedly anxious to know what these are worth. He realizes, of course, that the foreign stamps secured from cheap packets or low priced approval sheets are common stamps—else they could not be sold so cheaply. But specimens acquired in other ways have at least a chance of being of some value, and if any of them are even moderately valuable the young collector certainly wants to know about it and prize them accordingly. The young collector cannot commence the task of posting himself on the value of all United States specimens too early in his career, for it is among these specimens that his opportunities for "finds" are greatest, and in which knowledge of values will stand him in best stead. There have been innumerable cases where young collectors have traded off U. S. stamps worth dollars for foreign stamps worth but a penny or two, thinking they had made an even exchange; and every day young collectors are being similarly befooled by acquaintances who "know the ropes" of stamp collecting.

But entirely apart from this matter of finding out what your best stamps are worth, a catalogue is of the utmost value as a philatelic text-book. It familiarizes you with the appearance of all the issues of the world. Of course, a cut printed in black can give no true idea of the beauty of a stamp printed in colors, but it can show the nature of the design, and from the study of these designs as they appear in the catalogue you can acquire a practical working knowledge of the various designs used by the different stamp issuing states of the world which will infinitely enhance your proficiency as a collector. The beginner who is collecting without the aid of a catalogue is to a large extent working in the dark—and his collecting is naturally of the most haphazard sort. But when the catalogue begins to be studied, and the collector begins to see that the stamps of some nations are much more interesting than others, and, as a consequence, to use some discernment and system in his purchases, his collection will soon cease to be a formless accumulation and will move forward along lines which give it much more interest and much more promise of future value. The young collector grows in philatelic stature by the study of

Transvaal 1901 2sh brown,		
mint, rare	-	\$1 20
1902 2sh yellow, mint		60
Montserrat 5 sh King,	"	1 02
Samaica 5 sh Queen,	"	1 02
St. Helena 2 sh 1902,	"	60
Falkland Isles. 2sh 6p Queen	"	90
" " 5sh " "	"	1 70

All King's head single C. A.

Send for my B. B. Lists,
Auction Sale on Dec. 7th. send
for catalogue.

Frank P. Brown,
339 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

the catalogue. He learns the full extent of stamp collecting's territory. And what an unending fascination there is to the young collector in making himself acquainted with his catalogue from one end to the other—in noting the comparative number of different designs that different countries have utilized; in comparing the dates when various countries first adopted stamps; in discovering which countries have gotten along very few changes of design, and which have been almost continually changing and experimenting; and in dozens of other ways that we cannot take space to even hint at here. In short, a catalogue is a condensed history of the world's stamps. Lacking, it is true, many details that the young collector would like to learn about these various stamps, but vastly full of information for those who study it intelligently, making this inference here and that deduction there, as they progress in understanding the significance of its facts and figures. The catalogue is not a "dry book;" to the earnest, ardent collector it is fascinatingly interesting. And it is very, very difficult for any young collector to make much real headway if he does not possess a catalogue for frequent reference and constant study.

The Leading Catalogues.

There are some seven or eight very excellent stamp catalogues published in the world. Only one of these is an American production, and that one, consequently, is the standard work of its kind, so far as this country is concerned, and the best book for the beginner to buy. The Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue—the work to which we refer—is published in New York, a new edition being issued every year, so as to bring both lists and prices fully up to date. Its price is 58 cents, post free, and a copy of it may be had either direct from the publishers, from almost any stamp dealer, or from almost any book store. All American dealers use the Scott Catalogue as a basis for pricing their stamps. When you see the phrase, "catalogue price, so much, our price, so much," in any American stamp advertisement, it is the Scott Catalogue

(Continued on page 8.)

THE READING TABLE.

What We Find In the Journals of the Hour.

The Stamp Collector,
Birmingham, England.

The October issue of the Stamp Collector is an unusually excellent and interesting number. It presents as its leading feature the first of a series of articles on "The Stamps of the British West Indies," from the pen of Mr. Ernest Heginbottom, B. A., a gentleman much to the fore of late in the columns of British stamp journals. Antigua and the Bermudas are treated in this first installment, and in a manner which gives assurance that the series will be of high interest and value. Mr. Heginbottom, it will be remembered, is one of the great champions of the used stamp as of superior philatelic interest and availability, compared with its unused brother; and it is no surprise, therefore, to find these articles illustrated with reproductions of used stamps from Mr. Heginbottom's collection, rather than with unused ones, as is customary.

To us the most interesting feature of the number is a portrait of Mr. Edward Denny Bacon supplemented by an article giving some account of his numerous philatelic achievements. Mr. Bacon, it seems, is but 44 years of age, even though his name has been prominently before the collecting public for more than half that length of time. As one of the officers of the London Philatelic Society since 1885, and as the author of many books and magazine articles on topics connected with our hobby (his work on Reprints, his "Stamp Collector," and his handbooks on Barbados, Grenada and St. Vincent are typical examples of his literary activity), Mr. Bacon has been much in the public eye. Put his best work as a philatelic expert has been in connection with the Tapling Collection. In classifying, arranging and mounting the 100,000 or more specimens in this huge accumulation, in behalf of the British Museum, Mr. Bacon, we are informed, spent an average of three days a week for seven years; and his knowledge of stamps, as a result of this minute and exacting study of one of the greatest collections ever gathered together, is probably not exceeded by that of any other living philatelist.

At the present time Mr. Bacon is engaged in a somewhat similar task in connection with philatelic literature—namely, the compiling of a catalogue of the Earl of Crawford's monumental philatelic library, by far the finest in the world. We can hardly doubt that this catalogue when published will highly enhance Mr. Bacon's already high reputation as a master philatelic investigator.

A good account of the Berlin Philatelic Exhibition is given on succeeding pages, and several pages are devoted to that always readable feature, "In the Library Chair." The "Notebook and Philatelic Diary" is likewise full of interesting matter, and there are numerous minor paragraphs and items.

The Australian Philatelist,
Sydney, Australia.

The Australian Philatelist for Oct. 1 reaches us with a promptness decidedly pleasant. Its twelve pages contain much matter of interest, even to Americans—who are not, as a rule, particularly keen collectors of Australian stamps, their attention being principally employed on issues nearer home.

An editorial, headed "Popularizing Philately," is so well worth reading that we venture to reprint it, as follows:

"Is the tendency of the present mode of stamp collecting, and the philatelic literature of today, towards the popularization of philately, and is not a healthy and elevating art being sacrificed too much to science? These are questions that every philatelic society should tackle, and it should be done before science drives out of the field the man who wants to make stamp collecting a pleasurable pastime. There are various ways of popularizing a hobby, and we are pleased to see that Mr. Basset Hull, the President of the Sydney Philatelic Club, by his interesting lantern lecture, given recently in the St. James Hall, has shown outsiders that the hobby of stamp collecting, which is still open to the jibes and sneers of those not inclined to it, has more educational elements in it than such hobbies as the collecting of old china, bric-a-brac, coins and paintings. There is greater attention given today to perforations, paper and watermarks than to color and general design. Yet it is with the aid of the latter two that collecting can best be popularized, for they naturally appeal more to the young and new collector than the perforation gauge and the partly hidden elements of the stamp. How many of the average collectors will read the heavy and technical articles that appear from week to week in philatelic magazines? Much of their contents is given up to the minute description of the stamps of a certain country, the length of which drags on from number to number, till even the collector for whom it is intended loses a certain amount of interest in his work. Cannot this mode of compiling be better done by the societies, and, when finished, published in pamphlet or book form? Surely the magazines at home and abroad, where the opportunities for making good copy are so much greater than in the colonies, could educate the young philatelist with a broader system than they are doing at present."

Following this thoughtful editorial

CHEAP SETS.

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DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

1902, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50c unused. o. g., fine Catalog value \$1.33, Complete for 25 cents.
1900 Maps, ¼ to 1 peso, 9 varieties, complete set, unused, catalog value \$3.33, price 50 cents.

New 1906 Large List Free.

JOSEPH F. NEGREEN,

128 East 23 St., NEW YORK CITY.

are others on matters of local interest to Australian collectors. Then comes the continuation of Mr. Blockey's "Priced Catalogue of South Australian Stamps," introducing an innovation in that used stamps are subdivided, for pricing purposes, into two classes—in one column appear the prices for "Used-Very Fine," and in another the prices for "Used-Ordinary"—an excellent idea, since it certainly marks a very real distinction in value. We do not recollect to have seen this plan previously used—it is well worthy of general adoption.

Both Senft's Catalogue and new French Catalogue are reviewed, and then comes Mr. Basset Hull's lecture on "Philately," previously alluded to, which is not, perhaps, as effective on paper as when publicly delivered, but which we can easily see to have been admirably adapted to its purpose—that of explaining to hearers none too familiar with the character and aims of stamp collecting what philately really is and wherein it really gives pleasure.

Several pages of Society Reports, concluding the number, give ample evidence that the stamp clubs of the Antipodes are in a decidedly thriving condition.

Philatelists will soon be able to enrich their albums with two new stamps of Senegal, which the celebrated engraver, Paulin Tasset, is finishing just now. They are destined for this West African colony, and the first copies—ornamented with figures recalling those at the monument established at the last Salon and to be erected at Saint Louis (the capital of the colony) in memory of Ballay—will be presented to M. Roume, the Governor General, arrived this week in Paris.—Mekeel's Stamp Collector.

HALF HOURS WITH OLD STAMP JOURNALS.

by "The Antiquary."

The year 1867 is not, in most respects, one of very remote antiquity. But in philatelic annals it represents a date very, very far back. Stamp collecting as a recognized pursuit was not very many years old in 1867.

James Brennen had opened the first stamp store in this country (a little shop scarcely 10 feet square) only four years earlier. S. Allan Taylor had issued the first American stamp journal but three years before. These two events the first of moment in the history of American stamp collecting: at the opening of the Civil War there was no such thing as a stamp album, catalogue or periodical in the whole country; so we may easily see that the year 1867 does not lack so much of being back in the very dawn of philatelic things.

In October, 1867, (to be exact, on October 25th) there appeared the initial number of the American Stamp Mercury; and in the pages of that staunch organ of collecting, which was for so many years the guiding star of American Philately, I think we may find not a little which we may ponder over now with mixed feelings of amusement and admiration not wholly free from a touch of reverence and veneration. It was a bold thing that the publisher of the American Stamp Mercury essayed to do in this year of our Lord, 1867. Philately was in its swaddling clothes, and no man could foretell whether it would live and flourish or after a brief season of life sink into oblivion. Collectors were few and scattered; the world of philately had a very narrow horizon; and it must have seemed a foolhardy venture, indeed, to launch a periodical for stamp-lovers on the journalistic seas.

But it was done, and the name of the man who launched it, and who conducted it for many long years afterward when there was scarcely a single other creditable journal in the field, should always hold a high place on the list of those to whom American Philately is deeply in debt. F. Trifet (he was known to his readers only by the unassuming initial, but if I am not mistaken he was a Frenchman by birth and christened Francois) has not been for many years gone from among us. But probably many of the younger members of the philatelic clan who used to see his modest advertisements as a dealer in the stamp journals of a few years ago, or who, perchance, were familiar with his musical magazine, the Galaxy of Music, are unaware of the extent and importance of his early services to Philately. He was not the first to issue a stamp journal in America, S. Allan Taylor and two or three others having preceded him, with short-lived ventures. But he was the first to bring to the publica-

tion of a stamp periodical the stamina and courage to keep at it, in the face of discouraging circumstances, and supply stamp collecting with a permanent (as permanency goes in stampdom) and really efficient organ. And as such, he assumes a place of scarcely less honor in the popularizing of collecting in America than that accorded by common consent to J. Walter Scott.

But enough of moralizing. To the paper itself. The first number if of four pages only, well printed for that era; the style of type used for the heading of the paper is a quaint old ornamental Gothic Long since out of use in modern print shops, but otherwise its typographical appearance is not so much different from that of the modern newspaper. In reading matter the first issue is not over-flush, if we may be permitted to use so slangy an expression. Yet every paragraph contains some remark or statement that sounds most strangely now. On the first page is prominently displayed this "Special Notice":—

"We have a large number of interesting articles which on account of space we have to leave out; therefore if we receive two hundred subscribers before November 10th, we will increase our size to eight pages, thus making it the largest stamp journal in America."

A pleasant promise, surely, but not betokening much vastness of size, according to modern standards. The Mercury's pages, then and hereafter, measured some 5½ by 9 inches; and the two or three other stamp journals than in existence were but little more than the monthly price lists of the dealers who issued them. Yet eight pages monthly, even of such size, meant a good deal to collectors, amid the dearth of stamp reading, and we can guess how ardently recipients of the first number hoped it might indeed double in size on its second appearance.

"Newly Issued Stamps" is perhaps the most important feature of this Volume One, Number One. New issues were notable events in those days. Stamp issuing countries were few then, compared with the present, and changes in stamps a far less frequent occurrence for in that day had the surcharge and the made-for-collectors stamp not yet been thought of; and no new issue came into being save through some very tangible and urgent emergency, New issues for Austria and Bolivia are illustrated in this first number, and note is also taken of various new denominations added to the current sets of three or four other countries. Regarding some of these the chronicler is not very positive. Listing new stamps and newly unearthed varieties was largely a matter of rumor in those days; and new issues listed upon hearsay often turned out to be very different colors and denominations from the first report.

Will you glance at these, and then make up your mind to fill the blank space in your album. They are all beauties and prices are right considering the quality of stamps.

No.	ALSACE & LORAIN	Cat.	Pr.
83	1c olive green	o g fine	8 35 8 20
91	2c red brown	o g "	2 00 1 25
91	2c "	"(blk of 4) o g	8 00 5 00
MARSHALL ISLANDS.			
7 to 12	1800 set complete	o g	1 82 1 00
Ger. So. West Africa.			
1 to 4	1897 3 to 20pf complete	o g l	18 75
Ger. New Guinea.			
1 to 6	1897 3 to 50pf complete	o g l	19 75
Ger. Offices in Turkey.			
506-512	1889 set of 5 complete	o g	73 50
German China.			
	1899 3, 5, 20 & 5 pf		54 30
SAMOA.			
10	1p green	o g	08 05
11	2p bright yellow	o g	12 00
11c	2p brown orange	o g	40 25
12a	4p dark blue	o g	25 15
13	6p maroon	o g	30 15
14	1sh	o g	50 30
15	2sh 6p violet	o g	1 50 75
18a	2½p carmine rose	o g	50 30
21	1½ on 2½p orange	o g	20 12
23	2½p black	o g	20 12
25	2½ on 2sh 6p	o g	65 35
32	4p blue	o g	18 12
33	2sh 6p violet	o g	1 25 65
36	6p maroon	o g	25 15
37	1sh rose	o g	50 30

Postage extra on order less than 50c.

D. T. Eaton, Muscatine, Iowa.

There is a column of advice to young collectors in this number which is very wise and sensible. Mr Trifet advises his younger readers not to try to get "setts" (we dispense with the second "t" in the word nowadays) but to get the cheaper varieties of each country; and estimates that for ten dollars, as many as 500 different varieties can be secured. How changed the situation now, when dealers sell very good packets of 1,000 stamps "all different" at from four to six dollars. Then a good deal of space is devoted to advising the young collector how to arrange his collection in a blank book, writing in the names of countries at the head of each page, taking care to get the specimens in straightly and neatly and not too crowded, and so forth and so on. There were albums then, of a sort, but they were not sold very cheaply; and Mr. Trifet evidently had little faith in his younger readers caring to expend the sum necessary to secure one, so long as blank books could be so easily and cheaply bought. As to making hinges in mounting, nothing is said of this, for the very good reason that it had not yet been thought of.

There is also a list of United States Revenue Stamps, with prices. Not many of them are listed as worth over a few pennies, though here and there is one that amounts to \$1.25 or \$1.50, the twenty and fifty Conveyance, the twenty-five dollar Mortgage, and the twenty Probate of Will being in the select class. There is no separate column of valuation for perforate or imperforate, old or silk paper or anything of that sort. Stamp study at that era was a long way short of making such distinctions. And it is noticeable, too, that Proprietaries do not figure in the list, it having been a good many years later before stamp men began to consider these "pill

If you Collect U. S. Revenues

—OR—

Private Proprietary Stamps.

You should send at once for prospectus and specimen pages of the

Finest Album ^{A^ND} Reference Catalogue

Ever Published

Already subscribed for by the leading Collectors all over the United States .

Ready for delivery in December. Only a limited edition will be printed.

Geo. J. Carter, 265 Halsey Street, BROOKLYN, New York.

labels" as collectable at all,

The last page is given over to advertisements, mostly those of the publisher himself, who dealt in stamps and stamp supplies in a little office at 57 Court Street, Boston, at that time. And the ads are by no means less interesting than the reading matter. Mr. Trifet published a catalogue, too, which is herein advertised. It is stated to give a list of all the stamps issued from 1840 to 1867, with date of issue, color, shape, value, etc. of each stamp . . . in all, about 2,500 varieties . . . and the additional fact is noted that it is the only catalogue published in America. A number of sets of stamps are offered, at prices that jibe little with modern values. The complete set of 1851, U. S., unused, is advertised at \$1.50. A set of 5 New York Post Office Stamps, unused, is quoted at but \$2.00. And to a set of 11 varieties of Wells Fargo & Co. locals is attached the modest figure of \$2.25. "Well mixed Continentals" are offered at 30, 50 and 75c per hundred, or \$2.50, \$5.00 and \$7.00 per thousand rather different rates from those that obtain to-day. But the importing of stamps was a different matter then; and we can only wonder that the importer was not obliged to charge a larger sum than this.

(To be Continued.)

Philadelphia Letter.

(Continued from page 1.)

squares, hence included only paper, die and shade varieties, but of these there were many. Mr. Toppan, like most collectors of envelopes, now collects entire only. One of the varieties Mr. Toppan showed was the 4c Die E, 1899, of which only three entire copies are known, and which bid fair to become the rarest United States envelope

Whether it was these collections, or the natural impetus given by the return of Winter activities, but all the members are enthusiastic. At the

MEKEEL'S STAMP COLLECTOR

Issued 52 Times a Year

You may have it Ten Weeks upon Trial for 10c.

EDITED BY

CHARLES HAVILAND MEKEEL

It contains some things not found in any other paper and has nearly 6,000 paid subscribers.—'Nuf said.

C. H. Mekeel Stamp & Publishing Co.
St. Louis, Mo..

meeting of Nov. 2, after the transaction of much routine business, an auction of members' stamps was held. Mr. A. F. Henkels, as the central figure, offered sixty lots, most of which were disposed of at good figures.

At the next meeting a competitive exhibition will be held, the stamps of Hong Kong being the subject. Three fine prizes in stamps are offered. Other competitions will be held later on Iceland and Ceylon.

The society is a branch of the American Philatelic Association, to which organization each member belongs individually. Its meeting place, until permanent quarters can be secured, is the Colonnade Hotel, 15th and Chestnut Streets, and the time, first Wednesday of each month.

"When is a Reprint

Not a Reprint?"

The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain in one of its lighter moods delivers itself of the following: "One of our smaller American confreres magnanimously presents the following valuable information to its readers:

"The so-called reprints of the 1862 issue of Argentine Republic are in reality reprints, and collectors should not purchase them, or reputable dealers sell them! What we should now like to know is, 'When is a reprint not a reprint?' We asked one of our learned friends to solve this conundrum for us, and the nearest he could get to it is, 'When it's a forgery,' which, as friend Euclid would have said, is absurd."

United States Revenues.

1st issue Perforated.

	Cat	My price
1c Proprietary, red	\$0 05	\$0 02
2c Express, blue	05	02
2c Express, orange	08	06
2c Proprietary, blue	10	04
3c Proprietary, green	20	08
3c Telegraph, "	25	10
5c Agreement, red	04	02
5c For. Exchange, red	06	02
10c Bill Lading blue	08	02
10c Power of Atty. blue	05	02
50c Entry of Goods "	05	02
50c Surety Bond "	10	04

Above 12 Varieties Catalog \$1 08 for 38c.

25 Varieties Old Civil War Revenues for 17 cents

65 Varieties Old Civil War Revenues for \$1.00

FRED G. JONES, 2013 Brook St., Louisville, Ky.

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display. A line will average seven words. Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

12 colored Souvenir Postals of California, 25c. C. Farman, Golden Gate, Oakland, Cal.

Advertisers if you are looking for a good stamp, Coin and Curio medium try the American Monthly at 20 cents an inch. It reaches the people you are looking for. Buyers 6 months sub. to same for 10 cents. Sample copy 4 cents. None free. **BASIL PERRY, Coolspring, Delaware.**

25 all dif. British Coils. postpaid 7 cents. **R. Van Benschoten, Hudson, N. Y.**

If you wish to add some fine specimens to your stamp collection, and buy them at your own price, send your name for the catalogue of my fourteenth sale. **R. Williams, West Roxbury, Mass.**

Newfoundland 1896, 6c carmine lake, unused, 8c each. The same in blocks of four. 1897 2c Cabot unused, 3c each, same in blocks of four. U. S. Documentary, these have no cut cancellation, very fine copies. \$3 brown 5c each, \$5 orange 7c each, \$10 black 20c each. Fine stamps on approval. Postage extra. **R. Williams, West Roxbury, Mass.**

Free 60 dif. Stamps in book. 10 varieties Peru cat. 62c for 20c. The Harvard Stamp Co., 827 Main St., Cambridge, Mass.

1/2 catalogue. I will sell the 1898 Postal Telegraph stamp for 5 cents, catalogued 30 cents, if you will send for my 50c sheets. They are marked below catalogue. Only a limited number of stamps. Write quick. **Philip Platt, Wallingford, Pa.**

Second hand Nineteenth Century Album cloth bound fine condition only first eight or ten pages used with peelable hinges. price \$1.50 post free a bargain. **F. P. Butman 68 Salem St., Waketeld, Mass.**

\$1.00	1902 U. S. Postage	\$0 83
1.00	1896 U. S. "	21
.50	1895 U. S. "	08
.50	Columbian	27

Postage 2c extra. Returnable. Choice net U. S. approvals to responsible parties. Reference. **Frank Dee Brayton, Freeport, Mich.**

Closing out. Two-Thousand Mexican Revenues Four-Hundred varieties. All good 60% discount on approval. **G. A. Brindie, Norwalk, Ohio.**

Look! C. S. A. 10c one cat 10c and Cuba rev. all for 10c and some more free. I buy precanceled stamps. **H. M. Swigart, 838 Ave, "A" Galesburg, Ill.**

RICHARD R. BROWN,

WHOLESALE POSTAGE

STAMPS,

Keyport, N. J.

Ye Editor Discourseth.

(Continued from page 2.)

him to the meeting of the Manchester Society; the night after he can, if he so wishes, visit the Oxford Society, and so on. But in this country even the collector from Kankakee will seldom find it feasible to meet with the Chicago Society—or the collector from Holyoke with the stamp club of Boston. Stamp clubs in America are obliged to depend almost exclusively on the stamp folk of their own vicinage—and that is one reason why many of them do not prosper as well as the English bodies.

An Example**Worthy of Eumlation.**

Apropos of the formation of societies, we cannot refrain from printing this letter from a subscriber in North Adams, Mass. He writes:—

"Enclosed find remittance for a year's subscription for Master Albert Hopkins, 169 Pleasant Avenue. I have been doing a little missionary work for you. Few of the young boys have the nerve to take a stamp paper. I put mine in the hands of quite a few boys. Hope to form a Junior Society in the near future.

"Sincerely yours,
"_____"

We withhold our friend's name, lest the publicity given here to his good work might prove an annoyance. But we are glad to find that here at least is one philatelist who does not look down upon and disdain the boy philatelist, but, on the contrary, is striving to assist him to collect to better purpose and greater enjoyment. Practice is better than theory. Here is a philatelist who does things. He loans his stamp papers, after he has read them, to some of the boy collectors of his acquaintance. Can there be any doubt of the increase of philatelic interest among the boys of that town, consequent of this seed sowing? Note again that an effort is to be made to start a Junior Society—a society composed solely of boy collectors, with our correspondent as their philatelic mentor. What a grand thing if hundreds of philatelists all over this land were to take pains to aid and stimulate the boy collectors of their acquaintance in similar ways! Perhaps you may wish to preserve all your stamp papers. Subscribe to an extra copy of one or two of those best adapted to the beginner's needs and pass them around. Give freely of your duplicates to the young aspirants; encourage them to come to you for information; invite a few of them in for an evening now and then, to inspect different portions of your collection and have a good, jolly talk about stamps, and see if you cannot thereby form them into a little club. Surely the game is worth the candle. Nine-tenths of the world's most famous philatelists of today began to collect in boyhood. To many of them it was only a passing fancy at the time, but when in after years their at-

tention was turned again in some accidental way to start collecting, they had the old, innate liking for stamps as a basis to build on. Without that basis would many of them have gone on? We think not; and that is why we deem it of such great importance to interest the boys in stamp collecting. You can't teach an old dog new tricks, but you can re-teach him those that he was familiar with as a young dog, even though he has not practiced them in his maturity.

A Page of Precept.

(Continued from page 4.)

price which is referred to, unless distinctly stated otherwise. Again, each variety of each country is given a catalogue number, and these numbers frequently used, both in stamp dealers' advertisements and in articles in the stamp journals, as an equivalent for the full description of the variety. Thus, a dealer may advertise "Cuba, 10," at such and such a price. He refers to the stamp that is given that number in Scott's Catalogue, under the assumption that every collector reading the ad possesses a copy of the catalogue and can easily look up the number and identify the variety offered. For these reasons, if for no other, the Scott catalogue would naturally be a proper one for you to purchase and be guided by. It is, moreover, an excellent publication, ranking in merit and accuracy with any catalogue published in Europe. Its supremacy in the American field is at present wholly uncontested. There have been other catalogues published here in the past, but all of them have now dropped out. England has three excellent annual catalogues, and many collectors find it pleasant to possess one of these, in addition to our American one. One feature about these English catalogues which makes them of value to the young collector is the fact that they illustrate all the varieties of United States stamps—a thing the American catalogue cannot do, any reproduction of any United States stamp, past or present, for even the innocent purpose of posting collectors in regard to them, being absolutely prohibited by law in this country. Of these English works Bright's A B C Catalogue is the best for the young collector's purpose, being less encumbered with long lists of trivial minor varieties than Stanley Gibbons' Catalogue, which is generally regarded as the leading work of its kind in England by advanced collectors and specialists. The Whitfield-King Catalogue, another English work, is well adapted to the needs of the young collector, but is hardly as good, we think, as the Bright Catalogue.

There are other catalogues, published in French or German, which it is not necessary to mention here. The Scott Catalogue will answer every purpose for any young collector—but he will also find it "well worth the candle" to buy one of the English ones, if

the state of his pocket money permits.

Catalogue**Prices.**

The young collector must be cautioned against taking catalogue prices as the literal value of the varieties to which they are applied. The actual market value of most ordinary stamps, in a used condition, is from 30 to 50 per cent. less than the price printed in the catalogue. The catalogue prices apply only to extraordinarily fine and perfect specimens. Those that are less fine are subject to a greater or lesser discount, according to their condition. The subject of "condition" is one of which much is seen in the philatelic press nowadays, and doubtless is also one in regard to which the average young collector is a good deal at sea. We shall have something to say in regard to it in a future number—perhaps next week.

THE "MULTIPLE WATERMARK."

The change now going on in British Colonial watermarks, whereby the stamps of all the British possessions are (it is supposed) to be ultimately printed on paper bearing a "multiple watermark" in which the "C A" is very much smaller than at present and will appear twice or thrice on each stamp (either as a whole or in part) is said to be causing no little uneasiness to specialists in the stamps of the British Colonies. Should the change be universal throughout the British Empire the number of new varieties thus created is appalling—especially as coming so soon after the change from "Queen's Heads" to "King's Heads." Doubtless almost all English philatelists, whether generalists or specialists, will feel in duty bound to collect and study these "multiple watermark" varieties, no matter how far-reaching the change may prove to be, but we can scarcely imagine that many of them can view the prospect with very much relish. We think the collector on this side of the water, unless he is exceptionally well endowed with money, will do well to shut his eyes to this change of watermark and consider it as a minor change in the process of manufacture with which he has no concern. The time has certainly arrived when blind obedience to the catalogues, on the part of any ordinary collector, is a grievous mistake. The collector must make his own limits. And such a case as is presented by this "multiple watermark" matter supplies excellent opportunity for the wise collector to assert his independence of the stereotyped form of collecting which sedulously seeks all that the catalogue includes. The "multiple watermark" ought, in our judgment, to receive short shrift at the hands of American collectors.

50 cents
a year.

THE

2 cents
a copy.

STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

VOL. 1. BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, DECEMBER 3, 1904. No. 12.

British Protectorate 1901, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 24, cancelled line	\$ 40
do Labuan & Borneo 10, 16, (6 var) cancelled line	35
Nyassa 1903, 15, 25, 65, 115, 130, cancelled line	35
Venezuela 1903, 5, 10, 25, 50, 1b, No 170 to 174 unused	50
do do do No 175 to 180 unused	50
do do do No 181 to 185 unused	50
do do do No 218 to 222 unused	50
Cuba 1878 1p unused o. g.	35
do 1888 10c unused o. g.	10
do 1891 20c unused o. g.	50
Dominican Rep. 1900 1/4, 1/2, 1, 2, 5; 10, 20, 50c 1p unused o. g. fine (cat at \$3.23)	50

Our list of approval books containing 10,000 varieties of Stamps will be sent on request. It will pay to look it over. We make a specialty of filling orders from lists of wants and have pleased thousands. Will you give us an opportunity to please you.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,
722 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

CHICAGO CHAT.

Thanksgiving week has been a very quiet one this year in and about Chicago. There was no scheduled society meeting, and the trade has settled down to waiting for the new catalogue to appear, which they all state should be out at the very latest by Oct. 1.

Last week was more than lively with the C. P. S. meeting and Wolsieffer's auction sale of the fine Collins collection. There were some interesting prices and a few quotations may prove timely. Lot 48, a horizontal strip of 4, 10c.; No. 29, 1847, sold for \$25.10; Lot 54, 1857, 5c.; No. 49, o. g., fine, \$3.70 (cat. \$1); Lot 79, 1869, 90c.; No. 122, o. g., fine, \$25.25; Lot 92, 1870, 24c.; No. 142, not centered, \$26.10; Lot 150, State, \$2; slight defect, \$9.60; Lot 156, Treasury, 24c., o. g., fine, \$7.10; Lot 284, British Guiana, 1862, 12c.; No. 34, o. g., fine, \$7.25; Lot 309, British Honduras, 1884, 1s., No. 17, o. g., fine, \$12.25; Lot 312, 1888, 50c.; No. 25, o. g., fine, \$11.25; Lot 381, Gambia, 1869, 6d., No. 4, o. g., fine, \$4.50; Lot 390, Gibraltar, 1886, 2d., No. 3, perfect, \$3.10; Lot 393, Gibraltar, 1886, 6d., No. 6, o. g., fine, \$4.00; Lot 394, Gibraltar, 1886, 1s., No. 7, o. g., fine, \$15.10; Lot 480, N. Nigeria, 1900, Nos. 1-8 (cat. \$5.36), \$5.05; Lot 481, No. Nigeria, 1900, 10s., No. 9, \$12.25; Lot 487, Orange River Colony, 6d., No. 50, o. g., fine, \$5.10. While there were a number of bargains in the sale, the fine, desirable lots fetched good prices and is an indication that there is a good demand for fine stamps.

The U. S. Revenues went quite strong for the better grade. U. S. Postage, also good, and Department a

(Continued on page 3.)

1905 Catalogue!

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It has been thoroughly revised and brought up to date of going to press.

Price 50 cents. Post free 58 cents.

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Philadelphia Letter.

Bogert & Durbin's 218th sale, announced for Nov. 19, contains the balance of the C. L. Stivers collection and includes some medium-priced stamps in fine condition that should produce some spirited bidding. The number of sales this firm has held seems to indicate that they have been very successful in this line. Their sales are always well attended by local collectors, particularly so when we take into consideration the comparatively small number of active philatelists in Philadelphia and in other large cities.

Stamp auctions, from all indications, appear to have secured a good foothold among the followers of philately. Not so many years ago such methods for the buying and selling of stamps were unknown. Then some one of the numerous dealers conceived the idea of the auction sale. It is a safe bet that the first sale was not a howling success, nor the second, but perseverance won out, with the result that today there are over a half dozen first-class firms in the United States that hold these auctions periodically, besides the smaller fry, who always follow the example set by a successful enterprise, and there are collectors who purchase stamps in no other way than through auction. There is a grain of chance connected with an auction sale of any kind that seems to attract the gambling instinct. And so it is with the stamp collector; the instinct is there, it is attracted, and when once he breaks the ice he usually finds it an attractive and economical way to add to his collection.

(Continued on page 3.)

Did You Ever.

Buy stamps at an Auction Sale? I have sales, one and two every month. See announcement of "Coming Sales."

As a matter of fact I make a specialty of them, have done so for a number of years, and have a large list of the best buyers that patronize sales.

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Vest Pocket Stamp Book	\$ 10
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New 1905 Catalogues 64th Ed.	58
Wolsieffer's Approval Cards per doz.	20
" " " per 100	1 50

P. M. Wolsieffer
401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

DETROIT DOTLETS.

As reported by our Detroit correspondent.

There has been a little dullness in stamp circles here: nothing doing of any importance. Collectors are somewhat slow in getting to their albums, but now that the cold weather is coming and the long Winter evenings no doubt it will revive collecting again for the season.

Herman Seagrave, of Pontiac, was here this week. He was showing a sheet each of the 1 cent and 5 cent Nevada State Revenue both beautiful copies. Mr. Seagrave makes a specialty of Revenues and has a magnificent collection including a fine specimen of the 5000 U. S. Revenues.

"Deacon" Smith, who was seriously injured in a street car accident, has fully recovered and can be found daily at his curiosity shop. Mr. Smith has a great collection of coins and paper money as well as a large collection of stamps on exhibition.

There is an increase of \$8220.70 in the postoffice receipts for October as against the same period of last year.

The federal authorities as well as the police department are investigating the robbing of mail boxes which has been done here for sometime, but as yet have made no arrest. Only the other day nine more boxes had been broken open and it is not known whether any letters were removed or not. In each case the locks of the boxes were filed off.

Lack of time and pressure of other business makes it impossible for the Leonard Stamp Company to continue

(Continued on page 3.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

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YE EDITOR DISCOURSETH.

Philately

In The Schools.

We notice in a late number of our sprightly British contemporary, the Stamp Collector's Fortnightly, an item to the effect that Mr. J. N. Rowsell is organizing a Stamp Exchange Club whose membership is to be composed exclusively of public school masters and schoolboys. At many of the great public schools of England, our contemporary explains, exchange clubs are already in operation, and in many cases the masters take quite as keen an interest as the boys. The purpose of the new organization is to provide a club for inter-school exchange, and it would seem to be a decidedly happy idea.

It is devoutly to be wished that American schoolmasters were more inclined than they generally are to lend a helping hand to the young stamp collectors under their tutelage. While there is probably not a city school in this country (we are not so sure of our facts as regards the rural "district schools") in which the stamp fever does not make its occasional appearance, it is very rarely, indeed, that teachers lend it either aid or encouragement. On the contrary, they are rather apt to frown on it as a counter attraction which renders the pupil less attentive to his lessons. We wish, though we scarcely dare hope, that it may someday prove possible for organized Philately to undertake a missionary campaign on the value of stamp collecting as a factor in a young person's education; this campaign to be aimed directly at the teachers themselves. There is no class of people that have the opportunity to promote the spread of stamp collecting as teachers. It would be worth going to no small pains and expense to get them interested in stamp collecting . . . which as a sugarcoated form of administering useful information assuredly has no equal.

Stamps In Sunday Schools.

We have lately had the opportunity of learning of an interesting experiment in the use of stamps as an educational auxiliary. The Superintendent of a Sabbath School in an Eastern city writes us that he has found foreign stamps an excellent aid in interesting scholars in the lessons before them. His method is to mount on cards having a wide margin (lest the specimens might suffer damage in handling) a few stamps having some more or less correlative connection with the subject of the lesson; and pass them around among the classes during the last five or ten minutes of the session. It might be thought that stamps suitable for this purpose would be few in number; but there seem, after all, to be quite a good many of them. The stamps of Egypt, Persia, Crete and Cyprus may be instanced; and there are many others issued by countries whose territory in Bible times bore other designations than at present which may be used with perfect propriety. Again, when talks on the work being done in various mission fields is introduced into Sunday School work, there are no end of stamps which can be utilized. Our correspondent assures us that he finds almost every scholar in his school decidedly interested in the stamps displayed and that he has every reason to feel that it increases their interest in and understanding of the lessons. This last statement may seem, to some readers, a trifle farfetched. But it is beyond question true that the display of pictures and curiosities appropriate to the subject under treatment will greatly enhance the interest of students, in either secular or bible schools . . . and stamps are certainly to be counted among the most interesting of curiosities.

The Chicago

Lecture Experiment.

Our friends in Chicago, of the C. P. S. Lecture Committee, are welcome to take a hint from the above paragraph if they choose. They might do many worse things than place their popular stereopticon lectures at the disposal of Sunday School Entertainment Committees in and about the Windy City. The average Sunday School contains not only hosts of boys and girls in their teens, the era of life in which the seeds of philatelic interest seem to most easily take root, but also a considerable sprinkling of adults (as teachers or members of bible classes) belonging, in most cases, to the cultured class, among whose members Philately must always find the majority of its adherents. Hence we should imagine that the people gathering to hear a philatelic lecture, under such auspices, would form a really "receptive" audience, whose attention it would be well worth while to enlist. While on this topic, we must most heartily congratulate the Chicago Society on its enterprise in taking up this

lecturing idea. We believe much good will result from it. We have long been desirous of seeing someone in America try the experiment; and we certainly could not have wished it to have more efficient or enthusiastic backing than that which we know will be furnished it by the Chicago Society, which in many respects has always seemed to us the most go-ahead stamp society in the country. If our Chicago friends succeed in the experiment (as we hope and believe they will) the example thus set is bound to bear fruit elsewhere. The idea of making duplicate slides of the stereopticon pictures that are to illustrate the lecture, and selling them to other societies for a similar purpose is a decidedly happy one; and we trust every active stamp society in the land will soon see their way clear to invest in a set of these slides, and set some one or more of their best talkers to the task of delivering popular illustrated addresses on stamp collecting to all such assemblies as may indicate a willingness to hear them.

In Defence Of An Assertion.

In the last paragraph we made the assertion that Philately must always depend for its following upon the cultured classes. There may be critics who would be inclined to sneer at this assertion, as though it implied that the hobby is a rather snobbish one . . . rather of an "exclusive", "aristocratic" affair. Of course, we all know that, on the contrary, Philately is one of the most democratic of hobbies, beloved alike by the just and the unjust, the prince and the peasant, the plutocrat and the day-laborer. But we insist on believing that few persons who cannot fairly be said to possess culture and refinement of mind find permanent enjoyment in Philately. Remember that station in life is no criterion as to a man's ability to find zeth in refined pleasures. A very large number of the followers of Philately (in America, at least . . . we can, of course, speak for no other country) are men of relatively humble station . . . not, of course, employed at menial labor, but still, enjoying only a modest income, for which they are dependent on their daily personal exertions. Now we maintain that the great majority of these are naturally men of fine mental capacity whom perverse Fortune has cast in roles other than those to which the natural bent of their minds would have carried them in a less material age. And we think their love for Philately is a natural outcome of their longing for a type of diversion almost purely intellectual, as opposed to the materialism of their daily round of occupation. The man whose soul does not rise above the commonplaces of commerce is never found among philatelists. The man whose nature is devoid of sentiment is never found among philatelists . . . for sentiment is the very warp and woof of stamp collecting. We repeat that we consider a love for Philately an indication of a cultured, refined mind.

CHICAGO CHAT.

(Continued from page 1.)

shade stronger than usual. A number of the Cuba lots went close to catalogue, as did numbers of other stamps, listing from \$3 to \$10. There were no great rarities in the sale, mostly moderate priced in very good to fine condition, and as a whole the sale was above the average and therefore deserved the prices obtained.

A member of the C. P. S. shows a marked copy of a Toledo, O., paper in which Mrs. Norma Stewart is quoted as having given a Philatelic Lecture to the Woman's Club of Toledo. The members of the American Philatelic Association attending the Pittsburgh convention last August will no doubt remember the very neat little impromptu after dinner speech Mrs. Stewart made on that occasion, and know that she has the talent and ability of an exceptionally good speaker.

Messrs. Johnson, Stirn and Linke came down from Milwaukee to attend P. M.'s auction sale. Also Mr. J. W. Benn, of Medford, Wis.

Roy Jefferson, the Revenue Man, from Springfield also came up to attend the Chicago-Wisconsin football scrimmage. It seems that a large proportion of the stamp fraternity are inclined that way. Even the sedate P. M. and quiet Will Staab were noticed among the crowd rooting as if it was their regular line of business. Several other C. P. S. members were noticed in the throng of Thanksgiving Day sports.

A member of the C. P. S. has mapped out the plan for a stamp album and a catalogue to match it, which shall contain nothing but bonifide type varieties of stamps, no shades, no perforations, no watermarks, no grills, no re-issues, etc., only straight different stamps.

In Antigua for example he reduces the 1d from 7 different to 1, dating 1863 to 1886, a gain of six stamps; the 6d. he reduces from 5 stamps to 1; 2½d., by one; 4d. by one, etc., thus cutting out 13 stamps in the first 17 in the catalogue, and making but 4 stamps to collect for that period.

That is going some and if such a ratio or anything near to it could be maintained throughout the catalogue and only the cheapest variety of each one collected, it might have a good effect and bring back into the field many general collectors.

The publishing of such a book is a big expense, to say nothing of the work, and it would take much financial encouragement to bring it about.

Philadelphia Letter.

(Continued from page 1.)

The vastness of Uncle Sam's postal service can be readily realized when it is pointed out that there are 73,000 postoffices in the United States, compared to Germany, with 45,600, and Great Britain, with only 22,400. The United States has more offices than

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these two largest European countries combined and still some people doubt its progressiveness.

Illustrated postcard collecting seems to have struck this good old Quaker town good and hard. The cards are displayed in almost all the leading department and stationery stores in town at 10 cents a dozen and upwards, and dealers say they sell fast. Both U. S. and foreign are shown, and nice albums are provided for them at a nominal figure.

A dealer remarked recently that there ought to be some good recruits for the philatelic field among these card collectors, and perhaps he is right. It is only a step from the postcard to the stamp album.

Memorial Hall, situated in Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, one of the buildings preserved from the Centennial Exposition in 1876, is now devoted exclusively as a museum for the display of relics, curios, etc. Among its countless exhibits is a very interesting display of stamps and coins. The stamps are mounted on cardboard and framed and some good and valuable specimens are shown. Some parts of the stamp display show lack of regard for condition, but taken as a whole it is a pretty fair display that has undoubtedly done philately a world of good with the crowds that visit the hall daily, and one that cannot fail to interest the collector.

The coin exhibit is simply grand and ranks among the best in the country. There are thousands and thousands of coins and medals, and to view them all intelligently would require several days' time. Many varieties of paper money are also shown, together with many other relics and priceless curios that would take volumes to describe. It is, in fact, a collector's paradise, and those who have or ever get the chance of visiting it and do not do so will miss a rare treat.

DETROIT DOTLETS.

(Continued from page 1.)

business. This leaves Detroit without a stamp company except a few home dealers. It is regretted very much by many of the collectors who would congregate at their office and talk over stamp matters.

Gus Jonas, a Chicago collector, was here this week on business.

Postmaster Dickerson is mailing to all the principals of schools in Detroit, as well as to the assistant principals, a booklet of forty pages containing full information on the United States postal service and issued through the government printing office at Washington. This action is taken with the purpose of interesting teachers in the service, so that they can instruct their pupils regarding postal matters. The postmaster states that at the Detroit office alone an average of 1500 misdirected letters and packages are received daily, all through carelessness and poor writing. He suggests that the pupils be instructed in regard to the proper manner of directing an envelope, the proper place for the stamp and then be told to write plainly the postoffice, state, and, in cities, the street and number. This effort is made at the suggestion of the National Association of Postmasters and is a national movement. Every teacher, in addition to the principals, will in time receive one of the instruction books.

The unloading of Salvador, Nicaragua, stamps of various issues seem to have gotten a start east. Local collectors are being flooded with them, and where formerly they sold at 40 cents, they are now offered at 30 cents, or four sets for \$1.00. Several of the collectors then made a kick at the price, and they were promptly offered at 25 cents straight,—anything to get rid of them. Wonder how some of the collectors feel who formerly put up 50 cents a set for them? The future rise of these stamps has vanished.

Nov. 18, 1904.

Herman W. Boers.

A Page of Precept For Young Collectors.

(Conducted by the Editor.)

The Question of "Condition."

"Condition" is a word which looms up very importantly in philatelic print and conversation at the present time. And a great many young collectors seem to want information as to the part that condition plays in determining a stamp's value and the degree of attention that should be given to it in ordinary, everyday collecting. A few weeks ago we spoke of neatness in collecting, advising strongly against the collecting of torn, dirty or defective specimens, however cheaply they might be secured. Thus far, the question of condition is a pretty plain one. No young collector can fail to see the logic of letting alone such stamps as are damaged or dirty; but the fact that there should be several different prices for a stamp according to the fineness of its condition is disconcerting and makes it hard for the young collector to decide just how good the condition of a stamp ought to be to make it a worthy addition to his collection. So long as one is in the packet stage, this difficulty does not, of course, crop up. But when one commences to make selections from approval sheets, it presses for solution.

An

Erroneous Idea.

Many young collectors are gaining the idea that the only kind of specimens worth collecting are those that are very, very fine in all respects—that bear the very lightest of cancellations, are perfectly centered, have no nicks in the perforations, and are in all other ways the pink of perfection. They get this notion from articles in the philatelic press which glorify stamps of this sort and indirectly imply that it is unwise to buy specimens that fail to measure up to this standard. The idea is entirely erroneous—and it is particularly unfortunate for young collectors to become imbued with it. The difference between a decently good specimen and an immaculately perfect specimen is principally one of price—the intrinsic philatelic interest of the two does not greatly differ. As long as the main design of a stamp can be clearly seen, it should not be a matter of much moment to the young collector if it is not centered quite perfectly (that is to say, if the margin of white space outside the design is not of even width on all sides—fully half the stamps in existence being, in this particular, not quite exact) or if a perforation or two is missing, or even if the canceling mark is a bit over heavy on some section of the stamp. We must take stamps as we find them. And particularly is this so, in respect to cancellations. It is not to be expected that canceling marks will always be kind to the spec-

imen. In fact they are not meant to be, for the very intent of the canceling mark is to so obliterate a stamp that its cleaning and reuse is out of the question. The most we can expect in the majority of cases, is to get specimens in which the brunt of the cancellation has fallen a good deal to one side of the stamp, leaving the central features of the design comparatively unscathed. So long as the portrait in the center shows up reasonably well (or the landschape or coat-of-arms or whatever else may form the stamp's leading feature) as much is attained as can be reasonably expected. Stamps so heavily and smudgily cancelled that it is hard to tell of what their design consists are of course worthless for collecting purposes—because the main purpose of a collection is to show the different portraits, emblems, insignia, and so on that adorn the stamps of different nations; and any specimen whose design is covered up adds nothing to the collection's scope of interest. But in deciding not to include badly cancelled stamps in your collection, do not go to the opposite extreme, and be too finicky in requiring extra light cancellations—for if you do your collection will be apt to grow very slowly, indeed. It is just the same way with the other points that constitute fine condition. It would be very pleasant if all stamps measured up to these ultra-nice condition standards; but so long as in actual experience not one out of a hundred may be said to fully do so, it is unwise to pitch your standard unreasonably high.

No

Extra Pleasure.

As a matter of fact, there is very, very little more pleasure to be gotten out of the ownership of a set of stamps in ultra-fine condition than from one in ordinarily good condition. The colors are the same in both; the designs are the same in both; and the enjoyment their possession yields does not differ in any degree worth mentioning. The great majority of the specimen sent out on approval sheets by reliable dealers are of good, fair condition, and no young collector need be deterred from revelling in the opportunities these sheets offer him by anything he may have read in any of the discussions about condition appearing in stamp journals of the scientific class.

Largely

An Artificial Distinction.

The distinction made between "medium" and "fine" stamps is largely an artificial one. And it is certainly not one to which any young collector need pay any special heed. We deal with it here at this length solely because we believe many novices are in danger of becoming infected with the "condition craze" at a stage of their collecting careers when they have no business to be bothering their heads over finely drawn distinctions. It is

Transvaal 1901 2sh brown, mint, rare	-	\$1 20
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often stated in stamp papers in explaining the reasons why dealers send out different classes of approval sheets (some of them priced at net figures, with no discount and others at from 30 to 50 per cent. discount, off the marked prices) that the discount implies lack of condition in the specimens, its degree varying in exact ratio with their desirability. This is a very unfortunate way to put it, to say the least. As a matter of fact, from 30 to 50 per cent. off may be said to represent about the normal prices for good, fair specimens, in sufficiently good condition to satisfy anyone except the wealthy collector who can afford to pay an extra price for the pick of the market. And stamps sold at net prices, and stamps that bring catalogue and over at auction are abnormally fine specimens that only the whim of the wealthy renders more valuable than the ordinary kind.

Your Interests

In Another Direction

Your interests do not lie in the direction of paying any more than you absolutely have to for your specimens. You have a big field before you and there are hosts and hosts of different varieties that will interest you when once you see them and that you will be exceedingly anxious to buy. You can get more stamps for a given sum of money from "50 off" sheets than from sheets that are "net," or "ten off," or "twenty off;" and we do not believe that you would cherish stamps from the latter the least bit more than stamps from the former. Don't be too fastidious. It will make your progress discouragingly slow. See that the stamps you buy are whole and clean and not so heavily canceled as to be actually disfigured; and be content to let it rest at that.

THE READING TABLE.

What We Find in the Journals of the Hour.

The Australian Journal of Philately, Sydney, Australia.

The most interesting thing to be found in the current Australian Journal of Philately is an able editorial article on "The Trend of Collecting." We believe it will interest our readers sufficiently to justify us in giving it fresh currency here, as follows: "The scope of philately is vast; almost vaster than one can conceive. Continual study and research are daily bringing to light new possibilities, 'and the more we know the less we know we know.' In fact, the bounds of philately are beginning to be almost illimitable. At one time collectors were satisfied to acquire the stamps of all countries, having regard to type varieties only, without considering minor differences, then varieties or changes of watermark claimed our attention, and subsequently differences of perforation were said to indicate different periods of issue and must be included within philatelic scope. Various kinds of paper were also said to be important factors in determining the time at which certain stamps appeared, and no collection would be reckoned complete without them. New discoveries have given a fillip to certain branches, but we have now got to such a stage that, to some, philately will seem burdensome, and the fact of one's utter inability to comprise every branch within his operations is thrust upon him. The restricting tendency is bound to become evident and every collector must decide for himself to what branches he will devote his attention—he cannot hope to succeed in all. This is the trend of collecting at the present day. In order to demonstrate the utter futility of hoping to achieve finality in everything pertaining to philately, we append a list of branches, many of which must be lopped off so as to strengthen the 'tree.' Collectors should study this list carefully and decide for themselves which number appeals to them most, and in which they are likely to make the greatest progress, then give their undivided attention to that branch. A little of this, that and the other is not satisfying and frequently ends in a disinclination to pursue the hobby, partly from want of means and often from lack of opportunities to purchase. The decision as to the branch or branches to be adopted must largely depend on one's financial ability to purchase and the possibilities of obtaining additions. All are not situated alike, and it is a good maxim which says, 'We must cut the coat according to the cloth.'

Branches of the Philatelic Tree.

1. General Collecting, all countries,

type varieties only.

2. General Collecting, all countries, including varieties of shade, watermark and perforation.

3. British Colonies, type varieties only.

4. British Colonies, including varieties same as No. 2.

5. Australians, type varieties only.

6. Australians, including varieties same as No. 2.

7. Stamps of certain countries and their possessions.

8. Stamps on original covers.

9. Specializing in any particular country or group.

10. Plating.

11. (a) Historical stamps, (b) portraits, (c) pictorial, and (d) scenery stamps.

12. King's heads.

13. Various postmarks on stamps.

14. Proofs and essays.

15. Officials.

16. Postage dues.

17. Fiscals.

18. Locals.

19. Telegraphs.

20. Railway stamps.

21. (a) Reminders, (b) reprints, and (c) forgeries.

22. Envelopes and wrappers.

23. Government postcards.

24. Pictorial postcards.

25. Philatelic literature.

We would like to take space to make some comments on the above, but scarcely feel that we could take up the matter justly without prolonging this review to undue limits. We may perhaps find an opportunity of dealing with it editorially in the near future.

The balance of the A. J. of P. is principally devoted to matters of local Australian interest, which we need not enter into here, and to various short notes and items.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, London, England.

Our excellent English contemporary, the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, has more than done itself proud with its magnificent New-Season Number of Oct. 8. Not only is there more than double the usual allotment of pages, but Mr. Bishop has contrived to fill these pages with such a splendid feast of good reading as even the ever-interesting Fortnightly has seldom, if ever, before equaled in any single number. Our summary of its contents cannot, of course, give any true idea of its readability—for the Fortnightly abounds in short, sharp, snappy paragraphs and news items most attractively presented; and of these, manifestly, such a review as this can take no cognizance. All through the issue there is much that must be left unspoken of; but even a recapitulation of the leading articles and departments will suffice to show that our rating of this number is not a jot higher than its merit deserves.

"Philately at Home and Abroad" this time covers fully two pages—two pages of sparkling, incisive note and

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comment on many a stamp matter of the hour. Under the heading, "Some New Catalogues," we find interesting reviews of the new editions of Whitfield King, Senf and Kohn. The action of Messrs. Whitfield, King & Co. in announcing the omission from the new edition of "all stamps not of government origin" comes in for some discussion. Among the stamps usually catalogued, which, in accordance with the above rule, are not listed in the King Catalogue, are the following: Formosa; LaGuaira and Puerto Cabello; New Hebrides; Pacific Steam Navigation Company; Spain, Private

Franks; Spain, War Tax Issues. Mr. Bishop suggests that to be thoroughly consistent future editions should also omit the following: Austria, the Newspaper Tax Stamps; Kishengarh, all stamps issued since the native postal system ceased to exist; Fiji, the Times Express labels; Philippine Republic; Spain, the "Carlisle" stamps. Certainly all the above might well be spared from any catalogue, in these days when a pruning of the lists is beginning to be recognized as an absolute necessity. In the words of Gilbert and Sullivan, "We've got them on the list, but they never would be missed; oh, no, they never would be missed."

The Senf Catalogue is warmly commended. In fact, Mr. Bishop is inclined to award it the palm among compilations of its class—in every respect save as to the accuracy of its pricing, which, as will be remembered, has often come in for very sharp criticism in England. The Kohl Catalogue is not praised nearly so highly, and, though Mr. Bishop does not distinctly say so, we assume that he considers it decidedly inferior to Senf's. We ourselves have not yet received a copy of either and are, therefore, forced to judge by hearsay—which may or may not be correct—so that we will express no opinion.

Mr. Pearce's "Fiscal Notes and Chronicle" comes next, and hard upon its heels is a summary of the leading exhibits at the Berlin Exhibition, which, while not, of course, as complete as the report in the Monthly Journal (hitherto referred to in these columns), is a most excellent report from a journalistic standpoint.

The leading feature of the number is "The Story of the Mulready Envelope," taken from the late Sir Henry Cole's autobiography, "Fifty Years of Public Life." Sir Henry Cole was officially associated with Sir Rowland Hill at the Treasury at the time that the Mulready envelope and the first postage stamps came into being, and was fully conversant with all the circumstances of their issue, from first to last. His recollections on the subject are therefore of much historical interest—especially to philatelists. We would like to make copious quotations, but must for the time being content ourselves with the following excerpt:

"My principal work, in fact, became the superintendence of the production of the three forms of stamps which it had been resolved to adopt, namely, an adhesive stamp to be attached to any letters; envelopes, and a stamp to be embossed upon paper of any kind sent to the Stamp Office. For the adhesive stamp Mr. W. Wyon, R. A., was commissioned to produce a head of Her Majesty as a medallion, to be embossed on any paper, which is still in use. I was charged to obtain a design for the postage cover. I first consulted Sir Martin Archer Shee, the President of the Royal Academy, who suggested that I should communicate with Sir Richard Westmacott and Messrs. Cockerell, Howard, Eastlake and Hil-

ton, all Royal Academicians. After making these inquiries the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Francis Baring, wished me to see Mr. Mulready. On the 13th December, 1839, I made my first visit to Mr. Mulready and began an acquaintance which lasted till his death in 1863. He readily entered into the idea and promised to make a trial. I called upon him on the Sunday following, when I found that he had produced the highly poetic design which was afterward adopted, and Mr. John Thompson was commissioned to engrave it upon brass—a most difficult and laborious work, which he did not complete till April, when the stamps produced from it were officially sanctioned. It will be observed that one of the flying angels is drawn without a second foot! Mulready, Mr. Thompson and others had been watching weekly the engraving of this design without discovering this defect, which the public instantly detected, and the omission was made the subject of a caricature, but corrected in the original drawing given to Mr. Thomas Baring, M. P., which he greatly appreciated.

"After forty years' additional experience I agree in the soundness of the public opinion expressed, that this fine design was quite unsuitable for its purpose. Sir Rowland Hill says: 'Of this design I may remark, that though it brought so much ridicule on the artist and his employers, yet it was regarded very favorably before issuing, by the Royal Academicians, to whom it was presented when they assembled in Council.'

"The postage cover was for a dry commercial use, in which sentiment has no part. The merchant who wishes to prepay his letter rejects anything that disturbs his attention. I now think that anything, even a mere meaningless ornamental design, would have been out of place. The boldest simplicity only was necessary. Had an allegorical fresco for any public building been required to symbolize the introduction of the universal penny postage, nothing could have been better than Mulready's design, and I still hope to see it perpetuated in some fine work of art where it would not be impertinent."

There is much more that we would like to quote, but space forbids.

Mr. Plumridge's serial article on "Scientific Bargain Hunting," from which we have in previous numbers given some excerpts, comes to a conclusion in this issue, with a variety of anecdotes concerning some of the author's own experience in stamp hunting which form delightful reading. The energy of Mr. Plumridge as a stamp hunter may be judged from the fact that, it being his invariable custom to inquire of everyone with whom he had even the most casual conversation whether they knew anyone who had ever collected foreign stamps and who might perhaps have a collection to sell, he once put the question to a

No.	Description	Price	Cat.	Pr.
18	Sierra Leone 6p violet brown new	81	40	87
25	" " 1 1/2p violet "	15	15	15
80	No. Australia 6p blue used	20	—	—
120	" " 8p magenta "	—	—	—
42	Str. Settlements 6p violet new	08	08	08
49	" " 24c green "	30	30	30
50	" " 30c claret used	15	08	08
68	" " 3c on 32c vilt "	10	08	08
74	" " 1c on 12c new	30	14	14
78	" " 30 on 32c ora "	35	35	35
78	" " 30 on 32c " used	35	35	35
87	" " 4c on 5c blue "	50	50	50
27	Johore 3c on 5c lilac new	35	35	35
28	" " 8c on 6c "	35	35	35
29	" " 3c on 21. green "	2	00	15
53	" " 10c on 4c " used	—	—	—
17	Negri Sembilan 4c on 1c green new	25	25	25
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total stranger, while in bathing at a popular resort, with exceedingly fortunate results.

The "Review of Reviews" is given a greater amount of space than usual, and is interesting from the first line to the last. Our own journal receives a very flattering notice, by the way, which we prize the more, coming from so astute and experienced a philatelic journalist as Mr. Bishop. A page is devoted to an article on "Forgeries of Colombia," from the American Journal of Philately; Mr. E. Heginbottom writes on "Set Pieces" of Philately, and there are divers other things which we ought to mention, but really cannot in view of the already protracted length to which this review has carried us.

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HALF HOURS WITH OLD STAMP JOURNALS.

by "The Antiquary."

(continued from No. 11 page 6.)

No. 2 of the American Stamp Mercury was much more imposing than No. 1. With its very second number it had doubled in size! There were four pages to No. 1, and eight pages to No. 2, and the very first thing that our eyes met in taking up this second number (it is scarcely necessary to say that it did not boast the luxury of a cover) is a page of thanksgiving for the liberal support which the appearance of No. 1 had elicited, "which has enabled us," says Dr. Trifet, "to make this the largest sheet, devoted strictly to stamps, that is published in America."

Eight pages, about 6x9 in size, coming to them once a month (a stamp weekly would then have been regarded as a madman's dream) meant much to the collectors of 1867. And, indeed, this second number of the American Stamp Mercury gave promise for the future, even though it directly contained but a tiny bit of original matter. "Newly Issued Stamps" is the number's most interesting feature. How oddly, for instance, to us now reads this modest little paragraph:—

"United States.—The three-cent stamp, and, we suppose, the others also, are now embossed in little squares over the face. The object of it is to prevent its being pulled off the envelope without tearing or making it impossible to clean them. More of this anon."

Well might Editor Trifet have remarked "more of this anon" if he could have foreseen the immense amount of interest taken in these griled varieties in years since then and the immense amount of matter concerning them which the philatelic press was destined to print. Doubtless these "little squares" did not then seem of any very remarkable import or interest. For this was in the days when the study of stamps in the sense

that we know it was only just beginning to be thought of—was a new doctrine that had not as yet made much impress on the general mass of collectors. It was the design of stamps, not the incidentals of their manufacture, that enlisted philatelic attention then, and the stamp editors of that day seem to have had the knack of getting much more out of the topic than our modern commentators, too much concerned over perforation, paper and the like to make much analysis of that which, after all, it is that makes a stamp a stamp.

We find, in the number before us, a particularly good instance of the interest the early editors managed to find in stamp designs. It is a clipping from the Stamp Collectors' Magazine, of England, the earliest of important British stamp journals, and at that time, we believe, some two or three years old, anent the series issued in that year by the Argentine Republic.

"We have already," says this writer in the old S. C. M., "placed our readers in possession of some details respecting the anticipated emission. They are acquainted with the fact that each stamp is to bear a different portrait, that the values are to be the same as those of the 1864 series, and the colors similar. We are now in receipt of a complete set of the 'debutants,' obtained by favor from the Buenos Ayres postoffice, as the higher values are kept back until the exhaustion of the present stock, and may not be issued for some months to come.

"The 5 centavos bears the portrait of Rivadavia in a circle, containing the words, Republica Argentina, and the figure 5. This circle is placed upon a shaded escutcheon, occupying seven-eighths of the stamp, and bearing a large figure 5 in the upper angles. Below the shield is a scroll inscribed with the value, Cinco Centavos, and some ornamental foliage. The portrait is not very like that on the preceding series; it shows greater determination of character in the projecting, compressed lips, and, generally, more ani-

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Free 20 diff. British Colonies for answering Ad. 20 varieties King's Head 25 cents. The Harvard Stamp Co., 827 Main Street, Cambridge, Mass.

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mation. In color the stamp is a fine vermilion. Altogether, this novel design, judged by the high standard we are accustomed to apply to the company's productions, hardly comes up to our expectations.

"The 10 centavos is by far the handsomest of the series. No eccentricity of design is allowed to mar the beauty of the portrait, which stands out, the most prominent feature (if we may use the expression) of the stamp. It is the portrait of General Belgrano, but no one would guess from the fine, dreamy, thoughtful countenance that its possessor was a military man. It bears a certain resemblance to the first Napoleon, but the stern expression of the French Emperor is not reproduced in the face of the Argentine celebrity. We are not acquainted with the history of the republic, and cannot at the moment lay our hands on any biography of Belgrano, but without any such special knowledge we should judge him, from his stamp portrait, to have been the philosophic spirit of the Independence. Rivadavia may have contributed diplomatic skill; San Martin, military genius; but we should fancy that the work of laying the legislative foundation of the young republic was performed by Belgrano. Thus much for the face. Its frame-work consists of an oval, having on each side a small shield, bearing the national arms as they appear on the stamps of the Confederation, and the inscription in white letters, 'Republica Argentina, Diez Centavos.' The rectangle is completed by the addition of ornamental corner pieces bearing the figure 10. The stamp is printed a fine deep green.

"The remaining stamp of the series also bears a characteristic portrait—that of General San Martin, or San Martino. Though not in uniform, he looks every inch a soldier, with head erect, keen eyes and resolute expression. His effigy was worthy of a more tasteful frame; the secondary portions of the design have been allowed, as in the 5c., to encroach too much upon the space required for the proper display of the portrait. A lozenge-shape border constitutes the enclosure, and is inscribed 'Republica Argentina, Quince Centavos;' the angles are occupied with a large circle, containing the figure 15 and some minor ornaments. In color this stamp is a deep blue, exactly like that of the 24c. Newfoundland."

This style of philatelic writing, which subjects the design of a stamp to keen analysis and study, is, unhappily, little met with in modern philatelic journals. Would that it might be revived. Who nowadays stops to think of the expression and bearing of a celebrity pictured on his country's stamps (save in such very exceptional cases as the Edwardian issues of England), yet who would not find philately the more interesting for such a study?

Under the head "Newly Issued Stamps" is found many another interesting item. Straits Settlements had just been constituted a colony and its

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first (provisional) issue is noted in this number; the 1867 set of Roman States is both illustrated and described; so are the Guadalajara Provisionals, and more than one other series that has since become historic, and which it seems most odd to read of as "new emissions."

"Answers to Correspondents" is the next feature, but contains little that can interest us now, and then comes a lengthy article on "Winter Mail Service Across the Straits of Northumberland," which seems strange stuff to find access to a stamp journal's columns, but which doubtless formed very welcome copy to Editor Trifet, who was "captain, cook and cabin boy and crew of the Nancy brig"—in other words, his own only contributor.

Under the heading "Rare Buenos Ayres Stamps" we find this item:—

"A friend of ours residing in Newburyport and having some 2000 stamps has treated us to a look at and to touch a set of the 'extremely rare' 'Gaucho' stamps of this country. We may be excused in quoting this word 'extremely' when we mention that they are priced in Europe, if our memory is good, at five sovereigns, or \$35 each."

What would Mr. Trifet have said, we wonder, if he had known that less than forty years later a certain stamp would sell at public auction for something over seven thousand dollars?

Among other items we see a reference to Gray's Catalogue, still held in honored remembrance, and to "the Stamp Collectors' Hand-book, by C. M. Seltz, a book as long since forgotten as its author's name. This hand-book was published by Mr. Trifet, and it was probably the first of its kind on the American continent, all catalogues preceding it being nothing more than price lists.

A page or more is given over to advertisements, mostly those of Mr. Trifet himself—and we dare not tantalize our readers by quoting many of the prices. "United States, 1851, set of eight, \$1.50; N. Y. Postoffice, set of five, \$2.00; U. S. Envelopes, 1853-64, about forty varieties, \$8.00." These examples will suffice to indicate the general trend of prices. But we cannot feel quite sure that all of Mr. Trifet's offers would have been "a good buy" even at the tempting prices quoted, and even though his intentions were undoubtedly of the best—for here we find the item "Hamburg Locals, set of 116, \$1.00," and it is highly probable that other of his wares were not of

governmental manufacture, since even the most experienced dealer, thanks to the chaotic state of philatelic information, was easy prey for the forger of real skill.

Three or four other dealers advertise in this number, notably J. W. Scott & Co., then established at 74 Liberty Street (whether upstairs or down dependent sayeth not), and James Brennan, the first American dealer to open a shop for the sale of postage stamps (stamps were first sold at stands in the open air), at that time doing business at 78 Nassau Street, and thereby setting a fashion which was in later years to result in making this same street the great thoroughfare of philatelic commerce in New York.

(To be continued.)

The Stamp Album's Successor.

Will the Cistafle in time wholly supersede the album as a receptacle for collections of the advanced type? We are far from being sure that it may not. But as to its ever replacing the album in the affections of the beginner and the medium grade collector, any such prediction would be preposterous. Nothing will ever so well answer the purposes of most of us as the good, old-fashioned printed albums, despite its manifold faults.

The *Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal* recalls the query put by the *Echo de Madrid*, asking whether there was any use for the 1, 2, 3 and 4 centimo values in the 1901 issue for Fernando Po, and, if so, why only 5000 of each were issued. If there was any doubt as to the necessity for these values, which represent sums ranging from less than one-tenth of a penny to something between a farthing and a half-penny when exchange is steady, which is practically never the case, what are we to say to the issue of ¼ and ½ centimo stamps for Fernando Po, Spanish Guinea and Elobey, Annoban and Corisco in their 1903 series? The only man who uses these, as far as we can make out, is the seller of cheap packets, who is able to supply his clients with six "stamps" for a half-penny outlay to himself. But the supply of "make-weights" to petty philatelic dealers would hardly seem to be consonant with the dignity of the grand old kingdom of Spain.—*Philatelic Journal of India.*

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STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

VOL. 1. BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, DECEMBER 10, 1904. No. 13.

British Protectorate 1901, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 24, cancelled fine	\$ 40
do Labuan & Borneo 10, 16, (6 var) cancelled fine	35
Nyassa 1903, 15, 25 65, 115, 130, cancelled fine	35
Venezuela 1903, 5, 10, 25, 50, 1b. No 170 to 174 unused	50
do do do No 175 to 180 unused	50
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do 1888 10c unused o. g.	10
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CHICAGO CHAT.

One reason why philatelic matters in Chicago are more or less lively is on account of the continued activity of the Chicago Philatelic Society and Branch No. 1 of the American Philatelic Association.

The C. P. S. meets twice a month, the first and third Thursday, and the A. P. A. Branch once a month, the second Thursday, the entire year around.

This makes Thursday night regarded by all members as stamp night, and you will frequently find them at the club-room on the fourth and fifth Thursday of the month, when there is no meeting.

If these societies did not do another thing to advance the cause of philately, this keeping up of the interest the year round would be in itself a sufficient cause or excuse for their existence, and commendable to a high degree.

Chicago has been particularly fortunate in having dealers who not only lend their aid financially to any good work that may be undertaken, but also take a hand personally and pitch in and help do the work.

The members and collectors locally appreciate this fact and in consequence give the dealer-member full credit for their interest and work.

At the regular meeting last Thursday evening the principal attraction was the exhibition of Cuba and U. S. Colonies in competition for the Boston Philatelic Society's medal. It is to be regretted that not more than four collections were on exhibition, the Entertainment Committee having

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800 " " " "	2 75
500 " " " "	1 40
200 " " " "	27
100 " " " "	10

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Philadelphia Letter.

That philately has a greater popularity with the general reading public in Great Britain than with Americans is shown by the willingness of English publishers to serve their patrons of a secular press with philatelic articles. A Philadelphia tourist has just placed in my hands a copy of "The World and His Wife," for November, a publication much resembling our own "Ladies' Home Journal." Two entire pages are devoted to fine half-tone engravings of "The World's Hundred Rarest Stamps," with the prices at which each last exchanged hands. The 2d Postoffice Mauritius is, of course, the piece de resistance, at £1450. Thirteen stamps of United States and possessions are shown, among which may be mentioned the James M. Buchanan 5c and 10c envelopes, at £80 and £816 respectively. The St. Louis Postoffice and New Haven envelopes are also shown, as well as the 15c 1869 inverted center, the latter at £20. Several Confederates, Locals and the Hawaiian "Missionaries" make up the United States contribution. This is a department that our American newspaper and magazine publishers would do well to give space to, and would certainly give philately a boost. It is decidedly readable, too for the average subscriber, who rarely sees these stamps or even the inside of a catalogue.

The Philadelphia Postoffice has already closed out a portion of its St. Louis stamps, inquiries at that office failing to secure the 5c and 10c denominations.

made a special effort to interest a larger number, but the members have had a surfeit of competitive exhibitions in the past three years, for, as a matter of fact, the C. P. S. gave the exhibition feature its impetus at that time and they evidently require catering to on other lines.

The judges, consisting of Messrs. Abbott, Severn and Wolsieffer, awarded the medal to Mr. Arthur W. Robertson, a Passive member.

Mr. J. M. Bartels, of Boston, sent on his magnificent specialized collection for exhibition only, and not in competition for the medal, although being a member of the C. P. S. he had a perfect right to do so. Mr. Bartels certainly deserved the hearty vote of thanks accorded him by the society, as it was truly a magnificent aggregation of those countries.

In the absence of both President and Secretary, Messrs. Severn and Wolsieffer again filled those positions for the evening. Two new members were admitted, about thirty-five were present, an informal auction sale was held, and much routine business dispatched by the Board of Directors.

The various candidates for office for the annual election at next meeting gave an idea of the policy they would advocate for the coming year, and the indications are that the members will enjoy many social events, which appears to be the wish of the majority.

Reports from the trade are that the quiet still prevails which is always noticeable just before the annual catalogue comes out.

P. M. Wolsieffer announces two auction sales a month for January, February and March. The immense

(Continued on page 3.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

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A

Variegated Army.

Philatelists form, of course, a decidedly variegated army . . . and no rule is of universal application. But even the cases that might be brought forward to refute the theory we have above outlined would prove nothing, except that a man's occupation supplies no indication whatever as to the cast of his mind. We know of a pugilist (not a Jeffries or a Fitzsimmons . . . yet still a fair performer in his own class) who collects stamps with real intelligence and interest; we know of a trainer of athletes who has an excellent stamp collection; and of at least two sporting editors of daily newspapers who are ardent philatelic enthusiasts. And, as a matter of fact, each one of the four has a first rate mind, is a lover of books and reading, and is in every way far removed from the popular conception of a "sport". So even in these cases we find fresh ground for believing that philatelic inclinations do decidedly indicate what manner of man he is who possesses them. Perhaps we lay ourselves open to the charge of narrowmindedness in using the above illustration. We do not intend to make it appear that we look on athletes, trainers of athletes or writers on sporting topics as being necessarily unintellectual. But we do think that the turn of their tastes is seldom in the direction of quite such pleasures as philatelic study represents.

An Error

We Are Always Making.

There is a certain error which we, in common with most other writers on matters philatelic, are much in the habit of making. That error is, that we are continually seeming to assume that all stamp-lovers are of the masculine gender. In reality, we know better than this; and it is largely for the sake of greater ease in writing that we so constantly say "he", "him", "his" and soon, in our philosophizing.

Our craft has many feminine adherents as everyone who has much to do with stamp-folk is aware; but they are not very assertive and hence, their presence in the ranks seems to pass comparatively unnoticed. But that they are interested, earnest and enthusiastic we can bear personal testimony . . . for not a few of the letters that have come to us since this paper's establishment have borne feminine signatures. How little even the best - informed of us know, after all, about the composition of this philatelic world. A few names are constantly floating about on its surface . . . a few of its most distinguished workers find enrollment in the philatelic Hall of Fame . . . but what hosts and hosts of stamp-lovers there are who forever remain inconspicuous. It would seem almost beyond belief that there should be ten thousand women in this country who are collecting stamps on a basis worthy our respectful attention. And yet we would not be greatly surprised if there were really that number. At any rate, there is a goodly muster of them; and we think their number is increasing rather than decreasing as time goes on.

A Dream

Partially Realized.

Much has been said and written during the past year regarding the desirability and feasibility of a general index to all philatelic periodical literature. The idea has been generally dismissed as involving too gigantic an amount of labor to be possible of achievement. Whether some brave compiler may not some day prove this view to have been a mistaken one remains to be seen. But Mr. Percy C. Bishop has, we gather, "made a stab at it" . . . not, at the whole colossal task, but at a certain section of it only . . . in this year's "Stamp Collectors Annual", a British philatelic year book of some merit and renown. He has compiled for this Annual an Index of British, British Colonial and American Philatelic Literature from October, 1903 to September, 1904; and no one acquainted with Mr. Bishop's work as a philatelic journalist during the last ten years will doubt that the work is most thoroughly and ably done. We are awaiting with much interest a copy of the Annual, and shall have something further to say as regards this "special feature" after we have had the chance of meeting it face to face.

Italy's Philatelic Department.

Italy is going into the business of selling its obsolete stamps to collectors in sets. According to a decree just published, the stamps which became obsolete in 1902 (on the issue of the King Victor series) are to be sold at various prices to philatelists applying for them at the Central Office of the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs.

Stamp Collector's Fortnightly.

Australian Events.

From the current issues of the two Australian monthlies we glean a number of items which we think will interest our readers.

The important event of the season in Sydney thus far was Mr. Basset Hull's lecture on Philately, from a popular standpoint, admittance to which was by invitation card, and which brought out an attendance of nearly 300 people, two-thirds of more of them being non-collectors. The lecture was illustrated by about 60 lantern slides and is stated to have been much appreciated by those present. Mr. J. Delgarno, formerly Deputy Postmaster-General of New South Wales presided over the meeting, which we cannot doubt will give a material impetus to Australian Philately. This is, we believe, the first public lecture on philatelic topics ever held in Australia. We trust it may be the forerunner of many others in the various Australian cities.

The Sydney Philatelic Club has made a new departure in renting a club room for the exclusive use of the members, to be open daily and on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings. The club has hitherto met in a meeting room, rented for the one evening only; and its establishment in quarters of its own, open to members at all times, is therefore a move indicative of increasing prosperity and enthusiasm on the part of the society.

The Sydney Philatelic Club has taken a hand officially in the discussion going on in the Australian press and in governmental circles regarding uniform postage stamps for the entire commonwealth. A committee, appointed for the purpose, has drawn up and submitted to the Postmaster General a series of suggestions and the projected issue which that official, in acknowledging their receipt, has intimated will receive his most careful consideration.

The suggestions offered by the committee are too lengthy for recapitulation here; but it is fitting to say that they cover exhaustively every point in relation to the projected issue, from the question of design, to the minutest detail of production. One idea advocated meets with our special approval—namely, that the design once decided upon, appointment should be made of a board of experts, to consist of a practical stamp printer, a postoffice official, an architect, a well known artist, a commercial man, and a prominent philatelist, who would be authorized to procure information and report regarding the proper steps to be taken in regard to all details of production. The matters they would be expected to pass upon are principally these: (a) the method to be adopted for reproduction, i.e., steel plate or electro plate printing; (b) the size of the individual stamp; (c) the number to be engraved on each

plate; (d) the disposition in panes of the multiples; (e) the class or color of paper to be used; (f) the watermark; (g) the method of perforation and gauge of the machine.

The suggestion of entrusting the decision on these matters to a board of experts, composed as above indicated, is manifestly an excellent one—particularly as the decisions arrived at would undoubtedly work out so satisfactorily in actual practice as to do away with the experimenting after issue which is responsible for so many new varieties.

Whether or not the Australian government will see fit to adopt this idea remains to be seen; but it is certainly one that deserves general adoption on the part of all stamp-issuing states.

CHICAGO CHAT.

(Continued from page 1.)

amount of detailed work connected with an auction and lack of a sufficient amount of skilled help alone keeps him from bringing off a sale every week. He has been offered more material than he can handle, although he tries to place it at private sale outside the auction room.

An Identification List of Stamp Inscriptions.

We are receiving many letters from our younger readers, inquiring as to the nationality of this or that stamp or stamps, which they find difficulty in identifying. Sometimes our correspondence enclose the stamp, or stamps and we are at once enable to tell them to what country it belongs. In other cases they simply describe the designs as best they can - which is sometimes sufficient data and at other times is not. We have concluded therefore, that a reference list of the inscriptions found on stamps which do not directly bear the name of the state issuing them - a list which should make the inscription identify the country from which the stamp comes - would be of no little interest and value to many of our younger readers. We feel morally certain that quite a few of them do not possess any complete stamp catalogue, illustrating all the various types of the world's stamps; and that they are also using albums that are not illustrated so profusely as to give them the help they need in all cases. A reference of the type we have in mind will supplement the lack of these other sources of information until such time as they have progressed far enough to use a better album and a complete catalogue to advantage. And we have found a most excellent list in a work called the "Philatelic Concordance", published some ten years ago by Alvah Davison of New York. We propose reprinting this list here, in instalments for the purpose above stated; and trust our primary class may find it of frequent use and assistance.

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164, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

The following list includes inscriptions on stamps up to 1894. We are compiling a supplementary list, covering the issues of the past ten years, which will appear in these columns in due course of time. The following contains, first, the inscription; second, the country, or class of stamp which the inscription identifies.

Acores - Azores Islands.
 Administration de Correos - Chili, officially sealed, 1885.
 Admon Cralde Correos - Mexico.
 Afr. Republiek - South African Republic.
 Aktie Bolaget - Finland, local.
 America Central - Salvador, 1887.
 Amtlich Eroffnet - Wurtemberg, return letter, 1857.
 Angbats Post - Finland, local.
 Anotacion - Colombia, registered, 1870.
 A Percevoir - Belgium, Egypt, France, Gaudeloupe, unpaid letter.
 B., on Strait Settlements - Bangkok.
 Bayern - Bavaria.
 Bayer-Posttaxe - Bavaria, unpaid.
 B. C. A., on stamps of British South Africa - British Central Africa.
 B. C. M. - Madagascar.
 Belgique Postes - Belgium.
 Bestellgeld - Frei - Hanover envelope.
 B. Guiana - British Guiana.
 B. L. C. I. - Bhopal (India.)
 Bollo Della Posta - Two Sicilies (Naples.)
 Bollo Della Posta Di-Sicilia - Two Sicilies (Sicily 1859).
 Bollo Della Posta Napoletana - Two Sicilies (Naples 1857).
 Bollo Postale - San Marino.
 Bom Empfänger Zahlbar - Bavaria.
 Braunschweig - Brunswick.
 Buenos Aires - Buenos Ayres.
 By Post - Denmark em; Norway, also on local stamps.
 Cabo Delgado - Nyassa Land.
 Cabo Verde - Cape Verde Islands.
 Caledonie - New Caledonia.
 Callao - Peru.
 Camb. Aust, Sicillum Nov. - New South Wales, 1850.
 Canal Maritime de Suez - Suez Canal Co.
 Cantonal Taxe - Switzerland.

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EDITED BY

CHARLES HAVILAND MEKEEL

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Carlos Septimo - Spain.
 Carriers' Stamp - United States.
 Cataluna - Spain, 1874.
 C. B. R. S. - Sarawak.
 Cerrado Y. Sellado - Mexico, Official Seal.
 Certificacon con contenido - Colombian Republic (Tolima).
 Certificacon sin contenido - Colombian Republic.
 Certificado - Spain, 1850.
 Chemins de Fer - Belgium.
 Chiffre Taxe - France, unpaid, Guadeloupe, unpaid, 1884.
 Chile - Chile
 Chinkiang - Chin Kiang (China).
 Chorrillos - Peru.
 Christianssunds By Post - Norway.
 Cierro Oficial - Chile, Officially Sealed.
 Cinci Parale - Roumania.
 Cincis Predece - Roumania, 1869.
 Colon - Chile.
 Colonies de l'Empire Francais - French Colonies, 1860.
 Colonies Postes - French Colonies.
 Colombia - Colombian Republic, (Panama.)
 Commision fur Retourbrieffe - Bavaria return letter and Wurtemberg.
 Companhia de Mocambique - Mozambique Company.
 Comunicaciones - Spain.
 Comunie's - Spain, 1872.
 Confed. Granadina - Colombian Republic, 1859, 1860.
 Confeon Argentina - Argentine Republic, 1858.
 Continente - Azores Islands, Portugal.
 Contratos - Bolivia.
 (To be Continued.)

A Page of Precept

For Young Collectors.

(Conducted by the Editor.)

Old Issues

Or New Ones.

We have received quite a number of letters from young collectors who have gotten to the point where they use a certain degree of plan and system in their collecting, inquiring whether it is better to give most of their attention to stamps of recent issue (say those of the present century), or to those that are a bit older—not the very oldest, of course, for they are too rare and too high in price—but, in a general way, stamps issued anywhere between 1880 and 1900. There is so much discussion in philatelic print nowadays over the question whether it is better to collect new issues or old ones that it is no wonder that many collectors are greatly puzzled over the matter. New issues are, as a rule, cheaper and more easily acquired than the older ones, and at the outset of his collecting career new issues (that is to say, those that are in current use in various countries), will be about all that the young collector will be apt to acquire—assuming that his first philatelic purchases take the form, as is mostly the case, of cheap packets. But we believe it is very, very unwise for the young collector to adopt the notion of collecting modern issues only. Many authorities think it a good thing for the young collector of today to start with the first stamps of the twentieth century, and to exclude absolutely from his collection all nineteenth century issues. They argue that one can very easily get together quite a nice collection of twentieth century stamps at no very heavy outlay, and then, by collecting each year's issues as they appear and while still current, can always have a collection "approximately complete to date." The reasoning is specious and clever, but we trust that none of our readers will be for one moment deluded by it. We do not think there are very many young collectors who are so anxious to simplify the field of collecting as to be willing to cut off from all attention the manifold interest that lies in the study of nineteenth century stamps. The issues from 1900 to now are but a handful in comparison, and it is far easier to complete your sets, and even some countries. But the field of interest they cover is slim, indeed, compared with that covered by the immense host of stamps bearing dates from 1840 to 1900. It stands to reason that among the issues of sixty years ago there will be a greater number of interesting designs than among the issues of only four or five years. And it is a thousand pities for a young collector to deny himself the pleasure of roaming at will among the pleasures of the former because he has been led to believe that it is more to his advantage to collect modern issues only.

Making the Centuries

A Dividing Line.

The attempt to make the centuries a dividing line, which a section of the stamp trade has earnestly endeavored to promote, has not, we think, been very successful. Albums, confined strictly to twentieth century stamps, have been published; but we do not imagine that they have met with any widespread sale. The truth is, that no collector is likely to find any satisfaction in devoting his attention to twentieth century stamps alone, unless he has already pretty well exhausted the possibilities of nineteenth century ones—that is, has gotten together a collection fairly representing practically all the different types of stamps in use in that century, exclusive of the great rarities. And this of course no young collector is likely to do very soon. Perhaps we are exaggerating the likelihood of the novice falling under the spell of the new issue cult—perhaps most beginners fall into the "new issue habit" unconsciously, rather than with carefully planned intent. Very likely there is not often a young collector who adheres with strict rigidity to the dividing line between the centuries—the usual case being a general inclination to secure modern issues as being easier and cheaper than older ones and seemingly offering "more for the money." But, as we have often before remarked, the great pleasure in stamp collecting lies, not in getting as many stamps as possible, but in getting as many stamps of different designs as possible. And that is why it is highly injudicious to duplicate new issues by the dozen—as in the case of the multitudinous King Edward stamps—to the necessary neglect of older ones. It is better to own two stamps which entirely differ from each other in design, than to own a set of six, each one of which is precisely the same in design, save for numerals and letters of value and colors of printing.

19,000

Varieties Only.

We frequently read of vast stamp collections containing fifty, sixty or eighty thousand specimens. And from the perusal of such paragraphs many a young collector gains an altogether false notion as to the number of existing varieties. As a matter of fact, only a few more than nineteen thousand distinct varieties of postage stamps have been issued, from the appearance of the first postage stamp up to the present time. These monstrously large collections count as separate varieties every minute difference that can possibly be discovered—a dot omitted in a surcharge, an almost indiscernible variation of color, the slightest difference in the design itself, etc.—and it is by this means that the number of collectable varieties is seemingly swelled to so great a number. Of course, no young collector who is in his right senses will

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pay any attention to these minute varieties. And, when all these are cut out of the reckoning, the number of varieties remaining, viz. nineteen thousand—need not be thought so very formidable. For not more than three or four thousand of these are of different design—all the remainder being duplicate designs, for different denominations. Only a few countries follow the practice of our government in putting a different design on each denomination of a set. By far the greater number of stamp sets bear the same design for all denominations. Hence, if the young collector will but confine himself (for the first two or three years of his collecting, at any rate) to getting as many different designs as possible, the task which confronts him is by no means as monumental as it might seem. We are convinced that the only way for a beginner to get all possible interest and pleasure out of his hobby is for him to be constantly on the lookout for new designs, thus far unrepresented in his albums, rather than stamps "to complete sets," which differ in no material particular from those he already possesses.

THE READING TABLE.

What We Find In the Journals of the Hour.

The Philatelic Journal of India, Calcutta, India.

The September number of the R. J. of I. has for a frontispiece a portrait of General Sir Henry Lauder Thuillier. The contents of the Journal includes the following: An article on "Recent Cavalier Errors and Their Probable Consequences;" the conclusion of Dr. Wetherell's admirable monograph on "Roumania;" one of Major Evans' papers on Native Indian States stamps, the issues of Sirmoor being the ones this time considered; the continuation of an interesting historical article on "The Postal Service of Denmark from 1711 to 1808;" a biographical sketch of General Sir Henry E. Lauder Thuillier; an article on "The Stamps of China," taken from the West End Philatelist; "Philately in 2004," a clever bit of philatelic fiction by "Dak;" various "Reviews," including comment on a new Anglo-British novel, "Uriah, the Hittite," in whose plot stamp collecting plays an inconsiderable part; and "Notes" of many sorts. The contents, aside from "Dak's" contribution, is in the main of so heavily scientific a character that no useful purpose would be served by attempting to give here the salient points of each article. The advanced collector, however, who does not take the Philatelic Journal of India certainly makes a serious mistake.

The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, London, England.

The Oct. 25 issue of the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain has for its opening feature a portrait and sketch of Mr. C. F. Dendy Marshall, an English specialist of high renown, whose name is well known to all who regularly peruse the leading British Journals. Mr. Marshall's gigantic collection of British stamps is in some particulars so unique that the P. J. of G. B.'s synopsis of it is, we think, worth reproducing, as follows:

"1. Postage Stamps, Unused. Among these are nearly three hundred pairs, some of which are corners with margin of sheet attached, this being Mr. Marshall's ideal of a specimen for a collection, but, of course, these are difficult. Officials he does not think are required in an unused collection. He considers the surcharge as a kind of postmark, as it only has reference to the conditions under which the stamp is used; he maintains that a complete unmarked collection fully represents both the stamps used by private persons and by the government offices, and is of the opinion that the fact of their being overprinted or perforated with a name does not constitute them distinct varieties.

"2. Railway Letter Stamps. This is the second finest collection in existence and took the medal at the Manchester Exhibition of 1899. They are practically all unused, over 250 being pairs.

"3. Postage Stamps, Used. This bids fair to be of great interest, though completeness seems rather remote, under the strict conditions he has laid down, which are that each stamp must be on a piece of the original paper, cut out so as to show the whole postmark, soaked stamps not being admitted. The idea is to illustrate the complete history of every value."

At present only one large volume is arranged, containing the Victorian pennies, with all their variations placed in order of date.

Stamps are included for nearly every month down to 1864, and the most interesting period being that from 1855 to 1858. The collection shows when each change came in and went out of use. One sees, for example, that at different times during the year 1855 no less than six varieties of penny stamps were current. In 1857 it shows that a gradual change came over the shade before the stamps settled down to carmine, and each plate number appears in various states of wear, showing the period of use.

"4. A collection of over twenty reconstructed sheets, which won a medal at the London Exhibition of 1897.

"5. Entries of all kinds, the postcards and wrappers being practically complete, unused. There is also a large number of registered envelopes, most of which were collected on cycling expeditions some years ago, taken in company with his father, in the course of which they visited between four and five hundred post-offices in search of old types.

"6. Postmarks. In this section Mr. Marshall has a marvelous display. The specimens—mounted on cards contained in some two dozen large invitation books, consist of the marks of about a third of the postoffices in the United Kingdom in bewildering variety, the earliest dating from 1867."

A wonderful collection, indeed, and one which is certainly built on most novel lines.

Mr. Bertram W. H. Poole contributes a readable article on "Grenada." An excellent editorial deals with the subject of "Croaking," in which philatelic conditions are by no means so discouraging as some wiseacre prophets would have us believe; and that no attention whatever should be paid to these croakers. An account of the Berlin Philatelic Exhibition is continued from last month. The European Descriptive Catalogue continues with Luxemburg. "New Leaves to Cut" reviews the new catalogues. And the number concludes with the usual "Philatelic Review of Reviews."

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY is watched for and appreciated more, I think, than any of the other papers - a dozen or so - which I take. Wishing it continued success and long life.
Yours very truly,
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Making the Centuries

A Dividing Line.

The attempt to make the centuries a dividing line, which a section of the stamp trade has earnestly endeavored to promote, has not, we think, been very successful. Albums, confined strictly to twentieth century stamps, have been published; but we do not imagine that they have met with any widespread sale. The truth is, that no collector is likely to find any satisfaction in devoting his attention to twentieth century stamps alone, unless he has already pretty well exhausted the possibilities of nineteenth century ones—that is, has gotten together a collection fairly representing practically all the different types of stamps in use in that century, exclusive of the great rarities. And this of course no young collector is likely to do very soon. Perhaps we are exaggerating the likelihood of the novice falling under the spell of the new issue cult—perhaps most beginners fall into the "new issue habit" unconsciously, rather than with carefully planned intent. Very likely there is not often a young collector who adheres with strict rigidity to the dividing line between the centuries—the usual case being a general inclination to secure modern issues as being easier and cheaper than older ones and seemingly offering "more for the money." But, as we have often before remarked, the great pleasure in stamp collecting lies, not in getting as many stamps as possible, but in getting as many stamps or different designs as possible. And that is why it is highly injudicious to duplicate new issues by the dozen—as in the case of the multitudinous King Edward stamps—to the necessary neglect of older ones. It is better to own two stamps which entirely differ from each other in design, than to own a set of six, each one of which is precisely the same in design save for numerals and letters of value and colors of printing.

19,000

Varieties Only.

We frequently read of vast stamp collections containing fifty, sixty or eighty thousand specimens. And from the perusal of such paragraphs many a young collector gains an altogether false notion as to the number of existing varieties. As a matter of fact, only a few more than nineteen thousand distinct varieties of postage stamps have been issued, from the appearance of the first postage stamp up to the present time. These monstrously large collections count as separate varieties every minute difference that can possibly be discovered—a dot omitted in a surcharge, an almost indiscernible variation of color, the slightest difference in the design itself, etc.—and it is by this means that the number of collectable varieties is seemingly swelled to so great a number. Of course, no young collector who is in his right senses will

Transvaal 1901 2sh brown, mint, rare	-	\$1 20
1902 2sh yellow, mint		60
Montserrat 5 sh King,	"	1 60
Jamaica 5 sh Queen,	"	1 60
St. Helena 2 sh 1902,	"	60
Falkland Isles, 2sh 6p Queen	"	90
" " 5sh " "	"	1 70

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" 5kr. maroon cat. 60c	.15
Newfoundland 1881 6c lake, used fine	1 50

pay any attention to these minute varieties. And, when all these are cut out of the reckoning, the number of varieties remaining, viz. nineteen thousand—need not be thought so very formidable. For not more than three or four thousand of these are of different design—all the remainder being duplicate designs, for different denominations. Only a few countries follow the practice of our government in putting a different design on each denomination of a set. By far the greater number of stamp sets bear the same design for all denominations. Hence, if the young collector will but confine himself (for the first two or three years of his collecting, at any rate) to getting as many different designs as possible, the task which confronts him is by no means as monumental as it might seem. We are convinced that the only way for a beginner to get all possible interest and pleasure out of his hobby is for him to be constantly on the lookout for new designs, thus far unrepresented in his albums, rather than stamps "to complete sets," which differ in no material particular from those he already possesses.

THE READING TABLE.

What We Find in the Journals of the Hour.

The Philatelic Journal of India, Calcutta, India.

The September number of the R. J. of I. has for a frontispiece a portrait of General Sir Henry Lauder Thuillier. The contents of the Journal includes the following: An article on "Recent Gwalior Errors and Their Probable Consequences;" the conclusion of Dr. Wetherell's admirable monograph on "Roumania;" one of Major Evans' papers on Native Indian States stamps, the issues of Sirmoor being the ones this time considered; the continuation of an interesting historical article on "The Postal Service of Denmark from 1711 to 1808;" a biographical sketch of General Sir Henry E. Lauder Thuillier; an article on "The Stamps of China," taken from the West End Philatelist; "Philately in 2004," a clever bit of philatelic fiction by "Dak;" various "Reviews," including comment on a new Anglo-British novel, "Uriah, the Hittite," in whose plot stamp collecting plays an inconsiderable part; and "Notes" of many sorts. The contents, aside from "Dak's" contribution, is in the main of so heavily scientific a character that no useful purpose would be served by attempting to give here the salient points of each article. The advanced collector, however, who does not take the Philatelic Journal of India certainly makes a serious mistake.

The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, London, England.

The Oct. 25 issue of the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain has for its opening feature a portrait and sketch of Mr. C. F. Dendy Marshall, an English specialist of high renown, whose name is well known to all who regularly peruse the leading British Journals. Mr. Marshall's gigantic collection of British stamps is in some particulars so unique that the P. J. of G. B.'s synopsis of it is, we think, worth reproducing, as follows:

"1. Postage Stamps, Unused. Among these are nearly three hundred pairs, some of which are corners with margin of sheet attached, this being Mr. Marshall's ideal of a specimen for a collection, but, of course, these are difficult. Officials he does not think are required in an unused collection. He considers the surcharge as a kind of postmark, as it only has reference to the conditions under which the stamp is used; he maintains that a complete unmarked collection fully represents both the stamps used by private persons and by the government offices, and is of the opinion that the fact of their being overprinted or perforated with a name does not constitute them distinct varieties.

"2. Railway Letter Stamps. This is the second finest collection in existence and took the medal at the Manchester Exhibition of 1899. They are practically all unused, over 250 being pairs.

"3. Postage Stamps, Used. This bids fair to be of great interest, though completeness seems rather remote, under the strict conditions he has laid down, which are that each stamp must be on a piece of the original paper, cut out so as to show the whole postmark, soaked stamps not being admitted. The idea is to illustrate the complete history of every value."

At present only one large volume is arranged, containing the Victorian pennies, with all their variations placed in order of date.

Stamps are included for nearly every month down to 1864, and the most interesting period being that from 1855 to 1858. The collection shows when each change came in and went out of use. One sees, for example, that at different times during the year 1855 no less than six varieties of penny stamps were current. In 1857 it shows that a gradual change came over the shade before the stamps settled down to carmine, and each plate number appears in various states of wear, showing the period of use.

"4. A collection of over twenty reconstructed sheets, which won a medal at the London Exhibition of 1897.

"5. Entries of all kinds, the postcards and wrappers being practically complete, unused. There is also a large number of registered envelopes, most of which were collected on cycling expeditions some years ago, taken in company with his father, in the course of which they visited between four and five hundred post-offices in search of old types.

"6. Postmarks. In this section Mr. Marshall has a marvelous display. The specimens—mounted on cards contained in some two dozen large invitation books, consist of the marks of about a third of the postoffices in the United Kingdom in bewildering variety, the earliest dating from 1867."

A wonderful collection, indeed, and one which is certainly built on most novel lines.

Mr. Bertram W. H. Poole contributes a readable article on "Grenada." An excellent editorial deals with the subject of "Croaking," in which philatelic conditions are by no means so discouraging as some wiseacre prophets would have us believe; and that no attention whatever should be paid to these croakers. An account of the Berlin Philatelic Exhibition is continued from last month. The European Descriptive Catalogue continues with Luxemburg. "New Leaves to Cut" reviews the new catalogues. And the number concludes with the usual "Philatelic Review of Reviews."

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY is watched for and appreciated more, I think, than any of the other papers - a dozen or so - which I take. Wishing it continued success and long life.
Yours very truly,
W. A. Imbler,
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HALF HOURS WITH OLD STAMP JOURNALS.

by "The Antiquary."

(Continued from No. 12 page 7.)

No 3 of the American Stamp Mercury is a rather less interesting issue than either Nos. 1 or 2. Over three of the eight pages are taken up by Mr. Trifet's own advertisements; and no part of the number is especially remarkable for original reading matter. It is odd to read, under the head "New Scotland" that "The Transvaal Republic, on New Scotland as it is sometimes called, will shortly have a set of stamps". An article headed "Very Rare Stamps" refers in detail to the then market values of the various embossed stamps of Natal, first issue, all of them counted among the leading rarities of the period. The one-shilling stamp is assigned a market value of ten dollars, used; the nine pence and six pence at six dollars each, unused; the three pence at a dollar, used; and the one penny, used, at three-fifty. What the six pence and nine pence, in unused state are worth to-day is purely conjecture - for no perfectly authenticated specimen of either has appeared in the market for many years - but it is certain that they rank, in unused state, among "the great unattainables". Reprints of these stamps are even thus early reported; and from the matter-of-fact tone of the reference it is apparent that even in 1867 reprinting was, alas to say, no new thing. An item which sheds fresh light, in part at least, on the reasons which led to the issue of the small sizes U. S. stamps of 1869, states that "The Post Office Department is considering the expediency of reducing the size of postage stamps. It hopes to save one half the paper, the ink, the mucilage, the stowage, the general bulk, and the cost of transportation". The costly character of the mode of printing used in producing the 1869 stamps would seem to prove that the authorities revised, in the interim, their notions of economy - but true enough, they did reduce the size. In the advertisements there are some things that warrant passing comment - for instance, the list of albums offered. Lalliers was then the standard of the world, and the advertisement informs us that the edition there offered is the fifth, translated into English from the original, authentic French Edition. Its price was \$6.00; but for the frugal minded are offered Hill's Boston Album at \$3.00 and Appleton's at \$2.75. Both were much inferior to the French work, to judge from the comparative descriptions. We wonder how many specimens of these old albums exist in this country to-day. Every philatelic society ought to possess one as a feature of its private museum of philatelic antiquities. We note, too, that 75 varieties of United States Locals "warranted genuine" in large caps, are offered for \$2.00. Would that we could turn back time in its flight and take advantage of this offer. No 4 has

as its leading feature a philatelic review of the year 1867. Mr. Trifet joyfully sets down that 1867 has been a decidedly prosperous year for Philately in America, and states his belief that "this country may now boast of quite as many collectors of stamps as of coins" - a comparison sounding strange to us of 1904, when stamp collectors outnumber coin fanciers in the ratio of at least ten to one. Mr. Trifet states that during the year (1867) he received letters from and registered the names of more than 1800 collectors in the United States; and adds his belief that this is not a tenth of the total number. Three new stamp periodicals, it seems had been born during the year - Masons Coin and Stamp Magazine, the Stamp Collectors Journal (the name has been applied to other papers over and over again since that day) and the Mercury itself. The first and last named saw the year out, but the Stamp Collectors Journal, Mr. Trifet informs us, expired after three months life - two stamp journals established the year previous, namely, the Collector's Guide and the Postmans Knock, having also ceased publication during the year. S. Allen Taylor's Stamp Collector's Record, the review goes on to state, "is still alive and trudging slowly an its fourth year" Again we note; "This year has also been noted by the publication of the first and only complete price catalogue on this continent. It is issued by our publisher who expects to have one, greatly enlarged and corrected by the middle of April". About two hundred varieties of new stamps, it is remarked, have been issued during the year; and then follows a partial list of them. It is all very quaint and interesting, this old resume, and we can scarcely tear ourselves away from it. But there are other things in the numismatic that must be noted. For instance, under the heading, "Publications Received" we see that Pierre Mahe of Paris (in later years Philatelic Secretary to Von Ferrary, and, so far as we know, still alive and still the great French collector's right bower) had already issued 38 numbers of a journal called "Le Timbrophile" - as well as four editions of a "Guide Manuel". Farther along we find an article by the then famous Dr. Gray, compiler of Gray's Catalogue, on the various types of Sydney Views, not at that time, however, known by that appellation. Dr. Gray's article is most learned and explicit. He goes very deeply into the description of the differences in type, and his work would not be shamed by comparison with much of the scientific philatelic writing of to-day. There was manifestly very little known about these Sydney stamps then, even the reading of the Latin motto under the view being a subject of much dispute among philatelic commentators. And one who peruses Dr. Gray's paper will realize as he never did before under what extreme difficulties the philatelic researches of that era were conducted.

(To be Continued.)

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No.	Description	Value	new	used
37	Netherland	7½c violet brown	80	18
38	"	22½c dark green	80	18
39	"	1½ gray violet	1	00
48a	"	25c dark violet	80	—
50	"	1½ gray	—	—
57	"	50c green & brown	—	—
68	"	1½ brown & olive	85	—
70	"	1½ dark green	—	—
110	"	1½ blue & red	—	—
6	Curacao	50c violet	—	—
18	"	25 on 80c gray	—	—
25	"	2½ on 10c blue	—	—
26	"	2½ on 30c gray	—	—
15	Dutch Indies	12½c gray	08	04
30	"	2½ brown & blue	—	—
37	"	2½ on 2½ brown lilac	—	—
152	"	15c ochre postage due	50	—
163	"	10c carmine	—	—
165a	"	20c "	—	—
J	Surinam	10c bistre	10	—
5	"	25c blue	—	—
10	"	2c yellow	—	—
26	"	12½c violet	—	—
27	"	15c gray	—	—
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The Study Of Entire Sheets.

Much as the collecting of stamps in entire sheets is to be deprecated, when it is simply a species of "bloating," the utility of entire sheets to the philatelic investigator is beyond question. We have seldom seen a more forceful illustration of the fact than is furnished by the following meaty article on entire sheets, which we borrow from the current number of the Stamp Collector of Birmingham, England:—

"The benefits accruing from the study of whole sheets as compared with that of single stamps, are especially noticeable in reference to modes of printing, paper, watermarks, perforation and several other items. On a single stamp it is difficult even for the expert to differentiate between lithographic etching and copper printing; with a whole sheet it is easy to do so, even for the less technically educated layman. From the entire sheet can be seen if several mother dies have been used (for instance, two dies, Oldenburg, 1852, 1-30 thaler), or if the complete printing plate has been formed of smaller plates or parts all identically alike (a sheet of Germany, "Deutsches Reich" contains 100 stamps and is formed of four groups, therefore the error 'Dfutsches Reich' is four times the twentieth stamp). Of Cashmere stamps the whole sheet is cut in wood; Fairdkot, 1877, has every stamp done separately by hand-stamp; they are therefore irregularly placed and often overlap each other. Brazil, 1860, perhaps the oldest copper printing, shows dividing spaces between the stamps to be of different widths.

"Narrow and wide distances are frequently caused by the method of separation; for instance, Thurn and Taxis, plain roulette, and rouletted in colored lines; in the latter case the metal strips necessary for the printed rouletting must find room between the dies, causing the divisions to be wider. From whole sheets can be ascertained

if specially colored paper has really been used (France, 1876, 5c. green), or if the toned paper is only the result of bad cleaning, the sheet being then colored the size of the plate only, leaving the margin entirely white. For the position of types and their separation from mere printing errors or defective plates, entire sheets are of the utmost value. As a case in point, take Bolivia, 1867, 5 centavos, lilac, where every one of the 72 stamps is separately engraved on copper, or Tasmania, first issue, showing for the same reason 24 types in steel engraving. Indispensable are whole sheets for the study of surcharges, which, bacillus-like, multiply and threaten to endanger philately (for instance, German China, Tsingtau and Fuchow provisionals).

"Errors of color owe their existence to careless soldering into a plate a die of a different value, like Roumania, 1878, 5 bani, in the sheet of the 10 bani. Sometimes it originates through using a differently colored paper, like the Saxony error, ½ Neugroschen, black, which, instead of the proper gray paper, was printed on the blue paper of the 2 Neugroschen, and the single sheet printed thus was issued together with the latter. In the whole sheet one can also see if inverted centers are created by the tete-beche position of a certain die, or if the wrong feeding into the machine at the second printing was the cause, resulting in one or several sheets, all with upside-down centers. Shades and light as well as indistinct printing may also be combined in one sheet.

"To have in type printing the outer rows of stamps, which get a heavier pressure, clearly and equally printed, there is often a special border put around the plate which in the complete sheet is found to encircle the whole stamp. The Imperial Printing Office at Berlin, and Messrs. De La Rue, London, use this device ('Jubilee Lines'). Mottled paper (so-called granite paper), for instance, Switzerland, 1881, is better seen in whole sheets than in a single stamp. Indis-

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1c Post Office Department	16
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Canada Special Delivery free to all applicants for my approvals enclosing 2c for postage. R. Young, 370 Dufferin Ave. Winnipeg, Canada.

pensable are entire sheets for the study of watermarks, because frequently a single one covers the entire sheet. Whole sheets also explain most comprehensively the mode of separating stamps; the advantage of the so-called comb perforation is apparent at once.

"The German stamps are always printed two sheets of 100 each at one and the same time. The Italian stamps are turned out even at the rate of four sheets of 100 at a time. States whose currency is outside the decimal system have many different sheet combinations; so Great Britain, for instance, with 240 penny or 480 small half-penny stamps; Austria, 1858, possesses the well-known and often wondered at white St. Andrew's crosses, as supplementary stamps or 'dummies,' to complete the sheet, which otherwise the currency would leave unfinished. One of the smallest whole sheets is found in Heligoland, 1876, 3 pfenning; only ten stamps complete the same."

THE CABINET.

A Department Devoted to Coins
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FOREIGN COPPER COINS.

By Frank W. Doughty.

(Reprinted from Keystone Stamp and
Coin Gazette, 1885.)

II. Ancient Copper Coins.

Ancient copper coins may be divided under eight principal heads, as follows: Greek, Egyptian, Syrian, Jewish, Pætrian, Carthaginian, Greek Colonial and lastly Roman, which brings us to the beginning of another series, Mediaeval, or coins struck after the Roman Empire had crumbled into decay, down to the year 1500, when the Modern period begins.

The earliest Greek copper is supposed to have been issued in Macedonia by the king Aesopus, about the year 397 B. C. The object of the issue was the lack of silver coinage, of which the country had been drained in consequence of the Peloponnesian war. The famous Dionysias defended the project, and like some of our "silver dollar" congressmen of the present day, became very unpopular thereby, and received the epithet of the "brazen orator," or to render the Greek expression in a more literal sense—"man of brass." These early coins, by the way, were not of pure copper, but of bronze or brass. The principal copper coin issued by the Greeks was the "chalcous," or, to spell it as it is pronounced, "Kalcus," the name signifying simply "copper money." The chalcous and its divisions were the fractional parts of the silver obulus; the chalcous itself being of one-eighth the value of that coin.

These coins, despised at first, soon became quite popular, and were issued in all the cities of Greece, in each of which, be it understood, it was the custom to make their own money. They were of various sizes seldom exceeding that of our own old-fashioned cent. Upon them were stamped devices of varied and beautiful forms. Among these were the heads of the gods and goddesses worshipped at this period, and various objects symbolical of the particular city by which they were issued. For instance; the coins of Athens invariably bore upon their reverses an owl, and indeed were sometimes called by the name of that bird. In one of the old Greek books there is related a story of an Athenian miser who had swarms of owls roosting in the roof of his house—money concealed there being perfectly understood by the use of the term "owls." Upon the copper coins of Chalcis appears the seven-stringed lute; upon those of Amphipolis a trophy suspended upon a pole; upon those of Corinth the winged horse, Pegasus; upon those of Macedonia (sometimes) the human headed bull; upon those of Aetolia a pig, and so on. To describe these types fully would embrace a

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as your Christmas Gift. It will last through the whole year and each week remind them of your thoughtfulness. Do you know of a better way of saying "MERRY CHRISTMAS"?

considerable volume in itself. Great beauty is displayed in their design and execution, and the devices impressed on the coins of this series when properly studied, open up a field of historical information at once valuable, exceedingly interesting and of marvellous extent.

This series, together with the Greek Colonial, to be described later, is, in the estimation of the writer, the most interesting by far of those included under the caption, "ancient copper coins." It is, moreover, entirely within the reach of collectors of even the smallest means. For twenty-five to thirty-five cents can be obtained in a fair state of preservation, single specimens of "Greek bronzes," to call them by the name by which they are generally known, from any reputable dealer in the United States. They vary in period from 200 to 300 B. C. For fifty cents the same coins in a higher state of preservation are to be had, and when a dollar is reached the scarcer varieties are obtained. Rarities, of course, command a higher price. [We cannot vouch for the present day accuracy of these prices.—Editor S. L. W.]

How interesting such a collection! How artistic and pleasing the designs! With feelings almost akin to awe we handle these bits of metal touched by poets, sages, philosophers in the days when the earth was young. Is there no beauty in foreign copper coins? If this is true, surely those on ancient Greece are an exception to the rule.
(To be Continued).

The Confederate Coinage.

by F. C. LIST.

How many of you collectors who may read this article have seen a specimen of the one and only coinage of the Confederate States? I'll warrant that not many have, and indeed some of you have undoubtedly not even been aware that there was a coin issued by the Confederacy, but that there was an official coinage there can be no doubt, and there is at least one known specimen in existence. This specimen is in the possession of a St. Louis collector, who displayed it at a recent reception given to the United Daughters of the Confederacy in the Texas Building at the World's Fair. The coin in question is a half dollar and was struck off at the New Orleans Mint. How these coins came to be issued involves a little

history, so with your permission we will start at the beginning.

It was on Jan. 26, 1861, that Louisiana seceded. The new government at once seized the United States Mint at New Orleans and immediately began operations, striking off somewhere in the neighborhood of \$254,800, double eagles, and \$1,101,316.50, half dollars, the U. S. dies for 1861 being used. The bullion was exhausted in the beginning of May of the same year, and the coinage ceased and the U. S. dies were destroyed. The government then conceived the idea of making a Confederate States die to be used for silver half dollars and one was accordingly made.

On the face of the new die appeared the Goddess of Liberty, the same design that graced the United States coin, and on the other side was the stars and bars of the Confederacy in a coat of arms flanked on one side by a stock of cane and on the other by one of cotton. This side also contained the inscription: Confederate States of America, Half Dol.

Four half dollars were struck with this die on a screw press and this, to the best of knowledge, comprises the entire coinage of the Confederate States, for it was found on examination that the coin would not be fit for use, as the relief was too high, and the four coins that had been struck were not even milled. While a new die that would meet the requirements was in the course of preparation the Federal Government recaptured the mint and the chance was lost to the Confederates to produce a coin of their own.

This is a brief history of the one and only known coin of the Confederate States. Where the other three specimens are or have gone to would be interesting to know. They may come to light in a month, a year, five years, or perhaps never. It is not for man to say, but let us at least join in with the great Dr. Munyon and say: "There is hope."

A quarter dollar with two eagles turned up in Philadelphia a few days ago. A microscope revealed that a careful piece of "boxing" had been done. The piece was undoubtedly used for "tails I win" purposes.

50 cents
a year.

2 cents
a copy.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

VOL. I.

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, DECEMBER 17, 1904.

No. 14.

British Protectorate 1901. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 24, cancelled fine	\$ 40
do Labuan & Borneo 10, 16, (6 var) cancelled fine	36
Nyasaa 1903, 15, 25 65, 115, 130, cancelled fine	35
Venezuela 1903, 5, 10, 25, 50, 1b, No 170 to 174 unused	50
do do do No 175 to 180 unused	50
do do do No 181 to 185 unused	50
do do do No 218 to 222 unused	50
Cuba 1878 1p unused o. g.	35
do 1888 10c unused o. g.	10
do 1891 20c unused o. g.	50
Dominican Rep. 1900 1/2, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50c 1p unused o. g. fine (cat at \$3.23)	50
Our list of approval books containing 10,000 varieties of Stamps will be sent on request. It will pay to look it over.	

We make a specialty of filling orders from lists of wants and have pleased thousands. Will you give us an opportunity to please you.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,

722 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

LONDON LETTER.

Fred J. Melville.

According to the last Postoffice Circular, just issued, arrangements have been made for the color of the half-penny stamps of this country to be altered to a lighter shade of green. Stamps of the new color, it is stated, will be issued in the course of a few days.

I referred in my last letter to a proposal to issue Don Quixote commemorative stamps in Spain. It seems that Spain is about to celebrate the tercentenary of the publication of Cervantes' great novel. The project, so far as philatelists are interested, is to issue a stamp with the portrait of Cervantes instead of that of Alphonso, and possibly also a series of stamps representing scenes from Don Quixote. A writer in a Scottish paper (which is my sole authority, and one on which I cannot venture to place much reliance for this truly Quixotic notion) adds that the idea has been suggested to the Spanish Government by a well-known author and artist and has been received with considerable favor. I can foresee a new phase of our hobby, the philatelic "traingularising" of our great literary masterpieces by the addition of postage stamp illustrations of the chief scenes described. We may look forward to portraying Hamlet, Falstaff, Ophelia and the Moor of Venice on the stamps of England, and may I suggest that your own country follow suit with portraits illustrating first the life of Mark Twain as printer, journalist, pilot, soldier, etc., and second, scenes from Huckleberry Finn

(Continued on page 8.)

1905 Catalogue.

The new, or 64th, edition of our Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue is just published.

It has been thoroughly revised and brought up to date of going to press.

Price 50 cents. Post free 58 cents.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 EAST 23rd ST., New York, N. Y.

CHICAGO CHAT.

Waiting for the new catalogue is the general answer from collector and dealer alike when asked how are things progressing.

The holiday album and packet trade has not started yet, but is expected by all the dealers very soon.

P. M. Wolsieffer is not paying much attention to counter trade, as his auction sales and other specialties give him all he can attend to.

W. O. Staab who is interested with "P. M." in the United States Coin and Stamp Exchange at 106 Dearborn St., is also very busy getting out a large number of "Exchange Circuits" of the American Philatelic Association.

Ben Green at his Masonic Temple office is busy with another Coin Auction sale.

Stevens & Co., at 69 Dearborn st, report the Coin end of their business better than stamps.

The Coin business seems to run along very smoothly without the advent of a new catalogue every year. Possibly some day the stamp business will not be on the "waiting list" pending the arrival of a new annual catalogue.

This was the week of the monthly meeting of the Chicago Branch No. 1, A. P. A. and although as a rule not so well attended as the Chicago Philatelic Society is equally interested and earnest in its work. In the absence of both President and Vice President Mr. Mudge was elected to do the honors.

Resident Vice President Wolsieffer reported that he had received a

(Continued on page 4.)

P 6c-50c-\$1 Proprietary M

and many other rarities in U. S. Postage and Revenues are in the Roscoe L. Wickes, Evanston, Ill., collection to be sold at public auction without reserve on January 14 next. Catalogues free to auction buyers.

Pocket Ed. Stock Book.

is what every collector requires to take good care of his duplicates. It is cloth bound holds 500 stamps and costs but 25c post paid.

Vest pocket stamp books - 10c and 15c
64th Ed. (1905) complete catalogue - 58c
Wolsieffer's approval cards per doz. - 20c
" " " " 100 - 81.50

P P. M. Wolsieffer M
401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

STAMP DOINGS

IN GOTHAM.

As reported by our New York correspondent.

Last winter The Scott Stamp and Coin Co. offered gold, silver and bronze medals for the best collections of United States stamps, adhesives, revenues and envelopes to be exhibited under the auspices of the Collectors Club.

At the appointed time the collections offered were not in compliance with the terms of the offer. The competition was therefore postponed. The date fixed for the exhibits was December 12. The judges were J. C. Morgenthau, J. N. Luff, Walter S. Scott, B. von Hodenburg and F. H. Tows.

Six collections privately marked to conceal owners name were offered in competition. They after ward proved to belong to Charles Gregory, E. R. Ackerman, H. E. Robinson, Henry Clotz, J. W. Scott of New York and Francis C. Foster of Boston. The committee awarded the silver medal to Charles Gregory and the bronze medal to E. R. Ackerman. Mr. Foster's collection received honorable mention.

In considering the points of excellence perfection in adhesives was to count 50 points, in envelopes, 10 points in revenues, 15 points, in arrangement 25 points.

The committee reported as follows:-

	Adhe- sives.	Env- elopes.	Rev- enues.	Arrang- ement.	Total
Gregory	35	4	4	22	65
Ackerman	39 1/2	2	12	15 1/2	68 1/2
Foster	40 1/2	-	-	16 1/2	57

By the terms of the offer the gold medal was not to be awarded if best collection failed to score 75 points.

(Continued on page 4.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States, Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any address in any country in the Postal Union \$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.00 an inch. 50 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

YE EDITOR DISCOURSETH.

Why We Print

Elementary Matter.

We deem it quite possible that some of our readers may have wondered why we see fit to devote so much space to matter bearing on the elementary points of stamp collecting—especially if they did not happen to see our initial number, in which we spoke at some length of our proposed policy in reference to the young collector. To make our position on this matter quite clear, let us repeat here what we then said—that we seek to produce a journal which, in addition to appealing to stamp lovers of the mature, experienced type, will also prove a weekly manual of information to those who have been collecting stamps for only a little while. This being our desire, we have earnestly endeavored to ascertain the needs and wants of inexperienced stamp lovers, as respects actual tutelage in practical stamp collecting; and we have found, by various experiments conducted outside this paper's columns and also by analysis of the letters of inquiry that have poured in on us since this journal's establishment, that a great many young collectors are practically uninstructed on even the most commonplace points of collecting procedure, and totally at a loss as to the meaning of many everyday philatelic terms. It is the knowledge of this fact which has led us to publish the "Abridged Philatelic Dictionary," "Clues to Classification," the "Reference List of Stamp Inscriptions," and other matter of a similar class—and which is leading us to plan many other features of the same sort for future numbers.

If you are inclined to repine, dear reader, at the amount of space given over to the instruction of the primary class, let your thoughts go back to the days when you were "just beginning" and reflect if there were not at that time a thousand and one points in

connection with stamps and stamp collecting regarding which you were eager for information. Of course, you picked up the knowledge you wanted bit by bit, in the course of time; but would it not have been exceedingly helpful if the journals of that day had taken a little more pains than they did to help you to master the first principles of philately?

A Chance

For Undying Fame.

Every time we run across any reference to the Tapling Collection we feel inclined to blush a tiny bit for America. Why have not some one of our wealthy American collectors been moved to bequeath his collection to the nation, to be permanently displayed in some suitable public museum for the benefit of future generations and for the lasting honor of philately? No American philatelist has, perhaps, thus far left behind him at his death as valuable an accumulation as that of Mr. Tapling. But there are in this country at the present time at least two or three monumental collections whose dispersal at their owner's deaths would form a matter of supreme regret to all right-thinking collectors, and we can conceive of no manner in which their possessors could so absolutely secure their preservation than by providing that they shall pass into the hands of our government, along with sufficient funds for their proper exhibition and maintenance. The breaking up of a really great collection is a philatelic calamity. To scatter to the four winds of heaven the fruits of a lifetime of labor and study is a decided anti-climax to any great philatelist's life-work. More than this, the value to philately of the permanent preservation and exhibition of a supremely fine collection can scarcely be over-estimated. Just how much the existence of the Tapling collection in the British Museum has done for English philately we can only conjecture—but its beneficial influence must be very, very great. France will some day own the Ferrari collection, in a museum that will be the Mecca of the whole philatelic world. Is there not some great American collector who will gain undying philatelic fame by willing his stamps to the American people?

Stamp Exhibits

At County Fairs.

In that much-to-be-wished-for day when the American stamp trade awakes from its lethargic sleep of the present and undertakes active measures to popularize stamp collecting (a bureau of philatelic publicity and promotion, maintained by subscriptions from the trade would, under the proper management, create tens of thousands of new collectors), we hope that whoever is at the helm may not overlook the county fair as a medium for serving the needs of philatelic interest. We do not believe that pro-

motion money could in any way be spent to better purpose than by sending to these annual shows simple exhibits of a few hundred picturesque stamps artistically arranged in frames or cases, and along with them men who could talk stamps interestingly and who would present packets of common specimens (such as could be gotten up for a mere trifle) to whoever manifested any interest. Little leaflets presenting the charms of stamp collecting in a vivid way could, of course, be given out at the same time, and small albums, containing two or three hundred cheap stamps, might be sold for fifty cents or so and would doubtless find many purchasers among the holiday crowds eager to spend their money. In fact, there is no limit to the ways in which the scheme might be developed, and we believe it would be splendidly successful. Stamp exhibits at big expositions, such as the Chicago World's Fair, have not succeeded in attracting much attention from non-collectors. But county and state fairs present no such bewildering multiplicity of counter-attractions as do these national expositions, and any attractive exhibit is pretty sure of enlisting the interest of a great body of those who visit the fair buildings. The county fair is one of the most unique of American institutions, and denizens of cities who have not had the opportunity of personally studying it are apt to class it as a mere show of horses, cattle, pigs and poultry, attended only by the farming population. As a matter of fact, townspeople present at these fairs greatly outnumber the rural attendance, and the artistic and industrial exhibits are a feature by no means second in importance to the displays of live stock and the like. We sincerely believe that great good would result from the appearance of the proper sort of stamp exhibits at state and county fairs. Shall we live to see the trade banded together in an aggressive campaign to augment interest in philately by this and similar means? Ah, that is another question.

Collecting

In Rural Communities.

By the way, why is it that there are so few stamp collectors in rural communities? Every dealer will tell you that ninety per cent. of his orders come from the cities and larger villages. Philately does not seem to flourish in what we are accustomed to call "the country." Doubtless it is because of the isolation of country people from the points where the stamp contagion (notably very contagious) is most likely to be caught. Philately stalks abroad more or less in every considerable center of population, even if its trail is not very perceptible to the chance observer. Even in towns of a few thousand people there are apt to be a few collectors to keep the philatelic flame alight and to set others to collecting, usually in purely accidental ways. But what

ever stamp collecting comes to being in the rural districts is in most cases a purely spontaneous product—a chance fancy, due to the finding of queer-looking stamps on old letters or to receiving letters from abroad—and is generally doomed to perish for lack of proper encouragement at the psychological moment. Perhaps many worse things might be done, when the trade buckles to the task of advertising broadcast the joys of stamp collecting, than to use some space in the so-called mail-order magazines, whose circulation is almost entirely confined to the rural localities. Winter evenings on the farm are long and tame. There are several months when the inmates of the farmhouses are cast on their own resources for entertainment and find it hard to devise means for passing the time pleasantly. Can it be doubted that if stamp collecting once gained a foothold in the homes of our farming population it would be greatly loved and appreciated, especially by the bright boys and girls just growing into manhood and womanhood, whose education has made them of finer intellectual fibre than their parents, who took schooling in days when the public school system was not one-fiftieth part as efficient as at present? The "B'gosh" type of farmer is passing away, and in a few generations will be as extinct as the dodo. The bright young farmers and farmers' wives of the next generation will be fully able to appreciate the finer side of philately.

Has Philocart?y

Hurt Philately?

There is considerable discussion abroad as to whether the collection of picture postcards (dignified by its adherents with the sounding title of "Philocart?y," but too evidently borrowed from the name of our own pursuit), has helped or hurt philately. When the craze for picture postcards first arose it was thought by many astute critics that many a card collector would ultimately graduate into the philatelic ranks. Such, however, it is stated, does not seem to be the result—the two pursuits having too little in common for the pursuit of the simpler one to lead, in any great number of cases, to the taking up the broader and larger one. On the other hand, it is said that a good many erstwhile stamp collectors—particularly in Germany, the birth-place of the picture postcard—have fallen from their high estate, to become accumulators of the picturesque bits of pasteboard. We do not think, however, that the competition supplied by this form of collecting is likely in the long run to harm philately to any appreciable extent. Certainly no really vigorous, full-blooded philatelist will be content to permanently forsake his old love for this pale and anaemic hobby—even though he may be temporarily carried away by its novelty. Such an exchange would be akin to that of the coffee lover who gives it up and takes to tepid water as a beverage. We may be very sure that in neither case would the exchange work well for very long.

LONDON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

and Tom Sawyer? There are in Mark Twain's classic productions scenes enough to supply the United States Postoffice Department with designs for a fresh series every year after the manner of other States which it is unnecessary for me to name.

The editor has been good enough to commend the programme of meetings for the London Junior Philatelic Society this Winter. But to my mind there is one deplorable omission, not only from this society's programme, but from that of all our stamp clubs. I refer to the capital custom prevailing on your side—that of the annual convention. We have an annual conversazione and dance, an annual outing, and an annual general meeting, but none of these can be so efficient in bringing members into closer social intercourse as a convention lasting over three or four days, in which business is well seasoned with pleasure and entertainments. Oh, I envy the American philatelists and societies their annual conventions, and if ever my printers on this side will cease from troubling and I can spare the time for a holiday in the States I shall pray that it may be at the time of conventions, that I may learn something more about the good fellowship which they must foster among the followers of philately.

If we are to believe the London Echo, the establishment of a post-office at Kai-Feng caused some commotion. The clerks, it is said, had a fight with some men who bought stamps and wanted the clerks to lick them and put them on letters for them. They held that the clerks were there to lick the stamps and were paid for the business. The clerks objected, and officials came to blows with customers, and the police had to be called in to restore order.

The incident, apocryphal though it may be, recalls two familiar post-office jokes, which, however, may be worth repeating. Both concern ladies, so I must beg my lady readers' pardon to start with. One pompous dame is credited with entering the postoffice along with her maid. Procuring a stamp, she turned to her maid, who (knowing her duty, presumably), put out her tongue. She was, it appears, Milady's stamp-licker. Another dame, after purchasing a stamp, asked the clerk, "Must I put it on myself?" "Not necessarily, ma'am," was the reply of the polite—they're all polite in England!—lady clerk. "It will probably accomplish more if you put it on the letter."

Since last writing I hear on good authority that Messrs. Stanley-Gibbons' new journal for young collectors, to which I have already referred, is to be brought out as a weekly instead of a monthly. The full title is to be "Gibbons' Stamp Weekly," and the first number is promised for the beginning of January instead of

the third week in December, as formerly expected. This will be England's second stamp weekly. The time has never appeared to be ripe for the issue of a really successful weekly before. Evans' Weekly Stamp News is, of course, to some extent a trade organ, and Messrs. Gibbons' paper, while being a new organ for the promotion of their business, should be a useful weekly budget of information for the guidance of the young collector. It is probably still out of the question in this country for a weekly stamp journal (or a monthly one, for that matter), to half pay satisfactorily without a stamp-dealing business at the back of the venture.

The move of the Chicago Philatelic Society in preparing a lecture with lantern slides for non-philatelic societies is a good one and it should prove very helpful if carried out successfully. Although the experiment of treating stamps from a purely unscientific point of view is no new one, it is unquestionably the only way to appeal to the masses. I am rather afraid, however, that in sending these slides out without charge (and probably a philatelist to give the lecture on the same generous terms) is not altogether a good policy. It is well-known that what people get for nothing they rarely appreciate. At first the Junior Philatelic Society gave lectures free to any assembly or literary club and even provided the lantern and operator. But the result was that often no trouble was taken in getting a respectable audience together, and a mere handful of people, with no possibility of becoming stamp collectors, was all that met the lecturer. By going to work professionally, however, I was able to secure good audiences wherever I went, as many as two thousand people at one time, and apart from the generous fee there is usually generous appreciation of the services of the professional lecturer. Might I not suggest, then, that one of the most eloquent and popular members of the Chicago society be assisted to carry out the scheme on a purely professional basis, which would, I feel sure, be more productive of good philatelic results than the amateur lecturer whose services, however devoted or enthusiastic, are rarely appreciated at their value?

The Varieties

"Of Ancient Times."

The chronicles of our English contemporaries are not always dry reading. One of them prints a letter from the postmaster of Bhopal, in which he naively announces that "the stamps of all varieties of ancient times are very few, and after a few months no one will be able to get them, so please purchase soon." To which our contemporary adds this incisive comment: "We trust that this is not merely the expression of a desire to make hay while the sun shines, but that it implies the cessation of the manufacture of fresh 'varieties of ancient times,' which has been going on for the last year or more."

CHICAGO CHAT.

(Continued from page 1.)

communication from Secretary Eaton that there were seven delinquents in this district, and an receipt of which Mr. Wolsieffer at once wrote each one a letter with the probability that most of the seven will at once attend to the matter and prevent their being dropped.

It was decided to hold an informal dinner on the evening of the February meeting and as Edward Rosenthal was the hungry mortal who proposed it, the presiding officer quite properly made him chairman of the Committee to attend to the details, a duty which Edward quite cheerfully accepted.

The discussion for the evening was strictly speaking quite "various" and the shadow of minor varieties seemed to creep in everywhere. The boys were evidently not in a talking mood and were more interested in the stamp drawing which was won by lucky Willie

STAMP DOINGS IN GOTHAM.

(Continued from page 1.)

The collections made a magnificent showing. Mr. Foster not showing envelopes or revenues was seriously handicapped. His collection of adhesives was exceedingly fine Baltimores Brattleboro, Milbury, St. Louis, carriers in great variety and variety, 1869 inverted centers, etc. placing his collection far in the lead.

Though Mr. Gregory showed 5c and 10c St. Louis, the postmasters, stamps and the inverts were noticeably absent.

With these he would doubtless have secured the gold medal.

Mr. Ackerman's neglect of the newspaper stamps also cost him some points.

The exhibition was quite a success though the owners may not be quite satisfied in their own minds with the conclusion of the judges.

Notwithstanding the storm there was a very good attendance.

On occasion philatelic New York can be quite enthusiastic, and on this occasion were amply rewarded.

The Pyramid Of Honduras.

The early issues of Honduras bear a picture of a decidedly peculiar pyramids, which has doubtless often excited the curiosity of many of our readers.

It is supposed to be a representation of a huge pyramidal structure still existing at Copan in Honduras, whose origin and precise significance is shrouded in the mists of antiquity. This pyramid is nearly one hundred feet in height, its general form being well indicated on the stamps in question. Architecturally it bears a considerable resemblance to some of the ancient Egyptian temples, having a series of rooms in the interior, the extreme inner one of which is conjectured

to have been reserved for some sacred office of the highest importance. The carved figure of a large baboon, somewhat resembling the cynocephalous of the Egyptians was found in this Copan pyramid, together with several sculptured obelisks, and innumerable hieroglyphics. The early Spanish invaders destroyed all the records they could find, and no one has yet discovered any key to the hieroglyphics.

Several thousands of other pyramids of similar type are scattered through Central America and Mexico, though few of them attain as large dimensions as the one at Copan. They are considered by scholars to have been built part for defensive and partly for religious purposes. In the chambers of some of them the remains of idols and altars and other evidences of ancient worship are still to be found.

These Honduras stamps are therefore to be counted as among the very few in our album that pictorially commemorate a civilization of such great antiquity as to antedate all current historical records.

No More U. S. Stamps For Panama.

The United States government has definitely decided, so we learn from Mekeels Stamp Collector, to surcharge no more U. S. stamps for use in the Panama Canal Zone. According to an order issued by Secretary Taft, of the War Department, on December 2, which is to become operative December 12th, "All matter carried in the territory of the Canal Zone to or through the republic of Panama to the United States and to foreign countries shall bear the stamps of the republic of Panama, properly crossed by a printed mark of the canal zone government, and at rates the same as those imposed by the government of the United States upon its domestic and foreign mail matter, exactly as if the United States and the republic of Panama for this purpose were common territory."

It is provided, however, that the order shall not be operative unless the President of Panama establishes the gold standard in the Republic and abolishes the export tax on gold. We presume that Secretary Taft has had an intimation that these things will be done, or the order would not have been promulgated. This action on the part of the U. S. authorities is, we presume, the outcome of the energetic protest made by the Panama government against the present postal arrangements in the Canal Zone.

The Stamp Collectors Annual gives a list of no less than thirty three stamp exchange societies at present in operation in England, to say nothing of the exchange sections maintained by many of the regular philatelic societies.

Transvaal 1901 2sh brown, mint, rare	\$1 20
1902 2sh yellow, mint	66
Montserrat 5 sh King,	1 62
Jamaica 5 sh Queen,	1 62
St. Helena 2 sh 1902,	66
Falkland Isles. 2sh 6p Queen	90
" " 5sh " "	1 70

All King's head single C. A.

Send for my B. B. Lists,

Auction Sale on Dec. 7th. send for catalogue.

Frank P. Brown,
339 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

1902-3, 8d 9d or 10d each	1 15
2s Red	25
2s6d Dark Blue	4
5s Blue-Green	7
10s Purple	15
£1 Brown Orange	30

All very fine postally used copies.

EDWARD Y. PARKER,

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TORONTO, CANADA.

WANTED to buy St. Louis stamps used, state quantity and price.

RICHARD R. BROWN,

WHOLESALE POSTAGE

STAMPS,

Keyport, N. J.

Calvin C. Brackett, B. P. S. 405
Boston, Sta. A. Mass. U. S. A.

Stamps bought, sold, exchanged, retail wholesale. Postage extra.
Belgium P. P. 1903, 10c-1fr, 7 varieties 80 00
Chili 1902 5c on 30c 60 00
" 10c on 30c 60 00
Hungary 1900, 3kr. green cat. 20c 15 00
" 6kr. maroon cat. 80c 15 00
Newfoundland 1863 6c lake, used fine 1 00

1905 Catalogue Ready.

Post Paid 58 cents.

Packets for Christmas.

No. 10	250 varieties from Europe only,	80 00
11	45 " " Africa only,	25 00
12	45 " " Asia only,	25 00
13	55 " " Australian Colonies	25 00
14	65 " " South America	25 00
15	40 " " Central America	25 00
16	45 " " West Indies	25 00
17	90 " " North America	25 00

All of the above packets containing 45 varieties from the principal countries of the world, for only \$2.00

1000 varieties fine lot for	\$5 00
500 " " " "	1 00
300 " " " "	1 00
200 " " " "	1 00
Yankee peelable hinges per 1000	1 00

Packets of United States Stamps.

No. 30	contains 50 varieties	80 00
No. 35	" 25 " dif. from No 30	25 00
No. 40	" 40 " U. S. envelopes	25 00
No. 50	" 150 " postage, envelopes & revenues	25 00

W. F. GREGORY,

65 NASSAU ST.

NEW YORK.

100 Java and Cuba, etc., fine stamp dictionary and big illustrated list of 8,000 bargains, 2c. Agts., 50c. 1905 catalogue of stamps of all nations, 10 cents.
A. Bullard & Co., 446 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.

THE READING TABLE.

What We Find In the Journals of the Hour.

The Stamp Collector, Birmingham, England.

The Stamp Collector for November opens with a bit of discussion as to which are the world's hundred rarest stamps. A new London periodical, with the odd but taking name, "The World and His Wife," published recently photographic reproductions of one hundred stamps, with the statement that they were the hundred rarest known—our London correspondent, Mr. Melville, being, we understand, responsible for the personnel (if we may use that term) of the list. English philatelic editors seem little inclined to agree with his selection—in part, at least—and the Stamp Collector thinks quite a good many rarities that figure in the list have no real business there. It thinks the Brattleboro, Millbury and other U. S. Postmaster stamps are wrongly included, taking the ground that they are not governmental issues, but more nearly akin to locals—a view in which we cannot coincide, as they are certainly of a very different status from U. S. locals pure and simple. The "Connell" and "Lady McLeod" stamps are objected to, and vagaries of variety, such as the "Transvral" error, the U. S. inverted centers, and so on, our contemporary considers as lacking eligibility for a list of this sort—on the ground that such a list should include only normal stamps, not accidental varieties or locals. We confess that we can see but little logic in this view. It is at best but a hair-splitting distinction which insists that the hundred rarest stamps should not be considered as meaning the hundred rarest varieties of stamps. Any variety, whether intentional or accidental, which is of exceeding great rarity may, in our judgment, be placed in such a list with perfect propriety. Of course, a list of the hundred rarest stamps, like the lists of "the hundred best books," can be regarded as little more than an expression of opinion. But the matter is of some interest, for all that. The Stamp Collector invites its readers to send in lists of what they consider the hundred rarest stamps, offering a prize for the effort deemed most worthy. It will be interesting to watch the outcome of the contest.

Eight pages are occupied by the second installment of Mr. Heginbottom's work on the "Stamps of the British West Indies." The Bahamas and Barbados are this time taken up and their issues treated in capital fashion, the painful, weighty elaboration which many writers deem indispensable being pleasantly absent, and the tone throughout being well adapted to enlist the interest of the young collector without being so ele-

mentary as to repel the adept. We make some extracts elsewhere which we think our readers will find of interest.

An interesting article by B. W. Warhurst deals with "The First Bermuda Stamp," a primitive issue said to have been in use in that island from 1849 to 1855. It was improvised from the office postmark and bears the words, "Hamilton, Bermuda," in a circle, the date-lines of the postmark being omitted, and replaced by the words "One Penny" and "W. B. Perot" (the postmaster's signature), written in ink. It is claimed, from seemingly very reliable sources, that Mr. Perot used to impress a lot of these stamps on a sheet of paper, gum the sheet, cut out as required, and affix to letters to be posted. The stamp was discovered some years since and the question of its legitimacy was thoroughly threshed out at the time in the Monthly Journal—many old residents of Bermuda vouching for the fact that they were not mere hand stamps, but were actually used in adhesive form. The stamp appears to correspond in nature with the U. S. Postmaster stamps, and as only a few copies are known it ranks as one of the very great rarities. Mr. Warhurst's article in regard to it makes out a very strong case for its full authenticity.

The "Prominent Philatelist" interviewed by the Stamp Collector is Mr. J. M. Andreini, of New York, one of the most prominent philatelists of the metropolis and well-known to all the older generation of collectors for his admirable writings over the pen name of "Iberius" in the journals of a decade since. Mr. Andreini has lately, we gather, been on a visit to London, and the Stamp Collector's representative has seized the opportunity to secure his views on various collecting questions, which are set forth in succinct and readable form in the interview before us.

"The Library Chair" occupies several pages, and the number then concludes with the usual "Note-Book and Philatelic Diary" and reports of the Birmingham Philatelic Society.

A

New English Journal.

England is shortly to have, if report be true, a new stamp journal devoted solely to the interest of young collectors—the big English house of Stanley Gibbons being the publishers rumor assigns to it. It will be interesting to watch its course, as all previous attempts at establishing stamp journals for the use of the tyro only have, both in England and America, proven signal failures. The "Junior Stamp Collector", the "Young Stamp Collector" and "Stamps" were all intended to cater almost exclusively to the beginner, and all found the field too difficult. We trust the new journal may have more good fortune than its predecessors.

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An Identification List of Stamp Inscriptions.

(Continued from No. 13 page 3.)

- Correio - Brazil, Cape Verde Islands, Guinea, Macao, 1878, Mozambique, Portugal, Portuguese Islands, St. Thomas and Prince, Timor.
- Correio Republica - Brazil, 1893.
- Correio Taxa Devida - Brazil unpaid Letter Stamp.
- Correio Macau - Macao.
- Correo - Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela.
- Correo Autofogasta - Bolivia, env.
- Correo Oficial - Spain, official, 1855.
- Correos-Antioquia, Argentine Republic Buenos Ayres, Chile, Costa Rica, Cundinamarca, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guanacaste, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Philippine Islands, Salvador, Spain, St. Domingo, Venezuela.
- Correos Argentinos - Argentine Republic, 1880, 1890.
- Correos Buenos Aires - Buenos Ayres.
- Correos Bolivia Contratos - Bolivia, 1867.
- Correos de Bolivar - Colombian Republic (Bolivar).
- Correos E. S. de Antioquia - Antioquia.
- Correos de Bolivia - Bolivia.
- Correos de Espana - Spain, 1868-69.
- Correos de Guatemala - Guatemala.
- Correos de Honduras - Honduras, 1865.
- Correos de Mexico - Mexico.
- Correos de la Chimba - Bolivia.
- Correos de la Republica de Colombia - Colombian Republic, 1887.
- Correos de l' Este do - Colombian Republic (Tolima), 1870.
- Correos Del Ecuador - Ecuador, 1872.
- Correos Del Eo. So. del Antioquia - Colombian Republic (Antioquia.)
- Correos del Estados - Colombian Republic (Bolivar).
- Correos de Panama - Colombian Republic (Panama).
- Correos del Peru - Peru.
- Correos Interior - Spain, 1853, Philippine Islands.
- Correos del Salvador - Salvador.
- Correos E Telegs - Portugal, 1879.
- Correios E. Telegraphos - Portugal, 1876-85, Azores Islands, 1882-84.
- Correos Interior - Philippine Islands.
- Correos Mejico - Mexico, 1856, 1861, 1864, 1867.
- Correos Nacionales - Guatemala, Colombian Republic.
- Correos Nacionales de los E. E. U. U. de Colombia - Colombian Republic '83.
- Correos Nales - Colombian Republic.
- Correos Nles - Colombian Republic.
- Correos Porte Franco - Chili.
- Correos Provisorios - Colombian Republic (Cundinamarca).
- Correos Republica Argentina - Argentine Republic.
- Correos Republica Dominicana - Dominican Republic.
- Correos Y Telegs - Spain, 1879, 1882.
- Correos Y. Telegrafos - Argentine Republic, Costa Rica.
- Correos 1854 y 55 - Philippine Islands, 1854, 1855.
- C P B N J A - Servia, 1890.
- Cote D' Ivoire - Ivory Coast.
- C. R. - Fiji Islands.
- Cuba Impresos - Cuba (Newspaper).
- Cuernavaca - Mexico.
- Curacao - Curacao; Venezuela (La Guira and St Thomas) 1869.
- Damus Patinus Que Vieissim - British Guiana, 1851.
- Damus Petimus Que Vieissim - British Guiana, 1853.
- Damus Petimusque Vieissim - British Guiana, 1860, '63, 1876.
- Danmark - Denmark.
- Dansk - Vestindiske Oer - Danish West Indies, 1873, 1876, env. 1877.
- Dere - Roumania.
- Deficit o Franqueo- Peru, unpaid, 1874, 1881.
- Departamentos del sur Timbres 1881, 1882 - Peru 1882 (Arequipa).
- Departamento De Antioquia - Colombian Republic (Antioquia, 1890-1892.
- Departamento de Santander - Colombian Republic (Santander).
- Departamento de Tolima - Colombian Republic (Tolima).
- Departatos del Sur - Peru.
- Der K. W. Posten U. Telegraphen - Wurtemberg.
- Derechos de Firma - Philippine Islands, 1881-3.
- Devolucion de Correspondencia Sobrante - Spain.
- Deutsch. Oester. Postverein Vetrago 6 April, 1850 - Baden; Germany; Wurtemberg.
- Deutsche Reichs-Post-German Empire 1871, 1872, 1875, 1880.
- Diare Periodice-Roumania, newspaper
- Dienst Sache - Germany (Northern Postal District) official, 1870; Wurtemberg, official, 1875.
- Diligencia - Uruguay, 1856.
- Dios, Patria, Libertad - Dominican Republic.
- Dios, Patria Rey - Spain (Carlist Insurrection) 1874, 1875.
- Dios, Union, y Libertad - Honduras, 1865.
- Di Stato - Italy, official.
- Dominicaine - St. Domingo.
- Drammen By Post - Norway.
- Druckschriften Expedition - Berlin (Germany) local.
- Due di Parma Pine Ecc. - Parma, 1858
- Durch Die General Post Direction - Wurtemberg.
- Durch Die K. W. Post Direction - Wurtemberg, return letter 1875.
- Ecuador Correos - Ecuador.
- Eegy kraiczar - Hungary, Newspaper, '68.
- East India Post - India.
- E. E. U. U. De C. E. S. Del T. - Colombian Republic (Tolima) 1878.
- E. E. U. U. de Colombia - Colombian Republic, Antioquia, Bolivar, Cundinamarca, Tolima.
- E. E. U. U. De a E. S Del T. - Tolima.
- E. E. U. U. De Veneza - Venezuela.
- Egyptiennes - Egypt.
- Eindracht Maakt Mazt - So. African Republic.
- Ein Ggr. - Hanover.
- Ein Sgr. - Hanover.
- Empire Du Japon - Japan.

(To be continued.)

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44	4 1/2	orange	"	35
49	2r	green	"	1.75
50	2r	violet	used	—
51	4r	lake	"	—
52	5r	brown	"	—
57	1a	blue	"	—
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Georges Carion Again In The Limelight.

Many American collectors bear a keen recollection of Georges Carion, a Frenchman who some years since conducted a stamp business in San Francisco, but who ultimately returned to his native land, to the small regret of most American philatelists. While in this country he was very active in sell-certain stamps of Cochin Chine whose postal authenticity was none too well authenticated, to say the least, and of which he was the principal, if not the sole purveyor. His connection with these questionable issues caused his expulsion from the American Philatelic Association; and stirred up quite a little tempest in a tea pot at the time; he being a plausible fellow of polished manners and many of his philatelic friends in San Francisco being moved to take up the cudgels in his behalf, to the great enlightenment of the philatelic press of the period. There was never any doubt however that his expulsion from the American Philatelic Association was richly deserved. Now he is once more in the limelight in connection with some St. Marie de Madagascar provisionals lately appearing in Paris, whose origin seems clouded in mystery and of which he is strongly suspected of being the father.

The Revue Philatelique Francaise in denouncing these dubious provisionals has hurt M. Carion's feelings to such an extent that he has just brought suit for defamation of character to the tune of 25,000 francs, against the Editor of that paper. The outcome of the suit remains to be seen; but we hardly imagine that M. Carion will succeed in impressing any jury that his "character" has in any way suffered.

The crudity of design to be noted in the early issues of Romagna, Parma, Modena, Moldavia, Mauritius, Hawaiian Islands and Brunswick is due to the fact that they were the work of native artists.

Facts About Bahamas And Barbados.

We copy again this week some of the information found in Mr. E. Heginbottom's series of articles on the stamps of the British West Indies, now running in the Stamp Collector of Birmingham, England. No philatelist can be too well posted in regard to the character of the countries whose stamps he collects; and we deem no excuses necessary for opening our columns to the class of statistical information embodied in the following:

"The Bahamas were discovered by Columbus in 1492. They are a group of islands, barely 100 miles from the Florida coast, scattered over an area of 150 miles wide by 780 miles long. Their capital is Nassau; transit from England, twelve to fourteen days; area, 5800 square miles; population, about 53700. There are some 2000 islets in all, with rocks and reefs; of these, 31 are inhabited. It was made a Crown Colony in 1787. Its yearly revenue is £65,000. Trade mostly with the United States. These islands are mostly built by the incessant growth of the coral polypus.

Government: A Governor appointed in England. An Executive Council of nine; also a Legislative Council of same number. The English Church is disestablished, and the population are mostly Methodists and Baptists. There is a Legislative Assembly of 29 members, elected by the people. To be eligible for membership requires an estate of £500 yearly."

"Barbados who first discovered this island is doubtful; it may have been discovered either by the Portuguese or the Spanish, as the word 'Barbados' is equivalent to 'Bearded' in both the Spanish and Portuguese languages. It was anyhow not discovered by Columbus. Its name may perhaps refer to some of the wild fig trees which send shoots down to the ground resembling "Beards". Barbados became a British Settlement in 1625. Its area is

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170 square miles; length, 21 miles; breadth, 14 miles; with a population of 195,000. Capital is Bridgetown, with 21,000 inhabitants. The position of the island is very isolated, and its early history obscure. Formerly it was the 'headquarters' of the 'Windward' Government, but after 1885, it became a Colony in itself, and the 'Windward' Government was removed to Grenada. The Governor is also Commander of the West Indian Naval Forces. It has a College called 'Codrington College'. There are more-English Church people than Dissenters it has an English Bishopric, and its language, laws and characteristics are essentially English. The annual revenue is about \$750,000. There are 20 to 30 miles of railroad opened out up to present time.

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Interesting Facts About Our Nation's Coinage.

[Note: We are indebted for the following article, from the Washington Star, to the kindness of Mr. J. H. Houston, of Washington, who clipped and sent it to us in the belief that it would interest many of our readers—a belief in which we coincide.]

"Talk about money? The very first mention of money in history tells us that it was used for the purchase of a grave. Get your Bible and read about the old man going out to buy a burial site for his dead wife, and then study over the sad scene before the Cave of Machpelah, and I believe that it will be realized that the 'coin of the realm' is of no higher value to a man than just the price of his grave."

The speaker was Mr. J. A. Sample, chief of the division of issue of the treasury, a position he has filled for many years, and who doubtless knows as much about the value of money as any man in the United States, the numismatists who pay \$1100 for a silver dollar of 1804 not excepted. It is Mr. Sample's business to keep posted, and he loves his work and receives a handsome salary from Uncle Sam to assume general superintendence over what is termed the junk shop of the treasury, for to his division is sent all the coin after it has grown old and worn and mutilated.

"Coin collectors have put a very high price on many pieces of money," continued Mr. Sample, "and it is not often that these rare pieces reach the redemption division. We handle a very great deal of old money, but I am thankful that some of the first American money is not sent here.

First American Coinage.

"The first coinage for America was that made in 1612 for the Virginia Company at the Somers Islands. It was made of brass, with a hog on one side and 'Somers Island' on the other. It was called the hog money on account of the large number of hogs found on the island. Massachusetts minted the first colonial money in 1652—a shilling, sixpence and three-penny pieces. Before this the currency of the colonists was a very mixed one, musket balls, tobacco, tobacco receipts, corn, beans, codfish, wampum, shell beads, conch shells, etc. If we had some of these to handle our division would resemble a junk shop more than it does now.

Not a Coin Collector.

"Our Government is not in the business of collecting coins, either modern or ancient. When a piece of our money has worn out so that it is not fit for circulation it can be sent here and the sender will get good money

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In return, dollar for dollar, if it can be identified as an issue of the United States. We are not on the lookout for bargains and snaps in the old coin line, as the Government never pays premiums on its currency, and the amount appropriated by Congress for buying old coins would not pay for one-half of an 1804 dollar. The British Government spends more than \$5000 a year for old coins, and the collection in the British Museum will number more than 256,000 pieces. I don't know that the United States will ever have such a collection, but there are some very large and valuable collections owned by citizens of the United States. That some of these coins are counterfeit there can be but little doubt. From the earliest dates of coins men have been found to imitate them for purposes of gain. It is a peculiar fact, too, that in some instances the counterfeit is worth more than the genuine. More than half a century ago the government of Haiti coined base money; it regulated the importation of silver so that the value of the coin was not affected, and it gave by decree a high value to the base issue. Counterfeiters in this country made coin of pure silver, sent it to Haiti and passed it at the rate of the base coin. The most rare and costly of modern coins are counterfeited, and not a few fine pieces contained in collections and ranking high in catalogues are manifestly illegally manufactured coins. In this country the art of manufacturing coins for collectors is well understood. The counterfeit is so perfect that none but an experienced eye can detect it.

Silver Coinage to 1805.

"A New York numismatist, I am informed, declares that the 1804 silver dollar was coined after 1836, and says that the records of the treasury cannot show that it was coined in 1804. To proper persons our records are always open, and if a man is a 'sporting man' he can place his last red—an 1804 dollar or any other dollar—on the fact that the published records of the mint and treasury are absolutely correct. There is no reason why they should not be. That is what we are here for. There was a continuous coinage of silver dollars from 1793 to 1805, inclusive. Between the latter year and 1836 none were coined, but in 1836 there was a coinage of an even one thousand silver dollars. There was no issue in either 1837 or 1838, but there have been silver dollars coined every year since, except

1874-75-76 and '77, the four years following the so-called 'crime of '73.' During the four years in which no silver dollars were coined we had an issue of something more than 30,000,000 trade dollars, so that it may be said we have had a continuous coinage of silver dollars.

The Half Cent and Cent.

"I have not the time to go over the records and give details of the coinage of the coins mostly sought after by collectors, but I believe that from memory I can name the principal ones and give approximately the values set upon them by numismatists. We will begin with the half-cent, the first issue being in 1793, and which appeared at irregular intervals until 1858, the issues of 1831 and 1836 being rare and valuable, numismatists paying as high as \$2 and \$4 for good specimens. Those coined from 1840 to 1848 command about one-fourth less, while others are worth from 25 cents to \$3 each. The rarest of the half-cent is that of the coinage of 1796, which readily sells for from \$5 to \$20.

"Of the cent pieces, the first of which were issued in 1793, the most valuable is that of 1799, worth from \$5 to \$25. Let me explain that the vast difference in price is governed almost entirely by the condition of the coin—the more perfect the condition the greater the price. But to continue, any of the cent pieces coined prior to 1800 are worth from 25 cents to \$2. Cent pieces have been coined every year since 1793, with the exceptions of the years 1815 and 1823. The nickel cent was coined first in 1856 and is worth from \$1 to \$2. In 1864 the material of the cents was changed from nickel to copper, and this was the last alteration in either the design or metal.

The Two and Three-Cent Pieces.

"The coinage of two-cent pieces began in 1864 and ceased in 1873, in the latter year being issued only in proofs, which are now worth from 25 cents to \$1 each.

"Every year from 1851 to 1873 the silver three-cent piece was coined, those coined after 1862 being proofs, the general circulation stopping in that year. A good proof after the year 1862 is worth from 50 cents to \$1. The nickel three-cent of 1877 is valued about the same. Silver half-dimes were born in 1794, and with the exception of the years 1798, 1799 and 1804 they were coined every year until and including 1805, after which there was no coinage of these until 1829. From that year until 1874 they were coined in every year. The half-dime of 1802 is quoted as worth from \$30 to \$35.

(To be Continued.)

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VOL. I.

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When the Catair & Bair collections will be sold. Over 100 of the lots offered contain but one stamp to the lot, these stamps cataloguing from \$1.00 to \$100.00 each. There are also 250 combination lots and collections. Catalogues now ready and sent free on application, to

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We make a specialty of filling orders from lists of wants. 20,000 varieties of stamps on hand. Price list and lists of 50 approval books free.

Stamps sold at auction at a commission of 10% and expenses. Established 1869.

LONDON LETTER.

Fred J. Melville.

The Leeds and Bradford Philatelic Societies are exchanging visits this year, an idea which must appeal to all philatelists as an excellent one. On Dec. 13th, the Bradford members are to run over to Leeds, where they will be entertained by the philatelists of that city who will display "British West Indies and African Stamps." The return visit is to be paid on March 14, 1905, when Mr. A. H. Stanford, the Vice President of the Bradford Society, will show his British Colonial collection to the visitors from Leeds. The distance between these two philatelic centers is only a little over ten miles and the notion is one that might well be taken up not only by similarly situated provincial societies but even by metropolitan clubs as well.

Further particulars are to hand concerning Gibbons Stamp Weekly to which I have referred in previous letters. Each number of the paper (which is to be issued in the interests of young collectors) will consist of sixteen pages of reading matter and eight pages of advertisements reserved exclusively for the publisher's own announcements. Number One which is now practically in the press has had to have an additional eight pages to include all the matter prepared for it. 20,000 copies have been ordered from the printers of this first issue and such a large distribution should certainly result in a very big steady circulation. Chatty letters from correspondents all over the world will be included among the features of the new journal, which will be under the editorial control of Mr. Edward J. Nankiwel. The price is

The Modern

Postage Stamp Album.

A new Album for beginners. 256 pages, over 2,200 illustrations and will contain spaces for 10,000 stamps, also the Arms, Flags and Rulers.

Price \$1.00. Post free, \$1.15.

1905 Catalogue.

Price 50 cents. Post free 58 cents.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 EAST 23rd ST., New York, N. Y.

1d per number, and the postal subscription 6s. 6d. per annum.

The experiment of a general collection of stamps formed by a philatelic society has been remarkably successful in the hands of the Birmingham Club. This very energetic institution has in less than three years got together a collection of 12,064 of which 4478 are in the Colonial section and 7586 in the foreign. It is evident that the members have been very cordial in their support and have given of their best. It has just been decided to issue a diploma to every member who has contributed £10. in value to the "Permanent Collection" as this interesting aggregation is styled. The report of the Birmingham Society shows a membership roll of 320 members, which is an increase of two on last year's number and a cash balance of £74. 8. 4½ in hand. Among the other valuable assets of this society is a very extensive library got together by the indefatigable efforts of Mr. G. Johnson, B. A., the honorary secretary.

Since I wrote last about the forthcoming exhibition in Exeter Hall of the Junior Philatelic Society's British Stamps, and their display in the same hall is promised for April. I refer to the Fiscal Society's display of fiscals, for which the club has, I understand secured the hall for the two days at a cost of £20.

The Stamp Bazar at the Junior's Exhibition on Feb. 3d and 4th promises to be an interesting feature. On Monday last, (Dec. 5) a circular was issued offering stalls to the trade and on Wednesday evening, (Dec. 7) when the Committee met to allot the stalls all save one were booked each to a promoter. (Continued on page 3.)

P | 2c Navy Error \$5 State | M

\$20.00 Probate of Will, \$100.00, \$500.00, \$1000.00 of 1898 issue, also \$50.00 gray and \$50.00 black and green and dozens of other Rarities will be found in the Roscoe L. Wickes collection to be sold at Public Auction without reserve on Jan. 14 "next".

There will be 84 lots of Match and Medicine, 119 lots of regular Revenues and balance in U. S. Postage foreign etc. Catalogue free to auction buyers. Want it?

1905 ed. 64th Stamp Catalogue - \$0 58
Pocket Stock Bk. cloth holds 560 stamps 25
800 Variety packet - - - - 2 75

P. M. Wolsieffer

P | Auction Sale Specialist. | M
401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

CHICAGO CHAT.

The event of the week was the arrival of the annual catalogue. All the dealers seem to have received it about the same time. It would be out of place to repeat some of the very emphatic opinions expressed by the first purchasers. The trade here now sees no further excuse for the tardy and delayed activity in the stamp business.

Col. H. H. Bandholtz, Governor of Tayabas Province, Philippines states that it is a positive fact that C. M. Cotterman, Director of Posts, is now here negotiating for a complete set of dies for a new series of distinctive Philippine stamps. As stated before in these notes the Insular Government of the Philippines had set aside an appropriation of five thousand dollars for the dies of a new set of postage stamps.

The following editorial is from last Sunday's Tribune, a paper which has the largest circulation in Chicago.

Now for A Referendum on Stamps.

How is the color of postage stamps determined in this free country? By a set of autocratic officials at Washington. What would Jefferson say if he were alive?

The common people may want their stamps to be pale blue. There may be a universal public demand for pale blue. The autocratic officials don't care. They prefer bright pink. Everybody understands the influence of the pink ink trust. Some day the people will wake up and find that all their stamps have become bright pink. This is what one man power means.

The only way to keep the color of postage stamps in the control of the
(Continued on page 3.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States, Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any address in any country in the Postal Union \$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.00 an inch. 60 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

YE EDITOR DISCOURSETH.

The Season

Opens Well.

The season seems to be opening up exceedingly well, to use a commercial phrase. We are inclined to believe that not in many years has the outlook for Philately at the outset of the Winter season been so fraught with encouragement to those who feel high personal concern for the prosperity of the pursuit. We are thoroughly in earnest in saying this; and, although we are aware that our view differs from that of many astute observers, we believe in its correctness, for all that. We note a great many things—straws floating on the surface of philatelic events—which strongly confirm us in our opinion. It is not that there is any great boom in stamp selling circles. It is too early in the Winter for that, with the new catalogue barely out yet. But collectors seem to be more energetic and enthusiastic than usual; there is more philatelic stir and interest evident than we have seen for some time; and, best of all, there seem to be more new recruits than have before been mustered in many moons. The editor of a Journal like this, appealing to the rank and file of collectors—to the philatelic masses rather than the philatelic classes—has unusual opportunity to feel the pulse of Philately. And we have no hesitation in asserting once again that we can see nothing but promise in the season that lies before us.

A Return to

Pristine Simplicity.

The fact that we are very well satisfied with the outlook at present, does not prevent us from being keenly in sympathy with the agitation, now assuming such weight that it bids fair to be greatly talked about in the near future, for a simpler catalogue and album, in uniformity with each other. Our Chicago correspondent has in re-

cent letters very cogently presented the main points in favor of a return to pristine simplicity in both album and catalogue—the principal innovations he advocates being the omission from both works, of all varieties of perforation, paper and watermark. We understand that many prominent philatelists would cordially favor such a change—conspicuous among them being the doyen of our craft, J. Walter Scott, indubitably as shrewd an observer of philatelic conditions as this country boasts. In fact, as our correspondent points out, Mr. Scott has been for some years past earnestly preaching this gospel of simplicity in the columns of his paper, the Metropolitan Philatelist—albeit his voice has been like unto that of one crying alone in the wilderness—and to him must be given the credit of being the first to publicly proclaim the doctrine. We do not understand that it is at all the idea of those who advocate this change that albums and catalogues including minor varieties should be entirely done away with. On the contrary, we think they fully realize the great value of such works to a certain type of collectors; and simply propose that they shall be supplemented by new non-variety catalogues and albums, for the benefit of those requiring less elaborate and complicated works. We should certainly not favor the abridgement of present-day catalogues and albums, unless it were accompanied by the issuance of other catalogues and albums expressly intended for the use of the advanced collector. But we certainly do favor the issue of separate catalogues for ordinary collectors and advanced collectors, and the revision of modern "complete" albums, so that they will be much less encumbered with subordinate varieties. The average advanced collector uses, or should use, a blank album; so that there is not the need for two sorts of printed albums that there is for two sorts of catalogues.

It Should

Be Feasible.

It should be feasible to publish two separate editions of the catalogue—one of them on much the same lines as at present; and the other with no mention, as a general rule, of varieties of type, paper, perforation or watermark. We say "as a general rule" because there might be cases where it would be wise to depart from the strict letter of the laws laid down. It would hardly do, we think, to cut out bodily the U. S. stamps whose separate status as collectible varieties is solely due to a watermark; and there are other exceptions which would present themselves. In the main, however, almost all the minor varieties listed in the catalogue on its present basis could be wholly dispensed with in a young collector's edition such as we advocate. It might, or it might not, be possible to issue a catalogue along these amended lines that could be

sold for less than the present price. So, it would be a splendid thing; for the lower the price the wider is bound to be the circulation.

We doubt, however, if even a considerable lessening of the number of pages would permit the publishers of the Standard Catalogue to sell it at a lower price than at present—for it is certainly a marvel of marvels that it can be profitably produced at the price it at present brings. Still, this is only a minor consideration. The point is to put into the hands of all save really advanced collectors a catalogue dealing only with the main, primary varieties—the number of which is amply large enough, without any side issues. And, of course, it is almost equally important that the style of album generally used (which is published we need scarcely say, by the same firm as the Catalogue) should follow along the self-same lines. In fact, as our Chicago correspondent points out, the more closely the album page corresponds to the catalogue list the easier is the task of the collector of only medium-rate proficiency in the pursuit. As the case at present stands, the catalogue contains an infinite deal for which no space is provided in the album—and the album even at that contains room for many secondary varieties which it is not to the young collector's interest to seek after—an anomalous state of affairs which does not promote ease of collecting.

Ease of

Collecting.

We believe there can be no question that collecting ought to be made easy for the beginner and for the casual stamp-lover who is not in any sense a deep philatelic student. We must guard against bestrewing the path of the novice with unnecessary difficulties. Catalogue and album are the guides which the collector must necessarily follow—at least, in the earlier stage of his collecting career. If the modes of collecting they indicate are simple and easy, the chances of his becoming a settled collector, strongly imbued with the philatelic habit, are certainly decidedly greater than if catalogue and album are full of complications and divergent sub-variety bypaths. The present catalogue and album are almost ideal works for the use of those who have had a good lot of philatelic experience. But you cannot cut a garment so that it will fit either a fat man or a lean man equally well. Two distinct garments would be needed; and two distinct catalogues, differing in the way hitherto indicated, are, we think, very decidedly needed in Philately.

If two such works should, in time come to replace the one that at present exists, it would doubtless be well to use the name "catalogue" only for the one that was intended for the use of novices and medium grade collectors, giving to the work which listed all possible varieties, down to the most mi-

nute, some more pretentious title. For there is undoubtedly some truth in the contention that collectors would buy a complete catalogue, in preference to an abridged one, no matter if the latter was infinitely better adapted to their purpose. There are many, many collectors who, to use a rather inelegant phrase, do not know what is good for them. And the only way in which this class of collectors can ever be induced to keep their collecting within proper bounds is to offer them a catalogue, from which all minor varieties is rigorously excluded, as the normal, standard book.

This is all a very big question, and there is much to be said about it, from many points of view. It would be tedious to pursue the matter further at one sitting. But we shall have more to say about it in future numbers—for it is certainly one of the most important questions before the philatelic public at the present moment.

LONDON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

inent English dealer. The remaining one was booked a day later. So that within a week all the available stalls were taken at a fee of two guineas each. The fund opened for paying the expenses of the Exhibition stands at a little over £11 and among the names of donors may be mentioned Mr. W. B. Avery, Major Evans, Mr. Bertram Poole, Mr. E. Heginbottom, B. A., and many others.

CHICAGO CHAT.

(Continued from page 1.)

people is to send it to a referendum. Let the people decide the question for themselves. They are the users of the stamps.

Also they are the persons who have to lick the stamps. Yet what have they to say about the flavor of the mucilage? They may want winter-green. Year after year they get sassafras. Is this democracy?

In a true democracy everybody elects everybody and everybody decides everything. As long as the people fail to control the autocratic officials at Washington there is no hope that our stamps will have a democratic color or the mucilage on them a democratic flavor.

If the next congress fails to submit the stamp question to a referendum vote by the whole people, Jefferson will have to be nailed down in his grave."

The meeting of the Chicago Philatelic Society on Thursday evening was largely attended. The attraction was the annual election of officers which always brings out many members who do not regularly attend at other meetings.

President Oesch who through a combination of being out of town, sickness and jury duty had been absent from recent meetings, presided at this last one of the year and all the other officers and directors being present made a complete board. The officers elected for 1905 were as follows:-

President, H. N. Mudge.

Vice Pres., C. E. Severn.

Secretary, C. F. Mann.

Treasurer, E. C. Dodd.

Director, Jas. Abbott.

" P. M. Wolsieffer.

" E. M. Rosenthal.

" L. Michael,

" A. Dahl.

The chair appointed Messrs. Rosenthal, Staab, and Massoth a Committee to arrange for the annual dinner which will take place some time during January.

Four new members were elected and three resignations ordered posted. Other routine business was transacted and all old matters settled up as far as possible, so as to give the incoming Board of Officers as clean a slate as possible.

Wolsieffer's auction sale of the Dr. Fowler collection takes place Saturday evening and will no doubt be as well attended as all his sales are, for he does not let local buyers forget it when he has a sale coming off.

Sound Sense On A Much Discussed Matter.

The London Philatelist in a recent issue speaks so sensibly on the much discussed matter of the relation of catalogue prices to actual values that we cannot refrain from transferring its comment bodily to our columns as follows:-

"In this journal we are usually content to occupy our pages with the philatelic aspects of stamp collecting, with the exception of those columns devoted to the results of the auctions. The trite expression 'catalogue value', however familiar in the mouth of every collector from the veriest schoolboy to the most 'bloated' specialist", has formed a thesis on which some of our contemporaries have been recently once more descanting. The question has been raised, and in the columns of the Stamp Collector's Fortnightly has been discussed at length, as to how the value of a collection can be ascertained, and on what basis, suggestions varying from a fourth of to practically full catalogue value having been made. It does not seem, however, that the correspondence has elicited any definite result except that 'the value of anything is just as much as it will bring', which is an evasive reply and practically a reduction to the absurd.

"The real fact of the case is that, as regards the financial side, the average collector relies too much and too closely upon his catalogue. From a philatelic aspect the leading catalogues of to-day leave little to desire, and they may be heavily leant on with safety in this respect; but an adoption of the same attitude as regards the values may result in the ignominious fall of the leaver. (1) The modern catalogue is issued primarily in order that the dealer may sell his wares; (2) To effect these sales the publisher must have a good and reliable catalogue;

(3) The information as to the chronicle and issue of the stamps is given to the customers; (4) The information as to the inner value of each and every stamp is not given to the public, but constitutes the basis on which the dealer-like other traders - makes his living, by buying in the cheapest and selling in the dearest market.

"It is therefore futile to imagine that the dealer is open to repurchase from his customers on the basis of 'catalogue value'. If a sale is effected it is on the basis of the net cash value to the purchasing firm, practically irrespective of the quoted prices. We would, therefore, earnestly counsel all young collectors or beginners to make their purchases with caution until they have felt their feet, and not rely too much on 'catalogue value'.

"We are induced to make these few remarks upon the £, s, d question by the knowledge that younger collectors are sometimes frightened out of the ranks by the bogey of catalogue values, and we can ill afford to spare new recruits for philately. It is better for the beginner to expend as little money as possible until he has felt his feet, and assuredly until that period has arrived he should regard his expenditure as having been made solely for his enjoyment, absolutely distinct from any realisable value and as money spent. When he has mastered his subject he may perhaps make investments - with varying success, as in other financial walks of life, in collecting, whether it be stamps, pictures, china, furniture, engravings, or aught else, it seems to us that there is only one golden road to success - a thorough and complete acquaintance with the object collected. With this knowledge and a modicum of common sense, we fail to see that any collector need be in fear of making a serious loss on his collection. In any case he should credit his expenditure with the pleasure and occupation derived from collecting, and we doubt not that the margin on his final philatelic balance sheet will show that the advantages he has obtained from philately have been far greater than its drawbacks.

In the "Asked and Answered" Department of the Stamp Collector's Fortnightly, we note a couple of queries recently propounded for its readers solution that strike us as being uncommonly interesting.

One is:- "How many stamps are rarer (in point of actual numbers) than the 'Post Office' Mauritius?"

The other is:- "Which, at the present moment, are the twelve commonest stamps in the world?"

Two quite knotty points to figure out. If any of our readers feel like grappling with them, we shall be glad to publish the result of their investigations.

Cape of Good Hope is the only one of the British Colonies that never issued a stamp bearing the head of Queen Victoria.

A Page of Precept

For Young Collectors.

(Conducted by the Editor.)

Work for

Winter Evenings.

There is probably more zest to stamp collecting during Winter than at any other season of the year. When the air outdoors is bitter cold, there is a cosiness and contentment to evenings spent over one's stamps that only the ardent stamp-lover is able to truly measure. Any young collector who only became interested in the pursuit last Summer may count on finding new and almost undreamed of enjoyments in stamp study during the long Winter evenings between now and next April—provided that he is interested heart and soul on the hobby and puts in enough time on his collection to keep in the spirit of the thing. And every collector, whether this is his first or his twentieth year in Philately, has much to look forward to this Winter, if he has a collection of fair proportions, a goodly number of duplicates, a current catalogue and a shelfful of stamp journals to read. And to this should be added, of course, a little money to spend—for the collection that is not added to, at least a little, from week to week is bound to grow monotonous.

During the Summer and Fall months perhaps you have not spent much more time on your collection than was necessary to mount in your album such new varieties as you secured from time to time—by purchase, exchange or discovery. Now that you get to spending a good deal of time on your collection, you will be able to weigh with ample deliberation the progress you have made in the last few months and see in what direction your collection is growing fastest and in what respects it is making only tardy progress. It is a pretty good idea to take a sort of mental inventory of one's collection every once in a while—to get a kind of bird's-eye view of the whole affair and see if it is continually broadening in interest and attractiveness or is getting into the rut of one-sidedness. You are getting into the rut of one-sidedness, for example, if almost all the stamps you are buying are from European countries; so that your European pages are continually growing more resplendent, while the pages devoted to African countries, Asiatic countries, and so on, are very, very thinly populated. And it is not at all a good thing for the picturesqueness and intrinsic interest of your collection that such a state of affairs should be suffered to continue. It is quite a common thing, too for a collector on taking stock of his philatelic assets to find that the forepart of his album is much better filled than the pages in the middle of the book and that there are fewer and fewer varieties to a page as he approaches the end of the vol-

ume. The reason for this is the simplest in the world. An approval selection is received and the collector sits him down to see what specimens he will pick out. He opens his album at Abyssinia, Angola or Argentine, as a matter of course, and compares the contents of the sheets with the stamps in his album, buying such varieties as strike his fancy as he goes along, the progress of his comparison being through the A's to the B's, through the Bs to the Cs, and so on, his limit of expenditure for the moment being reached before he has gotten very far through his alphabetically arranged album. It is very natural to buy from approval sheets in just that way, and one has to become philatelically weatherwise before seeing its faults and abandoning it. And it is just one of those little habits that causes collections to be top heavy in one section and very meagre and attenuated in another.

A Well-balanced Collection.

A well balanced collection—that's what we all of us ought to be aiming for most. Big collections and valuable collections are not easily gotten together; but even a small and inexpensive collection can be made a well balanced one if the owner takes pains to do so. You cannot make a better philatelic resolve than to decide to give a good deal of attention this Winter to adjusting the balances in your collection between sections of it that are well filled and sections of it that are ill filled. Of course, what's done is done. The rigid classifications of the printed album do not permit the transference of stamps at will from one page to another or from one part of the album to another. Any active measures undertaken in the interest of restoring balances between well filled and ill filled pages must be confined, of course, to the latter. You will do well to make a resolve to buy during the Winter very few stamps of countries of which you already have a goodly number of specimens; and to spend most of your philatelic pocket-money on the stamps of countries which are sparsely represented in your album. It would be a good idea to make out a little list of the countries of whose stamps you have fewest specimens, and look for stamps from those countries first of all on such approval sheets as your dealer sends you from time to time—giving them the preference in your buying.

Young collectors, as a rule, buy stamps from approval sheets in a decidedly helter-skelter way—but it is far better to put a little method in your purchases. Say that you have twenty different varieties of French stamps and only one specimen from Egypt. When it comes to a question of deciding which of two stamps at somewhere near equal price to buy—one being a French stamp and the other an Egyptian—by all means

Transvaal 1901 2sh brown, mint, rare	-	\$1 20
1902 2sh yellow, mint		60
Montserrat 5 sh King,	"	1 00
Jamaica 5 sh Queen,	"	1 00
St. Helena 2 sh 1902,	"	60
Falkland Isles. 2sh 6p Queen	"	90
" " 5sh " "	"	1 70

All King's head single C. A.

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1902-3,	8d 9d or 10d each	\$ 15
	2s Red	20
	2 1/2s Dark Blue	40
	5s Blue-Green	75
	10s Purple	1 40
	£1 Brown Orange	3 00

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WHOLESALE POSTAGE
STAMPS,
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Stamps bought, sold, exchanged, retail, wholesale. Postage extra.
Belgium P. P. 1903, 10c-1fr. 7 varieties 70 00
China 1902 5c on 30c - - - - - 60
" 10c on 30c - - - - - 40
Hungary 1900, 3kr. green cat. 20c - - - 40
" 5kr. maroon cat. 80c - - - 1 50
Newfoundland 1863 6c lake, used fine 1 50

100 Java and Cuba, etc., fine stamp dictionary and big illustrated list of 3,000 bargains, 2c. Agts., 50c. 1905 catalogue of stamps of all nations, 10 cents.
A. Bullard & Co., 446 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.

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Approval Sheets 60% Discount.
References required.

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ITHACA, N. Y.

choose the latter. Keep building up your weakest countries. There are real, tangible reasons why it is wise to do so; and though you may not fully see the force of them now, you will later on in your collecting career. Of course the stamps of some countries are much easier secured than those of others—are cheaper and more plentiful on approval sheets and in packets. But if you have been collecting with any real zealotry for any reasonable length of time you have probably gotten all the very cheap varieties of those countries whose stamps are commonest—France, Great Britain, Germany, Austria, and so on. So that, as far as price is concerned, you can just as easily buy specimens from out-of-the-way countries as from the leading European nations whose current varieties and lower denominations in obsolete sets are so very common and cheap. Of course, there are some countries almost all of whose stamps are a bit beyond the young collector's usual price limit; and which you cannot hope to do much with. Hamburg, Hanover and New Republic are a few examples of countries of this sort. But such countries are, after all, rather few; and, as there is no way of getting around the costliness of their specimens what can't be cured must be endured.

A Working Knowledge of the World's Stamps.

In comparing your showings of different countries, and looking up the average trend of catalogue prices in those countries where your showings are weakest, you will gain valuable working knowledge of the world's stamps. There is a good deal of value in familiarizing yourself in this way with the general aspects of the stamp collecting field. It helps you to take a broader view of the collection you are building—to see it not as a scattered medley of specimens but as the skeleton of a structure, so to speak, the outlines of which are to be filled out bit by bit as time goes on. We do not, of course, imply that you are ever likely to amass a complete collection in the sense that philatelic millionaires employ the term. But there is another sort of completeness which may be legitimately and reasonably hoped for and aimed for—namely, a complete showing of all the different designs of the world's stamps, without reference to complete sets, and exclusive, of course, of the few designs that appear only on very rare and high-priced stamps. This is within reach of every collection as a whole and giving specimens next year, but sometime, before many years have passed—and it is a goal that is worth bearing in mind and shaping a collection in reference to. Hence, the desirability of viewing your collection as a whole and giving special attention to its weakest parts. It is a great pleasure, too, to acquaint yourself with the lay of the land in the field of stamp collecting as a whole.

There is endless entertainment in it, as we shall endeavor to elucidate in a future talk, very possibly next week. To pursue the subject further this week would be, we fear, to run the risk of becoming tedious.

The 1905 Scott Catalogue.

The 1905 edition of the Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue came to hand promptly, as advertised, on the 5th of December; and by this writing a copy of it is doubtless in the hands of almost all our readers. To give any extended review here of a work of such wide circulation that ninety-nine active collectors out of a hundred may be fairly assumed to have already hastened to procure a copy would be a labor of supererogation. "Everybody who is anybody" in stamp collecting circles on this side of the water buys a Scott Catalogue each year, just as much as a matter of course as a daily paper every morning. It is our one and only American catalogue; we all have to have it; and, however much we may grumble sometimes about some of the things it puts in or some of the things it leaves out, we are all proud of it, nevertheless, and ready to swear in season and out that none of the European catalogues are quite its equal. So what need to say more here at this time than this the new edition (which, by the way, is the sixty-fourth) is in all respects a worthy successor of the editions that have gone before.

In a week or two, when we have had more time to thoroughly digest its contents (its more than seven hundred pages suggest that this will be no light matter) we shall perhaps venture on a few comments as to features that strike us here and there in its pages. But for the present we can only rejoice that it is out; and that, with its advent, the Winter season will get under way in earnest. On with the dance; let joy be unconfined.

The custodians of the Tapling Collection, we regret to learn, have been obliged to decline a donation from the Philatelic Society of India, in the shape of a complete unused collection of all the stamps of India needed to bring the collection up-to-date as regards its showing of that particular country's issue. The cases available for the display of the Tapling Collection, the museum authorities state, are entirely filled and no additions to the collection could, under the circumstances, have any prospect of being exhibited. It is a matter for profound regret that this should be the case, as had the Indian Society's generous offer been accepted, it would doubtless have spurred other stamp organizations to do their part in bringing up-to-date the greatest stamp collection in the world that is now on public exhibition.

Cheap Sets.

"Panama Republic.	1804	2 var.
"Cuba. Newspaper	1894	4 "
"Egypt. Soudan Camel		2 "
"Guatemala	1901 complete	
Mexico	1888	5 var.
"New Brunswick		2 "
Nicaragua	1899	4 "
Persia		4 "
"Peru	old	8 "
Peru	1895	4 "
Peru	1901 complete	
Queensland		7 var.
Roumania	1891	7 "
Roumania	1883	9 "
"St. Thomas & Prince Isl.		8 "
"Salvador	1889	4 "
"Salvador	1891	4 "
Venezuela		6 "
Venezuela	1900	8 "

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An Identification List of Stamp Inscriptions.

(Continued from No. 14 page 6.)

Empire Franc - France, 1853, 1854.
Empire Francais - France, 1863, 1869.
Emp. Ottoman - Turkey 1876, 1880,
1884, Eastern Roumelia.
E. o. So. de Antioque - Colombian Re-
public (Antioquia).
E. o. So. de Cundinamarca - Colombian
Republic (Cundinamarca).
E. o. So. de Panama - Colombian Re-
public (Panama).
Erste K. K. Pr. Donau Dampfschif-
fahrt Gesellschaft - Austria, Dan-
ube Steam Navigation Co.
Erta-Colombian Republic (Antioquia)
Escuelos - Venezuela.
E. S. de Antioquia - Colombian Repub-
lic (Antioquia).
E. S. del Tolima - Colombian Repub-
lic (Tolima).
Estado de Bolivar Colombian Repub-
lic (Bolivar).
Estado del Tolima - Colombian Repub-
lic (Tolima).
Estado Soberano de Antioquia - Colum-
bian Republic (Antioquia).
Estado Soberano de Boliver - Colum-
bian Republic (Bolivar).
Estado Soberano de Cundinamarca -
Colombian Rep. (Cundinamarca).
Estado Soberano de Santander - Co-
lombian Rep. (Santander).
Estados Unidos de Colombia - Colum-
bian Republic.
Estados Unidos de Nueva Granada -
Colombian Republic 1861.
Estero - Italy, (for foreign offices).
Es. U. S. de Colombia - Colombian
Rep. (Antioquia and Bolivar).
Esp. - Spain 1872.
España - Spain.
Etablissements De L' Inde - French
India.
Etablissements De L' Oceanie - Fren-
ch Oceania.
Etat Ind. du Congo - Congo Free State.
Etranger - Sweden.
E. U. de Colombia - Colombian Rep.
Express - Denmark.
Falta de Porte - Mexico unpaid, 1891.
Federacion - Venezuela.
Fernando Poo - Fernando Po.
Ferro Carril del Norte - Gautemala.
Fiji - Fiji Islands.
Fiji Times Express - Fiji Islands.
Filip as Impresos - Philippine Islands.
Filipinas - Philippine Islands.
For Registration Only - Great Britain,
registered envelope, 1878.
Francais - France.
Franca Caripata - Bolivia (Coripata
local).
Franco - Bavaria, Buenos Ayers, Han-
over, Mexico, Persia, Philippine
Ids., Saxony, Switzerland, Spain.
Franco Bollo - Italy, Modena, Provi-
sional 1859; Two Sicilies, Tuscany.
Franco Bollo Postale - Italy, Naples,
Romagna, Roman States, Tuscany
Franco Bollo Postale Italiano - Italy.
Franco En Guadalajara - Mexico, 1869
Franco et Monterey - Mexico.
Franco Marke - Bremen, 1855, 1861,
envelope.

Franco Scrisorei - Roumania, 1862.
Franqueo - Peru, Spain.
Franqueo Impresos - Spain, 1867, 1872.
Freimarke - Baden, Germany, Prussia,
Meck-Schwerin, Sweden, Wurt-
temberg.
Freimarke Post-Verein - Baden, 1860,
1862.
Freimarke - Denmark, Norway, Swe-
den.
Freimarke Kgl. Post - Denmark, 1851.
Freimarke Lokalfref - Sweden (local).
F. R. M. Danish West Indies, Den-
mark, Schleswig - Holstein.
Fuera de Hora - Uruguay, "Too late",
1879-82.
Fuerte - Venezuela.
G. - Griqualand West.
Gazettei - Roumania.
Gazette Estere - Modena, Parma.
G. D. de Luxembourg - Luxemburg.
Golfe de Benin - Benin, 1892.
Gebuhren - Marke Bavaria, Telegraph.
Grand Duché de Luxembourg - Lux-
embourg.
Givenali Stampe - Italy, newspaper,
1861.
Government City Dispatch - United
States, Carrier's Stamp, 1851.
G. P. E. - Guadaloupe.
Grossh. Mecklend. Schwerin - Meck-
lenburg Schwerin, env., 1856.
Guine - Guinea, 1879.
Guine Portugueza - Guinea.
Guyane - French Guinea.
Guy Franc - French Guinea, 1887.
G. W. - Griqualand West.
Habilitado - Philippine Ids., Spain.
Haiti - Hayti.
Hamburg Postmarke - Hamburg.
Hankow - L. P. O. - Hankow (China).
Hawaiian Postage - Hawaii, 1852, 1859.
Helsinki - Finland.
Hekingfors - Finland.
Hekingissa - Finland.
Helvetia - Switzerland.
Herzogth, Holstein - Schleswig - Hol-
stein 1865.
Herzogth. Schleswig - Schleswig-Hol-
stein, 1864.
Herzogthum - Schleswig-Holstein.
H. H. Nawab Shah Jahanbegam -
Bhopaul (India).
H. I. and U. S. - Hawaii, 1852.
H. I. Postage - Hawaii.
Holte Landpost - Denmark (local).
Honolulu - Hawaii, 1853.
Horten By Post - Norway (local).
H. R. Z. G. L. - (Schleswig-Holstein).
Hrzgl. Post Frmrk - Schleswig-Hol-
stein, 1864.
Ikke Expres - Denmark.
Ile de la Reunion - Reunion Islands.
Imper reg posta austr - Austrian-Le-
vant Post Offices.
Imperial Japanese Post - Japan.
Imperio Mexicano - Mexico, 1866.
Imp to De Guerra - Spain, War Stamp
Impresos - Spain.
Impuesto de Guerra - Spain, war
stamp, 1873, 1875.
India Port - Portuguese Indies.
India Portugueza - Portuguese Indies.
Inland - Liberia, 1881.
Inland Revenue - Great Britain (Rev-
enue), 1881.
Instruccion Boliver - Venezuela, 1893.
Interinsular Postage - Bahamas, 1859.
Inter Island - Hawaii, 1859.
(To be continued.)

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32	1p	violet	"	70	10
42	1sh	brown	used	75	10
44	1/2p	orange	"	75	10
45	1p	violet	new	06	10
46	2p	"	"	10	10
48	3p	ultramarine	"	15	10
51	6p	"	"	25	10
52	1sh	brown	"	60	10
52	1sh	"	used	—	10
53	5sh	green	"	—	10
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THE READING TABLE.

What We Find in the Journals of the Hour.

The Monthly Journal, London, England.

We are a little late in reviewing the October 31st number of the Monthly Journal, but, fortunately, its contents are not such as spoil by keeping. The leading editorial for the month deals in incisive and telling fashion with certain considerations that arise out of the collecting of surcharged stamps. We have not space to reproduce the entire thread of the argument, but the following paragraph sums up its most salient points:—

"If collectors were to disregard surcharged stamps altogether, we believe that philately would lose very little of its interest, and we are sure that the floods of surcharged rubbish which so frequently afflict us would entirely cease. In fact, in a very few years there would be hardly any fresh varieties of that nature to collect. It should be remembered that in small places, such as those from which these things usually emanate, provisional stamps are absolutely unnecessary; if the worst comes to the worst, the authorities can fall back upon the old system of receiving payment in cash, that was in use before stamps were invented; and if the local postmasters were compelled to do this in every case where it became necessary we should hear very little of the most useful varieties running short and there would be no inducement to speculators to try to create a dearth. Any legitimate object that provisionals may have had is, as a rule, entirely defeated by their being at once bought up; and so matters go from bad to worse. The postoffice gains a certain amount of illegitimate revenue, the speculator (in some cases at all events) derives a considerable amount of unearned increment,

and the collector is fleeced in any case."

Such views as these, coming from such a source, cannot but command the widest attention and should stir up afresh the question whether it would not be well for all collectors save the advanced specialists to adjure surcharged stamps in general and the surcharged provisionals in particular. Surcharged stamps have unquestionably become an unmitigated nuisance. They are collectible, of course, if one wishes; but they certainly have little to recommend them to the collector of moderate means, who can ill afford to double or treble, for the sake of including surcharged varieties, the expenditure that would otherwise be ample to build up a reasonably representative collection. On the score of general philatelic utility, we should be glad to see the collecting of surcharged varieties discouraged as much as possible, both by dealers and by the press of our pursuit. It may be noted in passing that the philatelist who does not collect surcharges need have little fear that his album will entertain forgeries unaware—the makers of imitations having practically abandoned the forging of stamps in toto for the far easier branch of operations which involves only the placing of a fraudulent surcharge on a genuine stamp. This fact alone should supply sufficient reason for giving surcharged stamps the cold shoulder—unless one is a real expert, in which case some, but not all, of the dangers of the situation are removed.

The other editorials in the M. J. concern certain books lately issued for the philatelist's behoof, which we shall speak of elsewhere.

Mr. C. J. Phillips has discovered four hitherto unknown types of the D. O. Blood & Co. Locals—hitherto unknown, that is to say to the public at large, for one person, at least, has been aware of their existence, namely, Mr. Wm. Moser, who discovered them on the correspondence of an old and prominent Philadelphia

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lawyer, and of whose collection they are now an honored part. Illustrations of these four new types appear in connection with Mr. Phillips's article regarding them, and there seems no reason to regard them as otherwise than genuine. Their design (if we may dignify it by that name) is of very primitive description, and we may presume that they antedated the various other Blood Locals whose existence has long been known to philately. At the same time it is a little strange that no other specimens of

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these four types should have ever turned up.

Mr. Hancian's monograph on "The Stamps of Finland" has its usual installment of two or three pages, and next Mr. Phillips, in his "Notes and News," treats a variety of matters in his usual happy manner. Particularly are we interested in his account of the London Society's annual dinner, held this year at the Imperial Restaurant, in Regent Street, and presided over by the Earl of Crawford. Bits from some of the toasts are given, and altogether Mr. Phillips' report of the doings of the evening gives added proof (were any such needed) that stamp collecting is an excellent promoter of jolly good-fellowship. Another one of Major Evans' "Native States" papers, this time on the stamps of Simoor, and various society reports conclude the number.

The Australian Philatelist, Sydney, Australia.

The November number of our Australian contemporary comes promptly to hand. This journal is, in fact, the pattern of punctuality, and no stamp paper from abroad reaches us with such unflinching precision on or about a certain date each month. Nor is its punctuality its only virtue. It is seldom, indeed, that it does not contain matter which we can peruse with consciousness of time well spent, and Australian philately could not easily, in our judgment, possess a surer or more efficient organ. Mr. Hagen is never unsound or erratic in his editorial views—which form each month perhaps the paper's most interesting feature. He is ever preaching the sane and the sensible in collecting methods and urging his readers to earnestness and activity along lines that contribute not only to the individual, but also to the general philatelic good. In the current number he discourses at length on the need for closer interchange of ideas among philatelists. Collectors, he considers, live, in a philatelic sense, too far apart. They are too chary of showing their collections; they are too reserved and formal in their intercourse with fellow-collectors; they are too apathetic in the matter of giving aid and encouragement to their philatelically weaker brethren. And he pleads for more of the fraternal spirit, more open-hearted display and discussion of collections at society meetings, more practical work by individuals for the general philatelic welfare—in which plea we of a surety most heartily join in. The taking of regular club-rooms by the Sydney society, to be run somewhat after the manner of the Collectors' Club in New York, is largely the occasion for Mr. Hagen's plea. Undoubtedly it is a bold step, and one which, to prove successful, will require something more than the passive acquiescence of the membership in the new order of things, with a casual call, perhaps, once or twice a fortnight. We sincerely trust that Mr. Hagen will succeed in so

stirring up Sydney collectors that the new move will be unqualifiedly successful.

Other editorials deal with "Picture Postcards" and with "Forged and Faked Stamps"—the latter being a strong plea to the French philatelic societies to take legal action against the notorious Fournier, who is again flooding the mails with his "Catalogue of Fac-Similes." Mr. Blockey's "Priced Catalogue of South Australian Stamps" continues to be of real interest to collectors fancying the issues treated. The term catalogue, as applied to it, is something of a misnomer, as in addition to the lists of varieties and prices it gives many useful notes anent those of the varieties which present greatest difficulty of identification and classification. Mr. Bassett Hull's lecture on philately is continued from a previous number, and we can well understand, after perusing it, the interest in its matter which his audience, largely composed of non-philatelists, is stated to have displayed. "Sentimental Philately," Society Reports and various miscellaneous matter furnish the balance of the month's reading.

THE CABINET.

A Department Devoted to Coins and Curios.

Interesting Facts About Our Nation's Coinage

(Continued from No. 14 page 8.)

Nickels and Dimes.

"It was in 1866 that the first nickel piece was coined, and it has come from the mint every year since except 1877, then appearing in proof and worth from 50 cents to \$1. new. Dimes were first minted in 1796, and have been issued every year since with the exceptions of 1799, 1808, 1810, 1812, 1813, 1815, 1819. Here the year 1804 gets in its work again, the dime of the coinage of that year selling for from \$6 to \$10. Quarters come next, the first coming from the mint in 1796 and again in 1804, continuing until 1807, but after this none were issued until 1815. There was no issue in 1816, 1817 and 1826. Barring these years there has been a coinage of silver quarters every year up to the present. The quarter of 1823 is rated at from \$20 to \$50, and that of 1827 at from \$25 to \$50. I am reliably informed that there are but three genuine quarters of the last-named year known to be in existence.

The Helves and Dollars.

"The coinage of silver half dollars began in 1794 and has been continuous with the exceptions of the years 1798, 1799, 1804 and 1816. Those coined in 1796 and 1797 are the most valuable to numismatists, selling readily for from \$20 to \$25. Issue of 1794, 1801, 1802 and 1815 are rated by collectors at from \$2.50 to \$5.

"There are silver dollars other than those of 1804, which are worth good money. Those issued in 1836, 1838 and 1839 being quoted at from \$6 to \$25 each, while the issues of 1854 and 1855 will bring from \$1.25 to \$4 each. Funny, isn't it, that a silver dollar of 1804 will fetch as much as \$1100, while the highest-priced gold dollar brings but \$4—that of 1874?

Freakish Mintage.

"There are a number of valuable gold coins, some of them being what we term freakish mintage, struck for members of Congress and other officials and not intended for circulation. One of the most freakish of these is the \$4 gold piece, authorized by the Coinage Committee of the House in 1878. There was issued 450 of these, and they were paid for by members and Senators and other officials. There was the gold dollar and the metric dollar also, which were freaks and only issued as souvenirs. Lots of time and postage stamps have been wasted by people who want to know about these issues. If you have a five-dollar gold piece of 1822 almost any numismatist will give you \$20 coin of the realm for it. Of these there are only three known to be in existence. Coin collectors don't hanker after gold coin much.

"I believe I have about gone over the list of rare coins and given the prices paid by collectors. We have so many inquiries about 'old coins' from people in every section of the inhabited globe that 'quotations' are not difficult to give. The counterfeiter—and he has been getting in his work ever since the days when Polycrates purchased the department of the Lacedaemonians from Samos by striking off a large number of pieces of lead cased with gold like the coin of the country and paid these to the unwary soldiers—will continue to keep some of the collectors guessing. Fine specimens of the forger's art are found in the 1804 silver dollar, where the figure '1' is removed from the 1801 dollar and a '4' inserted. Put many of the rare coins are counterfeited."

Remenyi the well known violin virtuoso, has a great collection of rare African ethnological specimens which comprise over 1500 carefully selected articles. It has been formed during the last forty years, and is beyond question the most perfect of its kind. It is especially rich in the ancient regal symbols in use among the Zulus, including scepters, royal bracelets, which were used instead of crowns, and other emblems of hammered silver or carved and polished ivory and of rhinoceros horn. The royal bracelets are especially interesting. They are hollowed rings made from transverse sections of huge elephant tusks, and until his death were never taken off after once placed on the arm of the king. There are also several splendid specimens of the exceedingly rare and beautiful royal mantles of the sovereigns of Madagascar three hundred or more years ago. These mantles are curiously adorned with broderies of metal and of uncut precious stones and of feather work. Every specimen in the collection is perfect and unique of its kind.

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STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

VOL. 1.

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, DECEMBER 31, 1904.

No. 16.

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LONDON LETTER.

Fred J. Melville.

The new half-penny stamp, or rather the old ones in a new color, have been in use since Monday last. They are of a very yellow-green and it cannot be said that there is any improvement in their appearance. Yet they will probably serve the purpose for which the change was made, namely, to enable one more readily to distinguish between the ½d. and the 2½d. stamps, the colors of which were not dissimilar and led frequently to confusion.

I have just received Messrs. Brights' new catalogue, the 1905 edition of the popular "A B C" priced catalogue, which is very creditable production and one which finds favor among collectors here in that it gives both adhesives and entires, British and foreign, in one compact volume. The new book presents a somewhat similar appearance to the familiar red Gibbons Part I, the color being almost identical. As regards the prices in Brights' catalogue opinions differ, and I cannot venture upon an estimate of them, being totally unacquainted with such matters as market values. To many collectors "prices" are their strong points. They know the catalogue price of nearly every stamp catalogued at a dime or more. They would be better able to judge for themselves what Brights' prices are like than one who simply collects for the pure pleasure of doing so and never ventures to value his collection.

Writing of valuing collections reminds me of a discussion which took place at the Wheatsheaf Institute on how to value a stamp collection. Sev-

The Modern Postage Stamp Album.

A new Album for beginners. 258 pages, over 2,200 illustrations and will contain spaces for 10,000 stamps, also the Arms, Flags and Rulers.

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There will be 94 lots of Match and Medicine, 119 lots of regular Revenues and balance in U. S. Postage foreign etc. Catalogue free to auction buyers. Want it?

1905 ed. 64th Stamp Catalogue - 90 58
Pocket Stock Bk. cloth holds 500 stamps 25
800 Variety packet - - - 2 75

P. M. Wolsieffer

Auction Sale Specialist.

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Philadelphia Letter.

Holiday activities are on in this city, and what with auction sales and the sales of Christmas albums and packets, philately has held her own against the more material lines of trade. All dealers report business brisk, and after December 25 the small boy trade, with the coins discovered in the toes of their stockings, will keep things from lagging until trade conditions re-establish themselves.

The Philadelphia Philatelic Society held its regular meeting on December 7. The question of permanent quarters was one of the most important subjects for discussion, and there are prospects of a meeting room and library room being obtained in an institution that will not only be ideal in all particulars, but will lend much prestige to the hobby with the scientific men of our city.

Owing to a misunderstanding the competition exhibit was postponed until the following meeting. Mr. Repplier, the secretary, showed his collection of Great Britain and British Colonials. It is quite a fine one, both in quantity and quality, but its chief feature is the arrangement. Mr. Repplier has excluded space for impossibles, likewise leaving out sub-varieties and this gives the collection an air of completeness not often seen.

The auction sale held on December 17 by Mr. Percival Parrish, of the Scott Stamp and Coin Co., was unusually well attended. There were some features of this sale that were out of the ordinary. Lots 185 to 249 inclusive contained nothing but match, medicine, perfumery and playing card

(Continued on page 5.)

eral philatelists expressed various opinions. One said you should count the face value of every unused specimen and reckon half catalogue value of used stamps worth over sixpence. Another suggested that simply taking the stamps priced at sixpence and over, and taking one-third of the total would produce a more correct valuation. If either of these gentlemen were near the mark it is not an over-pleasant thing for our friends who collect stamps solely with the hope of selling at a premium. It will be generally agreed that few can buy at as low as half catalogue, stamps which they want. Then if they should be to sell at one-third (or less) catalogue price, and neglect all the thousands of stamps which they paid those many odd pence, twopences, and so on for, their total loss would be pretty heavy.

Which, then, is the way to value a collection? I say value it for itself and its associations. Value it for the delight it has given and will continue to give you so long as you keep and cherish it. Value it for the memories it recalls of pleasant hunts after out-of-the-way varieties and scarce examples. Value it, I say, as an old friend, one which has always been ready to keep you company in your lonely leisure and in times of worry, when a mere human companion might have irritated you. This is to me, who never made a good stampic speculation, or even secured a bargain worth the name, the only way I dare value the contents of a few small volumes which to me are large enough for all times of leisure and of quiet recreation.

I do not wish it to be supposed that there are not times in the lives of a

(Continued on page 5.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

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E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

YE EDITOR DISCOURSETH.

The Sins

Of the Make-Up Man.

At this gladsome holiday-time, when peace and brotherly love prevail in every bosom, it ill becomes us to speak aught of bitterness against any of our fellow-men, much less against a fellow-laborer in our own particular corner of the vineyard. Yet truth is at all times great and good and beautiful; and we cannot refrain from mentioning the fact that our make-up man has lately tried us sorely. We have a way (a poor way, doubtless, but dear to us from force of habit), of stringing these editorials together by a more or less slender thread of connection. Sometimes the various sections into which the sub-headings divide our discourse have no relation to each other in subject—but often it is the case that succeeding paragraphs dwell on different phases of the same topic (a sub-head being thrown in now and then to vary the monotony), and still oftener, that the subject undergoes some change as we proceed, but that each separately headed division of our scribblings is to some extent suggested by, and the outgrowth of, the division immediately preceding. When, therefore (as has happened once or twice lately), the exigencies of space necessitate some amputation of these editorials after they are in type, and some portions are carried over to the next number, the sense of the left-over lots is sometimes a bit awry—as in cases recently where at the very opening line of our editorials we have referred to such and such of our remarks in "the preceding paragraph." The preceding paragraph in such cases as this, dear reader, was in the paper of the week before: the make-up man the culprit, not ourselves. The whole matter is but a trifle, yet we confess that it has annoyed us, and that we feel the better for thus unbosoming ourselves. We like it not to have

the reader think that the editorial mind disdains logical connection, and prefer even to unvell the innermost secrets of the press-room rather than leave that impression undisturbed. We have but too many shortcomings of our own—if we must also bear the burden of all lapses made in the mechanical departments of the paper we would be doomed to carry a weary weight, indeed.

A Fertile Season

For Philatelic Literature.

The Winter of 1904-1905 bids fair to be, as respects the appearance of books treating of philatelic subjects, the most fertile on record. The number of new works dealing with various phases of philately which the season has already brought forth is surprisingly large, and we agree with Major Evans, of the Monthly Journal, in thinking that the appearance of such a considerable number of books, averaging so high in both literary and philatelic excellence, is a most healthy and hopeful sign of the times. The pecuniary rewards of philatelic authorship are scanty—nor are they greatly enhanced when, as in some recent cases, the author is his own publisher. Or, to put it in other words, the publishing of such works is little, if any, more profitable from a financial standpoint than the writing of them. Hence the fact that men have undertaken the writing of these works, almost purely as a labor of love, and that stamp firms have been willing to assume the labor and outlay of putting them on the market, without hope of any appreciable profit from their production, speaks grandly for the philatelic earnestness and enthusiasm of both authors and publishers. Every ably-written book on any philatelic subject adds something to the dignity of our craft. The richer the printed literature that any special pursuit possesses, the deeper its claim to public respect; and the deeper the respect it commands from its own adherents. A shelfful of books pertaining to philately is a powerful object lesson as to the intellectual character of the pursuit—a vivid refutation of the too common notion that stamp collecting is a childish pursuit, practiced principally by the youthful. We emphasize this phase of the matter because the still greater cause for rejoicing, the fact that the philatelic student is instructed, entertained and stimulated by such books and that many of these books greatly enrich the world's store of philatelic learning, should be too obvious to require comment. It is a pity that such a small proportion of philatelists avail themselves fully of these works and build up philatelic libraries of respectable size. Doubtless the failure to do so is in most cases ascribable to the fact of the collector being a generalist, and therefore not being able to bring himself into sympathy with works handling "specialists' subjects" after the specialist manner; or that,

being a specialist himself, he is not interested in books dealing with other specialties than his own.

We believe, however, that almost any philatelist of the true fibre will derive no inconsiderable amount of both pleasure and profit from the perusal of any work treating with conspicuous ability any subject related to philately, however remote it may be from his own pet portion of the philatelic preserve. It is a narrow-minded philatelist who cannot find interest in such works, for instance, as the Rev. Hayman Cummings' newly-published book on College Stamps, even though no one but Englishmen themselves actually collect the college emissions. Philatelists ought to buy more philatelic books than they do. They are missing a great deal of good by being parsimonious in their purchases of philatelic books.

The Books

In Question.

We have said above that most philatelic works of the hour are devoted to specialist topics and treated from the specialist standpoint. How true this is may be discerned by briefly running over the list of those that have appeared within the last month or so. There is, first, the work on "British Indian Adhesive Stamps (Queen's Head) Surcharged for Native States," written by Messrs. C. Stewart Wilson and B. Gordon Jones in collaboration and published by the Philatelic Society of India. This, manifestly, is of specialism specialistic. The Rev. Hayman Cummings' book on "College Stamps of Oxford and Cambridge" is a work of more general interest, but treats an equally restricted field. Mr. Melville's "Postage Stamps of Great Britain" deals with the emissions of a whole country, but is not, for all that, to be considered a book for general philatelic reading, in all parts and parcels of the globe. Mr. Alex. Holland's "Postage Stamps of Siam" is in the same category, and so are Messrs. Bartele, Foster and Palmer's "Postage Stamps of the Philippines," Herr Reinheimer's work on the Martin Schroeder Collection of Essays, Mr. George L. Toppan's work on "Proofs of U. S. Stamps," and a number of other more or less elaborate monographs that have lately appeared. We do not mention this specialistic trend of the philatelic books of the period in any deprecatory vein, but simply note it as an interesting fact.

Renewed Interest

In Proofs and Essays.

It is pleasant to observe a renewed interest in proofs and essays, as evidenced by the almost simultaneous appearance in Germany and America of works dealing with this particular sub-division of the philatelic field—namely, the books hitherto referred to as from the pen of Herr A. Reinheimer and Mr. Geo. L. Toppan, respectively. The collection and study

of proofs and essays is not attempted by any very considerable number of collectors, perhaps largely owing to the fact that they have no fancy for endeavoring to navigate chartless seas. Proofs and essays do not come within the orthodox limits of modern philately. The catalogues list them not, few dealers have many of them to sell, and the study and collection of them is a task beset with difficulties. Consequently, most of us know little about them and seem to care less. Doubtless it will always be so, because there are never many collectors who have the courage and energy to go outside the conventional limits of philately. But we trust that as time goes by the attention given proofs and essays by the few choice souls who like to travel outside beaten philatelic ruts may grow continually deeper and more earnest. For both proofs and essays have much to tell us on many points which the stamp student wants to know about—they take us behind the scenes, as it were, and show us "what might have been" in stamp designs or color or kind of paper or what not, permitting a comparison with "what is" that proves in many cases both highly interesting and highly instructive. We hope that some day some great authority on proofs and essays may be moved to write a book dealing as comprehensively as possible with the known specimens of these two classes in all the world's stamps—with the addition, of course, of copious illustrations of specially interesting specimens, such as we understand are the great feature of Herr Reinheimer's book. Perhaps we hope too hardily in hoping thus. Perhaps the task we set can only be done piecemeal, in such small bites as in the two books hitherto referred to. But whether this be so or not, the real lover of stamp lore should be profoundly thankful that the ice of literary neglect which has so long covered this interesting philatelic field is now broken. For, ransack our memory as we can, we recall no previous volume on the philatelist's book shelves dealing wholly with either proofs or essays, or both.

The

Don Quixote Stamp.

We are rather sorry to hear, from European sources that we regard as presumably reliable, that the "Don Quixote Stamp" is not likely to materialize. Sorry, because literature has long enough lacked representation in stamp design, and this would have set a precedent. We are quite in sympathy with all that Mr. Melville said on this topic in a recent one of his "London Letters." Doubtless his suggestions were half playfully meant—but, after all, why should they not be made in a perfectly sober, serious spirit. The world's great names in literature occupy as exalted a place in the Hall of Fame as do the world's great names in political and military history. Why might not an English stamp most fitly bear a bust of

Shakespeare or one of our own stamps the head of Longfellow or Hawthorne? The United States has honored on its stamps many men to whom we, as a people, are less deeply in debt than to, not only Longfellow and Hawthorne, but a dozen other men of great achievement in American literature. Every leading nation of Europe has employed stamp designs less symbolical of its character as a nation than the effigy of such of its sons as have enriched and ennobled its literature and learning. We repeat that we regret the abandonment of the Don Quixote series, not only for its own sake, but also for the sake of its example.

LONDON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

large proportion of collectors when necessity arises for the disposal by sale of their collections. In that case it is advisable to keep it in good condition, that the stamps may at least not lose anything in condition during one's proprietorship of them. Then, too, as a practical gentleman who took part in a debate mentioned, in selling an unwanted collection to a dealer it is likely to be of greater value to him if all the perforations, matemarks and other varieties are carefully arranged, that he may not be compelled to go through them all himself and thus waste precious time. Such forethought, and taking care to be judicious in one's expenditure on stamps are not, I think, much connected but let not the "what are my stamps worth?" and "what do they catalogue to this year?" frighten away all the pleasure which the quiet study of the world's postage stamp can afford.

I want to refer to a book which has just been published, treating of "The College Stamps of Oxford and Cambridge." It is by a sometime President of the Oxford Philatelic Society, the Rev. Hayman Cummings. These stamps, is necessary of good philately, ed outside this country, little or nothing accurate being generally known about their status. Even now in England there are several of the stamps which are included in collections which it is very doubtful whether they were ever used for local postal purposes at all.

Both the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge had long enjoyed "liberties, rights and privileges of having special carriers to carry and re-carry letters," and to these rights the introduction of the Uniform Penny Postage scheme made no difference. As the authors of the London Society's work on the British Isles point out, however, "the creation and use of stamps rests on a different footing altogether, and without attempting to go into the legal aspect of the question, it is sufficient to say that after the unmolested use of stamps, in some cases for several years, pressure was at length brought to bear on the colleges in question, in consequence of

which the use of stamps, or stationery of a postal character, was discontinued."

The college stamps were used from 1870 to 1886, and that they franked letters carried by college messengers is unquestioned. Lord John Manners was the Postmaster General at the time of their suppression, and the chief objection to the college postal systems were:—

1. The providing of special boxes for the deposit of letters.
2. The clearance of these for delivery at stated times.
3. The payment of a fee per letter, not to the messenger, but to the college, or a fixed annual or terminal charge for delivery.
4. The use of stamps to denote payments.

Keble College, Oxford, led the way in the issue of stamps, starting in 1870, followed by Merton, Lincoln, Hertford, Exeter, All Souls' and St. John's, at Oxford, and Selwyn, Queen's and St. John's College at Cambridge. Stamps were prepared for Balliol, Oxford, but were not issued. These individual issues are very ably and fully treated by Mr. Hayman Cummings in his book. As many of the stamps were little more than specially prepared impressions of the college crests, there has been some confusion as to which were used merely on ordinary stationery and which for postal purposes. A reprinted parcel stamp for Keble is dismissed by Mr. Cummings, and in connection with this he gives a glimpse of the college messenger (a Mr. W. H. Bunce) on his rounds, from that worthy's own description of his postal duties.

The Bursar, says Mr. Cummings, at the time was J. A. Shaw-Stewart, Esq., who met him, the college messenger, in the town near St. John's College, carrying his usual load, books in one arm, parcels of clothes in the other, a leathern wallet from the postoffice suspended from his shoulder; thirteen or fourteen oil cans, through the handles of which a cord was passed, hanging over his back; and the Bursar, wishing to speak to him, seemed annoyed that he should be obliged to unload his cans to the pavement in order to hear what he had to say.

"All these various commodities," Mr. Cummings adds, "books, parcels, oil cans, were franked each by a half-penny stamp. From that time forward, however, we must presume as a result of this rencontre, the charges were by order increased; for one book was charged a half-penny, three books, twopence, a parcel of clothes, twopence, but still there was no parcel stamp."

The book, which has been published at 3-6 net, is well illustrated and printed and is handsomely bound. Up to the present this is the only philatelic work published in England this season which is worth bringing before the notice of stamp lovers.

A Page of Precept

For Young Collectors.

(Conducted by the Editor.)

Regular readers of this paper will readily recall the "Abridged Philatelic Dictionary" published in our columns a short time since—a feature which we rather hastily compiled for the information of those of our readers not sufficiently acquainted with philately to understand the exact meaning of all the technical words and phrases that must necessarily be more or less used in a paper of this kind. We have lately run across another "Philatelic Dictionary," in an English publication called the Stamp Collector's Annual, about which our "Reading Table" has something to say. If you will look the matter up. And as this English dictionary defines quite a number of terms overlooked in our own much less ambitious attempt in the same direction, we think we can make no better use of this page this week than to quote some of the Stamp Collector Annual's definitions, where they cover matters not yet alluded to in this department, together with such further comments on the topics treated as may happen to suggest themselves to us.

Young collectors are often puzzled at the term "De La Rue issues," often used in speaking of various British and British Colonial stamps. The S. C. A. explains the meaning of the term as follows: "The present printers of the stamps of Great Britain and of many British Colonial issues are Messrs. De La Rue & Co., of London. Stamps issuing from their factory are spoken of, among philatelists, as 'De La Rue printings.'"

It may be added to this that Messrs. Waterlow & Sons, also of London, are likewise very prominent stamp printers—hence the companion term "Waterlow issues."

The definition of the term "Fakes," in its philatelic sense, is particularly good as showing the exact distinction between a "Fake" and a "Forgery"—which many young collectors presume to be one and the same thing. On this point the S. C. A. speaks as follows:—

"A fake is not exactly a forgery, since by the word 'forgery' we generally mean a stamp that is an out-and-out counterfeit. By the slang word 'fake' a philatelist indicates a stamp which has been transformed from a thing of no account into a variety of some value by some addition to, or some alteration of, the original design. Thus a stamp changed by chemical means to a rarer shade of color is a 'fake,' a stamp to which a forged surcharge is applied is a 'fake,' a fiscal stamp from which the fiscal cancellation has been cleaned, and an ordinary postmark substituted, is a 'fake.' There are a hundred and one forms of fakery, but the object is always the same—namely, to make an illicit profit by defrauding the stamp collector."

"Gumpaps" is a term less used than formerly, but still it crops up occasionally in philatelic print. The S. C. A. thus explains its significance:

"Gumpaps."—A coined word. Under this head are classed all those 'commemorative' and other issues which are suspected of being issued solely with a view of raising revenue from stamp collectors."

Young collectors are often at a loss to understand why a stamp should be designated as "Postally Used." The S. C. A. explains that any stamp that has paid postage is described as "postally used" to distinguish it from a "Fiscally Used" or "Telegraphically Used" specimen. To this let us add the further explanation that in many countries cases have arisen where postage stamps have been used in lieu of revenue stamps on documents, etc., when shortage in revenue stamps made some such makeshift necessary; and that, conversely, fiscal (revenue) stamps have often, in similar emergency, done duty as postage stamps. A fiscal stamp postally used is considered by collectors to thereby acquire the philatelic status of a regular postage stamp and collectible as such.

The subject of "Provisionals" is well handled, as follows:—

"Provisional or 'Emergency' Issues are stamps created to supply a temporary need, caused by a sudden or unforeseen shortage in the stock of ordinary stamps. A 'Provisional' is, in the majority of cases, created by surcharging the values desired on surplus stamps of another denomination, but it sometimes happens that an entirely new stamp of simple design is hastily improvised by means of printer's type, etc. Stamps have sometimes been cut in halves, horizontally, vertically or diagonally, each half being used as a separate stamp. The 10 centimes Unpaid Letter Stamp of Belgium was so treated (in order to provide a 5 centimes stamp) throughout a period of no less than twenty-five years. We call such provisionals "Bi-sectioned Stamps" or "Split Provisionals." In some cases each half of the divided stamp receives a surcharge of a new value, as in the case of the well known Barbadoes '1d. on half of 5s.'"

"What are re-constructed sheets" is a query that many a young collector is inclined to make. The S. C. A. thus explains the enigma of the re-constructed sheet:—

"For many years past philatelic specialists have devoted themselves to the re-construction of complete sheets of stamps by a patient accumulation of the various specimens necessary for the purpose. A stamp that has been 'plated' (as the expression is) more frequently than any other is the British 1d. red, with letters in all four corners. By means of the corner letters on these stamps it is an easy matter to determine the exact position on the original sheet of any individual specimen."

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Peru 1898, 1, 2, 5c 3 var. comp.		12
Cuba 1899, 1c 10c on U. S. 6 var. comp.		80
British Honduras 1895-98, 5c blue		15
Uruguay 1895-96, 10c brown		25
Uruguay 1900, 10c gray lilac		10

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The subject of "Remainders" is treated as follows:—

"An unsold stock of stamps placed on the stamp market for sale to collectors is described as a 'Government Remainder.' At the time of the federation of the Leeward Islands for postal purposes in 1890, the unsold stocks of separate stamps of Antigua, Dominica, etc., were disposed of by tender, the purchaser being Mr. T. H. Thompson. More recently there has been a large 'find' of a remainder of the 'cents' issue of Nova Scotia, while at the present time the Crown Agents for the Colonies are seeking to sell a large quantity of obsolete stamps of St. Helena. It is due to the sale of Government Remainders to the stamp trade that many old issues are commoner unused than used, despite the fact that unused stamps are nowadays in much greater demand than post-marked specimens."

The definition of "Reprints" is so much clearer and more concise than the one in our own "Dictionary" that we must reprint it. The S. C. A. says:

"Reprinted stamps are impressions taken from the original printing plates after the official issue to the public has ceased. There are private reprints and government reprints, the first supplied to the order of some dealer or speculator who has secured possession of the original dies, while the latter are made by the government itself. Many so-called 'reprints' are nothing better than forgeries. Governments have occasionally manufactured imitations of their own postal issues, as in the well known case of the 5c and 10c stamps of the United States first issue."

Philadelphia Letter.

(Continued from page 1.)

stamps, while lots 250 to 303 were made up entirely of proofs of the same classes of stamps. All the above sold at good prices. Mr. Carter's new album seems to have caused a boom in Revenues and "M. & M's". There were also a number of fine U. S. envelopes which went at bargain prices, probably because they were all "cut-squares" save one. That one, 2c red on blue "entire", Scott's No. 1521, sold for \$10.00. Is not the handwriting on the wall sufficiently plain for even the "cut-square" advocate to see?

Denmark, hitherto wholly guiltless of issuing any surcharged stamps on her own account (we make no mention of Colonial issues) has at last fallen from grace. A couple of recent surcharges on the stamps of this kingdom have still further narrowed the list of countries that have never resorted to surcharging - which is now so scanty a list, indeed, as to be almost no list at all.

Ecuador is the latest to enter the commemorative issue game—she having lately issued a set, for internal use only, intended to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Abdon Corderon, the father of Ecuador's independence. We have received no details as to the designs.

**A New Book
On Indian Stamps.**

The Philatelic Society of India has lately issued a revised and enlarged edition of "British Indian Adhesive Stamps (Queens Heads) Surcharged for Native States", the first edition of which appeared in 1897, and has been for some time out of print. The former work was by Mr. C. Stewart-Wilson only; but in the present edition Mr. Stewart-Wilson and Mr. B. Gordon Jones are co-authors. The work is stated to be of the highest excellence; and will doubtless prove of great interest and value to philatelists fancying the somewhat out-of-the-way class of stamps of which the book treats. We fancy that few American or European collectors pay much attention to them - and that the sale of the book will be principally confined to India itself. The enterprise of the Indian Society in issuing an elaborate work on a subject appealing to a limited class of collectors only speaks well for that Society's earnestness of purpose.

**Do Not Wash
These Stamps.**

For the benefit of beginners here is a fairly complete list of those stamps that are liable to deteriorate by the washing process:—

- Afghanistan, current type.
- Belgium, the recent issues.
- Bhore.
- Cashmere, all the early issues.
- Russia, most of the earlier stamps.
- Soruth, the first stamp.
- Australasia, several values of the current stamps.
- Great Britain, all issues.

In addition to the above, no stamp of which any part is embossed should be put in water.

Philatelic Chronicle.

English As Sometimes Written.

The following specimen of the foreign interpretation of the English language has reached us:—

"I take hereby the liberty, an inquiry to be made. I should like to see, if you would send me some postage stamps, being a great friend of these ones. I have used my utmost endeavours to satisfy myself in this manner, and when I have now the honor of addressing you by this, I hope that this will plead my apology with you. You can have, I think so, the most different stamps of all parts of the world, chiefly from the innumerable small and large islands which are around, besides from all the other countries with which you are in mercantile connexion. Hoping that you send me occasionally a large number (perhaps) of the different stamps, I should exult. Begging you beforehand to excuse the trouble, I am occasioning, I have the honour to be, gentlemen, Yours respectfully"

Australian Philatelist.

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	7	03	03		20	02	02
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An Identification List of Stamp Inscriptions.

(Continued from No. 15 page 6.)

Isle De Cuba - Cuba, 1890, 1891.
 Island - Iceland.
 J. A. J. & Z - Venezuela (La Guira and St. Thomas), 1869.
 Japanese Empire - Japan, 1876,
 J. B. R. S. - Sarawak.
 Jefatura de Hacienda del Estado de Campeche - Mexico.
 Jornaes - Azores, Maderia, Portugal.
 Jheend State - Jhind.
 J. H. S. - Switzerland (Geneva) 1843.
 Journaux - France.
 Journ x en Franchise - Turkey.
 Kais Koenigl Oesterr Post - Austria '90.
 Kais. Kon - Austria.
 Kais Konigl. - Austria.
 Kais Kon Zeitungs Stempel - Austria, newspaper, 1850; Austrian Italy, 1858.
 Kamehameha I. Hawaii.
 Katchak Posta - Turkey, contraband stamps.
 Kaupungin Post - Finland, local.
 K. G. L. - Danish West Indies, Denmark.
 K. G. L. Post F R. M. - Denmark, 1853, 1864, env. 1865, 1875.
 Kjobenhavus by oghus Telegraf - Denmark.
 K. K. Oest. Telegraphen Marke - Austria, pneumatic envelope.
 K. K. Post Stempel - Austria, 1850.
 K. K. Zeitungs Post Stempel - Austria newspaper, 1851, 1858, 1861, 1863.
 K. Wurtl. - Wurtemberg.
 K. Wurtl-Post - Wurtemberg.
 Kewkiang - Kew Kiang (China)
 Kongeligt Post Frimarke - Denmark, 1851, 1853, 1858.
 Kristianssunds By Post - Norway.
 La Guira - Venezuela (La Guira and St. Thomas).
 La Rey - Bolivia, 1876.
 Land Post - Baden, Denmark.
 Land Post Porto Marke - Baden, unpaid, 1862.
 Libertad - Colombian Republic (Anti-oquia) Venezuela.
 Libertad 15 de Septiembre 1821 - Guatemala.
 Libertas - San Marino.
 Libertas y Orden - Colombian Republic (Cundinamarca).
 Lima - Peru.
 L. McL. - Trinidad, locals issued by owners ship "Lady McLeod".
 Local Taxe - Switzerland (Zurich) 1843.
 Local Bref - Sweden.
 Lokal Post - Finland.
 Losen - Sweden, unpaid, 1874.
 Luebeck - Luebeck, 1883.
 L' Union Fait La Force - Belgium.
 Luxembourg - Luxembourg.
 Macau - Macao.
 Magyar Kir Posta - Hungary.
 Magy. Kir Hirnap Beker - Hungary, newspaper, 1876.
 Mazagan Marakech - Morocco, 1893.
 Mazagan A Maroc - Morocco, 1891.
 Mecklenb. Strelitz - Mecklenberg Strelitz.
 Mecklenb. Schwerin - Mecklenberg-Schwerin, 1856.

Mejico - Mexico.
 Mexicano - Mexico.
 Mocambique - Mozambique.
 Montevideo - Uruguay, 1859.
 Morazan - Barrios - Cubanas - Jerez - Salvador, 1887.
 Neapolitana - Naples.
 Nawab Shah Jahanbegam - Bhopaul
 N. C. E. - New Caledonia, 1881.
 Nederland - Holland and Netherlands
 Nederl Indie - Dutch Indies, 1864.
 Ned Indie - Dutch Indies.
 Nie Caledonia - New Caledonia, 1858.
 Nieuwe Republiek - New Republic.
 No nay Estampillas - Colombian Rep.
 Norddeutscher Postbezirk - Germany (Nothern Postal District) 1868.
 Nord- Deutsche - Post - Germany (Nothern Postal District) official, 1890.
 Norge - Norway.
 N. Z. - New Zealand.
 Oahamapka - Finland, 1866.
 Officially Sealed - Canada; Japan; United States.
 Officiel - Luxemburg.
 Oficina Del Gobierno - Mexico.
 On H. M. S. - India.
 On H. M's Service - India.
 On Public Trust Office Business - New Zealand (Official), 1891.
 Oranje Vrij Staat - Orange Free States.
 Orts Post Locale - Switzerland (Zurich) 1849.
 Os Tenebras ux - Switzerland (Geneva) 1843.
 Pacchi Postali - Italy, Postal Packet stamp.
 Paquete - Venezuela (La Guira and St. Thomas).
 Pax et Justitia - St. Vincent.
 Paz y Justicia - Paraguay.
 Percevoir - Belgium, unpaid.
 Peru Correos - Peru.
 Pjonustu - Iceland, 1876, official.
 Plata - Peru.
 Poczniemjaskawarszawska - Poland 1860 Warsaw envelope.
 Port - Dutch Indies, Holland unpaid, Surinam.
 Port Cantonel - Switzerland (Geneva), 1843.
 Porte - Nicaragua.
 Porte de Mar - Mexico, unpaid letter, 1874-81.
 Porte Franco - Peru.
 Port Local - Switzerland (Geneva) 1843.
 Porto - Costa Rica, Nicaragua Roumania.
 Porto Gazetei - Roumania, 1858.
 Porto Marke - Baden.
 Porto Pflichtige - Wurtemberg, official 1875.
 Porto Stempel - Finland, envelope.
 Portugal Continete - Portugal 1880-81.
 Post - Schleswig-Holstein (Schleswig, 1850), (Holstein, 1864.)
 Post Convert - Germany.
 Posta - Roumania.
 Posta Roumania - Roumania.
 Postage - Great Britain, New South Wales, 1849.
 Postage Due - United States.
 Postage Free - New Zealand (Official).
 Postage and Inland Revenue - Great Britain.
 Postage and Revenue - Great Britain 1883, 1887; North Borneo.
 Postale - Tuscany.
 (To be continued.)

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46	2p	"	"	10
48	3p	ultramarine	"	15
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 Germany 1902, 2Mk gothic type rare stamp 20
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THE READING TABLE.

What We Find in the Journals of the Hour.

The Stamp Collector's Annual And Year-Book of Philately.

The Stamp Collector's Annual is not precisely "a journal of the hour," but there is nothing on the reviewing table this week which so greatly deserves our attention and our hearty commendation. An excellent little book, this Annual, of close onto one hundred pages of reading matter, with some thirty or forty pages extra, in which are set forth the claims to custom of Britain's leading stamp merchants. For, be it known to those whose ears the name and fame of the Stamp Collector's Annual have not yet reached, the book before us is a British product; its publishers, Chas. Nissen & Co., whose shop is in High Holborn (what lover of Dickens does not feel a personal familiarity with the name) its editor, Percy C. Bishop, these many years at the helm of the Stamp Collector's Fortnightly, and long considered one of the ablest philatelic writers and editors of the time. The editorial preparation of a publication which appears but once a year is no enviable task. Its contents must be sharply differentiated from that of the monthly or weekly journal, if its appearance is to be justified at all. It must fill a different part and play a different role. It must be made valuable as a book of reference and at the same time must not be lacking in real readability. And we are glad to say that Mr. Bishop has most happily conquered all these difficulties and produced a little book that will find warm welcome among philatelists both for the information it contains and the entertainment it affords even the most casual stamp lover.

It contains, first, a series of features that even the most knowing specialist need not disdain—a ten-page essay, headed "Notes on the Stamps of Victoria," by Will H. Terry, illustrated with reproductions of some of the most interesting "specialist varieties" of Victoria; "British Stamps Used Abroad," well treated by I. J. Bernstein; "A Catalogue and Guide to Values of the Adhesive Telegraph Stamps of the United Kingdom," compiled by Chas. Nissen, particularly valuable to telegraph fanciers because none of the regular British catalogues make any pretense of listing telegraph stamps; a similar reference list to British Postal Fiscals, also the work of Mr. Nissen, and also referring to a class of emissions inadequately treated in the catalogues; and an article on the Tapling Collection, by L. J. Johnson. Mr. Nissen's two contributions deserve especial mention because they convey information not covered elsewhere in anything like so complete and authoritative a way—informa-

tion that, while it does not interest us in America, is of the utmost utility to many an English collector.

Turning to the lighter reading matter, we find much good diversion for the idle hour—a poem in humorous vein by W. E. Imeson, author of "The Stamp Fiend's Raid;" "Auction Room Divertissements," by H. Wilfred Plumridge, in which the humors of the auction room find able treatment; "The Joys of Revenue Collecting," by "A Recruit;" "Philatelic Pie," which we need scarcely say has nothing serious about it; and various other items and articles that the philatelic layman may enjoy fully as well as the philatelic expert. No less than sixteen pages are devoted to a Directory of British Societies and Exchange Clubs, with lists of the officers of each, places of meeting, and other information of similar sort—a very useful portion of the work. But its two greatest features are, first, "A Short Dictionary of Philately," and, second, an "Index of the Philatelic Press for 1903-1904"—both being the work of Mr. Bishop himself. The "Dictionary" is, in general idea, much like the "Abridged Philatelic Dictionary" that we ourselves compiled and published in this paper some weeks since—and odd enough it is that two such compilations should have appeared at almost so exactly the same time. Mr. Bishop's "Dictionary" is, however, far superior to our own modest attempt along the same lines, it being both more extensive in scope and clearer in its definitions and explanations. We have never seen any attempt to clearly explain the technical words and phrases of philately for the beginner's benefit which seemed to us so fully successful. It is certainly a splendid feature of the book.

In his index to the philatelic journals of the past year Mr. Bishop has provided another excellent feature, though the index is by no means so complete and thorough as one might wish. Under each of the leading stamp journals published in the English language—eleven of them English, three Australian, and six American—is listed the principal articles printed by it between October, 1903, to September, 1904, with the date of the issue in which each appeared. The value of the list for reference is obvious, and we can only criticize the failure to add explanatory sub-headings in cases where the real title to the article did not fully indicate its nature, to provide references to important editorials and news items as well as to contributed papers, and to include the Philatelic Journal of India—this last a very surprising omission from the list. The space at Mr. Bishop's command did not, however, permit him to attempt a very elaborate index, and under the circumstances he has done extremely well to do as well as he has, if our readers will pardon this roundabout term of expression.

All in all, we are vastly pleased with the Stamp Collector's Annual and heartily congratulate Mr. Bishop on the result of his labors.

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Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display. A line will average seven words. Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

Why not buy 100 all diff. stamps for 5 cents and get more than your money's worth? F. P. Hutman, 88 Salem St., Wakefield, Mass.

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One each of above for One Dollar. Postage 2c extra. Choice U S. approvals for a reference. Frank Dee Brayton, Freeport, Mich.

75 Stamps Free to applicants for approval sheets at 50% discount. CHAS. H. ILETT, 1421 E. 11th St., Indianapolis, Indiana.

Why not try our 20th Century Package? 25 used and unused stamps, price 12c, postpaid. Nonantum Stamp Co., Newton, Mass.

The Empire Stamp Co., of Hudson, N. Y. has changed its name to Atlantic Stamp Co., and offers the 2 var. 1c I. R. '98 unused for 7 cents.

Specialised booklets of Hawaii, United States, Marawak, Miam and all British Colonial issues, just ready - pricing low for cash. All picked specimens of rare & medium varieties only sent. Let me know your wants - my prices will suit. George Ginn, Bush Hill Park, Enfield, England.

For Sale A National Stamp Album 1903 edition - cloth and gold. In splendid condition - practically new. Containing: United States stamps to value of \$42 96 (face value of unused adhesives \$8.44) Cuba, Porto Rico & Philippine 2 27

Total Catalogue value \$46 23
Price \$15.00
Address: National Album, care Stamp-Lovers Weekly, Bethlehem, Pa.

THE CABINET.

A Department Devoted to Coins and Curios.

The Four-Dollar Gold Piece.

Facts About Its Coinage a Quarter of a Century Ago.

E. B. Finley in the Milwaukee Sentinel.

In the Cincinnati Enquirer of April 7 appears a clipping from your paper, with a headline reading: "Unique Coin is the 'Stella,' the only Four Dollar Gold Piece in the World," in which you say that a \$4 gold coin which is "probably the only one of its kind in existence is on exhibition at the Germania National Bank," at your city, and that it is valued by the bank officials at \$200; that it is of the diameter of a \$5 gold piece, but thinner; that on its face is the well known Liberty head, without the cap, and around this are thirteen stars interspersed with the letters "6 G 3 S 7 C 7 Grams," and you say the exact meaning of these letters none of the bank officials have ascertained; that on the reverse side of the coin is a five-pointed star, in which is cut the inscription, "One Stella—400 cents," around which are the words "E Pluribus Unum. Deo Est Gloria," and around these, forming the rim on this side of the coin, are the words, "United States of America, Four Dol."

You further say that about fifteen years ago this coin was sent to Washington by the Merchants' Exchange Bank of your city, but that the only information obtained was that the coin was genuine. I have one of these coins in my possession and two others, part gold and part silver coins, minted at the same time. On the face of the smaller one of these coins is the Liberty head with the cap and the year 1879, together with thirteen stars and the words: "E Pluribus Unum." On the reverse side it reads: "United States of America, Gold Metric Dollar. 15-3 G. 236.7 S. 28-C 14 Grams." and below it, "Deo Est Gloria, One Hundred Cents." The larger one has the same face and inscription, and on the reverse side the same as the smaller one, with the exception that it reads: "895.8-S, 4.2-G, 100-C 25 Grams" and the words: "One Dollar."

The cabalistic characters G, 3 S, 7 and C, 7 which puzzled your bank officials, stand for gold 3, and silver 7, and copper 7, and I am able to give you the history of the minting of these several coins by the United States.

They were minted, as the coins show in 1879, at which time I was in Congress, from Ohio, and Alexander H. Stephens, vice president of the confederacy, was chairman of the committee on coinage, weights and measures.

Mr. Stephens introduced from the committee a bill to change our coinage from the present to the metric system, corresponding with the French

system, as I recollect it, as indicated by these coins, and thereupon Congress passed an act that a limited number of sets of these coins should be minted for the use of each member of the committee, the President and his cabinet, and possibly for each member of Congress, and the Senate, but about that I am not sure. The bill changing the coinage failed to become a law, and though it received considerable consideration by Congress, and I am of the impression that Alexander H. Stephens delivered a speech on the subject, which was extensively published at the time, yet in the short period of twenty-five years the whole subject has become so lost and forgotten by the public that one of the coins found and on exhibition in one of your banks is speculated upon by the press as much as the discovery of a hidden coin of the old Roman empire, and, according to what you say, even the officials at Washington know nothing about it. "Sic Transit Gloria Mundi."

[Note: For the above clipping, we are indebted to the kindness of Mr. J. H. Houston, of Washington.]

\$8,250

For Burns's Bible.

Robert Burns's family Bible, containing interesting family entries, was sold at auction in London on December 10th for \$8,250. The purchaser was a London dealer.

Previous to the coinage of the United States silver dollar at the Philadelphia Mint, while the designs for the reverse field of that coin were being discussed, a member of the House from the South bitterly opposed the choice of an eagle, on the ground of its being "King of Birds", and hence neither proper nor suitable to represent a nation whose institutions were wholly inimical to monarchical forms of government. Judge Thatcher playfully suggested that a goose might suit the gentleman better, as it was a rather humble and republican bird, and would be serviceable in other respects, as the goslings would answer to place upon the dimes. This answer created considerable merriment, and the irate Southerner, taking the rejoinder as an insult, sent a challenge to the Judge, who promptly declined it. The bearer, rather astonished, asked, "Will you be branded as a coward?" "Certainly, if he pleases", replied Thatcher. "I always was a coward, and he knew it, or he never would have risked a challenge."

It is said no human head was ever stamped upon coins until after the death of Alexander the Great; he, being regarded as somewhat of a divinity, his effigy was impressed upon money, like that of other gods.

A Further Note Anent The Confederate Coinage.

We have received the following letter from Mr. J. M. Wilson of this city, which we believe will interest our readers.

Bethlehem, Pa., Dec. 16, 1904.

To the Editor of the Stamp Lovers Weekly:—

In your issue of Stamp Lovers Weekly for Dec. 10, 1904, is an interesting article by F. C. List on "Confederate Coinage" in which he says that the four Confederate half dollars struck at the New Orleans mint constitute the whole coinage of the Confederacy. In this I think he is mistaken unless he confines his term "coinage" to metal money struck in a government mint.

In 1862 or 63 there were struck in New York four coins of copper of the value of one cent for the Confederate Government. The die broke in striking the fifth one and no attempt was made to replace the broken die; perhaps on account of lack of funds.

These facts I obtained in 1883 from Doctor Brainerd of Cleveland, who had in his collection one of the four pieces which he kindly showed me, at the same time entering upon an explanation of its whys and wherefores. He also informed me who had two of the three remaining pieces, but was not aware of the location of the fourth one. At this time I do not remember where these coins were located nor can I give any further description of the piece than that it was of copper about the size and thickness of the nickel cent of the United States, 1857-1863 or 4 and if I remember aright had a head on one side—"obverse" I believe it should be called—and on the reverse, Confederate States of America around the edge and one cent in the center.

So far as I know no attempt was made to put these "cents" into circulation but I am of the opinion that they are entitled to be considered coins of the Confederacy just as much as the unfinished half dollars of the New Orleans mint. Respectfully,

John M. Wilson,
Bethlehem, Pa.

New Stamps For Johore.

Johore, one of the multitudinous "Native States" of India that rejoined in the possession of separate stamps and postal service, has just issued a new series in honor of the birthday of the Sultan of Johore. As we presume very few of our readers collect Indian Native States issues we refrain from giving a list of the values and colors.

50 cents
a year.

2 cents
a copy.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Entered as second-class matter December 17, 1904, at the post office at Bethlehem, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

VOL. I. BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, JANUARY 7, 1905. No. 17.

Our 219th. Sale

takes place on January 14th. 1905.

when the Catoir & Bair collections will be sold. Over 100 of the lots offered contain but one stamp to the lot, these stamps cataloguing from \$1.00 to \$100.00 each. There are also 250 combination lots and collections. Catalogues now ready and sent free on application, to

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,

722 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

We make a specialty of filling orders from lists of wants. 20,000 varieties of stamps on hand. Price list and lists of 150 approval books free.

Stamps sold at auction at a commission of 10% and expenses. Established 1889.

LONDON LETTER.

Fred J. Melville.

Punch last week contained the following announcement of interest to philatelists who collect "officials:"

"A correspondent sends us a cutting of the following advertisement, which might very easily cause pain in government circles:

"ADMIRALTY AND OTHER OFFICIALS WANTED."

We hasten to explain (adds Punch) that this does not appear in the Police Review (the organ of the force), but in the Bazaar, under the general heading of "Stamps."

Mr. E. J. Nankivell, who conducts the stamp department of one of our chief boys' papers, The Captain, tells a number of stories in his Christmas issue. A small party of well-known specialists, he tells us, were dining together one evening when the conversation turned on the rarity of a certain stamp. One after another declared that it was a variety of the greatest scarcity and that it was to be found in very few collections. Scarcely one present could boast of a fine copy. One, however, said he had had a copy offered him only a few days since. The price was so high that it nearly took his breath away, but after what had been said about its great rarity he thought he would secure it. He was very careful not to give any clue to the whereabouts of that precious copy, for he quietly made up his mind to be early on the scene the very next morning. He had known that it was a rarity, but until that night he had no idea it was so scarce.

(Continued on page 8.)

The Modern Postage Stamp Album.

A new Album for beginners. 256 pages, over 2,200 illustrations and will contain spaces for 10,000 stamps, also the Arms, Flags and Rulers.

Price \$1.00. Post free, \$1.15.

1905 Catalogue.

Price 50 cents. Post free 58 cents.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 EAST 23rd ST., New York, N. Y.

CHICAGO CHAT.

The last week has shown a slightly increased activity in local counter trade, judging from accounts of various dealers, but the holiday trade of packets, albums, etc., is far below the mark and very disappointing.

Several dealers say the weather has been too fine, others claim it is the fault of the late appearance of the catalogue and one dealer insisted that we are facing a decided decline in the stamp world.

Were we to take this last prophet seriously it would be something to think and talk about, but it can hardly be possible that a pursuit in which so much capital is invested and so many people interested could by any means die out in short order.

A chewing gum has reached Chicago from a Philadelphia concern, each stick of which contains a foreign stamp. The stamps evidently are supplied by the Bogert & Durbin Co. as their advertisement is on the back of each stamp.

This is a step in the right direction and any stamp concern that does a big packet, set and approval business can well afford to give several million ordinary stamps for such a purpose, if they can derive a direct advertising benefit such as the above is a sample of.

The catalogue is out for Wolsieffer's Jan. 14th auction sale of the Wickes collection. It contains a fine line of Match and Medicine, U. S. Postage and Revenues and some Wholesale lots of early issues of United States stamps. It promises to be a good sale containing so many popular stamps.

(Continued on page 5.)

P | January 14th. & 28th. | M

On the 14th. the Wickes collection of fine M & M, U. S. Postage and Revenues and wholesale U. S. will go under the hammer. The catalogue was mailed two weeks ago and your bids should now be on the way if they have not started yet.

Part of the H. W. Wolsieley

collection will be sold on the 28th., and the stamps are in marvelously fine condition. U. S., Philippines, Porto Rico, Hawaii and British Colonies go to make up a very attractive sale, all to be sold at public auction without reserve.

Have you ordered that Pocket Ed. Stock Book, cloth cover, holds 500 stamps and is sold at the low price of 25 cents?

P. M. Wolsieffer,

Auction Sale Specialist.

401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago. | M

STAMP DOINGS IN GOTHAM.

As reported by our New York correspondent.

The last mail from Panama brought the new stamps for the Canal Zone. They are Panama stamps of the new type 1c and 2c. of the old map type surcharged. Panama 5c, 10c, all have the surcharge Canal Zone in large capitals in two lines, horizontally.

The 5c and 10c are said to be intended for use for a limited time, probably to use up the stock in hands of the Panama Government.

This community was shocked to hear of the death of Mr. C. C. Cummings, of Brooklyn. Retired from business, it was his greatest pleasure to study his stamps and visit the shops in search of the stamps to fill the vacancies in his very fine collection. And it is true, for he was an extremist in condition.

Not a few collectors and dealers express regret that the publishers of the International Album found it advisable to omit foreign envelopes, cut square, from the album. The demand for foreign envelopes is as good as for any particular line of stamps, though prices are rather low.

It will greatly surprise the philatelic world to hear that Mr. F. C. Reynolds, of this city, has placed his collection in the hands of auctioneers. Mr. Reynolds while conservative has been a very diligent collector and during the years from youth to prime of manhood has amassed a collection of superior quality and great value as well as a knowledge of stamps possessed by few collectors. We predict that before

(Continued on page 8.)

THE CABINET.

A Department Devoted to Coins and Curios.

The Four-Dollar Gold Piece.

Facts About Its Coinage a Quarter of a Century Ago.

E. B. Finley in the Milwaukee Sentinel. In the Cincinnati Enquirer of April 7 appears a clipping from your paper, with a headline reading: "Unique Coin is the 'Stella,' the only Four Dollar Gold Piece in the World," in which you say that a \$4 gold coin which is "probably the only one of its kind in existence is on exhibition at the Germania National Bank," at your city, and that it is valued by the bank officials at \$200; that it is of the diameter of a \$5 gold piece, but thinner; that on its face is the well known Liberty head, without the cap, and around this are thirteen stars interspersed with the letters "6 G 3 S 7 C 7 Grams," and you say the exact meaning of these letters none of the bank officials have ascertained; that on the reverse side of the coin is a five-pointed star, in which is cut the inscription, "One Stella—400 cents," around which are the words "E Pluribus Unum. Deo Est Gloria," and around these, forming the rim on this side of the coin, are the words, "United States of America, Four Dol."

You further say that about fifteen years ago this coin was sent to Washington by the Merchants' Exchange Bank of your city, but that the only information obtained was that the coin was genuine. I have one of these coins in my possession and two others, part gold and part silver coins, minted at the same time. On the face of the smaller one of these coins is the Liberty head with the cap and the year 1879, together with thirteen stars and the words: "E Pluribus Unum." On the reverse side it reads: "United States of America, Gold Metric Dollar, 15-3 G, 236.7 S, 28-C 14 Grams," and below it, "Deo Est Gloria, One Hundred Cents." The larger one has the same face and inscription, and on the reverse side the same as the smaller one, with the exception that it reads: "855.8-S, 4.2-G, 100-C 25 Grams" and the words: "One Dollar."

The cabalistic characters G, 3 S, 7 and C, 7 which puzzled your bank officials, stand for gold 3, and silver 7, and copper 7, and I am able to give you the history of the minting of these several coins by the United States.

They were minted, as the coins show in 1879, at which time I was in Congress, from Ohio, and Alexander H. Stephens, vice president of the confederacy, was chairman of the committee on coinage, weights and measures.

Mr. Stephens introduced from the committee a bill to change our coinage from the present to the metric system, corresponding with the French

system, as I recollect it, as indicated by these coins, and thereupon Congress passed an act that a limited number of sets of these coins should be minted for the use of each member of the committee, the President and his cabinet, and possibly for each member of Congress, and the Senate, but about that I am not sure. The bill changing the coinage failed to become a law, and though it received considerable consideration by Congress, and I am of the impression that Alexander H. Stephens delivered a speech on the subject, which was extensively published at the time, yet in the short period of twenty-five years the whole subject has become so lost and forgotten by the public that one of the coins found and on exhibition in one of your banks is speculated upon by the press as much as the discovery of a hidden coin of the old Roman empire, and, according to what you say, even the officials at Washington know nothing about it. "Sic Transit Gloria Mundi."

[Note: For the above clipping, we are indebted to the kindness of Mr. J. H. Houston, of Washington.]

\$8,250

For Burns's Bible.

Robert Burns's family Bible, containing interesting family entries, was sold at auction in London on December 10th for \$8,250. The purchaser was a London dealer.

Previous to the coinage of the United States silver dollar at the Philadelphia Mint, while the designs for the reverse field of that coin were being discussed, a member of the House from the South bitterly opposed the choice of an eagle, on the ground of its being "King of Birds", and hence neither proper nor suitable to represent a nation whose institutions were wholly inimical to monarchical forms of government. Judge Thatcher playfully suggested that a goose might suit the gentleman better, as it was a rather humble and republican bird, and would be serviceable in other respects, as the goslings would answer to place upon the dimes. This answer created considerable merriment, and the irate Southerner, taking the rejoinder as an insult, sent a challenge to the Judge, who promptly declined it. The bearer, rather astonished, asked, "Will you be branded as a coward?" "Certainly, if he pleases", replied Thatcher. "I always was a coward, and he knew it, or he never would have risked a challenge."

It is said no human head was ever stamped upon coins until after the death of Alexander the Great; he, being regarded as somewhat of a divinity, his effigy was impressed upon money, like that of other gods.

A Further Note Anent The Confederate Coinage.

We have received the following letter from Mr. J. M. Wilson of this city, which we believe will interest our readers.

Bethlehem, Pa., Dec. 16, 1904.

To the Editor of the Stamp Lovers Weekly:—

In your issue of Stamp Lovers Weekly for Dec. 10, 1904, is an interesting article by F. C. List on "Confederate Coinage" in which he says that the four Confederate half dollars struck at the New Orleans mint constitute the whole coinage of the Confederacy. In this I think he is mistaken unless he confines his term "coinage" to metal money struck in a government mint.

In 1862 or 63 there were struck in New York four coins of copper of the value of one cent for the Confederate Government. The die broke in striking the fifth one and no attempt was made to replace the broken die; perhaps on account of lack of funds.

These facts I obtained in 1883 from Doctor Brainerd of Cleveland, who had in his collection one of the four pieces which he kindly showed me, at the same time entering upon an explanation of its whys and wherefores. He also informed me who had two of the three remaining pieces, but was not aware of the location of the fourth one. At this time I do not remember where these coins were located nor can I give any further description of the piece than that it was of copper about the size and thickness of the nickel cent of the United States, 1857-1863 or 4 and if I remember aright had a head on one side—"obverse" I believe it should be called—and on the reverse, Confederate States of America around the edge and one cent in the center.

So far as I know no attempt was made to put these "cents" into circulation but I am of the opinion that they are entitled to be considered coins of the Confederacy just as much as the unfinished half dollars of the New Orleans mint. Respectfully,

John M. Wilson,
Bethlehem, Pa.

New Stamps For Johore.

Johore, one of the multitudinous "Native States" of India that rejoice in the possession of separate stamps and postal service, has just issued a new series in honor of the birthday of the Sultan of Johore. As we presume very few of our readers collect Indian Native States issues we refrain from giving a list of the values and colors.

50 cents
a year.

2 cents
a copy.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Entered as second-class matter December 17, 1904, at the post office at Bethlehem, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

VOL. 1. BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, JANUARY 7, 1905. No. 17.

Our 219th. Sale

takes place on January 14th. 1905. when the Catoir & Hair collections will be sold. Over 100 of the lots offered contain but one stamp to the lot, these stamps cataloguing from \$1.00 to \$100.00 each. There are also 250 combination lots and collections. Catalogues now ready and sent free on application, to

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,

722 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

We make a specialty of filling orders from lists of wants. 20,000 varieties of stamps on hand. Price list and lists of 150 approval books free.

Stamps sold at auction at a commission of 10% and expenses. Established 1868.

LONDON LETTER.

Fred J. Melville.

Punch last week contained the following announcement of interest to philatelists who collect "officials:"

"A correspondent sends us a cutting of the following advertisement, which might very easily cause pain in government circles:

"ADMIRALTY AND OTHER OFFICIALS WANTED."

We hasten to explain (adds Punch) that this does not appear in the Police Review (the organ of the force), but in the Bazaar, under the general heading of "Stamps."

Mr. E. J. Nankivell, who conducts the stamp department of one of our chief boys' papers, the Captain, tells a number of stories in his Christmas issue. A small party of well-known specialists, he tells us, were dining together one evening when the conversation turned on the rarity of a certain stamp. One after another declared that it was a variety of the greatest scarcity and that it was to be found in very few collections. Scarcely one present could boast of a fine copy. One, however, said he had had a copy offered him only a few days since. The price was so high that it nearly took his breath away, but after what had been said about its great rarity he thought he would secure it. He was very careful not to give any clue to the whereabouts of that precious copy, for he quietly made up his mind to be early on the scene the very next morning. He had known that it was a rarity, but until that night he had no idea it was so scarce.

(Continued on page 3.)

The Modern Postage Stamp Album.

A new Album for beginners. 256 pages, over 2,200 illustrations and will contain spaces for 10,000 stamps, also the Arms, Flags and Rulers.

Price \$1.00. Post free, \$1.15.

1905 Catalogue.

Price 50 cents. Post free 58 cents.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 EAST 23rd ST., New York, N. Y.

CHICAGO CHAT.

The last week has shown a slightly increased activity in local counter trade, judging from accounts of various dealers, but the holiday trade of packets, albums, etc., is far below the mark and very disappointing.

Several dealers say the weather has been too fine, others claim it is the fault of the late appearance of the catalogue and one dealer insisted that we are facing a decided decline in the stamp world.

Were we to take this last prophet seriously it would be something to think and talk about, but it can hardly be possible that a pursuit in which so much capital is invested and so many people interested could by any means die out in short order.

A chewing gum has reached Chicago from a Philadelphia concern, each stick of which contains a foreign stamp. The stamps evidently are supplied by the Bogert & Durbin Co. as their advertisement is on the back of each stamp.

This is a step in the right direction and any stamp concern that does a big packet, set and approval business can well afford to give several million ordinary stamps for such a purpose, if they can derive a direct advertising benefit such as the above is a sample of.

The catalogue is out for Wolsieffer's Jan. 14th auction sale of the Wickes collection. It contains a fine line of Match and Medicine, U. S. Postage and Revenues and some Wholesale lots of early issues of United States stamps. It promises to be a good sale containing so many popular stamps.

(Continued on page 5.)

P January 14th. & 28th. M

On the 14th, the Wickes collection of fine M & M, U. S. Postage and Revenues and wholesale U. S. will go under the hammer. The catalogue was mailed two weeks ago and your bids should now be on the way if they have not started yet.

Part of the H. W. Wolsley

collection will be sold on the 28th., and the stamps are in marvelously fine condition. U. S., Philippines, Porto Rico, Hawaii and British Colonies go to make up a very attractive sale, all to be sold at public auction without reserve.

Have you ordered that Pocket Ed. Stock Book, cloth cover, holds 500 stamps and is sold at the low price of 25 cents?

P. M. Wolsieffer,

Auction Sale Specialist.

401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago. M

STAMP DOINGS

IN GOTHAM.

As reported by our New York correspondent.

The last mail from Panama brought the new stamps for the Canal Zone. They are Panama stamps of the new type 1c and 2c. of the old map type surcharged. Panama 5c, 10c, all have the surcharge Canal Zone in large capitals in two lines, horizontally.

The 5c and 10c are said to be intended for use for a limited time, probably to use up the stock in hands of the Panama Government.

This community was shocked to hear of the death of Mr. C. C. Cummings, of Brooklyn. Retired from business, it was his greatest pleasure to study his stamps and visit the shops in search of the stamps to fill the vacancies in his very fine collection. And it is fine, for he was an extremist in condition.

Not a few collectors and dealers express regret that the publishers of the International Album found it advisable to omit foreign envelopes, cut square, from the album. The demand for foreign envelopes is as good as for any particular line of stamps, though prices are rather low.

It will greatly surprise the philatelic world to hear that Mr. F. C. Reynolds, of this city, has placed his collection in the hands of auctioneers. Mr. Reynolds while conservative has been a very diligent collector and during the years from youth to prime of manhood has amassed a collection of superior quality and great value as well as a knowledge of stamps possessed by few collectors. We predict that before

(Continued on page 8.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

LOUIS G. QUACKENBUSH,
MANAGING EDITOR.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States, Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any address in any country in the Postal Union \$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.00 an inch, 50 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

YE EDITOR DISCOURSETH.

GOOD NEWS FOR OUR READERS

We take great pleasure in announcing that Mr. Louis G. Quackenbush becomes Managing Editor of the Stamp-Lovers Weekly with this number, and that the complete Editorial control of the paper will hereafter be in his hands. We do not think that Mr. Quackenbush will require any introduction to the majority of our readers. He has been prominently before the stamp world, as philatelic writer and editor, for the past fifteen years, and no one at all familiar with American philatelic journalism need be told how great have been his achievements in philatelic literature. His latest connection with the stamp press has been as Editor of Mekeel's Stamp Collector for the last three years, in conjunction with Mr. C. H. Mekeel, and to Mr. Quackenbush's skill and ability as a journalist must be assigned a great part of that paper's success.

It has been an open secret, we believe, in certain inside circles, ever since the Stamp-Lovers Weekly was started that not a little of its contents was from Mr. Quackenbush's pen. But as that gentleman was unable to terminate his connection with Mekeel's Stamp Collector until the end of 1904, we were not, of course, at liberty to use his name—nor was he able to give to this paper the personal, undivided attention which it will be its good fortune to have in the future. We congratulate our readers, as well as ourselves, that Mr. Quackenbush is from now on to assume the entire editorial management of this journal, relieving the undersigned, who is only too glad to shift the editorial burden to more experienced shoulders.

(Signed) E. T. PARKER.

From The Editor's Point Of View.

The Compliments Of the Season.

It is a little late in the day, perhaps, to extend you the compliments of the season. But 1905 is not, after all, so old as yet to hinder us from wishing you a very Happy New Year, with the utmost prosperity, health and happiness the whole year through. We trust, too, that all of you experienced as merry a Christmas as heart could wish for, and that Santa Claus in his gift giving may not have proven unmindful of your philatelic proclivities. Well, well, whether he did or not, it's over now, and all of us have time for stamps again—which were almost everywhere, we doubt not, just a bit neglected during the jollifications and merrymakings of Holiday week. So, now, let's buckle down in earnest to a Winter of philatelic enjoyment. One can't be outdoors much, even if one would, and for fireside pleasures mankind has assuredly never devised anything more satisfying than the joys that spring from "fussing with stamps."

A Pointer

For Next Christmas.

Before we pass away from this Holiday frame of mind there is just one little matter we want to speak of—a matter which concerns the trade more than it does amateurs, but which we think may not improperly be touched upon here. And that matter is that we do not think our stamp dealers "make enough" of Christmas. They seem—or, rather, the most of them seem—to be supremely blind to any possible connection between stamps, albums, philatelic accessories, etc., and Christmas gift giving. While the vendors of almost every other class of merchandise under the broad, blue dome are insistently pointing out the suitability of their wares for Christmas giving, the average stamp dealer is on this point as dumb as a door-mouse. We refer to our advertising pages during the just past month of December—or to those of any other American stamp journal—for proof of this fact. Now this is perhaps no place for a disquisition on advertising, and we have certainly no desire to be dogmatic. But we must certainly ask our friends, the dealers, if they have forgotten that man is an animal whose inclinations can be greatly swayed by advertising suggestion, and that in the choosing of Christmas gifts he is as the bough that bends in the wind, ready to unhesitatingly respond to the breeze of publicity which whispers in his ear that this or that is the very gift of gifts with which to make some certain one happy on Christmas morning. Everyone is cast into the slough of perplexity when the Christmas choosing season comes round, and almost everyone buys in the end according to suggestion supplied by they who have gift goods to sell,

rather than according to some spontaneous inspiration of his or her own. In some cases, the suggestion comes directly over the counter; in more cases it comes from the advertising columns of the newspapers, so rich in gift suggestion during December days—especially in the case of men, who seldom start out to buy Christmas gifts on a chance-may-happen basis, but do not set out at all until they have pretty definitely decided what to buy. Now what we want to know is why our stamp dealers cannot get in line on this Christmas present business, and talk the suitability of stamps, albums, etc., for gifts, with such insistence and unanimity that thousands of stamp folk will make at least a few of their gifts philatelic ones? Instead of sending your nephew (aet 15) a book or a necktie, why would it not be well to send him a stamp album, in which a few hundred specimens are already mounted; instead of sending Jones, who sneers at stamp collecting, a box of cigars, why not present him with a copy of Melville's "A B C of Stamp Collecting," or some similar work (there are not many such, alas!) that reveals the picturesque-ness of stamp collecting in sugar-coated readability; instead of sending your maiden aunt a lace collar, why not make her a yearly subscriber to the Stamp-Lovers Weekly (for example) from which she can catch the stamp fever and learn how to relieve her lonesomeness the whole year round.

Don't Fancy

We Are Joking.

Don't fancy that we are joking in making these suggestions. They are not so unreasonable as they seem. Very likely our supposititious recipients of these philatelic gifts, being neither collectors nor interested in collecting, might make a wry face on first discovering the nature of the remembrance. But, a second afterward, would they not be rather taken with the novelty of the gift; and, from their first aversion to stamp collecting would they not proceed (to make a long story short) to first endure, then pity, then embrace? We have a theory that almost anyone (outside, of course, the entirely ignorant classes) would be moved to collect stamps, for a little while at least, if an album and a few interesting stamps happened to come into their possession in such a way as this. For stamps are certainly interesting things, and we defy anyone who is presented with two or three hundred different kinds, along with a nice album to put them in, to help being seized with a decided interest in stamps and collecting. Of course, it would doubtless be in many cases a transitory interest only; but there could scarcely help being some cases in which this casual interest would develop into a permanent passion. And if out of one hundred people in whom we succeed in implanting the seed of philatelic interest we gain even

as few as ten permanent recruits, we have assuredly done good work for philately.

Therefore, gentlemen of the stamp trade, see to it, we pray thee, that next December you lay stress in your ads on the suitability of stamps and albums for Christmas-giving.

They Order These Things

Better in England.

They order these things better in England. There is quite a bit of Christmas flavor about the December advertising of not a few of the leading English dealers. And not only is there the Christmas flavor, but there is a very manifest recognition of the very facts we have been speaking of in regard to the feasibility of making Christmas a day of philatelic conversions. A number of English dealers offer little Christmas outfits, especially adapted for beginners—consisting of a packet of stamps, an album, a catalogue, packet of hinges, etc., etc.—at decidedly nominal prices. One enterprising firm even goes so far as to offer a series of such outfits for various sums ranging from a couple of shillings to a pound apiece, according to the quality and elaborateness of the outfit. The idea is an excellent one, and we hope many an English collector may have been moved to purchase one or more of these outfits for Christmas presentation to non-philatelic friends. And we further hope that next December not a few of the dealers will borrow the idea and adapt it to their own purposes.

Nucleus

Collections.

Mr. Nankivell has lately spoken of the advantage of forming nucleus collections to sell to would-be specialists who are only deterred from entering the specialistic field by the difficulty of making a proper start. We deem it much more important that the trade should turn itself to the task of supplying nucleus collections to beginners—albums in which a few hundred specimens are already mounted, the whole to be sold at as low a figure as possible, for the sake of its missionary value. These Christmas outfits that we have alluded to might very properly be made an all-the-year-round feature. Why do not some of our dealers try pushing such a feature?

LONDON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

The next morning he wended his way to the shop of the London stamp dealer who had offered him the gem. But alas! on the very threshold of the shop he met one of his friends of the previous evening coming out.

"Ah! good morning," said he, in his most matter-of-fact style, but with an inward fear that he had been fore-stalled.

"Good morning," said the other, with a twinkle of the eye as he added: "You

are too late. I've got it. You were careful not to let out where your rarity was to be had, but I guessed that such a stamp could only be at one of two places in the Strand, so I came straight here and got it first shot. Another time (and here is the moral of this woeful tale) when you know of something good don't advertise the fact even to your friends. The temptation is too great for frail human nature."

I promised in a recent letter to give a few particulars of the new tramway parcel post in Edinburgh and Leith; I note in the Stamp Lovers Weekly, No. 11, the date of the inauguration of this local parcel post is given as Oct. 13th, but this appears to be a misprint from my "copy" for Oct. 1st. The system, I gather, has taken on well. The charges for parcels are: For the first 7 lbs., 4 cents, and 2 cents for each additional 7 lbs., e. g., 7 lbs., 4 cents; 14 lbs., 6 cents; 28 lbs., 8 cents, and so on. The Tramway Company has receiving offices in town, or you can hand the parcel (if you have already provided yourself with a stamp) to any conductor, who will give a receipt ticket in exchange. Then boys meet the cars at the various termini with baskets on wheels and deliver the parcels, the receiver signing a way-bill in acknowledgment of its safe delivery. The receipt ticket is just like an ordinary car ticket, but the stamps are long, narrow labels printed in black, on colored paper, not unlike many of the labels issued for certain German local posts.

The Exhibition Committee of the Junior Philatelic Society has decided to award a gold medal to the boy or girl (whose age does not exceed nineteen) who submits the best arranged collection of stamps to the committee prior to the date of the exhibition. In addition there will be several other awards for the next best, including several silver medals, a three guinea cistafle, presented by Messrs. Lawn & Barlow; a £2.50 standard postage stamp album, presented by Messrs. Whitfield King, and a set of six volumes of *The Captain*, presented by the proprietors of that journal, and many other prizes, the particulars of which have not yet been received. I mention this particularly, as there is no reason why American boys and girls should not compete. The competition is open to anyone under nineteen in any part of the world, whether a member of the Junior Philatelic Society or not. There is no fee for competitors, but they must prepay the postage (and registration) for the return of their albums or other receptacles, after they have been examined. They must also get their parents, or a clergyman, or a schoolmaster, or a guardian, to certify that the sender is not over nineteen years of age. American competitors should send their albums to the Honorary Secretaries, H. F. Johnson and P. Clare, 11 Trigon Road, Olapham, London, England, to arrive not later than Sat-

urday, Jan. 28. It is also desirable that the owner's full name and postal address be given affixed firmly to the album, or preferably written on the fly-leaf of the album. I would add that on no account will the examiners prefer rarity, bulk, costliness of album and mountings interfere with their decisions, which are to be based on the skill and knowledge shown in the arrangement of the stamps. The successful collections will be displayed in the side hall of the exhibition, in Exeter Hall, on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 3d and 4th.

England's First Fiscal Exhibition.

The prospectus of the Exhibition of Fiscal and Telegraph stamps to be held in London next April under the auspices of the Fiscal Philatelic Society is now out. The exhibition is to be confined to the Fiscal and Telegraph stamps of British Colonies only; and it is proposed to award diplomas to the best exhibit of the stamps of each one of fifty or more specified Colonies, it being hoped that this multiplicity of awards will encourage a great number of fiscal enthusiasts to compete. A number of special prizes are also to be given for the best general showings in certain specified classes.

Messrs. E. D. Bacon, L. W. Fulcher, A. B. Kay and H. Thompson have been chosen to act as judges; and it is hoped to add the names of one or more Continental fiscalists to the list. Our heading, by the way, is not quite correct, as the Leeds Philatelic Society held a Fiscal Exhibition as early as 1894. The forthcoming Exhibition, however, is the first English attempt at a Fiscal show on a really large scale.

Truer Words Were Never Written.

Mr. E. J. Nankivell in the following paragraph sums up the value and charm of Philately more felicitously than in any other printed utterance that we have ever seen. "In the busy, contentions bustle of the competition of the day, the brain, strained, to its utmost tension, demands the relaxation of some absorbing, pleasure-yielding hobby. Those who have tried it attest the fact that few things more completely wean the attention for the time being, from the vexations and worries of the day, than the collection and arrangement of postage stamps. It has an ever-recurring freshness all its own, a scope for research that is never likely to be exhausted, a literature varied and abundant, and a close and interesting relation to the history and progress of nations and people, that insensibly widens the trend of human sympathies and human knowledge.

The Reminiscences Of A Philatelic Veteran.

[Editorial Note: The following article, which we copy from an old number of the Eastern Philatelist, one of the best of stamp journals of the late eighties and early nineties, possesses, we think, no little historic interest. We reprint it in the belief that almost every collector has some curiosity as to the beginnings of our pursuit in this country, of which so very little has ever been definitely known. The author of these reminiscences, Wm. F. Brown, was beyond doubt one of the first two or three men to embark in the stamp business in this country. Let him tell the story in his own words.]

"At this time (1858) there were a few collectors in an unscientific way, of postage stamps scattered throughout the country. Dr. Preble, of Portland, Maine, had for several years been saving odd looking stamps, and had even sent to Australia and other places for stamps for his collection. But no salable value was attached to them, and collecting was regarded merely as a whim. About the year 1859 a new impetus was given to the mania, by its becoming fashionable among the pleasure seekers of Paris to gather in the parks and exchange stamps, which soon had its echo in New York. The old postoffice was at the corner of Liberty and Nassau Streets, and to the vexation of the watchman, knots of men and boys would gather in the lobbies and trade, sometimes stamp for stamp, and sometimes quite a number were given for one.

"Shortly after this collectors began to offer money in lieu of stamps, and this made way for the stamp dealers, and the regulation of prices. The first dealer in the United States was John Bailey, who then kept coins and candy, and thought stamps would work well with them. The fashion then was to drive a tack through the stamp into a board so that they would not blow away. At this time the writer, who then also kept a coin stand on the Park railing, was urged to enter the stamp business, but it looked too ridiculous to consider, yet there was evidently money in it, so with hesitating steps he went up to Dr. Bond, in Grand Street, one of his patrons who had large frames of coins hanging up in his office and who had some stamps pulled off waiting for a buyer. About a hundred were counted out and the price asked was a cent each. It seemed absurd, but the Doctor was inflexible, and the price was paid.

"The next morning they were all tacked on boards and marked at a uniform price of three cents each. This may seem to the reader an exorbitant profit, but he must consider that the highest expectation was that enough would be sold to get the cost back, and the rest thrown away. Soon a boy came along and said, 'Hello, Brown, you've got some stamps, haven't you.' 'But,' said he, 'you have got some

of them priced too low, those Ceylons and some others ought to be ten cents each.' Anything to accommodate, so up went the price. A few minutes later two gentlemen stopped, and one said to the other: 'Those Ceylons are a beautiful stamp.' 'Yes,' he replied, 'I guess I will take those two Ceylons,' and twenty cents was paid for what cost two cents. From that moment I was a full fledged stamp dealer. Soon another boy came and bought two or three at three cents each, and a little while after returned holding out a quarter, and said: 'Do you see that?' 'Yes, what of it?' 'That is what I got down at the Postoffice for the blue Canada stamp I bought of you for three cents.' 'Whew! that wouldn't do, and I at once became a collector, and no one could get anything from me until I had two of them; keeping the collection to study and talk on. Those were the days when postoffice 10's of 1847 were brought around by the hatful at 2 or 3 cents each. Brazil stamps were refused altogether as being cut out of the corners of old bank notes, an old Sydney view was a riddle that no one could make out, Brattleboro, St. Louis' and Reunions were unheard of. The highest price for any stamp was a dollar, among which were classed the large 5c New York, the 90c of 1857, and the 2½ cent black of Columbia.

"In the following Summer season, however, the excitement all died away, none would look at stamps at all. The writer went to his predecessor, John Bailey, and said, 'How are you making out; don't you find the coin business very dull?' 'Yes,' he replied, 'I am doing nothing in coins, only in stamps.' 'Stamps! You don't mean to say anyone is buying them?' 'Yes, I have two or three customers yet.' 'Well, will you buy mine?' 'Yes, if price is low enough.' They were immediately brought and stock and collection sold at the first offer on the supposition that the business had, like the South Sea bubble, collapsed.

"But as the cold weather set in and the boys returned from the country, the business again became lively, and of course the writer had to drop into line the second time, a sadder and wiser man. This was about the year 1860 and now commenced the increase of dealers. There was Tom Williams from Smyrna, J. Walter Scott from London, James Brennan, a letter carrier in the employ of Geo. Hussey, Trifet started up in Boston, S. Allen Taylor in Albany, Nutler in Montreal, and others all over the country. Shortly after this Brennan, who had a withered arm, and was not strong enough to bear the Winter weather outdoors, obtained, through influence, a stairway opposite the postoffice and opened a stamp store.

"The writer realized the situation at once, and tried to wake the stamp dealers to some sort of co-operation to keep their trade from being lost, but in vain. Brennan held the fort and

Transvaal 1901 2sh brown,		
mint, rare	-	\$1 20
1902 2sh yellow, mint		66
Montserrat 5 sh King,	"	1 62
Samoa 5 sh Queen,	"	1 62
St. Helena 2 sh 1902,	"	66
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" " 5sh " "	"	1 70

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Nicaragua 1902, 5c carmine	10	15
Peru 1898, 1, 2, 5c 3 var. comp.	12	04
*Cuba 1899, 1c 10c on U. S. 6 var. comp	40	40
British Honduras 1895-98, 5c blue	15	07
Uruguay 1895-96, 10c brown	25	12
Uruguay 1900, 10c gray lilac	10	06

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1881	2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 40, 50c. 1 fr. unused	10
GREECE.		
1901	1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50c. 1 dr.	11
1898	Olympian 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 25c. 1 drachme	15
PERIA.		
1899	1, 2, 5, 7, 10c. 1, 2, 5 kr. unused	25
1894	1, 2, 5, 8, 10, 16c. 1, 2, 5, 10, 50kr unused	25
1904	3 on 5, 6 on 10, 9 on 1kr. unused	15

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1890	20 kr; 24 kr. each	12
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did the business. An interview was had with him complaining that he sold stamps too cheap, making nothing himself and spoiling the trade for the other dealers. 'Just stay here a little while,' said he, 'and see if I am selling too cheap.' The next buyer was a German who wanted some stamps of that country, and purchased a large number of Thurn and Taxis stamps, for which he was charged five cents each. As we considered them rubbish well sold at a cent or two each, the complainant had nothing more to say.

"Soon the Yankee trading element shone out, and exchanges and importations commenced from all quarters of the globe. Mr. McManus, a clerk in the Custom House, imported a lot of Modena, Parma, Sicily and Romagna sets which he sold readily at \$7 per set until someone else got them also. Then spread the flood of counterfeits from the presses of Taylor and the Hamburg dealers, and the locals of Hussey, stamp journals, catalogues and albums followed each other in rapid succession, and one New York dealer is said to have reached the height of his ambition in clearing \$100,000 in the business. But easy got, easy lost, and Wall Street gobbled it up in much less time than it took to make it."

**Some Italian Stamps
Of Curious Status.**

The Stamp Collectors Fortnightly quotes from an English newspaper the following rather interesting item:—

"Philatelists will be interested in a novelty introduced by the Italian Government, who are issuing what may be described as military picture-stamps. Each regiment of the Italian army is provided with a special stamp for the use of the soldiers belonging to it. The designs are, of course, all different, and of the most varied nature. Thus on one appears a portrait of the Colonel of the regiment, on another a design of rifles supporting the national arms. The military district of Iurea has a stamp on which is a view of the town of Iurea; on that of Milan is a representation of a military council; on that of the 22nd. regiment of cavalry are the arms of Catania with the regimental motto. On the regimental stamp of the 6th Bersaglieri are the notes of the regimental bugle call and the motto 'Bersaglier, ta tua dottrina? Patria, onore, carabina'. And soon, it is believed that these stamps will not only increase the esprit de corps of the soldiers, but will also heighten civilian interest in what appertains to the army. It will also, no doubt, bring about a new branch of Philately. The Russian War Office is adopting a similar idea. The King of Italy is said to be the originator of the new departure, in which he takes a lively interest."

CHICAGO CHAT.

(Continued from page 1.)

Next week will be the inauguration meeting of the Chicago Philatelic Society, the newly-elected board of officers being installed. With Mr. Mudge at the head of it, the C. P. S. should take quite a spurt in 1905.

The annual dinner also will take place in January and with four auction sales announced it will prove a lively and busy month for both collector and dealer.

Among all the good resolutions to carry out you should not forget to send in at least one subscription for the Stamps Lovers Weekly and say a good word for it whenever you can. It will help to boom and advertise our pursuit and make each one of our collections more valuable and even help to increase our own interest in it.

Let us all try to make the year 1905 a boom year for stamps. Take a renewed interest in your paper, your society, your stamp chums and don't forget your collection.

**A Curious Fact
Anent A Noted Design.**

Few stamp designs ever devised have seemed more artistic and appropriate than the long-used "Peace and Commerce" type of France, which appeared first in 1876 and was not superseded until 1901. It is a somewhat curious fact that when M. Sage, the artist responsible for this design, was commissioned in 1875 to prepare a suitable drawing for the newly born Republic's postal issue, he was particularly instructed to produce a design which would not symbolise any particular form of government. The confidence of U. Buffett the Minister of Posts, in the stability of the Republic was so very slight that he wished a design which could still be used, with only very slight alterations in the wording, if the Republic were again to fall and the Empire, again re-established. Hence the instructions given to M. Sage, and hence the decidedly non-committal character of the very artistic design produced, and used without a break for a quarter of a century.

By the way, it is interesting to note that since the day of Louis Napoleon, France has not deemed it wise to adorn her stamps with portraits. It is not thought wise in France to make too much of a hero of any man, living or dead. The French system guards carefully against bringing even its President too prominently before the people. His individual identity is merged in his office far more than in the case of our own Chief Executives. Which is presumably one reason why none of the Presidents of France has been immortalized on the stamps of Europe's great Republic.

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"Guatemala 1901 complete	
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"Peru old	3 "
Peru 1895	4 "
Peru 1901 complete	
Queensland	7 var.
Roumania 1891	7 "
Roumania 1893	9 "
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"Salvador 1891	4 "
"Venezuela	6 "
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3	06	15	08
4	08	16	10
6	02	19	02
7	03	20	08
8	03	*24	25
9	03	27	02
11	06	28	02
12	06	29	03

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An Identification List of Stamp Inscriptions.

(Continued from No. 16 page 6.)

Postal Union - Hawaii.
Posta Romana - Roumania.
Post Bezirk Nordd - Germany (North-
ere Postal District), official, 1870.
Poste - Hayti; Italy; France.
Postes - Alsace and Lorraine, 1870, Bavaria, Belgium, Suez Canal Co., Egypt, France, Hayti, Luxemburg, Morocco.
Poste de Geneve - Switzerland (Geneva) 1843.
Postes Belgique - Belgium.
Postes Egyptiennes - Egypt.
Poste Estensi - Modena, 1852.
Poste Italiane - Italy.
Poste Locale - Switzerland, 1850 (Neuchâtel, 1851 (Vaud, 1849-50); Turkey.
Poste Persane - Persia, 1881, 1885.
Post Freimarke - Wurtemberg, official 1875.
Postfrim - Denmark, Iceland, Norway
Poste Khedenie Egiziane - Egypt 1872.
Postmarke - Bergedorf, Brunswick, 1857, Hamburg, Lubeck, 1859, Prussia.
Post Marke - Wurtemberg.
Post Office - Mauritius, United States.
Posto - Roumania, Two Sicilies.
Post Paid - Mauritius.
Post Stamp - Hyderabad, 1869, 1870, env. 1879, Nowanuggar.
Post Tenebras Lux - Switzerland.
Postverein - Baden.
Post Zegel - Netherlands (Holland), 1852, 1864, Stellaland, South African Republic.
Preussen - Prussia.
Principaute de Monaco - Monaco, 1885
Provincia de Mocambique - Mozambique, 1885.
Protectorat de la Cote des Somalis - Somali Coast.
Provincia de Angola - Angola.
Provincia de Cauca - Colombian Republic (Cauca).
Provincia de Macao - Macao.
Provincia Modena - Modena, 1859, Provisional.
Provisional Medellin - Antioquia.
P. S. N. C. - Peru.
Pto Cabello - Venezuela (La Guira and St. Thomas).
P to Rico - Porto Rico.
Puerto Rico - Porto Rico.
Puttialla State - Puttialla.
R - Jhind; Colombian Republic, registered.
Rayon - Switzerland, 1852.
Regence De Tunis - Tunis.
Reichspost - Germany.
Registro - Colombian Republic.
Rep a O. Del U - Uruguay, 1885.
Rep. O. Del Uruguay - Uruguay, 1882.
Repub. di S Marino - San Marino.
Repub. Franc - France, 1849, 1852, 1870 1872.
Republica Argentina - Argentine Republic.
Republica Boliviana - Bolivia 1893.
Republica de Colombia - Colombian Republic.
Republica Dominicana - Dominican

Republic, 1885.
Republica de la Granada Gobernacion Deleho Co - Colombian Republic, (Cauca).
Republica De Honduras - Honduras, 1878.
Republica de Nicaragua - Nicaragua.
Republica Del Paraguay - Paraguay.
Republica del Salvador - Salvador.
Republica Oriental - Uruguay.
Republica Oriental del Uruguay - Uruguay, 1866.
Republica De Peruva - Peru, revenue.
Republicana Dominicana - Dominican Republic.
Republica del Uruguay - Uruguay.
Republik - Stellaland.
Republique D' Hayti - Hayti, 1881, 1883
Republique Francaise - France, 1876, 1877, 1879.
Retourbrief Kgl. Oberamt - Bavaria, return letter, 1872.
Retourbrief Kgl. Oberpostamt - Bavaria, return letter, 1869.
Romagne - Romagna.
Romania - Roumania.
Roumelie Orientale - Eastern Roumelia
Royatme Belgique - Belgium 1869.
Relino F. - Salvador, 1887.
S. Ujong - Sungei Ujong.
Sachsen - Saxony.
San Thomas - Venezuela (La Guira and St. Thomas).
Seinde District Dawk - India.
Serizorri - Roumania.
Segna Tassa - Italy, unpaid, 1863, 1869
Segnatasse - Italy, unpaid, 1870.
Service de Couriers - Morocco, 1891.
Service des Postes Persanes - Persia 1881, official.
Servicio Postal - Mexico.
Servicio Nacional El Presidente de la Republica - Dominican Republic.
Servicio Postal del Salvador - Salvador 1887.
Servicio Postal Mexicano - Mexico, 1884, 1885.
Servicio Postal - Portuguese Indies.
S. H. - Schleswig-Holstein.
Shanghai L. P. O. - Shanghai.
Sie Fohais Etruria Crevit - New South Wales, 1849
Sicilla - Sicily.
Sirmoor State - Sirmoor.
Skargards Trafik - Finland.
Suomi - Finland, 1875, 1877, 1885.
Sobre Poste - Colombian Republic, unpaid.
S. P. - Luxemburg, official.
S. P. M. - St. Pierre and Miquelon.
Stads Post - Finland.
Stadt Post - Switzerland
Stadt Post Amt. - Bremen, 1855.
Stadt Post Basel - Switzerland (Basle) 1845.
Stempel - Austria.
Stamp Duty - Hong Kong, New Zealand, Victoria, 1865-86.
Stampe - Italy.
Stati - Parma.
Stati Estensi - Modena.
Stati Parm. - Parma, 1852, 1854.
Stati Parmensi - Parma, newspaper, 1853-7; Provisional, 1859.
St. Johns - Newfoundland, 1857, 1863.
St. P. Fr. - Brunswick.
S. Thome E. Principe - St. Thomas & Prince Islands.
(To be Continued).

ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

No.		cat	pr
2a	6p carmine	used 80	25
3	1sh orange	"	15
16	1p on 5sh	new	70
32	1p violet	"	10
42	1sh brown	used	75
44	1p orange	"	—
45	1p violet	new	06
46	2p "	"	10
48	3p ultramarine	"	15
51	1p "	"	25
52	1sh brown	"	60
52	1sh "	used	—
53	5sh green	"	1 10
57	4p on 6p ultram	new	25
60	1sh on 5sh	"	50

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Nyassa 1901 unused complete 2 1/2 to 300 65
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30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90c, 1 Fr. 2 Fr.
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Germany 1902, 2Mk gothic type rare stamp 20
Venezuela Miranda Maps unused complete (cat. 42c) 07
Newfoundland 1863, 6c unused (cat. 50c) 20
CIVIL War Rev. \$2.00 Conveyance 04
\$3.00 Charter party 07
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THE READING TABLE.

What We Find in the Journals of the Hour.

The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain, London, England.

The P. J. of G. B. for Nov. 25th is a trifle less interesting than usual—partly owing to so much of its space being consumed (we had almost said wasted) by the continuation of its description of the principal exhibits at the Berlin Exhibition. To run such a feature piecemeal through two or three issues of a periodical is, we think, a mistake, as it is primarily a matter of news and grows cold in the keeping. Moreover, the Monthly Journal had already discounted this feature by publishing a very full account of practically all the Berlin Exhibits, complete in one number, some two or three months since. But, then, 'tis none of our business if the Editor of the P. J. of G. B. prefers this to other matter—and perhaps all British collectors are not subscribers to the Monthly Journal.

The P. J. of G. B.'s Editorial for the month deals with Surcharges, the opinion being advanced that this class of varieties is by no means as scarce as painted. The P. J. of G. B. does not, in fact, sympathize at all with the constantly growing opinion that it would be a good thing if collectors would taboo all overprinted stamps. It thinks them too interesting a class to be left out altogether—though it does admit that collectors might profitably exercise some discrimination in regard to surcharges and refuse to collect surcharged provisionals that appear to have no reasonable excuse for existence; of which, our contemporary further admits, a good many are appearing nowadays. Our readers know our own opinion on this matter. We need not trouble to repeat them here.

The "Well Known Philatelist" of the month is Mr. W. Grunewald. As his fame is less international than that of most philatelists who have previously figured in the P. J. of G. B.'s gallery of philatelic celebrities, we need not take space to recount his philatelic achievements—though they are of no mean order. The usual chronicle takes up some six or seven pages, and Society Reports another—the only other reading matter in the number being some reviews of newly issued books, among them an appreciative and able critique of the Rev. Hayman Cummings's work on "The College Stamps of Oxford and Cambridge."

The Monthly Journal, London, England.

The Editorial pages in the Monthly Journal of Nov. 30th suffer transmutation into a Review Section, in which

a number of recent books dealing with philatelic subjects are critically analyzed in Major Evans's always delightful style. Only literal extract can do the readability of this style any real justice! and we know of nothing in the current Monthly Journal better deserving reproduction here than the following, an example of its brilliant editor at his best:—

"The Gallic Cock." We have reserved to the last a most attractive volume, which, though it has no direct connection with Philately, is written by a very well known philatelist of long standing, and contains a history of an emblem which we trust may yet be depicted upon the French stamps. M. Arthur Maury, as many of our readers are no doubt aware, does not confine his studies solely to Philately, but is an authority upon some few other things besides stamps. Among those other things are national emblems and flags, with engravings and official documents upon which they are represented, of which he possesses, we believe, an extremely fine collection. His historical studies have led him to perceive, as, indeed, they could hardly fail to do, that among the most ancient emblems of his country (perhaps the most ancient) is the Cock. It seems uncertain whether Gallia obtained that name because the people of the Province were poultry fanciers at a very early date, or whether Gallus Domesticus was so called because he was an object of veneration among the Gauls; but the fact remains that Caesar in his commentaries notes the curious fact that in some parts of Gaul the eating of fowls was regarded as sacrilege; indeed, in much the same manner as the roasting of a prize bird would be looked upon at the present day. We gather that the ancestors of the Gallic race were worshippers of the Sun, and that they probably recognized the Cock that crows in the Morn, to welcome the Rising Sun, as a Sun worshipper of the most pronounced and pious type. Be this as it may, M. Maury has long been an admirer, perhaps even a worshipper of the Gallant Bird, and he has plainly devoted an immense amount of loving care and research to tracing its history—heraldic and emblematic—from the earliest times. He shows it as represented on ancient Gallic coins, medals, sculptures and pottery, and as most plainly a national emblem upon objects of all kinds from the fourteenth century, or earlier; in fact, for some hundreds of years past, in symbolical pictures and caricatures, the Cock seems constantly to have indicated the French people, while the fleur-de-lis was the emblem of the monarchy. Postage stamps appear to be the only objects of a suitable nature upon which it has not yet been engraved, and we trust that this omission may soon be rectified. Brave Chanticleer would form a fitting companion for the Sower Lady, who, we would venture to suggest, is probably not really sowing at all, but feeding

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 1c Proprietary - - - 05 01
 5c Playing cards - - - 75 35
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 10d Gray & black 1800 issue - 40 15
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Venezuela 1896 complete, catalogued 42c. 8c or Postal Telegraph 1893, 5c. postage extra unless you apply for my approvals at 50c marked below cat. John Hastings, Bryn Mawr, Pa.

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Why not try our 20th Century Package? 25 used and unused stamps, price 12c, postpaid. Nonantum Stamp Co., Newton, Mass.

the chickens—a far more appropriate occupation."

All of which is vastly interesting and amusing, and we could only wish that the New Issues and Varieties department, which always occupies so many of the Monthly Journal's pages might be considerably abridged and its space filled instead with some more of the Major's Editorials. The New Issues Department is, of course, very valuable; but still it goes into some insignificant matters, we think, a trifle too diffusely.

M. Hancian's "Postal Issues of Finland," occupying two pages in the current M. J. is too long strung out and begins to grow a bit tedious. Mr. Ferdinand H. Morsel's "History of the Korean Postage Stamps," forms a very interesting paper, but one which leaves us in a state of considerable bewilderment as to the real facts in relation to many of the matters therein mentioned. Mr. Morsel's paper is a reply to one by Mr. C. A. Howes, the brilliant Boston writer, previously published; and, in order to be perfectly fair to both sides, Major Evans submitted Mr. Morsel's paper to Mr. Howes, requesting his further remarks upon the points in dispute. The result is the printing side by side of Mr. Morsel's paper, stating certain things in the most positive way, and a rejoinder to the same by Mr. Howes in which many of these same statements are most flatly contradicted. The extreme positiveness of both parties gives the affair some faint analogy to the Lawson newspaper war, which is raging with great virulence as we write these lines—but we are happy to say that in the philatelic controversy, perfect courtesy is maintained on both sides. Though we know not who to believe or what to think about some score or more of points about Korean issues on which the two disputants differ, the general accuracy of Mr. Howes's philatelic writings is beyond question and we are decidedly loath to believe that he is as sadly misinformed in this case as his German critic seems to think, so (though it may be patriotic prejudice) "we backs the American."

STAMP DOINGS IN GOTHAM.

(Continued from page 1.)

many weeks Mr. Reynolds will be again a frequenter of the stamp shops as of yore.

As the issue of St. Louis stamps expired, an abnormal demand became apparent for the 3c value and we heard that speculators valued them at 10c each. This is ridiculous. It is not possible for this stamp to command a material premium. There were printed of this value seven and one half millions. This value only was on sale at this office during the last two weeks of November, the other values having been sold out. If speculators invest in this stamp they will surely meet the fate of their fellows who attempted to corner the Columbian issue.

**THERE IS
NO QUESTION
ABOUT IT!**

The man who does not send for our Auction Catalogue is throwing good money away.

**DON'T BE
THAT MAN!**

EBEN S. MARTIN CO., INC.
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wants the advertising of dealers in goods that collectors buy.

It wants such advertising on a permanent basis. It has no time nor space for the experimental or the spasmodic advertiser.

If you want to advertise once or twice just to see what happens don't come to THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY. For the probabilities are that nothing in particular will happen.

There is no reason under the sun why people should answer the first advertisement of yours they see.

You may be an old concern, but to them you are absolutely new.

They are now buying of somebody else the stamps you sell.

They will make a change only when convinced of the wisdom of such a course.

You can't expect to convince them with one advertisement, nor with two.

But if your goods and your prices are right you can convince them in time.

The first few advertisements will convince some people. Then every additional advertisement will convince more people—many more than any previous advertisement. Every advertisement carries the influence of all its predecessors. If you keep it up continuously, and intelligently, its only a question of time when you'll have all the trade you're entitled to, and that's all the trade anybody ever gets—and holds.

If your goods are interesting to collectors persistent advertising in THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY can bring you all the business you are entitled to.

If you advertise persistently and well nothing can be more certain than your success.

The time to begin is now. The time to stop is when you retire from business—not before. From now until then no issue of THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY should be without your advertisement.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

Bethlehem, Pa.

Adapted from ad. of The Ladies Home Journal.

Philately In British Guiana.

From the Monthly Journal we learn that the first annual meeting of the British Guiana Philatelic Society was recently held in the Town Hall, Georgetown, and took the form of a conversazione at which was present, in addition to members, a number of invited guests.

"The Hon. B. Howell Jones", writes the Monthly Journal's correspondent, "exhibited a small but rare collection, Canon Josa his collection of Persians and a few French Colonies, Mr. W. A. Abraham displayed stamps of the South African Republics, L. U. Hill what are known as pigeon-carrier

stamps, while Mr. E. A. V. Abraham showed the whole of his valuable collection, and the Museum authorities the collection in their possession. A musical programme was contributed by various ladies and gentlemen, and short addresses, appropriate to the occasion delivered by the Hon. B. H. Jones and E. A. V. Abraham. How plea a it is to think of Philately flourishing wherever men of taste and intellect reside even in countries decidedly remote from the great centres of civilization. The British Guiana Society, starting a year ago with nine members, now has thirty-one, certainly a goodly showing for a colony with only a limited white population.

The successful advertiser has been acting while others were hesitating. He worked while they waited.—Batten's Wedge.

50 cents
a year.

THE

2 cents
a copy.

STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Entered as second-class matter December 17, 1904, at the post office at Bethlehem, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

VOL. I. BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, JANUARY 14, 1905. No. 18.

Bargains in United States.

Agriculture	3c	used	-	-	\$0 10
"	15c	unused	-	-	1 50
Interior	1c	"	"	"	15
"	10c	"	"	"	20
"	90c	used	-	-	1 00
Justice	12c	unused	-	-	1 50
Navy	30c	used	-	-	1 00
Post Office	1c	unused	-	-	15
"	2c	used	-	-	10
"	15c	unused	-	-	75
"	90c	"	"	"	1 00
State	1c	"	"	"	1 00
"	3c	"	"	"	40
"	6c	"	"	"	40
"	7c	"	"	"	1 50
"	15c	"	"	"	1 50
Treasury	24c	used	-	-	1 50
"	90c	unused	-	-	75

24 varieties U. S. Depts. \$1.50 many others both U. S. and Foreign for sale at proportionate prices.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,
722 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Canal Zone on Panama, current issue.

1c green, unused, o. g.	\$0 02
2c rose, " "	04
5c blue, " "	12
10c orange, " "	25
Dominican Republic, 1904, surcharged on Official Stamps.	
2c scarlet & black, inverted surcharge, unused, o. g.	\$1 00
5c blue & black, inverted surcharge, (red), unused, o. g.	1 00
5c blue & black, unused, o. g.	15
10c yellow-green & black unused o. g.	30
Mauritius, 1904.	
4c black & carmine on blue, single C. A., unused, o. g.	04
15c green, red surcharge (Special Delivery), Cr. & C. C., unused o. g.	12

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 EAST 23rd St., New York, N. Y.

P Fine As Silk. M

are the stamps of Mr. W. H. Wolsieffs collection of United States and Colonies to be sold at Public Auction without reserve on January 28th, next. Catalogue of this sale free to Auction Buyers. If you buy good and fine stamps this is the sale to bid on.

25 cts. Buys.

One of those handy Wolsieffer Pocket Ed. Stock book, cloth bound and holds 500 stamps. Everybody wants it.

Wolsieffer's Approval Cards per doz. \$0 20

" " " " 100 1 50

Other stock books all sizes and supplies, packets, albums, hinges etc.

P. M. Wolsieffer,

Auction Sale Specialist.

401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago. M

LONDON LETTER.

Fred J. Melville.

Shortly before Christmas last year a book was published which came as a great surprise to most philatelists who procured it. This was The Stamp Friend's Raid, a volume of various verse which ran on for stanza after stanza, page after page, without, as I thought when reading it, even appearing to be approaching its conclusion. The book was a marvel of length. As long as the Iliad, and perhaps more deep than Homer's great work inasmuch as none but the initiated philatelist could understand it, the Stamp Friend's Raid was something new to add to the Philatelic library.

Now, as Christmas approaches once more, I have a remarkable piece of philatelic literature to introduce to your notice. If you will pardon the frivolity of the subject as Christmas is with us I will ask your attention while I review a volume I have lately procured entitled "Teddy's Stamp Album."

Let me here say that, although much has been written for boys and girls who collect stamps and for juniors generally, this is perhaps the first book which may be said to have been written for the stamp nursery.

Teddy, let me tell you, is a spoiled boy, and in the opening chapters we find him naughtily cutting his initials E. V. for Edward Vaudrey, on the back of the garden seat. Here, too, we get a glimpse of his naughty ways, for when his father calls him he puts off until he has been asked several

(Continued on page 3.)

CHICAGO CHAT.

The inauguration meeting of the year of the Chicago Philatelic Society took place on Thursday evening last and was largely attended.

The newly-elected officers took their seats and the old officers made their reports.

Mr. John J. Oesch, the retiring President, made a very encouraging and interesting report of the progress of the society for the past year which showed that the society as a whole has been very active.

Mr. Irving Dickinson, the retiring Secretary, made a detailed report of the number of new members, attendance during the year, losses and gains in various departments and a summary of the whole report showed a substantial gain.

Mr. H. N. Mudge, retiring Chairman of the Entertainment Committee, also made a very comprehensive and interesting report on the work of his committee, which was such an important factor in keeping up the interest of the meetings and bringing out the large average attendance.

Treasurer, Sales Superintendent, Librarian, House and Obituary Committees all had splendid and encouraging reports which indicated that the year's work was well done.

Mr. Mudge, the new President, on taking the chair, responded with a very earnest talk to the members which convinced them all that he was the right man in the right place. Following were his appointments: Sales

(Continued on page 4.)

Philadelphia Letter.

The Philadelphia Philatelic Society held its regular monthly meeting at the Colonnade Hotel on Wednesday evening, Jan. 4, with a fair attendance. The Board of Governors reported that a permanent meeting place that would answer all requirements had not yet been secured, and desired another month for their search. Mr. A. F. Henkels was elected as the society's Vice President to the American Philatelic Association. The society received its charter as a branch of the A. P. A.

At the conclusion of the business in hand the competitive contest was opened, the stamps of Hong Kong being the subject. Four collections were entered. The judges' committee comprised: Messrs. Parrish, Hazeltine and Henkels, who announced the following results of their deliberations:—

Collection No. 1.—Arrangement, 10; completeness, 30; rarities, 30; and condition, 28. Total, 98 per cent.

Collection No. 2.—Arrangement, 9; completeness, 28; rarities, 26; condition, 25. Total, 88 per cent.

Collection No. 3.—Arrangement, 6; completeness, 16; rarities, 15; condition, 20. Total, 57 per cent.

Collection No. 4.—Arrangement, 4; completeness, 27; rarities, 24; condition, 30. Total, 85 per cent.

The collections and their owners proved to be: No. 1, Mr. Repplier; No. 2, Mr. Beamish; No. 3, Mr. Bahman; No. 4, Mr. Gerlan. Two more competitions, the stamps of Porto Rico and Iceland, being the subjects, will take

(Continued on page 4.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

LOUIS G. QUACKENBUSH,
MANAGING EDITOR.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States, Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any address in any country in the Postal Union \$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.00 an inch. 60 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

From The Editor's Point Of View.

Cut Off by Government Order.

Those collectors who find pleasure in accumulating and classifying the pre-cancelled stamps of our own land (we ought perhaps cut out the last three words as unnecessary, since the pre-cancelled stamp is a purely American institution) have had a bitter blow dealt them by the authorities at Washington. As most of our readers doubtless know, the rulers of our postal destinies have found a way of dispensing with stamps altogether in the case of third-class matter mailed in large quantities, and the new system is already in full swing. "Third-class Matter—Paid In Money—1c—Permit No. 6"—this is the legend which now adorns the envelope wherein advertising matter cometh; and we cannot confess to being quite in love with the change. We do not like our envelopes stampless. We had no idea we could miss the humble little one-centers as much as we do. And we think that almost every collector, no matter if he has never cared one iota about the pre-cancelled varieties, must have something of the same feeling. Philatelists can have no sympathy with any plan or system which does away with the necessity for using stamps, on any sort of matter that passes through the mails. It breeds a feeling of uneasiness lest some power in postal matters, brilliant in his own conceit, might contrive some method whereby letters also could travel through the mails without the accompaniment of an adhesive stamp. Really, however, we need not trouble our heads a mite over this phase of the question. There is no danger whatsoever that anyone will ever succeed in devising any method for the prepayment of postage on letters, parcels, etc., posted in the ordinary way, that will make it feasible to

do away with the postage stamps. This "paid in money permit" business may work well enough in handling advertising matter sent out per thousand pieces. We do not ourselves quite see where it is any improvement over the system it supplants, but doubtless it is expected to simplify or lighten some part of the bookkeeping necessary in handling this class of postal shipments. But so far as the system being extended to other classes of mail matter, if it is found to work well in this one, it were madness to think of it. There are a thousand obstacles to prevent any government from handling ordinary mail matter without stamps, and we do not believe it will ever be possible to devise any system which will successfully overcome all these obstacles. So Philately is safe, whatever happens. It is a bit too bad that our friends, the pre-cancel enthusiasts, should have their supplies shut off in this manner. But pre-cancels were, after all, only a minor diversion in the general philatelic scheme, and even their most ardent lovers will not, we imagine, mourn their loss for long.

Straight Postage Stamps

Wear Best.

Straight postage stamps wear best and longest in the likings of stamp folk. And by straight postage stamps we mean, of course, the specimens whose interest lies wholly in their original design—stamps that are not pre-cancelled varieties or plate-number varieties or surcharge varieties or varieties with a foreign cancellation, etc., etc., but that are just stamps and nothing else. By straight postage stamps we mean, too, not officials, or Too Lates, or Postage Dues, or Return Letters, or any other of this numerous tribe, but stamps that are postage stamps. We imagine that in course of time when some great philatelic scholar of the future writes the history of Philately in these times in which we are now living, he will dwell very curiously on the habit that we of this day and age have had of dabbling from time to time in this, that or the other of these philatelic side-issues. For we imagine that in the evolution of Philately these things will go most decidedly out of fashion. It does not take long for such things to be forgotten when once they lose their prestige. Plate numbers, for example. It is not over half a dozen years ago that U. S. plate numbers were right in the limelight and almost every U. S. specialist was collecting them assiduously. They were much written about, much talked about, and much esteemed. Yet now there is hardly a reference to them in the stamp press once a twelvemonth. Doubtless some few specialists still collect them, but their day is gone and it is entirely unlikely that it will ever return. And thus it goes with all these departures from the normal trend of collecting. They have no permanency and can flourish for but a brief season. And, however much any of us may

daily with them for the nonce, we all come back in the end to the collecting of stamps that are just stamps.

So, when all's said and done, there is perhaps no need to condole with those of the brethren that are attached to pre-cancelled collecting. This phase of collecting would have died a natural death in a few years more at most. The post-office authorities have simply hastened its departure—only a very little before its allotted time.

A Very Great

Mistake.

Mr. Bishop, of the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, has been giving one of his English contemporaries a dressing down which appears to be most richly deserved. The philatelic paper in question, an old established sheet which has thriven none too well in recent years (or so, at least, its appearance would indicate) has been so eager for advertising revenue that in recent numbers it has brazenly printed an advertisement of the notorious Fournier, maker and seller of forgeries, who dignifies his wares in his announcement with the softer-sounding word "fac-similes." That any journal making pretense of any devotion whatever to the cause of Philately should stoop to print an advertisement of this kind—should wilfully publish far and wide the address of a dealer in nefarious goods—is surely matter for amazement. There is, in our judgment, no excuse which can possibly palliate the offence of which the Journal in question has been guilty. It openly lends itself to the disposal of wares which it knows to be spurious, and we do not see where its position is a whit more defensible than that of the fence who disposes of stolen goods. The fence argues that he himself did not steal the goods; the publishers of the paper in question would doubtless likewise argue that they themselves did not make the fac-similes. But selling such things is as bad as making them, and if the dealers and collectors of England do their duty a withdrawal of support will ensue which will make this offending journal speedily see the error of its ways.

Wishes Mail to keep Sunday.

Indiana Preacher Requests His Letters Not to Travel on the Sabbath.

"This letter is requested by the sender not to travel on Sunday, to help rob men of its benefits.

"O. W. HIGH."

The above inscription is on a personal stamp of the Rev. O. W. High, of Upland, Ind., and is used on all the envelopes he sends through the mails.

It is intended by the announcement that Postmasters and mail clerks may cast aside the letters thus stamped rather than have them travel on Sunday.

P. M. Advocate.

LONDON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

times. Let me quote a few words to explain his nature and position: "His mother," says our authoress, Miss Glenora Stooke, "had died when he had been only a few months old and Mr. Vaudrey, who had not married again, had been so wrapped up in his little son, that he had granted him his every wish, without questioning the wisdom of so doing. The consequence was that Teddy considered himself by far the most important person at Westleigh Barton, the scene of the story.

"A distant cousin from London—a poor boy called Jo—comes to stay with Mr. Vaudrey and Teddy for the benefit of his health and Teddy plays pranks on him. I must not go into the whole story. The first evening Teddy was trying to be nice to his young guest, and after having taken him to see his pets even allowed him to look over his stamp album!

"Then it came out that Jo had a collection of foreign stamps in his box upstairs and Teddy was not satisfied until he had compared it with his own, and exchanged some stamps of which he had duplicates for other belonging to Jo.

"Jo possessed one South African stamp which was a very rare one, and which Teddy examined with covetous eyes, whilst he determined that one day later on he would try to purchase it."

In the next chapter we learn a little more about Jo. Although a nervous boy he got on pretty well with Teddy because he gave way to that young tyrant in everything. But he had something of the true philatelist in him, for on one point he was immovable. Listen while I quote again:

"Naturally, too," says our authoress, "he was of a generous disposition; but when Teddy wanted him to exchange his rare South African stamp for one of far less value, he shook his head most decidedly.

"Well, then, will you sell it?" Teddy argued eagerly; "I'll give you a good price for it."

"But I don't want to part with it," Jo objected. "It's the only one I have and it's very rare; I may never have an opportunity of getting another."

"Oh, you may as well let me have it," Teddy persisted, determined to carry his point. "I'll give you half a crown for it." "No." "Well, five shillings. Come Jo, won't you sell it to me for that?"

"Jo hesitated. Five shillings appeared a lot of money to him, but he knew the stamp was a valuable one. His father had obtained it for him from a friend who was a great stamp collector, and had made him a present of it.

"No, I won't sell it," he decided shaking his head. "But I'll tell you what I'll do. When I go home, I'll ask father to try and get one for you."

"Oh, Jo, let me have this one," Teddy cried disappointedly. "How mean and disagreeable you are."

"Jo flushed at this reproach, which he did not consider he deserved, and an angry retort rose to his lips; he did not utter it however, for he suddenly remembered his obligations to Teddy's father.

"But Teddy's father had been listening, and just when he thought the discussion had ended, he heard Jo remark with a note of resignation in his voice:

"You shall have the stamp if you like, Teddy, but I won't take any money for it. I'll give it to you."

Note, please, how thoroughly this boy was a stamp collector from pure delight in his hobby. No sordid money dealings interfered with his enjoyment of the pursuit. Would that this type of collector were more general, not only among boys, but among grown-ups also!

"Oh, thank you," Teddy cried brightly, perfectly ready at once to accept the gift though he knew it was made at a great sacrifice.

"Teddy," exclaimed his father with unusual sharpness, "I forbid you to take that stamp. I am astonished you should desire to do so, when you know Jo does not want to part with it. I am ashamed of you. How can you be so selfish?"

"Oh, Cousin Edward, let me give it to him," Jo cried, looking distressed as he noticed the frown upon Mr. Vaudrey's brow. "I did think at first I should like to keep it, but as Teddy wants it so much, I'll give it to him."

"No, my boy, I shall not permit it," Mr. Vaudrey replied firmly. "Teddy must not have everything his own way, for that's not good for him. I am only astonished that he should desire to take it from you."

Mr. Vaudrey buries himself in a paper. Jo looks uneasy. Teddy is a trifle ashamed, but becomes sulky.

"He closed his stamp album with a bang, and taking it under his arm left the room and went upstairs to his own bedroom. After a while the slight sense of shame which his father's rebuke had made on him, gave place to a strong feeling of resentment against Jo. How he envied him that rare South African stamp!"

But I must hurry on with the development of the plot.

Some days later Teddy is in Jo's room. Jo is away.

"I don't fancy he can be in the house thought Teddy; perhaps he's gone out with father. He glanced around and espied Jo's stamp album on the dressing table, and the small cardboard box, with its cover off, which his cousin kept all his loose stamps in and amongst which had been the South African one, he had meant to paste in its proper place in the album.

"Wonder if Jo's stuck it in yet?" Teddy exclaimed, "I'll just have a look to see."

He discovers the stamp. "How I wish it was mine," he sighed, "and it would have been if Jo had not made such a fuss and if father had

not interfered. I wonder if Jo will be able to get me one like it when he returns to London? I don't suppose he will. Oh dear, what a pity it is I can't have this one."

"A sudden flush rose to Teddy's face as the thought flashed through his mind that the opportunity was his for taking the stamp without Jo's knowledge."

I must pass over the pages in which are described most graphically the workings of conscience in boys. But let me say that Teddy hid the stamp behind the photo of Blarney, his favorite pony. For some time he could not meet his father's eyes. "In fact Teddy was growing uneasy about the South African stamp and when he went to bed he could not sleep for thinking of the secret hidden with Blarney's photograph on the mantelpiece."

The loss of the stamp is soon discovered, but a lot of the stamps having been upset by Teddy, it was supposed that the stamp had been blown out the window which had been open at the time.

Teddy then gets up to a trick to frighten Jo. He impersonates a ghost, and unhappily for himself, he sets the deserted wing of Westleigh on fire, and finds that he himself is locked in and cannot escape the flames.

Here is tragedy indeed! Blood and thunder novelettes for the nursery!

Of course it is only natural for the sinned against Jo to come and rescue him, but poor Teddy is terribly hurt. He is put to bed, the doctor comes and finds that he is in a bad way. He confesses all about the trick he has been up to and also confesses the theft of the stamp to his father.

"Tell me all about it, Teddy," says his father.

"Teddy did so, not attempting to make an excuse of himself. It was a hard tale to tell, and a hard tale to bear, judging from Mr. Vaudrey's scornful face.

"I've wished heaps of times since that I had never touched it," Teddy exclaimed, his cheeks crimson with shame, his eyes suffused with blinding tears. "and I've longed over and over again to give it back."

Now here is a dramatic point. For just then Jo enters the room and Teddy is about to make his confession over again to him, when Jo cries:—

"I've had a letter from father, and what do you think he's sent for you? A South African stamp like the one I've lost. I'm so glad. Aren't you pleased? See here it is," and Jo held it out, and this is the climax, so far as we are concerned. There is another climax in the book, however, but as I am not addressing a Sunday School class I will omit it.

I will in conclusion give two points which are of interest to stamp collectors.

For one thing Mr. Vaudrey gives the boys a bit of advice.

"Now you have one each, and if you take my advice, you will stick them

in your stamp albums at once so that there may be no chance of either getting lost."

If we always stick our stamps into our albums as soon as we get them, we should not lose them so often as we do. We may learn this moral then from Teddy's stamp album, that a stamp stuck in in time, saves loss.

With most stamp collectors, their stamps recall the experiences they had in procuring them, and in Teddy's case this is forcibly brought out.

"As for Teddy, he was very pleased to be the owner of the stamp but he felt certain that he would never look at it without being reminded of the shabby way in which he had treated his cousin." Moral:—A stamp dishonorably got, gives no pleasure, but the remembrance of a shabby dealing it recalls gives pain.

CHICAGO CHAT.

(Continued from page 4.)

Superintendent, A. F. Boehm; Open Exchange Manager, Dr. F. B. Merrill; Counterfeit Detector, Stan Zajicek; Librarian, A. F. Boehm; Assistant Librarian, F. E. Lee; Auction Manager, P. N. Massoth; House Committee, A. Dahl, Chairman, R. E. Baldwin, F. E. Lee; Entertainment Committee, Jas. Abbott, Chairman, E. Rosenthal, C. E. Severn; Obituary Committee, P. M. Wolsfeffer, W. H. Adams.

If all these appointees will hustle and work only half so hard as their worthy President, Mr. Mudge, there will be nothing to it and the year 1905 ought to be a banner one for the C. P. S.

Mr. Edw. Rosenthal, of the Annual Dinner Committee, reported that it was to be held at the Pullman Building Cafe on Jan. 26th and would be as usual informal, and any member having the nerve to appear in a full dress suit would unquestionably be mistaken for a waiter.

Mr. James Abbott, of the Lantern Slide Committee, reported that nearly all of the 83 subjects to be illustrated would be ready and the lecture would be given as announced at the next meeting, Jan. 19th.

Considerable interest is being taken in the auction sale of Mr. W. H. Wolsley's collection of United States and Colonies. It will be sold at a "Wolsfeffer Sale" on the 28th. All lovers of fine conditioned stamps know Mr. Wolsley only accepted the finest obtainable specimens in each case.

Business is fair; business is good; I have no kick coming; coins sell better than stamps; coins have stamps skinned a mile; these are expressions of opinion from the trade in the past week.

Philadelphia Letter.

place, after which the judges' announcement will decide the winners of the first, second and third prizes.

Another auction sale by Robert & Dublin will take place on Jan. 14. Philadelphians are well favored with these opportunities this season for picking up stamps at their own prices.

An Identification List of Stamp Inscriptions.

(Continued from No. 17 page 6.)

- S. U. - On stamps of Straits Settlement - Sungai Ujong.
 Swede - Sweden.
 Sultanat D' Anjonan - Anjonan.
 Surcharge Postage - Trinidad, unpaid.
 Suriname - Surinam.
 Sverige - Sweden.
 Tammierfors - Finland.
 Tanger Fez - Morocco, 1892.
 Tarif - Egypt.
 Tassa Gazette - Modena, newspapers.
 Taxa de Plata - Roumania, unpaid.
 Telegraphos - Salvador.
 Telegrafo Nacional - Argentine Republic Telegraph Stamp, 1890.
 Telegrafos Del Estado - Chili Telegraph Stamps.
 Te Betalen - Dutch Indies, 1874, 1876, Holland, Suriname, unpaid letter, Curacao (unpaid).
 Telegram Frimarke - Denmark.
 Telegram Frm. - Denmark.
 Thesouro - Brazil.
 Thronjems - Norway.
 Thru u. Taxis - Germany.
 Timb. Poste - Reunion Islands.
 Timbre de Guatemala - Guatemala.
 Timbre Imperial - France.
 Timbre - Salvador.
 Timbres 1881, 1882 - Peru.
 Timbre Republica de Costa Rica - Costa Rica (Revenue).
 Timbre Republica Dominicana - Dominican Republic 1886 (Revenue).
 Tjenste - Denmark, Sweden.
 Tjenste - Frimarke - Sweden, official.
 Tjenste Post Frimarke - Denmark, official, 1871, 1875.
 Too Late - Victoria.
 Toscano - Tuscany.
 Transacciones Sociales - Bolivia, 1870.
 Transvaal Postage - South African Republic.
 Treasury Free - New Zealand Treasury Dept., 1890.
 Toscana - Tuscany.
 Uku Leta - Hawaii, 1859.
 Ultramar - Cuba, Porto Rico.
 Ultramarino 1873 - Porto Rico, 1873.
 Union Postal Universal - Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Salvador, Colombian Republic.
 Union Postal Universelle Equateur - Ecuador, 1887.
 U. P. U. - Colombian Republic.
 U. S. - United States.
 U. S. P. O. Despatch - United States.
 Vancouver's Island - British Columbia 1865.
 Venezuela - Venezuela, 1863.
 Van Dieman's Island - Tasmania 1853, 1855.
 V. R. - Fiji Islands, So. African Republic.
 Wamajvesi - Augsburgbolag - Finland local.
 Wendeusche Kreis Brief Post - Livonia.
 Wurtemberg - Wurtemberg.
 Yki Markha - Finland, 1866.
 Z. Afr. Republik - South African Republic.
 Zeitungs - Austria.
 Zemaljska vlada za Bosnu iza Hercegovinu - Bosnia and Herzegovina.
 Zur Ermittlung des Absenders - Wurtemberg.
 Zurich - Switzerland (Zurich) 1843.

Transvaal	1901	2sh	brown,	
			mint, rare	\$1.25
			1902 2sh yellow, mint	1.00
Montserrat	5 sh	King,	"	1.00
Jamaica	5 sh	Queen,	"	1.00
St. Helena	2 sh	1902,	"	1.00
Falkland Isles.	2sh 6p	Queen	"	1.00
"	"	5sh	"	1.75

All King's head single C. A.

Send for my B. B. Lists,
 Auction Sale on Dec. 7th, send
 for catalogue.

Frank P. Brown,
 339 Washington St., Boston, Mass.

CANADA REVENUES.

I would like to hear from all collectors interested in these beautiful stamps, and will send you my catalogue free.

SPECIAL OFFER! I will give free with orders of \$1 or more, of Canada Revenues, an album especially for these stamps, all spaced and on heavy paper (105H) bound in cloth, a really first class album.

EDWARD Y. PARKER,
 155 Dowling Ave.
 TORONTO, - - CANADA

RICHARD R. BROWN,
WHOLESALE POSTAGE
STAMPS,
 Keyport, N. J.

100 Java and Cuba, etc., fine stamp dictionary and big illustrated list of 3,000 bargains, 2c. Apts., 50c. 1905 catalogue of stamps of all nations, 10 cents.

A. Bullard & Co., 446 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.

ECUADOR.

1899	1c - 1 sucre, unused cat.	\$2.16
1899	Same set used	1.00
1901	1c - 1 sucre used	1.00
PORTUGAL.		
1898	Vasco de gama 2, 5, 10, 25, 50c	\$1.00
SWITZERLAND.		
1881	2, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 40, 50c, 1 fr. unused	1.00
GREECE.		
1901	1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50c, 1 dr.	1.00
1896	Olympian 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 25c, 1 drachm	1.00
PERU.		
1889	1, 2, 5, 7, 10c, 1, 2, 5 kr. unused	1.00
1894	1, 2, 5, 8, 10, 16c, 1, 2, 5, 10, 50kr unused	2.25
1904	3 on 5, 6 on 10, 9 on 1kr. unused	1.00
AUSTRIA.		
1890	20 kr, 24 kr. each	1.00
"	50 kr. Violet	1.00
CUBA, PORTO RICO, PHILIPPINE.		
50 different unused cat. \$1.70		

ARARAT STAMP CO.,

45 BEAVER ST., NEW YORK

1 cent Bargains.

Postage Extra.

Germany	1900	30c	orange & black
"	1900	40c	lake & black.
Tasmania	1901	1p	coraline.
Netherlands	1899	50c	green & brown.
Nicaragua	1899	50c	violet.
Salvador	1890	1c	green.
"	1891	2c	brown.
Paraguay	1892	1c	gray.
Mozambique	1892	5r	black.
Venezuela	1893	5c	gray.

Any of above 1c each. Only one to customer. Large price list free.

I am prepared to send first class appropriate selections to responsible collectors. Try me with a want list. Collections and duplicates bought.

H. J. Kleinman,
 3641 N. Marshall St., Philadelphia Pa.

From The Hub.

Tuesday evening, Dec. 20th, the Boston Philatelic Society held its 141st regular meeting at Elks' Hall, 24 Hayward Place. The informal auction at 7:30 conducted by our popular auctioneer was an occasion of interest as is always the case, for although valuable lots are seldom offered there is considerable good natured competition in the bidding. Some 90 odd lots were put up and sold in short order.

At 8 p. m., the regular meeting was opened by President Rothfuchs, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Mr. Wylie gave the report of the committee on program for the ensuing year. This program will provide for many interesting contests and exhibitions of stamps. Communications were read from several American and Foreign Societies thanking the B. P. S. for complimentary copies of the Postage Stamps of Siam by Alex. Holland. This is a recent publication of the society and every student of these interesting stamps should have a copy. An offer from Mr. Bartels to give gold, silver and bronze medals to the winners in a competitive exhibition of the stamps of the U. S. Colonies open to all collectors was read and accepted by an unanimous vote. This exhibition will be held in 1905, date with particulars will be given later.

Five new members were elected to the society and one candidate posted to be voted upon at the next regular meeting. This being the last meeting of the year nomination of officers was in order and the following were nominated: President, C. F. Rothfuchs; Vice President, Geo. F. Loring; Secretary, C. A. Howes; Treasurer, L. L. Green; Superintendent of Auctions and Sales, J. H. Lyons. On the Governing Board, F. H. Burt.

The Society voted unanimously to invite the American Philatelic Association to hold its 1906 convention in Boston. This invitation was given before the year 1905 but for that year it was thought that others had a greater claim. Now it seems reasonable to hope that we may have the honor of entertaining the convention in 1906.

Because of the election of officers in January there will be but a short entertainment for that meeting and the February meeting will be made interesting by a banquet.

The attraction of the evening was the exhibition of the collection of Philippine stamps by F. C. Foster and J. M. Bartels. Mr. Foster's collection of Philippine stamps is considered the finest in existence and is closely followed by that of Mr. Bartels'. The value of the two collections is about \$10,000. There are but few stamps of the 315 main varieties which are worth more than \$100 each but all of them were shown in fine condition many being in blocks and strips with plate numbers attached with all the possible shades and minor varieties.

A very instructive though informal talk was given by Mr. Bartels. Besides giving the differences in the issues regular and surcharged he explained how and why each change was made from the first issue in 1854 to the current stamps of the U. S. overprinted Philippine. The political history of the Islands under the rule of Spain and the United States was shown by the changes in the stamps from time to time and even Aguinaldo had his share of attention through the exhibition of his private issue which not being considered legitimate by collectors has been omitted from the catalogues.

Another feature was the annual competitive exhibition of uncatalogued varieties of postage stamps for the society's silver cup. The object of this competition is to bring to public notice stamps not known to collectors in general. The conditions of the contest being that stamps exhibited are not listed by Scott, Stanley Gibbons or Senf.

For the last year President Rothfuchs has held the cup. For the year 1905 Mr. H. W. Legg will be its possessor, his collection being the finest of the three in competition. In all three collections many rarities were shown. One stamp indeed being so rare that it does not exist (technically) this is the U. S. 1895 3c purple overprinted Porto Rico. No satisfactory explanation has ever been given for this stamp's appearance but it has been pronounced genuine by collectors who should be competent to judge.

Many other varieties of interest were shown, part-perforate pairs of stamps, normally perforated, half stamps on covers properly postmarked having evidently done postal duty, errors of surcharges, printers' waste and other varieties, too numerous to mention here. A list of the varieties exhibited will be published.

By this time the new Standard catalogue is in the hands of nearly all active collectors and many of them are no doubt comparing prices and deciding whether or not their purchases or exchanges during the year have been made with wisdom. As usual British Colonies show the largest gain in price and many are those who wish they had bought this or that set when prices were lower. However, one can't go entirely by catalogue prices for real values for the value of a collection should depend on the pleasure it gives in itself.

The novice in stamp collecting values a new acquisition simply because it's not like something he already possessed. If, as he grows older in stamp experience, the collector would always have the same ideal how much better satisfied with his collection he would be. If he despairs of ever obtaining a complete collection by lack of means or of time he can specialize with a country or a group of countries and find all the pleasure he experienced, when he got his first Canada 5c registration stamp or some

Cheap Sets.

"Panama Republic.	1904	2 var.
"Cuba. Newspaper	1894	4 "
"Egypt. Soudan Camel		2 "
"Guatemala	1801 complete	
Mexico	1886	5 var.
"New Brunswick		2 "
Nicaragua	1899	4 "
Persia		4 "
"Peru	old	3 "
Peru	1895	4 "
Peru	1901 complete	
Queensland		7 var.
Roumania	1891	7 "
Roumania	1893	9 "
"St. Thomas & Prince Isl.		3 "
"Salvador	1889	4 "
"Salvador	1891	4 "
"Venezuela		6 "
Venezuela	1900	3 "

5
cents
per
set.

Orders for less than 50c Postage extra. Price List of over 400 cheap sets Free upon application.

H. F. COLMAN,

725 11th St. N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

Stamp Auction January 17th.

about 600 lots, the dealers stock of Theodore Mainhart of Johnstown, Pa.

Postal Card brings Catalogue Free.

JOSEPH F. NEGREEN,

-(DEALER IN STAMPS & COINS.)-

128 East 21 St., NEW YORK CITY.

Dutch Indies.

No. 1	\$0 45	No. 13	\$0 30
3	05	15	03
4	03	16	10
6	02	19	02
7	03	20	06
8	03	24	25
9	03	27	02
11	05	28	02
12	06	29	03

All good copies. Orders under 50c Postage extra. Anything not satisfactory can be returned and money refunded.

MECCA STAMP CO.,

ROCKPORT, - - TEXAS.

MEKEEL'S STAMP COLLECTOR

Issued 52 Times a Year

You may have it Ten Weeks upon Trial for 10c.

EDITED BY

CHARLES HAVILAND MEKEEL

It contains some things not found in any other paper and has nearly 6,000 paid subscribers.--'Nuf said.

C. H. Mekeel Stamp & Publishing Co.

St. Louis, Mo.

U. S Envelopes.

Wanted for Cash!

We will give highest prices in cash or exchange for any of the following early issues. Many of them are quite common * unused, x used.

- 1853-55 3c. all dies, entire * and x, cut *
- 1857-61 3c red entire or cut * and x
- 1857 1c entire or cut * and x incl. wrappers
- 1861 3c pink, entire or cut * and x
- 1863 2c black, all dies, including wrappers entire or cut * and x
- 1864 3c pink or brown, entire *

Send any you have on approval with your price.

J. M. BARTELS CO.,

OLD SOUTH BLDG., BOSTON, MASS.

SUBSCRIBE, not next week but now.

other rarity of the same order, renewed in finding a new shade, perforation or paper.

He may indeed do more. It is possible, even probable, that in specializing some countries there will be found varieties connected with the cheaper varieties of which no other philatelist is aware.

Half Hours With Old Stamp Journals.

by "The Antiquary"

(Continued from No. 13 page 6.)

No 5 of the American Stamp Mercury has rather too great a percentage of advertising in proportion to reading matter, no less than four of the eight pages being given over to dealers' announcements, mostly those of Mr. Trifet himself.

Of the reading matter, first is a page devoted to "Newly Issued Stamps," in which it gives one almost a start of surprise to see what old, old stamps now were entirely new then. It reads oddly to note new stamps for New Granada, North Germany and other countries whose names have long since been changed; and in this ancient chronicle, too, appear, not one, but several issues that one will search for in vain in the catalogues of to-day; their character having long since been discovered to be more than doubtful.

The second page, and part of the third is devoted—alas, and adack—to a description of "Current Stamp Forgeries." The extent to which the collectors of that early day were beset by forgeries may be judged from the fact that Mr. Trifet states that, after laying aside for eight months one of each variety of forged stamps he came across, he now had some five hundred different specimens of forged stamps, which he proposed describing for the benefit of his readers. Five hundred varieties of forgeries in 1868! Think of it! And stamp collecting scarce more than three years old on this continent at the time. Some two or three dozen different forgeries are described in this number—very well described, too—and this feature was doubtless the most valuable to most collectors of any that had thus far appeared in the Mercury.

The other reading matter is rather trivial—nor do the advertisements contain much that is materially different from the things noted in previous numbers. The most interesting thing among the ads is an announcement of Mr. Trifet's that he had just received the largest and best variety of stamps ever imported in the United States—which consignment so greatly augmented his stock that he now had on hand 47,000 stamps, worth about \$1500. Mr. Trifet's was the most important stamp house in America at the time (with the possible exception of J. W. Scott & Co.). Yet even at that his stock totalled only \$1500.

Turning to No. 6, we find once more quite a goodly list of "newly issued stamps," among them a note about the now familiar U. S. grille varieties

which reads as follows: "United States.—The government seems to have adopted the new embossing process, as the 2, 3 and 12 cent stamps are now found so ornamented. They are printed on thinner paper, and stick a great deal better." An article on "Confederate Stamps" occupies a page or more. Then two pages are devoted to an article on "The Post Office," taken from the Boston Journal; and next still another page of "Postal Miscellany," so that one might well think he had picked up a copy, not of a stamp journal, but of a post-office. Good "copy" was scarce in those days, however, and doubtless it was a most difficult task to fill up even five or six pages of reading matter. Nor was this postal information and anecdote entirely lacking in entertainment, as the following excerpt from the number before us will demonstrate: "Highlanders' Letter Posting.—Queer scenes occur at the post-office at Wick, Scotland, especially on Saturday evenings, when hundreds of letters are posted by the Highland fishermen. When the penny postage was first established, the Postmaster had many a hard night's work among the Highlanders, who illustrated their national characteristic by endeavoring to beat down the postage to a half-penny, alleging that the letter was a little one, and that the Highland Postmaster never charged more than a half-penny. From the out stations beyond the daily delivery they would come, and while one would ask if there was a letter for him, he would answer to the interrogatory as to his name, 'Ach, ye'll see it on the back of the letter,' and on the name being at last communicated and the information that there was no letter for him, Donald often put the poser: 'Do you think she will be the morn?' Donald has learned by experience, but it generally requires four Highlanders to complete the modus operandi of posting a letter. One brings it to the office wrapped up in a piece of paper, a second precedes him and buys a stamp; handing the stamp to a third, he, after various licks and manipulations, gets Her Majesty's head affixed to the letter, and the fourth, after looking into the slit with considerable suspicion, cautiously lets it drop, and the whole four finish the performance by peeping down the slit to see that all is well with their missile."

Among the advertisements in this number, the only one of interest is that announcing the debut of the American Journal of Philately—started by J. Walter Scott in March, 1868—and advertised as "A monthly magazine devoted to the interest of collectors of foreign postage stamps. The largest, cheapest and best work on the subject ever published in the United States."

It is understood that there is some probability of an International Philatelic Exhibition being held in London in 1906. The Earl of Crawford is stated to be a warm advocate of the project.

How Great minds, or minds of great people will change. In 1860 the 2c Envelopes printed in ORANGE were FAKED "pure and simple", but after a lapse of about five years and without the "consent of any other nation" they slipped them. They were all alone on that subject and evidently got lonesome.

Scotts No.

1592a	2c	orange on white	Dic A
1604	2c	carmine on amber	" A
165d	2c	orange on amber	" C
1610	2c	carmine on buff	" B
1611a	2c	orange on buff	" B
1613	2c	carmine on blue	" A

Above lot all entire and unused for

D. T. Eaton, Muscatine, Iowa

Chili 1894 surcharge 4 varieties 30
 Nyassa 1901 unused complete 25 to 30
 Belgium Postal Packet 1895 1902, 10, 20, 25,
 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90c, 1 Fr. 2 Fr.
 (Gibbons pr. \$1.14) (Scotts pr. 80c)
 our price
 Germany 1802, 2Mk gothic type rare stamp
 Venezuela Miranda Maps unused complete (est. 42c)
 Newfoundland 1863, 6c unused (est. 50c)
 Civil War Rev. \$2.00 Conveyance
 \$3.00 Charter party
 \$5.00 Charter party
 FREE our large 1st pricing stamps from
 1c to \$175.00 each. ECONOMIST STAMP CO
 79 Nassau St., NEW YORK.

COINS whether buyer or seller will be to your interest to communicate with me. I have a large stock of coin & paper money, selection of which I send on approval to responsible parties. Kindly let me hear from you.

B. MAX MEHL, Numismatist,

Selling lists free. FORT WORTH, TEXAS
 Premium list 3c.

Fine Approval Books At

75% dis - calculated for dealers and buyers of duplicates in lots \$100.00. Catalogue value. U. S. Foreign. B. C. Etc.

E. L. WARNER,

2229 Calumet Ave., CHICAGO, Ill.

Bank Ref. Required.

A Book On "College Stamps".

The so-called College Stamps once issued for local postal use within the limits of the great English universities of Oxford and Cambridge (each of these universities being practically a city in itself) and ultimately suppressed, after several years use, as an infringement of Governmental postal prerogative, have at least been made the subject of a book. Its title is "The College Stamps of Oxford and Cambridge", its author, the Rev. Hayman Cummings, of Oxford, long known as a particularly ardent student, of these unique and picturesque issues - which English philatelists who were educated at either of the Universities may be supposed to take a very special interest.

The work is stated to be most sumptuously gotten up, the illustrations and printing being alike of the highest merit; and to be a well-written and scholarly history of the origin and use of the stamps and stationery used in the ten different colleges known to have issued them. The book is most highly praised by all the English critics that have mentioned it.

THE CABINET.

A Department Devoted to Coins and Curios.

[We reproduce the following article, from Harper's Young People, more especially for the benefit of our younger readers. It is one of a series of admirable articles on different kinds of collecting which appeared in the journal named during 1888, and we believe has lost none of its interest through age. We propose reprinting other of the articles in future numbers. The present one is from the pen of Edouard Frossard, at one time a very prominent New York numismatist.]

A decided advantage of coin collecting is that while the subject is inexhaustible in its vastness—and the oldest connoisseur has yet much to learn—a child may commence the pursuit, and reach, as far as his researches extend, a relative perfection of knowledge.

A boy possesses half a dozen copiers, and knows all about them; so far he is an adept. Show this future numismatist a cent discovered by your workman behind a wooden mantel in the old homestead which is being demolished to make room for a Queen Anne cottage. After a short but careful inspection he exclaims: "This is an American cent; it was struck at the Philadelphia mint in 1793. The female head with flowing hair typifies Liberty; the chain of thirteen links on the reverse side represents the union of the thirteen colonies. The boy's eyes fairly glisten with unconcealed covetousness, for this is a coin that has long been desired by him, and that can rarely be found in such perfect condition. One would almost imagine it had been purposely kept without blemish to delight the heart of our young friend. If you, the finder, do not then and there request his acceptance of the piece for his little collection, but put it back into your pocket to be kicked, worn smooth and perhaps eventually lost, you are indeed made of unappreciative and unsympathetic brass. Another desirable feature in coin collecting is that while many objects, such as books, bronzes, ceramics, minerals, etc., take up entire cases, if not sometimes whole apartments, for their exhibit, and are perishable or easily damaged, coins endure like indestructible monuments, and can find place in a comparatively small space.

A genuine collector is born, not made. Yet suitable opportunities for gathering have much to do with the development of the coin collector's taste. In this respect the young American does not enjoy the local facilities of his European fellow. On the other side of the Atlantic—among the ruins of ancient cities, in mediæval cloisters, churches and old edifices—are frequently found important hoards of coins almost always of great interest and value. In the New World coin finds are of rare

occurrence, and are notable events in numismatic circles. The Nichols hoard of bright red and uncolored cents of the years 1796 and 1797 has furnished to American cabinets nearly all the really fine specimens of those dates, and a discovery of old dollars and half dollars hoarded years ago by a religious society in Pennsylvania has given a good and plentiful supply of certain dates that were formerly deemed very rare. The colonial coinages were not particularly extensive, being limited to Massachusetts, Vermont, Connecticut, New York, and New Jersey, but the regular Federal or United States coinage, which began in 1793, still offers abundant sources of supply.

Every beginner at coin collecting should first become thoroughly familiar with the coins of the United States, their dates of issue, denominations, weight, fineness and types. Next to these the colonial series should engage his attention, and in these two departments he will find sufficient material from which to form an interesting cabinet. In making a collection of United States coins, particular stress must be laid upon the fact that it is neither necessary nor even advantageous to possess all the dates of a given denomination, but simply the various types. Take the dollars, for instance. One type, called "flowing hair," was struck in 1794 and 1795; another, called "draped bust," with a small eagle on the reverse, from 1795 to 1798; another "draped bust," heraldic eagle, from 1798 to 1804. "Flying eagle" dollars were struck in 1836, 1838 and 1839; and from 1840 to 1873 "Liberty seated and eagle" is the unvarying type. Thus there are for this period five types of dollars, which can be represented by five specimens, costing, if selected from the more common dates, but in fine condition, not over twenty dollars. To obtain the entire series, including every date and all the principal varieties, the number needed to illustrate this coinage would embrace not less than fifty specimens, which, exclusive of the famous but not thoroughly authenticated 1804 dollar, would cost not less than four hundred dollars. It must also be recognized that the mere collecting of dates; even if they be of rare American coins, falls far below the true aims of a genuine numismatist.

To collect entire series of the United States coins entails not only a heavy expenditure, but it binds the collector to a task which may exercise his patience and drain his purse, but can never contribute in the least to his mental or intellectual education. Let therefore the beginner who would profit by the experience of others devote his energies and spare money to the accumulation and formation of a representative collection of coins, one that will comprise a single specimen of all the types of the beautiful gold, silver and copper coins of the United States in as fine condition as obtainable. Should rare dates come in his way, let

I Want Agents to sell the best line of Approval sheets ever put up.

United States Revenues Postage Departments

Why don't you write me?

FRED G. JONES, 2013 Brook St., Louisville, Ky.

Stamps Free- 2 Guatemala Jubilee Bands - catalog value 30 cents for the names of two collectors and 2c postage.
 3 Small - 1804 - BI Colored - - 6c
 1000 Mixed Foreign Stamps - - 17c
 100 Diff. Stamps - 1000 Hinges - 1 dime
 Album - 1 Mill Seal all for - - 12c
 Big bargain list of 800 sets. Lists of stamps at 1/2 and 1c each Free. Wholesale list for Dealers.

Toledo Stamp Co., Toledo, Ohio.

Departments We have them complete and can furnish them from a 1/4 to 1/2 of cat. Write us.
 15c Agriculture \$1.40 1c State \$1.00
 24c " 1.60 15c " 1.75
 30c " 1.80 12c Justice 1.20
 2c Executive 2.30 15c " 2.50
 3c " 1.90 24c " 6.00

Full line of Depts. Postage and Revenues. Approval Sheets at 60c dis. Ref. Required.

WESTERN STAMP CO., 701-2 N Y Life, OMAHA, NEBR.

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display. A line will average seven words. Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

Send for 100 all different stamps for five cents and be satisfied with your purchase. F. P. BUTMAN, 68 Salem Street, Wakefield, Mass.

To introduce my approval sheets on which I allow 66% discount. I offer to all collectors enclosing a 2c stamp a set of Newfoundland free. Catalogue value 12c. H. Towseley 89 Robinson St., Winnipeg, Canada.

Guatemala 100, 110, unused. Venezuela 152 used. 10c post free. Monantum Stamp Co., Newton, Mass.

Philatelic Magazines 1c each post paid. The Monthly 2128 Brainard, New Orleans, La

25 var. 1898 rev. used and unused cat. 75c 20c. Atlantic Stamp Co., Hudson, N. Y.

him by all means retain them in preference to those more common, but do not for a moment allow him to imagine that the ownership of a doubtful 1799 or of a fairly preserved 1804 cent contributes in the least to make him better informed or to raise him above his fellow collectors.

Having become familiar with our National coinage, and having filled a couple of trays in his cabinet with representative specimens, attention can be turned to the colonial series. On account of the excessive rarity of many of the issues, a complete exemplifica-

tion of the various types will be found impossible. The collector must therefore content himself with a few examples of the interesting silver coinage of Massachusetts in 1652, of which many varieties are found. He can then easily gather specimens of the cents and half cents issued by this commonwealth in 1787 and 1788, cents of Connecticut and Vermont in 1785 to 1788, of New Jersey in 1786 to 1788, of New York in 1787, and with a few samples of the Anglo-American coinages, such as the "Rosa Americana" series (1722 to 1723), the Virginia coppers, French-American coins and tokens, coins issued under the authority of the American Congress of 1776, and others; he will soon form an interesting and possibly valuable array which will appropriately fill another tray of his cabinet.

FIRST AMERICAN COINS.

Copper Half Cents Were Issued From the Mint in 1793.

The Treasurer of the United States on May 6, 1903, redeemed two half-cent pieces, says the Gateway Magazine. This is the first time in the history of the country that any such coins have been presented for redemption. It is more than a century since the first half-cent piece was coined, and it is nearly fifty years since the Government discontinued minting them.

Possibly not one person in a thousand now living in the United States ever saw a half-cent piece.

The last annual report of the Director of the Mint, page 82, shows that 7,895,222 of these coins, representing \$39,476.11, were issued. For almost half a century each annual report of the Treasury Department has included them among the "outstanding" obligations of the Government.

The half-cent piece was the coin of the smallest denomination ever made by this country. It enjoys the distinction also of being the first coin issued and also the first whose denomination was discontinued. The United States Mint was established in 1792, and copper half-cents and cents were issued in 1793. Half the total number of half-cents issued were coined previous to 1810, after which year their coinage, with few exceptions, was limited. None was coined for circulation from 1812 to 1824, nor from 1836 to 1848. Finally, in 1857, their coinage, with that of the big copper cent, was discontinued. On account of their limited issue in the last years of their coinage they practically had disappeared from the channels of trade.

The needs of adopting the half-cent as the lowest value computing factor for a coin were made in the early days of the Republic. Colonial half-cents and British farthings of the same commercial value were then in circulation, and many articles were priced and sold in half cents. With the progress of the Nation values rose and the needs for a half-cent disappeared, and their

**THERE IS
NO QUESTION
ABOUT IT!**

The man who does not send for our Auction Catalogue is throwing good money away.

**DON'T BE
THAT MAN!**

EBEN S. MARTIN CO., Inc.
MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

wants the advertising of dealers in goods that collectors buy.

It wants such advertising on a permanent basis. It has no time nor space for the experimental or the spasmodic advertiser.

If you want to advertise once or twice just to see what happens don't come to THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY. For the probabilities are that nothing in particular will happen.

There is no reason under the sun why people should answer the first advertisement of yours they see.

You may be an old concern, but to them you are absolutely new.

They are now buying of somebody else the stamps you sell. They will make a change only when convinced of the wisdom of such a course.

You can't expect to convince them with one advertisement, nor with two.

But if your goods and your prices are right you can convince them in time.

The first few advertisements will convince some people. Then every additional advertisement will convince more people—many more than any previous advertisement. Every advertisement carries the influence of all its predecessors. If you keep it up continuously, and intelligently, its only a question of time when you'll have all the trade you're entitled to, and that's all the trade anybody ever gets—and holds.

If your goods are interesting to collectors persistent advertising in THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY can bring you all the business you are entitled to.

If you advertise persistently and well nothing can be more certain than your success.

The time to begin is now. The time to stop is when you retire from business—not before. From now until then no issue of THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY should be without your advertisement.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

Bethlehem, Pa.

Adapted from ad. of The Ladies Home Journal.

use following the first decade of the century was almost entirely confined to multiples.

While all other discontinued types and denominations of United States coin have found oblivion, the half-cent is the only one of which the Treasury reports do not record some portion of the issue redeemed. This singular and unexplained fact has been one of frequent comment and inquiry from Mint and Treasury officials.

Large quantities of half-cents are to be found in the stocks of coin dealers. The most common dates are sold at a good premium and the extremely rare ones are worth their weight in gold.

A noteworthy collection of jewels and cameos is that contained in the University of Pennsylvania Museum Philadelphia. That city is also proud in the possession of the casts of medals and antique gems of the late Lieutenant Allen G. Paul, which is deposited in the Drexel Institute.

That our misguided forefathers who clipped the perforations from stamps were not the only ones of their class is shown by the instance of a wealthy numismatist who clipped the edges of his coins to make them fit his cabinet. Another "enthusiast" polished a rare collection of Roman brass armor with brick dust.

50 cents
a year.

THE

2 cents
a copy.

STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Entered as second-class matter December 17, 1904, at the post office at Bethlehem, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

VOL. 1.

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, JANUARY 21, 1905.

No. 19.

Bargains in United States.

Agriculture	3c	used	-	-	\$0 10
"	15c	unused	-	-	1 50
Interior	1c	"	-	-	15
"	10c	"	-	-	20
"	30c	used	-	-	1 00
Justice	12c	unused	-	-	1 50
Navy	30c	used	-	-	1 00
Post Office	1c	unused	-	-	15
"	2c	used	-	-	10
"	15c	unused	-	-	75
"	30c	"	-	-	1 00
State	1c	"	-	-	1 00
"	3c	"	-	-	40
"	6c	"	-	-	40
"	7c	"	-	-	1 50
"	15c	"	-	-	1 50
Treasury	24c	used	-	-	1 50
"	30c	unused	-	-	75

2 varieties U. S. Depts. \$1.50 many others both U. S. and Foreign for sale at proportionate prices.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,

22 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

LONDON LETTER.

Fred J. Melville.

The famous firm of Perkins, Bacon & Co. is obliged to remove from its quarters in Fleet Street after a period of eighty-five years. To widen London's (and the world's) greatest newspaper street, the house breaker is pulling down the premises which deserve more than passing attention as the place where the first adhesive postage stamps were produced. It seems that the firm was founded by Jacob Perkins, of Boston, U. S. A., who came over to London in 1819 to compete for the bank note contract of the Bank of England. The name of the firm has varied. In 1819 it was Perkins, Fairman & Heath. When Rowland Hill's scheme was brought into service the firm was Perkins, Bacon & Petch. The daughter of the original Mr. Perkins married Mr. Joshua Bacon and in their names the two names were combined and the firm was called Perkins Bacon. Since 1852 the title of the firm has been Perkins, Bacon & Co.

Although bank notes, cheques and dividend warrants have formed the chief output of this great firm, it is from the philatelic point of view I wish to write of Perkins, Bacon & Co. The firm which was well known for its steel plate printing was approached by Mr. Henry Cole (afterwards Sir Henry) who assisted Rowland Hill. The following is their quotation for printing the first stamps.

3rd December, 1839.

Sir:—We have given the subject you mentioned yesterday afternoon all the

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Cuba, 1877, 10c light green, unused, no gum, - \$1.75

This is No. 71 of the catalogue and is priced \$4.00.

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are the stamps of Mr. W. H. Wolsley's collection of United States and Colonies to be sold at Public Auction without reserve on January 28th, next. Catalogue of this sale free to Auction Buyers. If you buy good and fine stamps this is the sale to bid on.

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DETROIT DOTLETS.

As reported by our Detroit correspondent.

The sales of stamp albums and catalogues during the holiday season amongst the book stores, shows an improvement over previous years. One dealer sold out of what stock he had. This is very gratifying indeed and certainly shows that collecting is on the increase here. Judging from this, there must have been many a collector made happy. No doubt a majority of old albums are a thing of the past, and to fill the vacant spaces is now a desire.

A. K. Graves, formerly publisher of the Fortnightly Philatelist here and now studying law at Ann Arbor, spent the holidays in the city. As a collector he specializes and collects only previous to 1890. Of these he has about 3500, among them many rare and desirable specimens. Speaking of collecting amongst students at the U. of M., he says, "there is not much collecting for myself. I would like to see a lot of it so exchanges could be made for mutual benefit."

That collecting of souvenir postal cards is on the increase can easily be noticed here. Local dealers sold thousands of cards in December, many of them going to foreign countries. One collector here received in three days over 100 cards, two-thirds from foreign countries. Many contained late issues of stamps. If at anytime one that has a good collection of cards wishes to start a collection of stamps, (Continued on page 8.)

attention the time would allow, and beg to say as the result that:—

We could engrave steel dies of the size you gave us, containing work of any conceivable value as to cost and quality, transfer them to any number of plates that could possibly be wanted, and print them in any numbers per day, at a charge of eight pence per thousand stamps, exclusive of paper, which, we understand, would be supplied us; and, assuming that the numbers wanted would be very large, we have only named a fair price for the printing, and have considered the plates and dies, which ought to be very costly in the first instance, as given in without charge. You are probably aware that, having prepared the original die, we could insure perfect facsimiles of it for a century.

Our charge would not exceed what we have named above, nor be less than six pence per thousand; but what relative position it would take between these two extremes, would depend upon the exact size of the stamp, and the number which the paper would allow us to put upon one plate.

We could prepare everything so as to commence printing in a month. Our present belief is that we could print 41,600 labels per day, or double that number in a day and night, from each press employed upon the work.

We are, Sir, very respectfully,
Your humble servants,
Perkins, Bacon & Petch.

Henry Cole, Esq.

The actual cost of the stamps worked out at 7½d. per thousand stamps inclusive of gumming, plates, and all (Continued on page 7.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

LOUIS G. QUACKENBUSH,
MANAGING EDITOR.

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E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

From The Editor's Point Of View.

A Letter From Mr. Nankivell.

We print in another column a communication from Mr. E. J. Nankivell, the famous English philatelist and writer, which we trust may interest our readers as much as it has interested us personally. Anything from the pen of this astute and gifted journalist is always sure to be worth reading. And he has seldom written anything more undeniably impressive than his defense of the "multiple watermark" in the letter under notice. The logic of that defense we freely admit to be unassailable. If the U. S. Postal Department saw fit to alter the watermark at present in use so that the letters "U. S. P. S." appeared on each stamp, we should unquestionably consider the varieties thus created as of distinct interest and importance. Undeniably, also, that collection of British Colonials in which no notice is taken of this new variety of watermark would suffer for the omission at competitive exhibitions. Doubtless, the extent to which the new watermark is being or is to be used in the various British colonies has been, as Mr. Nankivell points out, decidedly exaggerated. But, granting all these things, we are not yet ready to wholly recant the sentiments we formerly expressed about this matter. We would not for a moment dream of advising English philatelists to ignore the new varieties in question. English philatelists are, almost to a man, ardent collectors of British Colonials, and with the patriotic impulse which lies at the root of this preference we can most fully sympathize. The multiple watermark varieties may in their case very justly be considered as necessary to the completeness of their collections. But we Americans are, in the main, generalists. There are many specialists

among us and not a few of these, it is true, have chosen British Colonials, in whole or in part, as their special field. The most of us, however, are generalists, and this paper in particular (probably more so than any other American stamp paper) has what we may term a generalist clientele. Under these circumstances it seems to us only our plain duty to view all questions of this sort from a generalist point of view—which must, in the nature of things, be often, if not almost always, radically at variance with the attitude which the specialist would rightly and naturally hold in relation to the self-same matters. We hold that it is inadvisable for the ordinary general collector in this country to open his collection to these new multiple watermark varieties, simply because we are pledged heart and soul to the crusade which has in view the abridging of stamp collecting's present limits as regards minor varieties. Our English friends do not understand the havoc that minor varieties have made in American Philately. The rank and file of American collectors have less money and less leisure than the general body of collectors in England, or, indeed, in any of the principal European countries. We have in this country a large moneyed class. Millions are so common a prodigy here that they no longer excite any astonishment whatsoever. But our moneyed men—alack, that it must be said—are not connected with Philately in as considerable numbers as formerly. No need to enter into the cause of this state of thing; the fact is, as stated. Now, with only a few moneyed men in our ranks, the general dependence of American Philately is on men, who are very hardly driven by the cares of active business life, and who possess incomes of from \$1000 to \$5000 per annum. The greatly increased cost of living in the last few years leaves these men with much less to spend on stamps than formerly, and the feverish business strain of this era (none but an American can know how truly this is the strenuous age in American business life) breeds a distaste for the complications of modern collecting that in many cases result in the abandonment of Philately altogether. There you have the case in a nut shell. There you have the reasons why simplification of collecting methods is such a vital need of the hour in this country—and why we and others are preaching it so earnestly. There are specialists and stamp students in this country that measure well up to the English and Continental standard. But the rank and file of our collectors want to see stamp collecting made easier than it is; and it is for their behoof that we unite in our continual discouragement of minor varieties.

Where Two or Three Are Gathered Together.

We are quite at one with Mr. Nankivell in his contention that enthus-

iasm counts for more than numbers in the actual success attained by local philatelic societies. We agree that the foregathering of two or three kindred spirits is often fraught with more enjoyment than the big assemblage yields. And we most sincerely hope that the publication of Mr. Nankivell's letter may stir up some of our readers, residing in cities where no philatelic society exists, to ardent efforts to get the collectors of their town together in some sort of a social, friendly organization. An excellent idea, by the way, that of meeting at the members' homes, turn and turn about. The informal sociability of the thing appeals to us. We have always had in our mind's eye an imaginary, ideal sort of stamp society, whose meetings would be held at the members' homes, and to which both husband and wife would journey in company, the husband to join the philatelic deliberations of the evening, in library or parlor; the wife to join a little knot of other wives (and sweethearts, too, maybe), in the sewing or music room; the two groups combining later on, perhaps, at a little light refreshment, or something of that sort, to wind up the evening pleasantly and properly. There are plenty of small cities in which such a scheme as this would, we think, be practicable. It would be ten-fold more enjoyable than meeting in some bare lodge room, whose surroundings totally lack comfort and cosiness. Think of the snugness of an evening in the library or den of the man who has philatelic treasures to display and loves to display them; think of easy chairs and tasteful furnishings, of the refined, placid atmosphere, which, books and pictures create, and contrast the setting with that furnished by the average society meeting room in the average office building. We like to fondly dwell, too, on the possibility of bringing the wives to such meetings and making a bit of a social affair of them. It would cause many a wife who has little favor for Philately to view much more complacently her husband's philatelic inclinations and this is a point which would make fitting text in itself for a whole sermon. For who knows in how many cases mild lack of sympathy with stamps and album has resulted in their ultimate banishment from the home, in the cause of domestic peace. But we jest as the novelists say. To return to our subject again, let us say that we think the idea put forward above is worthy of being considered in earnest. In large cities, house-to-house meetings would scarcely be feasible—or not, at least, as a regular thing. But in a town of less than a hundred thousand people, we should think it might be made to work out very well.

The objection may be made that stamp collectors are a heterogeneous body, not likely to fuse well in a way bordering so closely on the purely special. To this we have only to say that so far as our experience and observation goes, the great majority of phil-

philatelists are gentlemen, in every sense of the world; and that there are very few philatelic society members whom it would not be perfectly fitting for refined homes to entertain for an evening as guests. The membership of philatelic clubs undoubtedly includes, now and then, a boor or a blackleg. But as neither boors nor blacklegs are entirely unknown in even the very highest and most exclusive society circles, we do not think much weight need be attached to the fact that they do occasionally find their way into philatelic bodies.

Comment From A Distinguished Critic.

A copy of your new stamp journal has just been handed to me by a friend. May I be allowed to congratulate you on its get-up and on your enterprise. But the excuse for my trespassing on your space has to do with the much abused multiple watermark and the success of philatelic societies.

As to the multiple, you advise American collectors to give it a short shrift. To that no one on this side can take exception. American collectors can and will all please themselves as to what they collect, and it would be presumptuous on the part of any English collector to attempt to dictate to them. Nevertheless, we may wisely and profitably exchange opinions. You anathematize the new watermark and rule it out as a minor change. Suppose your own postal authorities changed your watermark so as to get all the letters U. S. P. S. on each stamp, would you rule that out as a minor change? Of course you would not. But where lies the difference? The new multiple is a distinct variety made by the printers to meet the exigencies of rapid stamp production. It has nothing whatever to do with any idea of pondering to stamp collectors, and is, therefore, beyond all suspicion as a genuine variety. Of course every collector may be a law unto himself, but the day of reckoning comes to us all in the hour of exhibition or sale. Then the neglect of this pronounced variety may make out all the difference in the world. If it be included by leading philatelists as it will most assuredly be, then the collection that bans it will challenge criticism as being narrowed by a fitful prejudice. I am not anxious to justify or encourage the multiplication of varieties. On the contrary, like your-
self, I recognize that we should apply the pruning knife wherever we can. But we cannot, if we would, stay the progress of invention in the direction of rapid production in the hurly burly of keeping pace with the rate at which we live. Stamps once printed in ample numbers by the thousand can no longer be turned out in the same way by the million, and some of these fine days some more rapid process will have to be found for perforation than the present neat but slow needles. Will there then be an-

other outcry? A great deal too much has been made of this same multiple watermark. The change affects only those stamps that are printed by Messrs. De la Rue & Co. and not all of them. Our Australian friends are mostly their own printers, Cape stamps have settled down to the anchor, British South African are done by Messrs. Waterlow, India has her star, Canada no watermark, Sudan the crescent and star, Sarawak no watermark, and so on.

You speak regretfully of the number of philatelic societies that we run as compared with your own limitations, and you turn naturally to your prohibitive distances. In the matter of distances we have as you point out, a great advantage. But the inference that may be drawn from your remarks that philatelic society life depends mainly upon numbers is one that should not be entertained. Some of the most enjoyable meetings that I have ever attended have consisted of a few enthusiasts, and some of the dullest have been great successes from the point of numbers. You are kind enough to refer to our Kent and Sussex Society. When we started there seemed to be little hope of getting even half a dozen members together. But we plodded on. Our numbers, as numbers go, are small. But we more than make up by our enthusiasm. We have found members where we least expected them. We meet quietly and unostentatiously in the afternoons at each other's houses. We read papers and admire each other's gatherings, and make note of new varieties and new ideas. We are a County Society, and can already congratulate ourselves upon our influential membership. May you not easily, given an enthusiastic mover, do the same kind of philatelic work in every important and populous center of your great Republic? Large gatherings are by no means necessary for the cultivation of philatelic enthusiasm. Some of the most delightful and instructive meetings I have ever enjoyed have been meetings of two. Once set the wheel of philatelic activity on the go and you will soon find friends dropping in one by one. There are Jeremiahs who seem to delight in throwing cold water on seemingly forlorn efforts to start philatelic societies. Slip them into harness, and divert their lugubrious thoughts into channels of activity, and you will have done much to secure success. If we could only get rid of the wet blankets in matters philatelic we should hustle along in grand style. The man who devotes his life to hunting up reasons why this, that or the other new idea can never be realized is a terribly hard nut to crack. He is a cruel millstone around our necks. My best wishes for your success may well be that you may be able to give this troublesome variety a wide berth. If you could gather all known specimens into one colony and have a Mont Pelee you would deserve well of future generations of philatelists.

Edw. J. Nankivell.

Some Notes On The Native States of India.

[The following, taken from Morley's Philatelic Journal, is decidedly interesting to all who have ever had any curiosity as to the political status of the Native States of India. We think it well worth reprinting here].

"An official paper issued by the Government of India in 1886 recorded 629 subordinate or Feudatory states, with territories aggregating 628,672 square miles and a population of 66 millions. These states vary in size from Haidarabad (83,000 square miles and a population of 11 millions) to a share of a petty village in Kathiawar. The one feature common to all alike is that ordinary British administration is excluded in Anglo-India phraseology, all relations with them are 'political' but everyone of these native states has yielded up the management of its external relations to the British Government. In one department of internal administration, the Judicial authority of the chief, there are degrees of limitation, for while in the larger states, sentences of death can be passed by the states tribunals, in others a reference to the British agent is necessary, and in the lesser states the judicial power is graduated according to class or capacity. The states of the first magnitude to each of which a superior Resident is attached are as follows:—

Haidarabad; Mysore; Travancore; Gwalior; Holkar; Baroda; Kashmir. Rajpulana denotes a group of nineteen states, extending across India from the borders of the Northwest Provinces and the Punjab on the East, and North to Sind and the Bombay Presidency on the West, the best known to collectors being Bikanir, Alwar, Bundi and Kishengash.

Tarantula Sent by Mail.

Post-Office Inspectors are endeavoring to learn who mailed a live tarantula to Dr. Thomas M. Powell, 1615 Milwaukee avenue, Chicago. Dr. Powell infers that he knows who sent him the venomous tropical insect, but will not divulge the name of the person for fear the Federal authorities will arrest a "particular friend" of his for violation of the postal statutes. The package was discovered to be too heavy for the postage paid and a clerk at the post-office opened it. As the lid was lifted from a box a long, dark-colored insect with many legs hopped out and was making its escape when a clerk placed a glass over it and imprisoned it.

P. M. Advocate.

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GEORGE LESTER.

A Page of Precept

For Young Collectors.

(Conducted by the Editor.)

Stamps That Cost But A Penny.

It is a grand thing for young collectors that there are still thousands of different stamps that can be bought for a penny or less apiece. And we want to say something about this phase of collecting here because we rather suspect that a great many young collectors do not quite appreciate their good fortune in this respect. We older fellows who have been collecting for a good long time and have collections that the beginner would consider pretty big, know of lots of stamps that we want and want badly; and when we find one of these specimens for which a vacant space is waiting, we pay for it, not a penny or two, but a dollar or two, at the very least, and sometimes a good deal more. The consequence is - most of us being far from having all the money we want to spend - that we do not acquire new specimens one tenth part as fast as you are doing in your earlier stage of collecting. And that is just where we are not having half as much fun as you are. Half the fun of collecting is in constantly getting new specimens; in watching your collector grow month by month; in seeing very thinly nourished pages begin to fill out and expand; and all that sort of thing. And, happily, you are in a position to taste these sweets at small cost. We have not counted up the number of stamps in Scott's new Catalogue that are priced at only a penny or two; but we have made some computations, based on the number of such stamps appearing on a few pages chosen at random; and we judge that in the whole book there are between two and three thousand of them. Perhaps some one with more leisure time than we enjoy will take the trouble to go through and ascertain the exact number. If anyone does, we think he will find that, if anything, we have underestimated the total. Now, doesn't this open up a pretty good-sized horizon for the young collector who has only a few hundred stamps as yet - or say even a thousand or fifteen hundred. There are very few stamps priced in the catalogue at two cents that cannot in reality be bought everyday, (in good fair condition, too) from approval sheets for a penny apiece. So here are three thousand stamps for the young collector to choose from at a penny apiece, we might as well say. And if this is not enough to afford the beginner no end of pleasure and instruction until he has outgrown the primary stage, we do not know what would be.

A Collector Of Three Thousand.

A collection of these three thousand penny stamps when you have completed it will be a neat little collection in itself. It will contain specimens from pretty nearly every country, and

from some countries a great many specimens. For example, to take a few countries at random, it would give you 9 specimens from Egypt, 10 from Hayti, 15 from India, 5 from Natal, 13 from New Zealand and so on. And, of course, in the case of the European countries a great many of whose varieties are very common, you would have 30 or 40 specimens from each. Among the whole three thousand you would have, not simply the nucleus of an interesting collection, but what would be in itself a very interesting little collection - because scarcely any two of the stamps would be alike in design. If you will look at your catalogue carefully you will see that these one and two cent stamps are widely scattered among the different issues in the case of almost every country. They are not to be found in clusters, but appear as separate sentinels. And if a young collector never got one whit farther in Philately than forming a collection consisting of these three thousand or so stamps that are worth but a penny apiece, he would still own a pleasurable possession that was well worth the trouble of forming.

Too many young collectors do not get one half or even one quarter of the stamps that cost but a penny before they begin spending their money for specimens that cost them three cents or five cents or ten cents apiece. We think this a decided mistake. It increases the cost of collecting faster than the pursuit normally requires. There is just as much pleasure in collecting cheap specimens as dearer ones, and your money goes just so much farther. We are afraid that most young collectors do not go to much trouble to know where they are at in this respect - and imagine that they have gotten about all the penny varieties and must henceforth pay more for their specimens, long before they have really exhausted the one cent field. Now, candidly, to bring the matter home, do you, dear reader know just where your collection stands in this respect. And if you do not know, would you not like to know? A great many advanced collectors make a practice of doing what they call "checking off the catalogue", - that is to say, when the annual catalogue comes out they go through it and make a pencil mark opposite each specimen listed of which they possess a copy. Now, we believe it would be a good thing for young collectors to partially barrow the idea, and go right through the catalogue from one end to the other, making some sort of check mark opposite each stamp priced at either one or two cents which their albums do not as yet contain - and then do their buying, as far as possible, from this list.

Not Seeking To Pin You Down.

We are not seeking to pin you down absolutely to such a list as we have suggested. We do not say to you, "buy nothing but these cheap stamps." We are not dictating to you what you shall or shall not buy, but simply sug-

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gesting what we think will help you. Remember, we are talking to you young collectors, who have yet to get or have only just achieved your first thousand varieties. If there are any older collectors reading this, who laugh at these notions you and we are talking over, because they deem these matters trivial; why, they are just eavesdroppers and interlopers, and you mustn't mind them for a moment. Some of these lookers-on would very likely tell you that all this talk is fol-de-rol, because you can buy all the penny stamps you want and need in cheap packets, at a cost of quite a bit less than a penny apiece. Now this isn't so at all. Packets are a splendid help to the young collector up to the time that he has a thousand varieties or so; but after that he can collect to much better purpose from approval sheets. Of course, he will pay more per stamp; but he will get only just the specimens he wants, instead of one quarter new varieties and three quarters duplicates. There are some firms that put up excellent series of what are termed non-duplicating packets - where Packet A is entirely different in contents from Packet B, which is entirely different from Packet C, and so on. The young collector can buy packets of this character with excellent results even after his collection has attained quite fair proportions. He can also, of course, buy two or three thousand variety packets, if he wishes, and if his album contains but a thousand, he is sure to get at least one thousand (or two thousand, as the case may be) new varieties. But beginners do not, as a rule, invest in packets in quite this way. "A hundred different" at the start; then maybe "three hundred different" a little later; then a few fifty or hundred variety packets, whose contents is confined to specimens from special countries or continents; and, thence, graduation to the approval sheet stage—that is about the usual (and natural) course of procedure. And we do not know as, in most cases, it could be greatly improved upon. But we think that when the approval sheet stage is reached the beginner is quite apt to be carried away with the wealth of possibility that confronts him—to forget all about these one cent and two cent varieties that he still lacks, and spend his dollar or two for perhaps not over ten or a dozen specimens. And, under this treatment it is easy to understand why his collection grows with provoking slowness. We advise you, therefore, to pay a good deal of attention to those penny varieties that are still absent from your collection; and to give them the preference over higher priced varieties when buying from sheets. And if, perchance, you happen to already have almost all the penny ones, apply this advice to the varieties that come next in order—the stamps that are catalogued at three, four and five cents each, forming another very large and fruitful class. A very great many of these can be bought from approval sheets at 2c

each; and there are probably two or three thousand more of these. And yet there are young collectors who imagine that Philately is a woefully expensive pursuit to follow.

The Posts Of Primitive Times.

We are apt to think of posts as in some way quite inseparable from postage stamps, as if, forsooth, letters were not written and sent long before Sir Rowland Hill invented the handy little government document that makes the whole philatelic world go round. There were even posts before there were letters, to say nothing at all of so modern a convenience as stamps; and we think it will not be out of place to reprint here an old clipping telling of the posts of Montezuma and the Incas. The facts may be already familiar to readers of Prescott—but, then, even the best of us find it easy to forget even the best of histories.

This is the clipping (slightly abridged): "In the reign of Montezuma, Mexico already had an organized Government Post, a system of runners who covered fifty leagues (the Mexican league equals 2½ miles) daily. In time of war the service was quickened still more.

"In Peru the civilization of the Incas (twelfth to sixteenth century) brought the Postal Department to a high state of perfection. Indian runners of both sexes were trained from an early age to run stated distances at high speed, crossing both mountains and plains without fatigue, and likewise swimming even the Amazon, with the help of a roughly-hewn piece of light timber. Rivers frequented by alligators were, however avoided, though the passage was often made when other navigation was impossible owing to rapids. This means of communication served for the general public as well as for state purposes, and the latter paid the same rates as the former. The communications were wrapped in a cloth and fastened to the head by means of a turban. A large knife was always carried in the folds as well, both for defense and to hew a passage where the path was over-grown. The messengers traveled both by day and night. They did not need to carry their own provisions, as they met with enough inhabited dwellings, where they were always received with hospitality. Besides this, huts were erected at regular distances for relays of runners. Amerigo Vespucci vouched for the fact that women were employed as well as men. The messengers were called 'Chasquis,' and for a long period the universal method of communication in Peru was by means of a sort of fringe of various wools and threads, each quality, each shade and each length having its significance."

We wonder what would be the reflections of one of these old Inca postmen if he could visit a modern postal car on a fast mail train?

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3	06	15	08
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6	02	19	02
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8	03	24	25
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12	06	29	08

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- 1864 3c pink or brown, entire *

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OLD SOUTH BLDG., BOSTON, MASS.

**SUBSCRIBE, not next week,
but now.**

Borrowed Tidbits.

Queen of Italy a Stamp Collector.

The Queen of Italy collects stamps as eagerly as the King of Italy collects coins. Senor Moreno, Postmaster General of the Argentine Republic, has, therefore, charged the Argentine Consul at Rome, to present to Her Majesty a complete set of all the adhesives ever issued in the State which he represents. Some, though not many, of these, as philatelists know, are of great value and rarity.—Stamp Collector's Fortnightly.

A French Colonial Fake.

There is an island named Moheli, one of the Grande Comore group; its chief city is Moroni. Here there was a small native insurrection in 1903, whose suppression cost the colony some twelve thousand francs. To recoup this, some bright genius suggested a provisional stamp issue for Moheli and even had a hand stamp made. But the Minister for the Colonies turned a deaf ear to the proposal and forbid the issue, much to his credit. The hand stamp, however, had already arrived at Moroni, and to see how it looked it was impressed on some margins from sheets of stamps. It was then laid aside, but has lately been resurrected by some employe and used to produce more "provisionals." The hand stamp is impressed on marginal paper; it reads "Moheli," and a figure of value, diagonally; below to the right "Jul, 1903." Some have been sold in Paris for \$5.00 apiece. You now know that they are, at best, only essays.—Mekeel's Stamp Collector.

New Meaning Suggested for "R. F."

French Guinea.—We are indebted to Mme. Veuve Marmin for specimens of a new set just issued for this colony, ranging in value from 1c to 5 francs. The design is the same in each case, and consists of a dusky native gentleman in Arabian costume, seated apparently on nothingness, with one leg negligently resting on the knee of the other. In one hand he holds a spear, while with the other he is holding his elevated leg in position. Judging by his somewhat truculent demeanour the gentleman finds the attitude the reverse of comfortable. He certainly looks uneasy. On the left and right are palm trees and other local vegetation. At the base is "Guinee Française," while at the top is the word "Postes." In the upper corners are shields of rather fantastic shape, shewing the figure of value at the left, and the letters "R. F." in a monogram on the right. The latter may mean "Reclining Fathead"—possibly the name of the gentleman whose portrait is shown.—Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.

A "Moustache" Stamp.

A variety occurs in the 2c and 5c stamps of the 1904 Hayti Commemorative issue, showing Toussaint-L'Ouverture with a moustache. The variety is said to occur on the last stamp in the top row of the sheet. At present enthusiastic specialists of Hayti are not certain whether the hirsute adornment is a "secret mark," or a quite accidental, unauthorized and we may say, undignified addition to the portrait.—P. J. of G. B.

Brazilian Allegories.

Le C. de T-P. quotes from a French illustrated paper the announcement that a new series of stamps is about to be produced at Rio de Janeiro, in designs which are the result of a prize competition, called for by the Brazilian Government more than a year ago. The prize designs are some of the most peculiar we have ever seen; they appear to be well executed but, for the most part, singularly inappropriate for their purpose. They are stated to be allegorical, and, if they ever reach us upon issued stamps, we will do our best to explain what they symbolize. We know Brazil as the place "where the nuts come from" but we fancy that the allegories displayed upon the new stamps will prove harder nuts to crack than any that have come from there yet.—The Monthly Journal.

Another Comment On the Gentleman From French Guinea.

French Guinea.—We have had no news from this territory for years past, and now we suddenly receive about half a guinea's worth of novelties, which we fancy come direct from Paris. There is the usual long series, from 1c to 5 fr., and the design is a new one. In the center is a native gentleman, with his foot in one hand and a bamboo in the other; possibly he has just trodden upon a sharp stone or something. He appears to be sitting upon nothing, and he has a very fine and large watch slung around his neck, but with so short a chain that it would be extremely difficult for him to see the time by it; the artist is doubtless quite correct in supposing that watches are worn in those parts more for ornament than use.—The Monthly Journal.

Another English Stamp Market.

In case we should be thought frivolous we had better now turn to the subject of Stamp Markets (written with capitals). These are quite fashionable now and our publishers are determined not to be left out in the cold. Be it known, therefore, that our publishers are willing to pay munificent sums for all kinds of stamps and are

United States Stamps.

Unused o. g. Perfect condition.

Columbian Issue.

\$0 15 value	cata.	\$0 50	My price	80
30 value	cata.	55	My price	100
50 value	cata.	75	My price	120
1 00 value	cata.	2 50	My price	140
2 00 value	cata.	2 50	My price	160
5 00 value	cata.	6 50	My price	180
No. 2196 2c lake,	cata.	80 50		200
No. 220 10c brown		30		220
No. 229 90c orange		1 50		240
No. 265 2c carmine triangle 1		30		260
No. 284 15c olive		25		280
No. 252 2c carmine triangle III		20		300

Postage Extra.

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U. S. 1847 5c		80
1869 24c (Average only)		100
1869 90c		120
1890 2c lake		140
1894 1c ultramarine		160
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Ch III 1894 surcharge 4 varieties	80
Nyassa 1891 unused complete 2 1/2 to 300	100
Belgium Postal Packet 1895 1902, 10, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90c, 1 Fr. 2 Fr. (Gibbons pr. \$1.14) (Scott's pr. 80c) our price	120
Germany 1892, 2Mk gothic type rare stamp	140
Venezuela Miranda Maps unused complete (cat. 42c)	160
Newfoundland 1865, 6c unused (cat. 50c)	180
Civil War Rev. \$2.00 Conveyance	200
\$3.00 Charter party	220
\$5.00 Charter party	240

FREE our large list pricing stamps from 1c to \$175.00 each. ECONOMIST STAMP CO.
79 Nassau St., NEW YORK.

now engaged in drawing up a buying list. This is not yet ready, but we publish the following extract, taken quite at random:—

MAURITIUS.

1847, inscribed "Postoffice" on left side, imperf.

	Unused.	Used.
	s. d.	s. d.
(1) 1d. red	10 0	3 4
(2) 2d. blue	10 0	3 4

"The prices quoted are those which we will pay, but we cannot undertake to buy more than twenty of any one sort. Customers sending large quantities of any one kind will defeat their own object. For instance, if anyone should send, say 150 of No. 1 and 100 of No. 2, we should reduce the price immediately to 3s. and 3s. 4d., respectively. Our selling prices are 5 per cent. higher than our buying prices and collectors may order from the list on this basis. Deposit accounts for the convenience of our customers will be arranged for, if not encouraged. In sending stamps, do not trouble about perforations and watermarks. We don't and why should you?" The foregoing are only extracts, but the complete list will be ready shortly. Watch this space.—P. J. of G. B.

LONDON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

other charges, except paper. The price was afterwards reduced to 6½ per thousand, then 6d., 5d., and finally, in 1806 to 4½d. per thousand, which last price remained in force until the contract expired in 1880. During the forty years the firm was printing these stamps the total output of specimens must have been stupendous. It is stated that during the first fifteen years alone the number of specimens supplied by them to the Government was 2,000,000,000.

It is well known that in the early fifties there was a scare about the adhesive matter being unfit for use. It was rumored that stale fish refuse was used in its production. But Charles Dickens exploded the idea in *Household Words* in 1852 by announcing that the dreadful ingredients of this diabolical manufacture were no longer a mystery, since it was comprised in two words—"potato starch."

The reason for the discontinuance of the contract with Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co. was that the Government wanted to still further economize, and that they realized that surface printing saved them considerable expense. But Perkins, Bacon & Co. are still stamp printers in a very large way. They are printing the artistic stamps of Greece, the British South Africa, Liberia and other States, and they prepared the die for the new Canadian King's Head stamps which is generally considered to be far more artistic than the current English stamps. The *London Daily Telegraph* has been interviewing Mr. J. D. Heath, the grandson of Mr. Sergeant Heath, one of the original partners in the firm and his reminiscences are of real interest in connection with stamps and stamp printing.

Preparations are proceeding apace for London's stamp exhibition in February this year. A dainty prospectus has been issued with a colored frontispiece by Mr. E. P. Kinsella, an artist well known in England and America, having been for years on the Sunday edition of one of the great New York journals. This shows a young couple at the stamp exhibition leaning over a table with their heads touching. The young man is holding a tete-beche pair of stamps with some tweezers and the girl applies both to the stamps and the young couple, "Tete-Beche."

But perhaps the most remarkable effort being made for this coming exhibition is the distribution of tickets of which up to the present arrangements have been made for the issue and circulation of something over 100,000. Probably no stamp venture has ever been so extensively advertised before. Nearly every philatelic society in the country has accepted the Junior Society's invitation, and tickets are being sent out by the secretaries of nearly all the English societies. The stamp journals, and several boys' papers are

giving away free tickets in an issue of their journal and a large number of stamp dealers are sending out tickets and prospectuses in every communication to customers. The Exhibition Committee has been supplying free electros illustrating the entrance to hall, and the general plan of exhibition and these have had a very wide publicity. A corps of sandwich men has been engaged for duty in distributing tickets and advertising the display on Feb. 3 and 4 in the West End, and posters, show cards, plans and leaflets are being distributed wholesale.

There will possibly be still time for some young collectors in America to compete for some of the prizes offered. They are all in one class. The Society offers a gold medal for the best arranged collection sent in by a boy or girl (not over 19). In addition there are for the next best collections two silver medals presented by the Society, a three guinea Cistafle presented by Messrs. Lawn and Barlow, A No. 5 Standard Postage Stamp Album (value £2.5), presented by Messrs. Whitfield King & Co.; a set of six volumes of "The Captain," presented by Messrs. George Newnes, Limited; thirty shillings worth of stamps to be selected from Bright's A. B. C. Catalogue, presented by Messrs. Bright & Son; A Royal Stamp Album, with a 1d. and 2d. Mulready, presented by Mr. D. Field; a packet collection of 2000 varieties, presented by Mr. William Brown; a set of English plate numbers from ½d. to 2s., presented by Messrs. Nissen & Co.; and others to be added at the discretion of the Committee. There is no reason at all why young American collectors should not enter. They must send a declaration from a responsible person that the collection is their own property and that they are under 19, and further they must prepay the return registered postage of their albums. The Committee cannot be held responsible for stamps sent. The address to send albums to is The Hon. Secretaries, H. F. Johnson and P. Clare, 11 Trigon Road, Clapham, London, England.

Mr. Leonard Wright's Orchestral Band has been engaged for the two days. The Stamp Bazar which will extend all round the hall includes the stalls of such well known dealers as: Messrs. Whitfield King, of Ipswich; Margoschis Bros., proprietors of the Stamp Collector, Birmingham; Messrs. Lawn & Barlow, of Cistafle fame; Mr. David Field, of the Royal Arcade; Messrs. C. Nissen & Co., the British specialists; Messrs. P. L. Pemberton & Co., of the Philatelic Journal of Great Britain; Mr. William Brown, of Salisbury; Messrs. Bright & Son, of the Strand; Messrs. Edwin Healey & Co., of packet celebrity; Mr. William S. Lincoln, of album note; the proprietors of "The Connoisseur," and the proprietors of "The Captain."

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Why don't you write me?

**FRED G. JONES, 2013 Brook St.,
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Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display.

A line will average seven words.

Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

To introduce my approval sheets on which I allow 66% discount, I offer to all collectors enclosing a 2c stamp a set of Newfoundland free. Catalogue value 12c. H. Towsley 88 Robinson St., Winnipeg, Canada.

Clearance Sale of foreign postal cards 16-10c post paid. H. Clay Fox, Jr., Rickreall, Oreg.

25 var. unused U. S. and For. fine value 20c Atlantic Stamp Co., Hudson, N. Y.

Stamps on Approval, Prices below Scotts Catalogue and ½ commission allowed Stamp & Coin Exchange, 212 Broadway N. Y. City.

10 var. unused 20th Century Stamps 10c post free. Nonantum Stamp Co., Newton, Mass.

Wanted Second Hand National Album. W. L. Beauchamp, Holton, Kansas.

I can offer Newfoundland stamps in P. O. State at half Scotts cat. price. I will give the first order from this ad. 5c Nova Scotia. Order by cat. number No. 3, 24, 27, 28, 31, 40, 44, 50, 51, 57, 62, 63, 64, 78, 79, & 80, to 84 85 at 7c each net. Postage extra. R. Williams West Roxbury, Mass.

The 1905 edition of *The World Almanac* has just made its appearance. It is by far the best edition yet produced, as full of interesting statistics as a nut is of meat, containing 10,000 subjects and 100,000 facts and figures. In fact, *The World Almanac and Encyclopedia* for 1905 is the most authentic year book in print to day. Sold by all news agents and booksellers at 25 cents per copy, or sent by mail by the publishers for 35 cents. Address THE WORLD (Almanac Dept.), 49 Pulitzer Bld., New York City.

MEKEEL'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS Boston, Mass., is one of the oldest, brightest and best stamp weeklies in the world. It has 8 large pages 4 columns to the page filled with special articles on stamps and stamp designs, news dispatches from all points of the compass, cartoons, prize contests and humorous stamp stories. It has an illustrated chronicle of new issues, a review of other stamp papers, a U. S. revenue department and is the official organ of ten different stamp societies. It is just entering its 15th year of continuous publication and has the record for big editions having printed over 100,000 of a single issue. Price 50c a year and the "Little Special" to be issued Feb. 25 with handsomely illuminated cover will go a long way towards meeting the price to say nothing of the other 51 issues which includes several "specials" To test the pulling properties of this paper we will send you Mekeel's Weekly 10 weeks for 10c - only mention this advertisement.

50 used & unused stamps, Bargain 25c. 1 set Antioquia cat. 37c - 25c. Wm. Stempel, 141 W. 113th St., N. Y. City.

U. S. and Foreign Stamps on Approval at 50% discount. Closing out. Prizes to all purchasers. H. J. Gernin, 247 Carruth, U. of P. Dorms, Philadelphia, Pa.

THE CABINET.

A Department Devoted to Coins
and Curios.

ROMAN COINS

By T. L. Elder.

Reprinted from an old No. of the Perforator.

Pliny says that the first copper coins of Rome were issued by Servius Tullius. The earliest of these was a pound in weight and was called the "AS", originally weighing about 5000 grains. These coins were rude ingots, brick like in form. The AS was divided into twelve divisions, each division being of different size and weight, from one ounce to eleven, but later, in the time of the first Punic war, the government, in order to meet the expenses of war, diminished the full weight of the coins, striking Ases of the weight of the sextans - which is to say two ounces, or but one sixth of the full weight of this coin. So that there are Ases extant of all weights from the full pound weight down to no more than a quarter of an ounce.

The first circular copper coin of Rome bore the doubled-headed Janus on the obverse, that god being "famous for taking a double view of circumstances." The reverse side is strikingly inferior in workmanship to the obverse, and, as in the early Greek series, seems to emphasize the fact that the earliest coin engravers considered the reverse side of a coin of minor importance. The reverse type of this coin is the rude prow of a galley. Some of the divisions of the As are obtainable for reasonable prices.

The Roman coins were divided into three series, the Republican, the Family and the Imperial. The Republican coinage began during the Nations earlier history (about 500 B. C.) and was continued until probably 80 B. C. The Family coinage began about 170 B. C.

Certain families whose members at different times held offices connected with the mints, obtained the right to stamp their names upon the money of the Commonwealth, and afterwards obtained permission to use symbols, names, and events in their own families as devices on the coins.

The Family coins are sometimes called the Consular coins, because the Roman consuls were afterward given the same rights as the families. Certain noble and plebian families were also accorded this privilege. This remarkable series of coins helps greatly to verify history, as they record many historical events, and bear many distinguished names and portraits. Coins of this series were struck in gold, silver and copper, and at 80 B. C. had entirely superseded the national coinage, replacing the earlier types for portraits of ancestors and were afterward merged into the coinage of the Empire.

Coin Collectors Excited.

Strange Story of the Georgia \$5 Piece of 1830.

Deputy Collector of Customs Hamilton yesterday finished says the New York Journal of Commerce, an investigation which has been in progress for two months into the loss while in transit from London, of a five dollar gold piece coined by the State of Georgia in 1830, permission having been given by the United States Government. The story of the complications attending the loss of the coin, as related by Mr. Hamilton, is as follows:

A London numismatist forwarded to a prominent coin collector in New York a rare coin known as the "Georgia five dollar gold piece of 1830," of which coinage only three are supposed to be in existence, two in the hands of collectors in this country and the one in question. Somewhere between London and New York the Georgia coin disappeared from the package in which it was wrapped along with other coins and antique jewelry. A month later a Brooklyn man of high standing visited the New York collector and showed to him one of the Georgia five dollar pieces. The collector immediately claimed it as the one which had disappeared. The Brooklyn man said that he had purchased it for \$575 from a numismatist and offered to produce the seller. The numismatist was found and vouchsafed the information that he had purchased the coin from a man who claimed to have had it in his possession for many years. He has no record of the name and address of the original seller. The coin collector took no stock in the story, and asked the collector of customs to make an investigation. This was done, but no results were obtained, as the customs authorities could in no way identify the coin sold here with the one shipped from London. The millionaire collector was advised to sue in the courts for possession of the coin, and interesting legal proceedings are expected very shortly. The names of the parties concerned were not given out by Deputy Collector Hamilton. The question worrying coin collectors just now is, are there four of the Georgia five dollar pieces in existence?

DETROIT DOTLETS.

(Continued from page 1.)

this would certainly give one a good start. "a few from each country."

Speaking of souvenir postals, a party told me that on the steamer he was on, coming from Australia to this country, there were fully 15,000 souvenir cards on board, which were mailed to this country. He says the craze in Australia is something awful, every one being a collector of souvenir postals.

Nell Leonard, has returned from the East, where he was on business.

The new Scott catalogue made its appearance here and the majority of collectors are now supplied. As a rule, there are about 200 sold here.

Stamps Free - 2 Guatemala Jubilee Bands - catalogue value 30 cents for the names of two collectors and 2c postage.

3 Small - 1904 - Bl Colored
1000 Mixed Foreign Stamps
100 dif. stamps, 1000 hinges, 1 dime Album
1 millimeter scale all for
Big bargain list of 800 sets. Lists of stamps at 1/2 and 1c each Free. Wholesale list for Dealers.

Toledo Stamp Co., Toledo, Ohio.

February 18th.

Date of our next auction sale. Sale consists of U. S. Postage, Depts., Revenues and British Colonies. A fine line of stamps in superb condition. Cata. sent free on application. In the mean time examine these:

CUBA.	
1857 1c green o g 2c	1880 12 1/2c lilac gray o g
1876 12 1/2c green o g 4c	1882 2 1/2c dark br. o g
1877 25c " " 2c	1891 10c claret o g
1879 50c gray o g 2c	1891 20c ultramarine o g
	1894 20c red brown o g

Approval Sheets at 60c dis. Ref. Required.

WESTERN STAMP CO., 701-2 N Y Lte. OMAHA, NEBR.

Camille Cools received three letters from the Canal Zone, cancelled Canal Zone Empire, Dec. 21, 1904, all of the 2 centavo value. The cancellations consists of seven horizontal bars, 2 1/2 inches long, with the word Canal Zone printed in the bars. While they may not be so rare yet, they are desirable and much sought for. There is nothing fictitious about these, as Mr. Cools has a cousin in the U. S. Navy that was there at the time they were first put out.

Postmaster Dickerson is authorized for the statement that the annex now being built to the Detroit postoffice is only of a temporary nature and that Congress will soon be asked for an appropriation for a much larger permanent addition. Postmaster Dickerson argues that the Milwaukee postoffice, that does \$200,000 per year less business, has a floor space three times as large as the Detroit office.

The pushing out of the St. Louis Fair stamps continues here at the postoffice. The present stock is rapidly decreasing.

Herman W. Boers, Detroit.

Electrum is a compound metallic substance, consisting of gold with a considerable alloy of silver. Pliny makes the proportion to have been four parts of gold to one of silver. The material of early coins of Asia Minor struck in the cities of the western coast is the ancient electrum. It appears here to have at first consisted of three parts of gold to one of silver, but afterwards the proportion of silver was increased, though perhaps not everywhere.

The key to the room in which Napoleon was born was sold at auction in London recently for £20 (\$100).

There is a slump in auk's eggs. One in London recently fetched a mere 200 guineas under the hammer speaking figuratively. The last one sold fetched 300 guineas.

10 cents
a year.

2 cents
a copy.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Entered as second-class matter December 17, 1904, at the post office at Bethlehem, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Vol. 1.

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, JANUARY 28, 1905.

No. 20.

Bargains in United States.

Agriculture	3c	used	-	-	10
"	15c	unused	-	-	1 50
Interior	1c	"	-	-	15
"	10c	"	-	-	20
"	10c	used	-	-	1 00
Justice	12c	unused	-	-	1 50
Army	30c	used	-	-	1 00
Post Office	1c	unused	-	-	15
"	2c	used	-	-	10
"	15c	unused	-	-	75
"	90c	"	-	-	1 00
State	1c	"	-	-	1 00
"	3c	"	-	-	40
"	6c	"	-	-	40
"	7c	"	-	-	1 50
"	15c	"	-	-	1 50
Treasury	24c	used	-	-	1 50
"	90c	unused	-	-	75

25 varieties U. S. Depts. \$1.50 many others both U. S. and Foreign for sale at proportionate prices.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,
32 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SPECIAL

Costa Rica, 1892.

Complete Set.
from 1c to 10 pesos,
unused, o. g., - 50 cents.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 EAST 23rd ST., New York, N. Y.

P Fine As Silk. M

are the stamps of Mr. W. H. Wolsieffs collection of United States and Colonies to be sold at Public Auction without reserve on January 28th, next. Catalogue of this sale free to Auction Buyers. If you buy good and fine stamps this is the sale to bid on.

25 cts. Buys.

One of those handy Wolsieffer Pocket Ed. Stock book, cloth bound and holds 500 stamps. Everybody wants it.

Wolsieffer's Approval Cards per doz. 50 20

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Other stock books all sizes and supplies, packets, albums, hinges etc.

P. M. Wolsieffer,

Auction Sale Specialist.

401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago. M

LONDON LETTER.

By Fred J. Melville.

"Gibbon's Stamp Weekly," under the genial editorship of Mr. Edward J. Nankivell, who by the way, needs no introduction to American readers, must certainly add a very great deal to one's enjoyment of the pursuit of stamp collecting. Our monthlies are good, a little too dry and scientific, perhaps, but being monthlies they are not such close friends as a weekly becomes. The one comes to writers but once in a month, the other comes regularly every week, and if it brings such a goodly budget of reading as the new "Gibbon's" first and second numbers have done, well it must be our close companion all the week for a busy man must needs carry it in his pocket to read at any odd moment in order to get through one week's issue before the next comes out.

I did not venture to comment on the bulky first number of this journal as owing to the 50,000 copies distributed most of my readers would have seen it for themselves and certainly the gentleman who occupies the Library Chair would receive it and have something to say about it. But the second number is to my mind a considerable improvement. First numbers are exceedingly difficult to bring quite up to the mark but No. 2 of Gibbon's Stamp Weekly is brighter in every way. Mr. Gordon Smith writes loudly and pleasantly on early postal matters in Great Britain, leading up to a study of the stamps of this country. There is a second installment of Boswell Junior's "Portraits on Stamps," and Mr. Nankivell's "Stamp

Collecting as a Pastime." Cornelius Wrinkle's Gossip of the Hour is amusing. He speaks of the proposed International Exhibition in London in 1906. "Of course," he says, "the ay or nay rests with the members of the Philatelic Society of London, and it cannot be denied that those who shouldered the drudgery of the arrangement of the last London Exhibition had enough of exhibition work to serve them a lifetime, especially the Hon. Sec. Mr. Tilleard." With this statement I am peculiarly sympathetic writing as I do, knee deep in three hundred weight of exhibition literature, tickets, etc.

Mr. Cornelius Wrinkle goes on to claim special attention for the young collectors in the event of the 1906 Exhibition "coming off." He also suggests a public school class. In both these schemes he will have the support of many thousands of juniors, I am sure. But Mr. Wrinkle's last illustration is his master piece this week. It represents a packet of prepared food with the Gibbon's Stamp Weekly trade mark. The label is inscribed Nankivell's Prepared Food for Philatelic Infants.—This food is very carefully compiled of old stamps and new issues well mixed with philatelic sermons and Imeson poetry, foreign correspondence, society sauce, and market tips, and is sent out well wrapped in Stanley Gibbon's advertisements."

The mention of Imeson poetry recalls to my mind the following verses which I received personally from Mr. Imeson the other day. They are lines written after receiving the Junior Philatelic Society's Exhibition circular and refer in most amusing terms to

Mr. E. P. Vinsella's beautiful picture on the front entitled "Tete-Beche." Here are the verses:—

A GREETING.

I.

I speak on behalf of The Goddess of Stamps,

'Tis from her a commission I've got,
Tho' no Junior I (entree nous I'll soon be

On the wrong side of—never mind what!)

New blood is e'er needed and welcome indeed,

E'en those serious seniors, the Seniors,

Mean well—for they say (and they say what they mean)

"Long life and good luck to the Juniors!"

II.

This greeting from fair Philatella to bring

Post haste I've spurred on Poor Pegasus:

Please note not his lameness, nor mark his rude pace.

(My rhymes, if you will, call audacious!)

"Go," cried the fair "Phillis," "my greeting convey!

By my gauge, sir, this programme's first rate!

I've seen 'heads' tete-beche, sir, but never before

Have I seen them tete-beche, tete-a-tete!"

III.

"What means, tho' this picture?"

"Why, new blood!" said I.

"Do Juniors, then, put heads together

When talking of stamps?" How evas-

(Continued on page 3.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

LOUIS G. QUACKENBUSH,
MANAGING EDITOR.

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From The Editor's Point Of View.

An Ignominious Backdown.

The new governmental decision against British Official stamps, whereby stamp dealers are given the privilege of handling them in unused condition, provided they do not traffic in whole sheets, was dealt with in our news columns last week. We confess the new edict was a great surprise to us. We had supposed, after the bitterness with which Mr. Creeke and others were prosecuted that the British Government regarded the trafficking in unused Officials as one of the most heinous crimes in the calendar, and would as soon think of lifting the ban on house breaking or pocket picking as withdrawing its objections to the buying and selling by stamp folk of the class of stamps in question. But a change has it seems, come over the spirit of their dream and the interdiction is lifted, with an air of haughty condescension, such as we might imagine greeted the edicts of the Circumlocution Office in the good old days of Tite Barnacle and his clan. The assiduity of public departments is too well attested by former examples however, for us to be greatly surprised by anything that any such institution may choose to do. We were reading but the other day of an incident in kind, related by Gen. Thomas L. James, once Postmaster General of this Republic. When Gen. James was Postmaster of New York City, the famous jewelry house of Tiffany moved up to Union Square, a locality at that time considerably distant from the business center of the city. No such thing as a mail box was to be found in Union Square at that date and Tiffany petitioned the Postmaster to place one in front of his store, an entirely reasonable demand. The Postmaster sent a subordinate to ver-

ify the lack of mailing facilities in the vicinity, and finding that there was no mail box for several blocks around, forwarded a recommendation to Washington that one be placed in front of the Tiffany store—permission having to be obtained from the fountain head of authority before even a new mail box could be granted to any petitioner. The Department at Washington, big with its own importance, and much concerned lest it act with undue haste in so vital a matter, dispatched an Inspector to New York to investigate. Said Inspector sojourned three days in the metropolis, at a stipend of \$5.00 per day, and expenses—the latter amounting to an additional \$10.00 or so per diem—and at the end of that period returned to Washington, reporting that there was no necessity for the new mail box requested, on account of the fact that there was already such a receptacle not twenty feet from the entrance to the Tiffany establishment. Chuckling highly over its own astuteness and forethought, the Department hastened to inform the New York Postmaster of its agents' portentous discovery and, of course, to deny the Tiffany petition. Much puzzled to know how his own subordinate could have overlooked the box which the Washington sleuth discovered, the Postmaster paid a personal visit to Union Square. He searched over every inch of the streets fronting it without finding anything bearing any closer resemblance to a mail-box than a garbage can. At last, wearied, worn and troubled in mind, he cast his eye on a lamp-post near the Tiffany doors, and there beheld the solution of the puzzle—a bright, new fire-alarm box, which the emissary from Washington, an expert, supposedly, in all things pertaining to the postal service, had mistaken for a receiving box for local mail.

Government departments certainly move most mysteriously their wondrous to perform. And this it will always be, doubtless, while the world lasts.

A War That Is

Waiving Its Privileges.

As the Russo-Japanese War lengthens in duration, the greater grows the general surprise that it is producing no additions to the labors of catalogue compilers. Of course, we are not yet out of the woods. There is ample time yet for floods of provisionals and military occupation stamps and other issues of this ilk. But it really begins to look as though the conflict might run to its conclusion without generating any "war issues." Of course, this will be contrary to all rule and precedent, made and established for such matters. It bespeaks singular lack of enterprise that no one in Port Arthur thought of issuing a siege stamp; and the Japs have overlooked at least half a dozen good opportunities to turn an honest penny into the war exchequer. True, there has been

some talk in St. Petersburg of a special patriotic series of stamps to swell the war chest—a series of most picturesque sort, bearing a portrait of Peter, the Great, on one value, a view of the Kremlin on another, and so on. These were to be sold at double or treble face value, we believe, and the extra amount turned over to the war fund. But we have heard nothing further about this issue for some weeks and we rather suspect that the idea has been abandoned. The temper of a great body of the Czar's subjects is not such at this time as to give any very flattering assurance that such a series would act as a popular patriotic subscription for the raising of a large sum—and then, too, the Russian need of the hour is not so much the money as men. If the Japs are the ultimate victors (as there seems at present no room to doubt) we may confidently look for some sort of celebration series. It would be pleasant to think that such a series might bear portraits of Nogai, Komur, etc., (as would, indeed, be most appropriate) but in a land where not even the Mikado's image is deemed proper for stamp design it is hardly thinkable that the faces of any of his subjects, however deserving, will be suffered to adorn the issues of the nation.

We wish Russia, even if she prove the loser, might be prevailed on to issue some sort of commemorative series, bearing the portraits of Stoessel, Kutopatkin and other deserving Generals. In the Grecian wars, Dea Swift tells us, both sides, were accustomed to set up trophies of victory after an engagement, the beaten party being content to go to this expense in order to keep itself in countenance. We should consider such an artifice very soothing to national pride, and we heartily recommend it to Russia at the present juncture.

The Ladies

As Collectors.

In the "Reading Table" of last week we made the remark that very few ladies could be counted as really serious stamp collectors. We purposed this week going into elaborate psychological consideration of this matter, explaining just why the higher phases of Philately (as we are wont to term the dry, knotty part of the pursuit) do not appeal to the feminine mind. But after much cogitation we find ourselves unable to assign any rational causes to this phenomenon. Mr. Silas Wegg, in respect to his name, remarked that he didn't know why Silas, and he didn't know why Wegg. We confess to a similar lack of enlightenment as to the reasons why woman is so conspicuously absent from the higher attitudes of philatelic endeavor. It is not for lack of intellectual quickness or of the power of steady application. Then why is it? Is it, perhaps, because we do not give her enough encouragement? We would not positively

ly say that this is indeed the case—yet there is some color of plausibility to it. The woman stamp collector, no matter if she resides in some city which is a very active philatelic center, is almost always a philatelic Patriarch. Philatelic Clubs hold their meetings—but they are not for her. Little coteries gather in the stamp shops for swaps of stamps and information—but she enters but to purchase, and to depart as soon as her wants are filled. All her philatelic enthusiasm has to come from within herself. She has no philatelic confidants or cronies. And we should not much wonder if it were this state of affairs as much as anything that fetters her and holds her back. If this is so, it is a thousand pities, and we are exceeding sorry for it. But we are not, at the moment, prepared to suggest any feasible remedy.

LONDON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

I've my "M'yes,
When talking of stamps or—the
weather!"
A "pair undivided" is oft the result
Of stamp talk 'twixt "specimens"
single,
And two such fine "specimens" well
might become
A pair—to the wedding bells' jingle."
IV.
You might, Mr. President, add to the
list
Of your stories on stamps the above!
Go! show me the stamp that a story
can tell
To compare with the story of—love!
I trust, tho', this Junior is sticking
to stamps.
Not repeating "soft nothings" in
play.
For she looks so trustful—but, if it's
a "swap,"
She may trust and—be "given
away!"

W. E. Imeson.

Any one who has read the Stamp Friends' Raids will at once recognize the familiar style of the poet who is well known for his philatelic verses, which are always full of good natured fun and highly humorous plays upon words.

With the coming Exhibition for Juniors at Exeter Hall, Strand on Feb. 2nd and 4th, there seems to be a very lively competition going on among the dealers to secure the boy collector trade. Messrs. Whitfield King & Co., of Ipswich, have always provided for the young collectors, and consequently they are to the fore at the Exhibition with two stalls. Messrs. Magoschis who some years ago published the Junior Stamp Collector are also being represented. Messrs. Lawn & Barlow, finding that however good a new thing may be, it will take a traction engine to move most of the old staggers from their albums, are keenly enthusiastic in pushing their goods before the younger generation who are

always alive to a new and good article. Mr. D. Feld, Mr. Charles Nissen, Messrs. Pemberton & Co., Mr. W. Brown, Messrs. Bright & Son, Healey & Co., and Mr. W. Lincoln, are all firms which have long catered for the Junior as well as the advanced collector. And even those who are not stall holders are making for the young collectors—Messrs. Gibbons with their new paper, and Mr. Ewen with his simplified catalogue—they and many others have come to the fore since the Juniors' Exhibition was first mooted, to capture and hold the Juniors' trade. The policy is of course an important and a wise one. The young collectors of today will be the advanced collectors of tomorrow. The dealer who secures him first may if he treats him well retain his custom for years and the custom which is now limited to the expenditure of a few shillings may grow to one which is as unlimited in value as that of some of our wealthiest collectors today. That this is being at last realized by all the leading dealers, is obvious from their latest endeavors, and even one large importer who wrote me a year or so back saying he did not want to encourage young collectors to deal with him as they were rarely worth the while is now making a very special bid indeed for the Juniors' favor.

Facts About St. Helena.

Few of the islands of the sea are more dreary, desolate and devoid of native picturesqueness than St. Helena; yet the fact that it was the place of Napoleon's exile makes it one of the great historic spots of the world, and invests its stamps with a fascination they certainly would not otherwise possess—their designs differing in no essential particular from those of dozens of other British Colonies.

Young collectors (and perhaps some older ones, too) will, we think, be interested in the following facts regarding St. Helena itself;—

The island of St. Helena was discovered on St. Helena's Day (May 22)—hence its name—in 1502 by Juan de Nova Castella, a Portuguese navigator of some note. A few years after its discovery it was ceded to Holland and until 1673 it was a Dutch settlement. At that time it was ceded to the British East India Company, who controlled it until 1833 when it was made over to the British Crown.

It is situated about 1,200 miles from the Western coast of Africa. Its area is only forty-seven square miles. The general character of the land is hilly and mountainous, and not over 100 acres are under cultivation. There are, however, several plains, in the largest of which, Longwood, was Napoleon's home. Its population is not over 5000. Formerly the island was of some utility as forming a supply station for vessels going round the Cape of Good Hope, but since the opening of the Suez Canal its value in this respect has greatly diminished.

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The Philatelic School Room.

For The Primary And Intermediate Classes.

Conducted by Oliver Crinkle, X. G. S. Professor of Philately in Knowlhyre University.

To begin with, dear scholars, let us begin at the beginning. For in seeking to acquire knowledge upon any subject whatsoever, it is better to build from the ground up, rather than from the pinnacle down. In the study of history, in particular, it would be a sorry plan to commence one's survey by taking up the events of the present era, and then work backward down the ages in crab-like progression. For history can only be correctly understood when one adds fact to fact in the logical order of their occurrence—and such, we venture to think, is also the case with the special subject (in some sense a branch of history) which at present lies before us.

The story of the postage stamp—of its birth, its rise, its progress and its various phases of evolution from epoch to epoch—has never been adequately told. And far be it from me to essay, with any serious intent, such Herculean labor. But it seems as well, now that we take up this study together, to do so on a rational, logical basis—to study the issues of the world in their chronological order, rather than according to alphabetical or geographical distinctions. The latter is the method in most favor with philatelic educators. But it seems to me that the study lacks unity and cohesiveness if the stamps of different countries or continents or periods are taken up entirely at random. And so, having plenty of time before us (for I trust you have all entered for the full course) we will, as I said before, begin at the beginning; and in whatever studies we may undertake, take up the various issues of the world so far as possible in the order in which they came into it.

The postage stamp was born in 1840 not so very remote a date as general history goes. There are plenty of men living today who came into the world before that year; there are even some still remaining with us who had attained to man's estate by 1840 and possess, perhaps, some personal remembrance of the dawn of penny postage in England. Yet it seems a good while ago, after all. The world has changed a goodish bit since then. The map of every continent has been radically altered. New lands have been settled, new nations have grown up, new governments have been established; and, on the other hand, many a boundary line that existed then is now either wholly or virtually blotted out. The adjuncts of life have been revolutionized. In 1810, men travelled by stage coach and read by the light of tallow candles; the telegraph, the typewriter, the telephone, and a thousand and one other conveniences and comforts of to-

day were as little dreamed of as navigation to the moon. Modes of dress, of conversation and even of thought were vastly different from what they are today. It was a different world from ours—a civilization infinitely less complex. In America, Clay and Webster and Calhoun were the famous figures of the time; slavery was a respectable institution; Chicago had scarce four thousand population; the Rocky Mountains were deemed as remote as Greenland. In England, Disraeli and Gladstone were young fellows, on the bottom round of the parliamentary ladder; Dickens had but just become famous; Thackeray was still unknown; Scott was but a few years dead. In short, when we come to think of all that has taken place since, it is hard, indeed, to realize that the natal year of penny postage and the postage stamp is only a matter of sixty-five years back.

The first postage stamp ever issued to the public made its formal debut in London on May 1, 1840. Turn to your catalogue (if you do not already own one, you had better supply yourself before the next session of the class, for the aid of a good catalogue will be indispensable to the proper prosecution of your studies), and you can see exactly what this stamp looks like, if you do not already own a copy of it. The Great Britain cut marked A1 in the Scott Catalogue gives a very fair idea of the appearance of this first of postage stamps; and, indeed, anyone possessing even a single specimen of any British stamp of the Victorian era has a partial replica of the one-penny stamp of 1840, inasmuch, as the profile of Queen Victoria chosen for use on the 1840 issue continued to do duty on every English stamp thenceforward till the accession of the present King—and instance of continuity in stamp design which is entirely unique, and likely to remain so. The familiar profile has been presented on English stamps in innumerable varieties of setting, and with some variations of size. It has on various occasions been retouched or re-drawn. But the face, the poise of the head, the very expression, has ever been the same—and never has postage stamp been honored and adorned with lineaments of such serene sweetness or of truer nobility of outline. Victoria was a young Queen then—both in years and in tenure of the throne. She was not yet twenty-one years old when the first postage stamp appeared; she had been Queen less than three years; and was the bride of but a few months. It is stated on trustworthy authority that she was never a beautiful woman, in the strictest sense of the word; but

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1916, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1917, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1918, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1919, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1920, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1921, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1922, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1923, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1924, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1925, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1926, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1927, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1928, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1929, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1930, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1931, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1932, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1933, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1934, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1935, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1936, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1937, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1938, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1939, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1940, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1941, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1942, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1943, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1944, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1945, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1946, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1947, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1948, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1949, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1950, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1951, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1952, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1953, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1954, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1955, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1956, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1957, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1958, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1959, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1960, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1961, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1962, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1963, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1964, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1965, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1966, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1967, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1968, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1969, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1970, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1971, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1972, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 1973, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 6c, 8c, 10c; 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that she had a very winsome, pleasant face, of the placid, rather than the very expressive type. We may reasonably consider the 1840 profile as a fairly faithful image; and it is as the young and charming Queen of twenty, that Victoria lives in the thought and mind of all Philately. In later years some of her Colonies used on their stamps other portraits of Her Majesty, representing her in maturer age. They are, in a way, interesting, as human documents; but I think most philatelists have scant liking for them. We do not like to have to remember that this good and gracious Queen ever grew old; we do not like to have anything to interfere with our minds' ideal, implanted there by the continual recurrence of that youthful face in our albums' pages. And I, for one, feel very glad that the number of these stamps that bear later portraits is after all, so small that the real "Queen's Heads" overshadow and overawe them.

It was a good while, by the way, before the English people called their stamps anything else than "Queen's Heads." That was the general term for them; scarcely anyone thought of using the word "stamps." Quite a few years later, when the stamp collecting instinct first began to manifest itself, a wit remarked that some people were showing quite as much anxiety to treasure up Queen's Heads, as Harry, the Eleventh, had in getting rid of them; and in all other gulps of the period on this topic, the term "Queen's Heads" was always the one employed.

But, not to get ahead of my story, there is a good deal of interesting history connected with this first stamp—with how it came to be, who was responsible for its appearance, and so on. And just where this history began is a hard matter to decide. Who first suggested the idea of the postage stamp—this is a query on which much ink has been split without any absolutely decisive answer having been arrived at. I might take a page here to tabulate the various aspects of the question, and might even go back a good many decades from 1840 to certain primitive systems of wrapping up mail matter for conveyance which some learned authorities consider the germ of the postage stamp idea and its original source of inspiration, without either you or I being very much the wiser. I might enter minutely into the story of how a certain James Chalmers, printer and book seller of Dundee, in Scotland, is claimed to have propounded the theory of using stamps on mail matter, and to have printed on his own press as early as 1834 some specimen labels for this purpose, one or two of which exist to this day in English museums. I might tell you something of the controversy that raged for years on both sides of the Atlantic over the question whether Chalmers did really print these stamps in 1834, as his adherents claimed, or at a considerable later date, as his

opponents maintained. But to do so would be to deal in pure conjecture, and is therefore not germane to our present purpose. All that anyone absolutely knows about the origin of the postage stamp is that when penny postage (it had previously cost great deal higher rate to send letters) was established in England, thanks largely to the agitation of Sir Rowland Hill, "the father of penny postage," this same Sir Rowland proposed that in order to facilitate the prepayment of letters there should be prepared little squares of paper, bearing some suitable design, which should be sold to the public at the regular letter rate of a penny apiece; and that the back of these should be covered with "some sort of glutinous wash," the moistening of which would affix the little square of paper securely to the letter, after which the missive could be dropped into the mail without any further trouble to the sender. Whether this idea was original with Rowland Hill or whether it was suggested to him from some outside source, has never been definitely ascertained; and if we discussed the matter for a twelve month we would be no wiser in the end. So here let the matter rest. Too great a task is before us to permit our frivolling time away in inquiries that can bring us nowhere but to a blank wall.

(To be Continued.)

From the Factories of the Forgers.

The Monthly Journal gives warning of a number of recently noted forgeries which now stalk abroad in Europe in greater or less numbers. As it is no far cry from Europe to America in philatelic matters, a list of them may put many a collector on his guard just in the nick of time. We append it in full:

- Indian Native States:—
 - Las Bela, ½a., on greenish gray, granite paper.
 - Nawannuger, 1, 2 and 3 docra, on colored papers.
 - Soruth, Types 3 and 4, 1a. and 4a., on wove paper, Imperforate (these we have seen, are in horizontal strips of three, showing what appear to be varieties of type; they are badly printed).
 - Tasmania, 5s., purple, type 6, on paper watermarked "Tas."
 - Transvaal, 1895 10s., pale brown.
 - Trinidad, Unpaid letter stamps, ½d. and 8d., on paper watermarked crown and C. A.
 - Afghanistan, Types 41, 42 and 43, in black.
 - Colombia, 1861 5c., bright yellow; 20c., scarlet; 1863, 5c., yellow; 20c. and 50c., red.
 - Crete, 1888, 20 paras, mauve.
 - France, Unpaid letter stamps, Imperforate; 30c., black, double impression; also the 5c., 10c., 20c. and 30c., with various surcharges.
 - Greece, Type 1, 1 lepton (three or four shades), 60 lepta, green on green. Type 2, 40 lepta, imperf. and perf.
 - Italy, 1839, 5 lire, red and green (on watermarked paper).
 - Roman States, 7 baj. and 1 scudo.

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1891-92	40 l	blue	" 116	05
"	1 dr	gray	" 116	05
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THE READING TABLE.

What We Find in the Journals of the Hour.

Morley's Philatelic Journal,
London, England.

We personally know very little about fiscals. But that does not prevent us from being greatly interested in Morley's Philatelic Journal. The fiscal field is so charmingly full of novelty, so delightfully unexplored, that it is always a treat to scan the month's store of record and discovery, as set forth in the pages of fiscal Philately's able organ. No treatment of old and hackneyed themes is found in this journal of fiscalism. The fiscal field is too newly opened up and there is still too much new soil to be studied and sifted over, for any space to be given to the re-hashing of old matters. And, consequently, there is a zest to the contents of Morley's Journal analogous to that discoverable in the old stamp journals of the sixties and seventies, when the study of postage stamps was in much the same condition as the study of fiscal stamps is at present.

We do not mean by this that either Morley's Journal or the stamp journals of long ago exceed our modern postage stamp journals in readability and interest. The former are simply a bit different—a bit out of the ordinary—and we welcome them particularly for that reason.

Now, as an instance of the continual cropping up of new things in Fiscal Philately, let us quote the introductory paragraph of a catalogue of the Fiscal Stamps of the Indian Native States, begun in the number before us; its compilers being Messrs. Walter Morley and Oswald Marsh. This is what they say:—

"Very little is known about the fiscal issues of the Native States of India, with the exception of those of Mysore for which collectors are indebted to Mr. E. W. Wetherell who has obtained a mass of information from an inspection of the Government current stock and their older documents and records. When this part of the catalogue of British Colonials was reached by the Fiscal Society only one collection, and that a very imperfect one, together with a few fragmentary ones of other members were available for study and it was left to us to draw up the list; after doing so, by means of investigations and requests for supplies from some of the States, we discovered much interesting matter and unearthed issues unknown to us so that we are now preparing a pioneer catalogue of the various states and we hope other collectors, especially our French colleagues who we believe have many of the older issues, and our Indian ones on the spot, will submit us for inspection any varieties we omit from our lists."

A vivid picture, this, of the difficulties confronting the student of fiscal stamps. Farther on, is this: "At the moment of writing we have only seen stamps issued by 44 of these states and some of them have only very recently become known to us. We are unable to state how many actually issue special revenue stamps of their own; though it is probable several others, besides those known to us, may do so." Assuredly there is nothing of the cut and dried order about fiscal collecting—and, assuredly also, in this very fact lies its very greatest charm. This catalogue of Indian Fiscals begins with a list of the stamps of Akalkot State, thus affording fresh evidence of the fact that some states which lack postage stamps of their own do have fiscal stamps. We believe, in fact, that there are a large number of these, and that this constitutes yet another of the agreeable features of fiscal collecting.

Mr. Morley is his own best contributor. Here is a page of matter from him on "The Revenue Stamps of the Dominican Republic;" and on the next page the continuation of a list of "The Newspaper Tax Stamps of Great Britain." The month's editorials deal with the coming Fiscal Exhibition—the great topic of importance in fiscalist circles at present—and with other matters of lesser interest. Morley's has a French rival now, "Le Bulletin Fiscaliste," published by M. Forbin L. Hoste; but so far from viewing its advent with uneasiness, the English journal has all sorts of kind things to say about it editorially.

G. W. J. Potter writes of "Scarce Welsh Railway Stamps," and "K" of "British Railway Stamps," and the remainder of the paper is taken up with the usual Fiscal Chronicle.

Philatelic Journal of India,
Calcutta, India.

The P. J. of I., for November, contains forty good-sized pages, crammed full of most excellent and interesting matter. Mr. Stewart-Wilson, now that he has got his hand in, is proving a worthy successor to his brilliant predecessor in the editorial chair. Mr. Wetherell; and the magazine certainly ranks as one of the foremost of the world—of course, taking count of philatelic journals only.

The opening article this month is entitled "A Historical Sketch of Some of Our Rarest Stamps," and so interesting it is that we propose reprinting it entire in this or some future issue of our own journal, as space permits—hence it is unnecessary to go into any analysis of it here.

"Stamps of the Moment; China," is an interesting sketch reprinted from the West End Philatelist. In "Dutch Perforations Again," the editor argues earnestly and forcibly against too great diffuseness and complexity in listing perforations—speaking particularly in reference to the Dutch Society's forthcoming book on Holland and

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Colonies which proposes printing a really appalling series of tables of perforations. A sketch of the career of Peter Karageorgevitch comes next, the occasion for the sketch being the new set of stamps which Serbia has lately issued in celebration of King Peter's accession to the throne. Then the continuation of Mr. Wetherell's most able monograph on Roumanian stamps; followed in its turn by some twenty or more pages of reprinted articles, which being all of the highest value and interest, form their own best justification for their reappearance. Many notes and minor items follow these in their turn. But why try to review so big and so good a magazine. 'Tis impossible; so we may as well give up the task and consider ourselves beaten.

The Stamp Collector's Fortnightly.

London, England.

The Stamp Collector's Fortnightly, is, we believe, the only stamp journal in the world that "spreads itself" each December on a regular bona-fide Christmas number—with Santa Claus on the cover and all sorts of "extras" inside. Its Christmas number for 1904 (dated Dec. 3) has come to hand and, so far from betraying any falling off from the standard set by its previous Christmas issues, has decidedly improved upon them. It is not so large an issue, so far as mere bulk is concerned, as the big Special reviewed a month or so ago, but we are not sure but that in readability it looms even larger than the other—for Mr. Bishop is one of those journalists that is continually breaking his own best records. We shall not attempt specific analysis of the contents of this excellent Christmas number; for the Fortnightly is more newspaper than magazine and its contents does not lend itself so readily to review as in the case of journals that print more articles and essays and fewer short squibs and paragraphs. But here is just a hint of its contents.

First—the newsy editorial miscellany "Philately at Home and Aboard," to the tune of a couple of pages. Then a page of information about the coming Exhibition of Fiscals and Telegraphs—the biggest event impending in philatelic Britain this season. Then, a page of philatelic yarns and anecdotes; followed by a more serious feature, in the form of a paper on "The Tai Hau Surcharges of Corea" (tis hard to get away from Corea in philatelic print just now) from the pen of that able untangler of philatelic problems, Mr. E. W. H. Poole. "Petween Ourselves" is of its usual sprightliness; and "New Issues and Varieties" of the usual and very natural dullness inherent in the subject. A paper on the "First Issue of Norway" will attract the specialist's eye, and Mr. Pearce's Fiscal Department contains matter that both fiscalists and postalists will be none the worse for reading. Two pages of recent auction quotations figure next; then, "The Press

on Philately" and the always interesting department "Twixt Editor and Reader;" the number coming to a close with an unusually excellent installment of "Our Review of Reviews." A wide variety of reading, indeed; and all of it exceedingly good. Need we say more.

The Monthly Journal,

London, Eng.

The December 31st issue of the Monthly Journal opens with a happily worded paragraph of Christmas greeting, followed with a word of introduction in behalf of Gibbons' Stamp Weekly, the new journal that the great English stamp house has lately launched. The other editorials deal with "Some Pictorial Cards;" with the "Stamp Collector's Annual," which receives a fair degree of praise and some kindly criticism and suggestions; and with "Railway Letter Stamps," and their prices as fixed in Mr. Ewen's latest catalogue, some features of which do not greatly appeal to the Monthly Journal's able editor.

The "New Issues and Varieties" department is in evidence as usual, some six big pages strong; being followed by a resume of some correspondence that has recently passed between the firm of Stanley Gibbons and the British Board of Inland Revenue. The mighty pothor stirred up by this same board a short while since in regard to the sale by stamp dealers of British official stamps in unused condition will be fresh in the minds of our readers. They have now completely reversed their former attitude and in the letters the Monthly Journal prints, tacitly give permission for dealers to buy and sell unused British officials, to any extent they please, so long as they do not traffic in entire sheets of them. The whole affair is, indeed, as another English journal remarks (the M. J. ventures on no comment) a miserable, farcical tragedy.

L. Hancian's "Postal Issues of Finland," takes up the next four pages; and Mr. Phillip's "Notes and News" another. "British Somaliland: List of Errors and Varieties of Surcharge in the First Issue, with Notes," by Herbert W. Hawkins, is a contribution of the "dotty specialism" order, with which we can never feel quite in sympathy; but no doubt there are at least some among the Monthly Journal's readers to whom it is like manna in the desert. The customary installment of the Native Indian States papers; an article on "Our Flag and Shield," by Amy L. Swift, and various minor items and paragraphs conclude the number.

It is of some interest to note that the Rev. Chas. Mercer Hall of Kingston, N. Y., who, as the son-in-law of Alton B. Parker, has figured prominently in news items from Esopus during the late campaign, is a philatelist. Had the fact been known earlier it might have diverted some philatelic votes to Judge Parker.

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display. A line will average seven words. Cash to accompany copy.

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Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

To introduce my approval sheets on which I allow 66 2/3% discount. I offer to all collectors enclosing a 2c stamp a set of Newfoundland tree. Catalogue value 12c. H. Towsley 89 Robinson St., Winnipeg, Canada.

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I can offer Newfoundland stamps in P. O. State at half Scotts cat. price, I will give the first order from this ad. 5c Nova Scotia. Order by cat. number No. 3, 21, 27, 28, 33, 40, 41, 50, 51, 57, 62, 63, 61, 78, 79, & 80, to 84 85 at 7c each net. Postage extra. R. Williams West Roxbury, Mass.

MEKEEL'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS Boston, Mass., is one of the oldest, brightest and best stamp weeklies in the world. It has 8 large pages 4 columns to the page filled with special articles on stamps and stamp designs, news dispatches from all points of the compass, cartoons, prize contests and humorous stamp stories. It has an illustrated chronicle of new issues, a review of other stamp papers, a U. S. revenue department and is the official organ of ten different stamp societies. It is just entering its 15th year of continuous publication and has the record for big editions having printed over 100,000 of a single issue. Price 50c a year and the "Chile Special" to be issued Feb. 25 with handsomely illuminated cover will go a long way towards meeting the price to say nothing of the other 51 issues which includes several "specials" To test the pulling properties of this paper we will send you Mekeel's Weekly 10 weeks for 10c - only mention this advertisement.

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It is easy enough to stop a clock if you don't wind it, and it is easy enough to stop a business if you don't advertise. From White's Sayings.



New York's Rarest Club Is the Collectors'.



Eleven hundred dollars for a one dollar silver piece! Beyond the pale of necromancy or lunacy, who would think this possible? And yet for just this sum there was recently "knocked down" at auction, in the modest chambers of the Collectors' Club, in Fourth Avenue, New York, one of the rarest coins in the world and one of the only three in existence of the same denomination, date and condition—a silver dollar of the date 1804, the coveted prize of half the numismatists in all Christendom.

It was naturally a representative gathering, for men whose delight it is to discuss from dawn to doomsday such abstruse questions as "milled edge," "arrow point," and all the deciding points in a rare coin were met from far and near, many States being represented, and even London, Paris and Berlin had their agents present in the faint hope of gathering in at less than its market value so great a coin rarity as an 1804 dollar.

The joys and passions of the true collector are manifold and differ from all other manifestations of human activity. The collector never seems to labor, yet in his quiet way he is the most active of men. The ineffable joy of making one grand "find" as a reward for years and, indeed, a lifetime of searching seems to be sufficient to spur the collector to renewed effort with each recurrent sun, for there is never a time, place or season that some elusive rarity may not come

forth from long, long obscurity, and the collector may be on hand to recognize it, seize upon it for a song and find himself raised mightily in the estimation of his fellow treasure trovers, be they far or near.

In some respects the Collectors' Club is the most remarkable club in America. Its membership is not large perhaps, but what is lacking in numbers is made up for in enthusiasm. And for quiet, unostentatious, progressive and learned camaraderie the Collectors' leads New York, for it is a fraternity of gifted men bound together in the indissoluble bonds of a passion, a problem, a belief. Collecting is not only their pastime; it amounts almost to a religion. It colors their lives and dominates even their patriotism. Particularly is this true of the collectors of every rare thing American—Lord Baltimore's Maryland coinages, the pine tree mintage of Connecticut, the "hog coins" of the Bermudas, the "Liberty" coins of the seventeen nineties, eagle pennies and double eagle gold bits.

Many a Cousin Pons emulates the dedicated enthusiasm of the curio master of Balzac's day, and while some have been made poor by their passion and others rich, all have enjoyed certain pleasures which only the collector knows, and which are unsurpassed—the quiet satisfaction of having discovered and possessed one's self of something which has no duplicate in the whole range of things

which men hold precious and worthy of covet.

Not all the members of the Collectors' Club make a specialty of numismatics, although all are more or less interested in anything and everything rare—coins, stamps, works of art, books, prints, plates and antiques of any and every kind. Every Monday night the guild meets and discusses the problems of the craft. One brings a coin he has dug up from Philadelphia, another a stamp which his agent bought at Quaritch's, in London, and shipped over to add to an already large and valuable collection; still another displays a book plate, and another an Oriental parchment, which he has purchased at great price, and which will some day find its way into some one of our great museums.

The chambers of the club are cozy and abound in objects of as much interest to the stranger guest as to the charter member himself. Along the walls may be seen rare old prints, framed sheets of stamps apparently fresh from the die plate, portraits of famous collectors and other oddities of note. Conspicuous among these is a carbon portrait of a young man of five and twenty—an enlargement from a Headquarters Rogues' Gallery photo—artistically framed, with iron bars crossing the face of the youth in sinister symbolism; and thereby handing the tale of one of the "powers that prey" even upon the unsuspected collector.

—New York Herald.

TALKS TO DEALERS.

No. 2.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY does not ask your advertising as a favor, but as a straight business proposition.

You have stamps to sell; we have a paper that is already reaching most of the live collectors of this country.

Observe that we say **live** collectors. Therein lies a distinction. Some of the circulation of older papers is admittedly among those who "used to collect", but do so no longer, continuing their subscriptions simply out of curiosity to know what is going on in stamp circles. It isn't this class that subscribes to a new stamp paper. They prefer the old one they have been used to reading. The people who subscribe to a new journal are **the active collectors** . . . the real enthusiasts . . . not those that used to collect, but **those that are collecting now**.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY has no waste circulation. Every copy goes to someone who cares for it and preserves it. It is a fresh, live virile proposition for anyone who has anything to sell to stamp collectors. Don't try it for just one insertion . . . that is a waste of money and an injustice to us. But try it long enough to gain the confidence of our readers . . . offer the right things and offer them in the right way . . . and you will be well repaid for your patience.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY,

BETHLEHEM, PA.

The

Australian Philatelist,
Sydney, Australia.

The Australian Philatelist's twelve pages for December contain much matter that collectors in the Antipodes will unquestionably find of great interest and value, but affords scant scope for review. Our remarks concerning it will therefore necessarily be brief. The leading editorial asks the question, "What Determines the Value of a Stamp," calling attention to many inconsistencies in stamp prices, but arriving at no definite answer to the question it sets itself. Another editorial concerns the "Punctured O. S. Stamps," of Australia, which the editor decides after mature consideration to be fully as collectible as the similar class of stamps on which the initials "O. S." are surcharged. Still another editorial questions the claim made in England that Mr. H. J. Dyveen's Queensland stamps are the finest in the world, believing that there are some Queensland collections in Australia itself that are not likely to have any superiors.

Mr. Blockey's valuable "Priced Catalogue of South Australian Stamps" is continued; as is also the transcript of Mr. Basset Hull's lecture on Philately. Reviews, Society Reports, and minor notes and paragraphs furnish the remainder of the month's reading matter.

50 cents
a year.

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a copy.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Entered as second-class matter December 17, 1904, at the post office at Bethlehem, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Vol. 1.

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, FEBRUARY 4, 1905.

No. 21.

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"	2c	used	-	-	10
"	15c	unused	-	-	75
"	30c	"	-	-	1 00
State	1c	"	-	-	1 00
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"	6c	"	-	-	40
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BOSTON LETTER.

The greatest social function of the season so far as Boston philatelists are concerned will occur on Tuesday evening, Feb. 7th, at the Revere House, when the members and friends of the New England Philatelic Society hold their annual banquet. This date will mark the tenth anniversary of the society, which is in excellent working and financial condition, much credit being due to President Legg and his able corps of officers.

The hour for the banquet is 8:30 P. M. and at 10:00 P. M. an entertainment will be given which will take about an hour and a half. Mr. C. F. Rothfuchs, President of the Boston Philatelic Society, will be the guest of the evening. The committee, Messrs. Stone and Kennedy, have spared neither time nor expense to ensure the success of this event, and while their plans for entertaining have been kept secret there will be nothing lacking.

Visiting friends who are in the city on this date are invited to attend the banquet and are assured a cordial welcome.

At the last meeting of the Society an auction was held, the proceeds of which, amounting to thirty dollars, were given to the Entertainment Committee and an appropriation was also made from the treasury. Tickets are two dollars per plate and a large attendance is expected, as about forty tickets have been already sold.

On January 17th the Boston Philatelic Society held its 142d regular meeting. President Rothfuchs presiding. In addition to the regular routine of business the annual reports of the different officers and committees

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were read and accepted. The reports of the President, Secretary and Library Committee being especially interesting. In addition to reviewing the work of the Society for the past year President Rothfuchs recommended the establishment of a new department, that of Counterfeit and Fraud Detector. The committee in charge will examine stamps for members at a nominal price. Secretary Howes, besides giving the records of the Society's work, mentioned among the important philatelic events of the year, the reading of a paper at the London Philatelic Society by its President, the Prince of Wales, the success of the great stamp exhibition at Berlin last August, and the highest price ever paid for a single postage stamp at auction, \$7500.00, for the Mauritius Postoffice 2p blue sold in London.

The report of the Library Committee showed how, beginning the year 1904 with practically nothing, a fine library had been started, many volumes having been purchased or donated and many stamp periodicals having been subscribed to.

The Treasurer's report showed the Society to be on an excellent basis financially.

At its next regular meeting, the third Tuesday in February, the Society will hold its annual jollification. Refreshments will be served and an entertainment will be provided. There will also be an auction sale, the entire proceeds of which will be given to the Library Committee for use in their department. All lots for the sale will be donated by the members and their friends.

Mr. Cobe, manager of the Hub Stamp Company, who has recently

opened an office in the city, was certainly on the "anxious seat" for about a week. Mr. Cobe, who is a wholesaler, had several customers to wait upon at the same time in the afternoon of the 14th and at closing time missed one of his stock books containing unused blocks valued at \$500. Remembering the suspicious actions of one of his customers, Mr. Cobe notified all the other dealers in the city, giving a description of the suspect and the stamps. January 19th this man called at the office of the Liberty Stamp Company, on Tremont Street, offering unused blocks of stamps for sale. Mr. Flagg, the manager, promptly called the police and the man was taken to Mr. Cobe's office. Some of the stamps were on the culprit's person, others at his home. Mr. Cobe recovered practically all of his lost stamps, and the alleged thief, A. D. McLeod, has been held in \$300 for the Grand Jury.

We are pained to learn of the death of Delos S. Dunbar of Watertown, N. Y. Mr. Dunbar was a collector of some twenty years standing, his attention of late years having been principally devoted to United States stamps, of which he had an excellent collection. He was a personal friend of the Editor of this journal, who can testify to his manliness, honor and integrity in all the affairs of life. We have never known a better man or a truer friend.

The city of Panama used to have a philatelic society. In view of recent developments at the Isthmus, we are wondering if it has one at present.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

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From The Editor's Point Of View.

Russia

To the Fore.

We little thought when last week we spoke in jocular vein about possible Russian stamp issues that a handful of days hence Russia would be trembling on the brink of revolution—would be facing what may very possibly prove to be the most acute historical crisis of modern times. As we write, all is uncertainty in St. Petersburg and the whole civilized world is watching the outcome with breathless interest. Before these lines reach the public eye (the editor is just starting on a journey and finds it necessary to get in his "copy" a week or more in advance of the day of publication) one of two consummations will undoubtedly have been reached—either the Russian Government will have successfully weathered the storm, or the forces of disaffection will have gained control, and overturned the present dynasty. In the latter event it is entirely probable that there will have been such a harvest of blood as will make the world shudder; and that a few short days will have added to history one of its most terrible chapters.

This, the reader may exclaim, is not Philately; why should the philatelic journal concern itself with political events, of which we find quite enough discussion in our daily papers? We answer, that great political events such as impending changes of dynasties or cabinets or modes of government, appear to us to bear the most intimate relation to Philately, because it may reasonably be assumed that any really great change of this character will in one way or another make its impress on the postal issues of its nation. The postage stamp is the mirror of history; and great as would be the philatelist's natural interest in such a grave political crisis as the

present Russian one, that interest cannot but be much intensified by the philatelic considerations which linger in its train. We, as collectors, cannot but speculate most interestedly on the philatelic consequences of the success of a great Russian revolution, toward which the situation is rapidly verging at the moment we write. Suppose the whole Imperial Government as at present constituted is swept away, and replaced, even if for ever so short a time, by the rule of a Russian Commune. Would not every monarchical emblem be as hateful to the sight of the patriot-fanatics as was the case in France; and would not any stamps issued under such Communistic rule be of some startlingly contrasting type from that which has been in use in Russia since she first issued stamps? The fancy can conjure up a thousand conjectures on this point. Is it possible that Father Gopon may prove the Hidalgo of Russia and be similarly honored in the field of stamp design? May it not be that under such a new order of things Tolstoi would be recognized as the prophet of Russian freedom and accorded high honor on the Russian stamps? What as yet unknown heroes and leaders of the people may prove to be the Dantons and Robespierres of Russian revolt and emphasize their power by making the Russian stamps a pictorial emblem of their authority? What patriotic symbol may prove the chosen emblem; what strange, fantastic things may Russian stamps not bear if the whole fabric of Russian autocracy is swept away and peasants usurp the places where princes so long have stood. The mind grows dizzy in contemplating the possibilities of the situation. Poland might regain her freedom; Finland might come to her own again. We are perhaps on the eve of events whose importance to the world will overshadow every historical cataclysm since Waterloo. God forbid that we should seem to treat these possibilities lightly. Put the mind, even at the gravest times, must turn somewhat to the bearing of impending events upon its own concerns; and war has its philatelic fruits no less than peace.

In

San Domingo.

It is a relief to turn to an impending political change in another part of the world, which is of entirely peaceable character. As newspaper readers know, the United States has, with the first of February, assumed control of a considerable part of the administrative affairs of the Dominican Republic, with the assent of the Dominican Government—has, in fact, virtually established a protectorate over the little republic. We need not here go into the exact details of the protocol lately signed by the representatives of the two governments, as the daily papers have already contained full account of the matter. But there is to philatelists an added grain of interest in the news, because, to those who read between the lines, it seems to

foreshadow the ultimate absorption of San Domingo by our own republic. That the Imperialistic bee buzzes in the bonnet of the present administration is a very generally understood fact—and great as may be the division of public opinion over the wisdom of acquiring foreign territory and establishing colonial possessions, there are very few American philatelists who do not rather like the notion, for the reason that it enlarges and enriches the field of the specialist in "U. S. and dependencies." Not all of us, of course, are U. S. specialists; but almost all of us verge a little, at least, in that direction; and are inclined to pay quite special attention to the stamps of any land on which Uncle Sam acquires a lien. Dominican Republic stamps should, therefore, be due for a boom. As they belong at present very decidedly to the "neglected" class are neither collected with any very great vim or much studied or written about—the field they offer is a rather promising one.

A Theory Of Ours.

It is quite generally admitted that Philately in this country is not forging ahead as fast as it did in the decade between 1885 and 1895—that in the succeeding period of ten years which this year will complete this country has not gained nearly as many collectors of really high philatelic caliber as in the corresponding period preceding. Some part of this is doubtless due to the fact that what headway we make now, in the matter of acquiring proselytes, does not show as much as it did then, our numbers being greater and additions to them being therefore the less noticeable. If to a catch of ten fish, five more are added, the increase is decidedly perceptible; but if five are annexed to a haul of fifty it occasions no remark. The difference between the number of live collectors in the late eighties and now is not of course of this ratio; but the analogy to some extent holds good. Something must also be allowed for the decline of the personal note in philatelic journalism. In the decade previously alluded to, a great host of amateur stamp papers filled the place now occupied by what we may term the professional philatelic journals, the law of the fittest having ordained that only the latter should survive. And in these comparatively crude journals, the flavor of the personal pervaded all. Column after column was filled with more or less intimate revelation as to the personality of stamp people—who they were, where they lived, what they collected, and the like. We were continually being told of this or that prominent banker or broker or business man or lawyer or professor who had just succumbed to the charms of Philately; thanks to the casual seed sowing of some philatelic Samaritan's collection. We knew a great deal about these new collectors, and we truly rejoiced at the continual accession of notable recruits.

Now, the personal note has well nigh vanished from our journalism—keeps up, at most, but a feeble, desultory flicker—and, so far as information from this source is concerned, one would hardly know the names of a dozen collectors outside his own immediate acquaintance.

It might, therefore, be argued that new collectors, of means and intellect, were being added as fast as ever—the only difference being that we do not hear about them. But we think that such an assumption would be a mistaken one; and that notable accessions to our ranks are really far fewer than they used to be. And, as before stated, we have a theory of our own to account for it.

The Relation Between American Philately And German Immigration.

That theory is, to put it into as brief compass as we can, that the greatest period of philatelic growth in America coincided closely with the period when German immigration to this country was at its highest flow; and that with the dwindling of German immigration of late years, American philately has been shut off from its main base of supply. This base of supply furnished us with men; not with such material munitions as stamps, hinges and albums, which are factors that do not enter into the present case. American Philately's debt to the Fatherland is for full half the men that made stamp collecting a notable pursuit in this country a decade since. Call the muster rolls of the eighties and nineties, and list to the reverberation of Teutonic polysyllables. Every second name one met with in the current philatelic annals of that era was of manifestly Germanic root. The leading philatelic lights of the metropolises gathered of nights at the Post Keller, where the man who did not relish Switzer, rye bread and German beers was looked on as a suspicious personage. The National Association, meeting at Niagara, passed by all the more pretentious hostleries of the place and banqueted at the Hotel Kaltenbach. The philatelic visitor from the Fatherland was as in a gathering of old friends and neighbors. In short, men of German birth were the backbone of American Philately, and never did philatelic affairs flourish so finely. We do not hear so much of them now. Not many of them were young men, in the strict sense of the word; some have passed on; some, now in their declining years, rest on their oars; some are, happily, as active and earnest as ever. And the big ocean greyhounds have ceased to bring us their former cargoes of good philatelists from the pleasant lands that lie beyond the Rhine; and Philately here has, we fear, languished a bit in consequence.

There may be critics who will laugh at this view to scorn. There may even be splenetic persons who will point to the Editor's name as evidence of racial

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prejudice on this subject. But no matter what betides, we intend sticking boldly to our guns. We think, and have always thought, that Philately is not indigenous to American soil; that the crop of it raised here is largely due to the transplanting of shoots that had already attained a considerable growth in the more nourishing philatelic soil to be found abroad. The native American does not collect as readily and as spontaneously as the European of equal mental activity. We are rather dubious as to what American Philately would have ever amounted to if it had not been for apt immigration's artful aid. We are a little despondent at present over the aspects of this immigration question, as it applies to Philately; because the humble Dago and the Russian Jew do not seem to promise much new blood for our pursuit. So we do not see but that we shall have, as a last resort, to try to convert the native American.

The word "Philately" was coined by M. Herpin of Paris, in 1865, in an article printed in *Le Collectionneur*, a Parisian stamp Journal.

About Dominica.

Dominica was discovered by Columbus on November 3rd, 1493, and called thus because this occurred on a Sunday. The French possessed the island for some time, and the British, in 1783, finally recovered it. Its capital is Roseau, or Charlotte Town. Its area is 290 square miles; breadth, 16 miles; length, 29 miles; population (1901), 28,894. Its products are mostly tropical plants and fruits, also honey, wax, sugar, a little cotton, molasses, rum, etc. Its government consists of a President and Executive Council of seven members appointed by the Crown, and a Legislative Council of fourteen, five being Officials appointed by the Governor and seven elected under restricted suffrage. The revenue in 1894 was £22,000 and the expenditure in 1893 was £26,000. The imports were £64,000, and exports £53,000.

The Stamp Collector.

The originator of the Universal Postal Union was Eugene Boral, Director of Posts in Switzerland from 1872 till his death in 1892.

The dies of the Mulready envelope were made of old gun metal. Mulready received \$1000 for his design from the government.

years after (1866) that Brazil placed on her stamps a portrait of her ruler. The plain, unadorned figure type chosen in 1843 long continued the standard of design; and it is worth while noting that there is scarcely any other series of stamps in the world not bearing the least vestige of wording. There was no thought, either, of printing these early Brazilian stamps in colors. Plain black was deemed sufficient for the purpose, and not till 1854 was any other color brought into play, though the size and form of the stamps had in the meantime suffered considerable alteration. The 1843 Brazilians are strange, quaint things—clumsy in shape, peculiarly homely in appearance; yet their crudeness and antiquity makes them more to be prized than the handsomest stamp of today.

It will be observed from the catalogue prices that these three Brazilian stamps of 1843 are by no means excessively rare. You may previously have noted with some surprise that the two British stamps of 1840 are catalogued, in used condition, at only 15c for the one penny value, and 75c for the two penny. You may very reasonably ask why stamps so old should not be of much greater price and rarity. Beginners are apt to think that age in stamps is one of the great requisites in rarity, and often lay up great disappointment for themselves in so doing. Put, as a matter of fact, age is not much of a determinant of stamp rarity. Most of the scarce stamps of the world are either (1) those of which only a small quantity were ever issued; (2) those issued in out-of-the-way parts of the world where their use was limited and their chance of preservation, after use, very slight; (3) those which were of denominations for which there was not much public need, only a comparatively few of them, consequently, ever getting into circulation.

The 1840 British stamps come under none of these classes. They were used to an enormous extent by people possessing the letter-preserving instinct, and as a consequence there has always been a relatively profuse supply of them. As to the 1843 Brazilians, issued in a country where neither commerce nor letter writing of a social nature was a thousandth part as extensive as in England, the case is not so clear; but I assume that the most of those used were on business correspondence to Europe, where many of them were saved, and afterwards brought to light. Certainly if they had been used principally for internal postage, few of them would have been preserved and their prices now would be much higher. Another cause has militated against these stamps ever attaining higher prices; the fact, namely, that Brazil has never been much "in the fashion" with collectors—has never been what we philatelists term "a popular country." But perhaps it is scarcely time yet to speak of a matter of this kind, which you will later on be better able to consider under-

standingly. So I ask pardon for the digression and return to the main subject.

While the big nations of Europe were wondering whether there was any virtue in this strange English idea of post-stamps and taking no steps whatever to give the matter a trial, a couple of tiny little mountain commonwealths put them to shame by recognizing the merits of the new system and making it their own. These two were the little Swiss cantons of Geneva and Zurich—the stamps they issue, A2 and A6, Switzerland—the year, 1843, the same as Brazil. The stamps were not, however, national issues, in the same sense as Brazil's. The construction of the Swiss Confederation at this period was peculiar. It consisted of twenty-two states, or cantons, bound together very loosely; the central power, a thin, shadowy substance, being vested in a Diet which met alternately at Berne, Zurich and Luzerne; a figurehead assembly with no real control over the action of any of its cantons, each one of which had its own legislative council and followed its own sweet will at all times. Any stamp issued by one canton under such conditions would naturally pass current only in its own territory; and it has never been conclusively proven that either the Geneva or Zurich issues (the Basle issue of 1845 stands on precisely similar grounds) paid postage a foot outside of its own dominions. The general verdict of philatelic authorities has, therefore, been that these stamps cannot be classed as governmental issues, but occupy a ground of their own not easy of exact definition. Of their collectibility and interest there has never, however, been any question, and they rank (particularly the Geneva) among the most prized of European rarities. The Zurich stamp is plain and unpretentious, yet distinctly creditable to its issuers in a day when there were no precedents of stamp design to draw upon. In its bold simplicity we can imagine we can detect some taste of the square, uncompromising sturdiness of the men of Zurich, as hardy and stubborn fighters for their rights as any in Switzerland. Zurich was the fifth in size, but the second in population of the Swiss cantons; always one of the two or three most powerful. Geneva was far smaller—comprised, in fact, little outside the famous city of that name—but a canton of considerable prestige among its fellows, and no inconsiderable seat of learning. Its stamp of 1843 is a curious affair; a sort of pictorial commentary on Swiss thrift—for it was a single stamp intended to serve a double purpose. Look at it; observe the two little stamps side by side, precisely identical in every point, and joined above by a narrow supplementary slip that, in the general effect, is a decided excrescence. The purpose, of course, is obvious. Used entire, the stamp is of ten centimes; cut it in two equal parts, and two five centimes stamps are before you. Mecklenburg-Schwerin

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tried the same plan on a larger scale, a little later on, and, theoretically, it seems a good one; but, in practice, the public has never taken to it kindly, and though we now have multiple watermarks it is very unlikely that we shall ever have any more multiple stamps. The design—the coat of arms of the canton—is rather pleasing; and supplies the first instance of a postage stamp bearing a coat of arms—predecessor of a long and illustrious line.

1844 passed by without a single nation falling into line. In our own country, several letter expresses took the hint from the City Despatch Post and launched stamps more or less primitive—notable among these concerns being Boyd's City Express, which continued to issue stamps till 1878 (long after most of its early rivals had vanished into oblivion) and lives to this day, maintaining in New York City a city delivery service—not, however, for the conveyance of letters, but for the distribution of advertising matter. We saw the name in print only the other day—Boyd's City Dispatch—in connection with some advertising service well rendered; and it seemed almost like an anachronism. A giant among its fellows was Boyd's Post in those early days; patriotic, too—for was not the American Eagle for a quarter century its emblem, from L47 in the catalogue down to L61. Not an ideal representation of the noble bird, perhaps—a skinny, ill proportioned creature, this, that meets our gaze on the Boyd Locals; manifestly, neither artist nor engraver knew his business; but its appearance on these old labels sprang from praiseworthy patriotic motive, we may be sure, and it will not do to be too captious.

In 1845 in come some of those famous fellows, the Postmasters' Stamps. A few of Uncle Sam's Postmasters (four of them, to be exact) in that year sought to themselves supply, as far as their own offices were concerned, the lack of stamps, which the government had not yet seen their way clear to issue. We may presume that by this time a stamp was not quite such a thing of wonder as at first. The Locals bustled about a good deal, and letters from England could not have been uncommon. At any rate there were issued in that year provisional stamps by the Postmasters of New York, St. Louis and Alexandria, Va., also a stamped envelope at Baltimore, and the Post Office Department speedily recognized each of these as good to carry mail, to the extent of the face value, to any point where the U. S. mails extended. The New York stamp (U. S. A.5) probably took the idea of its design from the stamps of the City Despatch Post, whose name had been changed to that of United States City Despatch Post on its being taken over by the government, as may be seen by comparing cuts U. S. C23 and C24. The New York stamp, in any event, bore the features of the Father of His Country, not ignobly framed; the labels, lettering and corner ornamenta-

tion being neat and pleasant to the eye. A good many of these New York stamps were used; and they are not now nearly as rare as the other Postmaster issues. Still, they can scarcely be described as common (the four varieties ranging in price from \$7.50 to \$25.00) and a good copy of the New York is by no means one of the least of the treasures of a good collection.

The Alexandria stamp (U. S. A.1) is of the postmark order of design and, so far as appearance is concerned, uninteresting. Its very existence was unknown up to a few years back, and it is even now, we believe, considered in some quarters to belong to the philatelic apocrypha. But if any one of you were to see a copy of it lying on the pavement, I would advise you to by all means pick it up—for it would be worth a trip to Europe to you, and with a good many of the trimmings, too. There are very, very few scarcer stamps in the world.

The St. Louis stamps, less valuable, perhaps, from a monetary standpoint, are far more interesting. None of the world's rarities, not even the famed Post Office Mauritius have been more talked and written about—perhaps I should add, more coveted. The design (see U. S., A10) is a reproduction of the city seal and is quaint and picturesque in the extreme. The Postmaster of St. Louis was enterprising; for instead of issuing but one stamp only, he issued three, a five cent, ten cent and twenty cent—the last of which is very much the rarest of the trio. I might here digress to tell you something of the philatelic story of the St. Louis stamps—of the world of discussion their various varieties of die have given rise to, of the wondrous find of dozens and dozens of these rarities once made by two darkies in a secluded part of a Louisville Court House, and of other matters of interest relating to their history. But I think we had best leave this to some informal talk during recess or after school is over, rather than take it up now, and if I should happen to forget the matter, I hope some of you will remind me of it.

Baltimore issued stamped envelopes, bearing a fac-simile of the signature of the then Postmaster of the city, James M. Buchanan. It comes, as the catalogue shows, in several varieties, all of extreme scarcity, as the catalogue itself indicates by its failure to affix any price to them—such omissions always signifying extreme rarity. New Haven, Conn., likewise issued an envelope (U. S., E3) in this same year of 1845; rare, like all the other postal products of the year, but so primitively plain in design that we need not linger over it here. Which cleans up that year's business and brings us to 1846.

Annapolis, Md., is alleged to have issued a stamped envelope in this year. You will see it in the catalogue, marked E.1, but, as the footnote states, its authenticity is still a matter of some doubt. Baltimore supplemented its

United States Stamps.

P. O. State.

No.	3c Newspaper	Cat. My Price
1030	3c Newspaper	\$0 60
1052	1c "	20
211	1888 4c blue green	12
212	1887 2c green	10
260	50c orange	90
288	5c Trans. Mississippi	10
289	8c "	15
291	50c "	80

Newfoundland.

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	1869 80c	
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Bulgaria 1901, 1s unused 01
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Ceylon 1892, 4c bright rose unused cat. 35 cents 17
Costa Rica 1887 40c blue off. unused 10
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envelope of the year before with an adhesive (A.2), a curious little slip of paper, made of a shape to just accommodate the Postmaster's signature, which, with the letters of value ("5 cents" or "10 cents," as the case may be) constitute its sole design. A copy of the 5 cent, put up at auction now, would bring many hundreds of dollars: the bidding on the 10 cent would hardly stop short till well above a thousand. The Prattleboro stamp (A3) is the most famous of the 1846 issues. It was at one time held as high in the scale of rarity as the Post Office Mauritius itself, but of late years the latter has far out-distanced it. Unlike the other Postmaster's stamps (except the Millbury) the Brattleboro was not issued in a city, but in a little country village. The volume of its mail could never have been heavy; no wonder that few copies of the Brattleboro have survived. We imagine, indeed, that Postmaster Palmer (his initials, F. N. P., are in the central oval) devised the stamp somewhat as a personal plaything—a bit of a local advertisement of his official zeal, which might in some sense increase his standing with his constituents. This is, of course, mere fancy on my part. But I cannot help dwelling lovingly a moment on the picture of the pride and pleasure with which this old Vermont (I believe I have heard it said that he was editor of the local paper, also) must have shown these stamps to the patrons of his office and explained their use and purpose. If one had only had grandparents living in Prattleboro those days, who had bought a whole sheet of the "queer stamps that neighbor Palmer had gotten up" and kept them as souvenirs to this day—but what is the use of imagining tantalizing might-have-beens. And then, too, to paraphrase the fable of the fox and the grapes, they did not come so very many stamps to a sheet, at that.

Lockport, a town of more importance then than now (for in the forties the Erie Canal was New York's great commercial highway), issued a crude stamp in 1846, about which no one has much information, and whose authenticity is none too well established, though it appears in the catalogue (A3a). Its existence has only very recently been discovered; and, to tell the truth, we have not much faith in its being really what it seems. It need claim no more of our attention here, for its design is totally without interest and its history almost entirely unknown.

The Providence stamps (A6 and A7) are neat productions for that era—although they bear some resemblance to a miniature patent medicine label. The original plate from which these stamps were printed was unearthed some twelve or fifteen years ago, and reprints of them may, we believe, be had at not exorbitant cost. Some sheets of unused originals were also (if memory serves us correctly) found along with the plates; so that these Providence stamps, alone among all

THE READING TABLE.

What We Find In the Journals of the Hour.

The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain,

London, Eng.

For most complete refutation of the theory that womankind is constitutionally incapable of sustained and serious collecting, we refer the reader to the current number of the above named journal. For its "well known philatelist" of the month is a Mrs. Hetley, the sketch of whose philatelic career affords positive proof that its subject is in every sense of the term a most excellent philatelist. Mrs. Hetley's portrait is that of a sweet faced thoughtful woman, not a bit mannish or strong minded. The face that looks out at us from the page is, in fact one that convinces us anew that whatever hold Philately may have in woman's realm, its followers there are sweet, wholesome, lovable women, rather than those of harsher mould who prate of woman's field and woman's rights and woman's progress. It is the stay-at-home woman who is likely to find stamp collecting delightful—not the club woman and chronic gadabout. And, for our part, we should consider a liking for Philately pretty good evidence of a woman's possessing that sunny, domestic temperament that does more to make this world a happy one than any other single thing under the sun.

But we digress. To return to Mrs. Hetley, we are told that she began collecting in 1885, through the interest evoked by assisting a younger brother at school with his collection. And from thence till now her ardor has never cooled, with the result that today her collection consists of nearly 40,000 specimens, contained in 21 large volumes. A noteworthy collection this, and made still more so by the fact that it includes no stamps issued later than 1890, excepting that British Colonials are included up to the end of Queen Victoria's reign. A 40,000 collection within such limits is a very great achievement, and we are not surprised to learn that Mrs. Hetley gained in the London Exhibition of 1897, a silver medal for her collection, in competition with many exhibitors of the sterner sex, as well as a special gold medal for the best collection exhibited by a lady.

the Postmaster issues, present the anomaly of being more plentiful unused than used. After the manner of the little boy who, on being asked how old his baby sister was, replied with asperity, "She isn't old at all. She's most new!" we ought perhaps add that unused Providence stamps are, at that, not plentiful, but decidedly rare—the word plentiful being used in a comparative sense only.

(To Be Continued).

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display.

A line will average seven words.

Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

100 diff. U. S. Stamps, 17c 06
40 diff. Japan postage mounted 17c 12
G. Kemper, 2551 N. 5th St., Phila Pa. 18

Beginner's Approval sheets marked at 1/2 - 1 and 2 cents. 50% discount. 100 diff. stamps and 100 hinges 5c. Salvador, 4 var. 1903. 5c. W. W. DAYTON, Nashotah, Wis.

Stamps on Approval, Prices below Scotts Catalogue and 1/2 commission allowed Stamp & Coin Exchange, 212 Broadway N. Y. City.

500 fine foreign stamps, rare old U. S. coin and a fine old rev. only 20c. 105 used and unused for. 10c N. C. Bateman, Lowville, N. Y.

Would you like this?
25 used and unused xx Century Stamps 12c. postfree. Nonantum Stamp Co Newton, Mass

Closing Out a Large Job Lot of Stamps, may have what you want, send stamp for list. N. NEFF, Etowah, Oklahoma.

Venezuela, 19 varieties unused all o. g. cat. \$1.55 only 37 cents. A. F. BOEHM, 1201 Turner Ave., Chicago, Ills.

Hawaii, 12 fine var. used and * cat. 57c 20c. Atlantic Stamp Co., Hudson, N. Y.

100 all different five cents. These stamps may be cheap in price but they are not cheap in quality. F. P. BUTMAN, 68 Salem Street, Wakefield, Mass.

Just received a consignment of Australians. This mixture now sells by wholesalers for 60c per 1000. We sell 1000 for 30c postage free. Our stock is especially strong in Australians. A. C. Roessler, 23 Club Bldg., Denver, Colorado.

300 fine mixed foreign including Dahomey, Uruguay, Paraguay, Fiji, Russia, Japan, etc with 250 hinges and 5 blank Approval sheets, all for 10 cents. Franklin Stamp Co., 55 N. 9th Street, Columbus, Ohio.

Fine stamps on approval at 50% Perfect stamp hinges 10 cents a 1000. RIVER POINT STAMP CO., River Point, R. I.

AUSTRIA.

1893 Unpaid, complete set	\$0 10
1900 " " " Imp.	40
1900 " " " perf.	35
1900 Newspaper, " " "	05
1900 Levant, " " "	1 25
Servia, No. 56, 59, 60, 70, 101, 102 each	02
Madagascar 1904, 1, 2, 4, 5, 10 cent	10
50 diff. French Colonies	25
50 diff. Portuguese Colonies (all used)	65

ARARAT STAMP CO.,

45 BEAVER ST., NEW YORK.

The Stamp-Lovers Album.

Will hold 1152 stamps.

It is the neatest low-priced album ever offered to collectors.

Its price is 10 cents, postage 2 cts.

The Stamp-Lovers Album.

Bethlehem, - - Pa.

The "New Issues and Varieties" department of our contemporary is unusually good this month, the inevitable dryness of the subject being relieved by a number of happy bits of humor, somewhat after the familiar Monthly Journal style. We are somewhat inclined to suspect that a new hand is at work on this department—and on some other sections of the magazine also—but as the P. J. of G. B. through all its changes of editors in the past dozen years has preserved the policy of strict editorial anonymity, we have no means of determining the correctness of our conjecture.

"New Leaves to Cut," excellently reviews a number of recent additions to the philatelists' book shelves; and is followed by a sound and wholesome editorial on general collecting, a part of which we beg leave to reproduce here, as follows: "One hears a great deal nowadays about the general collector, and the trend of events seems to be in the direction of a widespread revival in general collecting. The impossibility of collecting every variety mentioned in the catalogues has long been recognized, and also, what is more important, collectors are beginning to understand that it is not necessary for the full enjoyment of the hobby that absolute completeness should be aimed at. We are pleased to note, too, that there is a growing tendency among philatelists to act more 'on their own' instead of following the prevailing fashion with a sheep-like fidelity. Thus instead of filling up their albums with a mass of uninteresting stamps just for the sake of completeness collectors are finding that their hobby loses none of its attractiveness by the omission of such specimens. Again, having recognized that completeness is not the be all and end all of philately the collector is not prevented from taking up the issues of some interesting country or other just because one or two of the stamps have to be reckoned among the unattainables. All of which makes collecting on common sense general lines possible and comparatively simple. Personally we are glad to see this revival in general collecting and at the risk of wearying our readers, we again repeat what we have already many times stated, that in our opinion the general collector gets most pleasure out of Philately." To all of which, we ourselves can most heartily cry amen.

The leading article of the month is an essay on "The Red Penny of Great Britain," by M. Raffalovich, a study of much interest to British specialists. The European Descriptive Catalogue deals this month with the issues of Mecklenburg-Schwerin. A couple of pages of "Notes By the Way" are decidedly readable. Several pages of interesting and able Review bring the number to a close—far sooner than we could wish, considering its undeniable excellence from beginning to end.

**The Stamp Collector,
Birmingham, England.**

The Stamp Collector is thriving mightily. It is thicker this month than for some time previously; advertisements are pleasantly plentiful; and the whole journal has a prosperous, contented air most gratifying to behold. For prosperity in the business office almost always incites the editor to extra energy and enterprise, and the reader thereby reaps indirect dividends. This month's Stamp Collector demonstrates anew the soundness of this well known journalistic theory, and is in all respects a very good number, indeed.

The leading editorial embodies a novel suggestion for catalogue simplification—no less an innovation than a plan to list varieties according to denomination, in place of the present method. According to this plan, under the heading "United States" would first appear all the 1c stamps our country has ever issued; next, all the 2c stamps; then, all the 3c ones; and so on. The Stamp Collector believes that it would greatly facilitate reference and be a splendid thing in every way. The idea is an interesting one, deserving more extended consideration than we can give it here; we will therefore forbear any comment until we can give it place in the editorial column, where there is more breathing space for matters of this kind.

Mr. Heglinbottom's series on "The Stamps of the British West Indies" continues to be of thorough interest and value. Cayman Islands and Dominica are dealt with in the current installment. The "Prominent Philatelist" of the month is Mr. Gordon Smith, the author of not a few well known philatelic hand books and one of the leading philatelic experts of England. We learn with some surprise that a great many of the lists in Stanley Gibbon's Catalogue are of Mr. Smith's compilation: as we had always supposed this famous catalogue to be solely the work of that firm's able literary manager, Major Evans.

The "Hundred Rarest Stamps," competition, spoken of a few weeks since is now concluded; and the winning list is printed in this number of the Collector. We should greatly like to reproduce this list in its entirety; but space says us nay. We will therefore compromise the matter by quoting the first twenty specimens listed, in the order of their rarity; as follows:—

1. British Guiana, 1856, 1c on magenta.
2. Mauritius, postoffice, 2d, blue.
3. Mauritius, postoffice, 1d, red.
4. British Guiana, 1850, 2c on rose.
5. Moldavia, 1858, 81p, on blue.
6. Hawaii, 1852, 2c.
7. Bermuda, Hamilton, 1d, red on black.
8. United States, St. Louis, 20c.
9. British Guiana, 1856, 4c on blue.
10. Hawaii, 1852, 13c, H. I. and U. S.
11. Canada, 12d, black.
12. Hawaii, 1852, 5c.

13. Hawaii, 1852, 13c, --awailian page.
14. Tuscany, 3l, yellow.
15. Reunion, 1857, 30c.
16. Reunion, 1857, 15c.
17. British Honduras, 2c black on cut.
18. Moldavia, 1858, 108p, on pink.
19. Austria, 1856, newspaper, 6k, size let.
20. United States, St. Louis, 10c.

Three other United States varieties figure in this select hundred; the St. Louis, which is No. 24 in order of rarity; and the 30c and 24c, regular issue of 1851; imperforated, which are No. 25 and 34 respectively. The Baltimore, Brattleboro, etc., are excluded from the list as being in some sense locals. Were they admitted they would of course figure well toward the top of the list.

The Queries and Replies Competition is full of excellent matter; so is the "Note Book and Philatelic Diary." Mr. N. Taar concludes his "Notes on the Surcharged Forgeries of the Transvaal." "The Library Chair" fills a half dozen pages most acceptably.

**The Editor's Scrap-Book
An Unclassified Miscellany.**

"Have not the wisest of men in all ages, not excepting Solomon himself, have they not had their hobby-horse, their coins and their cockle-shell, their drums and their trumpets, their fiddles and butterflies?"
Laurence Sterne in "Tristram Shandy"

"The man who cultivates an intellectual hobby has mental enjoyment of which the man with uncultivated faculties has no conception. It is the difference between power that is dormant and power that is in action, existing and living. The more the faculties are cultivated the higher the ascent, the less they are cultivated the nearer is the approach to the animals, which are controlled and directed by instinct and not by reason. To the man whose understanding is constantly being feasted on an intellectual pursuit, and whose, God-given faculties have been developed, every object in nature ministers to his enjoyment."
Lieut. P. J. Thorpe, in "Philatelic Slings and Arrows"

The practice of using envelopes for covers in epistolary correspondence most probably originated with the French. In the "Gil Blas" of Le Sage he speaks of Aurora de Gusman, and says she took two "billets mit une enveloppe" The first use of envelopes in England is mentioned in the fourth stanza of Swift's, "Advice to the Grand Street Verse-Writers", printed in 1728.

Dinnis (to assistant at country post office): "It's toime we had a new postmaster."
Assistant: "Why, Dinnis?"
Dinnis: "Begorra, I ain't had a letter this sivin months!"

50 cents
a year.

THE

2 cents
a copy.

STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Entered as second-class matter December 17, 1904, at the post office at Bethlehem, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

VOL. 1.

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, FEBRUARY 11, 1905.

No. 22.

SOMALI.

Inverted Centers, unused, original gum.

4c blue & carmine	\$1 00
25c blue & blue	50
25c dark blue & blue	50
25c blue & black	75

Blocks of 4 at same rate. We have only a small supply. Money refunded if sold out.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,
722 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.
Next Auction Sale March 4th. Catalogue now ready.

CHICAGO CHAT.

Chicago is enjoying a period of unusual stamp activity, with an auction sale of stamps every Saturday night all through the months of January, February, March and April, together with the regular meetings of the Chicago Philatelic Society the first and third Thursday of each month; the regular meeting of Branch 1 of the American Philatelic Association, which is held on the second Thursday of each month, to say nothing of the annual banquet which was held January 26th, and the much-talked about lantern slide lecture of Mr. Abbott's, which was held on Feb. 21.

The sale of Mr. Wolsley's collection of United States and Colonies, held as "Wolsieffer's sale No. 50," on Jan. 25th, was a notable one and by far the best one as regards average prices held so far this season. The prices on United States were much stronger than usual, Hawaii about the same, but Philippines and Puerto Rico sold at unusually high prices. The attendance at this sale was above the average and the floor bidding was unusually spirited, one buyer having successfully competed for and obtained 182 lots out of the 652 in the catalogue. The miscellaneous lots of various owners at the end of the sale also reflected the strength of the bidding, many of the inferior stamps and lots bringing fairly good prices, and the bargain hunters evidently got badly left, as Mr. Wolsieffer stated that about two-thirds of the bidders got nothing.

The annual banquet of the Chicago Philatelic Society was more of a success than usual this year, owing no

SPECIAL.



SAMOA, 1899.

Surcharged "Provisional Gov't."

Set, 1/2d. to 2s 6d.,
complete, unused, \$1.50

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 EAST 23rd ST., New York, N. Y.

Buy Or Sell.

Your Stamps at Auction.

I hold Auction Sales every month and the catalogues are sent free on application to buyers or those that desire to investigate this method of stamp buying and selling. The best is the cheapest.

25 cents.

Buy that useful and indispensable Pocket Ed. Stock Book" bound in full cloth and has a capacity for holding 500 stamps. No collector should be without one. More stamps are ruined by careless handling than any other cause. Keep them in a stock book and they will be secure.

Wolsieffer's Approval Cards per doz. \$0 20
" " " " 100 1 50

P. M. Wolsieffer,

Auction Sale Specialist.

401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

LONDON LETTER.

Fred J. Melville.

A pointed paragraph in the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, to hand this morning, suggests that there is every prospect at the time of writing that the next issue of stamps from St. Petersburg will bear the inscription "Russian Republic."

It is practically decided that there shall be an International Exhibition in London next year. An Executive Committee is already in existence and consists of Messrs. M. P. Castle, Robert Ehrenbach, L. Fulcher and Franz Reichenheim, with Mr. H. R. Oldfield as Secretary and Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg, as Assistant Secretary. Representing the trade on the committee will be Mr. W. H. Peckitt, Mr. C. J. Phillips, of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., and E. Hamilton Smith and Mr. Oliver, of Brights. The scheme is very popular in London stamp circles and has the fullest support of the Earl of Crawford, who is at present in Egypt for his health.

As I write, we are within a few days of the opening of the Junior Philatelic Society's exhibition, the attendance at which, owing to the extent to which it has been advertised and to the fact that admission is free by ticket, promises to be a record one. The catalogue of the exhibition is being sold for one penny in the current number of the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly in order to enable the youngest visitor to buy himself a catalogue and programme. The first page of the catalogue is adorned with the dainty imprint of the Society, which represents Ariel as sug-

(Continued on page 7.)

doubt to the earnest work and active solicitation of the Committee of Arrangements. The attendance was 41, and is the record for events of this character in Chicago. Mr. Mudge, the new President, made an admirable toastmaster and succeeded in holding the boys down to the business in hand. The principal speakers of the evening made addresses suitable for the occasion and a number of them were very severe on the question of catalogue making and minor varieties. This question of minor varieties, their prominence given in all the catalogues and the fabulous prices asked for some of them, is getting some hard knocks, particularly in Chicago, and if collectors will "get together" (which was the motto of the invitation and menu card of this banquet) and quit paying big prices for this sort of trash we may see less small type and more white space in our catalogues.

Can Any Reader

... Inform Us ...

Can anybody give information about the following stamps:—

U. S. A: 1861 3c dull red, without grill surcharged in small roman letters "Nacedon, N. Y." (looks like precancelled), otherwise uncancelled.

Panama No. 19 surcharged in violet exactly like No. 302.

Colombia No. 150, thick paper, imperforate.

France 1876: 5c without name of engraver (the 15c is known as such).

Any information will oblige.

C. Grandpierre,
2340 Pine St.,
St. Louis, Mo.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

LOUIS G. QUACKENBUSH,
MANAGING EDITOR.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States, Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any address in any country in the Postal Union \$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.00 an inch. 40 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

From The Editor's Point Of View.

In Response

To An Invitation.

We have received an invitation which it is a great trial to us not to be able to accept. Were we in London, we should cheerfully throw over an invitation to dine with Lord Rosebery or Mr. Chamberlain, if need be, to be free to attend the function at which, on the very tasteful little card that lies before us, the honour of our company is requested.

We should have put the above in the past tense; for, like all bodies of vast bulk, the editorial mind moves slowly, and we have only just gotten around to acknowledge a some-weeks-old invitation to the Junior Philatelic Society's Exhibition of the Postage Stamps of Great Britain, held in London on the 3d and 4th of the present month. We can conceive of few things more pleasant than a visit to this Exhibition would have been—not so much on account of the stamps displayed there, as because of the felicitous idea underlying the Exhibition and the happy manner in which, we doubt not, that idea will prove to have been carried out.

All other public philatelic exhibitions that we have ever heard of have carried with them the idea of something solemn and dignified; of functions permeated with the spirit of awe and ceremony that settles like a pall on most public shows of pictures. The deadly earnest of the immaculately dressed connoisseurs, silk hat in hand; the subdued tones in which comment and conversation is carried on; the gravity of the whole proceeding; has not impressed us as giving the outsider a very enlivening view of Philately as a diversion. But this Junior Society affair, we can readily see, was quite another matter—a lively, homelike, social sort of thing in which constraint

and formality of manner were at a discount. The Junior Society is not a body of adepts, but an enthusiastic band of every-day, ordinary stamp-lovers. We can well imagine that there was plenty of jollity and good nature, and that a good many people who do not move in high society and do not own any such appurtenance as a silk hat, dropped in and found themselves very much at their ease and pleasure. There were plenty of pleasant stamps to look at, and doubtless plenty of members about to explain them. There was music, one of Mr. Melville's lime-light lectures each evening, and, we feel well assured, great abundance of zeal and enthusiasm on the part of all the individuals comprising the society that promoted it. And this is just the sort of Exhibitions that we should like to see flourish and multiply all over Europe and America.

Collectors That Hunger For Exhibitions.

We believe there are thousands upon thousands of collectors in this country who are hungry to see a good stamp exhibition. There are great numbers of stamp-lovers who, after years of collecting, have never seen any other collection beside their own—barring, perhaps, a few schoolboy accumulations, practically devoid of interest. These isolated collectors are not all boys and girls, by any means. There are not a few adults, some of them possessing really good collections, who have never chanced to meet another collector. Not everyone goes to large cities often, and not everyone, when he gets there, finds his way to the dealers' shops. Dealers' stock-books, too, are, from a spectacular viewpoint, not over-satisfying to the collector who longs to behold fine collections—their arrangement being with an eye to commercial usefulness rather than tasteful display. The collection is the thing, and it is really pitiful that so many isolated stamp-lovers gradually lose their zest and ardor for the want of an occasional sight of some big and fine collection to inspire and enthuse them.

We received a letter the other day from a young lady (let it not be thought that the philatelic editor, like the matinee hero of the stage, receives his "mash notes"—the letter in question was purely philatelic) which betokened the sender to possess a considerable degree of philatelic information and a very fair-sized collection. In its course the fair writer stated that she had never seen a collection, other than her own, and mentioned how much she would like to see some of the great rarities—the early Postmasters' stamps in particular. We were not inclined thereby to loan the young lady a few specimens of these rare issues, on which she might feast her eyes for a season and then return them—for there are some pathetically vacant spaces in our own collection in the vicinity she mentioned. But it has set

us thinking that there is a sad dearth of opportunities for seeing good collections in this land of ours, and that the best interests of American Philately demand that something be done about it. The peripatetic stamp exhibit visiting circuits of county fairs, along with a proper cicerone who delights to talk stamps morning, noon, and night, is the best solution we can think of. And again we urge its consideration upon messieurs, the gentlemen of the stamp trade.

A Suggested Innovation.

In our review department of last week we mentioned the Stamp Collectors' proposal for a new mode of stamp classification in the catalogues. Their proposal is that in place of the present arrangement, each denomination should constitute a separate group in listing a nation's issues. For example, under the heading, United States, would first be listed all the one-cent stamps our country has issued (together with all their sub-varieties)—first, the one-cent stamps of 1851-56, then next the one-cent stamps of 1857-60, then the one-cent of 1861, and so on clear through all the one-cent stamps in the United States postage section up to the one in current use. Then would commence the list of two-cent stamps, with their sub-varieties; next, all the three-cent stamps, and so on to the end of the chapter. The stamps of each country would, of course, be listed separately as at present, and there would be no confusion on that score.

The idea seems, at first sight, a very strange one, but it is not without good points. Our contemporary points out that under the present mode of arrangement one often has to search through two or three pages of quotations before fixing on the precise variety he is seeking. Especially is this the case where a stamp remains practically unchanged in design through several issues—the issues being differentiated only by variations of type, perforation, etc.

New South Wales and South Australia are instanced as countries in which a collector has to go a decidedly roundabout route before being able to establish a correspondence between stamps in hand and catalogue number, and many other countries might have been cited with equal reason. This difficulty is peculiarly acute in handling British Colonials, because the same general type is repeated over and over again in all but a few of the Colonial issues. And it is not wholly absent from our own country in the catalogue, with the possible exception of the Seebach stamps in which yearly change of design is a cardinal rule of action. If all the stamps of a country were placed together, it would undoubtedly take less time to look up any particular stamp of that country than is the case under present conditions. But we are inclined to think that while such a system would be an advantage to the

WE WANT NAMES.

We want the names of all collectors - everywhere.

A great many of our subscribers have sent for a supply of our subscription coupons (as shown below) to mail to their friends.

Dealers are doing noble work for us in sending them to their customers. They appreciate the service we are doing in recruiting the ranks of collecting; fully realizing that the very life of philately depends upon the constant addition of new collectors to take the place of those that retire.

One dealer is now sending out 400 coupons a week; another has promised to send 1000 to his customers at once and a further lot in the near future.

Every mail brings requests for from 10 to 500.

Subscribers are writing for them to send to friends.

We are getting hundreds of new names daily and these new names will bring additional new names until everyone who is now interested in stamps will have seen a copy of THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY and many who are not collectors will also see it and be induced to join.

Our system of obtaining the names of collectors bids fair to assume the proportions of an endless chain. When we are overwhelmed we will ask you to stop, but for the present lend a hand. We know you know collectors - send us their names - now.

Let every one who has not done so, send the names of all the collectors of his or her acquaintance so we can send each a copy of the Weekly.

DEAR FRIEND:

I am a subscriber to THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

It is an exceedingly interesting and instructive weekly newspaper devoted to stamp collecting, which I can thoroughly recommend.

The subscription price is 50 cents a year or 25 cents for six months. Yours for collecting,

Send this coupon and 50 cents or 25 cents to THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY, Bethlehem, Pa., and you will receive the paper for one year or for six months (according to the amount sent).

The person sending 50c or 25c for subscription please sign name and address very plainly here.

Name.....

P. O.

State.....

are only in the first stages of stamp collecting, but also among that large body of older collectors who are discouraged over the complexities and taxing demands of the whole minor variety system and would willingly shape their collections henceforth on a simpler plan. There is nothing, of course, to prevent any collector from taboos minor varieties on his own initiative, no matter what the dictum of catalogue or album. But it has long since been proven that what the catalogue ordains the collection contains—insofar as the purse of its maker will permit.

The English Government, despite its prosecution of Creeke and his associates, has now given tacit consent that stamp dealers may buy and sell unused British Official stamps.

A Society In St. Louis.

St. Louis has ceased to be philately dead. A local stamp collectors society was founded on February 2nd with about 25 members to begin with. The President is W. A. Sisson; the Secretary C. Grandpierre, 2340 Pine Street, St. Louis, Mo, to whom communications may be addressed. With so promising a start, we have great hopes for the future of the Society. Good luck to it.

An Important Purchase.

Mr. Fred G. Jones, the well known Louisville dealer, has, we learn, purchased recently the very fine collection of Mr. Nicholas Adler of that city, one of the most notable accumulations to be found in the South.

experienced collector, it would prove somewhat of a stumbling block to the novice. The cuts by means of which he identifies his specimens would, in most countries, mass themselves together in the early part of the list, and this would confuse the young collector. In looking up any stamp, he looks for the picture of it. If the picture is in one place, and the various denominations on which that picture appears are scattered about in a dozen other places, he is bound to find it puzzling. Reference numbers, which indicate this or that stamp is of the same type as a certain cut a couple of pages back, are all well enough, but do not fully meet the needs of the situation. The young collector is sure to get entangled in divers difficulties if the cuts are removed from their present proximity to the issue they illustrate. Of course even at present the cut and all its offspring are not always together, but they are nearer together than they would be under the plan of classification our contemporary proposes. It would, we should judge, improve the convenience of the catalogue from the standpoint of the experienced collector, but it would render it, we think, much less convenient of reference for the young collector—and we deem this a fatal objection to the scheme, so long, at least, as a single catalogue is intended to cover the needs of both the tyro and the expert.

Excellent Idea

In Albums.

From England comes also of late another new idea, and we rejoice that this time our remarks can take the line of unreserved commendation. For it is much pleasanter to praise a good thing than it is to pick flaws in a scheme brought forward in good faith for the general weal. The new idea referred to is a newly issued English album, published by a large English house, which also puts forth a very excellent catalogue, from which minor varieties and differences of perforation are excluded. The new album emanating from this house carries out a plan we have ourselves previously advocated in these columns—that is, the album provides spaces, in the case of each country, for precisely the same list of varieties presented in its catalogue; no more, no less. Each space in the album bears a number corresponding to that attached in the catalogue to the variety it is intended to contain, doing away with a great part of the difficulty that usually confronts young collectors in their efforts to make album jibe with catalogue. This identity of the two books would seem calculated to infinitely lessen the labor of collecting, in the case of those who have no desire to fret themselves over minor varieties, and we greatly wish that some house could see its way clear to putting out a catalogue and album, of the same plan, on this side of the water. We do not see any reason why they should not have an immense sale, not only among those who

The Philatelic School Room.

For The Primary And Intermediate Classes.

Conducted by Oliver Crinkle, X. G. S. Professor of Philately in Knowlton University.
(Continued from No. 21 page 4.)

I do not know whether or not there are any new scholars with us to-day. Our student body here is so large that it is impossible for me to know you all, and newcomers must not feel slighted if they are not given individual notice. But for the benefit of those who are just beginning the course and were not with us for the first two of these lessons, it may be well to say that we are taking up the issues of the world in chronological order, having started with the study of the first British stamp of 1840 and progressed to the end of the year 1846. The period thus far covered is one of no great fruitfulness in stamp issues. The British stamps of 1840 and 1841, the Brazilian stamps of 1843, the Swiss Cantons of 1843 and 1845, a few U. S. Locals, and a dozen or so U. S. "Postmaster" stamps—in these are comprised the whole philatelic fruitage of the term of years in question.

The progress of the postage stamp was slow. It was too radical an innovation to secure general acceptance in a moment. It had no end of prejudices to combat—no end of obstacles to surmount before it could really reach its predestined place in the world's affairs. But in 1847 it gained no little prestige by being officially adopted by the United States Government.

Early in that year was issued the last, and one of the most famous, of the postmasters' stamps, namely, the renowned Millbury (A4). The postmaster of this little Massachusetts town—by far the smallest and least important of any of the points at which Postmasters' stamps appeared—could have had no premonition of the impending federal issue, else he would scarcely have shied his little castor into the arena. Indeed, he went to laudable pains to make his stamp a worthy member of the distinguished little company in which it was to take its place, going to the expense of placing a portrait of Washington upon it, instead of being content to put out a crude, type-set label, as he might far more easily have done. The portrait itself is hardly a success. By no stretch of courtesy can we call it a good likeness. But we must praise the enterprise and patriotism which prompted the attempt, and, as the common saying goes, take the will for the deed. We need scarcely say that the Millbury is one of the great rarities. Its very existence was unknown till about the middle eighties, and it is no wonder that few copies of it have ever been found—especially when we consider in what a tiny town they were born, and how short was their term of use before being supplanted by the general issue for the

whole United States.

This issue, as you will see by the catalogue, consisted of two stamps only, a five-cent and a ten-cent. Postal requirements were simple in those days, and, also, postal rates were high. Five cents was the lowest rate at which a letter could be sent, and all additional postage was reckoned in multiples of five. Hence, the department figured that with five-cent and ten-cent stamps every possible contingency of postage would be provided for. It will be observed that postage stamps did not here, as in England, immediately usher in cheap rates of postage. But they undoubtedly did indirectly bring about the reduced rates of four years later, by providing what had hitherto been lacking—an efficient and convenient means for the prepayment of letters.

Washington and Franklin are the great Americans honored on these two first stamps. The New York and other issues had already set the Washingtonian precedent. When once it had been decided to use portraits on the new stamps, rather than some emblem or symbol, it was a foregone conclusion that Washington's would be one of them. Then, as now, he was the first of Americans, occupying a place in the national affection higher than can ever be attained by any other man, no matter how resplendent his services in the nation's behalf. To have neglected Washington on this first stamp issue would have been an insult to his memory that the people would have been quick to resent. Happily the administration had no such intention, and the only question raised was as to who should be honored on the second stamp provided for. The choice of Franklin did credit to the acumen of President Polk and his advisers. The names of both Jefferson and Jackson undoubtedly bore a brighter lustre in the public mind at that time than did that of the great printer-diplomat. The same thing is true today—perhaps in even greater measure. But it must not be forgotten that Franklin's services to the cause of American liberty were only second in importance to those of Washington. Washington was the soldier of the Revolution; Franklin was its statesman. Washington fought its battles on the field; Franklin fought its diplomatic battles in the courts of Europe. At a critical time, when the fate of American liberty hung slenderly in the balance, Franklin gained the alliance with France—an alliance whose effect, in both moral and material ways, in turning the tide in our favor cannot easily be overestimated. All this being so, what more appropriate

(Continued on page 8.)

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CANADA REVENUES.

I would like to hear from all collectors interested in these beautiful stamps and will send you my catalogue free.

SPECIAL OFFER! I will give free with orders of \$1 or more, of Canada Revenues, an album especially for these stamps, all spaced and on heavy paper, 10x10, bound in cloth, a really first class album.

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WHOLESALE POSTAGE
STAMPS,
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18c 1864 no gum 30 45 | 1c 1883 o. g. 50
18c o. g. 60 5c 1889 o. g. 100
2c 1875 o. g. 08 | 1c 1881 green o. g. 100

Postage extra on all orders under 25 cents.

FREE A new list of bargains Each month.
WENDOVER NEEFUS, HUDSON, N. J.

One Cent Each.

LIST No. 3 - LOOK UP LIST No. 1 & 2
in previous issue.

Bosnia, 1879, 3k, 5k, 10k, 15k; 1900, *1k, 2k, 3k, 10k.
Brazil, 1868, 100r; 1888, 100r; 1890, 200; 1894, 100, 20r, 100r, 300r; 1895, 50r, 100r, 200r.
British Guiana, 1889, 2c, 1c green.
Bulgaria, 1886, 1c; 1889, 10c, 15c, 25c; 1895, 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c, 15c; Unpaid, 1895, 2c.
Canada, 1882, 1/2c, 2c; 1892, 8c; 1897, Jub. 3c; 1898, 1c, 3c, 5c; 1898, 1/2c, 5c; Map, 2c lavender; 2c, blue; Register, 5c.
Canton, French, 1901, 1c.
Cape of Good Hope, 1885, 1d; 1893, 1d.
Ceylon, 1893, 2c; 1896, 5c; 1900, 2c; 1895, service; 1900, 2c.
China, 1898, 1/2c, 1c, 2c.
Chili, 1867, 5c; 1878, 2c, 5c; 1883, 5c, 10c, 20c; 1900, 1c, 2c; 1900, 5c, 10c; 1902, 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c; Telegraph; 1894, 2c, 10c, 20c.
Colombia Rep., 1892, 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c; 1895, 5c; 1897, 5c; 1899, 5c, 10c.
Carragena, 1901, *1c blue, *2c blue, 1902, 5c, 10c.
Harranquilla, 1902, 20c, perf. MEDALLION.
1902, 4c, 5c, 10c, 20; 1903, *5c.
Antioquia, 1902, *2 1/2, *3, 4c, 5c; 1903, *5c; 1904, 1902, 2c.
Congo, Portuguese, 1892, *2 1/2, *5r.
Congo, French, 1892, *1c, *2c.

FREE OUR LARGE LIST - IT WILL SAVE YOU MONEY.

ECONOMIST STAMP CO.

79 Nassau St., New York.

Burnt matches, like worn out advertisements, should be done away with.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

It seems probable that collectors will have to wait for several months before getting a peep at the new series of stamps for the Philippines, now in course of preparation. Several sketches have been tentatively accepted by the Chief of the Bureau of Insular Affairs of the War Department, under whose direction the postal affairs of the Philippines are carried on, but alterations may be made when the Chief comes to see the actual impression from the die. These "models," as they are termed in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, are exceedingly deceptive. They are in fact beautiful specimens of the artist's skill and one immediately goes into ecstasies over them, but the actual stamp, when printed on cheap paper, with cheap ink, is another picture altogether. Witness the first two-cent stamp of the series of 1902, displaced about a year ago by the current "shield" stamp. That stamp as it appeared in the "model" was certainly all that could possibly be desired in a postage stamp. It was elegantly balanced; it was truly artistic; the portrait of Washington, after Stuart, was superb, and your correspondent when he for the first time glanced at the model declared it well-nigh perfect. Yet there was so much complaint on account of the filling up of the lines which made Washington look as though he had been on a prolonged spree, his nose appeared so "blossomy," that Third Assistant Postmaster General Madden, himself somewhat dissatisfied, ordered the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to try again. The Bureau made another attempt and with success, for while probably the current stamp is not in some points as artistic as the stamp it superseded, it is a better general-purpose stamp and is free from the objections which caused the displacement of the first design.

It is feared that the objections raised against the first design of 1902 series will lie against the stamp of lowest denomination: the 2 centavos, of the Philippine series. The writer has examined the "model" and, while it looks well, it is not up to the high standard of some of the designs of the United States stamps, and further, when actually printed from plates it will be disappointing, to say the least. The trouble is that the features of Rizal, the Filipino patriot, who lost his life because of his devotion to his country, are too small. The face is much smaller than that of Washington on our current two-cent stamp, and while on a photograph it looks well, the delicate shading of the photo cannot be preserved by the engraver who must work with the quality of paper and the quality of ink to be used constantly before him. The lines of the engraving must be far enough apart so that they will not fill up with ink when printed on the dampened paper and give the appearance which caused the first U. S. two-cent stamp of the 1902 series to be abandoned.

Colonel Edwards, the Chief of the Insular Bureau, approved the design because he was favorably impressed with the superficial appearance of the model. He has had no experience whatever in the selection of stamp designs and consequently could not look ahead and approximate what the stamp would look like when the model should have been cut into cold steel and printed on ordinary paper with poor ink. Of course the stamps will not be printed until the die proof has been formally approved and when this proof is submitted Colonel Edwards may see wherein the design fails to measure up to his expectations. However, it is not likely he will look at the design with the critical and practiced eye of General Madden or Superintendent Reeve, of the Postoffice Department. Colonel Edwards is chiefly interested in the larger matters of Philippine government, of tariff and railroad matters, and the stamp feature is to a considerable extent incidental. However, before passing final judgment, we will wait until the finished product is before us. It may be there will be a surprise coming and that the designs will be all that could possibly be desired.

The remark was made in the Senate a few days ago that before long the Philippines would possess a legislature of their own. That would naturally suggest a measure of self-government for the Filipinos and in fact a real civil government. When that time arrives of course the distinctive stamps will give way, following the practice heretofore in vogue. When Hawaii was joined to the United States and made a colonial possession, the Hawaiian stamps were retired and a great number of them sent to Washington, where they were burned in the big furnace in the basement of the Postoffice building, as the writer, who witnessed the operation with considerable emotion, can testify. Just how such a change will be made in the case of the Philippines is hard to forecast. The principal reason for the issue of the new series of stamps, as in the case of the providing of the Philippines with a distinctive coin, is to get the stamps in the money of the islands. While a centavo is supposed to be one-half of one cent, it is not technically, in fact it may be today and less or more than half a cent tomorrow. If with the adoption of a civil government the distinctive stamps and money are superseded by our stamps and our coin, difficulty will be encountered with the natives who do not appear to take kindly to dollars and cents after hundreds of years of centavos and pesos. However, the indications are that several years will elapse before the day of self government or civil government for the Filipinos arrives. It is not in sight, at any rate, now.

The stamp dealers in Washington are enjoying a particularly good trade this winter. All classes of stamps are

(Continued on page 7.)

Want! Want!! Want!!!

I am prepared to buy for spot cash unused o. g. finely Centered copies of U. S. Stamps from 1849 to 1890. I also want the Department stamps in the same condition. Parties having stamps in this condition can send them to me at their lowest cash price and if satisfactory I will remit by return mail otherwise I will return them registered.

Reference 2nd National Bank.

H. F. COLMAN,

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Cheapest on Earth Cat. Free.

108 dif., Hawaii, Philippines, etc. for \$0 06
 310 dif., rare, worth \$1.30, for - - 30
 625 dif., worth \$8.00, for - - 1 20
 1000 dif., worth \$24.00, fine collection, for 3 00
 Albums, finest out, spaces for 4000 stamps,
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JOSEPH F. NEGREEN,

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GREECE.

1886	1	1	brown	No. 64	\$0 02	
"	5	1	green	" 65	01	
"	10	1	yellow	" 67	02	
"	25	1	blue	" 69	02	
"	50	1	gray green	" 71	03	
"	1	dr	gray	" 72	03	
1889	40	1	blue	" 86	06	
"	1	dr	gray	" 90	07	
1891-92	40	1	blue	" 115	06	
"	1	dr	gray	" 116	06	
1900	20	on 25	blue	" 129	04	
"	40	on 21	biaire	" 132	06	
"	50	on 40	salmon	" 133	06	
"	1	dr	on 40	1 violet	" 134	10

All fine used copies. Anything not satisfactory can be returned money refunded. Postage extra on orders under 50 cents.

MECCA STAMP CO.,
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Just Received

Direct from Manila a lot of Philippine Dollars in extra fine & new condition, which I offer while they last as follows
 The old type at - - - \$1 00

The new type, issued by United States. A very beautiful coin at 1 25
 Or the two sent postpaid for only 2 00

Send in your order at once to prevent disappointment.

B. MAX MEHL,

Large New list Fort Worth, Tex.
 just out. Sent gratis.

Packet Oriental.

Contains 50 all different stamps from the following countries only - Greece, Roumania, Bulgaria, Turkey, Japan, Russia, Servia and Persia. Price 12 cents.

10 Mexico	\$0 05	50 B. Colonias	\$0 16
15 Dutch Indies	10	20 S. America	10
12 Guatemala	10	20 Australia	05
15 Roumania	03	20 Greece	15
10 Argentine	06	8 Ecuador	10
8 Straits Settle.	05	10 Persia	12
10 Portugal	02	8 Costa Rica	08

Postage Extra.

Sheets on Approval at 50% com. No cut postals, envelope, revenues or trash.

Vernon P. Pierce & Co.,

Manchester, Mich.

BOSTON LETTER.

At a recent meeting of the Boston Philatelic Society, the Secretary, Mr. Howes, suggested that the Society form a counterfeit collection, offering his own collection as a nucleus and agreeing to arrange all the stamps on cards in library style, with an explanation of the differences between the counterfeit and the original stamp. Mr. Howes's suggestion was promptly acted upon and accepted. The New England Stamp Company donated their duplicate copies, outside their regular collection, and members and friends are constantly adding to this important collection.

As this collection will be accessible at all times it will be of great benefit, giving as it does the long-desired opportunity to collectors to decide for themselves as to the genuineness of certain doubtful stamps. In the past it has been necessary to send doubtful specimens to one of the large dealers, who, because of the value of his time, has been obliged to ask a seemingly high price for his services and even at that the client has not always been able to understand in just what points the fake stamp differed from the true one.

While on the subject of counterfeits the notorious Fournier of Switzerland may be mentioned. While he advertises his stamps only as counterfeits, or as genuine stamps with fake surcharges, yet he does incalculable damage to Philately, as the most of his goods finally find their way into the collections of the unwary. As to the dangerous quality of his productions a few quotations from his price list for 1905 will attest. He says: "The execution of minor details, inscriptions, surcharges, colors, paper, perforation and cancellations are mathematically correct. * * * These imitations are cancelled with the characteristics of those stamps employed at the date of their issue." That Fournier is an expert in his line seems evident, as he mentions eight gold medals and numerous other prizes which he has received at exhibitions.

The young collector may wonder how in face of the above it is possible to distinguish such stamps, but it must be borne in mind that there always is some slight difference between the real and the imitation whether it be a stamp or a bank note. Obviously the only thing to do is to exercise care and to buy only of reliable dealers.

Boston is getting its share of the auction sales. Prices are good, especially so for stamps in fine condition.

The French Government, having tardily discovered that there is no use to which its 2 francs stamp can be put, has wisely abolished it.

The Birmingham Philatelic Society's permanent collection now consists of 12,064 varieties.

The Story of St. Anthony of Padua.

The St. Anthony issue of Portugal, though as deeply dyed with the speculative taint as any stamp issue ever brought forth, is one which the average young collector find peculiarly interesting, owing to the unique nature of the scenes thereon depicted. The life of the Saint whose virtues furnished the inspiration of this series (ostensibly, at least) presents some points which we think may interest our young readers; and we therefore give space to the following account of his history, taken from an old number of the Philatelic Record:—

"It is said that a series of stamps is in course of manufacture to celebrate the birthday of St. Anthony of Padua, born in Lisbon in 1195. We hear that the subjects are to be the Ascension of St. Anthony, his preaching to the fishes, and a portrait of the Saint. We find no account of his ascension, but he was transported from Padua to Lisbon by an angel, as he was obliged to go there from Padua in a hurry, his father being accused of killing a man; but the Saint set this all right, for on the day of the trial he had the dead body of the man brought into Court, and asked him whether it was his father that had killed him. The dead man at once replied, 'Certainly not, the accusation is false and malicious.' The Saint's father was of course acquitted and came off with flying colors, and the Saint was re-transported the same evening to Padua by the same angel.

"St. Anthony preaching to fishes is, we think, the subject of more than one picture, and specially of one looted in Spain by Marshal Soult. The event took place at Marecchia. St. Anthony was so disgusted with the want of attention to his preaching at Rimini that he went to Marecchia and called on the fishes to hear him. Instantly from the depths of the sea shoals of small and large fish thronged the shore. From all sides they came in countless numbers, crowding thick upon one another, their heads above water with their big eyes turned to the preacher, and as he waxed eloquent the fishes testified in a thousand ways their desire to do homage to their Creator."

"From all accounts St. Anthony was a wonderful preacher, and must have been endowed with a powerful voice, as when he was preaching at Bruges on one occasion he was heard distinctly at a distance of three miles."

A Proposed State Society.

Wellington Breeze, of Albany, N. Y. is agitating the formation of a New York State Philatelic Society. New York already contains one society of this character, the Empire State Philatelic Society. It would hardly seem as though there were any very crying need for another.

Unused British Colonies.

(Mint Condition.)

CANADA.

No.	Price.
32 1c yellow 1869-72	80 00
42 3c carmine red 1882-90	10 00
84 2c on 3 carmine	10 00
88 7c olive yellow (sacree)	10 00
89-93 1c-10c Kings Head	10 00
St. Christopher No. 14, 4d gray	10 00
Trova 1897, 1d, 1d, 2d	10 00
2 1/2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 7 1/2d	Cat. \$1.72 for 5 1/2d and 10d. 10 stamps

Postage Extra. Satisfaction guaranteed. U. S. Encl. Envelopes are my specialty. Do you collect them. My prices are low.

S. Valentine Saxby,

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ON APPROVAL AT 75% DISCOUNT

Fine Stamps Bank Reference required. Mixture of Stamps for approval books. Good value.

1000 STAMPS \$2.00 Postpaid.

E. L. WARNER,

2229 Calumet Ave., CHICAGO, Ill.

You Know Them Cheap.

U. S. 1847 5c	40 00
1889 24c (Average only)	1 75
1869 10c	1 00
1860 2c lake	1 00
1891 1c ultramarine	1 00
Chili 10 on 30 orange	1 00

EBEN S. MARTIN CO., Inc.

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Stamps Free. A sheet of 50 unused Cuban Revenues

for the names of 2 collectors and 2c Postage. 1000 Mixed U. S. Stamps 10 00. 1000 Mixed Foreign Stamps 10 00. Packet No. 23—220 different stamps from Hayti, Egypt, Soudan, Crete etc., only 5c. Wholesale List for Dealers.

50 Blank sheets 10c 100 10 00. 1000 Hinges 5c 5000 25 00.

Toledo Stamp Co., Toledo, Ohio.

February 18th.

Date of our next auction sale. Sale consists of U. S. Postage, Depts., Revenues and British Colonies. A fine line of stamps in superb condition. Cata. sent free on application. In the mean time examine these.

CUBA.

1857 1c green o/g 2c	1890 12 1/2c blue gray o/g
1876 12 1/2c green o/g 4c	1892 2 1/2c dark br. o/g 1c
1877 25c " " 2c	1891 1c claret o/g 1c
1879 50c gray o/g 2c	1894 20c ultramarine 4c
	1894 20c red brown 1c

Approval Sheets at 60% dis. Ret. Required. **WESTERN STAMP CO., 701-2 N. Y. Life, OMAHA, NEBR.**

100 China and Java, etc., fine stamp dictionary and big illustrated list of 3,000 bargains, 2c. Apts., 5c. 1905 catalogue of stamps of all nations, 10 cents.

A. Bullard & Co., 446 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.

Calvin C. Brackett, B. P. S., N.E.P.S. Gen. Del. Sta. A, Boston, Mass.

Stamps bought, sold, exchanged, whole sale, retail. Postage Extra.

*Johore 1894 3c on 5c blue & green	50 00
" " 3c on 6c " blue	35 00
*Salvador 1895 1c on 12c claret	10 00
Roumania 1883-88 2L, orange & brown	10 00
" " 1L and 10c	08 00
Rhodesia 1899 1sh olive bistre 1L, C.	20 00
Queensland 1902 1p, 3p, 6p, 1sh Newspaper	10 00

We are doing our part, making an interesting paper and getting people to buy and read it. Your part is to advertise in it.

LONDON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

gested by Miss Viola Tree's representation of the character in "The Tempest." This design was first drawn for the gold and silver medals, and it has been stamped on blue ribbon badges for the Stewards and other officials. After a long list of names a complete programme of the many events between 3.30 p. m. of Friday next and 11.00 on the Saturday night is given.

Among the attractions are: 1. The stamps of Great Britain, covering about 600 square feet of cases, and including the collection formed by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue from the imprimatur sheets in twenty-nine frames; 2. The competitive section, not yet adjudged, but in which medals and prizes are to go to the exhibitors of the best arranged collections formed by youths under 19 years of age; 3. Not the least interesting feature will be the Stamp Bazaar, in which the leading dealers have exhibits; 4. A buffet, tea and dining rooms are entered direct from the Exhibition Annex; an Orchestral Band of proved ability performs some twenty-six selections. I can scarcely include the two lectures I am to give under the category of "attractions," but will include them as "dis-tractions."

As regards the actual stamps exhibited. It has been said time and again that the stamps of Great Britain have been so fully studied that there is really nothing new to discover about them. But the work of this Exhibition has brought to light some interesting and curious matters, and not a few of the exhibits will be shown for the first time at any exhibition. These I hope to go into more fully later. The whole of the collection of College Stamps formed by the Rev. Hayman Cummings is displayed, together with another collection formed by Mr. Savournin. Mr. Cummings's interesting lot will occupy, I learn, something like eleven large frames, while the other collection, a very complete one, too, is on twenty-four large size Cistafle cards.

The forgeries and fakes are among the most interesting sections of the Exhibition. There is a 1d black with the letters V. R. added in place of the Maltese Cross design, a 1d red turned to black, 2d blue stamps cleaned, 1d red with forged red postmark, and another 1d red with forged perforations; 2d blue with postmark painted green; forged official overprints; white papers turned to blue, and, most remarkable of all, a pair of 3d yellow stamps the paper of which has been turned to orange. This last is, according to Mr. Charles Nissen, one of the most cunning fakes of modern times.

The catalogue numbers up to 280 items, but as (except in one or two cases) each number represents a specialized display of the stamp mentioned, and in other cases one number represents a large group or collection which

it has been impossible to catalogue item by item, the actual number of specimens shown in the "English" Exhibit alone will be nearly 25,000.

As regards the general arrangements for the Exhibition the number of invitations now issued is enormous. The Connoisseur has presented an insert ticket to every one of its readers. The Captain has provided, by permission of the Committee, a coupon to admit its readers to the Exhibition, and so has Hobbies. The total circulation of these three journals alone would bring the number over 150,000. As for the philatelic journals, almost without exception they have distributed tickets to all their subscribers. The stall holders have printed, with the Committee's authority, their own tickets for their own clients, and the Society has up to the time of writing printed 16,000 tickets. Last week on Friday the tickets ran out and 2000 more were printed. They were absorbed at once and 2000 were again printed on the Monday afternoon. These are now practically all gone. The demand has been very far in excess of all expectations, and the dealers in London and provinces are surprised at the enthusiasm and are assisting it in every possible way. The Strand dealers are displaying show cards and double crown posters inviting people to ask for free tickets.

What the result of all this will be is impossible to say. That it should be beneficial all round is plain. The membership of the Society is rapidly increasing, some 25 new members being added this month (January) already, and the month is not over yet.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(Continued from page 5.)

selling well, although there is said to be an improved demand for stamps of the United States. This ought not to surprise anyone considering that for several years, up to a couple of years ago, our stamps were apparently under a cloud. We believe early U. S. stamps in good condition are a good buy at current prices.

During the month of January the Bureau of the Mint through its various sub-stations produced a total of 8,041,572 pieces of the value of \$8,578,352.20. Of this \$7,819,050 was gold; \$681,012.20 silver and \$78,290 nickels and cents. For the Philippines 5,386,000 pieces were coined, of which 4,300,000 were one centavo pieces of the value of one-half cent each.

All schemes contemplating the establishment of parcel posts schemes in the United States are already dead in Congress. There were numerous bills but they are all calmly reposing in pigeon holes in the Committees on Postoffices and Post Roads.

Bela Szekula, a Swiss stamp dealer who has frequently advertised in American journals, has fled from Geneva for parts unknown, leaving behind him a host of clamorous creditors.

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display. A line will average seven words.

Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

100 diff. U. S. Stamps, 17c 08
30 diff. Japan postage mounted 17c 12
G. Kemper, 2551 N. 5th. St., Phila Pa. 18

Beginner's Approval sheets marked at 1/2 - 1 and 2 cents. 50% discount. 100 diff. stamps and 100 hinges 5c. Salvador, 4 var. 1903. 5c. W. W. DAYTON, Nashotah, Wis.

Stamps on Approval. Prices below Scotts Catalogue and 1/2 commission allowed Stamp & Coin Exchange, 212 Broadway N. Y. City.

Fine stamps on approval at 50% Perfect stamp hinges 10 cents a 1000. RIVER POINT STAMP CO., River Point, R. I.

Will pay 2 cents each for 3c, 5c and 10c St. Louis issue. A. C. Roessler, 23 Club Bldg., Denver, Colorado.

100 all different five cents. This is a first class bargain for beginners and for the older collector too. F. P. BUTMAN, 68 Salem Street, Waketield, Mass.

U. S. 2c brown 1869 "finer" cat. 15c - 7c Atlantic Stamp Co., Hudson, N. Y.

1 stamp album, 100 stamps, 100 hinges, 1 rare Peru and 1 rare U. S. to all sending 5c with an application for my fine approvals at 50% com. A. H. Helland 208 Ramsey St, BaltoMd

Printing presses, type, paper, cards everything for printers at their lowest prices. Catalogue for stamp. Address Q. Printers Bargains, Peru, Ill.

15 var. Col. Rep. 1902 issue (cat. 80c) 25 cents Western Stamp Co., Newton, Kansas.

Stamps to Exchange. Homer Finney, Sharon, Vermont.

Package Stylish Calling Cards, your name, for 2c stamp I. J. Keyes & Co., Milford, Conn

8 var. unused Cuba cat. 35c for 8c post free for applying for my approval sheets at 50% dis. Irving Scott, Amesbury, Mass.

50 all different stamps to those who send me the names of reliable stamp collectors. W. H. Dervey, Henry, Ill.

AUSTRIA.

1833 Unpaid, complete set - \$0 40
1800 " " " imp. - 40
1800 " " " perf. - 35
1800 Newspaper, " " - 05
1800 Levant, " " - 1 25
Servia, No. 56, 59, 60, 70, 101, 102 each - 02
Madagascar 1804, 1, 2, 4, 5, 10 cent - 10
50 diff. French Colonies - 25
50 diff. Portuguese Colonies (all used) - 65

ARARAT STAMP CO.,

45 BEAVER ST., NEW YORK.

The
Stamp-Lovers
Album.

Will hold 1152 stamps.

It is the neatest low-priced album ever offered to collectors.

Its price is 10 cents, postage 2 cts.

The Stamp-Lovers Album,

Bethlehem, - - Pa.

The Philatelic School Room.

(Continued from page 4.)

appropriate than that Franklin should be put side by side with Washington on this first postal issue? And so it was—and so there came into being a precedent that no succeeding administration has ventured to disturb; the precedent, namely, that the heads of Franklin and Washington shall appear on those denominations that are in most common public use.

The year 1847 also witnessed the issuance of quite a few locals—but these we need not speak of at length. Look them up in the catalogue for yourselves. They are quaint and queer enough, in truth; but we can hardly spare the time to stop and speak of them in detail here. Outside the United States, the year supplies us with little that is remarkably noteworthy. Great Britain adopted a new style of design (as depicted by A3 in the catalogue), for use on a new value, a one-shilling stamp. The one and two-penny stamps of the previous issue continued in use as before, but the need for a higher value had made itself felt. The adoption of the octagonal stamp, with the embossed head in the centre, giving it more the appearance of an envelope stamp than a postage stamp, was probably due to the idea that it was necessary for this high value to be very dissimilar in appearance from the two low values. In order to avoid confusion on the part of both postal clerks and public. You must know, however, that it is not the stamp itself that is octagonal, but merely the design, the stamp being square, or nearly so, and showing a good bit of white space at the four corners left by the oblique parts of the octagon. A good many of the early collectors were foolish enough to trim off all this white margin all around the octagon, before mounting the stamps in their albums, and that is the reason why prices are quoted for specimens "cut to shape." Note that these prices are only about one-sixth of the rate asked for perfect, untrimmed specimens; and it should teach you once for all that a stamp should never be touched by scissors under any circumstances. I think about all of you are sufficiently conversant with philatelic methods, so that there is no fear of your trimming off perforations or making any other similar blunder; but still perhaps it is as well to speak of it.

I must myself stop here for a moment to confess to a blunder of my own. In attending to the Local and Postmaster stamps of the United States I have quite omitted to mention in its proper place a Brazilian change of issue. We spoke last week of the first issue of Brazil, which came out in 1843. It remained in use less than a year, being replaced in 1844 with stamps of different shape and smaller size (Brazil A2), but of the same general type of design. Again, the figures of value form the central feature, surrounded by various ornamental "thig-

magis" that are, in reality, no great ornament. The stamps of this issue rank among the "little stamps" of philatelic history. Stamps even tinier than these have once or twice been issued; but, as out of the thousands of different stamp designs, only a dozen or so are equally diminutive, these petite Brazilian issues have a curiousness of appearance that is decidedly piquant.

(To be Continued.)

**Mr. Solomon
And Wife of Hayti.**

(To our older readers the following story will not be new. But it will bear retelling for the sake of "the philatelic generation that is just growing up.")

When the question of endowing Hayti with postage stamps was mooted, President Solomon desired to have an allegory of the arms of the country appear on them. However, public opinion demanded the portrait of the President. He objected, with good reason, on the ground that he would not always be President, and that he did not wish to create a precedent which in the future would cause continual changes in the postage stamps. To conciliate the public spirit, he abandoned his idea, and successfully proposed the adoption of the head of the Republic.

However, little by little it was bruited about that the "Republic" of the stamp of 1881 strikingly resembled Mrs. Solomon. The President was then informed that they had asked for his portrait and not for that of his wife. The fact is that the resemblance was undeniable; the President was forced to admit it, and consented to have his portrait appear on the stamps. The issue of 1877 was the result.

The Amende Honorable.

The Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser, the English publication that stirred up such a journalistic tempest by inserting the advertisement of Fournier, the notorious forger, has made the fullest amends possible by publicly apologizing for the appearance of the ad, which it states got into its columns through inadvertence presumably that of some employee. It is promised that there will be no repetition of the offense.

**A Stamp Paper
At The Capitol.**

Washington, D. C. has a new journal partially devoted to stamp collecting, and bearing the name of the Philatelic East - doubtless in contradistinction to the Philatelic West. No. 4, dated January, is the first issue we seen. It is well printed and presents a very neat appearance, but is not remarkable for originality of reading matter.

What Am I Doing?

I hold monthly PUBLIC AUCTION SALES of Coins and Medals in NEW YORK CITY the chief mart in the United States for everything, and the Mecca for Coin Collectors.

Remember that the chief Cabinets of the world have been formed and dispersed in the auction room; I have been established for twenty-five years; that I am in touch with the special wants of United States and Canadian buyers, with many of whom I have a personal acquaintance and having long held the patronage of leading collectors I am able to attract and retain the greatest number of competitive bidders.

New aspirants for favor are constantly appearing, but it takes time to win and hold a place at the front. CONFIDENCE does not grow in a single night, like Jonathan's gourd.

If you have a collection of coins to sell, something controls your judgment in deciding to whom you will entrust it. You look for experience, reputation, and responsibility, and they determine your choice as surely as the magnet swings the needle of the compass.

To place your name on my mailing list for catalogues or circulars costs only a few cents.

LYMAN H. LOW,
COIN AND MEDAL MERCHANT,
UNITED CHARITIES BUILDING,
FOURTH AVE. AND 22ND. ST., NEW YORK.

Absolutely Free.

I am giving absolutely free to the beginner that read this paper who apply for my approval sheets and furnish reference.

100 mixed U. S. stamps. This packet contains Telegraph, Revenues, Department and Regular Postage. Its a dandy.

I guarantee my sheets to give absolute satisfaction. Write to-day asking for my premium list and about my cash offer for the names of collectors.

I am selling to the readers of this paper only 3c Interior Dept. Off. ent. 40c

THOS. L. HOSMER,
3415 7th St., Des Moines, Iowa

INVERTED PAN-AMERICANS

ONLY very few sheets of the 1c Pan-American were printed with centers inverted. One of the sheets found its way to the P. O. of Anderson, Indiana; we bought the stamp out of the sheet of 100, paying \$980.00 cash and expenses of a trip to Anderson for the lot.

Very few are left! We are closing them out.

Single copies	\$15 00
Block of four	50 00
Single with an imperforate edge	12 50

These stamps are catalogued \$25 00 each, and worth \$50.00 when rarity is considered.

When our lot is gone, where would you get them?

C. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUB CO.
St. Louis, Mo.

**Belgium Postal Packet
1902**

10 centimes to 1 franc.
10 cents, postfree.

Nonantum Stamp Company,
Newton, Mass.

A bell without a clapper is like a business without advertising; takes up room but doesn't attract much attention.

50 cents
a year.

THE

2 cents
a copy.

STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Entered as second-class matter December 17, 1904, at the post office at Bethlehem, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

VOL. 1.

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, FEBRUARY 18, 1905.

No. 23.

SOMALI.

Inverted Centers, unused,
original gum.

4c blue & carmine	\$1 00
25c blue & blue	50
5c dark blue & blue	50
25c blue & black	75

Blocks of 4 at same rate. We have only a small supply. Money refunded if sold out.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,

722 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Next Auction Sale March 4th. Catalogues now ready.

BOSTON LETTER.

Tenth Anniversary
of the

New England Philatelic Association

Menu

Bluepoints

Celery	Radishes
Clear Green Turtle	
Olives	Salted Peanuts
Smelts, Saute au Vin Blanc	
Pommes Anglaise	
Chicken Croquettes	
Petits Pots	
Punch au Maraschino	
Roast Turkey Cranberry Sauce	
Mashed Brown Potatoes	String Beans
Celery Mayonaise	
Frozen Pudding	Assorted Cake
Fruit	
Requetfort Cheese	Toasted Crackers
Cafe Noir	
Bevere House	February 7th 1905.

The above tells half the story of a most enjoyable occasion when forty-two members and friends of the N. E. P. A. met to celebrate its tenth anniversary.

At 8 P. M. President Legg called the Society to order and after a short business meeting, during which two new members were elected, a motion to adjourn was carried, after which those present proceeded to the banquet hall, where, as can be imagined, a sumptuous repast was thoroughly enjoyed by all. A flashlight photograph was taken, which appears in the supplement to The Stamp-Lovers' Weekly for this week.

After the banquet had been discussed to the satisfaction of all and the cigars and punch were in evidence, President Legg held the attention of the audience while expressing his gratification at seeing so many present

SPECIAL.



We want your trade!

Just give us a trial.

We know that you will be
satisfied with the results.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 EAST 23rd ST., New York, N. Y.

and stated among other interesting things that he had seen the Society grow from a membership of six, with meetings held by mail once in three months, to its present condition, with an active membership of about one hundred. He then introduced Mr. Rothfuchs, President of the B. P. S., the guest of the evening, who talked very interestingly of the differences between stamp collecting in 1856, when the expression "original gum" was unknown and flour paste was the staple article being used to completely glue the whole back of the stamp onto the page, and the present time forty years later when the condition crank wants a stamp perfectly centered, full o. g., that has never had a hinge.

Mr. Fowle, the only and original Undooly, was the next to entertain his hearers with some of his inimitable comic sketches about the bearded lady. Then Mr. Howes told several interesting philatelic stories.

Following this was an excellent entertainment by several artists, the singing and dancing being especially good.

A vote of thanks was unanimously given Mr. C. H. Stone, chairman of the Entertainment Committee, for the excellent result.

On the evening of Feb. 9 Frank P. Brown held his fourteenth auction sale, about 25 stamp men being present. Prices were excellent, for bidders are sure of good stamps in good condition at these sales. Many stamps sold at from two-thirds to catalogue value and current unused at 20 to 40 per cent. over face.

BUY OR SELL.

Your Stamps at Auction.

I hold Auction Sales every month and the catalogues are sent free on application to buyers or those that desire to investigate this method of stamp buying and selling. The best is the cheapest.

25 cents.

Buys that useful and indispensable Pocket Ed. Stock Book" bound in full cloth and has a capacity for holding 560 stamps. No collector should be without one. More stamps are ruined by careless handling than any other cause. Keep them in a stock book and they will be secure.

Wolsieffer's Approval Cards per doz. 80 20
" " " " 100 1 60

P. M. Wolsieffer,

Auction Sale Specialist.

401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

Earl of Crawford To Visit America.

We learn with much pleasure that the Earl of Crawford, who ranks as one of the two or three most eminent philatelists of England, and who, as Vice-President of the London Philatelic Society is practically the acting head of that body (its President, the Prince of Wales, may be said to be its head in an honorary sense only, as his engagements, naturally, do not permit him to preside at its meetings more than once or twice a year) is to visit America next May. The occasion of his Lordship's visit is the great international ocean yacht race for the Cup established by the Emperor of Germany; Lord Crawford's famous yacht, the Valhalla, having been entered in the race. She will unquestionably carry with her the good wishes of all those lovers of the noble sport of yacht racing who also happen to be interested in Philately; and we cannot doubt that the Collectors Club of New York will take steps to accord His Lordship, in the name of Philately such a welcome to this country as will show both our sense of the distinction of the visit and the spirit of cordiality and friendship which we entertain for our English brethren, represented in this instance by one of the most distinguished of their number.

GORDON SMITH DEAD.

Gordon Smith whose fame as a philatelist was world wide, died in England on Friday, February 3rd.

Mr Smith arranged many of the printed Albums used by collectors and was a noted writer on stamp matters.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted
to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

LOUIS G. QUACKENBUSH,
MANAGING EDITOR.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States,
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address in any country in the Postal Union
\$1.00 a year.

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\$1.00 an inch. 60 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

From The Editor's Point Of View.

A Weak Link In the Chain.

We have just been reading a very thoughtful and able article on philatelic conditions in America. This article propounds certain ideas which we deem worthy of careful consideration. Its author is C. Grandpierre, a European philatelist who has been in this country on some journalistic mission connected with the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, and who, we believe, intends remaining with us for some time longer. He is, beyond question, an astute observer, and, in the article before us, he examines minutely into the causes of Europe's supremacy over America in respect to philatelic activity, in a way that is at once illuminating and suggestive.

Mr. Grandpierre does not believe that the root of the trouble with us American philatelists lies in the busy life we lead. He takes the ground that this has very much less to do with the matter than is generally believed. In his view, the weak link in the chain which holds American Philately together is the crying want of effective organization—the lack of efficient, practical and useful stamp clubs and societies, in all but a few of the very largest cities. He holds that the wide dissemination of philatelic interest in Germany (it is generally admitted that Germany has more stamp collectors many times over than any other country on the globe) is due, not so much to the studious and steady character of the German people as to their proverbial love of association. "A proverb says," remarks Mr. Grandpierre, "that wherever two Germans are, they found a society." And he goes on to say that there is probably not one single town in Germany with a couple of thousand inhabitants which does not contain its local stamp

club, meeting once or twice a month to show each other their treasures, exchange duplicates, communicate discoveries, and talk about stamps and stamp matters as the spirit moves. Furthermore, these German local societies are banded into provincial associations, transacting promptly and at little cost much exchange business through their almost perfect system. Duplicates are exchanged for needed varieties with ready facility, and if at any time a collector is obliged to realize on his collection, it can be sold piece by piece through these society exchange systems to much better advantage than en bloc to a dealer. Mr. Grandpierre regards (very correctly, we think) this latter point as of prime value and importance—inasmuch as the knowledge that disposal, if necessary, will be comparatively easy greatly increases the disposition of the collector to be liberal in his purchases, to the constant betterment of his collection and the constant increase of his own philatelic zeal and enthusiasm.

Our Own Societies Very Defective.

Mr. Grandpierre finds our own societies very defective in their exchange systems. Some send out no exchange circuits at all; others do, but in such a slipshod, hap-hazard, unsatisfactory way as to make participation a very doubtful benefit. A case is instanced where a certain circuit was scheduled to go from St. Louis to Spokane, Wash.; thence to Pittsburg; thence up to Minneapolis, thence back to Baltimore, and so on, back and forth across the country in an itinerary laid out without any regard whatever to geographical considerations, and consuming thrice the time necessary. Another circuit Mr. Grandpierre mentions contained 12 books, all from the same member, in which the same variety was duplicated over and over again, so that out of 720 stamps in the lot there were out 116 separate varieties. It is unnecessary to multiply instances. Most collectors who have participated in American exchange circuits have met with similar cases. We Americans are used to the futility and weakness of these exchange systems. We have long ago found them out, and few of us take part in them. But to a European visitor like Mr. Grandpierre, familiar with the great part played by the exchange in European philatelic matters, such conditions of affairs seem stupefyingly inexplicable. It is no wonder that he believes that he has put his finger on the weak spot, and that the reorganization of the whole system of sales departments is the first essential toward the rehabilitation of American stamp societies.

Sales Departments Should Be More Efficient.

We are far from believing that this particular shortcoming on the part of most of our philatelic societies is the

sole or the greatest cause of the weakness of American Philately, as compared with European. At the same time we are prepared to admit that efficient societies are a vastly important factor in the general progress of stamp collecting and that facilities for the exchange of duplicates is one of the very greatest conveniences and benefits they can provide for their members.

We know very little about the efficiency of the American Philatelic Association's Sales Department at the present time. We assume, however, that it should be in great measure excluded from any such strictures as Mr. Grandpierre makes. The exchange facilities of the Chicago and Boston societies are also, we understand, of very satisfactory character. But the Sales Departments of the many minor societies that are not local in character but more or less general—such, for instance (to cite a few at random), as the Southern Philatelic Association, Canadian Philatelic Society, Interstate Philatelic Association, Metropolitan Philatelic Association, Nebraska Philatelic Society, Kansas Philatelic Society, etc., etc.—we understand, are not the source of strength to their societies which they should be.

Now, let no one think that we are not in sympathy with these minor societies and would go out of our way to criticize them insidiously. On the contrary, we ardently desire to see all organized bodies in any way connected with Philately grow and thrive. And there is certainly no way in which the most of them can ever attain any really healthy strength and effectiveness save by the upbuilding of their sales and exchange departments into really efficient agencies for the disposal and barter of duplicates. For other benefits they are able to offer their members can, in few cases, amount to very much. There is some sentimental pleasure in belonging to a society, particularly in the case of young collectors. The libraries of the smaller bodies are mere accumulations of current journals and catalogues, being totally wanting, in most cases, the standard works of philatelic reference. The counterfeit detector is seldom an expert, in the true sense of the word. The official organ is usually some journal of no very great value, chosen only because it would grant a lower rate than better papers. The Sales Department is the main dependence—the real excuse and justification for existence—and if this is a delusion and a sham, how can any society expect to grow in numbers and influence?

These minor societies could be made, in proper hands, very useful institutions. The A. P. A. dues seem prohibitive to many young collectors. There is a great field for societies that offer membership at a popular rate and that really offer tangible benefits for the money.

We have not said half as much as we wish to on this subject, which

conceive to be of no little interest to a considerable number of our readers. But we must, for the present, postpone our further remarks on this matter to a later number, when the pressure on our space is less marked than this week. Meanwhile—think these matters over.

The Servian Death-Mask Stamp.

(Clipped from an English Journal.)

What is known as the "death-mask stamp" is said to be at present the one subject of conversation throughout Servia, Bulgaria and Roumania, and that is probably no exaggeration. When a postage stamp, issued to commemorate the coronation of a monarch, bears a clear picture of the face of his murdered predecessor, even the least imaginative of that monarch's subjects are apt to be struck by the coincidence, while the tongues of the superstitious may be expected to wag to some tune. That has happened to King Peter and his coronation stamp.

The design as submitted by the artist, and cordially approved, bore the heads of the present sovereign and his ancestor, Kara George. But when the stamp was issued, there appeared to anyone who looked at it upside down a third face, the ghastly mask of the murdered Alexander, mutilated and distorted. This effect was produced by manipulating the design while it was being engraved.

The suggestion is made that the engraver was inspired by Ex-Queen Natalie to "fake" the design, as an act of revenge for the murder of her son. It seems certain at least that the design was tampered with, and that the death mask stamp was no accidental product. But the army and the peasants do not naturally turn to any such rationalistic explanation of what the superstitious and uneducated in all classes accept as a miracle and a portent of doom for King Peter. Appreciating the fact, his government has made the most vigorous attempts to recall the whole issue, even instructing agents in the chief European capitals to buy up the stock of dealers, regardless of cost. But the discovery of the death mask was not made until thousands of stamps had gone into circulation in the ordinary course, while a very large number had passed into the hands of private persons, who purchased the specimens as curios and mementos.

Mr. H. E. Deats is now devoting his attention principally to Confederate States stamps, and his collection of them is said to be one of the finest ever gathered.

The total number of separate varieties of stamps issued to date in the whole world is, according to Whitfield King's Catalogue, 19,242.

WE WANT NAMES.

We want the names of all collectors - everywhere.

A great many of our subscribers have sent for a supply of our subscription coupons (as shown below) to mail to their friends.

Dealers are doing noble work for us in sending them to their customers. They appreciate the service we are doing in recruiting the ranks of collecting; fully realizing that the very life of philately depends upon the constant addition of new collectors to take the place of those that retire.

One dealer is now sending out 400 coupons a week; another has promised to send 1000 to his customers at once and a further lot in the near future.

Every mail brings requests for from 10 to 500.

Subscribers are writing for them to send to friends.

We are getting hundreds of new names daily and these new names will bring additional new names until everyone who is now interested in stamps will have seen a copy of THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY and many who are not collectors will also see it and be induced to join.

Our system of obtaining the names of collectors bids fair to assume the proportions of an endless chain. When we are overwhelmed we will ask you to stop, but for the present lend a hand. We know you know collectors - send us their names - now.

Let every one who has not done so, send the names of all the collectors of his or her acquaintance so we can send each a copy of the Weekly.

DEAR FRIEND:

I am a subscriber to THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

It is an exceedingly interesting and instructive weekly newspaper devoted to stamp collecting, which I can thoroughly recommend.

The subscription price is 50 cents a year or 25 cents for six months. Yours for collecting,

Send this coupon and 50 cents or 25 cents to THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY, Bethlehem, Pa., and you will receive the paper for one year or for six months (according to the amount sent).

The person sending 50c or 25c for subscription please sign name and address very plainly here.	Name..... P. O..... State.....
--	--------------------------------------

A Mexican Stamp Journal.

We having lately had the opportunity of perusing number 6 of the Mexico-Filatelico organ of the Mexican Philatelic Society. It is a twelve page sheet, printed partly in Spanish and partly in English, and contains some very good matter - notably, the commencement of a series of articles on "The Postage Stamps of Mexico", by Joaquin Escalante, which promises to be of much value. This is the same Escalante with whom Mr. C. H. Mekeel had so many tilts in days gone by over the authenticity of certain of the Mexican provisionals. Our older readers will recall the newspaper war which raged between the two.

A Possibility.

The Philatelic East, the new Washington paper, informs us that there is a possibility that our government may issue a new stamp to be used exclusively for mail delivered by the rural free carriers. A rather curious idea: we hardly expect to see it lead to any actual result.

The new Newfoundland post-card bearing a portrait of King Edward which is materially finer in effect than any that has hitherto appeared on either stamps or cards, is unquestionably one of the handsomest post-cards ever issued. Its beauty is in part explained by the fact that it emanates from the American Bank Note Co., of New York.

A Page of Precept

For Young Collectors.

(Conducted by the Editor.)

For three weeks past there has been no "page of precept" in this paper. This feature, in fact, came within an ace of being abandoned altogether. Our plan was that the new department, "The Philatelic Schoolroom," should take its place and that from thenceforth the page of precept should be an extinct institution. But it appears that in so doing we reckoned without the inclination of our readers. On one or two preceding occasions when press of other matter compelled the omission of this department, no protest was forthcoming from subscribers. Doubtless they appreciated the fact that, in these cases, its absence was merely temporary. But with the failure of this feature to show up in our last three numbers, and another department occupying its allotted space, our friends have realized that the circumstance betokened design rather than accident, and we have been both highly surprised and highly gratified at the number of letters we have received in the last few days, whose general tenor was that the page of precept was greatly liked and appreciated, and that much disappointment would be felt if it was given up. Of course, under the circumstances there is nothing for us to do save to bow to our readers' wishes and re-establish the department. So here it is again; and we assure you we shall do our very best to keep it up to the mark.

About Stamp Books And Stamp Papers.

Quite a number of young collectors have written inquiring if there are any books about stamps that would be helpful to them. The matter is one of general interest to all who are in the first stages of collecting, and is quite worthy of some attention here. There are only one or two available books on stamps, we are sorry to say, that are written with a view to the young collector's requirements. In fact, the only ones we know of are Melville's "A B C of Stamp Collecting" and Hinton's "Hints on Stamp Collecting." There are some other very excellent works dealing in a general way with the practice of philately (such, for instance, as Major Evans' "Stamps and Stamp Collecting"), from which the philatelic student could derive no little profit, but which are, unfortunately, not readily procurable. Both of the two works previously spoken of, however, are still in print and to be had at very moderate cost. Both of them, we believe, sell in England for a shilling (both are English publications), and the extra cost of postage to this side does not, we imagine, amount to more than ten or twelve cents, so that either work ought to be gotten for not over thirty-five or forty cents, post-

paid. We have the exact figures on file somewhere, but cannot lay our hands on them at the moment. We will look them up, and also the addresses of the publishers, so as to be ready for our readers. Anyone who may desire to send for either or both of these books is cordially invited to write for information as to publishers and prices.

What

These Books Are.

Of the two books under notice, the "A B C of Stamp Collecting" is much the more entertaining and interesting; while the "Hints on Stamp Collecting" is the more directly helpful and useful. The two do not cover the same ground, except to a very limited extent, and the young collector may very profitably buy both of them. Hinton's "Hints" is almost entirely devoted to definitions and explanations of the technicalities of collecting a specially helpful feature being profuse illustration of stamps that the ordinary collector is likely to have some difficulty in identifying, with a full statement as to the country and issue to which they belong. The book is a considerable help in surmounting many of the stumbling blocks the beginner meets with, and we can heartily recommend it.

Mr. Melville's "A B C of Stamp Collecting" is a more elaborate, better written and altogether much more pleasing and readable work. It does not devote so much attention to the explaining of technicalities as the other, nor are its references so concisely arranged and so readily consultable. But this is more than atoned for by the charm and intense readability which pervades the whole book, from the first line to the last. The love of stamps for their inherent picturesqueness and beauty and human interest is the keynote of the work. The stamps of the world are considered from a dozen different standpoints—historical, geographical, ethnological, zoological, religious, symbolistic, patriotic, romantic. One is taught to appreciate the fascination that lies in the study of stamp designs—is made to realize the innumerable points at which the portraits and scenes and devices adorning postal issues explain and illuminate the mode of life and the state of civilization in their respective countries; and the immense amount of information deducible from stamps not only in respect to other zones, but also to other times than our own. The work is permeated throughout with the pure tincture of philatelic enthusiasm. Its reading opens up new horizons of idea to the young collector—a new comprehension of the almost boundless fields of fascination which time will gradually unfold before him if he makes his hobby something more than a mere mechanical gathering of stamps and sticking them into place. In a word, it is an enlivening, exhilarating book for any young collector to read, and

CANADA REVENUES.

I would like to hear from all collectors interested in these beautiful stamps, and will send you my catalogue free.

SPECIAL OFFER! I will give free with orders of \$1 or more, of Canada Revenues, an album especially for these stamps, all spaced and on heavy paper (10x12) bound in cloth, a really first class album.

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WHOLESALE POSTAGE
STAMPS,
Keyport, N. J.

CANADA Have recently added many unused correct shades to my already large stock. Want-lists filled or general selections sent to parties furnishing reference. **Quality** characterizes my stock.

Just a few unused o. g. samples:
2c green 1869 30 04 | 6c brown 1872 30 04
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Postage extra on all orders under 25 cents.
FREE A new list of bargains **Each** month.

WENDOVER NEEFU'S, HUDSON N.Y.

One Cent Each.

LIST NO. 4.

LOOK UP LIST NO. 1, 2, & 3
in previous issue.

- Corea, 1900, *2c; 1903, *2c; 1903, *1c.
- Costa Rica, 1892, 5c; 1892, *2c; 1901, 1c, 5c, 10c.
- Crete, 1900, *1c; Unpaid, 1901, *1c.
- Cuba, 1875, *50c; 1878, 25c; 1879, *25c; 1894, 1c; 1900, *5c; 1891, 5c; 1896, *10c; 1899, 1c, 2c, 5c.
- Currency, 1889, 1c.
- Denmark, 1858, 4c; 1864, 4c; 1896, 12c, 16c.
- De Lande, 1894, *1c, 2c.
- Diego Suarez, 1894, *1c, *2c.
- Dominican Rep., 1901, 1c, 2c, 5c.
- Dutch Indies, 1883, 1c, 2c; 1889, 3c, 5c; 1892, 10c, 15c, 2c, 25c; 1899, 1c; 1901, *1c, 1c; 1902, *1c, 1c.
- Ecuador, 1891, *1c, *2c; 1897, *1c, *2c; 1892, *1c, *2c; 1894, *1c, *2c; 1895, *1c, *2c; 1896, *1c, *2c; 1897, 5c; 1899, 5c; 1901, 5c, 10c; Unpaid, 1900, *1c, *2c; Official, 1892, *1c, *2c; 1894, *1c, *2c; 1895, *1c, *2c; 1896, *1c, *2c.
- Egypt, 1884, 1pia, 5pia; 1888, 1mit, 2mit, 3mit; 1892, 2mit, 3mit; Official, 1892, orange.
- Eritrea, news, 1892, *1c, 1899, *1c; 1903, *1c.
- Finland, 1882, 20p; 1885, 21p; 1885, 25p; 1890, 10p, 20p, 25p; 1901, *2c, 5p, 10p, 20p.
- France, 1853, 10c, 2c; 1862, 1c, 5c, 10c, 60c; 1866, 1c, 10c, 40c; 1870, 40c; 1871, 10c, 15c, 3c; 1873, 1c; 1877, 4c; 1879, 40c; 1879, 3c, 20c, 25c yellow, 50c red; 1900 50c.
- French Levant, 1 on 25.

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- *Guatemala 1902; 1, 2, 5, 6, 10c.
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**Tenth Anniversary Dinner
of the
New England Philatelic Association.**



Seated from left to right: Bainbridge, Cone, Pres. Rothfels, B. P. N., Pres. Legg, N. E. P. N., Stone, Frame, Clewson, Aldrich,
Prince, Barry, F. E. Smith, Kennedy, Stiles, Marquadt, Ball, LaFourre, Brown, Fowle, Bartels, H. Smith, Sawyer, Howes, Risdon, Kelly, Brackett, McDonough, Weeks, Hargraves,
Lord, Price, Willson, Dexter, Story, Wheeler, Cogswell, Stern, Osgood, Lord.
Standing left to right first row:
Second row:



We wish that every one of you might be able to procure and peruse a copy of it. It contains plenty of good hints about ways and means of collecting, the care of albums, the use of hinges, and such like matters. But all these are incidental to its main purpose—that of painting the joys of stamp collecting in true and vivid colors. And the success with which this task is achieved is so markedly great that we believe no praise we could give it could be counted extravagant or overdrawn. We earnestly advise you to secure a copy of it, if possible.

Books On

Special Philatelic Topics.

The great bulk of books on stamps (philately boasts several hundred such works in all, counting all languages), are devoted to some special subject—to the consideration of the stamps of some one country or of some special class of stamps—rather than to stamp collecting in general. For instance, there has recently been published in Boston a handbook on the stamps of Siam and another on the stamps of the Philippine Islands. Most philatelic books of the present take this form, and are intended for the advanced specialists in the issues of which they treat, rather than for the general philatelic reader. Of a dozen or more philatelic books published in the English language within the past few months practically all are of this character. They are not written for young collectors and young collectors can derive neither profit nor pleasure from their perusal. The only books relating to special portions of the philatelic field that we would deem of real interest and value to young collectors in this country are two books having the stamps of the United States as their subject, written respectively by the late John K. Tiffany and by John N. Luff.

Valuable Volumes

For Daily Reference.

The stamps of the United States unquestionably deserve special study and attention at the hands of young American collectors. The issues of one's own country naturally possess an interest entirely their own—a degree of fascination such as the emissions of no other land can inspire. Our love of country, our familiarity with the lives and deeds of the men whose portraits appear on United States stamps, and our facilities for securing many United States stamps of one sort and another, without fee and without price, off the old letters and papers of our relatives and friends, combine to render us desirous of knowing all we can about U. S. issues. This becomes the more important because so many of the older issues are so rich in varieties, in appearance scarcely recognizable from each other but presenting the widest variations of price. The young collector is naturally eager to learn to identify and classify these varieties, so that he may not totally misplace them in his

collection, and so that, if he has among his duplicates some of the rare varieties, he may not unknowingly trade them off as the common type. In addition to this motive, there ought to exist (and probably does, in the minds of most really enthusiastic young collectors), a keen desire to study the causes of the various changes of issue, and other like matters that link each issue definitely with some special period in our national progress and development.

The two books above mentioned treat fully of every point in relation to United States stamps which it is of interest and value for collectors to learn about. They relate the history not only of each issue, but of each separate stamp, wherever there is anything about it that is worth the telling. They enter minutely into such correlative facts of political history and postal conditions as have any explanatory bearing on any issue under notice. Practically all known facts in relation to U. S. stamps are set forth in their proper order and in such a connected way that they may be easily followed. Both authors are to be counted as distinguished authorities upon the subject. Mr. Luff's style is the clearer and plainer and his book has the further advantage of having been written at a much later date than Mr. Tiffany's, and of using more modern and ampler methods of classification. Its cost, however, \$7.50, will serve, we fear, to put it beyond the reach of most of our younger readers. Mr. Tiffany's book is now offered by the publishers at \$1.25, and would be an excellent investment for any of our young readers who want to grow in philatelic knowledge. We shall be pleased, upon application, to inform anyone interested as to the address of the publishers of the above works.

Put Off

Till Next Time.

We had intended continuing this discourse with a consideration of stamp journals, both in the abstract and in the concrete; their value to the young collector, what particular ones of those now in the field are likely to interest and help him most, and other similar matters. But we have no more space to spare this week and must put it off till next time, when we shall go into the matter at some length.

A Notable Stamp Auction.

The most notable stamp auction for many years past, so far as the length of time which the auction is to consume is concerned, will take place in New York early in March, the occasion being the dispersal of the famous Reynolds collection. Six nights are to be occupied in the disposal of this huge collection, which is divided into no less than 2624 lots.

Want! Want!! Want!!!

I am prepared to buy for spot cash unused o. g. finely Centered copies of U. S. Stamps from 1849 to 1890. I also want the Department stamps in the same condition. Parties having stamps in this condition can send them to me at their lowest cash price and if satisfactory I will remit by return mail otherwise I will return them registered.

Reference 2nd National Bank.

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Cheapest on Earth Cat. Free.

108 dif., Hawaii, Philippines, etc. for \$0 08
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 525 dif., worth \$8.00, for - - - 1 20
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 Albums, finest out, spaces for 4000 stamps, fine cuts - - - - - 30

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GREECE.

1898	1	1	brown	No. 64	\$0 02
"	5	1	green	" 68	01
"	10	1	yellow	" 67	02
"	25	1	blue	" 69	02
"	50	1	gray green	" 71	03
"	1	dr	gray	" 72	03
1899	40	1	blue	" 98	06
"	1	dr	gray	" 99	07
1891-92	40	1	blue	" 115	05
"	1	dr	gray	" 118	05
1900	20	on 25	blue	" 129	04
"	40	on 21	bistre	" 132	05
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All fine used copies. Anything not satisfactory can be returned money refunded. Postage extra on orders under 50 cents.

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INVERTED PAN-AMERICANS

ONLY very few sheets of the 1c Pan-Americans were printed with centers inverted! One of the sheets found its way to the P. O. of Anderson, Indiana; we bought 98 stamps out of the sheet of 100, paying \$980.00 cash and expenses of a trip to Anderson for the lot.

Very few are left! We are closing them out.

Single copies.....	\$15 00
Block of four.....	59 00
Single with an imperforate edge.....	12 50

These stamps are catalogued \$25.00 each, are worth \$50.00 when rarity is considered.

When our lot is gone, where would you get them?

C. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUB CO.
 St. Louis, Mo.

CANADA, 1893, 50c, blue.....	\$0 12
Greece, 1899-92, 401, blue.....	06
Labuan, 1897, 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8.....	15
*Serbia, 1894, 1d, blue green.....	25
British Colonies, 25 varieties.....	10
Postage extra. Approval selections 50% discount. Send for price list of 20th Century stamps.	

TRIANGLE STAMP CO.,
 226 University Ave., Rochester, N. Y.

THE READING TABLE.

What We Find In the Journals of the Hour.

Gibbons's Stamp

Weekly, London, England.

We have been a bit derelict in reviewing the new and notable journal whose name appears above. Our tardiness is not, however, we hasten to remark, due to any feeling of jealousy over the appearance of this new Richmond in the field. On the contrary, we rejoice exceedingly over its advent, which we regard as the most important philo-journalistic debut in recent years.

Gibbons Stamp Weekly is an attempt at a popular journal for the philatelic masses—a journal devoid of specialistic trimmings and of all the turbelows of philatelic technicality—a guide, philosopher and friend to the non-advanced collector, furnishing him at one and the same time with entertainment, instruction and inspiration. Harder task was never attempted in philatelic journalism. To eschew every shred of the scientific; to descend from Olympus and exchange the nestar of specialism for the bread and butter on which the philatelic laity feed; to overturn all the journalistic conventions of philatelic England and construct a paper to whose columns the surcharge measurer and the perforation gauge are utter strangers—this, in England, is a task to try the editorial soul. But a man has been found for the attempt—and, what is more, a man whose very name assures us before we open a single page that the experiment will be carried on with the highest journalistic skill and acumen conceivable. In short, Edward J. Nankiwel is the editor of Gibbons Stamp Weekly, and in this fact stands forth its strongest guarantee that it is worth the serious attention of the whole philatelic world.

Our Expectations

Exceeded.

We formed high expectations for No. 1 of the new English weekly. We are happy to say that they are not only realized, but exceeded. We expected an excellent repast, but we are confronted by a feast. The whole tone of the paper is charming. It is an easy, pleasant, companionable paper that we can take straight to our hearts and welcome with all the heartiness that must ever attend the discovery of a new vein of gold in the ordinary leaden waste of philatelic reading.

The editorial remarks with which the number opens assume the introductory vein natural to the occasion, but they are of the true Nankiwel cast, rich in happy turns of thought, expressed in admirably easy, graceful style. Major Evans contributes a foreword which is equally felicitous, and

England's philatelic bard, W. E. Imeson, sings peons of good wishes for the new venture in a burst of festive verse which puts us in even better humor with the new candidate. "Public School Collecting," by Rev. T. C. Walton, M. A., is the first of a series of articles addressed particularly and especially to schoolboys. And it is just such an article as schoolboys will read and will heed—just a plain, common-sense, sympathetic talk on the pleasures of stamp collecting from the schoolboy standpoint, with some attention also to the difficulties and how they can be best overcome. A capital thing, this article, both in idea and execution, and we are glad to see that Mr. Walton is scheduled to furnish further contributions along the same lines.

An Excellent Feature.

Then comes an excellent feature; the commencement of a series of studies of "Portraits on Stamps." It is to go by rule of alphabetical progression, and in this first instalment we find thumb-nail biographies of King Menelik of Abyssinia, and of Alvear, Avelaneda and Bolcarce, three of the members of the numerous band of celebrities that make up Argentine's philatelic portrait gallery.

Mr. Gordon Smith commences a series of papers on "The Stamps of Great Britain," treated from the elementary standpoint, which give promise of much usefulness and interest to the clientele to which the new weekly appeals. A chapter from Mr. Nankiwel's book "Stamp Collecting as a Pastime" is most pleasant reading, and then comes a page or two of well-earned puff of the Junior Society's Exhibition. Cornelius Wrinkle contributes two pages of "Gossip of the Hour," illustrated with humorous cuts. There is a brief chronicle of new issues; a Parisian letter, by Alfred Montader; a Frankfort Letter, by A. Reinheimer; an article on "The Stamp Market;" various society reports and a "Philatelic Diary" of coming events in English stamp circles. This tabloid method of review does scant justice to the new weekly. But if we once commenced to quote from its good things, we fear that we should fill our own paper full before we could stop ourselves. And that would be unjust and unfair to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons.

The American Journal of Philately, New York.

Our readers may have wondered why it is that we have never reviewed the American Journal of Philately in these columns. Among American philatelic monthlies of standing and value it is the last of the Mohicans—the sole survivor of a race which once included such magazines as the Philatelic Journal of America, the American Philatelist, the Philatelic Gazette, the Boston Stamp Book and other very worthy and valuable monthlies. The

Unused British Colonies.

(Mint Condition.)

CANADA.

No.	Description	Price
32	1c yellow 1880-72	1.00
42	3c carmine red 1882-90	1.00
84	2c on 3 carmine	1.00
88	7c olive yellow (scarce)	1.00
89-93	1c-10c Kings Head	1.00
St. Christopher No. 14	4d gray	1.00
TOGA 1897, 1d, 1d, 2d		1.00
2 1/2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 7 1/2d		1.00

Cat. \$1.72 for 10 stamps and 10d. 10 stamps

Postage Extra. Satisfaction guaranteed. U. S. Entire Envelopes are my specialty. Do you collect them. My prices are low.

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ON APPROVAL AT 75% DISCOUNT

Fine Stamps Bank Reference required. Mixture of Stamps for approval books. Good value.

1000 STAMPS \$2.00 Postpaid.

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You Know There Cheap.

U. S. 1847 5c	1.00
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EBEN S. MARTIN CO., Inc.

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Stamps Free.

A sheet of 50 unused Cuban Revenues for the names of 2 collectors and 2c Postage. 1000 Mixed U. S. Stamps 1.00 1000 Mixed Foreign Stamps 1.00 Packet No. 23—229 different stamps from Hayti, Egypt, Soudan, Crete etc., only 5c Wholesale List for Dealers. 50 Blank sheets 10c 100 1.00 1000 Hinges 8c 5000 5.00

Toledo Stamp Co., Toledo, Ohio.

February 18th.

Date of our next auction sale. Sale consists of U. S. Postage, Depts., Revenues and British Colonies. A fine line of stamps in superb condition. Catalogue sent free on application. In the mean time examine these:

CUBA.		1880 12c blue gray or br	
1857 1c green o g 2c	1882 2 1/2c dark br. o g 2c	1880 12c blue gray or br	1881 1c blue o g 2c
1878 12c green o g 4c	1881 1c blue o g 2c	1881 1c blue o g 2c	1881 2c ultramarine 4c
1877 2c " " 2c	1881 2c ultramarine 4c	1881 2c ultramarine 4c	1884 20c red brown 2c
1879 50c gray o g 2c	1884 20c red brown 2c	Approval Sheets at 60% dis. Ref. Required.	

WESTERN STAMP CO., 701-2 N Y Life. OMAHA, NEBR.

100 China and Java, etc., fine stamp dictionary and big illustrated list of 3,000 bargains. 2c. Agts., 50c. 1865 catalogue of stamps of all nations. 10 cents.

A. Bullard & Co., 446 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.

Calvin C. Brackett, B. P. S., N.E.P.S. Gen. Del. Sta. A, Boston, Mass.

Stamps bought, sold, exchanged, wholesale, retail. Postage Extra.

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Var.	Cntn.	1 Set	10 Sets	100 Sets
20	40 50	80 15	81 20	810 00
32	1 00	40	3 00	
38	1 14	60		
47	1 73	80		
61	2 57	1 25		

The above contain India postage only. No Native States of any kind. The 61 var. packet includes 16 varieties of Kings Heads.

American Journal of Philately has outlasted them all—save its local rival, the Metropolitan Philatelist, which survives in weekly form (we had almost spelt it weakly), and not alone does it deserve our respect on the score of age, but also on account of its high intrinsic excellence and value. It is a magazine which no advanced collector on this side of the ocean can well afford to be without, and which has of late years also introduced some features which make it of more interest to the rank and file than used to be the case. We should, therefore, certainly accord it occasional mention in this department (despite our determination to give most attention to journals from across the water that our readers are far less likely to see) and its publishers but favor us with a sight of it. They have, however, seemingly forgotten the location of the editorial abode, and not an A. J. of P. has found its way hither in many months. We have just accidentally happened to run across a copy of its December issue, and it is this alone that makes possible the present item. So, if not for another twelvemonth does the A. J. of P. find mention in these columns, the reader will understand that the fault is not ours, but that of our good friends, the Scott Stamp and Coin Co.

An Excellent Number.

The number before us is an excellent one. There has been no falling off in the ability with which the A. J. of P. is conducted during the interim in which we have not been privileged to see it—that the present number fully assures us. Mr. John N. Luff, prince of American specialists and philatelic students, contributes the leading feature: A Reference List of the Stamps of Panama, which is unquestionably the most trustworthy and authoritative list of these puzzling issues which has yet been compiled. Mr. Luff has not only unique facilities for acquiring information of the sort embodied in this list (thanks to the important post he holds in New York's largest stamp house), but also possesses special experience in and aptitude for analytical philatelic investigation. His Panama list becomes at once, by virtue of these facts being generally understood, the standard for reference and study. So far as we are able to judge, it is a most admirable and thorough piece of work. Mr. E. W. Wetherell, India's talented stamp writer, supplies an instalment of a paper on "The Postage and Postage Due Stamps of Holland and Dutch Indies." And then comes a continuation of Mr. C. A. Howes most interesting and stimulating papers on stamp designs. In these papers Mr. Howes has practically opened up a new field of philatelic thought and study. The significance of stamp designs is a matter which has been vastly neglected. The minutiae of stamp

production have been most exhaustively studied, and thousands upon thousands of pages of philatelic print have been consecrated, in one way or another, to their consideration. But the big, broad, human side of stamps—the things their faces tell us; the facts innumerable, illustrative of political, social and commercial conditions in the lands of their issuance, which their designs either directly depict or symbolically convey—of this field for study the stamp world has been singularly unmindful.

Mr. Howes, in the series of papers under notice (commenced in the A. J. of P., if we recollect aright, some two or more years ago), has set himself the task of arousing our interest in the study of designs and showing us what a world of information is to be gleaned from this fascinating branch of philatelic endeavor. In the number before us, he is dealing with some of the Local stamps of the Chinese Treaty Ports, and we wish it were possible to reproduce here some small portion of the instalment, that its admirable quality might stand forth here in its true colors. He tells us, for instance, much about the Wuhu pagoda, found on the 5c stamp of that city—who built it, when and where, and the like; he explains the meaning of the Chinese characters on other of the Wuhu issues (one of them it seems has a meaning somewhat equivalent to our "God Bless Our Home"); he discourses concerning the birds and the owl and the deer on the later Wuhu issues in a manner at once entertaining and instructive, and with it all is interwoven the story of how the Wuhu stamps came to be issued at all—a bit of philatelic truth which reads like extravagantly conceived fiction, the whole history of the establishment of the Wuhu Post being aptly termed by Mr. Howes an opera bouffe performance. The stamps of Ichang and Amoy are then taken up in like manner, the entire instalment occupying ten pages, and we know of no ten pages which we have anywhere lately read which have given us greater pleasure in perusal. 'Tis a grand feature, and we shall feel hardly used if the Scott Co. does not furnish us with future instalments. We hope to see the articles appear in book form ere long; but, meanwhile, any collector will find this one feature alone worth the price asked for the whole paper. Mr. Toppan's "Notes Upon Stamps and Their Varieties" is an excellently useful thing. It is a serial feature, illustrating and describing from month to month all sorts of little varieties which are apt to be troublesome of identification, and any active philatelist will find it convenient to have frequent recourse to it. This also is a feature which should be published in book form. Its great practical value should insure it a large sale.

The usual valuable notes and chronicle fill the remaining twelve pages of the number before us.

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display. A line will average seven words.

Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

Beginner's Approval sheets marked at 1/2 - 1 and 2 cents. 50% discount. 100 diff. stamps and 100 hinges 5c. Salvador, 4 var. 1908, 5c. W. W. DAYTON, Nashotah, Wis.

Stamps on Approval, Prices below Scotts Catalogue and 1/2 commission allowed Stamp & Coin Exchange, 212 Broadway N. Y. City.

U. S. 15c orange 1878 'fine' 8c
U. S. \$1.00 black 1895 " 18c
Other Bargains C. T. Edgar, Birdwood, Va.

A few (superb) scarce United States.
1c W. E. Doolittle (matches) cat \$10.00 \$4.00
2c Dept State cat \$5.00 " 2.25
3c 1881 (pink) cat \$7.50 " 3.00
6c (Scotts No 170 cat \$50.00 " 7.50
Valuable U. S. on app. against deposit.
Western Stamp Co., Newton, Kansas.

U. S. 50c orange 1895 fine cat 15c 7c post-paid,
Atlantic Stamp Co., Hudson, N. Y.

2 uncan. Blocks of 4 Free to applicants for our fine approvals if accompanied by a reference and 2c stamp. Criterion Stamp Co., P. O. Sta. V. Brooklyn, N. Y.

100 Stamps, 100 hinges, 5 blank approval sheets, 4 packet envelopes, 10c. W. E. Naugle, 8 Barton St., Salem Mass.

A Fine Foreign Stamp cat. 30c Free to app. applicants. Elmer Smith, Pontoosuc Ill

1895 Complete Illustrated Catalogue, A dandy album, holds 600 stamps, 1000 faultless Hinges, 300 fine Foreign and 12 var. U. S. all for 15c post paid. Geo. Karshner, Tiffin, Ohio.

50 var unused 25c, 100 var used 10c, 100 var no common \$1.00, app. sheets 50c. F. J. Hall, Eastbranch, New York.

Fine Album and 5 var Cuba, Free to every collector asking for approval at 50% dis. and sending the names of two other collectors Russell Stamp Co., Wollaston, Mass.

We inserted a 12c advertisement in your paper the other week and received over half a dozen answers, many of which we turned into regular customers. Criterion Stamp Co.

100 Variety Packets	\$0 04 each
200 " "	14 " "
Stamps Cat. at 1c each asst.	\$0 15 per 100
" " " 2c "	35 " 100
" " " 3c "	55 " 100
" " " 4c "	80 " 100
" " " 5c "	1 25 " 100

F. P. GIBBS, Box 103, Olean, N. Y.

Free an unused U S stamp cat at \$1.00 to first one to apply for my approval sheets and furnish ref to the rest a fine pkt of 50 diff foreign from my collection. 100 diff for fine 8 cents, 1000 faultless hinges 8c, both 15c Geo A Bates, Westfield, Mass.

St. Louis set - - - 10c
Buffalo set - - - 10c
Omaha 1 to 10c - - - 10c
Columbia 1 to 10c - - - 10c
J. H. Houston, 837 Penn Avenue N. W. Washington, D. C.

The Stamp-Lovers Album.

Will hold 1152 stamps. It is the neatest low-priced album ever offered to collectors. Its price is 10 cents, postage 2 cts.

The Stamp-Lovers Album,
Bethlehem, - - - Pa.

**The Stamp Collector,
Birmingham, England.**

That enterprising English journal, the Stamp Collector, comes to hand for January with its usual complement of useful and readable matter. We have favored this journal with so much space in recent numbers, however, that we shall be a little short and brusque with it this time—not on account of liking the current number any less than its predecessors, but because we wish to give some space to some of its contemporaries that have not been so liberally treated as the S. C. in former instalments of these, our lucubrations.

We have spoken two or three times of the Stamp Collector's proposal for a simplified catalogue—in which the varieties would be arranged according to denomination rather than by issues as at present—the separate position of each country being, of course, in no way disturbed. In the January issue, the idea is illustrated by a sample list, showing how the 1d. of Queensland would appear in such a catalogue as proposed, and we must own that the mode of classification as shown in this sample list appears to afford great readiness of reference. We are not yet convinced, however, that the merits of the scheme are great enough to overbalance the drawbacks that we pointed out in our editorial of last week.

Mr. B. W. Warhurst, an always interesting writer, contributes an article on "General Collecting, Limited," which is full of admirable advice to the young collector. There is, succeeding this, a very interesting compilation of "The Rarest Minor Varieties," which is supplementary to the list of the hundred rarest stamps published last month, from which we, at the time, made some excerpts. A portrait of Mr. Gordon Smith next greets us, and then comes the continuation of Mr. Hegnbottom's useful serial on "The Stamps of the British West Indies," Jamaica being the country coming up for treatment this month. "New Issues and Varieties;" "Our Note Book and Philatelic Diary," and the "Queries and Replies Competition" are of their usual interest, and are rendered the more attractive by new engraved headings, which testify to the publisher's energetic enterprise.

Mr. Warhurst contributes a resume of a paper on "The Collection of Entires," read before the Manchester Philatelic Society—and we have rarely seen the attractiveness of this branch of collecting presented in more pleasing colors.

Society Reports, "In the Library Chair," and "Correspondence" bring the number to a close.

"Their perfect likeness with the authentic's stamps class them quite out of peer"—says Fournier the infamous French forger, in chanting the praises of his "fac-similes."

**A Postal Card
Catalogue.**

We have received from its publisher and compiler, Mr. Adolph Lohmeyer of Baltimore (who is, we need scarcely say, the chief American authority on postal cards and postal card collecting) a very neat little descriptive catalogue of the Postal Cards and Letter Cards of the Scandinavian Kingdoms. It fully describes and prices all the emissions of Denmark, Danish West Indies, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Finland; and is certainly indispensable to anyone feeling the slightest practical interest in the postal cards of the Scandinavian countries. It is somewhat of a puzzle why postal card collecting does not gain more ground in this country. Postal cards are surely, interesting and attractive enough to be collected far more generally than is the case, and there are special albums constructed for them which do away with the objection of their bulkiness in storing. A great point in their favor, too, is their extreme inexpensiveness, with only a very, very few exceptions. The predominating prices in the catalogue before us are such figures as 2c, 4c, 6c, and so on.

We wonder that collectors who desire an inexpensive specialty do not take up postal-card collecting in greater numbers.

**Facts about
Jamaica.**

This island was originally called "Xaymaca" or "land of fountains", and was discovered by Columbus in 1494, taken by Spain in 1509, and by the English in 1655. It is the third in size of the Greater Antilles, being 145 miles long and 50 miles wide, with an area of 42,000 square miles and (1900) a population of 745,104. Capital is Kingston with 46,542 inhabitants. There are many coral reefs, but it is mostly rock bound. Jamaica has large forests with ebony, rosewood and palms, it is also increasing in silk and cotton growing. Its pimento trees have a characteristic from which comes "allspice", also "palma christi" a sort of castor oil. A variety of ferns and orchids grow in the island and there are no end of fruits, sugar canes and coffee bushes. The temperature in Kingston is extreme 60 to 92 degrees and mean 74.

Stamp Collector.

Philatela In Fiji.

Even in far-away Fiji, a stamp-dealing concern flourishes. Its name is the Colonial Post-Card and Stamp Co, its place of habitation Levuka, Fiji. Strange, to think that in the cannibal islands of comic opera, stamp collecting is now so favored a pastime as to bring into existence a local stamp company.

CANADA

These will not last long at prices quoted

				Cat.	Pr.
1892-93	20c	vermillion	-	80	12
"	50c	deep blue	-	25	25
1897	1/2	Jubilee	-	10	10
"	1-2 3	"	-	10	10
"	5c	"	-	50	18
"	6c	"	-	20	25
"	8c	"	-	40	35
"	10c	"	-	40	35
"	15c	"	-	40	35
"	20c	"	-	40	35
"	50c	"	-	40	35
"	\$1.00	"	-	40	35
1897		Maple Leaf, full set, 8 var.	-	41	41
1898		Numeral " " 8	-	34	34
1902		Kings Head 1c, 2c, 5c, 7c, 10c	-	12	12

My price-list will be ready about Mar. 1st. Try a selection of my approval sheets, diff. Canada including King's Head stamps free to every applicant for my sheets mentioning this paper and sending reference.

THOS. L. HOSMER,

3415 7th St., Des Moines, Iowa

Try our famous "Tropical" packet containing 25 beautiful unused stamps from Salvador, Nicaragua etc. This is well worth its money for 37 cents. Post free.

The New Century Stamp Co.,

Smith's Falls Ont. Canada.

Cheap Stamps, Cheap!

Special offers for beginners. Only one set of each supplied at the price. Dealers orders are not solicited. Always send an addressed stamped envelope with all orders less than \$1.00. * Unused.

SWITZERLAND

Postage Due Stamps.

1884-97			Catalogue
1c	green and carmine	.....	30
5c	"	.....	10
10c	"	.....	10
20c	"	.....	10
50c	"	.....	10
100c	"	.....	10
500c	"	.....	10

Catalogue price,

We offer the above set of 7 for 7 cents.

CEYLON, King's Heads 1903.

2c	brown	.....	10
5c	lilac	.....	10
8c	carmine	.....	10

SAMOA, Palm Trees 1887.

1/2p.	violet	.....	10
2p.	yellow	.....	10
2p.	orange	.....	10

CHILI, Provisional 1903.

1c	on 20c blue	.....	10
(1900) 5c	on 30c rose	.....	10

MEXICO, 1903.

1c	violet	.....	10
2c	green	.....	10
5c	orange	.....	10
10c	blue on orange	.....	10

GWALIOR, On Queens Heads.

1885-91, 2a.	ultramarine	.....	10
1885-91, 3a.	orange	.....	10
1900-2, 3p.	carmine	.....	10
1902-4, Official 1/2a.	green	.....	10
1902-4, "	1a. carmine	.....	10

Catalogue price of above 17 stamps,

We offer the lot of 17 for 23 cents.

G. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUB CO.
ST. LOUIS, MO.

Every dealer ought to advertise, and this paper is a good medium, as it goes right into the hands of collectors.

50 cents
a year.

2 cents
a copy.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Entered as second-class matter December 17, 1904, at the post office at Bethlehem, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

VOL. I.

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, FEBRUARY 25, 1905.

No. 24.

PERSIA.

100. 1, 2, 5, 7, 10s., 1, 2, 5k., unused.	\$0 25
100. 20k. used, fine.	1 00
100. 30k. used, fine.	1 00
100. 5, 6 on 10, 9 on 1k. used, fine.	20

SOMALI.

4 blue & carmine, inverted center.	\$1 00
4 blue & blue, inverted center.	50
4 dark blue & blue, inverted center.	50
4 blue & black, inverted center.	75

Next Auction.

Dealers Sale. March 4th

Your name will be placed on our regular mailing list on request.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,

72 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SPECIAL.



**We want your trade!
Just give us a trial.**

**We know that you will be
satisfied with the results.**

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 EAST 23rd ST., New York, N. Y.

P Proofs On India. M

Card Board, Essays etc, of U. S. Postage, Revenue, M and M, and some foreign will be one of the features of the J. Allan Dietz collection to be sold at Public Auction without reserve at the Club Room of Chicago Philatelic Society on Saturday Evening March 11th.

There will also be a good line of stamps of special countries such as France and Colonies, Germany and Colonies, Portugal and Colonies U. S. and a lot of other fine stamps.

Kindly mail your bids as early as possible on account of possible blizzard weather.

P. M. Wolsieffer,

Auction Sale Specialist.

P 401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago. M

CHICAGO CHAT.

The lantern slide lecture given by the Chicago Philatelic Society for its first performance may be considered a great success. As only members were invited to this initial performance the crowd was not very large, but it is hoped that when it is given again there will be a large attendance of stamp collectors from all over the city.

This lecture as prepared by Mr. Abbott is entirely different from anything else and it does not resemble Mr. Luff's lecture on "What Philately Teaches" in the slightest degree, as had been previously intimated.

The lecture is illustrated by 85 views, and while the illustrations are all good, the coloring of some of them is not quite true, a criticism which will only be offered by stamp collectors who would notice the difference, but the general public and non-collecting public, for whom this lecture is expressly gotten up to try and make collectors of, would never notice it.

The weekly paper that is offering a series of prizes on the subject of "How Can We Start People Stamp Collecting" is respectfully invited by your correspondent to notice this lecture as a very substantial means of making stamp collectors out of the ranks of the general public and would suggest that the Judges of that contest award the first prize to the collection of the Chicago Philatelic Society.

The only criticism so far heard among the members was that Mr. Abbott evidently forgot to incorporate a paragraph about the Chicago Phila-

(Continued on page 8.)

WASHINGTON LETTER.

There is a notable increase in the demand for Dominican stamps the past few weeks and Japanese varieties are also much more sought after by collectors. There is a strong impression in Washington that the action of the United States Government in assuming control of the finances of the Dominican republic foreshadows even more significant moves in the not far distant future. It is said by statesmen in private conversation that this may be the opening wedge and that the next step may involve the control of other departments of the government of the little island republic. It is suggested that it will be well to keep a weather eye on Hayti as well. The report comes very straight that conditions in the black republic are far from satisfactory and that a volcano, politically, is likely to break loose at any time, followed by a spread-eagle military display, followed by a strong grasp of matters by this government. The impression prevails that there may be developments of keen philatelic interest on this island before many years.

There does not appear to be very much probability of the introduction of any scheme calculated to prevent the theft of postage stamps from Postmasters or to enable the officers of the government to trace stamps thus stolen. The bill of Congressman Douglass along this line is open to criticism, it is said. It practically makes it impossible to sell stamps after once purchased from the postoffice. This is regarded as an impracticable and unnecessarily severe prohibition

(Continued on page 8.)

LONDON LETTER.

Fred J. Melville.

The Junior Philatelic Society's exhibition is over. As was for some weeks anticipated, it established a record for attendance. About 10,000 people passed through the hall during the two days, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 3 and 4. Large as the hall was, there was one continuous crowd. A hall three or four times the size would have been none too large. But the novelty of such a large crowd at a stamp exhibition made everyone enthusiastic and the unanimous verdict was that the whole affair was an out and out success.

As a missionary effort, probably nothing else has been so successful. The number of converts to stamp collecting were probably in excess of the "penitents" at the Torrey & Alexander mission in the Albert Hall at the same time. The mission "penitents" were given as 100 in number. At present precise figures cannot be ascertained, but there were certainly nearly one hundred applications for membership in the society. At the next meeting there will be a phenomenal number of new members to elect. It will be a very gratifying evening for myself when all these new members, many of them new collectors, are put up for election. Certainly Mr. Andreina's complaint that philatelic societies' membership rolls are everywhere dwindling perceptibly will be set at naught in this case. I believe I am correct in saying that twenty-five new members were elected in January of this year. There is a prospect of several branches of the society being started early next season.

(Continued on page 8.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

LOUIS G. QUACKENBUSH,
MANAGING EDITOR.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States, Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any address in any country in the Postal Union \$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.00 an inch. 60 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

From The Editor's Point Of View.

Old Men For Council,

Young Men For War.

The old familiar adage which we have prefixed to these remarks has found fresh illustration, (in part, at least,) in the almost phenomenal enterprise and energy displayed by the young men composing the Junior Philatelic Society of London in promoting the public philatelic exhibition lately held under the auspices of that body. We are not yet informed as to what measure of success crowned their efforts; for though these lines are written a full fortnight after the event, the writer is cut adrift, so to speak, from the ordinary lines of philatelic communication, being at the moment a Winter wanderer in the American Riviera, with news from England a week further distant than usual. But we have not the slightest doubt that the exhibition proved the grand success which the indefatigable efforts of its promoters rendered morally certain of attainment. And the salient point of the whole matter—the lesson and moral which sticks out with the plainness of a pike staff—is that the fire and enthusiasm of youth is the leaven everywhere needed in philatelic society work. There cannot well be Junior societies everywhere. In few philatelic centers can a Melville be found to inspire, and enthrone the younger collectors and band them together into a strong, earnest, effective organized body. But there is, we believe, no reason why, in all philatelic centers, the juniors and seniors should not work together in harmony—why the young collectors should not be encouraged and actively solicited to join the societies—why, after they have joined, they should not be given an active part in the work and the management.

There are a great many philatelic societies, both here and abroad, at whose meetings the young collector does not find himself particularly welcome. He is permitted, perhaps even encouraged, to join; but beyond that he receives little attention. He is not, perhaps, snubbed outright; he is simply ignored. He has the privilege of listening to all that goes on; but none of the older members talk with him. What wonder that he fails to become a very enthusiastic or active member and that when his membership runs out he does not renew it. We wish it might be otherwise. We wish the young fellows might meet with more cordiality and that more pains could be taken to make them feel at home. Every stamp society in the land would be better off for the infusion of a lot of brisk young blood. It would have more get-up-and-get about it; and have more life and vim to its meetings and all its undertakings. It is natural that the advanced collector should be a little bit upon his dignity in dealing with the lesser orders; yet we think he might unbend with entire becomingness in cases of this sort.

Large Oaks From Little Acorns Grow.

When one sows good seed, there is no limit to the excellence of result which may sometimes crop out. One quite unexpected result of the Junior Society's Exhibition is that the London Philatelic Society will in all probability hold a great International Exhibition on their own account some time next Winter. A preliminary committee to investigate and report upon ways and means will be, or has already been, appointed by the premier society (or so we understand from London news reports); and while it is not, of course, absolutely certain that the gentlemen to whom is delegated the preliminary looking over the ground will decide such an exhibition as proposed to be feasible, the English press appears to anticipate a favorable decision with the greatest possible confidence. And it certainly looks to us, at this distance, that the London Society would not have been stirred up even to the point of considering an exhibition of their own had not the cordial support accorded the Junior Society's exhibition by the trade, the press and collectors in general shown them how eager a welcome awaits the aggressively managed philatelic exhibition in that part of the world. If the London Society does hold a great International Exhibition—and we most sincerely hope it may—the credit for the inspiration will largely belong to the junior body.

A Suggestion.

Cornelius Wrinkle, in Gibbons' Stamp Weekly, states that one of the great obstacles in the way of undertaking such an exhibition as is proposed is the difficulty of securing any properly qualified person who is willing to assume the very arduous bur-

den of the secretaryship of the exhibition. On this functionary's shoulders will rest the principal management of the affair from first to last, involving an amount of work and responsibility which even the most constitutionally energetic may well shudder to contemplate. Mr. Tilleard, who most ably filled this post at the last London Exhibition, will not, it is intimated, consent to serve again, and the Society is evidently at a loss where to find the man to fill his place.

Yet the man might be found enough if only the London Society would turn its eyes in the right direction. The best man to put in charge of any piece of work is he who has already performed the same or similar work with signal success. Ergo, who but Mr. Melville is the man of the hour for any exhibition promotion and management which the London Society needs done. His efforts in behalf of the Junior Society's Exhibition have demonstrated that as a promoter and boomer of philatelic exhibitions he holds the world's championship belt. In all the history of philatelic exhibitions never was such a dazzling, dashing publicity program ever undertaken or accomplished. If we were the London Society we would at all hazards secure Mr. Melville as general manager of the exhibition.

The

Fiscal Exhibition.

Yet another exhibition is on the tapis in England (alas and alack! that all these exhibitions and rumors of exhibitions should be British and not American), namely, the public exhibition of fiscal stamps to be held in April under the auspices of the Fiscal Society. We are much in sympathy with this effort to prove the pleasures and extend the practice of fiscalism, but we greatly fear that the plucky little Fiscal Society is going to have a hard row to hoe, to use the country vernacular. It is particularly unfortunate that their exhibition could not have been held prior to that of the Junior Society. It would not have harmed the latter in the slightest; but we should not wonder if the Fiscal Exhibition's prospects have been a good deal blighted by the great attention attracted by the Junior Exhibition. The Fiscal Exhibition is comparatively overshadowed. We hope it may yet get out into the sunlight of public notice, and gain the attention it deserves. But we are not very sanguine of it.

The Perforator Sold.

The Perforator, an excellent philatelic monthly with which many of our readers are doubtless acquainted, has been sold by Mr. A. Herbst of New York, its former publisher, to the Central City Stamp Co. of Syracuse, N. Y. It will hereafter be published in that saline city, its Editorship being in the hands of Mr. Wm. E. Shoudy.

CHICAGO CHAT

(Continued from page 1.)

Society, that the society furnished the funds to get up the lecture, and slide showing the badge or emblem of the society, and alongside of it an illustration of the Chicago penny post stamp, from which the society's emblem was token; but this defect will no doubt be remedied when the lecture is given again.

Mr. Stan Zajicek, the late Sales Superintendent and Counterfeit Detector of the Chicago Philatelic Society, died on Feb. 3 after a lingering illness of some weeks. Mr. Zajicek was 25 years of age and first got into stamps when he accepted a position as errand boy with P. M. Wolsieffer, in 1892. For a young man he was one of the best-coasted in the business and his loss will be felt by many members of both the C. P. S. and the American Association, who frequently sought his assistance. He was a faithful and conscientious worker.

The auction sale of the Henderson collection, held on Feb. 11, was the best in point of attendance of any held this season. It was advertised as "Wolsieffer's 51st sale." Prices on stamps in fine condition were well maintained and some of the wholesale lots, especially current U. S. stamps and lots of pre-cancelled Chicago, fetched unusually high prices. Mr. Wolsieffer seems to have very good luck with his sales, and it is no doubt due largely to the fine catalogue that he gets out and the very explicit manner in which he describes the various lots.

The regular monthly meeting of Chicago Branch No. 1, A. P. A., was held on Feb. 9. The attendance, considering the extreme weather, was very good. The usual routine business was transacted and considerable discussion on various topics took up the attention of the meeting. From remarks that were made by various members it would appear that there are grumblings of discontent in the way and manner in which certain affairs of the Association have been handled, and from rumors and correspondence reaching Chicago it looks as if there might be breakers ahead.

Branch 1 has always taken an active interest in the affairs of the Association and can be depended upon to continue as the watchdog of the Association; and if there is anything doing that is not for the benefit of the Association Branch 1 will be found ready to take the matter up. What the Association needs at the present time is good counsel and a cool head.

The "Servian Assassination issue" is the term which an English contemporary wittily employs in referring to the recent Coronation issue in celebration of King Peter's accession to the Servian throne.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

and one that would not be regarded with popular favor. While the interchange of postage stamps as the equivalent of money is in some respects objectionable, it is about the only means not available whereby a person may send a small sum of money by mail without going to considerable inconvenience as well as expense by securing a money order. To people living in the rural districts or distant from the postoffice it is a great hardship which the use of stamps obviates in a measure. It would certainly be desirable to devise a method of marking stamps so that when stolen the thief could be apprehended, but the method proposed by Mr. Douglass of perforating them through the center and then making their sale after once purchased at a postoffice an offense punishable by heavy penalties does not seem to meet all the necessary requirements. The Postoffice Department officials have previously given a good deal of thought and attention to this phase of the postal problem, but they do not as yet appear to have hit upon the right method. What appeared to be the most sensible method of preventing theft of stamps was that suggested by a collector, involving the surcharging of each stamp for the larger cities with an initial which would locate the office at which the stamp was purchased in case stamps in quantity were found upon suspicious persons or offered for sale by them. Even this suggestion did not meet with the full approval of the Third Assistant Postmaster General, and nothing has been done in the direction of placing an identifying mark upon stamps.

All Washington dealers report a strong demand for stamps of the United States, with increasing smallness of offerings of this class of goods for sale. As a result dealers find themselves with stocks somewhat depleted of the better class of United States stamps in salable condition and this difficulty is said to be the common lot of the trade everywhere. It is also quite noticeable that dealers offering choice United States stamps for sale are not quoting the extremely low prices on this class of stamps that prevailed some years ago. Auction buyers assert with sadness that the day of snaps in U. S. stamps appears to have passed never to return. Your correspondent believes their view is correct. The available supply of rare United States stamps in good condition is relatively small and the question one of these days will be—if that day has not already arrived: where are dealers to replenish their stocks? A man who five years ago invested heavily in United States stamps will net a fine interest on his money if he is disposed to sell now, and we believe will double his money if he holds them two years longer.

Work on the new Philippine stamps is progressing very slowly, although it is probable two of the dies will be completed ready for proofs very soon.

Of course these proofs may not be approved, and then the dies will necessarily require alterations which will require considerable time. The stamps will not be out for many months yet.

The pictorial postal card fad is raging in Washington and has many votaries on its staff. It appears to be strictly the thing for visitors in Washington to send to friends at home postal cards bearing views of government buildings, scenes at Mount Vernon and hundreds of views in and about Washington. The variety is apparently limitless and thousands of the cards are sent out every week.

It is really unforunate that a little more time and attention could not have been given to the question of designs for the postage stamps for the Philippines. As it is there will probably be but two designs, that of Rizal, on the 2 centavos and the coat of arms of the Filipinos, as previously mentioned. The difficulty has been that the officials charged with the preparation of these designs, or rather the approval of them, have had too much other business of pressing importance to the Philippines on their hands, and have simply been unable to get the necessary time to give to the production of the new series of stamps.

WORDS OF WISDOM.

The qualifications for successful collecting - let me enumerate them. They are wisdom of choice, carefulness in dealing with these little adhesive treasures, a desire to learn their history, their manufacture - in short everything that is known about them. This means trouble; not the dry drudgery which the word so often denotes but loving care and thoughtfulness for which you will be amply repaid. Believe me, the greater the attention to details the greater the joy in the end. Besides all this, the advantages you gain by the pursuit of any healthy hobby must react on your whole life. Are you careless, untidy, prone to a sort of disorderliness in your everyday working life? Then take up stamp collecting with a will, I know of no finer antidote for carelessness than that. The device of the celebrated mathematician might well be rewritten and set up over the portals of the Philatelic Temple: "Let none, but the careful enter here. You know the old rhyme which begins: For the loss of a nail the shoe was lost. Care would have nailed that shoe so that it could not have come off. And it is just this carefulness this attention to details, which is the making or the marring of many a man."

Rev. T. C. Walton in Gibbons Stamp Weekly

A copy of the Brattleboro stamp recently sold in London for £50 (\$250). Presumably, the specimen was damaged or in some way imperfect, or it would have fetched a far higher figure.

The Philatelic School Room.

For The Primary And Intermediate Classes.

Conducted by Oliver Crinkle, X. G. S. Professor of Philately in Knowlton University.

(Continued from No. 22 page 8.)

In touching on the issues of 1847, I have left till the last the most famous and interesting of them all—the first issue of the little African island of Mauritius, destined fifty years after to outrank in preciousness and price any other stamps ever produced in the world. Everyone of you has heard of the "Postoffice Mauritius" stamps, specimens of which have fetched the highest prices ever paid for a single postage stamp. Turn to Mauritius in your catalogue and the cut marked A1 will show you what these great rarities look like. Turn back to the Great Britain section and you will note that the Mauritius stamp was patterned quite closely after the 1843 one-penny of Great Britain. Mauritius was the very first of Great Britain's colonial possessions to issue postage stamps—a very singular fact when we consider that it was then and is now one of the most insignificant and unimportant of British colonies. Situated in a relatively desolate part of the Indian Ocean, out of the main track of that Ocean's traffic, and possessing but scanty commercial importance of its own, we can only attribute whatever pleasure England may have had in its possession in the era of which we are speaking to the fact that it was ground wrested from a rival nation for which the English then cherished intense hatred—namely, France. The French were not, however, its original discoverers and occupants. The Portuguese discovered the island in 1505, but made no attempt to colonize it; and the Dutch were the first to effect a settlement there. They named the Isle Mauritius in honor of Maurice, Prince of Orange, the liberator of the Netherlands from the rule of Spain, and held possession of it till 1721, when it passed into the control of France. The French changed its name to Isle de France and retained its ownership for nearly a century—to be exact till 1819—when it was captured by the British, who restored the old name of Mauritius and have retained possession undisturbed up to the present time.

The white population in 1847 could scarcely have been more than a few dozen souls. Strange enough that this tiny, out-of-the-way island should have preceded even Canada and India, to say nothing of a score of other British possessions far more important than itself, in the acquisition of its own separate issue of postage stamps. Nor is their rarity so wonderful as it would be if they had been issued in a colony carrying on a heavier correspondence. The postal records of the island show that of both stamps only a few hundred were sold in all before the issue was retired and

another design substituted. What wonder that but a handful of them were preserved for the future delectation of philatelists. Of the two values, only a couple of dozen copies or so are now known to exist, and so highly are they prized that the most recently discovered specimen, unearthed last season, sold at auction for the stupendous sum of \$7250. Enough to make one's mouth water; isn't it? What a good thing for we who are not millionaires that most of the older issues were printed and preserved in far greater numbers.

A Barren Year.

1848 proved a barren year. Not a single country or colony adopted the postage stamp in that year. Great Britain, Brazil, Switzerland, the United States and Mauritius remained the only stamp issuing countries. But there were, after all, very good reasons why none of the leading European powers should have gone into postage stamp issuance during that particular year. For it was a year in which every monarch in Europe, save the rulers of England and Russia, trembled for his throne—a year of ferment and uprising and revolution from the Seine to the Danube—a critical time for monarchical institutions, when there was no assurance but that all Europe might in a few months be dotted with republics, in place of the monarchies that then existed. The direct cause of all the turmoil was the French Revolution, which had successfully fought the cause of the common people against the nobility, had driven Louis Philippe into exile, had dissolved his government, and had triumphantly established a republic in its stead. This success in France animated and inspired the down-trodden and oppressed in all quarters of Europe to similar uprisings. The whole continent seethed with revolution. Every government in Europe was harrassed and anxious. No wonder that the question of adopting postage stamps was postponed till more peaceful times; and that 1848 has left us nothing to give it honor in philatelic remembrance. Henceforward, we shall find no year which does not give birth, in greater or less measure, to new issues. 1848 is the last year of whose history our albums present no record.

A Year of Comparative Peace.

The next year, (1849,) was one of comparative peace. The situation had to some extent settled itself. Despite all the uprisings in the dozens of little kingdoms and principalities then in ex-

1000 Varieties of nice clean postage stamps (no United States) neatly mounted on sheets, each country by itself for only \$3.10 post free and registered.

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155 Dowling Ave.

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STAMPS,
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YOU NEED THEM.

Gold Coast 1898 2-sh
Lagos 1887 91 1-sh
New South Wales 1863 2-sh. 6d
Transvaal 1902 63 1-sh (single wmk.)

All fine copies. Postage extra.

FREE A new list of bargains each month.

WENDOVER NEEFUS, HUDSON, N. J.

One Cent Each.

LIST NO. 5.

Look Up List No. 1, 2, 3 & 4

in previous issue.

Foochow, 1890, *1c.
Funchal, 1890, *2c.
Germany, 1872, 1c, 1c, 1c, 2c; 1889, 25pf, 50pf, 1000, 2pf, 3pf, 25pf, 30pf, 40pf, 50pf; 1902, 50pf, 30pf, 100pf, 50pf, 100pf.
No. German P. D., 1898, 1c, 2c.
Great Britain 1811, 1d; 1870, 1d; 1872, 3d; 1881, 1d, 2d; 1883, 1d, 2d; 1887, 2d, 3d, 5d, 10d; 1891, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1892, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1893, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1894, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1895, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1896, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1897, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1898, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1899, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1900, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1901, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1902, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1903, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1904, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1905, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1906, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1907, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1908, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1909, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1910, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1911, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1912, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1913, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1914, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1915, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1916, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1917, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1918, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1919, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1920, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1921, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1922, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1923, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1924, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1925, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1926, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1927, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1928, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1929, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1930, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1931, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1932, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1933, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1934, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1935, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1936, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1937, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1938, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1939, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1940, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1941, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1942, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1943, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1944, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1945, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1946, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1947, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1948, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1949, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1950, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1951, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1952, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1953, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1954, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1955, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1956, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1957, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1958, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1959, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1960, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1961, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1962, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1963, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1964, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1965, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1966, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1967, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1968, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1969, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1970, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1971, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1972, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1973, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1974, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1975, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1976, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1977, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1978, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1979, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1980, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1981, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1982, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1983, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1984, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1985, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1986, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1987, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1988, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1989, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1990, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1991, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1992, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1993, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1994, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1995, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1996, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1997, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1998, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 1999, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2000, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2001, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2002, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2003, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2004, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2005, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2006, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2007, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2008, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2009, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2010, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2011, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2012, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2013, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2014, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2015, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2016, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2017, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2018, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2019, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2020, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2021, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2022, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2023, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2024, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2025, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2026, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2027, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2028, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2029, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2030, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2031, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2032, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2033, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2034, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2035, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2036, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2037, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2038, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2039, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2040, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2041, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2042, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2043, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2044, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2045, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2046, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2047, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2048, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2049, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2050, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2051, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2052, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2053, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2054, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2055, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2056, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2057, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2058, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2059, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2060, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2061, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2062, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2063, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2064, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2065, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2066, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2067, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2068, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2069, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2070, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2071, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2072, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2073, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2074, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2075, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2076, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2077, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2078, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2079, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2080, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2081, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2082, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2083, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2084, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2085, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2086, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2087, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2088, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2089, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2090, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2091, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2092, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2093, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2094, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2095, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2096, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2097, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2098, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2099, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2100, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2101, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2102, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2103, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2104, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2105, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2106, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2107, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2108, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2109, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2110, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2111, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2112, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2113, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2114, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2115, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2116, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2117, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2118, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2119, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2120, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2121, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2122, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2123, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2124, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2125, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2126, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2127, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2128, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2129, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2130, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2131, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2132, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2133, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2134, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2135, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2136, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2137, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2138, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2139, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2140, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2141, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2142, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2143, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2144, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2145, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2146, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2147, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2148, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2149, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2150, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2151, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2152, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2153, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2154, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2155, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2156, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2157, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2158, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2159, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2160, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2161, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2162, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2163, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2164, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2165, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2166, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2167, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2168, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2169, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2170, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2171, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2172, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2173, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2174, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2175, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2176, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2177, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2178, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2179, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2180, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2181, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2182, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2183, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2184, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2185, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2186, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2187, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2188, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2189, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2190, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2191, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2192, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2193, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2194, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2195, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2196, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2197, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2198, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2199, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2200, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2201, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2202, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2203, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2204, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2205, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2206, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2207, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2208, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2209, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2210, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2211, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2212, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2213, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2214, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2215, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 2216, 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d; 22

In many states, not so much by force of arms, as by the granting of new privileges to the people—the repeal of irksome laws, more liberal constitutions, a share in their own government. In no other way could the furnace have been stilled. As it was, the people were appeased, the revolutionary spirit gradually died out for the time being, and the courts of Europe breathed freely once more. Yet only three countries, during the whole year, found time or inclination to provide themselves with postage stamps.

(To be Continued).

Borrowed Tidbits.

Great Britain—Three months ago it was announced that the halfpenny stamps were being printed in a lighter colour, more in agreement with those in use on the Continent, but we never imagined such a sickly tint was being used as has appeared the last three weeks. It makes one feel uncomfortable in the region now known as Little May, and what to call it is doubtful, as the majority will say it is pale yellow green, though really only a very light green in the block received here.

The Stamp Collector.

Swaziland—The M. J. prints a curious official notice, and comments on the apparent anomalous absurdity of the overprint. "It is arranged that a certain quality of Transvaal 1d. and 6d. postage stamps be overprinted 'Swaziland Revenue only'. They will be issued at an early date and will only be sold at offices in Swaziland, but may be used for postage purposes in the Transvaal, and Transvaal stamps may be used for similar purposes in Swaziland".

The overprint exactly explains the object, and the suggested revenue will also be raised by someone out there who was probably in the fakeming (or was it make-ling) business a few years ago, as probably two sheets of stamps would be sufficient for postal purposes among the Swazis for a year or two without an overprint.

The Stamp Collector.

New Reunions.

Reunion:—We are promised a new set from this island, and one of the designs is said to be the arms of the Colony. As no one seems to have heard of Reunion possessing arms of its own, the designer of the stamps will be able to exercise his own sweet fancy. Perhaps he will give us something appropriate; for instance, a poor philatelist staggering under the load of the continual flood of Reunion surcharges:—

P. J. of G. P

The name of the King of Siam undoubtedly constitutes a record in royal nomenclature. It is Phra Bat Somdech Phra Paramindr Maha Chulalongkorn Phra Chula Chong Klat Chow Tu Hua.

About Swiss Cantonal Issues.

By C. Grandpierre.

The otherwise very interesting article in your last (also previous) issue, "Philatelic School Room," demand, in some part, rectification. The Swiss cantonal issues are as good governmental issues as those of Bavaria and of the Departments of Columbia. It is also incorrect that Brazil was the second stamp issuing country. The first stamp of that country was issued in July, whilst the Port Cantonal of Geneva already in March.

That the Swiss cantonal issues were governmental issues is proved by the following facts: The federal government had, up to 1848, no postal monopoly. The cantons (states) were absolutely sovereign and organized their postal system as they chose. Most of them had for more than a century "let" their postal monopoly to a certain firm (or rather family, similarly to the monopoly enjoyed by the princely family of Thurn & Taxis in Germany). Several cantons though had in 1843 their own postal administration, amongst them Geneva, Neuchatel and Zurich. As the latter began to issue stamps, they were to be used to pay only postage within their limits. A letter posted in Geneva with a "port cantonal" stamp was delivered free in the canton of that name or carried to the border of France or of the canton Vaud, if it had another destination, whilst the subsequent postal administrations levied its charge on the letter in the ordinary way.

The federal constitution adopted by the Swiss people in a votation 1848 changed this order of things and gave to the confederacy the postal monopoly until then enjoyed by the cantons. But whilst the federal general postmaster was able to take over without delay the cantonal postoffices of Geneva, Neuchatel and Zurich, he had to wait more than a year until the contracts let by the other cantons had either expired or could be cancelled by settlement. Thence the transitory issues called the "poste locale" or "Ortspost" (which are nothing else but provisionals) of Geneva (1849), Vaud (1850), Neuchatel (1850), and Winterthur (1851), which have soon been replaced by the regular issue of "Rayon," available for postage in the whole territory of the Swiss commonwealth.

We lack documentary evidence in proof of the above, but it is the theory generally admitted.

It would be a great mistake to consider the Swiss cantonal stamps as private issues similar to the U. S. carriers stamps. They are absolutely full edged governmental stamps, as well as Bavaria, Confederate states and even any British colony.

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 Albums, finest out, spaces for 4000 stamps, fine cuts 30

JOSEPH F. NEGREEN,

128 East 21 St., NEW YORK CITY.

GREECE.

1886	1	1	brown	No. 64	80	02
"	5	1	green	" 66	"	01
"	10	1	yellow	" 67	"	02
"	25	1	blue	" 69	"	02
"	50	1	gray green	" 71	"	03
"	1	dr	gray	" 72	"	03
1889	40	1	blue	" 98	"	06
"	1	dr	gray	" 99	"	07
1891-92	40	1	blue	" 115	"	05
"	1	dr	gray	" 116	"	05
1900	20	on 25	blue	" 120	"	04
"	40	on 21	bistre	" 132	"	05
"	50	on 40	salmon	" 133	"	05
"	1	dr	on 41	violet	" 134	10

All fine used copies. Anything not satisfactory can be returned money refunded. Postage extra on orders under 50 cents.

MECCA STAMP CO.,

ROCKPORT, - - TEXAS.

INVERTED PAN-AMERICANS

ONLY very few sheets of the 1c Pan-Americans were printed with centers inverted! One of the sheets found its way to the P. O. of Anderson, Indiana; we bought 98 stamps out of the sheet of 100, paying \$980.00 cash and expenses of a trip to Anderson for the lot.

Very few are left! We are closing them out.

Single copies.....	815	00
Block of four.....	59	00
Single with an imperforate edge.....	12	50

These stamps are catalogued \$25.00 each, are worth \$50.00 when rarely is considered.

When our lot is gone, where would you get them?

C. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUB CO.
 St. Louis, Mo.

Do You Collect Postal Cards?

It is very interesting and inexpensive. Try these for a beginning:— 10 Varities from South America, all unused face value 18 centavos, works of Art, for only 18 cents postpaid.

Adolph Lohmeyer,

922 N. Gilmer St., Baltimore, Md.

THE READING TABLE.

What We Find In the Journals of the Hour.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly, London, England.

The Fortnightly for Jan. 28th is a special exhibition number, intended both to celebrate the glories of the Junior Philatelic Society's Exhibition and to serve as a catalogue of the exhibits and a programme of its various features. This number was, in fact, sold on the floor of the exhibition as the official catalogue of the event, and it reflects much enterprise and public spirit on the part of its proprietors and editor that the entire number should have been so freely placed at the disposal of the energetic young men who labored so hard to make the exhibition a great success. The catalogue proper occupies six pages, and even a hurried perusal convinces us that the display must have been a magnificent one, embracing almost everything conceivable in British postal issues. We should be trespassing on our London correspondent's domain if we spoke further here of the exhibition's features. But we may very properly notice a most interesting article relating to the work done during the six years of its existence by the very energetic body to which falls the honor of promoting the present exhibition.

The Junior Philatelic Society was founded in November, 1899, by Mr. Fred J. Melville, who has been its President and its great prop and mainstay ever since its inception. It began with a handful of members, meeting in a small room in the Old Town Hall, Clapham, but the accession of new members was so great that after a very few meetings, it was found necessary to secure Clapham Hall, a very much larger assembly room, as a meeting place. From the first, the great object has been to make each meeting highly interesting and entertaining. Mr. Melville gave a lantern lecture on "The Postage Stamps of Great Britain" at one of the very first meetings; another collector followed this up with a paper on "The Chemistry of Philately," and week after week there was some similarly novel paper or lecture as the piece de resistance, accompanied by the swapping of specimens and information and experiences naturally to be expected in such conclaves. Famous collectors have been secured to address the meetings on topics on which they are authorities, and it is related with what surprise Mr. Franz Reichenheim found an audience of over one hundred eager young collectors awaiting him on one such occasion. It short, there has always been live, throbbing, hearty interest to the Junior Society's meetings, and it is no wonder that it has thriven and grown so mightily. The society is not, of course, composed exclusively of young fellows. There is no age limit

to membership, and many adult collectors are members and regularly attend the meetings. But they go there mostly in a sympathetic and advisory capacity. It is the young fellows that form the life and backbone of the meetings—the active participants in its debates and discussions—the workers on its committees—the principal arbiters of the society's destiny. And their wonderful achievement in promoting one of the most notable public exhibitions (from many standpoints) which philatelic history records, supplies grand testimony as to their enthusiasm, efficiency and energy as an organization. We shall have something more to say in regard to this wonderful body of bright, brisk, busy young fellows in our editorial talk this week.

The Philatelic Journal Of Great Britain, London, England.

It is impossible to get away from this exhibition topic. Here on the very first page of the P. J. of G. B.'s latest number (dated Jan. 25th) we find a portrait of Mr. H. F. Johnson, Secretary of the Junior Society, and, next to Mr. Melville, the man to whom that society is deepest in debt for its success, accompanied with some account of the work that has fallen on his shoulders in connection with this February exhibition. And, to judge from the facts there given, Mr. Johnson's business capacity and indefatigable zeal must be a most valuable asset to the society. It is interesting to note that Mr. Johnson is really and truly a junior, being but twenty years of age.

The "New Issues and Varieties" department need not engage our notice. Under the heading "New Leaves to Cut" are reviewed a new English book, "The History of the Early Postmarks of the British Isles," and the new Scott catalogue, which our contemporary is broad-minded enough to praise most highly, even though it is not an English production. The "Editorial" is much briefer than usual, and refers principally to the recently rehabilitated unused English official stamps, in which our readers, presumably, have very little interest. The chief feature of the number is the commencement of a series of papers on "The Adhesive Postage Stamps of Siam," by Bertram W. H. Poole. Mr. Poole's opening plea for Siamese stamps as a capital specialty is worth quoting. It runs as follows:

"To the specialist in search of fresh fields and pastures new for the outlet of his superfluous energy, the postage stamps of the Kingdom of Siam form an admirable set for study. Though fairly popular in one or two quarters they have not, up to the present, received much attention at the hands of specialists and the lists that appear under the heading of 'Siam' in the catalogues are by no means complete and might with advantage be re-written. It is a country, philatel-

(Continued on page 7.)

Private Proprietary.

1890-1900 Issue.

J. Ellwood Lee & Co.

1 set to 5c Chocolate, Hyphen-Hole per 5 stamps cat. \$1.18 for 50 cents 1 set to each customer.

Late issues.

FRANCE 1900
No 107 2 franc brown on azure cat 40c
CHILE 1901
No 40 30c orange cat 15c
CONGO.

1901 50c Olive & black
1 fr. Rose & black
The two stamps for
Postage extra on orders under 50c.

S. Valentine Saxby,

Box No. 22. Rockford, Ill.

ON APPROVAL

AT 75% DISCOUNT

Fine Stamps Bank Reference required.

Mixture of Stamps for approval books. Good value.

1000 STAMPS \$2.00 Postpaid.

E. L. WARNER,

2220 Calumet Ave., CHICAGO, ILL.

You Know There Cheap.

U. S. 1847 5c	90¢
1859 24c (Average only)	15¢
1869 90c	49¢
1890 2c lake	6¢
1891 1c ultramarine	5¢
Chile 10 on 30 orange	25¢

EBEN S. MARTIN CO., Inc.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Stamps Free. A sheet of 50 unused

for the names of 2 collectors and 2c Postage. Cuban Revenues.
1000 Mixed U. S. Stamps 15¢
1000 Mixed Foreign Stamps 15¢
Packet No. 23—220 different stamps from
Huyti, Egypt, Soudan, Crete etc., only 25¢
Wholesale List for Dealers.
50 Blank sheets 10c 100 25¢
1000 Hinges 8c 5000 35¢

Toledo Stamp Co., Toledo, Ohio.

February 18th.

Date of our next auction sale. Sale consists of U. S. Postage, Depts., Revenues and British Colonies. A fine line of stamps in superb condition. Cata. sent free on application. In the mean time examine these:

CUBA.

1857 1c green o g 2c	1880 12c blue gray o g 1c
1876 12c green o g 2c	1892 2 1/2c dark br. o g 1c
1877 25c " " 2c	1891 1c claret o g 1c
1879 50c gray o g 2c	1891 2 1/2c ultramarine o g 1c
	1894 2 1/2c red brown o g 1c

Approval Sheets at 60¢ dis. Ref. Required

WESTERN STAMP CO., 701-2 N Y Life, OMAHA, NEBR.

100 China and Java, etc. fine stamp dictionary and big illustrated list of 3,000 bargains, 2c. Agts., 50c. 1905 catalogue of stamps of all nations, 10 cents.

A. Bullard & Co., 446 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.

Calvin C. Brackett, B. P. S., N.E.P.S. Gen. Del. Sta. A, Boston, Mass.

Stamps bought, sold, exchanged, wholesale, retail. Postage Extra.

10 Sets 100 sets
100 var. stamps per set .18 .40 \$3.00
1000 mixed used and unused only a few of anyone variety no common used stamps at all fine for sheets or exchange price \$3.00
Satisfaction guaranteed.
2nd. Issue \$25 blue & black perfectly colored no cancellation Price \$5.00

BOSTON LETTER.

Business is good in the city and collectors are devoting much time to the filling in of blank spaces in their albums and the accumulation of shades. If Drew's 144th sale is a standard, now is the time to buy U. S. revenues and private proprietaries, as these brought a less percentage of catalogue than any other class of stamps. Those having the new revenue album recently published in New York now have as good an opportunity as ever to fill in at reasonable prices.

A curiosity in albums can be seen at the office of the New England Co., it being one of the first published in this country. Appleton & Co., 1863. The collection itself is small, all stamps being pasted solidly to the page, as usual.

By some peculiar process of reasoning the jurors acquitted the man who was arrested for stealing a stock book with contents from the Hub Stamp Company recently. A juror's mind works fearfully and wonderfully without a doubt.

Much has been written recently of the apathy of a great class of collectors, of the reason for it, and of the remedy, and in this connection the following seems in order:

A collector who has always taken much pride in his collection because of the condition of the stamps and because of the value represented, in turning the pages of U. S. would look at his set of mint Columbians and think: "There is a cash value of over \$16.00; if I get hard up, I can take them down on Washington St. and get at least \$15.00 for them." The rainy day of proverbial fame comes at last and finds Mr. Collector broke. The beautiful set of stamps is taken to the dealer. I imagine Mr. Collector's wrath and disgust when he is offered \$8.50 for the set.

The above is not an exaggeration. Dealers are frequently being offered the Columbian set at 25 per cent. less than face and usually refuse them. Why? Because while not exactly demonetized the high values are worthless as postage.

How often does a piece of postal matter pass through your postoffice, reader, requiring \$1 in stamps? Great Britain and her colonies use their high value stamps for revenue purposes. It seems that the U. S. should do the same—permit them to be exchanged for lower values or stop issuing values so unnecessary.

Question: Should Philatelists as such interfere with politics?

Reason number two for the apathy of the collector: Mr. A. has been keeping his late issues in envelopes awaiting the appearance of the new edition of the 20th Century album. After a long delay he is now informed that the album will not appear until next September and he like Mr. Collector expresses his disgust. Even at its best the new album will be but a makeshift; as soon as any country is-

sues a new stamp the album becomes out of date. And Mr. A. is not any too well pleased at the thought of having to transfer all his stamps every year or two to another book.

The blank album is all right for the advanced collector or specialist, but the ordinary album with a blank leaf here and there or with no blanks at all satisfies but few. That many of these albums are sold is granted, but it is for the reason that there is nothing better on the market.

What is wanted and what must come before long is an album moderate in price into which extra leaves can be inserted. Then as new issues come out leaves for the album can be printed and be readily sold to the great army of collectors who will be glad to get such an album.

A printed album moderate in price, always up to date, no changing of stamps—that's what is wanted; that's what will come!

Regular monthly meeting and annual jollification of the Boston Philatelic Society, Tuesday evening, Feb. 21. Large auction sale for benefit of the library. Full report next week.

THE READING TABLE.

(Continued from page 6.)

ically speaking, that has made abundant use of what some writers term 'the perfidious surcharge' and thus forms a happy hunting ground for the discovery of minor varieties and errors. For the man of moderate means with specialist tastes it is an admirable country, for, while many the varieties are extremely rare, they have not yet attained the popularity which tends to high prices, and it is thus possible to get together an excellent collection without the outlay of unlimited capital."

The neglect of this country is, as we take it, Mr. Poole's main excuse for taking it up in print, and this first installment, devoted to the Siamese stamps of 1883, gives assurance that the entire work will be valuable and helpful to anyone in any way interested in the stamps of Siam. M. Rafalovich's article on "The Red Penny of Great Britain," is continued from last month; followed by some readable "Notes By the Way." The Philatelic Review of Reviews, as usual, closes the number.

Sensible Advice.

"Having placed your first thousand stamps in album, don't be frightened at its bareness but calculate your your chances of filling it up. Do not try to fill special pages or countries right off. Look at your catalogue and if there are sixty or one hundred listed for one country and only twenty or fifty spaces in your book, get one or more of a type on each page, and then add at your leisure. This is better for keeping up an interest in every country, as if whole pages are full, you cease to look at them."

B. W. Warhurst in Stamp Collector.

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display. A line will average seven words. Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

Free, Set of beautiful Chile stamps, if you apply for approval sheets at 60¢ dis. Extra prize for first 5 answering this. H. R. Dinger Wheeling, W. Va.

1883, Set Columbian unused, o. g. 10 cents Western Stamp Co., Newton, Kansas.

Persia, 1880 unused complete set - 25c
Bulgaria, 1901 1s to 30s, 8 varieties 6c
100 different stamps and 100 hinges 5c
Approvals 50% discount. Reference.
W. W. DAYTON, Nashotah, Wisconsin.

U. S. 21 00 black 1895 "lines" cat 50c 20c
Atlantic Stamp Co., Hudson, N. Y.

Collectors send me your want lists of unused entire Envelopes and U S Fractional Currency. S. B. Fish, Butler, Ills.

Collection of 500 diff. stamps, many scarce will sell reasonable. W. Ganex, Bristol, Wis

A Fine Foreign Stamp cat. 30c Free to app. applicants. Elmer Smith, Pontoonac Ill

50 var unused 25c, 100 var used 10c, 100 var no common \$1.00, app. sheets 50¢ F. J. Hall, Eastbranch, New York.

Fine Album and 5 var Cuba, Free to every collector asking for approval at 50¢ dis. and sending the names of two other collectors Russell Stamp Co., Wollaston, Mass.

We inserted a 12c advertisement in your paper the other week and received over half a dozen answers, many of which we turned into regular customers. Criterion Stamp Co.

1 stamp album, 100 stamps 100 hinges 1 rare Peru and 1 rare U S to all sending 5c with an application for my fine beginners app. at 50¢ com A H Helland, 2003 Ramsay St. Balt Md

Corea Prov. 1903 3 var cat 45c - 15c
Ecuador Jubilee complete 7 var - 25c
Italy '69-'74 Regnatasse, 12 var complete 58c
Herbert Blenden, 117 Cedar St., Springfield Mass.

100 all diff. stamps five cents. Some people do not know a good thing when they see it. Do you? F P BUTMAN, 68 Salem St. Wakefield, Mass.

Hayti 1904 1c. gr. inverted surch. cat 30c 10c
Approval selections at 50 & 60¢,
F. WATROUS, Box 38, Lakeville, Conn.

St. Louis set - - - 10c
Buffalo set - - - 10c
Omaha 1 to 10c - - - 10c
Columbia 1 to 10c - - - 10c
J. H. Houston, 337 Penn Avenue N. W. Washington, D. C.

The
**Stamp-Lovers
Album.**

Will hold 1152 stamps.
It is the neatest low-priced album ever offered to collectors.

Its price is 10 cents, postage 2 cts

The Stamp-Lovers Album,

Bethlehem, - - - Pa.

I would not be without THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY for twice the price of it.

Henry Dinger.

LONDON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

With regard to the display at the exhibition, this was a very fine one of the stamps of Great Britain, arranged chiefly by two very energetic colleagues of mine, Mr. Herbert F. Johnson and Mr. Charles B. Purdom. These are two young men who worked like Trojans. The former spent several all-night sittings before he could get the display in order. The work connected with such an event as an exhibition is tremendous. But thanks to these two devoted junior philatelists it was done in good time to present a very fine treat to all who visited the exhibition on Friday. Nevertheless on Saturday the show was in still better order.

Among the stamps were Mr. Hayman Cummings' beautiful aggregation of college stamps, and another set of the same interesting issues by Mr. L. Savournin. The line engraved stamps were well represented and a magnificent lot of the early embossed stamps (chiefly by a Manchester junior, Mr. J. S. Higgins), was on show. Among the 1d. stamps was a very curious variety shown for the first time, and which attracted an enormous amount of interest. This was a stamp from plate 77 and lettered B only, instead of B in one corner and A in the opposite corner. The stamp was the first in the second row on the sheet. It appears that plate 77 was issued thus, but the error was soon noticed, the plate withdrawn, corrected and re-registered as 77B. The error is thus known to have been in existence from the records at Somerset House, but according to Wright & Creeke no copy of it is known. The Juniors are thus to be congratulated on finding and showing a beautiful copy used on a piece of the original envelope.

Of the other exhibits I do not propose to write. They are in the official catalogue, which should be in every collector's possession. It was issued in the form of a number of the official organ of the society, "The Stamp Collector's Fortnightly," with a special late announcement sheet affixed to the front. This can be had from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. F. Johnson, 11 Trigon Road, Clapham, London, for 2d., or 4 cents in U. S. stamps, post free. Mr. Johnson will also be pleased to receive applications from would-be members in America.

I should not neglect to pay a tribute to my friend, Major Evans, the distinguished philatelic writer and collector, who opened the exhibition. He made a most charming speech, after the manner of those breezy editorials we always read and enjoy in the columns of the Monthly Journal. The large attendance at the opening listened to him with eagerness and with the deepest interest.

Among the members and visitors—I can only name a few, for all were not known to me by sight or name—were

the Baron de Worms, Edward J. Nankivell, C. J. Phillips, H. L'Estrange Ewen, H. L. Hayman, H. A. Slade, T. B. Hinton, A. J. Palethorpe, W. Pimm, Rudolph Frenzel, Bertram Peole, J. G. Hendy, Dr. Wignmore, L. W. Crouch (gold medallist), Colonel de Salls, Rev. Hayman Cummings, R. B. Yardley, W. V. Morten, W. Darneen, etc. On each evening the lantern lectures were attended by a very crowded audience and it is my one regret that the accommodation was not nearly sufficient to allow everyone to get a comfortable seat.

With regard to the medals and prizes, which, as readers of the Stamp Lovers Weekly well already know, were offered to juniors of not more than 19 years of age, this was also highly satisfactory in its results. The society's gold medal went to a young collector who had mounted a rare collection of the United States stamps in an ordinary exercise book. This had been neatly arranged with copious notes to every stamp, written in the collector's own hand. The successful youth is Mr. L. W. Crouch, of Aylesbury. Silver medals were awarded to a boy of eleven and a half years, Master T. Finch, of Exeter, and a girl of sixteen, Miss Geraldine Guinness, of Bow. Prizes were also awarded to Miss Claire Bonham Carter (aged 14), P. Wignmore (10), P. A. Jones (18), L. Quinton (under 19), J. K. Ruddock (16½), F. Hughes (17), R. Spencer (17), and J. A. Husselbee (17). It is to be hoped that the experiences of the Examining Committee in the examination of young people's collections will be productive (in the course of a few weeks) of a careful report which should be deserving of the greatest consideration.

One matter which cast a sense of gloom over the older philatelists at the exhibition was the sad death of Mr. Gordon Smith, the well-known collector who has arranged so many of the Gibbons albums and who has written so ably on a wide field of philatelic study. Mr. Smith, who had been ailing for some time, passed away on the evening of Friday, the 3d instant. The sad event served to emphasize the need for recruiting the ranks of serious stamp collectors, which have been too grievously depleted of late years by the grim reaper.

Tonga Becomes A British Isle.

The island of Tonga, (sometimes also known as the Friendly Islands) has become, we learn from the English press, a portion of the British Empire. A new stamp issue of the regular British colonial type is now, of course, in order; and it is said that there is an immense demand in England for stamps of the present Tongan series, in anticipation of their early retirement.

1000 VARIETIES only \$2.75

Or in other words at this price you are buying stamps at about 1/10 OF CATALOGUE, for these packets catalogue from \$22.00 to \$25.00. I have a few of these 1000 variety packets that I wish to close out at once and for this reason I am quoting these ridiculous low prices. IF YOU DO NOT BUY ONE YOU WILL MISS A CHANCE OF YOUR LIFETIME. They contain hundreds of varieties that will not be found in even larger packets and that are rarely ever sent out on approval.

This week I am going to give to every one applying for my approval sheets a set of Egyptian salt tax stamps which sell at about 15c. In addition to these every fifth applicant will receive free 1,000 Faultless Hinges and every other applicant a pocket album. I am doing this to get acquainted with readers of this paper and to get their names on my books.

I Especially Want Beginners To Apply.

My Price List will soon be ready so get your application in for it.

THOS. L. HOSMER,

3415 7th St., Des Moines, Iowa.

Try our famous "Tropical" packet containing 25 beautiful unused stamps from Salvador, Nicaragua etc. This is well worth its money for 37 cents. Post free.

The New Century Stamp Co.,
Smith's Falls Ont. Canada.

Cheap Stamps, Cheap!

Special offers for beginners. Only one set of each supplied at the price. Dealers orders are not solicited. Always send an addressed stamped envelope with all orders less than \$1.00. * Unused.

SWITZERLAND

Postage Due Stamps

1884-97	Catalogue Price
1c green and carmine	10
5c "	10
10c "	10
20c "	10
50c "	10
100c "	10
500c "	10
Catalogue price	70

We offer the above set of 7 for 7 cents.

CEYLON, King's Heads 1903.

2c brown	10
5c lilac	10
8c carmine	10

SAMOA, Palm Trees 1887.

*1/2p. violet	10
*2p. yellow	10
*2p. orange	10

CHILI, Provisions 1903.

1c on 20c blue	10
(1900) 5c on 30c rose	10

MEXICO, 1903.

1c violet	10
2c green	10
5c orange	10
10c blue on orange	10

GWALIOR, On Queens Heads.

1885-91, 2a. ultramarine	10
1885-91, 3a. orange	10
1900-2, 3p. carmine	10
1902-4, Official 1/2a. green	10
1902-4, " 1a. carmine	10

Catalogue price of above 17 stamps \$2.75

We offer the lot of 17 for 23 cents.

G. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUB CO.
ST. LOUIS, MO.

In Lord Crawford's want list of philatelic journals, appears a list of less than twenty-two numbers of our contemporary, the Philatelic West.

60 cents
a year.

2 cents
a copy.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Entered as second-class matter December 17, 1904, at the post office at Bethlehem, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

VOL. 1.

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, MARCH 4, 1905.

No. 25.

PERSIA.

1888. 1, 2, 5, 7, 10s., 1, 2, 5k., unused,	\$0 25
1904. 20k. used, fine,	1 00
30k. used, fine,	1 00
3 on 5, 6 on 10, 9 on 1k. used, fine,	20

SOMALI.

4c blue & carmine, inverted center,	\$1 00
5c blue & blue, inverted center	50
5c dark blue & blue, inverted center,	50
5c blue & black, inverted center.	75

Next Auction.

Dealers Sale. March 4th

Your name will be placed on our regular mailing list on request.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,

722 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SPECIAL.

U. S. PROOFS.

Cardboard and India.

We have them.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 EAST 23rd ST., New York, N. Y.

P Proofs On India. M

Card Board, Essays etc. of U. S. Postage, Revenue, M and M, and some foreign will be one of the features of the J. Allan Dietz collection to be sold at Public Auction without reserve at the Club Room of Chicago Philatelic Society on Saturday Evening March 11th.

There will also be a good line of stamps of special countries such as France and Colonies, Germany and Colonies, Portugal and Colonies U. S. and a lot of other fine stamps.

Kindly mail your bids as early as possible on account of possible blizzard weather.

P. M. Wolsieffer,

Auction Sale Specialist.

401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago. M

BOSTON LETTER.

On Tuesday evening, Feb. 25, the Boston Philatelic Society held its one hundred and forty-third regular meeting at Elks' Hall. At 7 p. m. an informal auction of about 150 lots of donated stamps was held, the entire proceeds being turned over to the Library Committee for use in purchasing valuable philatelic literature and in binding volumes of periodicals already received. The proceeds of the sale were about \$60. An abbreviated business meeting was held, at which two new members were elected.

February is the anniversary month of the organization of the society, which occurred fourteen years ago, so this meeting was in the nature of an annual jollification. After the necessary business had been transacted President Rothfuchs spoke for a few minutes, welcoming the visitors and former members who had assembled and expressing his pleasure at the large number present, then turned the meeting over to the Entertainment Committee.

Mr. Carpenter then announced that for the entertainment of those present Mr. George H. Worthington, of Cleveland, O., had sent on a part of his magnificent collection, the part sent consisting of Ceylon, Jamaica, Leeward Islands, Montserrat, Nevis, St. Christopher, St. Helena, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Turks Island, Tobago, Trinidad and Virgin Islands. Mr. Worthington is said to have the finest collection in the United States, and the portion on exhibition was certainly a feast for philatelic eyes, being valued at \$40,000. Almost every

stamp was represented in mint condition, most of them being also represented by a block of four. The rarity of blocks of comparatively common stamps, say, twenty-five cents to one dollar in price, was shown by a blank space in quite a number of places, for Mr. Worthington stands ready to buy anything lacking in his collection, and it is stated that he spends \$50,000 a year on this hobby.

Many very rare stamps were shown, two single Ceylons being valued at \$1200 each, one at \$1000, and there were many well up in the hundreds of dollars. The condition of the stamps was something unique, stamps that are hardly ever found in such condition being perfectly centered.

One of the points much commented upon was the arrangement of the stamps in the albums, this being somewhat of a disappointment to the collectors. All single copies were arranged in a vertical row on the left of the page, while the blocks were opposite, on the right, not an artistic arrangement, certainly, but one of great utility, it being possible to tell at a glance just what single stamp or block was missing. Doubtless when the owner has acquired the missing stamps he will rearrange.

After the stamp exhibition all adjourned to the lower hall, where an excellent banquet was ready—buffet style.

About eighty members and friends were present. Of these may be mentioned President C. F. Rothfuchs, H. P. Legg, President of N. E. P. S.; Messrs. Carpenter, Batchelor, Lyons, F. P. Brown, C. H. Stone, Howes, Gordon Ireland, W. O. Wylie, W. C. Stone Harris, Richardson, Osgood, Sircom.

Lombard, Sawyer, Fowle, and Franklin Smith.

Stamp business here is very good, Boston being well in the fore with the new issues, the latest being the new set of Serbia, ten values, from 1 para to 5 dinars, in two colors, shown by Frank P. Brown. The design in general is similar to the present bi-colored Bulgarian set, with the head of the present Servian king.

Portugal Reduces Foreign Postal Rates.

A. Lohmeyer, the Postal Card Dealer informs us that on March 1st the foreign postage rates of Portugal will be reduced to the former rates; i. e., letters and letter-cards to 50 reis, postal cards to 20 reis, and that on the same date there will be issued new postal cards of 20 reis single and double and a letter-card of 50 reis.

Commends The New Classification Idea.

"Editor Stamp-Lovers Weekly

Dear Sir

The suggestion in the last Weekly regarding a stamp album arranged to have all stamps of the same denomination together is a grand idea. I am greatly in favor of such an album.

Yours sincerely

G. A. Austin"

What have others of our readers to say in regard to this new idea? Let us hear from you.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

LOUIS G. QUACKENBUSH,
MANAGING EDITOR.

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E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

From The Editor's Point Of View.

The Ethics

Of Stamp Repairing.

Should defective stamps be repaired so as to hide the defect? This is a decidedly debatable question and one that is assuming more and more prominence in Europe of late, on account of the extraordinary skill attained in this line of work by certain craftsmen who are capable of repairing damaged stamps with such ingenuity that the real nature of the specimen thereafter in many cases almost defies detection. Stamp repairing in the ordinary, amateur way is, of course, a thing which no one would find fault with. The ingenious collector who betters the appearance of defective specimens in his own collection by clever piecing and patching is acting entirely within his rights. There is little fear that he will succeed in so entirely disguising the repaired spot that the specimen would deceive any critical observer if it should ever chance to come on the market. No harm is intended and no harm is done. But the case against the professional repairer and his handiwork is far different and far more serious. He reaches a proficiency that is dangerous. His specimens will often easily pass current as perfect, even under the examination of keen judges. And under these circumstances it is a question whether any conscientious dealer or collector is really justified in patronizing the professional repairer. The intent of most of those who do so is doubtless innocent enough. The dealer has no thought of selling the specimen that is doctored up for other than what it is; the collector has no immediate end to gain by dissimulation, as the repaired specimen is intended for his own collection. But the danger is that the specimen may pass into the hands of some one less

scrupulous, who will not hesitate to obtain for it, if he can, the price of a perfect specimen. The dealer's specimen will pass out of his hands in the natural course of business; the collector's specimen may come into the market in the end, even if nothing is further from his thoughts at the time the repairing is effected; for collections are being sold around us every day that their owners never dreamed would be broken up.

It is a grave matter, this fixing over of stamps so skillfully that even experts are deceived, and we do not wonder that European philatelists are a good deal stirred up over it. Dealers are naturally very touchy over any intimation that they have been patronizing any of these too skillful repairers, and a big English firm, confronted with such an accusation, has lately found it necessary to explain that the stamps repaired were not their own, but were the property of certain of their clients—a shifting of responsibility which does not appear to us to wholly clear the skirts of the concern in question. A similar mess has been stirred up in France, where it seems one of the repairers is not above adding blackmail to his other occupations. One of the Paris dealers had been a more or less steady patron of his establishment, and he threatened to publish the fact to the world unless a certain amount of hush money was forthcoming. The dealer refused to be bled, and the repairer straightway turned to another dealer, who had special reasons for wishing ill to dealer No. 1, and sold him the letters submitting stamps for repair (amounting to a considerable number), for the sum of 3000 francs. Dealer No. 2 had photographs made of some of these letters and circulated them extensively in French philatelic circles, his object being, of course, to damage the reputation of his rival. Such an attempt to damage a business competitor reflects little credit on the man using it. But the fact that it should have been attempted at all, to say nothing of at such heavy cost, serves to show what great odium is attached abroad to any connection between stamp dealers and stamp repairers. The dealer attacked in this case pleads the same justification as the English house—that the stamps were not his own, but the property of clients, for whom he acted as agent in the transaction. But even from this standpoint we do not like the looks of it. Stamp repairing had better be left alone. It is not good that the business should become a flourishing one. Fortunately, it has gained little foothold on this side of the Atlantic. But this country imports too many stamps from Europe for us to be entirely disinterested onlookers in regard to any matter having any important bearing on the European stamp market.

Neither Fish, Flesh Nor Fowl.

An English contemporary aptly remarks that the St. Helena remainders that have lately come on the market are neither fish, flesh nor fowl. They are, in fact, of such peculiar status that philatelic authorities are quite at a loss under what head to place them. St. Helena advertised them long, stipulating that no offer of less than face value for the entire lot (amounting to about \$43,000 in all), would be considered, and, naturally enough, found no takers. At last, in desperation the whole lot was postmarked and sold to an English house, the price not being made public. Presumably it was at only a fraction of face value. Now these stamps have, of course, never been used and bear the full original gum. In the strict sense of the word they are unused stamps; but no collector of unused specimens only would admit them to his collection, for they bear a cancellation mark. On the other hand, no collector of used stamps can consistently admit them, for they have most certainly not been used. They are not, strictly speaking, of the same class as the canceled-to-order stamps of British North Borneo, Labuan, etc., for while these latter are canceled unused, they are sold to collectors in that state while they are still current—whereas these St. Helena stamps have been demonetized and retired. In fact, nothing quite like these St. Helena remainders has ever been known before, and it is no wonder that collectors are nonplussed how to take them. The best plan, to our mind, if we may be pardoned a pun, is not to take them at all. Canceled-to-order stamps are bad enough in all conscience. But these defaced, unused remainders of St. Helena go a little way beyond anything we have ever heard of in philatelic impositions of governmental origin.

The Poor, Down-Trodden Proof.

We referred only a few weeks ago to the very little attention nowadays paid to U. S. Proofs and Essays, expressing our surprise that they were not more greatly prized than they are and in more active demand. We have since then had the opportunity of inspecting a considerable quantity of U. S. Proofs in a dealer's stock (we hasten to say that it was not our publisher's, lest we be accused of interested "puffing"), and have found cause to marvel even more than before over the neglect resting on this class of varieties. In these days when "condition" is so much thought of, Proofs should highly appeal to the fastidious philatelist. For not only do they have all the beauty of the unused stamps with which they correspond, but the centering is, in most cases, almost perfect, doubtless through more care having been taken in their production. Again, they may be had at prices infinitely lower than the corresponding stamps of regular

issue—a point worth taking into account when so many high values have, in the unused state, soared so far above the ordinary pocketbook. Most of us are forced to collect United States in used condition only, so far as the older issues are concerned. Under these circumstances, sets of proofs of these same issues constitute a very interesting addition to a collection. We wonder that many collectors have not thought of the matter in this light.

Facts About Roumania.

The stamps of Roumania, taken as a whole, are fully as interesting as those of any nation in Europe, bar none. But Roumania as a country being little in the public eye, its emissions receive less attention, as a rule, than they really deserve. The following brief sketch of the history of Roumania should interest our younger readers at least.

The part of Southeastern Europe now known as Roumania has been the scene of many fierce struggles during the past seventeen hundred years. Subjugated by the Emperor Trajan, it was included in the province of Dacia (100 A. D.). Many Romans settled in the country the following years, and as a result the modern Roumanian language consists mainly of Latin words, with the addition of some Slavie and Hungarian terms.

During the migration of the Nations, many of the hordes of Germanic and Slavie barbarians passed through Dacia, devastating and ruining the land. The unfortunate country has never regained the prosperity which it lost at that time, suffering unestimably from the various invasions, which practically lasted until the time of the Turkish conquest. In the 13th century the Mongols seized upon it, and a Tatar dynasty ruled for one hundred years, after which the Asiatic intruders moved onward again, leaving a desert behind them.

The low lands having been abandoned by the natives, settlers of the same race (Wallachians) moved over from Hungary and attempted to build up the country. Their chiefs bore the title of Wormode; one ruled over what was known as Moldavia before 1859, and another over Wallachia. These rulers were in constant dispute with neighboring states, who tried to assert their supremacy over them. Hungary had what would now be termed a protectorate over them for a considerable time.

The Turkish invasion put an end to their trials and tribulations as far as these neighbors were concerned the Turks taking possession of these territories in 1526. As the Woiwodes yielded voluntarily, no change was made in the form of government. The Moldavians and Wallachians made continual efforts to shake off the Turkish yoke, however, and as a result the

TALKS TO DEALERS.

No. 3.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY reaches a great many young collectors. It is reaching more of them every week. The dealer who does not make an effort to secure his fair share of the trade of these young collectors is shortsighted.

Individually their purchases are small. But in the aggregate they are large.

The custom of some of these young collectors may seem too small now to be profitably catered to. But what of the future? Many of these young collectors are going to be serious, ardent philatelists before many years pass. They are going to devote to their collections then ten and twenty and thirty times the money that goes into them now. The small trade you get to-day from this source will grow, if properly nurtured, into a trade of handsome proportions.

Now is the seedtime. What are you going to do about it? THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY can make you known to these young collectors. Will you avail yourself of its aid?

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY,

BETHLEHEM, PA.

the Porte finally deposed the native chiefs in 1716 and put in Hospodars (governors). These were mostly Greeks. Their rule was extremely despotic, as they were answerable to the government in Constantinople alone. No development was possible under these conditions, and it was not until the Russian Empire began to cast its eye on the Golden Horn that the lot of the down trodden provinces was bettered. In 1822 Russia forced Turkey to choose the Hospodars from natives; in the wars between Russia and Turkey, these lands were generally under Russian military occupation, but were returned to Turkey when peace was restored. The protectorate nominally exercised by Turkey amounted to less and less as time went on. In 1859 the two provinces, Moldavia and Wallachia, were consolidated under the name of Roumania, against the will of Porte whose wishes in the matter were not consulted. Alexander Consa was chosen prince by the people, but, his rule proving displeasing, a revolution occurred in 1866, which resulted in his deposition and the election of Prince Charles Anton of Hohenzollen. The country declared itself independent of Turkey in 1877, and the treaty of Berlin confirmed this action. In 1881 its ruler was proclaimed King. Its history since that time has been entirely peaceful and uneventful.

The first auction sale ever known in which fiscal stamps will monopolise the attention of the knight of the rostrum from the first lot to the last is to be held in London during the Fiscal Philatelic Society's coming exhibition. Fiscal stamps have often been sold at auction, but always hitherto in the same sale with postage stamps. This is their first chance to "go it alone"

The Danish Charity Stamps.

A number of correspondents have inquired concerning the recently issued "charity stamp" of Denmark. The following, taken from the Stamp Collector, of England, furnishes the clearest account of their nature and mode of use that we have yet seen:—

"Denmark has issued for the Christmas and New Year's time so-called Christmas or charity stamps, which are sold at 2 ore each, and are voluntarily affixed to every letter and post card over and above the regular postage. They have no franking power, but solely serve charity. The idea originated with the Danish post official, Mr. Stollboll, who rightly argued that the sense of doing good is especially strong at the Christmas season, and could be effectually assisted by means of a stamp, the sale of which would, through the enormous amount of postal business done at this particular time, result in obtaining a good round sum. In this hope he has not been disappointed. Two million stamps were sold within four days, and it was expected to have sold a further three millions by the tenth of January. With the amount obtained it is proposed to erect an hospital for tuberculosis children. The stamp itself is of pleasing design, upright square, showing within a crowned oval a portrait of Queen Louise of Denmark, who died in 1898; below are the arms of Denmark. Inscription at top 'Julen' (Christmas) and '1904' at bottom."

The Philatelic School Room.

For The Primary And Intermediate Classes.

Conducted by Oliver Crinkle, N. G. S. Professor of Philately in Knowlhyre University.

(Continued from No. 24 page 5.)

Bavaria

Enters the Field.

Taking these three countries alphabetically, the first is Bavaria. The German Empire of today, as I need hardly tell you, did not then exist; and Bavaria was as much an independent kingdom as Spain or England. It was not then, however, nor had it ever been, one of the great powers of Europe. Among the Germanic States, it was third in importance, a long way behind Austria and Prussia in population, wealth and power. It was, however, distinctly more powerful than either Wurtemberg or Saxony, the only two other German States, (beside those above mentioned), which in any way approached it in size; and next to Prussia it is the most influential kingdom in the German Empire of today.

Bavaria had had its full share of the troubles of 1848. King Louis I, then its ruler, was neither liked nor respected by the mass of his subjects. His rule had been despotic, arrogant and arbitrary; and the people were especially inflamed against him because it was well known that in all measures of state he was under the influence of and guided by the notorious Lola Montez, one of the most beautiful women of her time, and also one of the most unscrupulous. Following the example of the French revolutionists, the people of Munich, (Bavaria's capital and largest city) rose in 1848, and capturing the arsenal and thereby holding the fate of the city in their hands, demanded various reforms, and, above all, the expulsion from Bavaria of the hated courtesan. King Louis had no option but to comply. His throne, perhaps his life, depended on that compliance. The required reforms were made, Lola Montez was banished from the country, and the revolutionists were then content to relinquish control of the city. His throne, without his mistress, presented, however, no attractions to the degenerate King, who, within a month after Lola Montez departure, abdicated his throne and joined her in her retirement. He was succeeded by his son, Maximilian II, and in the first year of his reign, appeared the first Bavarian stamps, A1 and A2 in the catalogue.

These stamps are peculiar in that they are almost perfectly square in shape. The postage stamp was not yet out of the experimental stage, and the clumsiness and inconvenience of this size and form had not yet been demonstrated. The design is along the same general lines as the Brazilian, though differing from it greatly in treatment. The numeral "1" occupies the main portion of the

stamp; its value is further expressed by the words "Ein Kreuzer" (One Kreuzer), and by the four tiny numerals in the corners, at the bottom of the stamp is the word "Franco," equivalent to our word "Postage," and above "Bayern," signifying, of course, Bavarian. This name Bayern, (or Baiern, as it was formerly sometimes spelt) is derived from the Boii, a race of Celtic origin, who were the first inhabitants of Bavaria of whom tradition furnishes any account.

The design first issued (A1) did not long remain in use. The background used around the central numeral contained such a labyrinth of ornamental line work as to practically obscure the outlines of the figure "1" itself, the one portion of the design which it was desirable should stand out with the greatest prominence. The lettering on the four sides was also crude, and the general appearance of the stamp decidedly confused and blurry. Before the year was out a new design was gotten out (A2), in which many of the objectionable features of the first were done away with, although the same general style was preserved. This new design was at once utilized for two stamps of higher value (a 3 kr. and a 6 kr.) and the following year for the 1 kr. value also, the first type being definitely retired. This second attempt proved we may assume, reasonably satisfactory to the powers that were, for no further change of design was attempted until seventeen years later--the series being meanwhile extended to include a 9, 12 and 18 kr., and various changes of color being made from time to time, as the catalogue list adequately shows.

We had only had time to speak of one of the three separate stamp issues of the year 1849 the other day when it came time to dismiss the school. We saw how the little kingdom of Bavaria had preceded many far more influential and important European states in the adoption of postage stamps, and marveled a bit that the postal administration at Munich should have been so much more progressive than that of Berlin or Vienna or Madrid or St. Petersburg. But Bavaria was not the only minor bit of European territory that took up the postage stamp idea in 1849. Belgium came into the ring in the same year, with a series consisting of two values only—a ten-cent and a twenty-cent, their design that of Belgium's A1 in the catalogue.

It is worthy of note that, unlike Bavaria, Belgium followed the example of Great Britain and placed on her stamps the portrait of her ruler. Belgium was prosperous, happy and con-

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LIST NO. 6.

LOOK UP LIST No. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5
in previous issue.

Hong Kong, 1882, 2c, 5c; 1890, 10c; 1900, 10c.
Horta, 1898, *2 1/2c, *5c.
Hungary, 1872, 5k; 1891, 2k, 3k, 20k; 1896, 12k, 15k, 30k, 50k, 1l; 1898, 2k, 3k, 15k; 1901, 2l, 3l, 4l, 6l, 10l; 1901, 1l, 5l, 20l, 35l; new 1902.
Inhame Bane, 1892, *2 1/2c, *5c.
India, 1865, 1/2a; 1881, 1a, 3a; 1883, 1/2a, 2a, 3a, 4a; 1892, 2 1/2a; 1899, 3a; 1900, 1/2a, 1a, 2a, 3a.
Service H. M. S., 1883, 1/2a, 1a, 2a.
Gwallor, 1893, 5sp.
Faridkot, 1885, *1 1/2 yellow, *1p rose.
Indo China, 1892, *1c, *2c.
Ivory Coast, 1892, *1c, *2c.
Italy, 1865, 20c; 1879, 50c; 1889, 40c, 45c, 60c; 1890, 20 on 30; 1891, 45c; 1896, news, 1c; unissued, 1899, 5c, 10c, 10c, 40c, 50c; 1894, 20c.
Jamaica, 1871, 2d; 1885, 2d, 1/2d; 1889, 1d, 2d, 10d; 1901, 1d; Official, 1890, 1/2d, 1d.
Japan, 1877, 15c; 1879, 1a, 2a; 1883, 1s, 2s, 3s, 10s, 15s, 20s, 25c; 1899, 1a, 2a, 3a, 10a, 20a; 1900, 1a, 2a, 3a.
Jap. China, 1902, *1/2c.

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ented. Her king was loved and honored, and there was sound assurance that the Belgians would like their stamps the better for bearing the portrait of King Leopold. There was no fear, as in Bavaria, that the then reigning dynasty might be at any moment overthrown, necessitating speedy change of design if the king's portrait adorned the stamps. Bavaria, too, retained more of the old monarchial conservatism than did Belgium. Very probably the German kingdom considered it inconsistent with "the divinity that doth hedge a king about" to place his features on an article intended for such common, almost plebian usage. In countries whose rulers look with jealousy on anything that savors ever so slightly of democratic institutions there has always existed this same disinclination to suffer the kingly lineaments to appear on so plebian a currency. Note the absence of "portrait stamps" in Germany, Russia and Turkey, among European nations, for example; and on practically all the stamps issued by the independent powers of Asia. Of course, the absence of "portrait stamps" in the latter case is mainly attributable to those tenets of Mohammedanism and Buddhism which practically forbid the use of portraits. But in Germany, in Russia, in such old German states as Bavaria, Baden, Wurtemberg, and many other countries that might be cited, monarchial dignity has undoubtedly been the main cause of the dearth of portrait issues.

Belgium Not Bound

By These Scruples.

Put Belgium, as I have before intimated, was not bound by these scruples; hence the issue of 1849 bravely bore forth the portrait of Leopold I. This first King Leopold (father of the present king of the same name) is acclaimed by all authorities as one of the wisest and most just monarchs of modern times. He was Prince of the little German principality of Saxe-Coburg when, in 1830, he was called to the throne of Belgium, in that year taken out of the hands of Holland by the powers and set up in business for itself as an independent state. Their connection with the Kingdom of the Netherlands had never been congenial to the Belgians. In language and in temperament they had little or nothing in common with the Dutch, nor were the commercial interests of Flanders at all promoted by the connection. Both France and Holland had at different times reduced Belgium to the role of a dependent state. If either were to be her master, Belgium vastly preferred France—French being the prevailing tongue, and both Flemings and Walloons (the two peoples constituting the Belgian nation), being more nearly allied to the French, by descent, than to any other European race. Happily for Belgian independence, France had too many troubles of her own at home in 1830 to be in any position to enforce her

claims to the little country which her troops had so often occupied, and Belgium attained an independence which no European power has since ventured to disturb. Her position was, however, for many years a precarious one, and had not by any means ceased to be so nineteen years after, when the first stamps of Belgium made their debut. But King Leopold had vastly strengthened the state. Art, commerce and learning—all had made great strides during his reign, and he well deserves a notable place in the philatelic gallery of historical personages. It is a pity that his features do not come out more plainly on the stamp. He seems to have a rather grave, austere countenance, and thoughtful, too—betokening a somewhat sterner mold of mind than that of his pleasure-loving son, whose portrait we shall come to by and by on Belgium's later issues.

Like the early stamps of Great Britain Brazil, the first Belgian issue does not bear the name of the issuing country. There are not many stamps nowadays but have the name conspicuously featured. But these early stamps, you must remember, were mostly for local use, and there was really not much need that the name of the country should appear. When even Great Britain had not thought it necessary, why should little Belgium think otherwise?

The First Issue

Of France.

And now we come to France—the third of the great nations of the world to adopt stamps. There are few countries whose stamp collectors, in the main, are more fond of than those of France. They rank, as a whole, among the prettiest and most pleasing of any our albums contain, reflecting in so small degree the high artistic taste of the French as a people. More than this, there are few series of stamps which have more interest as indicators of history—a state of things due to the fact that France is the only one of the really great nations of the world that has undergone sweeping and startling changes of government during the postage stamp era. Her first issue made its appearance at a particularly interesting juncture of her history. The Revolution of 1848 had driven Louis Philippe into exile, and razed to the ground the whole fabric of monarchial institutions. For a period of many months chaos reigned in Paris and, to a lesser extent, throughout the provinces. France was divided into a dozen different parties and factions, each one of which was planning and plotting and intriguing to turn the situation to its own advantage. Riot and disorder was rife everywhere. No one could foretell the future of France.

The great mass of the people, of course, wanted a republic; and a feeble, weak-kneed republic was at length established—a republic so lacking in real stability that it seem-

Want! Want!! Want!!!

I am prepared to buy for spot cash unused o. g. finely Centered copies of U. S. Stamps from 1849 to 1890. I also want the Department stamps in the same condition. Parties having stamps in this condition can send them to me at their lowest cash price and if satisfactory I will remit by return mail otherwise I will return them registered.

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"	50	1	gray green	" 71	03
"	1	dr	gray	" 72	03
1888	40	1	blue	" 88	16
"	1	dr	gray	" 89	07
1891-92	40	1	blue	" 115	06
"	1	dr	gray	" 116	06
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INVERTED PAN-AMERICANS

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May I have your attention to the following offer for a moment?

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ed as though the first puff of wind might blow it away, and that was, in fact, destined to last less than five years.. The Republic made a noble effort, however, to give France good government. Much zeal and energy was manifested in many important departments of the state and, among other reforms, the postal system was entirely reorganized and stamps provided for the prepayment of postage—here, as elsewhere, of course, at the sender's option.

The design adopted was most appropriate—a female head, emblematic of Liberty (after the order of our own Goddess of Liberty), with the value expressed below, and in the label above, the words "Repub. Franc;" a contraction, of course, of "Republique Francaise" (or the Republic of France). The leaders of the new order of things must have felt no little pride in stamps that thus flung the ensign of liberty in the face of all Europe, where all the kings and nobles, and everyone in any way affiliated with the aristocratic orders, cordially hated the new republic. The presence of this republic in the heart of Europe was a menace to every throne on that continent—because democratic ideas spread like wildfire and the love of liberty needs but a little encouragement to burst forth in any land where rulers are despotic and unjust oppressions are practiced. So we may well imagine that never were any stamps so distasteful to other nations as these first stamps of France; and that, knowing the fact full well, the French patriots gloried and rejoiced in it.

(To be Continued.)

Remainders.

Most collectors are conversant with the term "remainders" as applied to certain stamps, but few, we think, have more than a hazy conception as to what these really are. Some confuse them with reprints and others, without any apparent reason, are of the opinion that they are a particularly obnoxious class of stamps. They are obviously not reprints, and where they are the remainders of stamps issued for legitimate postal purposes, they can hardly be considered obnoxious. Remainders are the stamps left on the Governments hands after a set has gone out of issue. These may be destroyed—a course which generally commends itself to philatelists—or they may be offered for sale in one or more lots to the highest bidder or bidders. Naturally the latter alternative is the one generally followed by the more or less impecunious Governments of the smaller or comparatively unimportant countries. They are then either sold unused, or they are marked in some way so that they cannot be used for postal purposes.

The West End Philatelist.

A Marvellous Opportunity.

The mercantile house in Alexandria, Egypt, which has been so kind as to provide special series of stamps for Mesopotamia, Armenia and Kurdistan, quite "unbeknownst" to the governments of those territories, advertises the emissions in a small and young American journal in a fearful and wonderful way. For but a one dollar bill it offers to send not only complete sets of the stamps it issues, but also the following ineffably delightful treasures (we quote verbatim):

"One guaranteed ancient sacred scarab from the heart cavity and a good luck stone from the head of an Egyptian Mummy, their histories, deceased's name, title, anciently hieroglyphically inscribed. Also 'Marvellous Eastern Tales,' 19 illustrated wonder chapters of idols, devils, yashmaks; also 'Khedives Favour,' 299 Histories, facts, details, Orientales strangest objects, mummy wheat, Madagascar manna, also the tale of spolling the Egyptians, and account of ancient mines, mummies, race suicide, full formula for same, Oriental lightning foot-cure, abundant hair, etc."

All these and more for a tiny, insignificant dollar bill. Can anyone have the heart to resist? Step up, gentlemen, step up; the show is about to begin. The museum is open. Sound the psalter, strike the sackbut!

Russian "Charity" Stamps.

Russia has, it seems, gotten out after all her long heralded war issue for the aid of the widows and orphans of Russian soldiers falling in the present war. The stamps are sold, we hear, at a premium of 3 kopecs over their face value, the extra amount thus realized being applied to relieve the necessities of those bereaved of husband or father by the rough fortunes of war. The issue consists of four stamps depicting the public monuments raised in the honor of various illustrious Russians, as follows:—

3 kopecs; monument of Admiral Naehimoff
6 " " " Minin & Posharski
7 " " " Peter the Great
10 " " " Czar Alexander II

The 10 kopecs stamps also gives a view of the famous Kremlin.

The issue is one of no little interest to collectors, both on account of its relation to the present war, and also because the designs mark so distinct a departure from all Russian precedent in this connection.

Most philatelist, we believe, collect for the enjoyment they get from the hobby, and this being the case, the only commonsense method of keeping the pastime always a pleasure is to reject or retain minor varieties just as sweet fancy will:— West End Philatelist.

Private Proprietary.

1899-1900 Issue.

J. Ellwood Lee & Co

1/2 - to 5c Chocolate, Hyphen - Hole Perf.
5 stamps cat. \$1.08 for 30 cents
1 set to each customer.

Late issues.

FRANCE 1900
No 107 2 franc brown on azure cat 40c
CHILE 1901
No 40 30c orange cat 15c
CONGO.

1901 50c Olive & black
1 fr. Rose & black
The two stamps for
Postage extra on orders under 50c.

S. Valentine Saxby,

Box No. 22. Rockford, Ill.

ON APPROVAL
AT 75% DISCOUNT

Fine Stamps Bank Reference required.

Mixture of Stamps for approval books
Good value.

1000 STAMPS \$2.00
Postpaid.

E. L. WARNER,

2229 Calumet Ave., CHICAGO, Ill.

You Know There Cheap.

U. S. 1847 5c
1869 24c (Average only)
1869 90c
1890 2c lake
1894 1c ultramarine
Chili 10 on 30 orange

EBEN S. MARTIN CO., Inc.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.

STAMPS FREE

20 var. U. S. Rev. Cat. 5c
for the names of two collectors and 2c Postage.

20 Japan all diff.
30 Sweden " "
25 Brazil " "
100 diff. U. S. " "

20 Russia all diff. 10c | 20 Norway all diff. 10c
10 Animal stamps 10c | 40 U. S. env. Cut sq. 10c
Dime Album holds 480 stamps.
Imperial " " 3500
50 Blank sheets 10c 100
10 " approval books 15c 100

Toledo Stamp Co., Toledo, Ohio

February 18th.

Date of our next auction sale. Sale consists of U. S. Postage, Depts., Revenues and British Colonies. A fine line of stamps in superb condition. Cata. sent free on application. In the mean time examine these:

CUBA.
1857 1c green o g 2c
1878 12 1/2c green o g 4c
1877 25c " " 2c
1878 50c gray o g 2c
1880 12 1/2c lilac gray o g
1882 2 1/2c dark br. o g
1881 1c claret o g
1891 20c ultramarine
1894 20c red brown
Approval Sheets at 60c dis. Ref. Required

WESTERN STAMP CO., 701-2 N Y Life, OMAHA, NEB.

100 China and Java, etc., fine stamps dictionary and big illustrated catalogue of stamps of all nations, 10 cents.

A. Bullard & Co., 446 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.

Calvin C. Brackett, B. P. S., N.E.P.S.
Gen. Del. Sta. A, Boston, Mass.

Stamps bought, sold, exchanged, wholesale, retail. Postage Extra.

Wanted in Exchange Common U. S. stamps all values all issues prices must be very low. Write stating what you have exchanging stamp. Can use up to 1000 or more each free from paper and not damaged. Don't send your stamps but write.

A Rhyme Worth Reading.

THE PHILATELIC JOURNAL OF INDIA is notable as being the only stamp periodical that nowadays "drops into poetry," as Mr. Wegg put it. That the Indian journal does so with excellent effect the following verses, taken from a recent number, seem to us to most amply prove.

It's amusing to hear how the dealer men go

For each other respecting the use, of stocking new issues in sheets and in blocks.

And heap on each other abuse.

When prices are failin'
Their noise is appalin'
Like cats catawaulin'
A "cuss."

When prices are risin'
They're all advertisin'
In manner surprisin'
To us.

A dealer named "A" advertises a lot of Nigers and Nieves in blocks, He can "do" 'em quite cheap to omnivorous sheep

Who follow a fashion in flocks.

"And cheaply they're goin'
A fortune's agrowin'
For anyone stowin'
The lot.

The prices are mountin'
Bad times asurmountin'
And no one's discountin'
A jot."

Then the dealer man "B" says "My friend can't you see,

That that villainous persona re 'A' Will merely get rid, for the loftiest bid, of the stocks which no interest pay.

I've awful forebodin's
Respecting "unloadin's"
A caused by the goadin's
Of debt.

I speak as one hatin'
This customer batin'
And confustatin'
You bet.

But I ask you to listen a moment to me For I've got an unsevered Geneva, And a nice Sidney view which I'm giving to you,

As a sort of pecuniary lever.

My stamps are allurin'
Uncertainty curin'
My trade is a roarin'
You see.

I stock continentals
And quaint Orientals,
But no "Ornamentals"
For me.

Then our dealer friend "A," he must have his say

And writes to the Journals all around And swears black and blue that the other's a Jew,

Who jolly well ought to be drowned.

For recent colonials
Beat ancient Cantonials
(We bar "ceremonials"
To-day).

And stamps with a picture
(A very nice mixture)
Have come as a fixture
To stay.

WORTH READING.

\$1.08 ——— for only ——— 36c

Full set of Lee J. Ellwood Co., Rev. 36c

This set of private proprietary revenues is composed of the 1/4, 1/2, 1, 2, & 5c. with the hyphen hole perforation. They are fine sets every stamp being a perfect specimen and well centered and certainly will not last long at these prices as I have only a few sets. The price quoted is 1/4 of catalogue.

I am still offering inducements for approval sheet customers. This week I am giving to every applicant for my sheets that mentions this paper and sends a 2c stamp with the names of two other collectors, 10 different Kings Head Stamps. This one of my regular packet and sells for 10 cents.

I pay special attention to applicants who are beginners.

THOS. L. HOSMER,

3415 7th St., - Des Moines, Iowa.

An Odd Mail Package.

Half covered with postage stamps, a large cocoanut, and all its hairy covering, was received through the mails at the Louisville post office, says the Courier-Journal. The nut was plainly addressed on one side, where the hair had been scraped off smoothly, and was delivered by the postman with his regular mail. Of the many unique packages and "things" received in the mail this was the oddest, for the cocoanut was without wrappings of any kind, and did not even have a tag attached. The nut was addressed in ink on one smooth side, and just above the address was the stamps. P. M. Advocate.

Fournier Again.

After all that has been said and written about the notorious house of Fournier, it is inexplicable how any philatelic publisher in his right mind could think of inserting the ads of this nefarious concern. We had supposed that no American paper would think of doing so, but find the ad standing brazenly forth in a recent issue of a small stamp paper, otherwise very promising, which has just started publication at Ithaca, N. Y. Ads offering forgeries for sale have in them the germs of incalculable harm to our hobby. Any paper that persists in admitting such advertisements to its columns should be severely shunned by collectors and dealers.

The statement that the Servian government had sent out emissaries to buy up every copy of the already famous "death mask stamp" that they could possibly get trace of, is now declared to be a figment of the imagination. There is an idea in some quarters that this report was started by some dealer or dealers holding considerable quantities of the Servian Coronation Issue, and anxious to start a boom in them.

"A lady who lived at Obock,
Bought a stamp to be worn as a frock,
Though she cut it and trimmed it,
However she limbed it,
It made but a pitiful smock."

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display.

A line will average seven words.

Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

Persia, 1889 unused complete set - 25c
Bulgaria, 1901 18 to 308, 8 varieties 6c
100 different stamps and 100 hinges 5c
Approvals 50c discount. Reference.
W. W. DAYTON, Nashotah, Wisconsin.

2000 hinges \$.10 1000 Faultless hinges \$.05 plus \$.02 postage. CHAS. E. FISHER, 26 Harrison Ave., Taunton, Mass.

I have good beginners approval sheets. Wm. Berton Hoover, Glenside, Pa.

Unique Curiosities! Old Time Railroad Tickets with date 1860-61 used, good condition Twelve varieties 7c each postpaid 4 for 25c. The Viking Co., Box 465, Erie, Pa.

St. Louis set	- - - -	10c
Buffalo set	- - - -	10c
Omaha 1 to 10c	- - - -	10c
Columbia 1 to 10c	- - - -	10c

J. H. Houston, 337 Penn Avenue N. W. Washington, D. C.

I want to buy 25c Entry of Goods. State number you have and price wanted. E. T. Parker, Bethlehem, Pa.

Money loaned on stamps or stamp collections. F. MICHAEL, 258 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill. Member A. P. A. and C. P. S.

Do not forget after you have read this ad. to send me five cents for 100 all different stamps. They are worth many times the price asked. F. P. BUTMAN, 68 Salem Street, Wakefield, Mass.

Italy '69-74 Segnatasse, 12 var complete 18c Herbert T. Belden, 117 Cedar St., Springfield, Mass.

It will pay you to investigate my cash offer for names of collectors, 10 diff. Kings Head stamps to applicants for my sheets. Thos. L. Hosmer, 3415 7th St. Des Moines, Ia.

Antioquia 1902, 4 var. cat. 28c. - 8c
A Fine Foreign Stamp cat. 25c Free to approval applicants. Star Stamp Company, 136 University Ave. Rochester, N. Y.

Cuba 11 diff. cat. 58c 12c and names of 2 collectors. Russell Stamp Co. Wollaston, Mass.

Cat. No.		New	Used
2	St. Lucia '80, 4p deep blue	\$12 50	—
3	6p green	—	\$12 00
4	'63, 1p lake	3 50	—
6	6p emerald green	2 50	5 00
7	'64, 1p black	75	—
8	4p yellow	—	1 10
9	6p violet	—	1 30
10	1sh. orange	—	1 30
11	1p black	70	—
13	6p pale blue	3 50	1 15
14	1sh. orange	—	1 30
15	'81, 1p gr & black	1 15	1 30
17	2 1/2p scarlet & bl.	1 00	—
19	'83, 1p green & black	10	—
20	1p black & red	75	—
21	1p yellow & black	—	1 00
22	6p violet	1 00	—
25	'85, 4p yellow	15 00	—
28	'81, 1p rose	75	75
29a	2 1/2p ultra Die A.	1 20	—
30a	4p brown	1 50	25
34	'86, 3p blue & green	8	8
36	1sh blue & carmine	38	—
36a	Die A.	1 05	1 10
37	5sh blue & orange	1 50	1 10
38	10sh " & black	8 35	3 00
40	'92, 1/2p on half of 6p blue & blue	1 75	—
103	'82, 1p black & red	—	1 50
105	1p " "	—	1 50
106	1p " "	—	1 50
109	2p blue & black	—	2 00
110	3p " & red	—	1 50
111	4p yellow & black	—	1 50
112	4p " "	—	1 50
117	6p violet	—	1 50
121	1sh orange	—	3 00
123	'84, 1p slate & red	—	1 00
124	1p blue & black	—	1 00

E. T. Parker, Bethlehem, Pa.

THE CABINET.

A Department Devoted to Coins and Curios.

COIN DEFINITIONS.

The terms relating to the rarity and condition of coins are somewhat confusing to the beginning numismatist. The appended definitions, accepted by most collectors, hence by dealers, will be found useful:—

Unique.—There can be but one copy of a unique coin. Therefore, these are mostly in possession of the mints of their coinage.

Extremely Rare.—This term applies to coins issued in limited number. For instance, the 1804 U. S. dollar, of which there are but thirteen known copies.

Rare.—Possibly may be numbered by hundreds. The cents of 1793, 1799 and 1804 are examples.

Common.—Is applied to the issues which reach tens and hundreds of thousands, and represent no fictitious value, except in uncirculated condition.

Proofs.—These were formerly called "master coins," and are prepared especially for cabinets and collectors. The dies are prepared with great care and the blanks—or planchets—are highly polished. This gives the field of the coins struck therefrom a mirror-like appearance.

Uncirculated.—Designates a new coin made for ordinary circulation. Save for the polished field they resemble proof coins.

The following terms are rather elastic ones, though their definition is generally given as below.

Very Fine.—Appertains to a coin approximately uncirculated; slight "hay marks," but all parts sharp and no nicks.

Fine.—All parts distinct, but coin in general considerably worn.

Good.—Applies to a coin that is well worn down, but the date, figures and inscriptions are legible.

Fair to Poor.—Applies to everything below these standards, and unless of a very rare date, they are of no value over face.

GOOD PRICES FOR AUTOGRAPHS.

(The following clipping is from a Philadelphia paper of recent date; the friend who clipped and sent it in to us omitted to specify which one.)

Collectors from New York, Washington, Virginia, Delaware and places in this city and State were attracted to the sale by Davis & Harvey yesterday of autograph letters and historical documents of Dr. W. P. C. Barton, surgeon in the United States Navy; John W. Francis Mercer, member of the Continental Congress, and James (Milligan), Controller of the Continental Treasury, and unique papers relating to Colonial New York and Pennsylvania.

William J. Campbell, of this city, gave \$85 for a survey, entirely in the handwriting of George Washington, and signed at the age of 19, of a tract

Philadelphia Philatelic Society.

Branch No. 17 of the American Philatelic Association.

President H. J. M. Cardeza, Jr.
 Vice President A. F. Henkels.
 Secretary J. M. Repplier.
 Treasurer Charles Beamish.
 Sales Manager vacant.

The February meeting was called to order by President Cardeza at 8:30 P.M. at the Hotel Hanover the attendance was small on account of the inclemency of the weather. The Stamp-Lovers Weekly was adopted as the official journal. The reports of the Secretary, Treasurer, Sales Manager, Board of Governors and Committees were satisfactory and accepted.

The stamps of Porto Rico were exhibited by Messrs. Beamish, Gerdeau and Repplier. The Judges awarding the following points to each: Beamish 80, Gerdeau 99 and Repplier 80.

The stamps of Iceland are to be shown at the next meeting and the winner of the prize shall be the member who receives the highest number of points in the entire series of three.

To date the competition stands as follows: Gerdeau 184, Repplier 178, Beamish 168 and Hahman 57.

The meeting adjourned to an informal auction and broke up about 11 P.M.

J. M. Repplier,
 Secy.

of land in Frederick County, Va. It was said to be a beautiful specimen of Washington's early writing. Mr. Campbell also purchased for \$12 a letter of Thomas Jefferson's dated Monticello, May 31, 1822.

The original deed from the Esopus Indians of New York to Robert Livingston was sold to Walter B. Benjamin, of New York, for \$45. Two other original Livingston deeds from New York Indians were purchased by Joseph M. Fox, of this city, for \$55 and \$50 respectively.

A letter of Joseph Smith's, the Mormon founder and prophet, said to be one of the rarest of American autographs, dated Nauvoo, June 30, 1842, to General Joseph Arlington Bennett and signed by Smith as Mayor of Nauvoo, was also purchased by Mr. Fox for \$50. The letter relates principally to the progress of the church at Nauvoo.

An autograph manuscript of George Washington's on the margin of which Jared Sparks wrote "Washington's handwriting, but not his composition," was sold for \$40 to Mr. Benjamin. Copies of love letters written to and in John Howard Payne's autograph by a woman who signed herself "Little Tear-drop," fell to W. H. Loudermilk of Washington, for \$19. Lee Kuhns, of New York, bought an autograph letter of Sir Walter Scott's for \$10.50. A number of letters written by President Monroe brought from \$2 to \$6.75 apiece. Alfred Smith gave from \$3 to \$9 apiece for writs issued by Pennsylvania courts from 1687 to 1774. Among other prominent buyers were Simon Gratz, George Steinman, of Lancaster, and C. de F. Burns, of New York.

U. S. FRACTIONAL CURRENCY

in new condition. A set of a 5c, 10c, 15c, 25c & 50c, for only

The fractional currency is redeemable by the government, and is very interesting to everyone whether collector or not.

A set of the currency would make a most interesting and attractive addition to your stamp collection.

Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded

B. MAX MEHL, Numismatist,
 Fort Worth, Tex.

Wanted:—I want to buy entire collections, duplicates, large and small lots. Send on approval with lowest price. Register valuable and I will return registered or cash on return mail.

H. J. KLEINMAN,

3643 N. Marshall St., Philadelphia, Pa.

75 Diff. Foreign Stamps given to the person applying for our approval at 50% commission. Mention this paper.

The New Century Stamp Co.,
 Smith's Falls Ont. Canada.

Cheap Stamps, Cheap

Special offers for beginners. Only one set each supplied at the price. Dealers orders are not solicited. Always send an addressed stamped envelope with all orders less than \$1.00. *Unused

SWITZERLAND

Postage Due Stamps

1884-97	1c green and carmine	.....
	5c " " "	.....
	10c " " "	.....
	20c " " "	.....
	50c " " "	.....
	100c " " "	.....
	500c " " "	.....

Catalogue price.....

We offer the above set of 7 for 7 cents

CEYLON, King's Heads 1903.

2c brown	.....
5c lilac	.....
8c carmine	.....

SAMOA, Palm Trees 1887.

*1/2p. violet	.....
*2p. yellow	.....
*2p. orange	.....

CHILI, Provisiona 1903.

1c on 20c blue	.....
(1900) 5c on 30c rose	.....

MEXICO, 1903.

1c violet	.....
2c green	.....
5c orange	.....
10c blue on orange	.....

GWALIOR, On Queens Heads.

1885-91, 2a. ultramarine	.....
1885-91, 3a. orange	.....
1900-2, 3p. carmine	.....
1902-4, Official 1/2a. green	.....
1902-4, " 1a. carmine	.....

Catalogue price of above 17 stamps.....

We offer the lot of 17 for 23 cents

C. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUB CO.
 ST. LOUIS, MO.

cents
year.

2 cents
a copy.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Entered as second-class matter December 17, 1904, at the post office at Bethlehem, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

VOL. 1. BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, MARCH 11, 1905. No. 26.

PERSIA.

1, 2, 3, 7, 10s., 1, 2, 5k., unused,	80 25
10k. used, fine.	1 00
10k. used, fine.	1 00
3 on 5, 6 on 10, 9 on 1k. used, fine,	20

SOMALI.

blue & carmine. Inverted center.	81 00
blue & blue. Inverted center	50
dark blue & blue. Inverted center.	50
blue & black. Inverted center.	75

Next Auction.

Dealers Sale. March 4th

Your name will be placed on our registering list on request.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,
Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

SPECIAL.



U. S. PROOFS.

Cardboard and India.

We have them.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 EAST 23rd ST., New York, N. Y.

Perfection and Fine.

is the prevailing condition of stamps in the Geo. H. Brinkerhoff collection to be sold at Public Auction without reserve at the Club Room of the Chicago Philatelic Society on Saturday evening March 25th.

19TH. AND 20TH.

Century stamps will comprise this sale and something of interest will be found in it for everybody. Examine the catalogue carefully and please mail your bids early.

Don't forget that Pocket Stock Book and approval cards you need.

P. M. Wolsieffer,

Auction Sale Specialist.

401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

LONDON LETTER.

Ed J. Melville.

The recent exhibition of the Junior Philatelic Society has had many satisfactory results. Worked on an economical basis, it only cost £86.15.11. and the receipts from donations and the hire of stalls amount to £87.11.6. This leaves a balance on the right side of only 15s. 11d., which was all that was required. Against this a large number of society's hand books on "The Stamps of Great Britain" were sold, and the number of new members elected has been astounding. On Saturday last (Feb. 18) the usual bi-monthly meeting of the society was crowded—so full, indeed, that a room adjoining the hall had to be thrown open and many listened to the proceedings through the doorway, unable to secure even standing room inside. A larger hall and a more central place has thus been rendered necessary and the committee is spending much time in looking for a suitable spot.

The surprising number of 106 new members (including one life member) were elected at one blow. This total exceeded even the most sanguine expectations of the organizers. And still to learn from the Secretary that the applications are coming in. All through the reading of the names of the new members, and the report on the exhibition, the audience cheered again and again.

Such enthusiasm is infectious. It is spreading over a very wide area. Even the dealers were more than delighted and did the officials connected with the exhibition the honor of entertain-

(Continued on page 2.)

CHICAGO CHAT.

Mr. W. O. Staab, the efficient sales superintendent, is very enthusiastic in his work of the Department and he announces the receipt of a large number of books from members to be placed on circuits and also states the sales have been very good.

He notes one peculiarity in the work of the Department and that is the difference in certain localities and the methods in buying. In some parts of the country where sales last year and the year before have been very good, this year there is hardly anything and in some instances it is almost dead, while on the other hand localities that have not bought anything to speak of for several years are showing this year a decided interest by frequent and liberal purchases.

Mr. Staab appears to be the right man in the right place for this office and in addition to his faithful performance of his duties in this respect he has succeeded in interesting more stamp collectors in the Association and obtaining more applications for membership than any other one member, having even passed Mr. Wolsieffer in this respect, who has held the record for obtaining new members in the Association for several years. The Association is to be congratulated for having a man at the head of this Department who is both a worker and a hustler after new members.

At the second February meeting of the Chicago Philatelic Society the entertainment committee sprung a sort of a surprise on the members by giving them something new, or rather unusual, for a stamp society. In the

(Continued on page 2.)

BOSTON LETTER.

From all quarters come complimentary remarks on the illustrated supplement in the Stamp Lover's Weekly for February 18, containing a half-tone of the N. E. P. S. banquet party.

How to interest possible stamp collectors is a question much discussed at present and is next to the problem of how to hold the interest of one who has already collected is perhaps the most important question in the philatelic world.

For the following suggestion the writer is indebted to Mr. Lyons, of the New England Stamp Company, who succeeded in interesting a gentleman in the "gentle art," after he has been discouraged by the sight of a standard catalogue, with its thousands of varieties and its almost prohibitive prices.

First of all a book with blank, unruled leaves is needed, the cost depending, of course, on the taste of the collector. Leave five or six pages in the front of the album blank for an index and start a collection of portraits. This will include everything but profiles. Number the stamps and in the index have the number of the stamp followed by the name of the individual whose portrait you have secured. Instead of placing the stamps in the orthodox straight rows, arrange them in attractive designs, such as stars, triangles, crosses. Have on each page if you wish an original design of your own. Remember that your portraits are all indexed and consequently you can harmonize or contrast your colors at will. It is perfectly

(Continued on page 2.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

LOUIS G. QUACKENBUSH,
MANAGING EDITOR.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States, Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any address in any country in the Postal Union \$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.00 an inch. 60 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

From The Editor's Point Of View.

An

Editorial Apology.

The Editor is this week going to omit his customary page of Editorial comment, and he herewith most humbly craves your indulgence for the omission. The truth of the matter is, he is at present lolling away the lazy hours in Florida, quite at peace with himself and the world and entirely indisposed to write a single line more than he absolutely has to. Readers who have had personal experience of the Florida climate need not be told that it is as great a provocative to laziness as can be found on this hemisphere. Let us lay the fault, then at the door of this somnolent dozy peninsula; and assure you that by another week or so we shall be back in the saddle once more, ready to fill this page in our usual manner. Perhaps some of you may be glad of a vacation from the necessity of reading our Editorial page—but what Editor in his heart of hearts, would willingly hold theory so unflattering?

LONDON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

ing them at dinner in the Queen's room at the Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly. They all agreed that the amount of business done and the turnover in money at the exhibition was unprecedented at any other stamp exhibition.

I fear, however, some of them look forward too confidently to the early repetition of the exhibition, but having seen the enormous strain placed upon the Honorary Secretary in carrying through the arrangements, it makes one cautious about entering too soon upon another.

A large proportion of those 106 new members are, happily, new collectors, young men and women who had only

a slight fancy for stamps, which fancy brought them to the display. It remains to be seen whether the Junior Philatelic Society will maintain the good influence it has gained over these new collectors.

Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Limited, opened their new shop in the city on Monday of this week (Feb. 21), and I gather that they had some fifty customers. It is a splendid position they have secured for this new branch of their business, right at the corner of Leadenhall Street and Gracechurch Street. It is rather interesting to note how near their new place is to the new offices of the London Philatelic Society, at No. 10 Grace Church Street. The old rooms of the society were quite close to the firm's Strand shop. The chief advantage of having this city branch will be the opportunities for buying stamps from city merchants. Crowds of youths employed in city offices will linger outside the well-arranged windows to feast their eyes on some of the good things displayed. The new weekly published by the firm gets a good show in the windows, and it should appeal to many of the supporters of the new branch of the business. I hear that the new paper is a very great success. All issues up to No. 6 are out of print and Messrs. Smith & Sons, the great book-stall people, are continually increasing their weekly order.

The Fiscal Society Exhibition is the next event that is being looked forward to with interest in the stamp world of London. This should have the effect of stimulating a branch of stamp collecting which is very much neglected in Great Britain, but which everywhere else seems to receive a vast deal of attention.

CHICAGO CHAT

(Continued from page 1.)

shape of entertainment. The committee, of which our forceful friend, Eddie Rosenthal, is a leading spirit, sent to each active member of the Society an invitation sealed, which was in the style of a "circus poster," with heavy headlines and spread eagle type. The invitation called for an "Exhibition Extraordinary of Cut Round Specimens" from a member's collection. Fine used specimens, single and in pairs, from U. S., Russia, France, German Empire, Italy, Spain, Australia, etc."

Of course there was a crowd in attendance, many of whom came out of curiosity, desiring to satisfy themselves as to how cut round specimens could be supplied in PAIRS. This, of course, proved to be one of Eddie's pleasures, and the joke was enjoyed hugely by all those present when he trotted out a fine Victor machine and treated us to a phonographic recital embracing 32 selections of practically all classical selections, with enough of the popular style to keep Adams, Lee, Charley Severn and some of the other church-goers awake. Taken as a

whole, the entertainment was a success, and Charley Severn, who owns an Edison machine and is on the entertainment committee, promises us a repetition of this entertainment at a future date to consist entirely of ragtime and other popular selections. The members are now wondering what joke Eddie Rosenthal will spring on them next.

The auction sale of part of the Jenkins collection was very well attended, considering the fact that we are having from four to six sales in Chicago every month. The prices for the stamps in fine condition were excellent and in some cases previous records were broken. It seems to be a rule that when a stamp can be catalogued as very fine or perfection that it is sure to bring a good price in Walter's sales. The next sale of importance will be the J. Allan Dietz collection, which contains a great many fine and scarce proofs and essays of United States stamps.

The auction sale of coins of Ben. Green, held on Saturday evening, was well attended and very successful. The enclosed postage stamps sold at very high prices.

BOSTON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

legitimate, if necessary to your design or color scheme, to have a British Colonial and a Sebeck side by side. It is portraits you are collecting. Then if it seems desirable, collect all the different portraits possible of each person of whom you already have one. In addition you can collect the same portrait in different colors. For a low cost, beautiful collection nothing would appeal to a philistine more quickly than the above.

If those who are, or think they are, past masters of philately, would arrange such collections and have them permanently on exhibition for their non-philatelic friends, there surely would be many accessions to our ranks. A stamp is not added to a collection like the above to fill a space, but because it means something. It is a portrait of somebody and you know who that somebody is. Your friend won't have to know (and don't tell him) about watermarks, thick thin, hard or soft paper or perforations, for the identity of each stamp is established at a glance.

The idea for the above collection is readily adapted for the forming of other collections of allegorical figures, maps, landscapes, animals and other groups which will readily come to mind if needed.

The New England Philatelic Society held its regular monthly meeting at the Revere House on Tuesday evening, March 7.

March 21, at the meeting of the Boston Philatelic Society there will be an auction at which printed lists can be obtained.

ART IN BOGUS STAMPS.

Great Skill in Counterfeiting
Rare Varieties.

TOURISTS VICTIMS OF FRAUD.

"While the counterfeiting of rare stamps has almost been stopped in this country," said a stamp dealer, "still there are many expert engravers in other countries who are continually turning out copies of some of the rarest issues. Perhaps Germany leads all the rest in the number of bogus stamps made, but the cleverest engravers are in Italy and Spain, while Japan comes in a close fourth.

"One of the dealers of this city received the other day from an Italian stamp dealer a specimen of a Baltimore ten-cent stamp which, after a close examination, was held to be a counterfeit, and of a character to deceive any one but an expert. There is reason to suspect also that counterfeits of a five-cent Baltimore stamp are also in circulation.

The counterfeit ten-cent Baltimore is an imitation of the second of the three known varieties of this stamp. It is thought that it was made by some photographic process, and, while very like the original, still it differs in minor details. The principal differences are in the color of paper and printing ink and in the writing ink used for the cancellation.

These Baltimore stamps are worth anywhere from \$300 to \$400, which price was paid for one specimen of the ten-cent Baltimore, and is the highest price ever paid for an American stamp.

In Barcelona, Spain, there are also some of the finest stamp engravers in the world, and one man in particular is said to be the most skillful engraver ever known. He can make a reproduction of any stamp, no matter how intricate, which will deceive the most expert.

This is a regular business with him. Spanish laws permit of the reproduction of stamps, provided they bear a word equivalent to 'facsimile.' This engraver makes stamps which, if genuine, would be worth thousands of dollars, but which he sells for about 60 cents each. On each one is the Spanish word for 'imitation' in small letters.

When a steamer arrives at Yokohama or any other of the big Japanese seaports, it is a common thing for Japanese peddlers to come aboard with nicely mounted sheets bearing all issues of the common and rare Japanese and Formosa stamps. The whole set is offered for five yen, which amounts to about \$2.50. This is apparently dirt cheap for such stamps.

The rare stamps on these sheets are counterfeits in every instance. The commoner varieties can be bought for 10 cents a hundred, and these are mixed with the imitations so that the whole outfit has the appearance of being genuine.

TALKS TO DEALERS.

No. 3.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY reaches a great many young collectors. It is reaching more of them every week. The dealer who does not make an effort to secure his fair share of the trade of these young collectors is shortsighted.

Individually their purchases are small. But in the aggregate they are large.

The custom of some of these young collectors may seem too small now to be profitably catered to. But what of the future? Many of these young collectors are going to be serious, ardent philatelists before many years pass. They are going to devote to their collections then ten and twenty and thirty times the money that goes into them now. The small trade you get to-day from this source will grow, if properly nurtured, into a trade of handsome proportions.

Now is the seedtime. What are you going to do about it? THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY can make you known to these young collectors. Will you avail yourself of its aid?

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY,

BETHLEHEM, PA.

"The Japanese government doesn't prohibit the imitation of stamps, but they must bear the word showing that they are copies. This word is printed as a rule in such a manner as to convey no information to foreigners.

"Since the beginning of the Russo-Japanese war Japanese counterfeiters have been turning out immense quantities of Japanese and Korean stamps. The Japanese don't attempt to counterfeit the stamps of any other country except their own and Korea.

"Germany is the country where most of the stamp counterfeiting has been done. German counterfeiters play no favorites, but make the stamps of all countries.

"Previous to 1895 all the American issues were counterfeited, and finally the United States Government protested, and the making of the regular stamps was discontinued. The German government forced the makers of copies of rare stamps of American issue to place the words 'facsimile' in English on each one.

"But this was not done in the case of the postmaster stamps, such as the Baltimore, the New Haven, and the St. Louis bear stamps. These were not issued by the United States, and their manufacture doesn't come under the law against counterfeiting, and they are worth, when good, very large sums in every instance.

"Every town in Germany and Switzerland sells bogus stamps. They are usually on sale at cigar stores and news stands. The German counterfeiting is the poorest of all, yet it catches many victims.

"These stamps are all neatly mounted, and a tourist knowing a little about stamps, but not enough to protect himself, will eagerly invest a ten dollar bill for one of these sheets. He hasn't any suspicion of the manner in

which he had been taken in until he gets back home, when, with a happy smile, he says to his stamp collecting friend:

"Say, old man, here is a little bargain in the stamp line, that I picked up while over in Europe, only to be told by his friend that his bargain is made up of counterfeits of the rankiest kind, and that the whole lot of truck isn't worth a ten-cent piece.

"These counterfeits get on the market here once in a while, but not often, for such care is taken by American dealers that the fraudulent stamps are soon discovered and destroyed."

—Washington Post.

An Odd Occupation

An English philatelist regularly advertises in several of the leading British journals to "carefully examine and accurately describe mixed lots at stamp auctions for the convenience of country customers." His terms are 6d per lot, and he also executes commissions at all sales at a rate of two shillings per lot, if purchased below the client's price limit, there being no charge if the full limit is reached. From the fact that this gentleman advertises quite extensively we must infer that the service he offers must fill a very real need in the English auction field. He must certainly find considerable patronage or his advertisements would not remain the familiar feature they are.

An English Consolidation.

The report comes from England that the great house of Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., probably the largest stamp-dealing firm in the world, has absorbed the firm of G. Hamilton-Smith & Co., also one of the most important houses in the English stamp trade.

The Philatelic School Room.

For The Primary And Intermediate Classes.

Conducted by Oliver Crinkle, N. G. S. Professor of Philately in Knowlhyre University.
(Continued from No. 24 page 5.)

Last time I did not quite complete all I had to say in regard to the 1849-50 issue of France. This issue, as you have doubtless noted, contains more denominations and more sub-varieties than any we have hitherto met with. There are six specifically distinct stamps in the issue, namely, 10c, 15c, 20c, 25c, 40c and one franc; and unlike the sets of Brazil for 1844, '45 and '46 (the only other extensive sets issued by any country prior to 1850) each stamp is given a different color. In this set, also, we find the first "error," the first "surcharge" and the first case of "type variety" which we have come across thus far on our way. We shall meet with no end of brethren to these lapses from the normal in stamp production as we proceed in our studies, but at this stage of the subject they assume the importance and interest of new phenomena. The 20c blue error may be easily explained. All the different values were, of course, produced at the same place of manufacture; and it was a very natural mistake for some hurried workman to ink a plate of the 20c stamps with the wrong color, supposing it to be a plate of 25c stamps. This is the explanation of all errors of color (of which the catalogue contains many examples): simply a mistake on the part of the workman entrusted with the inking of the plates, which somehow or other passed undetected after the stamps were printed, allowing the wrongly colored stamps to pass into circulation instead of being destroyed by the inspectors, whose business it is to detect and remove just such errors from the finished stock. This particular color error we are speaking of is priced only in unused condition; whence we may infer that the copies now on the market were discovered and laid aside as curiosities by the printers; the systems of supervision over stamp printing being far less efficient and rules regulating the disposal of spoiled or defective sheets far less rigid than in later times.

No. 5, the 25c on 20c blue, is the first instance in the history of stamp production in which the practice of surcharging, nowadays so prevalent, was resorted to for the purpose of altering the face value of a stamp. In some temporary shortage of 25c stamps, the French authorities over-printed some of the regular 20c stamps with the legend "25c," intending to use them as 25c stamps until fresh supplies were received. But for some reason (probably the securing of a fresh batch of the regular 25c stamps sooner than anticipated) this intention was never carried out; and this particular variety must go under the head

of "prepared for use, but never issued." It is, however, a variety of much interest, as being the precursor and founder, so to speak, of the since very numerous line of stamp surcharges.

The two sub-varieties of the 40c (designated in the catalogue as Type 1 and Type 2) are of importance only as being the first of their kind in the records of stamp production. The numeral "4" in the two types differ very materially in form, as may be seen in the catalogue representation of them. The existence of the two styles of letters on the same denomination of the same issue is due to the fact that some wearing of the plates at the particular point at which this numeral appears necessitated the re-drawing of this figure "4," the artist executing the work choosing to use a differently shaped letter. I do not advise you to pay any special attention to varieties of this kind, which belong purely and solely to the field of advanced specialism; but still it is well to understand the reasons for their existence.

Another strange word to be noted among the list of sub-varieties of this first French issue is the term "tete beche." This means literally "upside down" and signifies that one or more stamps in the sheet is "wrong side up," in relation to its fellows. This inversion from the normal is, of course, due to a mistake in the manufacture of the plate from which the stamps are printed; and, equally of course, is only recognizable when the "upside down stamp" is in an unsevered pair, strip or block, in which its neighbors maintain their natural normal position. Tete-beche stamps are very, very seldom met with—and later issues of France supplying almost the only known instances of their occurrence.

Take it all in all this first French issue was quite a comedy of errors, was it not? Let us turn now to something of broader and less technical interest.

With 1850, Come

Many New Candidates.

With the year 1850 come many new candidates for our attention. Five European nations, and four British colonies entered the postage stamp arena in that year. Of the five in Europe, four of them were Germanic states—namely, Austria, Prussia, Saxony and Schleswig-Holstein—and we may well preface their study by some consideration of the political status of the various German states at that time. The united Germany of to-day was in 1850 merely the vague dream of a few statesmen

1000 Varieties of nice clean postage stamps (no United States) neatly mounted on sheets, each country itself for only \$3.10 post free and registered.

EDWARD Y. PARKER,

155 Dowling Ave.

TORONTO, - - CANADA.

SPECIAL:—Samoa 1899 surcharged "Fiscal Gov't" 8 var., complete unmounted, for \$1.35.

RICHARD R. BROWN,

WHOLESALE POSTAGE STAMPS,

Keyport, N. J.

TRANSVAAL.

1865 1sh. green.....
1902 1sh. brown & black
6 varieties Nos. 89, 100, 113, 121, 129 & 130
Cat. 20c
Postage extra on orders under 25 cents.

March bargain list ready. It's free.

WENDOVER NEEFUS, HUDSON, N. J.

One Cent Each.

LIST NO. 7.

LOOK UP LIST No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 in previous issue.

Lauban, 1807, 1c.
Leeward Islands, 1890, 1/2d, 1d, 2 1/2d.
Lourenzo Marques, 1888, *2 1/2c, *5c.
Luxemburg, 1892, 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c; 1895, 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c; Official 1899, *1c, *2c.
Macao, 1891, 1/2c, 1c; 1893 New, 1c, on 2 1/2c.
Madagascar, French, 1892, *1c, *2c.
Malta, 1865, 1/2d, 2 1/2d.
Martinique, 1892, 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c.
Mauritius, 1865, 2c, 4c; 1895, *1c, 2c, 4c.
Mexico, 1894, *1c; 1899, 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c; 1893, 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c; 1899, 1c, 2c, 3c, 5c, 10c, 20c; 1903, 5c, 10c, 20c.
Official Seal, *brown, *red.
Mayotte, 1892, *1c, *2c.
Monaco, 1891, *1c, *2c.
Montenegro, 1893, 1m; 1897, *1m; 1902, *1b, *2b.
Unpaid, 1894, 1m.
Mozambique, 1898, *2 1/2c, *5c.
Moz. Co., 1894, *2 1/2c, *5c.
Natal, 1882, 1/2d.

FREE OUR LARGE LIST.

IT WILL SAVE YOU MONEY.

ECONOMIST STAMP CO.,

79 Nassau St., New York.

LATEST ARRIVALS.

*Crete 1905, 21 (02) 51 (03)
*Crete 1904, Provisional 5 on 20
*French Guinea 1905, 1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 15c
*French Guinea 1904, 1, 2, 4, 5c
*Servia 1905, 1p, 102 5p, (03) 10p, (05)
*Uruguay 1905, 5m, orange
* Unused. Postage Extra.

Nonantum Stamp Company,

Newton, Mass.

THE "PERFORATOR"

A high class and Up-To-Date Monthly Magazine for Stamp Collectors and Dealers. Subscription 30c per year. 4 Months 1.00. One Sample Copy FREE.

Exchange Notice Free.

To every new yearly subscriber we allow an exchange notice of 15 words or less free in our exchange columns.

THE PERFORATOR,

447 S. SALINA ST., - - SYRACUSE, N. Y.

and enthusiasts. All Gaul, as Caesar tells us in the phrase familiar to every school-boy, was divided into three parts. All Germany at this period, so far outdid the scene of Caesar's Commentaries as to be divided into so many parts that it would be tedious to attempt here to recapitulate them all. There were a half-dozen powerful kingdoms, as many grand-duchys, several duchys, and a host of petty principalities—each one of which paddled its own separate canoe and cared very little for anyone's interests save their own. Austria and Prussia were, of course the two great rival powers of Germany; and their jealousy and hatred of one another (which found vent in more than one war between them) formed an effectual bar to German union until the military ascendancy of Prussia, proven beyond question in the Franco-Prussian War, convinced the minor German states that she and not Austria, held the destiny of Germany in the hollow of her hand. In 1850, Prussia ranked below Austria both in military strength and in political influence among the European powers—although Austria had more than once in the preceding fifty years faced crises which threatened to reduce her to a second or third rate power. Austria proper, as you very likely know, is in itself but a relatively small state, both in extent and population. It is only by extending its rule over other peoples conquered by the strength of Austrian arms, that the House of Hapsburg has in the past few hundred years, ruled over a portion of Europe varying in different eras to from twenty to forty times as large as Austria itself. The territory over which her dominion extended in 1850 was considerably greater than is comprised within the limits of the present Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. She not only held the kingdoms of Hungary, Bohemia, Croatia, Transylvania and various other lesser states which still belong to the Dual Empire, but also had a goodly slice of Italy, which she has since been forced to relinquish. The present extent of the Austro-Hungarian Empire is about 240,000 square miles; of which Austria itself occupies only about 12,000; Hungary being five times as large and between three and four times as populous, and many other subdivisions of the Empire exceeding Austria both in size and population. The consideration of all these things must make it very evident that the Austrians are a people of very great force of mind and military prowess. In no other way can we account for their having conquered and held countries so much larger and so much more populous than their own. The truth that both in war and diplomacy the Austrians have long out-classed all their immediate neighbors in the South and East; and that the extent of Austrian sway is a striking example of the triumphs which almost

always follow in the train of marked racial superiority.

But a little while before 1850 Austria's military strength had been put to one of the severest tests to which it had ever been subjected—and had emerged from the ordeal triumphant. The example of the French Revolutionists had not been lost on the patriots of Hungary, long under Austrian rule, but forever endeavoring to break away from it and regain their olden independence. Rebellion broke out all over Hungary in 1848, and under the leadership of the famous Louis Kossuth attained great headway in the early part of 1849. Kossuth was for some months virtually Dictator of Hungary; and the ability of the Austrians to put down his armies was for some time deemed very doubtful. They did so, however, and by the beginning of 1850 Hungary was decisively subdued; and the Austrian statesmen free to turn their attention to the devices of peace, among which the adoption of that new convenience was not, we may presume, deemed the least important.

The Austrian Stamps of 1850.

The Austrian stamps of 1850 (A 1 in the catalogue) are probably personally known to most of you—for three of the five values in the set are still so common that they catalogue at only a penny apiece. The design is entirely typical of the old Europe of half a century since. The arms of Austria, surmounted by the imperial crown comprise the principal portion of the design—and these stamps as a whole have a quaint antique, old-world flavor of appearance that, to my eye, is very charming. They are so different from the spic, spin, finely designed stamps that are turned out nowadays; they so easily carry us back in thought to the times of long ago (for so they seem to we of this generation); they are so palpably the children of an age and era far different than our own; that even the crudity of their engraving and the dinginess of their colorings enhance their interest as historic documents. There are some stamp-lovers who restrict their collecting entirely to modern stamps—those issued since 1900, or since 1890, or some other relatively recent date. They miss a good deal, I think, in not enjoying the acquaintance of such stamps as these old Austrians, and dozens of other contemporaneous issues. 'Tis a poor one-sided collection, to my notion, that does not mingle old issues with new ones, that each may set off the other and lend the showing the charm and piquancy of the contrast. I trust none of you have fallen victim to what is called "the new issue craze." It vastly limits the pleasure to be gotten out of stamps if one wilfully shuts his eyes to the antiquarian interest of the older issues.

(To be continued.)

Want! Want!! Want!!!

I am prepared to buy for spot cash unused o. g. finely Centered copies of U. S. Stamps from 1849 to 1890. I also want the Department stamps in the same condition. Parties having stamps in this condition can send them to me at their lowest cash price and if satisfactory I will remit by return mail otherwise I will return them registered.

Reference 2nd National Bank.

H. F. COLMAN,

725 11th St. N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

Cheapest on Earth Cat. Free.

106 dif., Hawaii, Philippines, etc. for \$0 08
 310 dif., rare, worth \$4.30, for " 30
 525 dif., worth \$8.00, for " 1 20
 1000 dif., worth \$24.00, fine collection, for 3 00
 Albums, finest out, spaces for 1000 stamps, fine cuts " 30

JOSEPH F. NEGREEN,

128 East 23 St., NEW YORK CITY.

GREECE.

Year	Value	Color	No. of	Price
1848	1 l	brown	No. 61	\$0 02
"	5 l	green	" 66	01
"	10 l	yellow	" 67	02
"	25 l	blue	" 69	02
"	50 l	gray green	" 71	03
"	1 dr	gray	" 72	08
1849	40 l	blue	" 98	06
"	1 dr	gray	" 99	07
1801-92	40 l	blue	" 115	05
"	1 dr	gray	" 116	05
1900	20 on 25	blue	" 129	04
"	40 on 21	blistre	" 132	05
"	50 on 40 l	salmon	" 133	05
"	1 dr on 40 l	violet	" 134	10

All fine used copies. Anything not satisfactory can be returned money refunded. Postage extra on orders under 50 cents.

MECCA STAMP CO.,
 ROCKPORT, - - TEXAS.

INVERTED PAN-AMERICANS

ONLY very few sheets of the 1c Pan-Americans were printed with centers inverted! One of the sheets found its way to the P. O. of Anderson, Indiana; we bought 88 stamps out of the sheet of 100, paying \$980.00 cash and expenses of a trip to Anderson for the lot.

Very few are left! We are closing them out.

Single copies.....	\$15 00
Block of four.....	59 00
Single with an imperforate edge.....	12 50

These stamps are catalogued \$25.00 each, are worth \$50.00 when rarity is considered.

When our lot is gone, where would you get them?

C. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUB CO.
 St. Louis, Mo.

Have you seen the beautiful 1897 Exhibition Postal Cards of GUATEMALA?

I offer a few complete sets of 6 varieties, face value 31 centavos.

For only 25 cents postpaid. First come, first served. They are printed by the American Bank-note Co.

Adolph Lohmeyer,
 922 N. Gilmor St., - Baltimore, Md.

THE READING TABLE.

What We Find In the Journals of the Hour.

The Monthly Journal, London, England.

The Monthly Journal for Jan. 21st displays so decided a falling off from its usual high estate of interest and value that we should be sore puzzled to understand it did we not realize that in the rush and flutter of Lanching Gibbons' Stamp Weekly it was the easiest and most natural thing in the world that its older brother should be a bit neglected. The Monthly Journal's nose is out of joint, and we should not greatly marvel if in the end journalistic history repeated itself and the weekly sapped the life out of the monthly. Such was the case in this country when the publishers of the Philatelic Journal of America, greatest among the stamp journals of its era, commenced the publication of a weekly. The new publication in a few years killed the old one; the monthly ceased to exist and the weekly flourished in its stead—and such we conceive may ultimately be the climax of affairs in this new English example of a house attempting to serve two masters. We earnestly hope our prophetic fears may not come true, for we have read the Monthly Journal for over a dozen years now and could ill brook to miss its monthly visits. But why worry over the future when the present is so pleasant? For the nonce, we have two good journals where but one stood before, and let us enjoy this felicity while we may.

Major Evans' editorials in the number before us are, as always, most pleasant and profitable reading. Opening with a kindly notice of the Junior Society's Exhibition, he adds the pregnant suggestion that the most to be desired thing in philatelic exhibitions, after all, is one held in some place of public resort, such as the Crystal Palace, where it will be seen by the general public. To hold an exhibition in a place that is likely to be visited by collectors only is, Major Evans aptly remarks, like preaching to the converted. There is much truth in this, and we hope that the committee of the coming London Exhibition will lend a receptive ear to the idea. Certainly, one of the main ends of public philatelic exhibitions is to place the charms of stamp collecting effectively before non-collectors.

The removal from Fleet Street of the famous old house of Perkins, Bacon & Co., known to all philatelists as the printers of the first postage stamps that were ever produced and of many other of the issues that adorn our albums, supplies the inspiration for another editorial in which the history of this house as producers of stamps is interestingly gone over, and still another editorial deals appreciatively with a lately published book on British

Postmarks, by John G. Hendy, Curator of the Record Room at the London Post Office, which has considerable correlative interest to the student of stamps. Scott's Catalogue, in a further editorial, is damned with faint praise, and the editorial department closes with a sympathetic notice of the Fiscal Society's coming exhibition.

The Chronicle of New Issues and Varieties follows, at its usual length of some seven or eight pages, and, next, a short instalment of the never-ending Indian States Papers, the 1900 printing of the stamps of Sirmoor being the subject of this month's investigation. Mr. Phillips' "Notes and News" contains nothing to which we need give attention. Mr. L. L. R. Hausburg contributes the most interesting article in the number, an account of the collectors and collections met with in his recent travels through America. As the heading is "A Trip Round the World," we assume he will in due course relate his philatelic experiences in Australia, India, etc., and shall anticipate their reading with no little pleasure. Mr. Hausburg went first to Canada and did not find Philately very lively there. In Quebec and Ottawa he found "little doing" in stamp circles, while in Montreal there seemed to be rather more activity. In Boston he was much impressed with the activity and enthusiasm of the many collectors he met; while in New York he was highly delighted with the Collectors' Club and other evidences of Philately's strong hold in the metropolis. We cannot take space to epitomize the balance of the article, but it is all very good reading, indeed.

Nothing else in the number merits special attention.

The Stamp Collector's Fortnightly.

London, England.

The S. C. F. apologizes for the leanness of its issue of Feb. 11th, laying the fault at the door of its coming birthday number, which is to be of an excellence requiring unusual and long continued preparation. Were it not for the apology, however, we should scarcely have detected any letting down of the S. C. F.'s usual journalistic gait in the case of the number before us—for it is full of goodly reading from first to last, and so long as we have quality we can afford to dispense with quantity.

The number opens with an obituary notice of the late Mr. Gordon Smith, one of the ablest of modern philatelic investigators and writers, whose demise we mentioned in a previous number. "Philately at Home and Abroad" supplies the usual pleasant mélange of witty comment, and following it we find an excellent article entitled "Where the First British Stamps Were Printed," dealing with the history of the house of Perkins, Bacon & Co., to which we made reference in our review of the current Monthly Journal. It is of interest to note that the founder of this house, ever immortalized in

Private Proprietary.

1899-1900 Issue.

J. Ellwood Lee & Co.

to 5c Chocolate, Hyphen-Hole per set
5 stamps cat. \$1.08 for 30 cents
1 set to each customer.

Late issues.

FRANCE 1900

No 107 2 franc brown on azure cat 90c

CHILE 1901

No 40 30c orange cat 15c

CONGO.

1901 50c Olive & black

1 fr. Rose & black

The two stamps for

Postage extra on orders under 50c.

S. Valentine Saxby,

Box No. 22. Rockford, Ill.

Death Mask Stamps.

1904

of

1904

Servian Coronation Set.

5 paras and 10 paras, used
5, 10, 15, 25, 50, used or unused
Complete Set, 5p-5 dinar used or unused

ARARAT STAMP CO.,

45 BEAVER ST.,

NEW YORK

You Know There Cheap.

U. S. 1847 5c
1869 24c (Average only)
1879 10c
1890 2c blue
1891 1c ultramarine
CHILE 10 on 30 orange

EBEN S. MARTIN CO., Inc.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

STAMPS FREE

20 var. U. S. Rev. Cat. 5c for the names of two collectors and 2c Postage.

21 Japan all diff.
30 Sweden "
25 Brazil "
100 diff. U. S. "

20 Russia all diff. 10c | 20 Norway all diff.

10 Animal stamps 10c | 10 U. S. env. Cat. 5c

Dime Album holds 480 stamps.

Imperial " " 3500 "

50 Blank sheets 10c 100 "

10 " approval books 15c 100 "

Toledo Stamp Co., Toledo, Ohio.

February 18th.

Date of our next auction sale. Sale consists of U. S. Postage, Depts., Revenues and British Colonies. A fine line of stamps in superb condition. Cata. sent free on application. In the mean time examine these:

CUBA.
1857 1c green o g 2c | 1890 12 1/2c blue gray o g
1878 12 1/2c green o g 4c | 1891 10c blue o g
1877 25c " " 2c | 1891 20c ultramarine o g
1879 50c gray o g 2c | 1894 20c red brown
Approval Sheets at 60c dis. Ret. Required

WESTERN STAMP CO., 701-2 N Y Lf., NEBR.

100 China and Java, etc., fine stamp dictionary and big illustrated list of 3,000 bargain lots. 2c. Apts. 50. 1905 catalogue of stamps of all nations, 10 cents.

A. Bullard & Co., 446 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.

Calvin C. Brackett, B. P. S., N.E.P.S. Gen. Del. Sta. A, Boston, Mass.

Stamps bought, sold, exchanged, wholesale, retail. Postage Extra.

Thin white gummed paper pure gum warranted not to discolor the stamp 1 sheet 17 1/2 inches will make more than 1000 1 1/2 inch standard size 5 cents, 10 sheets 40 cents, 25 sheets 85 cents and 50 sheets \$1.50. Sample for a stamp.

1000 mixed stamps 17 cents.

The Poets Corner.

Philosemeiotiscomistograpists.

From Punch, London.

["A French Stamp-Collector is dissatisfied at being called a philatelist. Stamp collectors, he considers, have a right to be called philosemeiotiscomistograpists."—The Globe.]

Descend, ye Nine! Descend and sing!
Without your best assistance

I can't so much as name this thing
That's come into existence.

Descend, Urania! Descend,
Melpomene and Clio!

Pronounce this word - without-an-end,
Pronounce Philosemeio-

In vain! Not all your arts, ye Nine,
Can work through half the letters,

And I must even seek the shrine
Of them that are your betters.

Ye Gods! to you my prayer I raise!
Put forth your best devices,

And help me when I try to praise
Philosemeiotis-

What! Have not even ye availed?
Then is our case distressful,

For when the very Gods have failed
Who else may be successful?

Ah! there is yet one hope - yes, thee,
I call on thee, Mephisto,

Come! help me sing of Philose-
meiotiscomisto -

Ah! cruel, cruel! Foiled again,
When I'd all but succeeded!

Can any mortal lungs contain
One half the breath that's needed?

If Muses, Gods, and I—, too,
Can get it no corrector,

I think 'twould be as well, don't you,
To stick to "Stamp-Collector".

The Dagger Of Alwar.

The curious dagger, known as a katar, which is so prominent on the stamps of Alwar, owes its presence there to the following legend connected with the reigning family of that State. Malraj, the father of Naru, who founded the Narukha clan who rule Alwar, was once at war with Kalodar Jhala, of Jhalrapatan. After much fighting, an interview was arranged between the two monarchs. When they were squatting on the ground, facing each other, four of Jhala's men plioned Malraj's arms behind him with intent to murder him. Mad at the treachery, but unable to use his hands, Malraj gripped Jhala's katar with his toes, pulled it out of his waistband and ended the traitor's career by stabbing him in the stomach. The legend is quite likely true, as the Indian has marvellously prehensile toes, and the broad handle grip of the katar would lend itself to use of this kind. Anyhow that is why we find the katar on the stamps of Alwar.

—P. J. of I.

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display. A line will average seven words Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

Perla, 1889 unused complet set - 25c
Bulgaria, 1901 1s to 30s, 8 varieties 6c
100 different stamps and 100 hinges 5c
Approvals 50% discount. Reference.
W. W. DAYTON, Nashotah, Wisconsin.

I want to buy 25c Entry of Goods. State number you have and price wanted.
E. T. Parker, Bethlehem, Pa.

Cuba 11 diff. cat. 58c 12c and names of 2 collectors. Russell Stamp Co. Wollaston, Mass.

2 fine stamps, cata. 30c given free to applicants for our approval sheets. Imperial Stamp Co., Manitowoc, Wis.

Bolivia or Nicaragua, well ass'd 60c per 100
Ecuador or Uruguay, well ass'd 60c per 100
Guatemala 42c per 100; Salvador 67c per 100
Honduras 60c per 100; Chili 28c per 100
Carl Young, 806 N. Fulton ave Baltimore Md

Closing Out at Less than Cost.
\$4 00 cat. value Canadians cat. 2 up 81 00
\$5 00 cat. value fine foreign cat. 2 up 1 00
\$7 00 cat. value average " from coll. 1 00
\$3 00 cat. value good U. S. Post. 1 00
at same rate. Prepaid. Bargains in Canadians, Chile, Argentine, Hawaii & Congo. Send wants of same. Wanted 5c Omahas used. F. B. Kirby, New Bedford, Mass.

Stamps - Book of 63 diff. cat. \$2.40, sell for \$1.00 W. B. Chipperfield, 606 W 115 St NY City

Austria, 1901, 13 var. Free if you ask for approvals at 50% discount and send the names of 2 collectors with 2c postage. Price List of Twentieth Century Stamps. Free. Triangle Stamp Co., 226 University Avenue, Rochester, N. Y.

Antioquia 1902, 4 var. cat. 28 cents 5 cents. A Fine Foreign Stamp cat. 25c. Free to approval applicants. Star Stamp Company, 136 University Ave., Rochester, N. Y.

STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY, Bethlehem, Pa.

Enclosed please find 12 cents for which send me another of your blank albums. They are the best I have ever seen.
Maxwell Cornelius.

Cat. No.		New	Used
2	St. Lucia '80, 4p deep blue	\$12 50	—
3	4p green	—	\$12 00
4	'63, 1p lake	3 50	—
6	6p emerald green	2 50	5 00
7	'64, 1p black	75	—
8	4p yellow	—	1 10
9	6p violet	—	1 30
10	1sh. orange	—	1 30
11	1p black	70	—
13	6p pale lilac	3 50	1 15
14	1sh. orange	—	1 30
15	'81, 1p gr & black	1 15	1 30
17	2p scarlet & bl.	1 00	—
19	'83, 1p green & black	40	—
20	1p black & red	75	—
21	4p yellow & black	—	1 60
22	6p violet	—	1 00
26	'85, 4p yellow	—	15 00
28	'83, 1p rose	75	75
29a	2p ultra Die A.	1 20	—
30a	4p brown " "	1 50	25
34	'86, 3p lilac & green	8	6
35	1sh lilac & carmine	38	—
36a	Die A.	1 65	1 10
37	5sh lilac & orange	1 50	1 10
38	10sh " & black	3 35	3 00
40	'92, 1p on half of 6p lilac & blue	1 75	—
103	'82, 1p black & red	—	1 50
105	1p " "	—	1 50
106	1p " "	—	1 50
108	2p blue & black	—	2 00
110	3p " & red	—	1 50
111	4p yellow & black	—	1 50
112	4p " "	—	1 50
117	6p violet	—	1 50
121	1sh orange	—	3 00
123	'84, 1p slate & red	—	1 00
124	1p lilac & black	—	1 00

E. T. Parker, Bethlehem, Pa.

philatelic annuals as the producers of the first postage stamps that the world ever knew, was an American. Jacob Perkins went from Boston to London in 1819 to compete for the bank-note contract of the Bank of England. He failed to get it, but remained in England to found a house, which has, in its eighty-five years of existence, printed postage stamps, bank-notes, annuities, bonds and paper securities to the amount of uncountable millions. Perkins, Bacon & Co. printed the English stamps from 1840 to 1880, producing them by the fine engraving process, relinquishing their contract in the year last named on account of the English Government's desire to employ the cheaper process of surface printing. The concern still, however, produces stamps for many countries; some of the finest examples of their work being found in the stamps of Liberia. They are removing from the premises they have so long occupied in historic Fleet Street owing to the widening and improvement of that thoroughfare having made necessary the demolition of the building they occupy, and it is a satisfaction to know that this grand old firm of stamp producers is not to cease business, but it is to continue, on the same scale as before, at another location.

The "Postal Cards and Covers" Department occupies a column, and on the next page Mr. B. W. Warhurst takes up the question "Are Stamp Societies Dwindling?" He does not think that they are (in England, at least), but he does think that they are, in the main, almost at a standstill, losing about as many old members each year as they gain new ones. He closes his article with the remark that it is carrying some that out of over 30,000 medium and advanced collectors in England (leaving out the quarter million of juniors) only one in thirty belongs to a society and less than one-fourth subscribe to the English philatelic journals—a state of affairs which certainly justifies the belief that the main body of collectors are as inordinately narrow-minded a class as could well be brought together.

The next page is devoted to an account of the Junior Society's Exhibition, which we are pleased to learn proved even more successful than the most sanguine expectations of its promoters. The details of its success we may safely leave to be described by our London correspondent, himself the head and front of the entire project, and the man to whom the greater part of its success is directly due. The "Review of Reviews" occupies its customary space, and the number closes with the first instalment of what promises to be an excellent paper on "Socialism for the Medium Collector," from the pen of Mr. W. Buckland Edwards.

A new stamp journal is said to have been started in Chicago, under the name of the Philatelic Monthly.

THE CABINET.

A Department Devoted to Coins
and Curios.

SLUMP IN MEDAL MARKET.

English Decorations Now Being
Sold at Cut Rates.

All markets are liable to fluctuation, and that for war medals is just now experiencing a rather violent swing-back of the pendulum, says a London letter to the *Kansas City Journal*. That these souvenirs will eventually recover their former values scarcely admits of doubt. For one thing they grow older, and historically more important. For another, there is always the possibility that a drop in prices may induce a fresh lot of collectors to enter the arena. For the moment, however, the market is somewhat upset by the death of a great collector, who spent freely. Dealers with an eye to the main chance, bought considerable quantities of medals, and for a time turned them over again at a good margin of profit. Now they find a slackened demand, and themselves the holders of goods on which they cannot realize anything like the price at which they acquired them. There is nothing for it, apparently, but patience.

Unique examples are probably quite worth their money today, but they must possess exceptional associations. Of this type are the bugle and four medals of Trumpet Major Joy, who sounded the charge at Balaclava. They were sold in 1898 for £781. As much as £1081 has been given for the Peninsular gold cross, but that was probably exceptional, and £550 is a later figure. When Nelson won the battle of the Nile, Alexander Davidson was so annoyed that no medal was presented to England's naval hero that he had one struck on his own account, in gold, silver, bronze and pewter. The gold specimen which he gave to Nelson was sold three years ago at the King Street rooms and brought £180. For the Victorian cross the highest price obtained at the same mart was 100 guineas. This was given to a member of the Shannon naval brigade, and is doubtless more valuable on account of the exceptional character of the act of gallantry which is recorded. The trophy, it is interesting to record, was once pawned for 5 shillings. Today a Victorian cross is worth from £40 to £50.

South African war medals have been dumped on the market. When they were first issued they were worth £5 at auction. Now a medal with six bars can be got for 10 shillings. Crimean medals with four bars are today 30 per cent. cheaper than they were five years ago. The highest price paid for a private soldier's Peninsular medal was for one with thirteen bars. This brought 50 guineas, and afterward "escaped" in the post. Old Indian medals are highly esteemed, and an officers, worth intrinsically something

like half a crown, has been known to fetch £66. The fall at the present time, as has been suggested, is among the more mediocre class of decorations. Collectors of medals are numbered by the hundred, and, therefore, there is a level of values beyond which descent is practically impossible. Perhaps the kindest way of putting the present position is to say that there has been a pause in the upward movement, and a sagging which was inevitable, pending the entry of some new Richmond into the field.

Panama Coins.

The first batch of new coins, which are being minted in the United States, reached the Isthmus in time to be put in circulation on New Year's Day. The monetary unit is called a balboa, a gold coin equal in value to a United States gold dollar. It is not intended at present to issue any gold coins, but when authorized they will be in pieces of 1, 2½, 5, 10 and 20 balboas. The silver coins are a peso, a half balboa, equal to 50 cents in gold, and a half, fifth, tenth and twentieth peso. The coins are handsome examples of the numismatic art. On their obverse is stamped in profile, and looking to the right, the bust of Vasco Nunez de Balboa, the discoverer of the Panama coast on the Pacific ocean, with a headband, bearing the words, "Dios", "Ley", "Libertad". Around the upper edge are the words "Republica de Panama" and the date appears below. Upon the reverse the coat of arms of the republic occupies the center with the value of the coin in words above, and its weight in grams and fineness expressed in figures below:—

Mekeel's Stamp Collector.

The pursuit of a hobby is very often a question of expense. Many interesting lines of collecting are practically closed to all but the wealthy. But stamp collecting is open to all, for the expenditure may in its case be limited at the will of the collector to shillings or pounds. The rich collector may make his choice amongst the most expensive countries, whilst the man of moderate means will, wisely confine himself to equally interesting countries whose stamps have not gone beyond the reach of the man who does not wish to make his hobby an expensive one. The schoolboy may get together a very respectable little collection by the judicious expenditure of small savings from his pocket money, and the millionaire will find ample scope for his surplus wealth in the fine range of varieties that gem the issues of many of the oldest stamp-issuing countries, and which only the fortunate few can hope to possess:—

Nankivell's "Stamp Collecting As A Pastime".

N. Yaar & Co of Amsterdam, Holland, are this month to launch a new stamp journal, the *Nederlandsche Philatelist* by name, which is to be published in four languages.

DON'T TAKE OUR WORD FOR IT

But send 10c for a 3 months subscription to

The Philatelic East

and see if it isn't the most interesting, useful and finely printed collector's monthly. It will cost you nothing, because we give each new subscriber mentioning this Weekly a used Uruguay surcharged "Official", or a used Peru surcharged "Goberino", which are seldom seen outside of Washington.

The East is the greatest success of recent years. Read the following unsolicited letter:—

"Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 11, 1910.

East Publishing Co.,

Washington, D. C.

Enclosed I hand you 10c for trial subscription to your paper. At end of that time notify me by postal and if paper is satisfactory which I think it will be from sample copy received, will then be a yearly subscriber.

Yours truly,

P. H. Hill."

Send 10 cents to-day for a trial, or 50 cents for 1 year and a rubber address stamp.

Exchange Notices Free.

90 correspondents want to trade. In Feb. No.

Address THE EAST PUB. CO.,

BOX 289,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

75 Diff. Foreign Stamps given to the person applying for our approval when at 50% commission. Mention this paper.

The New Century Stamp Co.,

Smith's Falls Ont. Canada.

Cheap Stamps, Cheap!

Special offers for beginners. Only one set of each supplied at the price. Dealers orders are not solicited. Always send an addressed stamped envelope with all orders less than \$1.00. Unused.

SWITZERLAND

Postage Due Stamps

1884-97

1c green and carmine

5c "

10c "

20c "

50c "

100c "

500c "

Catalogue price.

We offer the above set of 7 for 7 cents.

CEYLON, King's Heads 1903.

2c brown

5c lilac

8c carmine

SAMOA, Palm Trees 1887.

*½p. violet

*2p. yellow

*2p. orange

CHILI, Provisional 1903.

1c on 20c blue

(1900) 5c on 30c rose

MEXICO, 1903.

1c violet

2c green

5c orange

10c blue on orange

GWALIOR, On Queens Heads.

1885-91, 2a. ultramarine

1885-91, 3a. orange

1900-2, 3p. carmine

1902-4, Official ½a. green

1902-4, " 1a. carmine

Catalogue price of above 17 stamps.

We offer the lot of 17 for 23 cents.

C. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUB CO.

ST. LOUIS, MO.

50 cents
a year.

2 cents
a copy.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Entered as second-class matter December 17, 1904, at the post office at Bethlehem, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

VOL. II.

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, MARCH 18, 1905.

No. 1.

OUR

221st Auction Sale

of Stamps takes place

APRIL 8th. at 2 o'clock

in Philadelphia.

It is full of rarities. Catalogues Free.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,

22 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

LONDON LETTER.

By Fred J. Melville.

It will come as a surprise to many to learn that the Honorary Vice-President of the London Philatelic Society has again disposed of a large collection of stamps for a very big price. In the next number of the Monthly Journal, which will be out in a few days, will be found a description of Mr. Castle's latest collection, which has passed into the possession of Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd. for a sum given as £5,750. The collection, of which I have had a view this week, is being priced by the energetic manager of the Gibbons firm, Mr. Charles J. Phillips; and is a very fine accumulation of Australian specimens, yet I scarcely think it is as complete as Mr. Castle would have liked it to be before parting with it. I have no exact figures by me but there are considerably over 500 Sydney views in the albums, the late owner having, as I stated once before, a predilection for these highly desirable stamps. Previous collections priced by Mr. Castle made records for themselves in the matter of price. It is only about five years since his unused Europeans were sold to Mr. Mann for £27,500. Here is a summary of his sales within twelve years:

Date.	Collection of.	Price fetched.
1901	Australian Stamps	£10,000
1900	European Stamps	£27,500
1895	Australian Stamps	£ 5,750
	Total for 3 Collections	£43,250

No doubt the purchase is a good bargain for the Gibbons firm. Its price is in excess of that. I am told, which Mr. Peckitt paid for the celebrated Prince Doria collection.

(Continued on page 8.)

The American Journal of Philately.

Bound volumes for 1904 now ready! Price \$1.50 post free. To subscribers sending us 60 cents and their bound numbers, in good condition, we will send a bound volume.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 EAST 23rd ST., New York, N. Y.

CHICAGO CHAT.

At the last meeting of the Chicago Philatelic Society, the Board of Directors cleaned up a large amount of unfinished business which accumulated on account of the various entertainments provided by our energetic Entertainment Committee at previous meetings.

The affairs of the various departments, officers' duties, books of the Treasurer and Sales Superintendent were approved, and the various Committees assigned their special work.

Chicago has settled down to one and two auctions per week, just as if it had always had them and the attendance keeps up to a remarkable degree. It is true some of the dealers complain of decreased sales over the counter and attribute it to auction sales, yet it is a question if these sales do make very much difference, for I understand that no less than ninety per cent. of the sales goes to out of town buyers.

There are more Auction Sales of stamps being held in Chicago this season than in the rest of the country combined, and being close to the centre of population makes it a splendid distributing point.

As Chicago is the home of the greatest mail order concerns in the United States, so may it become the home of the most Stamp Auction Sales in the future.

At the meeting of Branch No. 1, A. P. A., held on Thursday evening, the affairs of the parent Association came in for considerable discussion. Nearly every member expressed his ignorance

(Continued on page 8.)

YOUR BIDS.

For the G. H. Brinkerhoff collection to be sold at Public Auction without reserve at the Club Room of the Chicago Philatelic Society on Saturday evening March 25th, should now be on the way. Did you mail them? Remember they can also be sent by Special Delivery, Wire or Long Distance Phone.

WARNING.

Once more it becomes my duty to warn all law abiding collectors and dealers not to sell use or have in their possession any Approval Cards unless it is one of my "Patent." I am informed that a foreign "Made in Germany" card is again being circulated which is illegal for I am sole owner of this "Patent" and shall prosecute to the full extent of the law any violations thereof and bring suit for damages.

P. M. Wolsleffer,
Auction Sale Specialist.

401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

BOSTON LETTER.

Tuesday evening, March 7, the New England Philatelic Society held its regular monthly meeting at the Revere House. In addition to the regular routine of business, the Entertainment Committee reported an unexpected balance from the appropriation for the Banquet in February of ten dollars. The Treasurer also announced a balance of about thirty-five dollars in the treasury.

One new member was admitted. It was voted that the Treasurer procure attractive year cards for presentation to members.

The custom of electing officers at the mid-summer jollification and outing was discussed at some length and while the sentiment is in favor of continuing the outings, there is a feeling that it would be a better policy to have the elections come in January, when the active interest in stamps is much greater.

After the regular meeting was adjourned, those present had the privilege of examining part of Mr. Harris' fine collection of Foreign Revenues, three volumes of which were in evidence. Canada being very complete, even to the Cigar and Tobacco Stamps. There were a great many varieties of Great Britain, many of them being very rare as well as many of the British Colonies, which were shown. A rising vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Harris for his kindness in bringing his collection.

Next month at the meeting on April 4, there will be a competitive exhibit, entirely different from any ever held

(Continued on page 8.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

LOUIS G. QUACKENBUSH,

MANAGING EDITOR.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States, Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any address in any country in the Postal Union \$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.00 an inch. 50 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

From The Editor's Point Of View.

A Term Well Defined.

We, in common with most other writers on things philatelic, are accustomed to make much use of the term "medium collector." We dare say that in not one of our Editorial talks within the past six months have we failed to refer to the "medium collector," in some connection, at least once; and often and often the phrase has figured in our discourse from a dozen to twenty times at one sitting. There is good cause and reason for this frequency of use; for the medium collector is one of the three estates of Philately which are, of course, the beginner, the medium collector and the advanced collector; there being no fourth estate, unless we count the dealing class as forming one, a distinction which it is scarcely necessary to make.

And of these three great classes into which all Philately is divided, the medium class is generally considered the real backbone of the pursuit—so that it should be worth our while to arrive at some understanding as to what medium collecting is, what limitations it implies, what scale of philatelic achievement it infers. There is a considerable difference of opinion on these points. The expert advanced collector would be apt to define the term in a very different fashion from the beginner. The former would be apt to stretch the limits of the medium class too far; the latter would very likely think himself nearer that division than was actually the case. It is largely a matter of perspective, and there would doubtless be an ocean of difference between the definitions given by Count Ferrari, for example, and little Johnny Jones. To get at the truth, we must strike an average, so to speak, between the two extremes of idea; and this has been very happily

done by Mr. W. Buckland Edwards in a recent issue of one of our English contemporaries. Defining the term "medium collector," Mr. Edwards writes thusly: "I use the term as the designation of those who have amassed a few thousand stamps, and have studied them to a certain extent with the help of, say, a couple of periodicals devoted to Philately and one or more catalogues—who belong to perhaps a couple of Exchange Clubs, have not a great deal of time to give to the hobby, and last, but not least, cannot afford to spend more than £10 to £15 (\$50 to \$75) a year upon it. I take it that ninety-nine per cent. of medium collectors will be covered by this definition, the only point really debatable being the monetary limit."

He goes on to consider whether there are not some medium collectors who attain very decent results on an expenditure of even less than fifty dollars a year; but concludes that in these cases there are almost always extraordinary circumstances to account for it—the principal cause being good facilities for securing current issues, used, in quantity, from friends having large commercial foreign correspondence. He does not think, on the other hand, that a man who spends more than £25 (\$125) a year on the hobby, properly comes under the head of "medium collector." Here we have a clear definition, therefore, a man owning a few thousand stamps, with a fair knowledge of Philately, only a limited amount of time to give to his hobby, and only from \$50 to \$125 to spend upon it annually.

This Covers

A Great Number.

This is, we think, as fair and reasonable a survey of the limits of medium collecting as we have ever come upon. Certainly, it covers to a nicety the case of a very, very great number of followers of Philately in this country. We hear a great deal about the philatelists who spend thousands of dollars annually upon their hobby; but how infinitely small a class do they form, after all, in comparison with the men who collect quietly, placidly and inexpensively along such lines as those Mr. Edwards has surveyed. We want all our younger readers, in particular, to understand the innate significance of this fact; because it is a great pity that they should get false ideas in regard to what the future has in store for them if they continue as philatelists. Almost every young collector in his ardor and enthusiasm dreams of a time when he shall be wealthy and able to devote hundreds, or perhaps thousands of dollars to perfecting his beloved collection. This is one of the dreams that fades with maturity and experience, in all save perhaps one case in a thousand. Most of us settle down among patient plodders of life, earning enough to live in comfort, but not to live in luxury; and, then, alas for our day-

dreams of collecting on a grand, elaborate scale. But few of us find at that, that a lot of money to spend is an essential of philatelic happiness. There are thousands and thousands of us who get an enormous amount of comfort out of fifty-dollar-a-year philately. It seems like a pitiful sum, when one thinks how many single varieties there are that fetch from twice to a hundred times that amount in the open market. But if one is modest in one's wishes and ideas, fifty dollars a year will buy as much downright, hearty enjoyment in Philately as in any pursuit under the sun.

Indeed, we sometimes think that there is more real zest and relish in fifty-dollar-a-year collecting than in the philatelic spending of thousands of simoleons each twelve-months. One's appetite at the lesser feast, is no such danger of becoming satiated; one always has something to look forward to; one gets one's pleasures piecemeal instead of in bunches too big to be properly enjoyed. No, we do not envy the wealthy philatelist one particle; for he gets not one whit more pleasure, if as much out of the five thousand dollars worth of stamps he yearly annexes as do we from our modest fifty. Being a medium collector is, we are convinced, the pleasantest thing in all Philately. Look forward, ye young recruits, to this time when you will be spending your fifties and your hundreds on the hobby, rather than to the era when thousands of dollars will be your yearly philatelic outlay. The former outlook is far saner, pleasanter and more reasonable to all of us who do not happen to be born rich men's sons.

Two or Three

Hours A Week.

Mr. Buckland Edwards says that the ideal medium collector whom he has in mind cannot spend more than two or three hours a week on stamps. We feel very sorry for the medium collectors of Great Britain if many of them are so unfortunately circumstanced as this. The spare time of most medium collectors is, to say truth, a limited quantity; but not, we think, in many cases quite as limited as that. An hour a day for his stamps is the very least time we could concede it probable that the average medium collector will spend upon his hobby. There is a spare hour somewhere in the day of even the very busiest man for those relaxations which he is really fond of. Three hours a week is a petty allowance of time to give to any hobby; far more so engrossing and fascinating a one as stamp collecting. We hope none of our readers are so busily employed that they have no more philatelic time than that.

A

Strange Condition.

It is a strange thing, by the way, that almost all philatelists are busy people; and that the idle class, in whom time almost always hangs

heavily, seldom become stamp collectors. Whatever way you look at it, this is a decided anomaly—and we have never been able to satisfactorily account for it. There are tens and tens of thousands of idle people in this country to whom stamp collecting would be a positive boon. If they only knew it—people who have "money enough to live on," as the saying goes, and whose mental endowments are such as Philately demands of her votaries. And yet they seem to be the last in the world to get interested in stamp collecting. The busy seem to take to Philately best. Let philatelic philosophy explain the fact in whatever way it can.

Philadelphia Letter.

Your correspondent was unavoidably prevented from rendering a report of the February's meeting of the Philadelphia Philatelic Society until such a date that it seemed non fitting to hold it until report of the March meeting.

The evening of February 1 was so stormy that few members braved the elements. Those who came had the opportunity of inspecting three fine collections of Porto Rican stamps. This was the second in the competition series, and the judges' decision was:

Owner.	Arrange-ment.	Com-pleteness.	Rari-ty.	Con-dition.	To-tal.
Gerdeau	10	27	30	30	99
Repplier	10	26	18	26	80
Beamish	8	30	22	20	88

The members present were Messrs. Beamish, Cordeza, Hahman, Haseltine, Henkels, Kellar, Parks, Repplier, Lee and Hallowbush.

The Board of Governors elected Dr. George Hetrick, of Birdsboro, Pa., and Edward Russel Jones, of Washington, Pa., members of the society:

The society voted unanimously to make the Stamp-Lovers Weekly its official organ.

The meeting of March 1 was held at the Hanover Hotel, with quite a good attendance. In addition three visitors were present, namely: Mr. Wm. B. Hale, of Williamsville, Mass.; Mr. Wm. R. Whorton, of Germantown, and Mr. C. B. Bishop, of Overbrook. Mr. A. F. Henkels, the Sales Superintendent, who has just started the first circuit of stamps on its course, was reported ill, and sent his report by proxy. About thirty sheets, containing twenty stamps each, are contributed by the members. Each contributor marks the catalogue number, price, and the price at which he is willing to sell underneath each stamp. Mr. Henkels has bound these sheets in a neat folder, and the entire lot is sent out in the order of membership enrollment. Naturally there will be little left by the time the circuit reaches the last few men, but Mr. Henkels has remedied this by arranging to send the next circuit to No. 2 on the list, the next to No. 3, and so on. Several members passed the circuit along at Wednesday night's meeting. Some entire stamps were noticed.

TALKS TO DEALERS.

No. 4.

Are there in this country so many stamp journals which are really serious publishing enterprises that you can afford to be unrepresented in THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY?

Look the field over. Study it well. Can any reasonable man so far delude himself as to fancy that he is serving his own interest by advertising haphazard in amateur stamp journals, simply because their advertising space can be had very cheaply?

There are only three stamp journals in America that are conducted on a serious, earnest, business basis, and THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY is one of the three. It is growing daily in circulation, strength and influence. It is healthily and steadily progressing, because there is stamina and strength of purpose back of it. The paper speaks for itself. Judge for yourself whether or not it is worthy of your patronage.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY,

BETHLEHEM, PA.

Everybody was on the qui vive, of course; for the exhibition of the stamps of Iceland, this being the final one of the series, while the prizes were ready and waiting. Mr. Cordeza was named to fill Mr. Henkel's place on the Judges' Committee. Their decision was as follows:—

Owner.	Arrange-ment.	Com-pleteness.	Rari-ty.	Con-dition.	To-tal.
Gerdeau	6	28	24	30	88
Repplier	10	30	30	30	100

The announcement for the entire series was then made, as follows:—

Exhibition of January 4. Subject Hong Kong

Owner.	Arrange-ment.	Com-pleteness.	Rari-ty.	Con-dition.	To-tal.
Repplier	10	30	30	28	98
Beamish	9	28	26	25	88
Hahman	6	16	15	20	57
Gerdeau	4	27	24	30	85

Exhibition of February 1. Subject Porto Rico

Gerdeau	10	27	30	30	99
Repplier	10	28	18	26	80
Beamish	8	30	22	20	80

Exhibition of March 1. — Subject, Iceland.

Gerdeau	6	28	24	30	88
Repplier	10	30	30	30	100

Results of Three Exhibitions.

	Number of Exhibits.	Total.
Repplier	3	278
Gerdeau	3	272
Beamish	2	168
Hahman	1	57

Mr. Repplier, therefore, was awarded first price, a £5 Great Britain, Queen's head, Mr. Gerdeau second price, a 4d slate Barbadoes 1882, unused, and Mr. Beamish third price, a 3½r Russia.

The Committee on Rooms hopes to provide more congenial quarters for the next meeting.

In A Nutshell.

"Hello!" said the first stamp man.
 "How do you find business?"
 "By advertising," replied the up-to-date dealer.

The Postal Cards of HAITI rank among the most artistic productions, and are an ornament in a collection.

I offer this week a set of the 1898 issue

Six Varieties.

Single and double, face value 18 cents,

For only 25 cents post paid.

Adolph Lohmeyer,

922 N. Gilmor St., Baltimore, Md.

Spring time has come at last, and with it the spring fashions and spring bargains.

Mexico, 1884, No. 160	50c green	new	\$0 03
" 1884, "	161 1 peso blue	"	04
" 1884, "	162 2 peso blue	"	06
" 1886, "	181 12c black	"	08
" 1890, "	212 to 220 except 218a	"	25
" 1890, "	227 25c orange	"	06

Atlanta Cotton Exposition Souvenir cards (12) 15

Patriotic Envelopes 25 different 15

" " 50 " 25

Postage extra when ordering less than 50c.

Take advantage of Prize offer and join the

A. P. A.

D. T. EATON Muscatine, Iowa.

Freakish Stamps From French Guiana.

French Guiana.—We have received a new set of stamps for this colony, showing some more of the extraordinary and somewhat poorly executed designs, for which the stamp-providers of France are becoming celebrated. The values up to 15c are of small oblong shape and bear a picture of a great ant-eater engaged in devouring some of the most influential inhabitants of those parts; on the 20c to 75c, which are of upright shape, a native laundry is represented, with a colored person in the foreground washing something, and another in the background with a basket of linen on his head. We do not know whether it is intended to imply that the people of the place make their living by taking in one another's washing, or merely to illustrate the cleanliness of the natives.

—The Monthly Journal

The Philatelic School Room.

For The Primary And Intermediate Classes.

Conducted by Oliver Crinkie, N. G. S. Professor of Philately in Knowlton University.
(Continued from No. 26 page 5.)

The Stamps Of Lombardy-Venice.

Concurrently with the first (1850) issue of postage stamps for Austria, spoken of last week, appeared a sister issue for one of the most important of the Austrian possessions, namely, the Lombardo-Venetian Kingdom, a designation shortened in the catalogue to "Lombardy-Venice." In some of the English catalogues these stamps are classified under the head "Austrian Italy," which gives a better hint of their real character. The Lombardo-Venetian Kingdom of 1850 comprised about one-half of the present kingdom of Italy. Lombardy was an old Austrian possession; Napoleon had wrested it from Austria early in the century and made it a part of his Cisalpine Republic; but on his downfall in 1815, it was restored to Austria by agreement of the powers, and annexed politically to the newly-acquired Venetian territory, under the name of the Lombardo-Venetian Kingdom. Austrian rule in Italy had been seriously threatened in 1848 and 1849. Charles Albert, the King of Piedmont and Sardinia, had deemed this a fitting time to drive the Austrians out of Italy and unite all the Italian states into one kingdom, with himself at its head. The spirit of revolution breaking out early in 1848 in both Milan (capital and chief city of Lombardy) and Venice, he came to the aid of the revolutionists with his armies and drove the Austrians temporarily out of Italy. This triumph was, however, short lived. Assembling larger armies, the warlike Austrians descended in force on Lombardy and decisively defeating Charles Albert's armies, speedily regained possession of Milan and the rest of the Lombard territory. Venice was a more difficult nut to crack and it was not until August 30, 1849, after one of the most protracted sieges in European history that the Austrians recaptured the city, and were once more in complete control of Lombardo-Venetia.

We Need To

Know These Facts.

There are some of you, I know, who fail to see the necessity and importance of giving so much attention to the historical facts underlying such postal issues as this one of Lombardo-Venetia. Put with a little thought I am sure you will agree with me that in studying the significance of stamps, such points as I have been touching on are of very genuine importance. Here is an issue of stamps that so closely duplicates its companion Austrian issue in appearance that a great many young collectors fail to make any distinction between them. If

they do discern a difference—if they do see that on the one series of stamps the value is expressed in "kreuzers" and on the other in "centes"—they attach no particular significance to the point. In reality, however, these Lombardo-Venetian stamps most picturesquely typify the object and conquered condition of a great part of Italy at even so relatively modern a date as 1850. Here is a series of stamps that was in use in such famous old historic cities as Mantua, Milan and Venice—cities that are, and always have been, Italian to the core—which do not bear the slightest Italian sign or symbol. The stamp is German in every feature, save the currency. That, and that alone, tells the story of the emblem of a conquering state triumphantly dominating even the public documents of a conquered people. It was not thought worth while to give the stamps any Italian cast of design; because they had been so decisively beaten and so thoroughly subjugated during the late events, that there was no need to make any concessions whatever to the Italian national spirit. These Austrian stamps could scarcely have been to the Lombards and Venetians a pleasant reminder of their position—but this, we may assume, was rather pleasing to the Austrians than otherwise, whose whole aim was to emphasize the completeness of the power they now exercised and the absolute helplessness of Lombardo-Venetia under the Austrian yoke.

Don't you think that, under these circumstances, the stamps of Lombardy-Venice are worth collecting, even if their design is only so slightly different from the regular Austrian issues. There are six separate varieties in this issue, three of which can be had very cheaply. I do not see how any collector who is interested in the historical significance of stamps can consistently neglect them. The very sameness existing between them and the corresponding Austrian issue is, when viewed in the light of the historical facts hitherto alluded to one of their strongest points of interest.

Prussia Comes Into The Field.

Of the other European nations that took up the use of postage stamps in 1850, Prussia claims our first attention—being, next to Austria, the most important state taking this step in the year named. Prussia was not in 1850, the powerful state from a military standpoint that she later became, her war strength and her military reputation being decidedly inferior to that of Austria. She was, however, indisputably the

New Brunswick 12½c blue
Newfoundland 1863, 6½d or 8d lake each
" 1866, 13c orange
Nova Scotia 12½c black
Canada 12½c green 1859
" 12½c blue 1868
Seychelles 3 on 10, 1901
3 on 16, "
3 on 36, "
2 on 4, 1902

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155 Dowling Ave.

TORONTO, - - CANADA
ESTABLISHED 1883.

RICHARD R. BROWN,

WHOLESALE POSTAGE

STAMPS,

Keyport, N. J.

One Cent Each.

LIST NO. 8.

LOOK UP LIST No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7
in previous issue.

Netherlands, 1867, 5c, 10c; 1869, ½c, 1c; 1880, 1c, 2c; 1872, 12½c; 1891, 3c, 7½c, 12½c, 15c, 2c; 1892, ½c, 3c, 7½c, 10c, 12½c, 25c; Unpaid, 1891, 1½c, 2½c, 5c, 10c.
New Brunswick, 1860, 5c.
New Caledonia, 1892, 1c, 2c.
New Foundland, 1866, 3c; 1868, ½c, 1c, 2c, 3c.
New So. Wales, 1882, 1d, 2d, 4d; 1891, 2½d, 5d; 1897, 1d; 1898, ½d, 2d, 2½d.
New Zealand, 1862, 2d; 1868, ½d, 1d; 1890, ½d, 1d; 1901, 1d; News, 1873, ½d; 1895, ½d; Life Insurance, 1891, 1d.
Nicaragua, 1882, ½c, 2c; 1890, ½c, 2c; 1891, ½c, 2c; 1892, ½c, 2c; 1893, ½c, 2c; 1894, ½c, 2c; 1895, ½c; 1896, ½c; 1897, ½c, 2c; 1898, ½c, 2c; 1899, ½c, 2c, 5c; 1900, ½c, 2c; 1902, 5c; Postal Due, 1896, ½c, 2c; 1897, ½c, 2c; 1898, ½c, 2c; 1899, ½c, 2c; Official stamp, 1890, 2c; 1900, ½c, 2c; 1892, ½c, 2c; 1893, ½c, 2c; 1895, ½c, 2c; 1896, ½c, 2c; 1897, ½c, 2c; 1898, ½c, 2c; 1899, ½c, 2c; 1900, ½c, 2c.
North Borneo, 1897, 1c; 1899, ½c.
Norway, 1856, 4s; 1883, 3c; 1895, 25c, 50c, 100c; 50c; Unpaid, 1899, ½c.
Nyassa, 1901, 2½c, 5c; 1898, 2½c.
Nossibe, 1892, 1c, 2c.

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When writing advertisers please mention THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

greatest of the strictly German states (not placing Austria in that category) and the natural head of the united Germany which so many of the wisest German statesmen had so long been striving to bring into being. The King of Prussia in this era was Frederick William IV, who had succeeded to the throne in 1840, a wise and able ruler, whose features are delineated on all the Prussian stamps issued up to the time of his death in 1861. The cares of state were heavy in his time, and his face is that of one on whom the hand of age has rested early. He was fifty-five years old when the first Prussian stamps appeared, and his reign thus far had been a restless one, but on the whole successful. Berlin had had its revolution in 1848, just as had Paris, Vienna, Munich and a score of other cities, but by liberal promises and some immediate reforms, the king had managed to quell the uprising and avert the danger of a Prussian republic, which for a time seemed likely to be the outcome.

Only a year after, in 1849, had come the proudest episode of his life—the offer from a national assembly including representatives of all the German states, except Austria, to make him hereditary Emperor of Germany; of a new, united Germany, from which Austria was to be excluded and in which Prussia would naturally be the pre-dominant state. The King declined the imperial crown, for reasons which we need not enter into here, but the very fact of its having been tendered him supplied the highest crown of honor to his life.

These first Prussian stamps (A 1 and A 2 in the catalogue) are at one with most other early issues in not bearing the name of the country. Their execution is not above what might be expected at that period; but there is a dignified simplicity about their design that is rather pleasing. Fortunately, all of the stamps of this set may be had, in used condition, at low prices; so that there is no reason why your album should not contain at least a part of the set. To my mind, they rank among the most interesting of the early European issues.

Now We Come To Saxony.

Another of the German kingdoms issued stamps in that year; viz. Saxony. Saxony is one of the four separate kingdoms of the modern German Empire. Of these four it is about on a par with Wurtemberg, Bavaria being somewhat larger, and Prussia, of course, immensely greater and more important. Its limits have suffered little if any change since 1806—its area, population and general importance entitling it then to about the same relative rank among the German states as now. Dresden and Leipzig are its principal cities and the main strength of the kingdom. Before the time of the

present German Empire it acted politically, as a rule, with Bavaria and Wurtemberg—it being necessary for the three to hang together in order to interpose an effectual counterpoise to the continually growing strength of Prussia in Northern Germany. The three states were more than once associated with Austria in both political and military manoeuvres aimed against Prussia, and have been strong enough to retain their individual status as kingdoms up to the present time—a point on which Saxony has particular cause to congratulate herself, inasmuch as Hanover (which, like Saxony, immediately adjoins Prussia) was gobbled up by Prussia, to the total loss of its separate standing as a state, on the formation of the German Empire.

The first issue of Saxony consists of a single value only—a 3 pfennige stamp. (A 1) specimens of which are quite rare, as may be seen from the catalogue price. The issue was evidently something of an experiment; otherwise other denominations would have been supplied. The design is not unpleasing; in fact, it is rather to be preferred to the more elaborately embellished stamps which Saxony later issued. The figure three is, perhaps, none too plain; but the wording is unusually clear for stamps of that period, thanks to the use of a white instead of a shaded background for the four labels on the side of the stamp. "Sachsen" is, of course, the German for what we render into "Saxony;" while "Franco" means "postage." A plain, honest, good little stamp, this. It is a pity that it prices so high that looking at its counterfeit presentment in the catalogue is the nearest most of us can ever come to personal acquaintance with it.

(To be Continued.)

Some Discomfited "Seniors."

While on the subject of the Junior Philatelic Society it may not be out of place to correct a mistaken notion in the public mind as to the class of philatelic work of which the "Juniors" are capable. As an instance it may be mentioned that a recent meeting of the society was devoted to Uruguay. On that occasion a young member of the J. P. S., Mr. H. Lee, fairly astonished his fellows by displaying a specialized collection of Uruguayan stamps that might have been shown with pride by a far more advanced philatelist. It was an eye-opener even to those who had reason to believe that Mr. Lee possessed "rather a nice lot" of Uruguays (as he himself modestly expressed it) and the story goes that two or three older collectors who had come to the meeting to show "the youngsters" what fine Uruguays they had got shut up their Cistafles and silently stole away.

The fact is this, that the philatelist is born, not made. Age is a thing that doesn't greatly matter. The successful philatelist may be anything from fourteen to ninety.

—Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

Want! Want!! Want!!!

I am prepared to buy for spot cash unused o. g. finely Centered copies of U. S. Stamps from 1849 to 1890. I also want the Department stamps in the same condition. Parties having stamps in this condition can send them to me at their lowest cash price and if satisfactory I will remit by return mail otherwise I will return them registered.

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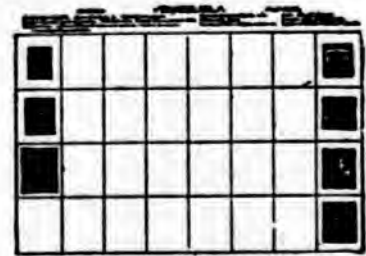
128 East 23 St., NEW YORK CITY.

GREECE.

1846	1 1	brown	No. 64	\$0 02
"	5 1	green	" 66	01
"	10 1	yellow	" 67	02
"	25 1	blue	" 68	02
"	50 1	gray green	" 71	08
"	1 dr	gray	" 72	08
1889	40 1	blue	" 96	06
"	1 dr	gray	" 99	07
1891-92	40 1	blue	" 116	05
"	1 dr	gray	" 118	05
1900	20 on 25	blue	" 129	04
"	40 on 2 1	bistre	" 132	05
"	50 on 30 1	salmon	" 133	05
"	1 dr on 40 1	violet	" 134	10

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 ST. LOUIS, MO.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

Something new in the postal line may be expected from Cuba within a few months at farthest. Uncle Sam has completed his contract with the new republic and in future a New York bank note company will supply Cuba with her postage stamps. We are not able to learn definitely whether it is proposed to issue a new series of stamps, of distinctive design or to continue the use of the current series. It appears that the Treasury Department, which has the contract for the printing of stamps, and which has printed the Cuban stamps for several years, is willing to turn the plates of the Cuban stamps over to the New York Bank Note Company upon the order of the Cuban government.

During the month of February, the Mints of the United States produced a total of over 8,000,000 pieces of the value of over \$5,000,000, divided as follows: Gold, 279,829 pieces, value \$2,396,580; silver, 3,792,000 pieces, value, \$559,000; one and five cent pieces, 4,417,000 pieces, value, \$135,610. For the Philippine government, 1,044 pesos. For the Panamagovernment, 1,724,862 pieces of the value of \$928,986.18.

Congress closed Saturday noon after a legislative session devoid of results except the passage of appropriation bills. Of the many postal bills introduced, none passed of general interest although the appropriation bill contained an amendment by the Senate which was agreed to in conference, providing that postmasters may refund to patrons the value of postage stamps erroneously or mistakenly affixed to matter. For example, if a person mails a piece of mail and afterward withdraws it before it leaves the office and after the stamps have been canceled, the postmaster may refund the amount of the value of the stamps canceled. The Senate amendment providing for the consolidation of the third and fourth classes of mail matter was thrown out in conference, much to the regret of General Madden, the third assistant postmaster general. The Senate item, providing for the establishment of a new postage rate of three cents per pound on mail deposited in an office to be transmitted by rural free delivery to some patron within the county, was also thrown out in conference. This last item was strongly opposed by the big mail order houses in the cities. It would have given the merchant in county seat towns an opportunity to send merchandise to county people at the rate of three cents per pound, while the city merchant would be obliged to pay sixteen cents.

Congress has never seemed to give serious consideration to the proposition to devise some method by which to make hazardous the stealing of postage stamps from post offices, by providing a means of identifying the stamps. The post office department has considered this matter and has

been inclined to think that something might be done so far as the larger cities are concerned, by printing a letter or figure on the stamp so that if large or small quantities of stamps were offered for sale it could be determined at once where they came from. Congress, however, evidently does not consider the matter of sufficient moment to justify its consideration, although, in the last session, a Congressman did introduce a bill along this line, which never emerged from the committee to which it was referred.

The following order relative to mail matter for the Canal Zone, has been promulgated:

Modify my Order No. 1438, dated December 29, 1904, so as to read as follows:

It is hereby ordered That, for the future, articles mailed in the United States addressed for delivery in the Republic of Panama shall be subject to the United States domestic postage rates, classification and conditions: Except that letters shall be dispatched even though they bear no postage stamps; and that no package of printed matter of any kind shall weigh more than two kilograms (four pounds, six ounces). Also, that any article contained in mails received from the Republic of Panama shall be considered and treated at United States exchange post-offices as fully prepaid, unless it bears an impression of the stamp "T" of the Postal Administration of Panama, and an indication of the amount of the deficient postage, in which case it shall be subjected to the regimen of the Postal Union.

And postmasters receiving for delivery articles mailed in the Republic of Panama and not marked "Collect—cents," shall deliver the same without charge for postage; subject, however, to the inspection by Customs officials required by the stipulations of Sections 707 and 708, Postal Laws and Regulations, Edition 1902.

A Letter-Writing Community.

We gather from Ewen's Weekly that they have learnt "on good authority, that the total sale of Niue postage stamps, during 1902 and 1903, both at Auckland and the Island amounted to about £800 face value."

As the population consists of about fifteen whites and the possibility of any issue having taken place except for public requirements having been denied, it would appear that each inhabitant must have written over 12,000 letters during the past two years! This would not leave overmuch time for the other occupations of the brave islanders.— London Philatelist.

Revenues Revenues

I am closing out this branch of my business. I am offering U. S. Revenues at a lower price than any other firm. Write if you are interested and be convinced. Selections sent on approval.

Album.

The "Saxby" loose leaf album size 14x20 Heavy white wove Scotch ledger paper - Full Red Russia Binding - Gilt trimmings - Owner's name in Gilt letters.

Price \$7.50 Net.

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Servian Coronation Set.

5 paras and 10 paras, used 5, 10, 15, 25, 50, used or unused Complete Set, 5p-5 dinar used or unused

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U. S. 1847 5c
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A postal card will bring the catalogue complete line of U. S. and unused British stamps. While waiting consider these all new and o. g. line.

Bahamas 1884, 5sh olive green
Barbadoes 1892, 8p orange & ultra 1897, complete
Bechuanaland 1888, 6p blue (used)
British Central Africa 1891, 2c
British Guiana 1888, complete
British Honduras 1888, 20c on 6p yellow 50c on 1sh gray 1891, 2c yellow & blue

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100 China and Java, etc., fine dictionary and big illustrated catalogue of stamps of all nations, 10 cents.

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Stamps bought, sold, exchanged, wholesale, retail. Postage Extra.

Having had many requests for appropriate selections of stamps both wholesale and retail I will state that much delay will be avoided if the necessary business references and a 2c stamp accompanies the request. Wholesale prices 1/2 to 3/4 of catalogue. Retail prices stamps priced at catalogue and 50% allowed except unused and new stamps.

The Poets Corner.

AH SID.

(The Artful Chinee.)

[Taken from the Philatelic World, a publication that flourished in India some ten years since]

Yellow Ah Sid
A Celestial kid,

With ways that are pensive and vain,
And a freedom from guile,
Saw his way for a while,
To a means of enhancing his gain:
'Twas an excellent plan
This lemon-faced man
Evolved for enticing the pice,
"Um, Cheena man fly!"
Cried he, winking his eye,
"Me makee stamp-sell um-big price!"
"Hankow, Chefoo, Chinkiang,
Chungking, Wuhu and Ichang!"
Sang clever Ah Sid,
That yellow-skinned kid,
And went for Philately - bang!

He made a smart lot
Of designs on the spot,
Of dragons a - wriggle, did he,
And threw in all he knew
Of pagoda's askew
Did this heathen artistic Chinee:
Small birds with long tails,
And junks with trim sails
He planned with alacrity bland
And cried, "Me um mash!"
As he raked in the cash,
"Me richee, me grow welly grand."
"Tientsin, Shanghai, Kewkiang,
Foo-choo, Lin Chih Kwa, Pa Kuang!"
Sang cunning Ah Sid,
As he drew them, he did,
And up into affluence sprang,
So knowing Ah Sid
The Celestial kid,

Beams childlike and bland all the day
For his pencil is quaint,
And he dabs on the paint,
In a taking Celestial way;
With tricks that are dark
He'll attack a post-mark
Or surcharge, without blushing a jot
And he'll chuckle, "Ho ho,
Me one, two thing know
Um, Philatee, um pay me, um lot!"
Dak.

**The Rajah of Kishengarh
Not an Apollo Belvidere.**

Kishengarh.—According to the M. C. a new 2 anna stamp is chronicled by one of our continental contemporaries. The principal feature of the design being the portrait of a "very ugly fat-cheeked man." Is there still a native Post Office here, or are the current stamps used for revenue (!) only?
—The Monthly Journal.

Postal Issues For Charity.

Charity covers a multitude of sins and some few issues of postage stamps. M. Arthur Maury, in the January issue of the "Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste" devotes his leading article to "Les Timbres de Charite", apropos of the issue of special Christmas Card stamps in Denmark for a charitable purpose.

What was the first issue of charity stamps?

Mons Maury awards this distinction to the labels issued in connection with the Central Fair held in the United States (at Philadelphia, unless we are mistaken) in 1862. This issue was a forerunner of the many World's Fair sets with which Uncle Sam has since inflicted us. The stamps were three in number, and of the face value of 10c, 20c and 30c. Probably few of the stamp collectors of to-day ever saw these stamps, which do not figure in the philatelic catalogues. One finds them chronicled and illustrated, however, in the "Stamp Collectors Magazine" (1864) and in other old-time philatelic journals:—

Stamp Collectors Fortnightly.

**The West End Philatelist,
London, England.**

The West End Philatelist, which has previously found no mention in these columns, is a daintily gotten up little magazine, which, while far from being as pretentious a publication as most of the English contemporaries, is very pleasant and profitable reading, indeed. Its editor is Bertram W. H. Poole, one of the best of England's philatelic penmen, and the whole magazine shows the earmarks of careful and astute editorial guidance.

Its January number opens with two pages of "Editorial," principally given over to pleading the claims of foreign stamps, philatelic England having, in Mr. Poole's opinion, gotten too deeply into a settled conviction that "Britain and Colonies" supplies the only philatelic field worth their telling.

An excellent little department called "Stamps of the Moment" deals with certain varieties of Chinese emissions. Under the head of "Things Worth Knowing" the editor gives a very instructive dissertation on "Fakes and Forgeries," an unpleasant subject, but one which cannot well be entirely left untreated in journals that aim to be of real aid to their readers. A serial article on "Postage Stamps of Sarawak" deals in a commendably clear and succinct way with the 1895 and 1897-98 issues of Rajah Brooke's interesting island.

"The Publishers' Corner" occupies the remainder of the space set aside for reading matter. A nice little paper, indeed, is the West End Philatelist. We hope to see it again.

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display. A line will average seven words
Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

Persia, 1889 unused complet set - 25c
Bulgaria, 1901 1s to 30s, 8 varieties 6c
100 different stamps and 100 hinges 5c
Approvals 50% discount. Reference.
W. W. DAYTON, Neshotah, Wisconsin.

I want to buy 25c Entry of Goods. State number you have and price wanted.
E. T. Parker, Bethlehem, Pa.

Bolivia or Nicaragua, well ass'd 60c per 100
Ecuador or Uruguay, well ass'd 60c per 100
Guatemala 42c per 100; Salvador 67c per 100
Honduras 60c per 100; Chili 28c per 100
Carl Young, 806 N. Fulton ave Baltimore Md

Money loaned on stamps or stamp collections. F. MICHEL, 258 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill. Member A. P. A. and C. P. S.

Europe 150 diff varieties 20c. Lists free.
T. W. Wood & Co., 86, Tottenham, England.

Hayti 1904 1c gr inverted surch. ent 30c - 10c
Approval selections 50 and 60c.
F. Watrous, Box 38, Lakeville, Conn.

Send for our fine approval books and receive a rare stamp free. Give us a trial it will only cost you two cents. References required. EAGLE STAMP CO., Fruitvale, California.

Post Mark Collecting - The latest craze a pack of post marks free with a 50c order. Send for approvals at 50c. S. Judd, Port Henry, N. Y.

100 stamps also 100 hinges, 10 sample stamps, and stamp envelopes for 10c to pay postage. P. H. DULMAGE, 1654 Queen St. E. Toronto, Canada.

500 fine foreign stamps and rare old U S and Foreign coin 15c. 5 diff dates big U S Cents 2c, 2c piece 4c. N. C. Bateman, Lowell, N. Y.

Special 5c per packet; postage extra.
15 different Asia, catalogues 25c - 80 05
10 " Africa, " 24c - 05
15 " Europe, " 31c - 05
15 " So. Amer " 28c - 05
15 " Oceania " 24c - 05
15 " No. Amer " 27c - 05
The lot catalogues at \$1.50 price 25
List of "Nickle Specials" etc free. Album holding 1152 stamps, 10c. Fred M. Halsey, 125 West Grand St., Elizabeth, N. J.

**STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY,
Bethlehem, Pa.**

Enclosed please find 12 cents for which send me another of your blank albums. They are the best I have ever seen.
Maxwell Cornelius.

Cat. No.		New	Used
1	Bermuda '65, 1p dull rose	80 30	80 07
2	2p blue		50
3	6p br lilac	2 00	
3a	8p lilac		18
4	1sh green	1 25	35
5	'73, 3p buff	2 50	1 00
6	3p buff	2 65	2 -
7	1sh green		50
8	'74, 3p on 1sh green	7 00	
11	3p on 1sh green	6 00	
12	'75, 1p on 2p blue	5 -	
13	1p on 3p buff	3 -	
14	1p on 1sh green	1 80	
15	'80, 1/2p brown		8
16	1p orange		12 6
17	'84, 1p dull rose	1 60	15
18	2p blue		18
19	1p green		2 1
20	1p carmine		3
22	2 1/2p ultramarine		8 2
24	1sh olive bistre		38
25	'01, 1c on 1sh gray		2
18	Guatemala, '81, 5c on 1/2 yellow	15	-
346	Peru, 1c blue, "Gobierno"		1
	Costa Rica, 1892 set, unused	1 00	

E. T. Parker, Bethlehem, Pa.

LONDON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

The International Exhibition which is to be held in London next year is quite decided upon, and it will probably last for about a fortnight towards the end of May or the beginning of June. It is to be a very big affair and some difficulty is being experienced in the selection of suitable galleries for such a display. The Crystal Palace would be a fine place, but it is not Sydenham. The Grafton Galleries and the Institute of Painters in Water Colors are both booked up so long ahead that they are not to be considered. The proposed exhibition is more than a year off, yet here is a serious difficulty besetting its organizers already. And there will be heaps of other difficulties before the preparations are much farther on the way. Put it will be well worth the fatigue and the trouble and the expense if it serves to arouse further enthusiasm in our hobby next year.

The overcrowding at the last meeting of the Junior Philatelic Society has necessitated the hiring of a larger and more central hall. Hitherto the meetings have all been held on the South side of the Thames. Now Exeter Hall, in the Strand, will be the permanent meeting place of the Society. The chief trouble in having so many members at its meetings is that the handing round of the stamps is more difficult than it is when a dozen collectors sit round one table. One needs rather a large table for 90 to 120 members and visitors. But this is a difficulty and an expense the Committee cheerfully provides for in view of the success which has met their efforts in the past. The central position of the new hall will enable the members from North, West, and East to more easily arrive at the hall which has hitherto been in the South-western district of the Metropolis. Busses, trains, "tuppenny tubes" all empty their passengers out into the Strand and neighboring thoroughfares within a stone's throw of Exeter Hall.

The new Gibbons Part I, which is late this year, will be ready probably at the end of March and the second part should follow about six weeks afterwards. New zinc engravings have been introduced throughout the whole of the catalogue at a cost of something over £800. The former illustrations will thus be held free for the proposed simplified catalogue for young collectors, which, however, owing to the death of Mr. Gordon Smith may be delayed some considerable time.

CHICAGO CHAT.

(Continued from page 1.)

as to details and particulars of the affairs of the previous Sales Superintendent, and the Board of Vice-Presidents are being censured for not giving the members more light on the subject through the columns of the official journal.

The late Superintendent, Mr. J. J. Oesch, has not issued any statement whatever, but it would evidently prove interesting reading, and when all sides are finally heard, it may appear that some one has been over officious and possibly exceeded his authority. In the meantime it will be well for every member to reserve his opinion till the matter is finally settled and acted accordingly when the time comes.

Branch 1 can be depended upon to be on the right side, no matter whom it may affect.

More applications are being sent in by Chicago members so far this year than by all the balance of the country combined. Why? Must Chicago do it all?

BOSTON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

by any society. The exhibition will consist of collections of Pre-cancelled Stamps only, and from the entries already promised, a great success is assured.

Two medals, one of silver and one of bronze, will be given. Collections should be sent to President H. W. Legg, 339 Washington Street, Boston, or J. J. Cone, Jr., 4 Russell Park, New Dorchester. Collections are promised by Messrs. J. R. Hammerle, C. A. Townsend, C. H. Palmer, LaForme, W. R. Robb, J. J. Cone, Jr., and Barrett, and it is expected that the collections of Messrs. Smith, Eagle and Aldrich will also be submitted.

Every one who has a collection of Precancelled Stamps is invited to send his collection. A buffet lunch will be served at the Revere House that evening. Price, fifty cents.

Another interesting exhibit will be arranged for in the near future, which will appeal to those collectors whose tastes run to arrangement and condition rather than to the securing of great rarities. Particulars later.

Every member of both the Boston Philatelic and the New England Philatelic Societies should have received a copy of the Stamp Lovers Weekly, containing the full page half tone of the N. E. P. S. banquet party. You will confer a favor on the publishers if you will send the name and address of any who did not get it.

March 21, the B. P. S. will hold its regular monthly meeting. The special feature of the evening being the competitive exhibition of Siam stamps. Open to all collectors in the United States. It is earnestly hoped that all American collectors of Siam will be represented.

Collections may be sent to Secretary C. A. Howes, 55 Kilby Street, Boston, or to J. H. Lyons, 9 Broomfield Street, Boston.

CRETE.

The Nonantum Stamp Co has sent us two of the new issue for Crete, advising that the values run up to the 5dr - the three higher values being especially handsome.

COINS!

WHETHER BUYER OR SELLER
WRITE TO
B. MAX MEHL, Numismatist
Fort Worth, Tex.

Premium list 4c.
Price list free.

British Central Africa.
1891-1894

8 pence, used	-	-	50
1 shilling, unused	-	-	25
2 " " "	-	-	10
3 " " "	-	-	10
4 " " "	-	-	10
5 " " "	-	-	10
Bavaria 1870 12kr unused	-	-	30

N. DIESCHBOURG,

87 NASSAU Street, and 130 FULTON Street
Rooms 323 and 324. NEW YORK

FREE 200 Mixed Foreign Stamps
(25 Word Ex. Ad.) & 75
15 Rare Stamps. All these given free with
a years subscription to The Philatelic Ad-
vertiser for only 10c. Reg. Price 25c per year.
8 pages each month. Full of choice interest-
ing articles. Send at once!

The Philatelic Advertiser,
Dept. 31. ITHACA, N. Y.

NEW SOUTH WALES

1800	5sh violet	-	25
1888-89	8d "	-	25
" "	1sh brown	-	12
1903	2sh. 6d green	-	-

All nice Copies, returnable if not satisfactory.
Postage extra on C. O. orders.

WENDOVER NEEFUS, HUDSON, N. Y.

75 Diff. Foreign Stamps given to the per-
son applying for our approval sheet
at 50c commission. Mention this paper.

The New Century Stamp Co.,
Smith's Falls Ont. Canada.

SAMOA

Postage Stamps.

The following unused stamps are offered
at the following greatly reduced prices for
quick cash orders.

Cata. No.	Value	Price
9	1p violet	40
10	1p green	08
11	2p yellow	12
11b	2p orange	50
12	4p blue	20
13	6p maroon	30
14	1sh rose	50
15	2sh, 6p. violet	1 50
16	2 1/2p rose	12
20	5p carmine red	25
21	2 1/2p on 2p orange	20
22	3p on 2p orange green surcharge	50
23	2 1/2p black	20
24	2 1/2p on 1sh rose	15
25	2 1/2p on 2s 6p	65
27	2 1/2p on 1p green	15
28	1 1/2p green	08
29	1p red brown	06
Provisional Government.		
30	1 1/2p green	05
31	2p orange	10
32	4p blue	18
33	2sh 6p violet	1 25
34	1p red brown	05
35	5p scarlet	22
36	6p maroon	25
37	1sh rose	50

German Dominion.

57 to 58. 3pf to 80pf. set of nine. 1 00

C. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUB CO.
St. Louis, Mo.

50 cents
a year.

THE

2 cents
a copy.

STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Entered as second-class matter December 17, 1904, at the post office at Bethlehem, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 8, 1879.

Vol. II.

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, MARCH 25, 1905.

No. 2.

OUR

221st Auction Sale

of Stamps takes place

APRIL 8th. at 2 o'clock

in Philadelphia.

It is full of rarities. Catalogues Free.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,

722 Chestnut St.,

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

BOSTON LETTER.

In a prominent stamp paper of recent date appeared the statement that a collector had tried for over a year by want lists to all the prominent dealers in this country to obtain a certain stamp listed by Scott at only fifty cents, and at last succeeded in obtaining one fair copy.

Though no statement is made to that effect, probably the gentleman would have paid full catalogue gladly for a perfect specimen of the stamp in question. Which causes us to wonder what the real philatelic value of the stamp may be. If fifty cents is the value of the 40c Luxemburg, Scott's No. 38, the much wanted stamp, what pray is the value of Servia 1d, Scott's No. 49, unused, which is also catalogued at fifty cents? This latter stamp has been offered within the last two weeks, in the advertisements of a reputable dealer, for five cents retail and for a long time wholesalers have been dumping all they possibly could onto retail dealers. How many dealers would a collector have to write to and how many months would it probably take to secure a good copy of the 1d Servia. One is naturally forced to conclude that the chief trouble lies with the catalogue.

Any dealer will admit that it is practically impossible to get hold of lots of apparently cheap stamps at anything like a reasonable price, catalogue value being considered. For example, a local dealer, after trying for months to obtain even a few copies of a used stamp which is and has been listed for several years at only three cents, paid two dollars a hundred for a supply and thought himself fortunate.

A Reference List

of the

Stamps of Panama.

By John N. Luff.

A handbook of 73 pages treating its subject in the most complete manner.

Price, in heavy paper covers,
25 cents post free.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 EAST 23rd St.,

New York, N. Y.

YOUR BIDS.

For the G. H. Brinkerhoff collection to be sold at Public Auction without reserve at the Club Room of the Chicago Philatelic Society on Saturday evening March 25th, should now be on the way. Did you mail them? Remember they can also be sent by Special Delivery, Wire or Long Distance Phone.

WARNING.

Once more it becomes my duty to warn all law abiding collectors and dealers not to sell use or have in their possession any Approval Cards unless it is one of my "Patent" I am informed that a foreign "Made in Germany" card is again being circulated which is illegal for I am sole owner of this "Patent" and shall prosecute to the full extent of the law any violations thereof and bring suit for damages.

P. M. Wolsieffer,
Auction Sale Specialist.

401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

Advices have been received in Washington that the Servian government, the military more than the Postoffice Department, is very much exercised over the discovery, made some weeks since, that the coronation stamps, when held upside down show in ghastly outline the features of the murdered King Alexander, and extraordinary efforts are being made by the officials of the government to obtain and destroy all the stamps possible.

It appears that large numbers of the stamps, which were of striking design and conception, were sold to the public and to dealers and speculators in all parts of the world. So eager is the Servian government to withdraw from circulation, or even existence, these haunted stamps, that agents have been sent to various parts of Europe with instructions to buy them up from the public and dealers at any cost. Very naturally this action on the part of the Servian officials has had a tendency to enhance the value of the coronation stamps and to cause holders of them to decline to let go of their labels at any price.

It appears that the design was engraved by a Frenchman named Mouchon, who it is alleged was a warm admirer of the murdered queen Nathalie. Mouchon is said to have purposely sketched the design with the view to weaving into it the face of the late King Alexander. The design is that of King Peter and his father Karageorge, and it was in the combining of the two busts on the one large stamp that offered to the Frenchman the opportunity to get in the

(Continued on page 8.)

nate. While on the other hand the average dealer will become indignant if he is asked to pay one-tenth of catalogue for lots of stamps listing at from two cents to ten cents each. Unfortunately our Standard (?) Catalogues do not reflect the market prices as they ought.

Bulls and Bears are not confined to the other markets of the world.

Some time ago, a Boston dealer had a quantity of a certain stamp which he considered good property and accordingly asked a good price for them, nearly full catalogue I believe, at wholesale. When the next catalogue came out the price was lowered. The dealer wrote to the publishers, stating that he wished to buy that particular stamp. The reply came that they had none for sale.

We wonder if by reducing the price they hoped to procure a stock of the stamps at reduced prices.

Of course it's easy to find fault, but isn't the best way to approach perfection to be perfectly aware of the faults of existing systems?

One can readily understand why by a fortunate (for him) purchase a dealer may temporarily be able to offer certain stamps at a great reduction from catalogue prices, but why all dealers, including the publishers themselves should, year after year, offer the same stamps at fifty per cent. discount is hard to understand.

A foreign contemporary mentions the rather interesting fact that a stamp auction was recently held in Singapore—the first we recollect hearing of in Asia, outside of India.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted
to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

LOUIS G. QUACKENBUSH,
MANAGING EDITOR.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States,
Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any
address in any country in the Postal Union
\$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.00 an inch. 60 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

From The Editor's Point Of View.

An Idea Of Merit.

Our Boston Letter of two weeks since contained some suggestions regarding the formation of special collections which are, we believe, deserving of no little attention. The idea advocated, as you will remember, (or if you do not, look up our issue of March 11th, please, and refresh your memory in regard to the matter) was the formation of special collections of "portrait stamps" for proselyting purposes. A big stamp collection in a regular album seems hardly the thing whose inspection will lure non-collectors into the philatelic ranks. There are few persons of intelligence who can fail to view with interest a regular collection of goodly size and wide scope; but there are several reasons why this interest does not bear the fruit it should. The chief of these is the fact that the wide extent of the stamp collecting field, as revealed in such an album and such a collection, seems appalling to the non-collector. The task of making the kind collection he sees before him appears prodigious; the cost, enormous. Again, the many unfilled spaces in the collection (if in a printed album) throws a wet-blanket on the half formed idea to start the making of a similar collection. Years have been spent in gathering these stamps together and yet there are still hundreds upon hundreds of spaces vacant; stamp collecting is too slow and tedious a thing for me—thus argues the onlooker; and with some show of reason, since he cannot know how little the hope of completeness enters into the calculations of modern philatelists. If he gets sight of a catalogue and seriously inspects some of the lists with the prices thereunto attached, the matter assumes a still more dubious complexion; and it is little wonder

that many a one who was at first almost persuaded to enter the lists and tilt in the philatelic tournament abandons the idea utterly on further investigation.

The notion of making special collections of "portrait stamps" wherewith to interest our friends and start them, if possible, to collecting, is, therefore, one that we may well look into. And the plan outlined by our correspondent certainly seems to possess every feature of feasibility. A blank book large enough to contain several hundred "portrait stamps" may be had at slight cost; and the collection itself may be formed at small outlay from one's duplicates and from low-priced specimens, of which a good many can be bought for a few dollars. There are very few celebrities in the philatelic portrait gallery whose features have not appeared on one or more cheap stamps. There is no lack of little priced material for a portrait collection; and there is great scope for taste and ingenuity in their classification and arrangement. As our correspondent suggests, they need not be (in fact they should not be) arranged by countries, or at all along the lines of ordinary collections. The first five or six pages of the album should be devoted to index purposes, the stamps being numbered and the index containing under each number the name of the individual whose portrait is found on the correspondingly numbered stamp, to be seen farther on. The stamps can then be arranged, without regard to country or to chronological procedure, on a purely artistic basis, each page being made to present a harmonious arrangement of colors, and stamps from different countries and of different eras being ranged together in whatever way the general color scheme suggests. With each page laid out into some fanciful form of design—on one, the stamps arranged to form a cross, on another a triangle, on another a star, and so on—the attractiveness of such a collection is easily imaginable. The collector will find its formation a most pleasant and congenial task; its cost to him will be a mere bagatelle; and he can display it to his friends with the assurance that it is far more likely to practically interest them in Philately than would be the case with his regular collection.

A New Specialism.

This is one phase of the matter. There is another which our correspondent did not touch on; but which is of even greater importance. And it is this—that there is no reason why the formation of this kind of collection should be undertaken merely as an incidental feature of regular collecting; and many reasons why, in many cases, it might be taken up as the collector's principal philatelic task. Forming a collection of "portrait stamps" is nothing more nor

less than a new style of specialism—and a specialism pre-eminently adapted to the means and inclination of a great many not very strenuous minded collectors. We hear on all sides the complaint that stamp collecting is becoming too complex and exacting for the rank and file of collectors; and it is impossible for any discerning student of modern philatelic conditions to entirely deny the truth of this proposition. There is unquestionably, need of an abridgment of limits; and the realization of this fact has led to the proposal of many different plans to make collecting easier and simpler. The confining of ordinary collections to types instead of collecting complete sets of duplicate designs seems the best solution of the matter that has hitherto been arrived at. But even this does not seem to promise so complete an exemption from complications and difficulties as does the idea of cutting loose entirely from collecting of stamps by countries and devoting oneself instead to forming collections in which only designs of a certain character are to be considered. Thus, the collector would first for some time devote himself entirely to "portrait stamps," acquiring as representative a gallery of postage stamp portraits as his purse permits. Then he would commence a second section, to include different examples of coats of arms, heraldic devices, etc., employed on stamps. Attaining reasonable completeness in this, he would naturally then proceed to a third section, containing stamps on which are depicted animals and birds, other sections would naturally be taken up in the course of time—such as a section containing nothing but stamps depicting historical scenes; another of "landscape stamps;" another of such commemorative issues as had found place in none of the foregoing sections; another of stamps whose central feature of design is the simple figure of value; and so on, ad infinitum. The entire series of collections might be contained in one book, or in several, as inclination dictated. And the great feature of all would be that each unit would be complete in itself, with no dependence on, and only a very remote relation to the other sections of the collection; and, also, that the entire collection, whether it contained one thousand or three thousand or five thousand or whatever other number of specimens, would always bear the mark and semblance of completeness, as a collection. There would be blank pages left, of course, for the collection's amplification at the owner's leisure; but there would be no yawning gulfs and arid wastes on the pages where rested the specimens already secured. The same is partially true of a collection mounted in a blank album, but not to an equal extent; because where stamps are collected by countries (and, it follows, by sets)

space must be left for the specimens which are missing from certain sets (it will not do to make no provision for their possible acquirement, unless they are prohibitively-priced rarities) and it is very difficult to arrange the "specimens present" in symmetrical form and at the same time make suitable provision for "varieties absent." This is where the abandonment of the classification by countries inures to convenience of arrangement. No attention whatever need be paid to the stamps' nationality. It goes in with its fellows of the same color, whatever it will assume the most sightly position and add most to the page. The elasticity of such a system is boundless, and susceptible to almost endless variations of arrangement. And this, we think, is also a very good thing. We have never greatly believed in the printed album, even for young collectors. The limits it imposes are rigid, unyielding, absolute. It makes collecting too mechanical a matter. We would like to see every collector free to follow his own devices as to what he will collect, and how he will arrange and classify his specimens. And we are decidedly of the opinion that we shall come to such a state of affairs as that in the long run—perhaps not in this generation, but certainly before the present century is ended.

The Handwriting on the Wall.

The handwriting on the wall is, we think, exceedingly plain, and capable of but one construction. The time must come when printed albums will be practically relegated to oblivion. Those that provide spaces for the stamps of the whole world are too big now. The immensity of their area frightens and discourages the young collector. As time goes by, every kind and class of varieties that belong to the side-issue class will necessarily be thrown overboard by album-compilers, and everything possible will be done to keep albums from growing unbearably voluminous. But, unless the universal stamp, or some as yet undreamed of, system for supplanting postage stamps, should put a sudden stop to the tide of new issues, there will come a time when the printed album will go to the wall. This time is, of course, a very long way off yet. Such peering into the future may seem entirely profitless. We simply want to show that the whole fabric of ordinary stamp collecting does not rest on the existence of the printed album; and that such proposals as have been embodied in the foregoing paragraphs are not so radical and revolutionary as they might seem.

We shall continue our discussion of this new style of collecting in next week's issue.

TALKS TO DEALERS.

No. 4.

Are there in this country so many stamp journals which are really serious publishing enterprises that you can afford to be unrepresented in THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY?

Look the field over. Study it well. Can any reasonable man so far delude himself as to fancy that he is serving his own interest by advertising haphazard in amateur stamp journals, simply because their advertising space can be had very cheaply?

There are only three stamp journals in America that are conducted on a serious, earnest, business basis, and THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY is one of the three. It is growing daily in circulation, strength and influence. It is healthily and steadily progressing, because there is stamina and strength of purpose back of it. The paper speaks for itself. Judge for yourself whether or not it is worthy of your patronage.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY,

BETHLEHEM, PA.

Perforations Run Riot.

"New Zealand—The Government Printer is still delighting the heart of the crank—the seeker after minute varieties; the latest being a patched-up job of re-perforation. This time the 1d stamp is the victim. A correspondent informs us that he purchased at one of the local post-offices a sheet of the current 1d. stamps perforated 14, with the two bottom rows re-perforated 11 horizontally; due to the 14 perforations running away to glory at one end. Before the re-perforation took place two narrow strips of paper were gummed on the backs of the stamps. These strips, however, did not extend beyond the sixth stamp of the row, although the double line of perforation is noticable up to the eleventh stamp. Presumably paper was scarce, or the artist in a hurry.

Australian Philatelist.

A

Watermark Verse.

When the watermark Crown, with the letters C. C.

Was changed to one lettered C A.,

We hoped to the last that our troubles had past,

And the latter was coming to stay.

But alas! and alack! as somebody says, Things are ordered by other decrees,

So they altered to Crowns with multiple As

And of course with the multiple Cs,

Such things if they do (as they do in this case)

When the Unionist Governments please,

When the others get in you will certainly win,

If you bet that they change to C.-B's.

E. W. W. in P. J. of I.

Start A Stamp Business

—for 25 cts.—

Drop a silver quarter securely in paper enclose in envelope and send to me and I will mail the following:—

25 stamps to sell at 1c each	25
25 stamps to sell at 2c each	50
15 stamps to sell at 3c each	45
10 stamps to sell at 4c each	40
10 " " " from 5 to 10c ea.	75

\$2.35

Just think of it \$2.35 value for 25 cents.

I want good live agents to sell stamps from my approval books at 50% commission. Write at once and give Postmaster or business man as reference.

WANTED, I still want to buy entire collections, duplicates or any good lot of stamps. Write to me before you sell.

H. J. KLEINMAN,

3643 N. Marshall St.,

Philadelphia, Pa.

Cat. No.	* Unused.	Cat. Price	My Price
29	Bolivia '80, 2c violet	20 05	20 05
49	'97, 5c green	3	1
50	10c br. violet	3	1
64	'99, 5c dark green	4	2
65	10c vel. orange	3	1
68	'01, 5c dark red	8	3
70	1c maroon	2	1
73	5c rose carmine	2	4
75	10c blue	3	1
*81	Col. Rep. Bolivar '04, 20c red	8	3
*86	Curacao '03, 12½c deep blue		5
*114	Guat. '02, 1c gr & purple 30c per 100		
*115	2c lake & bl. 48c per 100		
120	50c br. & blue	15	7
*121	75c lilac & black	25	20
*122	1p brown & black	45	22
*122	Nicaragua '00, 2c vermilion	4	2
*130	50c lake	50	16
*132	2p salmon	2 00	60
*133	5p black	4 50	1 50
141	'01, 30c dark green	60	20
157	30c dark green	60	20
*282	'00, 20c or. brown	20	8
*408	1c red violet	2	1
*404	2c vermilion	3	1½
*406	5c dark blue	3	1
*407	10c purple	6	3
408	20c brown	10	4
*409	50c lake	25	15
*410	1p ultramarine	80	25
*411	2p br. orange	1 25	45
*419	'03, 30c on 20c brown	40	15
160	Peru '00, 22c green & black	50	20
164	22c green	10	4
209	Venezuela '04, 25c ultra.	3	1½
301	'98, 10c rose & black	20	10
316	'00, 50c yel. & black	12	6
317	1b violet & black	25	11
318	'04, 50c claret	8	3

E. T. Parker, Bethlehem, Pa.

A 15c. U. S., 1869, inverted center, recently sold in London for £22 (\$110).

The Philatelic School Room.

For The Primary And Intermediate Classes.

Conducted by Oliver Crinkle, X. G. S. Professor of Philately in Knowlton University.
(Continued from No. 1 page 5.)

The Stamps of Schleswig-Holstein.

Fourth of the German states to adopt postage stamps in 1850 was Schleswig-Holstein. It is difficult for us to understand now how Schleswig-Holstein happened to acquire stamps at this period—for in all respects save one these two duchies were very petty affairs. And that one respect was their position as a bone of contention between Denmark and the Germanic Confederation—a position which was destined later on to make "the Schleswig-Holstein question" a matter of import to all Europe. It is not very easy to define in a few words their political status in 1850. Both duchies were under the rule of Denmark and were, in effect, a part of the Danish dominions. Holstein, however, by one of these singular political anomalies of which the period presents so many examples, was also a member of the Germanic Confederation (its population being principally of the Teutonic race) and was under the direct government of the Duke of Holstein, a German prince. Both duchies desired a larger share in their own government than Denmark had ever been willing to accord them; and in the great revolutionary year of 1848, when the success of the French revolutionists set all Europe ablaze, Schleswig-Holstein rose in rebellion and with military aid from some of the surrounding German states, attempted to release themselves from Danish rule. As, however, revolutions of much the same sort broke out at once in Prussia, Bavaria, Saxony and almost all the other neighboring countries, the German armies were speedily called home and Schleswig-Holstein, left to herself, was easily re-subjugated by Denmark, and Danish authority re-established with the full consent of all the European powers, each one of which preferred that condition of affairs to any change which might result in giving the two duchies to either Prussia or Austria, both of whom secretly desired to possess them.

The area of the two duchies was nearly equal, Schleswig covering 3492 square miles, and Holstein 3270. Their combined population in 1850 was something short of a millionsouls. Both are agricultural countries, and have long since lost their political identity, now forming one of the prov-

inces of Prussia. There are no sizable cities in either. Flensburg Slesvig, a town of great antiquity, being of most importance. In 1850, its population did not much exceed ten thousand people. Not much of a land, this Schleswig-Holstein, to covet and fight over, one might think; but, after all, its possession meant much to little Denmark.

Denmark did not herself, however, issue these Schleswig-Holstein stamps. They were issued under the authority of the Schleswig-Holstein joint assembly, a legislative body, composed of an equal number of representatives from both duchies, which had claimed, during the rebellion, exclusive administrative authority over the two states, and which the King of Denmark did not succeed in dissolving until 1851. Danish troops had, by 1850, overrun all Schleswig and portions of Holstein, but the joint assembly still retained some shadowy semblance of authority and its issue of a national series of postage stamps would be deemed almost a laughable bit of vanity on their part, were it not more pathetic than amusing. Their stamps had but a brief currency; the number of them used was very small, as their present scarcity would indicate; but their existence is a picturesque reminder of Schleswig-Holstein's momentary emergence from foreign dominion into the role of an independent state. It is such associations as these that make this and other old German issues wondrously interesting. These two pathetic little stamps of Schleswig-Holstein are, alas, too rare for many of us to hope to ever possess them; but that is no reason why we should not appreciate their intrinsic interest and picturesqueness.

Of their design little can be said. It is essentially Germanic in style, rather than Danish, as may be seen by comparing it with any of the other old German issues of the decade between 1850 and 1860. The arms of the two duchies are shown, in conjunction with the imperial eagle of Germany, indicating plainly enough the political sympathies of the people. The engraving and workmanship are crude—distinctly the poorest of any of the German issues of 1850. But this adds to, rather than detracts from, the picturesqueness of the issue.

New Brunswick 12 ¹ / ₂ c blue	.....	30
Newfoundland 1863, 6 ¹ / ₂ d or 8d lake each	.....	1 25
" 1866, 13c orange	.....	25
Nova Scotia 12 ¹ / ₂ c black	.....	25
Canada 12 ¹ / ₂ c green 1850	.....	25
" 12 ¹ / ₂ c blue 1868	.....	25
Seychelles 3 on 10, 1901	.....	25
3 on 16, "	.....	25
3 on 30, "	.....	25
2 on 4, 1902	.....	25

EDWARD Y. PARKER,
155 Dowling Ave.
TORONTO, - - CANADA
ESTABLISHED 1881.

RICHARD R. BROWN,
WHOLESALE POSTAGE
STAMPS,
Keypoint, N. J.

One Cent Each.

LIST NO. 9.
LOOK UP LIST NO. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8
in previous issue.

- Oceania, French, 1892, *1c, *2c.
- Orange River Colony, 1894, 3c.
- Paraguay, 1892, 1c, 5c; 1896, 1c; 1902, 1c, 2c; 1903, *1c, *2c; Official, 1900, 1c, 2c.
- Persia, 1891, 5c; 1894, 1c, 5c; 1898, 1c, 5c; 1899, 5c, 1899, 5c.
- Peru, 1874, *10c; 1888, 1c, 2c, 10c; 1895, 1c, 2c, 5c, 1898, 5c; 1899, 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c; 1901, 1c, 5c; 1902, 1c, 5c; 1903, 1c, 5c; 1904, 1c, 5c; 1905, 1c, 5c; 1906, 1c, 5c; 1907, 1c, 5c; 1908, 1c, 5c; 1909, 1c, 5c; 1910, 1c, 5c; 1911, 1c, 5c; 1912, 1c, 5c; 1913, 1c, 5c; 1914, 1c, 5c; 1915, 1c, 5c; 1916, 1c, 5c; 1917, 1c, 5c; 1918, 1c, 5c; 1919, 1c, 5c; 1920, 1c, 5c; 1921, 1c, 5c; 1922, 1c, 5c; 1923, 1c, 5c; 1924, 1c, 5c; 1925, 1c, 5c; 1926, 1c, 5c; 1927, 1c, 5c; 1928, 1c, 5c; 1929, 1c, 5c; 1930, 1c, 5c; 1931, 1c, 5c; 1932, 1c, 5c; 1933, 1c, 5c; 1934, 1c, 5c; 1935, 1c, 5c; 1936, 1c, 5c; 1937, 1c, 5c; 1938, 1c, 5c; 1939, 1c, 5c; 1940, 1c, 5c; 1941, 1c, 5c; 1942, 1c, 5c; 1943, 1c, 5c; 1944, 1c, 5c; 1945, 1c, 5c; 1946, 1c, 5c; 1947, 1c, 5c; 1948, 1c, 5c; 1949, 1c, 5c; 1950, 1c, 5c; 1951, 1c, 5c; 1952, 1c, 5c; 1953, 1c, 5c; 1954, 1c, 5c; 1955, 1c, 5c; 1956, 1c, 5c; 1957, 1c, 5c; 1958, 1c, 5c; 1959, 1c, 5c; 1960, 1c, 5c; 1961, 1c, 5c; 1962, 1c, 5c; 1963, 1c, 5c; 1964, 1c, 5c; 1965, 1c, 5c; 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2398, 1c, 5c; 2399, 1c, 5c; 2400, 1c, 5c; 2401, 1c, 5c; 2402, 1c, 5c; 2403, 1c, 5c; 2404, 1c, 5c; 2405, 1c, 5c; 2406, 1c, 5c; 2407, 1c, 5c; 2408, 1c, 5c; 2409, 1c, 5c; 2410, 1c, 5c; 2411, 1c, 5c; 2412, 1c, 5c; 2413, 1c, 5c; 2414, 1c, 5c; 2415, 1c, 5c; 2416, 1c, 5c; 2417, 1c, 5c; 2418, 1c, 5c; 2419, 1c, 5c; 2420, 1c, 5c; 2421, 1c, 5c; 2422, 1c, 5c; 2423, 1c, 5c; 2424, 1c, 5c; 2425, 1c, 5c; 2426, 1c, 5c; 2427, 1c, 5c; 2428, 1c, 5c; 2429, 1c, 5c; 2430, 1c, 5c; 2431, 1c, 5c; 2432, 1c, 5c; 2433, 1c, 5c; 2434, 1c, 5c; 2435, 1c, 5c; 2436, 1c, 5c; 2437, 1c, 5c; 2438, 1c, 5c; 2439, 1c, 5c; 2440, 1c, 5c; 2441, 1c, 5c; 2442, 1c, 5c; 2443, 1c, 5c; 2444, 1c, 5c; 2445, 1c, 5c; 2446, 1c, 5c; 2447, 1c, 5c; 2448, 1c, 5c; 2449, 1c, 5c; 2450, 1c, 5c; 2451, 1c, 5c; 2452, 1c, 5c; 2453, 1c, 5c; 2454, 1c, 5c; 2455, 1c, 5c; 2456, 1c, 5c; 2457, 1c, 5c; 2458, 1c, 5c; 2459, 1c, 5c; 2460, 1c, 5c; 2461, 1c, 5c; 2462, 1c, 5c; 2463, 1c, 5c; 2464, 1c, 5c; 2465, 1c, 5c; 2466, 1c, 5c; 2467, 1c, 5c; 2468, 1c, 5c; 2469, 1c, 5c; 2470, 1c, 5c; 2471, 1c, 5c; 2472, 1c, 5c; 2473, 1c, 5c; 2474, 1c, 5c; 2475, 1c, 5c; 2476, 1c, 5c; 2477, 1c, 5c; 2478, 1c, 5c; 2479, 1c, 5c; 2480, 1c, 5c; 2481, 1c, 5c; 2482, 1c, 5c; 2483, 1c, 5c; 2484, 1c, 5c; 2485, 1c, 5c; 2486, 1c, 5c; 2487, 1c, 5c; 2488, 1c, 5c; 2489, 1c, 5c; 2490, 1c, 5c; 2491, 1c, 5c; 2492, 1c, 5c; 2493, 1c, 5c; 2494, 1c, 5c; 2495, 1c, 5c; 2496, 1c, 5c; 2497, 1c, 5c; 2498, 1c, 5c; 2499, 1c, 5c; 2500, 1c, 5c; 2501, 1c, 5c; 2502, 1c, 5c; 2503, 1c, 5c; 2504, 1c, 5c; 2505, 1c, 5c; 2506, 1c, 5c; 2507, 1c, 5c; 2508, 1c, 5c; 2509, 1c, 5c; 2510, 1c, 5c; 2511, 1c, 5c; 2512, 1c, 5c; 2513, 1c, 5c; 2514, 1c, 5c; 2515, 1c, 5c; 2516, 1c, 5c; 2517, 1c, 5c; 2518, 1c, 5c; 2519, 1c, 5c; 2520, 1c, 5c; 2521, 1c, 5c; 2522, 1c, 5c; 2523, 1c, 5c; 2524, 1c, 5c; 2525, 1c, 5c; 2526, 1c, 5c; 2527, 1c, 5c; 2528, 1c, 5c; 2529, 1c, 5c; 2530, 1c, 5c; 2531, 1c, 5c; 2532, 1c, 5c; 2533, 1c, 5c; 2534, 1c, 5c; 2535, 1c, 5c; 2536, 1c, 5c; 2537, 1c, 5c; 2538, 1c, 5c; 2539, 1c, 5c; 2540, 1c, 5c; 2541, 1c, 5c; 2542, 1c, 5c; 2543, 1c, 5c; 2544, 1c, 5c; 2545, 1c, 5c; 2546, 1c, 5c; 2547, 1c, 5c; 2548, 1c, 5c; 2549, 1c, 5c; 2550, 1c, 5c; 2551, 1c, 5c; 2552, 1c, 5c; 2553, 1c, 5c; 2554, 1c, 5c; 2555, 1c, 5c; 2556, 1c, 5c; 2557, 1c, 5c; 2558, 1c, 5c; 2559, 1c, 5c; 2560, 1c, 5c; 2561, 1c, 5c; 2562, 1c, 5c; 2563, 1c, 5c; 2564, 1c, 5c; 2565, 1c, 5c; 2566, 1c, 5c; 2567, 1c, 5c; 2568, 1c, 5c; 2569, 1c, 5c; 2570, 1c, 5c; 2571, 1c, 5c; 2572, 1c, 5c; 2573, 1c, 5c; 2574, 1c, 5c; 2575, 1c, 5c; 2576, 1c, 5c; 2577, 1c, 5c; 2578, 1c, 5c; 2579, 1c, 5c; 2580, 1c, 5c; 2581, 1c, 5c; 2582, 1c, 5c; 2583, 1c, 5c; 2584, 1c, 5c; 2585, 1c, 5c; 2586, 1c, 5c; 2587, 1c, 5c; 2588, 1c, 5c; 2589, 1c, 5c; 2590, 1c, 5c; 2591, 1c, 5c; 2592, 1c, 5c; 2593, 1c, 5c; 2594, 1c, 5c; 2595, 1c, 5c; 2596, 1c, 5c; 2597, 1c, 5c; 2598, 1c, 5c; 2599, 1c, 5c; 2600, 1c, 5c; 2601, 1c, 5c; 2602, 1c, 5c; 2603, 1c, 5c; 2604, 1c, 5c; 2605, 1c, 5c; 2606, 1c, 5c; 2607, 1c, 5c; 2608, 1c, 5c; 2609, 1c, 5c; 2610, 1c, 5c; 2

...Hanover
...the list.
...one other German state joined the
...list of stamp-issuing nations in 1850—
...namely, the Kingdom of Hanover.
...Hanover's greatest claim to fame (or
...at least, the one by which she is best
...remembered at present) is in having
...furnished Great Britain with its pres-
...ent reigning house. On the death of
...Queen Anne of England, in 1714,
...George Lewis, the Elector of Hanover,
...found himself called to the throne of
...England. His mother was the grand-
...daughter of James I of England; a
...tender enough connection with the
...line of succession to the British throne,
...especially in the face of several other
...claimants having decidedly closer
...blood-relationship to previous English
...sovereigns. Through certain polit-
...ical manoeuvres, the history of which
...is too involved to be explained here,
...the succession had, however, been so
...regulated that this remote descendent
...of James I was adjudged the heir to
...the throne, and he accordingly, at the
...age of fifty-four years, became King
...of England—a German in thought, in
...feeling and in deeds; detesting Eng-
...land and loving his German dom-
...inions; never was throne so strangely
...and incongruously occupied since his-
...tory began. Hanover, in its palmyest
...days as a separate kingdom, never at-
...tained a population of two million
...souls. Think of the good fortune of
...the rulers of this little state in having
...their heritage for many generations
...not only their own land but the sceptre
...of power and the enormous royal
...revenues of the British Empire. All
...the four Georges, while acting as
...kings of England, retained their ruler-
...ship of Hanover; so did William IV;
...but Queen Victoria was debarred from
...the Hanoverian throne, females being
...excluded from the right of succession.
...While she became Queen of England,
...her uncle, the Duke of Cumberland,
...became King of Hanover, thus ending
...the occupancy of the two thrones by
...her and the same individual. It had
...been fortunate for some of the Georges
...that they had secured such a snug
...little position in England; for Napo-
...leon owned Hanover for a decade or
...so (as he did most of the rest of Ger-
...many) and made it a part of the
...Kingdom of Westphalia, of which his
...brother, Jerome Bonaparte, was King.
...But when Napoleon fell, Hanover was
...restored to its old rulers; and in 1850
...was about on a par in population
...and importance with Saxony and Wur-
...temberg—ranking above Baden and
...Bavaria, but decidedly below Prus-
...sia. She issued in this year of 1850
...a single stamp only, a 1 silber gros-
...chen, represented in the cut A 1. Han-
...over. The design is complicated, and

its quaintness is its only pleasing point. Note the old German spelling of Hanover with two n's; also that here again the word "franco" (postage) is utilized. In the upper part of the stamp appears the arms of the House of Hanover, the lion and the unicorn, so familiar to us from its use in England. It would strike one as strange to find it on the stamps of this petty German state if they did not understand the connection—and that is why I have spent so much space in explaining what that connection was and how it came about. Philatelic study rubs elbows with history so continually that we must constantly go into such matters as these or we will miss utterly the significance of many a postage stamp emblem or portrait or style of design.

(To be continued.)

**Uncle Sam's
Interception of Letters.**

Although all the governments deny it, there is not a government under which a cabinet noir does not exist and has not existed since letters were written. At Washington, as at Berlin and London, no correspondence of importance escapes this administrative inquisition. In spite of all denials, every government maintains a dark chamber in which letters are opened and read before being sent to their destination, says a writer in Success. In the turmoil preliminary to the Spanish-American war a secretary of the Spanish legation at Washington discovered this to his cost. Without the cabinet noir the secret police could hardly exist. Through it the chiefs are enabled to spy upon their agents, who are recruited in all ranks of society and paid in proportion to their standing and services. It is, however, in politics and diplomacy that the cabinet noir works most actively. Often it is of supreme importance for a nation to know the instructions sent to this ambassador or that, and the contents of his dispatches.

The Cipher Letter.

Of course these communications are in cipher, but for the cabinet noir there are no cryptographic mysteries. Even cipher can be read. Documents of very great importance are sent by diplomatic couriers and "king's messengers," but this is exceptional. In the papers which have thus been stolen, read, copied, and preserved in the secret archives of the various states, lie the real history that will some day be written. Bunau-Varilla's letters—filed away in the cabinets noirs of Paris and Washington—will some day shed a mocking light on the recent occurrences at Panama, and many another historic event will take on an unexpected color.

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I am prepared to buy for spot cash unused o. g. finely Centered copies of U. S. Stamps from 1849 to 1890. I also want the Department stamps in the same condition. Parties having stamps in this condition can send them to me at their lowest cash price and if satisfactory I will remit by return mail otherwise I will return them registered.

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Albums, finest out, spaces for 4000 stamps,
fine cuts - - - - - 30

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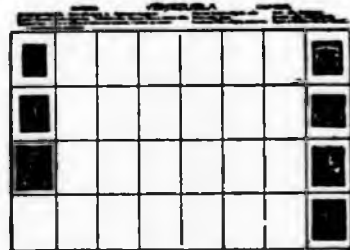
GREECE.

1886	1	1	brown	No. 64	80 02	
"	5	1	green	" 66	01	
"	10	1	yellow	" 67	02	
"	25	1	blue	" 69	02	
"	50	1	gray green	" 71	03	
"	1	dr	gray	" 72	03	
1889	40	1	blue	" 88	08	
"	1	dr	gray	" 90	07	
1891-92	40	1	blue	" 115	05	
"	1	dr	gray	" 116	05	
1900	20	on 25	blue	" 129	04	
"	40	on 21	blistre	" 132	05	
"	50	on 40	salmon	" 133	05	
"	1	dr	on 40	violet	" 134	10

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C. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUB CO.

ST. LOUIS, MO.

A Page of Precept

For Young Collectors.

(Conducted by the Editor.)

A Chance For the Discouraged.

I am frequently in receipt of letters from young collectors who confess that they are discouraged at the slow progress they are making in filling their albums. Those who write thus are not the absolute beginners; but are in most cases collectors who have succeeded in amassing from a thousand to three thousand varieties, have mounted them in some one of the large general albums, and are collecting with seriousness and ardor along the lines set down by the catalogues of the period. As I have more than once pointed out in this department, there is in reality no reason why they need be discouraged at the small number of the album spaces they have been able to fill, compared with the vast number that still remain empty—for the pleasures of Philately are all the greater for being accompanied by some obstacles and difficulties in the matter of securing desired specimens. But it is not always easy for young collectors to adopt this philosophical point of view; and there is no doubt that many and many an enthusiast loses his ardor and ceases to actively collect through sheer despair at the bigness of his album and the great number of stamps that must be placed in it to make a really fine showing.

Now if there are any of you (and I do not doubt there are) who are finding that collecting in the ordinary way is becoming too great a burden, I want you to turn to the Editorial page and read very carefully all that is said there in relation to a new mode of forming collections, which is especially well adapted to the requirements of young collectors.

You have read it all over carefully. Good. Now we can proceed intelligibly to apply this to your especial case. You are discouraged at the little headway you are making, and getting, in consequence, a bit tired of collecting. Suppose you take your present collection to pieces, remove all the specimens from the album, procure a blank album (or several small blank books, of suitable sort, if you prefer) and re-form your collection, according to the arrangement suggested in this week's editorial. Say that your collection consists of a couple of thousand varieties. At least five hundred of these (it is safe to assume) will be "portrait stamps." Place these first in the new album, they being the most numerous class among the different styles of design which are now to form the basis of classification. Take twenty-five pages and place twenty "portrait stamps" on each page, not according to the countries to which they belong, but according to colors. Have one "red

page," containing "portrait stamps" printed in red and kindred shades; then a "blue page"; then a "black page"; and so on. Diversify this, after a little, with pages on which appear stamps of contrasting colors. Pay no attention to any classification save that of color. Arrange the pages, if possible, so that each as a whole will present a different form of design. On one, for example, put sixteen of your twenty stamps around the outer edge of the page in the form of a square, and then place the other four in "block of four" shape in the very centre of the page. On another, make the stamps form a triangle, on another, a cross, and so on. With a little planning you can make each page differ from the others in design; and avoid the tiresome sameness of form that characterizes the arrangement of the printed album collection. Remember you can figure on a basis of completeness. Each page, when you have mounted your twenty stamps upon it, is absolutely complete; and need never be disturbed or altered. (unless you wish to do so) no matter how much your collection may grow in future. Leave, say, twenty or thirty pages blank for future additions in "portrait stamps;" and then form a second section of the collection, devoted entirely to stamps bearing coats of arms or heraldic devices. Leave beyond this more blank pages for future additions to this section; and then proceed with other sections, according to the classifications suggested in our Editorials.

A

Fine Collection.

Don't you think that by adopting this method you would have a fine, slightly, intensely interesting collection? The beauty of it is that there are no blank spaces to detract from the appearance of the stamps and spoil the symmetry of the page. As things stand now, in your regular album, the necessity of placing each stamp in the space allotted to it gives to many pages an incongruous, unbalanced look. The stamps are too much scattered about to show off well; and the fact that you possess only a relatively small number of the specimens that the album provides room for is too palpably obvious, not only to all to whom you show your collection, but to yourself. With the new style of collection, the case is far different. You can be satisfied with it and proud of it at every stage of the game. You are freed from all necessity of following any dictates save those of your own inclination. You are free to collect entirely as your fancy wills, without any reference whatever to the desirability of filling out this or that page, or this or that country. I do not, of course, advise every one of my readers to immediately uproot his collection from the album he is at present using, and re-form his collection along these new lines. If you are happy and contented with your collection as it is, by all means let

Revenues Revenues

I am closing out this branch of my business. I am offering U. S. Revenues at a lower price than any other firm. Write me if you are interested and be convinced. Selections sent on approval.

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Barbadoes 1882, 8p orange & ultra	2 1/2
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Russia Levant 10k carmine green	80
" " 1pia on 10k blue	65
" " 20pa on 4k rose	65
Austria Levant 8pa on 2k brown	65
Servia 1901 5p green	65
Bulgaria 1903 10s on 15c rose & black	65
Turkey Newspaper 1903-09, 10 20pa 1.	65
" " 2pl set	65
" " 1901, 5, 10, 20pa.	65
" " 1. 5pia Domestic set	18

enough alone. But if you have gotten to the discouraged stage, I earnestly advise you to give this new idea a trial. The re-arrangement of your collection, along the lines noted, will be interesting and fascinating work. It will revive your enthusiasm and open up to you a new and exceedingly pleasant and fruitful field of philatelic endeavor. If you collect philately, as ordinarily carried on, too taxing and exacting, here is a way in which you can rid yourself of the difficulties and complications of modern collecting, and at the same time keep all the profit and pleasure ever derived from stamps and stamp study.

For Beginners

For the beginners, too, no mode of collecting would appear to be more practical and promising. If I were starting in to collect at the present moment, I think I should adopt this very plan—perhaps with the modification of trying to collect nothing but "portrait stamps" at the start. This latter form undoubtedly as a whole is the most interesting class of stamps in our albums; and they have the further merit for the beginner's purposes that hundreds and hundreds of different varieties can be gotten at little cost. In United States stamps, for example, you could show one stamp portrait each of Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Jackson, Lincoln, Webster, Clay, Taylor, Grant, Garfield, Sherman, Harrison, Livingston, Monroe and McKinley, at an outlay of not over twenty-five cents for the lot—and in many cases, without any cost whatever, off old and new family letters. Then there are thirty or forty other U. S. stamps duplicating the portraits of the above, which can be bought for a penny or two apiece, and which would form a pleasing annex to the main exhibition of American celebrities. Turn to Argentine and see what a profusion of different stamp portraits can be gleaned there; to Bolivia, to Canada, and so on—and note that in almost all cases the portrait of any person immortalized on postage stamps can be found on at least one cheap variety.

I am at work on a list of portrait stamps that can be bought cheaply, which I shall publish in this department in due time as a practical illustration of the opportunities this kind of collecting affords the young collector. Meanwhile, any of you who propose taking up this new mode of collecting are freely invited to write for any advice as to arrangement and method of which you feel yourselves in need. Write me freely, at any time, in regard to this, or any other matter. I am always ready to do all I can to aid any of you in any way.

About Commemorative Stamps.

We are frequently asked whether it is wise for the novice to pay out his money for Commemorative Stamps, many of which have been so manifestly issued almost solely for the purpose of extracting money from collectors. Young collectors read the attacks made on the character of these stamps as a class, and, though attracted by their beauty and picturesqueness, feel as though they would perhaps be running counter to accepted philatelic practice in buying them. In our opinion, the novice will do well to buy such issues, whenever they attract him. All Commemorative Issues that are listed in the catalogues are perfectly legitimate, in the sense that they have been good for postal use; and the young collector is open to no criticism in accepting them. Of course, their existence is, in a way, an unfortunate thing. No philatelist likes to see such sets appear, because there is almost always strong suspicion that were it not for the probability of their finding a profitable market among collectors they would never have been issued. But when all is said and done, the fact remains that they pay postage; that many of them rank among the most beautiful stamps ever issued; and that most of them form a real addition to the beauty and interest of a collection. The young collector need not, therefore, be at all afraid of transgressing any philatelic law in following his own inclinations in regard to Commemorative Issues. We speak of this particularly because so many writers are always warning young collectors not to collect this, that or the other class of stamps. We believe such warnings to be wholly superfluous and unnecessary. We believe the young collector will do well to collect any and every sort of stamps he likes, quite irrespective of the policy of advanced philatelists in regard to them. It will be plenty time to discriminate after one has been collecting for some years and has graduated entirely out of the young collector class.

Facts About Grenada.

Grenada was discovered by Columbus in 1498, and called first Ascension Island. It was colonized by the French, taken by the English in 1762, retaken by the French in 1779, and finally became a British possession in 1783. The Island is 18 miles in length and 7 miles in breadth, with an area of 120 square miles, including "The Grenadines". The last census, 1901, recorded a population of 65,523. Its capital, George Town or St. Georges, with 4500 inhabitants is the seat of the headquarters of the Windward Government.

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display.

A line will average seven words

Cash to accompany copy.

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Money loaned on stamps or stamp collections. F. MICHELI, 258 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill. Member A. P. A. and C. P. S.

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The Philatelic Advertiser,

Dept. 31. ITHACA, N. Y.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

death face of King Alexander. When the stamp is held upside down the nostrils of the two heads form the eyes of the dead King, the moustaches make the eyebrows, and the eyebrow and eye of Karageorge form King Alexander's nose and mouth.

It is claimed that the effect of the death face on the stamps has produced a profound impression on the Servian army. The men are naturally of a somewhat impressible and superstitious temperament and following the bloody carnival that wiped their King and Queen off the earth, the appearance of this death mask on the coronation stamp has thrown the army into a state of panic and there is a disposition on the part of the rank and file to attach supernatural importance to the appearance of the face on the stamp. It is said that but very few, comparatively, of the stamps got into the United States.

A dispatch from the new town of Fairbanks, Alaska, named in honor of the new Vice President of the United States, says that a famine in postage stamps recently occurred in that town and that when the supply got down to the last stamp so great was the struggle for it that one dollar was bid for the label. It is presumable that the stamp must have been held by a private person, as the postmaster would be compelled to sell to the first person asking for it and would not be allowed to charge more than two cents for it. Seems as though that would have afforded a fine opportunity for some "provisionals."

Nothing has been done as yet on the new series of postage stamps for the Philippines except the 2 centavo denomination and very little on that. It is still a question whether the 4 centavo stamp will bear the photo of George Washington or the coat of arms of the Philippines. It is certain that all denominations above 4 centavos will bear the coat of arms and it is up to Col. Edwards to determine whether it shall be uncle George or just the plain design of the coat of arms. The stamps will not be ready probably before fall.

It is said at the Treasury that silver dollars of the date of 1904 are likely to be rather scarce, only a few hundred having been coined last year. Seems as though we had heard that the 1804 coin of the value of one dollar was rather uncommon, too. Is it possible there was a method in the madness or sanity of the Director of the Mint?

A farmer in the northern part of Iowa has invented a postal device that makes it clear that the farm is no place for him. He belongs in the east and in the same class with Edi-

son, Fell and Westinghouse. It appears that this farmer's house is some distance from the road along which passes the rural free delivery mail carrier every forenoon. During the winter it was quite a job to bundle up and go fifty rods to the mail box and so Mr. Farmer rigged up a scheme of this kind: He extended two wires from his porch to the mailbox on the roadside and arranged an apparatus so that by turning a wheel on his porch a small box, into which the rural carrier had deposited the mail, was hauled to the house, bringing the letters and papers to hand without leaving the house. The next morning, shortly before time for the carrier to arrive, the wheel was turned in the opposite direction and the little box traveled back to the mail box and if letters were to be dispatched of course they went back in it. The scheme proved entirely practical and there was nothing to get out of order. The whole apparatus cost less than \$5 it is said. This is hardly a philatelic item, but it is certainly an interesting item.

Well, the Santo Domingo treaty failed and Uncle Sam will not assume the roll of bill collector. But it may be there will be something doing, after all. Some of the powers are getting mighty weary of being asked to call around some other day.

Locomotives On Stamps.

Who, without looking the matter up, would have said that the Locomotive figured on the stamps of more than a dozen different countries. Yet it is so, and here is a list of them, clipped from a recent issue of the Philatelic West.

- Guatemala Jubilee, small engine on right side of stamp.
- Honduras, 1898, set of eight varieties.
- Labuan, surcharged on North Borneo, 16c, 1901.
- Mexico, 1 peso, 1895.
- Nicaragua, on sets of 1890 and 1900.
- North Borneo, 16c, 1902.
- Paraguay, on two varieties of officials.
- Queensland, all newspaper stamps.
- Salvador, set of 1880 and 3c, 1896.
- Transvaal, 1 penny Jubilee, 1895.
- Uruguay, on four varieties, all type A 53, Scott's
- United States, 3c, 1869, and 2c Buffalo, 1902.
- New Brunswick, 1c, 1860.
- Peru, 5c, 1871.

An English dealer announces the purchase of "The magnificent general collection formed by His Highness, Prince Doria Pamphillig."

British Central Africa.
1891-1894

8 pence, used
1 shilling, unused

2
3
4
5

Bavaria 1870 12kr unused

N. DIESCHBOURG,
87 NASSAU Street. and 130 FULTON Street.
Rooms 323 and 324. NEW YORK

HAYTI.

1891	2c	blue	..	..	00
"	5c	orange	"	"	06
1893	7c	red	"	"	10
1896	3c	blue	"	"	08
"	5c	green	"	"	04

The five fine copies post paid for 25c.
Postage 2c extra with orders for parts.

WENDOVER NEEFUS, HUDSON, N. Y.

The Modern Postage Stamp Album

This album is designed to meet the needs of both the young and the old collector, having 256 pages and holding 10,000 stamps and is illustrated with over 2200 cuts of foreign stamps. Price \$1.15 Post paid.

The New Century Stamp Co.,
P. O. Box 425 Smith's Falls, Ont.

Following up my last week's offer of HAYTI cards, I now offer a few complete sets of the same cards, surcharged by the Provisional Government, "MAY 14, 1902", and in use only several months, net catalogue value 1905, 85 cents.

For only 45 cents post paid.
Only 10 sets will be sold at this price.

Adolph Lohmeyer,
922 N. Gilmor St., Baltimore, Md.

SAMOA
Postage Stamps.

The following unused stamps are offered at the following greatly reduced prices for quick cash orders.

Cata. No.	Denom.	Color	Price
9	1/2p	violet	50
10	1p	green	18
11	2p	yellow	12
11b	2p	orange	50
12	4p	blue	30
13	6p	maroon	30
14	1sh	rose	50
15	2sh, 6p.	violet	1 50
16	2 1/2p	rose	12
20	5p	carmine red	25
21	2 1/2p on 2p	orange	50
22c	3p on 2p	orange green surcharge	50
23	2 1/2p	black	20
24	2 1/2p on 1sh	rose	15
25	2 1/2p on 2sh	6p	65
27	2 1/2p on 1p	green	15
28	1/2p	green	04
29	1p	red brown	06
Provisional Government.			
30	1/2p	green	05
31	2p	orange	10
32	4p	blue	18
33	2sh 6p	violet	1 25
34	1p	red brown	05
35	5p	scarlet	22
36	6p	maroon	25
37	1sh	rose	50
German Dominion.			
57 to 58.	3pf to 80pf.	set of nine	1 00

C. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUB CO.
St. Louis, Mo.

50 cents
a year.

THE

2 cents
a copy.

STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Entered as second-class matter December 17, 1904, at the post office at Bethlehem, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

VOL. II.

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, APRIL 1, 1905.

No. 3.

OUR

221st Auction Sale

of Stamps takes place

APRIL 8th. at 2 o'clock

in Philadelphia.

It is full of rarities. Catalogues Free.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,

722 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

The March Number

of the

American Journal of Philately.

Will contain the first instalment of a profusely illustrated article, by Victor M. Berthold, entitled:

The Die Varieties of the Nesbitt Series of United States Envelopes.

Subscribe now; this article alone will be worth it.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 EAST 23rd ST.,

New York, N. Y.

Commission Dept. **M**

*5c	Providence fine.....	\$3 25
10c	1847, fine.....	2 50
30c	1857, very good.....	4 50
8c	Periodical No. 1010 fine.....	4 50
84c	" " 1018 cut can.....	7 00
\$1.02	" " 1020 " ".....	3 00
\$3.00	" " 1021 " ".....	4 50
3c	Proprietary Roulette No. 2985.....	2 25
4c	" " " 2987.....	2 50
10c	" " perf. 2991.....	6 25

Be sure and note my next Auction Sale cat. of the Rose collection.

P. M. Wolsieffer,

Auction Sale Specialist.

401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago. **M**

NEW YORK LETTER.

Yes, the Collector's Club has moved. After more than eight years occupation of the house in Fourth Avenue, the Club has moved its location to a fine floor in a modernized building at 24 West Twenty-sixth street.

Its opening in the new rooms was inaugurated by an auction sale held by the Scott Stamp and Coin Co., Wednesday, March 22.

The committee on removal had not completed its labors when the doors were opened to the public, but they had accomplished so much that expressions of approval were general.

Much of the labor of the committee as usual had fallen to the lot of one member, Mr. J. S. Rich, and those who know him, know that it is his delight to arrange and decorate the furnishings of such a suite of rooms.

The entire floor from front to rear may be thrown into one room by opening the folding doors which separate the billiard and smoking room in the rear from the front room, drawing room, parlor or library, whichever it may please one to call it.

Side rooms afford additional conveniences.

To refer again to the auction sale, the gathering was representative, the sale itself a great success, United States Stamps fetching old times prices. The most important stamp sold was an 1851 90c blue, which was knocked for \$266.10; Navy 2c green, sold at the record price of \$51.00.

(Continued on page 5.)

BOSTON LETTER.

The Boston Philatelic Society held its regular monthly meeting Tuesday evening March 21st at Elks Hall.

The attraction of the evening was the Competitive Exhibition of the stamps of Siam which was especially appropriate and interesting as the Society has during the past year published a hand-book on Siamese Stamps and this was the first prize contest which had been arranged for since the appearance of the work. All varieties were shown in the exhibits. The blue ribbon or first prize was awarded to Alexander Holland of Brooklyn, N. Y.

The first stamps of Siam appeared in July 1883 and in all seventy two distinct varieties have been issued and one hundred and seven minor varieties none of which is priced at over twenty dollars each. The price of the entire set of seventy odd varieties unused is about fifty-five dollars cutting out all surcharged varieties there are thirty one varieties valued at about twelve dollars unused.

The B. P. S. has been notified of its election as an honorary corresponding Society of the International Philatelic Society of Dresden, Germany.

Below is a list of the special attractions at the B. P. S. meeting for the remainder of the year. April 18th. Talk by Pres. C. F. Rothfuchs, Competition the 25 rarest stamps of any one country, open to members only. May 16th. Stereopticon lecture by Mr. John N. Luff "What Philately Teaches". June 20th. Competition, any European country listing over 100 varieties by Scott, open to all U. S. collectors. September 19th. Talk by Mr.

(Continued on page 5.)

DETROIT LETTER.

It is reported in the federal building that Postmaster Dickerson has a plan to land Joseph Mayworm, assistant postmaster, in a good job under the civil service before he retires from office next February. The alleged plan is to appoint Mayworm superintendent of the money order division of the local postoffice to succeed Geo. R. Woolfenden, who has been sick for a few months.

It is said that the Straits Settlements has the cheapest postoffice in the world. Postcards available in the colony and to the federated Malay states are sold at one-fifth of a penny each; the letter rate of postage throughout the same area is slightly over a half penny. The postage on letters to any place (with few exceptions) in the British empire is four-fifths of a penny to the half-ounce.

A letter sent to Alpena county a few days ago bore the following address: "Oberd Lak, Horseneak tp., Mch." It was construed to mean Hubbard Lake, Ossineke township, and was delivered to the man for whom it was intended.

The Egyptian Stamp Co. of this city informs me that it is going out of business. It has been established here for some years, conducting business from the house.

Fred Brush is spending several days in Toledo on business and incidently looking up a few "Stamps for his 'brother'," as he puts it, but looks as if Fred is growing the stamp fever fairly well.

(Continued on page 5.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted
to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

LOUIS G. QUACKENBUSH,
MANAGING EDITOR.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States,
Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any
address in any country in the Postal Union
\$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

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E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

From The Editor's Point Of View.

Welcome to the Chicago Society!

No editorial duty which has fallen to our lot since the establishment of the Stamp-Lovers Weekly has given us such unqualified pleasure as the privilege of this week welcoming to our columns that most energetic, progressive and successful organization, the Chicago Philatelic Society. The Chicago Society has done us the honor to choose our journal as the channel through which its official reports are hereafter to be placed before the public—a mark of esteem peculiarly gratifying in view of this journal's comparative youth. And there is no other society in the land whose approbation we could value quite so highly. We say this without any intent to belittle the Boston body, whose work in Philately's behalf cannot be too greatly praised. Nor do we underestimate the claims of the American Philatelic Association to our respect and admiration. But the Chicago Society takes, we think, first place among all American philatelic bodies in practical efficiency as a promoter of philatelic interest and enthusiasm. It contains within itself a fund of energy and ardor only paralleled among all the philatelic societies we know of in the Junior Philatelic Society of London. The Chicago body "does things." It brims over with life and go and vigor. It is continually "springing" something unique in attractions for its meetings, in benefits for its members and in plans for the general philatelic welfare. Many city stamp bodies exercise a local influence only. But the Chicago Society may very properly be said to be a force, not only in its own city, but in general Philately. Bodies like the Boston and Chicago Societies wield a greater influence in respect to the course of philatelic methods and ideas than is generally recognized.

These two societies, in fact, in a considerable measure set the standards of collecting for all America. Neither one exercises the undivided sway over philatelic fashions and methods that the London Philatelic Society does in England. But their power in shaping philatelic opinion is of the same sort, derived from very similar sources and conditions. Ten thousand capable collectors, working each independently of all the others, make less impress on the philatelic spirit of the time, have less to do with directing its current into this or that channel of activity, than twenty earnest philatelists banded together in compact association. And the two societies of which we speak, each consisting, we believe, of more than ten times twenty members, form the natural vanguard of philatelic progress for all of English-speaking America.

What the Chicago Body Stands For.

Under the circumstances above recited, it bodes well for American Philately that the Chicago Society at the present time stands, above all, for simplification of collecting. Chicago is, in fact, practically the birthplace of the present widespread agitation for the return to simpler and surer modes of collecting; and the leading members of the Chicago Society are the chief priests and prophets of the movement. The Chicago Society is committed to the same principles which we ourselves have insistently preached since our very first number—namely, less collecting for profit and more collecting for pleasure, less attention to minor varieties and more attention to stamp designs and their significance, less work to Philately and a good deal more play—and the choice of this journal by the Chicago body as its official organ is, therefore, something more than a mere business arrangement. We trust and believe that on neither side will anything but increased sympathy and appreciation result from the connection.

Professional Philatelists.

The Australian Philatelist speaks very sensibly in a recent issue on the distinction which exists between those philatelists who collect solely for diversion and pleasure, and those who collect partly or wholly with a view to monetary profit. The latter, our contemporary justly observes, can only be described as professional philatelists; and there seems to be some ground for believing that their presence in the philatelic field is not attended with entirely salutary results. These professional philatelists do not form collections with the intention of detaching them permanently in their possession; but with a view of selling out at a profit when propitious opportunity offers; and we confess that we, for our part, can never have quite the same brotherly feeling for them that we cherish toward the bona-fide ama-

teur. They are fine philatelists, almost without exception, profoundly versed in technical philatelic knowledge. It is essential to all their hopes that they should be. They are deep students and shrewd reasoners. But theirs is so cold and calculating a kind of Philately that it is difficult to sympathize with it. And the worst of it is that all their interests and inclinations lie along the line of bulling the market—a course of action diametrically opposed to the interests of the general body of collectors, who do not buy to sell again, but to keep in their own collections. It is very doubtful if stamp prices would on the whole average nearly as high as they do if the professional philatelist had not been actively at work for the last ten years or more. It is his influence more than any other that is continually boosting higher and higher the prices in certain specially favored countries—and thereby aiding in the discouragement of the collector who has no thought of financial gain and who cannot leg view with chagrin any rise in prices which necessitates his expending more money on his hobby. Of course, nothing can be done about it. None of us want to see a pantsy drop in stamp values. But if such a drop ever does come, it will have one consoling feature—that it will wipe out the "professional philatelist" element.

Mr. Castle As an Example.

It would be impossible to cite a more conspicuous example of the professional philatelist type than Mr. M. P. Castle, the famous English collector, who has just sold his latest collection for £5,750—equivalent in American money to about \$28,750. Mr. Castle has formed and sold four or five monumental collections within our remembrance. For one of them he received the gigantic sum of £27,500, or \$137,500. And in no case is it supposed that the cost of the collection was anywhere near the sum received for it. Mr. Castle has, in fact, been more conspicuously successful in forming big collections and selling them at a profit than any other man in the world. But how far higher a place in philatelic fame he might have assured himself had he devoted his admittedly wonderful philatelic talents and his abundant means to the formation of one big grand permanent collection. It might have rivalled the Tapling collection; it might have become one of the philatelic wonders of the world—how profound a pity that such a chance has been neglected! We speak, of course, purely from a sentimental standpoint. Mr. Castle is so ardent and so excellent a philatelist that very probably he has gotten as much or more real pleasure (entirely apart from monetary considerations) from his succession of collections as he would have received from one mammoth, continuous accumulation. For all that, however, most of us cannot but consider him (and he is a type, the most

TALKS TO DEALERS.

No. 5.

"The man who reads a trade paper is interested in everything in it. He will be interested in the advertisements if the advertisements are interesting."

The above, taken from the Trade Press number of Profitable Advertising, applies equally well to stamp advertising. All persons who read THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY are intensely interested in stamps and stamp collecting. They will be interested in any advertisement that is in itself interesting.

That ad must have something definite to offer. It must not be a mere mess of generalities. It must offer attractive things in attractive terms. And it must be changed often enough so that it does not grow stale.

Don't think that these "musts" are laws that we lay down. They are laws that the experience of thousands and thousands of advertisers in all sorts of fields has conclusively established. If you are not prepared to follow them, do not advertise.

We want your advertising - but not on any basis that will not pay you. Meet us half-way. Give us strong copy, space enough to display it rightly, and frequent changes, and we can give you profitable returns.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY,

BETHLEHEM, PA.

linguished representative of a very numerous class) as more dealer than collector. He is not dependent on stamps for his livelihood; but when all is said and done, he traffics in them for the purpose of making money; and is, therefore, in the exact sense of the word, a dealer. One kind of dealer buys stamps, puts them in packets or on approval sheets, and then sells them piecemeal. Mr. Castle and his class buy stamps and place them in albums and when they have gotten these albums well filled, sell out, lock, stock and barrel. And yet Mr. Castle is not only a member of the London Philatelic Society—a body of connoisseurs in which no dealer is permitted to hold membership,—but is one of its leading lights; while Mr. Chas. J. Phillips, who buys Mr. Castle's collections and deals in stamps in the ordinary, orthodox way, could as soon get through the eye of a needle as attain membership in that eminent body. We speak of this in no carping spirit. Whatever the way in which the London Society may choose to define the term "dealer," it is not for us to criticise. We simply allude to Mr. Castle's inclusion and Mr. Phillip's exclusion as one of those incongruities which we constantly come upon, in studying the part played in philatelic affairs by the professional philatelist.

The Growth of a Colossus.

Speaking of Mr. C. J. Phillips naturally leads one on to thoughts of the recent startling consolidation, whereby Mr. Phillips' house absorbed the business of two large London firms.—one a firm of dealers pure and simple; the other, a concern whose chief energies were devoted to philatelic auctions. These two, in conjunction with Mr. Phillips' old house, have been merged into one giant corporation, whose capitalized value is put at something over half a million dollars. There seems no limit to the undertakings of this bold and astute Englishman. His new weekly is cutting an enormously wide swath; a new shop, partially appointed, has been opened at one of the best locations on London's busiest street, the Strand; the consolidation will permit him to become a power in the auction field; and, to crown all, he is evidently going so heavily for American trade. Mr. John N. Luff having been added to the force at the New York office, unquestionably at a very high salary. We do not quite like all these manifestations of activity. This English concern is, to our mind, growing a bit too big for the general welfare of the trade. It begins to too much assume the dimensions of a trust. There was great ado made a few years ago over the formation of so-called stamp trusts in this country, on the occasion of the consolidation into one company of three large houses. It was feared they might gain too great a preponderance in the trade. How small was the danger compared with that considered by the rise of this new Brit-

ish colossus. Understand, we have no quarrel with the company in question. On the contrary, we greatly admire the boundless enterprise displayed by its management. Its catalogue and its general publications are admirable, while we cannot say too much in praise of its two periodicals—the old monthly and the new weekly. But for all that we do not like to see it wax so big in capitalization and importance. "Upon what meat doth this our Caesar feed that he doth grow so great?"

Cat. No.	* Unused.	Cat. Price	My Price.
29	Bolivia '90, 2c violet	\$0 08	\$0 03
49	'07, 5c green	3	1
50	10c br. violet	3	1
64	'99, 5c dark green	4	2
65	10c yet. orange	3	1
69	'01, 5c dark red	8	3
70	1c maroon	2	1
73	5c rose carmine	4	1
75	10c blue	3	1
*81	Col. Rep. Bolivar '04, 20c red	8	3
36	Curacao '03, 12 1/2c deep blue	5	1
*114	Guat. '02, 1c gr & purple 30c per 100		
*115	2c lake & bl. 48c per 100		
120	50c br. & blue	15	7
*121	75c lilac & black	25	20
*122	1p brown & black	45	22
*122	Nicaragua '00, 2c vermilion	4	2
*130	50c lake	50	16
*132	2p salmon	2 00	60
*133	5p black	4 50	1 50
141	'01, 30c dark green	60	20
157	30c dark green	60	20
*282	'00, 20c or. brown	20	8
*403	1c red violet	2	1
*404	2c vermilion	3	1 1/2
*406	5c dark blue	3	1
*407	10c purple	6	3
408	20c brown	10	4
*409	50c lake	25	15
*410	1p ultramarine	60	25
*411	2p br. orange	1 25	45
*419	'03, 30c on 20c brown	40	15
160	Peru '00, 22c green & black	50	20
164	22c green	10	4
209	Venezuela '04, 25c ultra.	8	1 1/2
301	'98, 10c rose & black	20	10
316	'00, 50c yet. & black	12	6
317	1b violet & black 25	11	5
318	'04, 50c claret	8	3

E. T. Parker, Bethlehem, Pa.

Free To All!

25 Varieties Rare For. Stamps, 1 Rare Original Cover, 20 Word Ex. Ad. 4 Mo. All the above given free with a years sub. to the Philatelic Advertiser at the half rate price of 10c. Nothing but original articles Interesting Coin, Curio, Precancelled and Fraud Depts, each month. 8 large Pages of solid reading. Subscribe at once and secure the above gifts.

The Philatelic Advertiser, Dept. 31. ITHACA, N. Y.

"The Portrait Gallery"

of NEWFOUNDLAND

1888-90 Set Complete, 5 values, 1/2 to 5 cents, mint, 20 cents.

WENDOVER NEEFUS, HUDSON, N. Y.

With rare exceptions the color of all the English Railway Letter Stamps (boomed so assiduously by the famous English dealer, H. L'Estrange Ewen, within the last few years) is green; and the value in every case is 2d. Mr. Ewen has succeeded in compiling a list of 613 known varieties of these stamps, of which he is the world's principal holder.

A concern in England issues a "20th Century Catalogue of Postage Stamps" containing only the issues that have appeared since January 1st, 1901. This years edition of this work is its third. We believe that there is no other catalogue in the world compiled along the same lines.

had used from the time of Charles II. I wonder how many of you have ever known that the letters on these stamps stood for East India Company. Yes, of course I am aware that none of you possess copies of these rare stamps. But don't you read and study your catalogues; don't you try to familiarize yourself in that way with many stamps which you do not possess and have little hope of possessing. If you don't you should. And if you have never before even noticed this little issue of Scinde in the catalogue, occupying only one tiny corner of a page, let the interesting associations we have found to cluster around this issue be a lesson to you to search the catalogue more carefully in future for interesting issues that are hidden out of the way.

(To be continued.)

NEW YORK LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

It seems scarcely credible, but it has been noticed on many occasions during the present season that stamps frequently have sold at higher prices at auction than is asked for them over the counters.

Interest continues in the so called death mask stamps of Servia.

There appears to be sufficient of them in the market so far to supply the demand. The reported attempts of the Servian government to recover those sold would appear to be good advertising rather than any real effort to buy them in.

Collectors are guessing what British Colonials will appear next with the multiple watermark.

One of the recent arrivals is Barbados 2 shillings 6 pence. Somehow one is easily connecting the King's head with the new watermark in his mind and overlooks those colonials with different design. Fact is, all the stamps printed in London must be on the paper with the new watermark, and this includes all except Canada, Newfoundland, Australia and a few of the adjacent islands. By the way, Newfoundland is a notable exception in that its stamps are made in New York, showing either a strong pro-American or anti-English commercial sense.

BOSTON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

C. A. Howes Competition, uncatalogued varieties, not listed by Scott, Stanley Gibbons or Senf. Competition of U. S. Colonies Philippines, Porto Rico, Cuba, Hawaii and Guam. Open to all collectors. October 17th. Talk by Mr. G. F. Loring, Competition 25 rarest stamps of the world. Open to members only. November 21st. Competition Any South American Republic. Open to U. S. collectors. December 17th. Competition U. S. Adhesives and Departments including Scotts No. 28-634.

DETROIT LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

Herman Seagrave of Pontiac was here this week showing a few pick ups he recently got.

Leonard Stamp Co. has given up the retail counter business, and now confines itself principally to mail order business.

Edger Nelson of New York (the man who buys misprint Postal Cards) stopped over here from Battle Creek Where he wintered. Mr. Nelson was bound for the East, but made the rounds amongst the local collectors, showing up a fine lot of French stamps. He tells me he made the largest purchase ever made before on French stamps. A few of the collectors here filled up a number of vacant spaces at good prices.

Deacon Smith, the curator, has on sale two of the finest specimens of U. S. coins seen here for many years, practically mint condition—one the 1804 cent, the other 1793. The former is valued at \$50.00, the latter at \$35.00 and are considered cheap for such specimens.

Herman W. Boers.

One Horse Or Seven.

[The following item, taken from the Philatelic Journal of India, strikes us as an exceptionally clever bit of comment, especially in view of the recent "Disgrace of New Zealand" contention. Ed. S. L. W.]

"Messrs Ram Gopal & Co, of Alwar, very kindly send us specimens of the new half-anna issue for Jaipur State. The stamp will attract collectors of pretty designs; it represents a pleasant looking personage riding in a chariot - he has more than the regulation number of arms, while his driver has no legs. The chariot is drawn by (a) a horse with seven noses, or (b) seven horses with four legs only. Colour a soothing shade of blue. The steeds appear (or the steed appears) to be restive, perhaps because in future editions of them (or him) there will be curtailment of noses or multiplication of legs. Some one from New Zealand may some day indite pages for the L. P. "On the disgrace of Jaipur?"

The stamp collector when caught young, is by no means an unexacting critic: an enthusiast at the start-off, he knows what he is entitled to want and looks out for it. In these days of philatelic research strained to almost breaking point in the direction of knowledge that isn't knowledge so to speak, he is one to be envied and lived up to, and should be regarded as the chief hope for the salvation of philately from the abyss towards which some of its ablest devotees are in the wisdom of their unwisdom rushing it;—

P. J. of I.

Want! Want! Want!!!

I am prepared to buy for spot cash unused o. g. finely Centered copies of U. S. Stamps from 1849 to 1890. I also want the Department stamps in the same condition. Parties having stamps in this condition can send them to me at their lowest cash price and if satisfactory I will remit by return mail otherwise I will return them registered.

Reference 2nd National Bank.

H. F. COLMAN,

725 11th St. N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C.

Cheapest on Earth Cat. free.

106 dif., Hawaii, Philippines, etc. for \$0 08
 310 dif., rare, worth \$1.50, for - - - 30
 525 dif., worth \$8.00, for - - - 1 20
 1000 dif., worth \$24.00, fine collection, for 3 00
 Albums, finest out, spaces for 4000 stamps, fine cuts - - - 30

JOSEPH F. NEGREEN,

128 East 23 St., NEW YORK CITY.

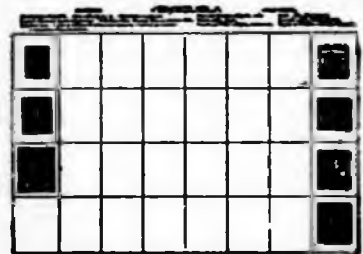
WANTED!

COINS OF ALL KINDS.

Send 4c for list showing prices I pay.

B. MAX MEHL, Numismatist.

Fort Worth, Tex.



Popular Stamp Albums

This is the best album for a beginner or for the duplicates of a larger collection. Over 200,000 have been issued and sold in last 23 editions.

- No. 1. Flexible covers, cloth back to hold 3,000 stamps.....25c
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Sent post free upon receipt of price.

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A Weekly Magazine, issued in Interest of Stamp Collecting (In 18th. Volume) 50c per year, 10 weeks on trial 10c.

G. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUB CO.

ST. LOUIS, MO.

CANADA is a Country easy to complete.

I offer this week a complete set of the Queen's Head Issue of 1898.

consisting of 5 Postal Cards and 3 Letter Cards, now superseded by the King type.

Price only 22 cents postpaid.

Adolph Lohmeyer,

922 N. Gilmer St., Baltimore, Md

THE READING TABLE.

What We Find in the Journals of the Hour.

The Australian Journal of Philately:
Sydney, Australia.

We have two numbers of this Antipodean journal before us, and both are exceedingly good. January 16, and February 16 are the dates they bear; and the January number, at least, would have been reviewed some time since had the arrangements for forwarding our mail, during some travels in which we have lately indulged, worked out perfectly. As they did not, we are much in arrears with this and other philatelic journals, and must ask the readers' pardon for harking back so far as to January and February issues.

The most interesting feature of the January A. J. of P. is an article on "The Comparative Rarity of Pairs, Strips and Blocks." The author takes the view that the rarity of pairs, strips and blocks, as compared with single specimens, is not yet fully realized (particularly among the older issues); and that their actual value (basing it on rarity) is much higher than is generally estimated. Lacking the space to follow his arguments in detail, we can give an idea of their trend by quoting the conclusions he arrives at, as follows:

"From a monetary point of view we should say that pairs are worth 25 per cent. over catalogue value, three 50 per cent., four 100 per cent., and six 200 per cent. This estimate is subject to variation in accordance with age, the early issues being proportionately worth more than recent kinds."

Are pairs, strips and blocks really worth so much more than an equal number of single specimens? This opens up an interesting field for enquiry and discussion. We shall be glad to print the communications of any collectors of pairs, strips and blocks who will write us their views on the subject.

The usual batch of news about new Australian issues and rumors of issues occupies the next couple of pages; succeeded by various "notes," selected and original. Following these we find an article headed "About Sydney Views," from which we think it will be well to make some excerpts, as we have never seen a clearer and plainer account of the causes which make Sydney Views especially eligible for "plating." We quote as follows:

"These lines are written for the benefit of those who may be aware that "Sydney Views" is the name given to the first series of stamps issued in New South Wales, but do not quite understand the meanings of the various words used in their connection, in catalogues.

"The 'views' were separately en-

graved by local workmen on copper or printers' metal. The pennys had 25 on a plate, that is to say, 25 stamps were engraved on a piece of copper. The twopennys, 24 on each plate, and the threepennys, 25. The pennys and threepennys were arranged in five rows of 5, and the twopennys in two rows of 12. As each stamp was engraved separately, no two were alike, in a few cases certain parts of the detail were omitted, and in one stamp the ornament at the bottom of the circle in the twopenny stamp, plate 2, was shaded on both sides, constituting a variety. As, however, this stamp is No. 1, it is assumed that it was the engraver's intention to shade all the ornaments. It will be noticed, on referring to illustrations, or the stamps themselves, that some of the penny stamps have clouds and some are without clouds, in that portion of the picture where one might reasonably expect to see clouds. When first engraved, the penny stamps had no clouds, but as the plate (being of a soft metal) began to wear, it was 'retouched,' i. e., certain lines were deepened and made more distinct, the hill was shaded, trees were added, and clouds were filled in. Unfortunately the engraver omitted to shade the hill on one, put no trees on another, and left out the clouds on a third, all of which constitute varieties."

After describing the varieties incidental to other retouches and plates, the following is said of "plating:"

"When 'Oceanica' was published, autotype plates of all the views were prepared. Platers provide themselves with copies of these, so that they can readily locate any particular stamp. The general custom is to reckon as if they were numbered, beginning at the top left hand corner. Plating consists in getting together a number of stamps, no two of which will be exactly alike. When located they are numbered, and when laid out in numerical order, they will be in the same position as when printed and before being cut. It is a very interesting, but rather an expensive pursuit."

The remaining contents of the number consists of an interesting article on "Early Victorian Postage Stamps;" another on "Dealers' Profits;" a page of "Reviews;" a very abbreviated "New Issue" column; and the usual "Society Reports."

The February Issue.

The February 16th issue of the A. J. of P. opens with an article on the visit to Australia of the eminent English philatelist, Mr. L. L. R. Hansburg, giving some account of his achievements as a collector, as a philatelic investigator and writer and as a winner of medals at public philatelic exhibitions—in each of which three departments of philatelic endeavor he has most signally distinguished himself. An article on "Australian Philatelic Journals" is of much interest to the philo-bibliophile. Under the heading "A Bouquet of Queenslanders" is described the superb Queensland collec-

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I am closing out this branch of my business. I am offering U. S. Revenues at a lower price than any other firm. Write me if you are interested and be convinced. Selections sent on approval.

Album.

The "Saxby" loose leaf album size Mail Heavy white wove Scotch ledger paper - Full Red Russia Binding - Gift trimming Owner's name in Gift letters.

Price \$7.50 Net.

S. Valentine Saxby,

Box No. 22. Rockford, Ill.

April First

Will not be Fool's Day to those who send for our

20 Century Approval Selections.

Furnishing good references.

Nonantum Stamp Company,
Newton, Mass.

You Know There Cheap.

U. S.	1847	5c	-	-	90
	1869	24c	(Average only)		15
	1869	90c	"		40
	1880	2c	Inke		5
	1894	1c	ultramarine		5
Chili	10	on 30	orange		5

EBEN S. MARTIN CO., Inc.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.



STAMPS FREE

20 var. U. S. Rev. Cat. 2c	for the names of two collectors and 2c Postage.
20 Japan all diff.	1c
30 Sweden " "	1c
25 Brazil " "	5c
100 diff. U. S.	5c
20 Russia all diff.	10c
10 Annual stamps	10c
40 U. S. env. Cut sq.	3c
Prime Album holds 480 stamps.	1c
Imperial " "	3500
50 Blank sheets	10c
100 " "	100
10 " approval books	15c
100 " "	100

Toledo Stamp Co., Toledo, Ohio.

BE SURE

and remember the date of our next AUCTION SALE - April 25th. Over 100 lots containing a complete line of unused BRITISH COLONIES in very fine condition. Also, a fine line of U. S. Postage, Revenues and Envelopes, along with a strong showing of wholesale lots. Catalogues now ready.

Do you need anything in the stamp line? Let us know your wants and see if you can not find them on our approval sheets. We are offering a fine line of U. S. and Foreign at 60% discount. Commercial references and cash deposit required.

WESTERN STAMP CO., 701-2 N Y Life Bldg. OMAHA, NEBR.

100 China and Java, etc., fine stamp dictionary and big illustrated list of 3,000 bargains, 2c. Acts., 50c. 1005 catalogue of stamps of all nations, 10 cents.

A. Bullard & Co., 446 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.

Calvin C. Brackett, B. P. S., N.E.P.S.
Gen. Del. Sta. A, Boston, Mass.

Stamps bought, sold, exchanged, wholesale, retail. Postage Extra.

I can still use a great many common U. S. free from paper not damaged and assorted. Especially all Columbian, Omaha, Pan American, St. Louis and Current issues good exchange from a stock of 7,000 var.

of Mr. Wilkins of Brisbane. The best number of Gibbons Stamp Weekly receives a two page review. And there are numerous "Notes," "Society Reports" and minor paragraphs. Our space will permit us no more detailed analysis of the number.

The Australian Philatelist: Sydney, Australia.

Two numbers of the Australian Philatelist are before us—dated Jan. 2 and Feb. 1, respectively. The January issue contains sixteen pages, instead of the usual twelve page form. Editor Hagen makes excellent use of the extra space—particularly by giving us a much larger quota of Editorials than usual. Mr. Hagen's editorials always command our sympathetic respect because they so manifestly spring from earnest opinion and so constantly champion the interests of ordinary collectors, as opposed to those of specialists and speculators. Mr. Hagen is one of the few philatelic editors of the day who has escaped being dazzled by the spectacular pomp of collecting as carried on in ultra-specialistic circles. His paper's influence is invariably ranged on the side of more rational and less complicated collecting and his editorials are characterized by a plain, homely, common sense way of looking at the philatelic questions of the way which we cannot too greatly applaud. In the number before us, for example, the chief editorial is in the nature of a comment on the prevalence of professional philatelists, whose collections are only made to be sold. The bona-fide collector, Mr. Hagen holds, is no longer the normal philatelic type. The old-fashioned view that a collection would remain in its owner's possession for a life time, barring reverses of fortune or unforeseen circumstances, is no longer held by the majority of those who collect. The selling of collections when there is a chance to do so at a profit is continually becoming more common; and Mr. Hagen rightly believes that such a state of things is, for many reasons, greatly to be deplored. He goes so far as to believe that there is great need for stamp societies whose members shall consist of those collecting for the hobby, only, who shall be debarred from parting with any of their stamps except by way of exchange and who shall cease to be members as soon as they have parted with their collections. We fear it would be impracticable for any of our existing societies to restrict their membership along these lines; but we are quite at one with Mr. Hagen in having little liking for the professional philatelist. We have something further to say on this topic in this week's editorial departments. Another editorial deals with the harm done to Philately by "remainders" and reprints—for neither of which has Mr. Hagen any great respect or liking. Other editorials deal with matters of purely Australian interest; and these are followed by the continuation of Mr. Geo. Blockey's

"Priced Catalogue of South Australian Stamps," an excellent compilation which we have more than once previously commended. Mr. Basse Hull's popular lecture on Philately is concluded, the ever-fascinating subject of Sydney Views being allotted the place of honor at the wind-up of his remarks. Under the heading "A Chat with Surgeon-General Williams," Mr. C. B. Donne gives a description of Gen. Williams' superb Australian collection that cannot but make one's mouth water. Several recent hand-books and catalogues are then taken up for review and their most salient points of value and interest briefly noted. "A Philatelic Phable" and "Lindley Murray on the Warpath" are features in lighter vein; and the number concludes with reports from various of the leading Australian societies.

The February issue we will not review in detail, as other journals await our attention. Among the Editorial topics pungently treated are "Collecting to Sell," "Philatelic Frauds," "Postal Amenities," and "Histories of Stamp-Issuing Countries." Mr. Blockey's work continues. There is a good little chronicle, much more "Review" than usual, and quite a miscellany of matter under the head of "Brevities"—and, of course, the inevitable society reports.

The Philatelic Journal of India: Calcutta, India.

We have before us two voluminous numbers of the Philatelic Journal of India, each containing upwards of fifty pages of reading matter. How singular a fact that no monthly philatelic magazine in either England or America presents as imposing an appearance as this Indian publication! Doubtless the explanation is to be found in the fact that the P. J. of I. is a labor of love, pure and simple, and that the Philatelic Society of India is perfectly willing to sustain a large and inevitable loss in the interests of its prestige as a society. Certainly the publication does infinite credit to the organization publishing it. It has of late contained rather more reprinted than original matter; but its Editor does his scissoring with so judicious a hand that we do not feel at all inclined to criticize this course of action—especially as most Indian collectors probably do not have ready access to the European journals which Mr. Stewart Wilson makes his main editorial conduit of supply.

The December issue opens with an instalment of "Stamps of the Moment," taken from that lively little English sheet with the aristocratic name, the West End Philatelist, and describing in a particularly happy way some of the modern issues of China. Mr. Passet Hull's lecture on Philately, which is getting to be very much of a chestnut (if we may be permitted to drop into slang) bobs up here also, marked "to be continued;" and it is evidently the intention to inflict it upon us from A to Izzard.

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display. A line will average seven words. Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

Precancelled stamps wanted for cash or exchange. Frank McChesney, Elkton, Md.

Austria, 1901, 13 var. Free. If you ask for approvals at 50; discount and send the names of 2 collectors with 2c postage. Price List of Twentieth Century Stamps. Free. Triangle Stamp Co., 228 University Avenue, Rochester, N. Y.

Specials, 105 Varieties Foreign; Hayti, Paraguay, Madagascar, Somoll Coast, Java, Cuba, Peru etc., 10c splendid quality. Album holding 1200 stamps 10c. Catalogue stamps of all nations 700 illustrations 10c. Fine approval sheets 50c. commission. Price list free. F. M. HALSEY, 125 W. Grand, Street, Elizabeth, N. J.

STAMPS. H. C. Wilder, Carthage, N. Y.

For 10 cents, I will send 1 fine view Card of N. Y. and 2 Old Conf. bills. Lionel E. Mintz, Ithaca, N. Y. Dept. 8. L.

U. S. Post	50c	1895	Fair	\$0 05.	Fine	\$0 07
"	"	\$1.00	1895	"	16.	" 18
"	"	\$2.00	1895	"	85.	" 1 05
"	"	\$5.00	1895	"	1 05.	" 1 25

Frank B. Kirby, 227 Arnold St., New Bedford, Mass.

Mr. H. Wendt, Dunlap, Iowa, writes under date of March 25, 1905: "This Little Stamp-Lovers Album is, so far as I know, the best on the market. Its handy form and attractive appearance, good paper, etc., is to be appreciated, and all for ten cents. Cannot see how you can issue it so cheap and so good."

Printing for Stamp Collectors! Printing is one of the important things a stamp collector needs. We quote you our lowest prices for. Approval sheets with name and address per 100 50c. Envelopes with return card per 100 50c. Louis T. Lee & Co., Job Printers, Millbrook, Illinois.

A Fine Foreign Stamp cat. 25c. Free to approval applicants. Star Stamp Company, 136 University Ave., Rochester, N. Y.

25 unused stamps fine value - 20c
 Fine Approval sheets for beginners at 1/2 - 1 - and 2c - 50; discount. 1,000 hinges - 8c
 W. W. Dayton, Nashotah, Wisconsin.

The Stamp-Lovers Album.

Its size 6 x 9 1/4. It will hold 1152 stamps. The paper is white and of good quality. It is the nearest low-priced Album ever offered to collectors.

Price 10 cents. Postage 2 cents.

All stamps offered in this advertisement are unused, have full original gum, and are in extra fine condition. Nos. and catalogue prices refer to Scott's Standard.

British Honduras.

No.	Cat. Price.	Net.
8 1872 74, 3d brown, perf. 14	\$5 00	\$2 25
27 1888, 2c on 1d rose	06	02
28 1898, 3c on 3d brown	16	07
29 1889, 10c on 3d violet	25	12
30 1898, 20c on 6d yellow	75	35
33 1891, 6c on 10c violet	20	08
34 1891, 6c on 10c violet	20	08
37 1891, 6c on 3d blue	25	12
38 1891, 2c rose	06	02
39 1891, 3c brown	30	15
42 1891, 24c yellow and blue	75	35
43 1892, 1c on 1d green	04	02

Postage extra on orders under \$1.00.

Please remit by Bills or P. O. Money order.

C. F. ROTHFUCHS.

3 SAVIN ST., ROXBURY, MASS

Mr. E. W. Wetherell's really splendid monograph on the stamps of Roumania comes to a close in this number. Its exhaustiveness may be judged from the fact that it has run through twenty-four numbers of the P. J. of L. in monthly installments of from six to eight pages; and it is unquestionably the most valuable summary extant of all that is known about Roumanian issues. We hope the Indian Society will see their way clear to publish it in book form. By the way, Mr. Wetherell advises those intending to take up the issues of Roumania to end at 1894—the issues since that time being complicated by innumerable "dotly" varieties which there is only too much reason to believe owe their existence to modern Philately's hunger for the infinitesimal and the eccentric in stamp variations. Major Evans' Indian States papers in the Monthly Journal are always, naturally enough, reprinted in this Indian magazine; and this number devotes ten pages to reproducing one of the latest of them, dealing with the issues of Sirmoor. Mr. C. S. F. Crofton's "British Indian Fiscal Stamps surcharged for Native States" treats this month the stamps of Perar. Perar, Mr. Crofton exclaims, is the most hopeless of all countries to collect. Many issues are only known in single copies and still more are not represented at all in collections. Nevertheless, Mr. Crofton delves unabashed into the mazy tangle and manages to give us an excellent account of the various Fiscal issues of this little state. We like to see Fiscals "getting a chance" in so good a journal, by the way. And there is really no good reason why any philatelic magazine should not be willing to admit Fiscal matter to its columns—for the idea that Fiscalism is not Philately is sublimely ridiculous. Some sixteen more pages of reprinted matter intervene between Mr. Crofton's contribution and the only remaining original matter which we are able to discover in the number—namely, eight pages of "Notes," in which chronicle and comment are mixed in as happy a manner as could be asked for. In enjoying this, we forget all imperfections and close the number with the thought that after all, it is a grand paper and that we must not be too hasty to condemn its lavish use of scissors and paste pot.

"The new British Colonial watermark is now termed 'C. A. C.' in some quarters, Good! May the term 'Multiple' be ousted by the shorter and equally expressive trio of letters!—

P. J. of L.

A match will start a great conflagration, if every person receiving this paper will send us one new subscriber we will have to think about getting a new press.

CHICAGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY.



H. N. Mudge, President.
C. E. Severn, Vice President.
Chas. F. Mann, Secretary, 343 Rush Street.

E. C. Dodd, Treas., 332 South Ashland Ave., La Grange, Ill.

A. F. Boehm, Manager Circulating Sales and Exchange Department, 1201 Turner Avenue.

Dr. F. B. Merrill, Examiner of Sales Books, 100 State Street.

F. N. Massoth, Manager Auction Sales, 1149 Marquette Building.

Dr. F. B. Merrill, Manager Open Exchange.

A. F. Boehm, Librarian.

Dr. F. B. Merrill, Counterfeit Detector.

The 438th regular meeting of the Chicago Philatelic Society was held in the Society's club room 151 Washington Street on Thursday evening, March 16th, 1905.

President Mudge called the meeting to order at 8.15 P. M. with twenty-five members present. Mr. Ball of Chicago was present as a visitor.

The application of Mr. L. N. Herbert was ordered posted and reference sent to Membership Reference Committee.

The resignations of T. J. Bairnson, Active Member No. 285 of Chicago and Thos. W. Charlesworth, Passive Member No. 275 of Arkona, Ont., were ordered posted.

Dr. F. B. Merrill was elected Examiner of Sales Books and Counterfeit Detector.

The House Committee was ordered to advertise in the Chicago Sunday Tribune and the Daily News the club room for rent for evenings.

Ordered that the proper officers sign lease for the club room at the same rental as last year.

Ordered that The Stamp Lovers Weekly be the official organ of the society.

The Treasurer and Sales Sup't. were ordered to keep their bank accounts in the name of the Chicago Philatelic Society.

The Sales Sup't. was instructed to make quarterly reports to the Board of Directors.

The Board passed rules in regard to rates for rent of the club rooms for non philatelic societies and for auction sales.

The Sales Sup't. reported a case of substitution in the book of Mr. C. E. Severn.

Dr. Jeffries exhibited his collection of Franks, Mr. P. M. Wolsieffer a collection of old and interesting items, and Mr. H. N. Mudge a collection of pen and ink drawings.

The Entertainment Committee announced the exhibition of Mr. E. M. Rosenthal's collection of U. S. entire stamped envelopes for the next meeting, April 6, 1905.

The meeting then adjourned.

Chas. F. Mann, Secretary.

British Central Africa, 1801-1894

8 pence, used	-	-
1 shilling, unused	-	-
2 " " "	-	-
3 " " "	-	-
4 " " "	-	-
5 " " "	-	-
Bavaria 1870 12kr unused	-	-

N. DIESCHBOURG,

87 NASSAU Street, and 130 FULTON Street,
Rooms 323 and 324. NEW YORK

The Modern Postage Stamp Album

This album is designed to meet the needs of both the young and the old collector, having 256 pages and holding 10,000 stamps, and is illustrated with over 2200 cuts of foreign stamps. Price \$1.15 Post Paid.

The New Century Stamp Co.,

P. O. Box 425 Smith's Falls, Ont.

GREECE.

1886	1 1	brown	No. 61
"	5 1	green	" 66
"	10 1	yellow	" 67
"	25 1	blue	" 68
"	50 1	gray green	" 71
"	1 dr	gray	" 72
1889	40 1	blue	" 96
"	1 dr	gray	" 97
1891-92	40 1	blue	" 115
"	1 dr	gray	" 116
1900	20 on 25	blue	" 129
"	40 on 21	bistre	" 132
"	50 on 40 1	salmon	" 133
"	1 dr on 40 1	violet	" 134

All fine used copies. Anything not made factory can be returned money refunded. Postage extra on orders under 50 cents.

MECCA STAMP CO.,

105 S. 15th St., Omaha, Neb.

SAMOA

Postage Stamps.

The following unused stamps are offered at the following greatly reduced prices for quick cash orders.

Cata. No.	Value	Price
9	1/2p violet	50
10	1p green	10
11	2p yellow	12
11b	2p orange	20
12	4p blue	30
13	6p maroon	30
14	1sh rose	50
15	2sh, 6p, violet	1 50
18	2 1/2p rose	12
20	5p carmine red	25
21	2 1/2p on 2p orange	20
22c	3p on 2p orange green surcharge	50
23	2 1/2p black	20
24	2 1/2p on 1sh rose	15
25	2 1/2p on 2s 6p	15
27	2 1/2p on 1p green	15
28	1 1/2p green	10
29	1p red brown	10

Provisional Government.

30	1 1/2p green	10
31	2p orange	15
32	4p blue	15
33	2sh 6p violet	1 25
34	1p red brown	10
35	5p scarlet	25
36	6p maroon	30
37	1sh rose	50

German Dominion.

57 to 58, 3pf to 80pf, set of nine 1 00

C. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUB CO.
St. Louis, Mo.

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50 cents
a year.

2 cents
a copy.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Entered as second-class matter December 17, 1904, at the post office at Bethlehem, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

VOL. II.

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, APRIL 8, 1905.

No. 4.

Dominican Republic.

100 1p. 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50c, 1p unused o. g.	35
100 1. 2, 5, 10, 12, 20, 50c. unused o. g.	25
100 2 on 50, unused o. g.	75
2 on 1p " "	75
10 on 50 " "	75
10 on 1p " "	75
2 No. 142 " "	10
1 on 20 No. 144 " "	10
Official 1 on 2 " "	10
" 2 on 2 " "	10

All the above unused o. g. fine \$1.50.
Next Auction will take place early in
May. Catalogues Free.
Send for our list of approval books at 50%
discount.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,

722 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

A good deal of philatelic interest in Washington is manifest in the forthcoming issue of stamps for the Cuban government, printed from the plates made by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing which up to date have supplied all stamps since American occupation, which have been turned over to the American Bank Note Company of New York. While the design will, necessarily, be exactly similar to those heretofore printed here, there may and probably will be two distinct points of difference. The paper will undoubtedly be different, although it is possible arrangements may be made for a further supply of the water-marked paper heretofore used, although this is improbable. Then, it is hardly probably that the shades of ink will correspond with those employed in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. In fact the colors of the American Bank Note Co., are almost always more vivid than those used by the Bureau. It is understood the New York concern is now printing the first requisition.

During the month of March the Mints of the United States produced 451,926 pieces of gold coin, of the value of \$5,925,320.50, of which 10,926 is represented in gold dollars for the Lewis and Clark exposition at Portland, Oregon. There were 3,344,975 silver pieces of the value of \$500,276.25 and 14,954,000 in nickles and pennies of the value of \$329,100.75. For the
(Continued on page 8.)

Rhodesia.

£2. bright red, unused, o. g. \$21.00 net.
This is the newly discovered Water-low print of the 1891 type upon thick paper, perforated 15. It is fully described in the February number of the **American Journal of Philately** and the supply is very limited.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 EAST 23rd ST., New York, N. Y.

BOSTON LETTER.

All or nearly all stamp collectors and dealers have at one time or another been annoyed by having valuable stamps disappear from letters and packages in the mails. It is therefore of interest to learn that Capt. Edward J. Rynn, superintendent of the New England division of the railway mail service in recent general orders, called the attention of the postal employees to the following section of the federal laws regarding the offence of removing stamps from mail matter:

"Any person employed in any branch of the postal service who shall willfully and unlawfully remove from any mail matter any postage stamp affixed thereto in payment of the postage shall be punishable by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars or by imprisonment for not more than six months."

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(Continued on page 3.)

Cash With Order. **IM**

China 1868, 1/2c to 50c 9 var. (.74).....	80 32
*Cuba 1899, Dues 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c, o. g. scarce	
(81).....	67
" " 10c Special No. 351 (.35).....	22
" " 1873, Republic 10c No. 801, o. g. (.50)	32
Great Britain 1856, 1sh No. 28, (.40).....	17
*Hawaii 1864, 18c No. 34, (\$1.25).....	48
United States 85, State No. 568.....	82 00
" " 1905 15c Pre-Cancelled, Chicago 05	
" " " 50c " " " " " "	22

If you are interested in buying or selling stamps at auction send for my latest auction sale catalogue.

P. M. Wolsieffer,
Auction Sale Specialist.

IM 401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago. **IM**

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(Continued on page 3.)

Mr. E. W. Wetherell's really splendid monograph on the stamps of Roumania comes to a close in this number. Its exhaustiveness may be judged from the fact that it has run through twenty-four numbers of the P. J. of L. in monthly installments of from six to eight pages; and it is unquestionably the most valuable summary extant of all that is known about Roumanian issues. We hope the Indian Society will see their way clear to publish it in book form. By the way, Mr. Wetherell advises those intending to take up the issues of Roumania to end at 1894—the issues since that time being complicated by innumerable "dotly" varieties which there is only too much reason to believe owe their existence to modern Philately's hunger for the infinitesimal and the eccentric in stamp variations. Major Evans' Indian States papers in the Monthly Journal are always, naturally enough, reprinted in this Indian magazine; and this number devotes ten pages to reproducing one of the latest of them, dealing with the issues of Sirmoor. Mr. C. S. F. Crofton's "British Indian Fiscal Stamps surcharged for Native States" treats this month the stamps of Perar. Perar, Mr. Crofton exclaims, is the most hopeless of all countries to collect. Many issues are only known in single copies and still more are not represented at all in collections. Nevertheless, Mr. Crofton delves unabashed into the mazy tangle and manages to give us an excellent account of the various Fiscal issues of this little state. We like to see Fiscals "getting a chance" in so good a journal, by the way. And there is really no good reason why any philatelic magazine should not be willing to admit Fiscal matter to its columns—for the idea that Fiscalism is not Philately is sublimely ridiculous. Some sixteen more pages of reprinted matter intervene between Mr. Crofton's contribution and the only remaining original matter which we are able to discover in the number—namely, eight pages of "Notes," in which chronicle and comment are mixed in as happy a manner as could be asked for. In enjoying this, we forget all imperfections and close the number with the thought that after all, it is a grand paper and that we must not be too hasty to condemn its lavish use of scissors and paste pot.

"The new British Colonial watermark is now termed 'C. A. C.' in some quarters, Good! May the term 'Multiple' be ousted by the shorter and equally expressive trio of letters!—

P. J. of L.

A match will start a great conflagration, if every person receiving this paper will send us one new subscriber we will have to think about getting a new press.

CHICAGO PHILATELIC SOCIETY.



H. N. Mudge, President.
C. E. Severn, Vice President.
Chas. F. Mann, Secretary, 343 Rush Street.

E. C. Dodd, Treas., 332 South Ashland Ave., La Grange, Ill.

A. F. Boehm, Manager Circulating Sales and Exchange Department, 1201 Turner Avenue.

Dr. F. B. Merrill, Examiner of Sales Books, 100 State Street.

F. N. Massoth, Manager Auction Sales, 1149 Marquette Building.

Dr. F. B. Merrill, Manager Open Exchange.

A. F. Boehm, Librarian.

Dr. F. B. Merrill, Counterfeit Detector.

The 438th regular meeting of the Chicago Philatelic Society was held in the Society's club room 151 Washington Street on Thursday evening, March 16th, 1905.

President Mudge called the meeting to order at 8.15 P. M. with twenty-five members present. Mr. Ball of Chicago was present as a visitor.

The application of Mr. L. N. Herbert was ordered posted and reference sent to Membership Reference Committee.

The resignations of T. J. Bairnsion, Active Member No. 285 of Chicago and Thos. W. Charlesworth, Passive Member No. 275 of Arkona, Ont., were ordered posted.

Dr. F. B. Merrill was elected Examiner of Sales Books and Counterfeit Detector.

The House Committee was ordered to advertise in the Chicago Sunday Tribune and the Daily News the club room for rent for evenings.

Ordered that the proper officers sign lease for the club room at the same rental as last year.

Ordered that The Stamp Lovers Weekly be the official organ of the society.

The Treasurer and Sales Sup't. were ordered to keep their bank accounts in the name of the Chicago Philatelic Society.

The Sales Sup't. was instructed to make quarterly reports to the Board of Directors.

The Board passed rules in regard to rates for rent of the club rooms for non philatelic societies and for auction sales.

The Sales Sup't. reported a case of substitution in the book of Mr. C. E. Severn.

Dr. Jeffries exhibited his collection of Franks, Mr. P. M. Wolsieffer a collection of old and interesting items, and Mr. H. N. Mudge a collection of pen and ink drawings.

The Entertainment Committee announced the exhibition of Mr. E. M. Rosenthal's collection of U. S. entire stamped envelopes for the next meeting, April 6, 1905.

The meeting then adjourned.

Chas. F. Mann, Secretary.

British Central Africa, 1891-1894

8 pence, used	-	-
1 shilling, unused	-	-
2 " " "	-	-
3 " " "	-	-
4 " " "	-	-
5 " " "	-	-
Bavaria 1870 12kr unused	-	-

N. DIESCHBOURG,

87 NASSAU Street, and 130 FULTON Street,
Rooms 323 and 324. NEW YORK

The Modern Postage Stamp Album

This album is designed to meet the needs of both the young and the old collector, having 256 pages and holding 10,000 stamps and is illustrated with over 2200 cuts of foreign stamps. Price \$1.15 Post free.

The New Century Stamp Co.,

P. O. Box 425 Smith's Falls, Ont.

GREECE.

1898	1 1	brown	No. 64
"	5 1	green	" 66
"	10 1	yellow	" 67
"	25 1	blue	" 69
"	50 1	gray green	" 71
"	1 dr	gray	" 72
1899	40 1	blue	" 88
"	1 dr	gray	" 91
1891-02	40 1	blue	" 115
"	1 dr	gray	" 116
1900	21 on 25	blue	" 121
"	40 on 21	blue	" 132
"	50 on 40 1	salmon	" 133
"	1 dr on 40 1	violet	" 134

All fine used copies. Anything not suitable for factory can be returned money refunded. Postage extra on orders under 50 cents.

MECCA STAMP CO.,

105 S. 15th St., Omaha, Neb.

SAMOA

Postage Stamps.

The following unused stamps are offered at the following greatly reduced prices for quick cash orders.

Cata. No.	Value	Cash Price
	o. g.	
9	1/2 p violet	50 05
10	1p green	06
11	2p yellow	12
11b	2p orange	50
12	4p blue	24
13	6p maroon	30
14	1sh rose	50
15	2h, 6p, violet	1 50
16	2 1/2 p rose	12
20	5p carmine red	25
21	2 1/2 p on 2p orange	30
22c	3p on 2p orange green surcharge	50
23	2 1/2 p black	30
24	2 1/2 p on 1sh rose	15
25	2 1/2 p on 2h 6p	65
27	2 1/2 p on 1p green	15
28	1/2 p green	05
29	1p red brown	05

Provisional Government.

30	1/2 p green	05
31	2p orange	10
32	4p blue	18
33	2sh 6p violet	1 25
34	1p red brown	05
35	5p scarlet	25
36	6p maroon	30
37	1sh rose	50

German Dominion.

57 to 58, 3pf to 80pf, set of nine 1 00

C. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUB CO.
St. Louis, Mo.

When writing advertisers please mention THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

50 cents
a year.

2 cents
a copy.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Entered as second-class matter December 17, 1904, at the post office at Bethlehem, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

VOL. II.

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, APRIL 8, 1905.

No. 4.

Dominican Republic.

100 1, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50c, 1p unused o. g.	35
100 1, 2, 5, 10, 12, 20, 50c., unused o. g.	25
100 2 on 50. unused o. g.	75
2 on 1p " "	75
10 on 50 " "	75
10 on 1p " "	75
2 No. 142 " "	10
1 on 20 No. 144 " "	10
Official 1 on 2 " "	10
2 on 2 " "	10

All the above unused o. g. fine \$3.50.
Next Auction will take place early in May. Catalogues Free.
Send for our list of approval books at 50% discount.

BOGERT & DURBIN CO.,
22 Chestnut St., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

A good deal of philatelic interest in Washington is manifest in the forthcoming issue of stamps for the Cuban government, printed from the plates made by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing which up to date have supplied all stamps since American occupation, which have been turned over to the American Bank Note Company of New York. While the design will, necessarily, be exactly similar to those heretofore printed here, there may and probably will be two distinct points of difference. The paper will undoubtedly be different, although it is possible arrangements may be made for a further supply of the water-marked paper heretofore used, although this is improbable. Then, it is hardly probably that the shades of ink will correspond with those employed in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, in fact the colors of the American Bank Note Co., are almost always more vivid than those used by the Bureau. It is understood the New York concern is now printing the first requisition.

During the month of March the Mints of the United States produced 451,926 pieces of gold coin, of the value of \$5,025,320.50, of which 10,926 is represented in gold dollars for the Lewis and Clark exposition at Portland, Oregon. There were 3,344,975 silver pieces of the value of \$500,276.25 and 14,054,000 in nickles and pennies of the value of \$329,100.75. For the

(Continued on page 8.)

Rhodesia.

£2. bright red, unused, o. g. \$21.00 net.

This is the newly discovered Water-low print of the 1891 type upon thick paper, perforated 15. It is fully described in the February number of the **American Journal of Philately** and the supply is very limited.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO.

18 EAST 23rd ST., New York, N. Y.

P | Cash With Order. | M

China 1898, 1/2c to 50c 9 var. (.74).....	80	32
*Cuba 1899, Dues 1c, 2c, 5c, 10c, o. g. scarce (\$1.).....	67	
" " " 10c Special No. 351 (.35).....	22	
" " " 1873, Republic 10c No. 601, o. g. (.50).....	32	
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P | 401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago. | M

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(Continued on page 3.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

LOUIS G. QUACKENBUSH,
MANAGING EDITOR.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

To any address in the United States, Canada, or Mexico, 50 cents a year. To any address in any country in the Postal Union \$1.00 a year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.00 an inch. 60 cents half inch.

E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

From The Editor's Point Of View.

"Father Scott" Offers Advice.

J. Walter Scott, "The Father of American Philately" has lately formulated a little rule in regard to what to collect, which has the merits of ingenuity and simplicity, if nothing else. "If your income limits the number of your stamps to three or four thousand," says Mr. Scott "have every one distinctively different and keep them in a blank album. If you can afford to buy double that number still have every one different. If the income admits of three times the expenditure, get every stamp, then turn your attention to watermarks, perforations, shades, papers, etc. Specialize in some country and have a more complete collection in that country than any of your contemporaries. If the income is unlimited, do the same with every country."

Now all this is very good, indeed; very sound in theory and appears admirably simple. But in practice there is one drawback to it. If your income limits the number of your stamps to three or four thousand, remarks Mr. Scott, do thus and so. But how is the man who is still in his novitiate as a philatelist to measure the philatelic purchasing power of his stamp collecting "appropriation" with the accuracy which a rule such as this seems to demand. How is the comparatively inexperienced collector to know to what limit in regard to numbers his means now confine him, or will confine him in future? We say "inexperienced collector" because it is manifestly for him that this advice is mainly intended. And we take it that it will be a very difficult matter for most collectors who have not fully outgrown their

philatelic swaddling clothes to come to any very definite determination as to what sized collections their means will permit them to accumulate—or perhaps it would be more correct to say, to aim at accumulating.

There are very few collectors who ever definitely and distinctly limit themselves in advance to the acquirement of three or four thousand specimens. It would be very sensible in many cases if they would do so—but it is not in human nature to make so modest an estimate of one's own powers. Almost all of us start out with the firm intention of acquiring twelve or fifteen thousand variety collections in the fulness of time. A couple of thousand varieties have been gotten together with almost ridiculous ease; why should we not with all of life before us, hope for ten thousand or twelve thousand or fifteen thousand varieties by the time we are say twenty years older. Confess, reader of long philatelic experience: was not this your attitude in philatelic salad days? Wouldn't you have laughed to scorn any idea that your collection might never go above three or four thousand varieties? You are wiser now. You may have attained your cherished dream, or you may be still pegging along with a few thousand; in either case you have learned that mere numbers is nothing in stamp collecting, that its interest and pleasure and profit lies, not in attainment of any numerical goal, but in the process of collecting. The fun of stamp collecting isn't in reaching a certain definite goal. It does not, in fact, make much difference whether you have any special goal in view or not. But could you have been persuaded of this five or ten or fifteen years ago, or whenever it was that you first found yourself fully launched on the philatelic sea? We rather guess not,—and herein lies the impracticability of Mr. Scott's rule.

No man is going to sit down and look at these matters in cold blood so long as he is young in Philately. He isn't going to lay out any ironbound limit of expenditure. He may know that he cannot ordinarily spare more than fifty cents or a dollar a week on stamps; but he will hope that his salary may be raised or that he may earn a little something extra "on the side," or that, somehow, in some way or other, he may have a good bit more to spend on his hobby—and so he will go on and lay his plans for filling his album, without regard to the limitations of the moment, just as we all have done and would keep on doing, if we had to begin all over once more. If all inexperienced collectors were great and wise philosophers, and were willing to spend some years in deeply

studying the philosophy of stamp collecting before actually starting to collect, there might be some chance of persuading them to collect according to such limitations as Mr. Scott proposes. But in the present state of Philately we fear they are impracticable.

Collecting

By Subjects.

Our readers will recollect that a couple of weeks since we dealt at a little length with the idea of collecting stamps according to subjects, instead of countries—that is to say, dividing one's collection into "portrait stamps", "landscape stamps", "Emblem stamps", and so on. It appears to us that collecting along these somewhat novel lines has, beside the advantages that we have previously spoken of, the very great one of imposing any limits whatsoever upon the collector who takes it up, so that as the attainable size of his collection is concerned, while at the same time it entirely does away with the numerical style of collecting. No collection formed along these lines would be judged according to the number of varieties it contained, any more than would any highly specialised collection of the stamps of some special country. The scope of the collection would be the point that counted; the ground covered; the various fields of interest adequately represented. Collecting by subjects, instead of by the present modes of classification, would give the young collector and the mature collector of scant means a better chance. As we have before remarked, old collectors sooner or later learn the lesson that the size of a collection is no criterion as to the amount of pleasure and profit bred by its formation. But young collectors cannot, in the nature of things, realize this fact; and it is highly desirable that some way should be found whereby they can be induced to give less thought to acquiring "big collections."

It might be objected that under the system of collecting by subjects collectors would be just as prone as ever to estimate their success by the number of specimens acquired. But we believe that this objection will hardly hold water. Any collector of common sense will readily realize, on taking up this new system, that he has liberally turned his back on the methods by which collections can be swelled to big proportions. He is choosing the field of representative types only. When he has secured a few hundred distinctive varieties of portrait stamps he covers, from the viewpoint of human interest, the same ground as though he had added to them the thousands of duplicates of

these designs which differ from them only in color. He indulges in no unnecessary duplication of types. His collection enters therefore into no comparison as to numerical strength with collections formed on the old lines. And we would not need to have any sense of dissatisfaction with his collection in mentally placing it side by side with infinitely larger accumulations that were formed on an entirely different style.

Renewing

Collecting Youth.

We do not imagine that if this new mode of collecting ever becomes as popular as we hope it may it will be taken up alone by young and immature collectors. We think there will be a good many old stagers who will commence collections of this kind, and that it will act upon them as a sort of renewal of their collecting youth. We do not alone refer to those who have for some reason or other abandoned their collections and ceased active participation in Philately; but also to those who retain possession of good collections, but have gotten to the point where further progress is difficult and expensive. There is a species of philatelic dry rot which attacks a good many collectors when they arrive at the altitude where all their wants are "dollar stamps." They are still interested in Philately; they still read the stamp papers and keep up to the times on philatelic matters; they still add a stamp to the collection as often as possible; but they do not get the active, personal pleasure out of collecting that they used to when new arrivals were more numerous. Such collectors are, of course, the stuff from which specialists are made. But there are a very great many of them that have little stomach for specialism as nowadays conducted. To these the starting of a new collection of "picture stamps," or the like, not necessarily on a very ambitious scale, will have all the zest of a new sensation—will enable them to live over again in part the pleasures that they had in the first years of their collecting. It need not displace the regular collection in such a case—it need be no more than a side issue—but assuredly it would enable one to get actively into the game again at small outlay. And that, we take it, would be an excellent thing all around—for the individual philatelists who embraced the new idea and for philately in general.

776 varieties of postage stamps appeared in 1904, as against 1183 the year previous - a decrease for which all right-thinking philatelists will be profoundly thankful.

TALKS TO DEALERS.

No. 6.

We are getting on. We are gaining the confidence of collectors. Our subscription list grew with provoking slowness for the first month or two; but now its rate of growth is entirely satisfactory. The number of subscriptions thus far received through the "recommendation cards" distributed by friendly subscribers and dealers (you doubtless recollect the plan of distribution, previously described in this space) has been very, very gratifying. At this moment several hundred friends of this paper are co-operating with us in this way to build up our subscription list. Could you ask better testimony that **THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY** is liked and appreciated by those to whom it goes?

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY,

BETHLEHEM, PA.

DETROIT LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

The P. O. Dept. report that the receipts of the year 1904 amounted to \$1,208,676.98, an increase of \$64,418.38 over 1903—this is very gratifying and no doubt will soon put Detroit up a little higher amongst other competing cities.

J. Keller recently received one of the most complete assortment of French and Colonies stamps I ever saw, amongst them were many desirable specimens and just such as are usually missing in average collections, from this lot he added many specimens to his book, and I do believe he has one of the most complete collections in the state of these stamps.

BOSTON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

In weight may be sent at greatly reduced rates. The new regulation is greatly appreciated and was immediately taken advantage of as is evident from the report that a very large number of parcels were at once mailed at Boston under the reduced rates, there being quite a rivalry as to who should have the honor of mailing the first package.

Packages under the new Parcels Post can be sent to Great Britain at less cost than from Boston to Portland, Maine, or in fact than to any point in the United States. This fact leads one to suppose that before long the people will demand a domestic Parcels Post for the United States, this would of course be a great blow to the express companies who can be counted upon to fight any such a law

most bitterly but the saving to the people and especially to those dealers who send large quantities of goods by mail and express, should be enough to induce them to use every means of influence to push the passing of such a regulation within the next two or three years.

"Why seek for completeness? The interest of stamp collecting lies not in possession, but in acquisition."

W. Buckland Edwards.

Speaking of the fact that the latest specimen of the famed "Post Office Mauritius" stamp to reach the market sold for no less a sum than £1450 (\$7250), Mr. Basset Hull remarks that it must be a comforting reflection to the collector who possesses one of these stamps to know that he can carry the value of a suburban house and grounds inside his watch case. "Post Office Mauritius" stamps are however, rarely, we believe, carried in watch cases.

The early "figure stamps" of Brazil are the only postage stamps ever issued which bear no indication of the country or origin, or purpose for which they are issued.

The postmark was invented in 1661 by Henry Bishopp, head of the British postal service under Charles II. His earliest announcement of the innovation read thusly: "a stamp is invented that is putt on every letter shewing the day of the moneth that every letter comes to the office".

"The collection of used blocks of four is an interesting method of specialism with this advantage, that a man cannot spend too much money over it, since the stamps are not easily obtained." W. Buckland Edwards.

The Philatelic School Room.

For The Primary And Intermediate Classes.

Conducted by Oliver Crinkle, N. G. S. Professor of Philately in Knowhayre University.
(Continued from No. 3 page 5.)

Australia Enters the Scene.

Asia was not the only continent in which postage stamps made their first appearance in the year 1850. From that year also dates the introduction of postage stamps into Australia. Two of the Australian colonies issued stamps in 1850, viz. New South Wales and Victoria. Let the former, as the parent colony, receive the precedence here.

New South Wales in 1850 was not an especially important or valuable part of the British realm. Its foundation as a British colony dates from 1788, when Great Britain established a penal settlement at Port Jackson, near Botany Bay. From thence till 1840, a steady stream of compulsory immigration flowed into New South Wales via the British courts of law. The prisoners, after their sentences expired, or on being pardoned, were encouraged to become settlers and given grants of land. And in this way was New South Wales originally peopled—though in the course of time "free settlers" began to be attracted thither also, and, in the end, to come in so fast as to soon outnumber those who had come to Australia against their will. New South Wales ceased to be a dumping ground for convicts in 1840, and by 1850 it had attained a population of about 265,000—much less than the present population of the city of Sydney alone. Gold had not yet been discovered. The presence of the precious metal was not publicly known until May, 1851; and the principal occupation of the settlers hitherto had been sheep-raising—not so romantic as gold hunting, but fully as gainful in the long run; though not, of course, so powerful an attracter of immigration. New South Wales covered larger territory in 1850 than now, Queensland not being divorced from it and made into a separate colony until several years later. The name New South Wales originally applied not only to all of the territory now known as New South Wales and Queensland, but also to the stretch of land from which South Australia and Victoria were formed. South Australia had been made a separate colony in 1836, and Victoria attained like status in the very year we are writing about, 1850.

The first stamps of New South Wales are famous in philatelic history, under the name of "Sydney Views"—which is the term always employed by philatelists in referring to them. It is, however, scarcely an accurate designation, as the picture on these stamps is not a view of Sydney, at all. The early philatelists supposed the design was intended to depict the city of Sydney, as seen from a distance, and

hence coined the name which these stamps still continue to bear. These "Sydney Views" were an ambitious but not very successful attempt to use an allegorical scene as a subject of stamp design. The scene is a reproduction of the Great Seal of the Colony, representing immigrants (compulsory ones) landing at Botany Bay. The small, rather indistinct figures on the right of the picture are these convict-immigrants. The female figure at the left is Industry. She is surrounded by appropriate articles—a bale of merchandise, a beehive, a pickaxe and a shovel. She is supposed to be releasing the convicts from their fetters, and pointing with outstretched hand to oxen ploughing and a town rising on the summit of a hill, with a fort for its protection. The masts of a ship are to be seen in the background. The sentiment of the scene is, of course, admirable; and, no design could have been more appropriate for the young colony. But the littleness of the space allowed them sorely tried the skill of the engravers and not all of the above-mentioned details of the picture came out with such vividness as to be fully recognizable. The rough cut in the catalogue does not, however, give any true idea of the appearance of the stamps themselves. They are crude enough in some particulars, it is true, but not quite as crude as these catalogue cuts would indicate. In fact, it is a decided wonder that they are not even more crude than they are, considering the comparative imperfection of the graver's art at that period and the fact that this was the first attempt ever made to place a picture on a postage stamp. To top all this, the stamps received the added dignity of Latin inscriptions. The words in the circle around the "view"—"Camb. Aust. Sigillum Nov."—may be freely translated as meaning "The Seal of New South Wales;" while the smaller inscription at the base of the "view" "Sic fortis Etruria crevit" means "thus mighty Etruria grew." The significance, in this precise connection, of this last inscription is not wholly clear, unless ancient Etruria was settled and built up by bond-men. I am not at the moment able to verify this supposition—but if it is correct, it establishes a connection between the two cases.

"Plating" Sydney Views.

If any of you have read philatelic journals to any extent, you have undoubtedly run across references to the "plating" of Sydney Views. And doubtless you have wondered what was meant by it. "Plating" is the term philatelists give to the process of so reconstructing entire sheets of stamps that each specimen shall oc-

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45	1885, 5c ultramarine	.15
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copy exactly the same place in the sheet as it did when originally printed. It is only possible to "plate" stamps when each stamp on a sheet varies in some detail of design from each of the others. No one could reconstruct a sheet of our current U. S. stamps from single specimens; because Uncle Sam turns out a million stamps without any one of them varying a hairs-breadth from each other in even the minutest line or letter that enters into the design. Nor are there any other issues of recent times in which the specimens on a sheet would differ enough from each other to make "plating" possible. The plates from which stamps are printed are nowadays made on entirely different principles from those employed in the days of the Sydney Views. Nowadays, only one engraving is made and impressions are taken from this to form the plate. Each stamp on the plate is from the same original and therefore there is no chance of variation. But in producing these "Sydney Views," each stamp on the plate had to be engraved separately by hand. Now, no engraver lives or ever has lived, who could engrave twice over so small a design as this without making some variation discernible to the careful student. And every one of the twenty-five "Sydney Views" that made up a plate differed from all its fellows in some little particular. Philatelists early noticed these differences and puzzled over them. Finally, some earnest philatelic students conceived the idea that by studying and piecing together pairs and blocks of these stamps they might be able to find out just where each specific variety had belonged in the original sheet. It may seem incredible to you that, without any official records or anything but their own ingenuity to aid them, they actually did succeed in finding out just what position each of the twenty-five varieties had occupied in the original sheet. They did it by a process of reasoning and analogy which it would take too much space to attempt to explain here; and they did it so well that when old official records dealing with the subject were afterward unearthed, their deductions were found absolutely correct. Since that time, it has ever been a fad with wealthy philatelists to attempt to reconstruct complete sheets of one or more of these Sydney View stamps. As few varieties sell as single specimens for less than \$10.00, the cost of collecting them in entire sheets is prohibitive to the ordinary collector. But the wealthy, as before stated, have taken up the idea with avidity; and the process of "plating" these stamps is now facilitated by the existence of diagrams showing in just what position on the sheet each particular variety belongs.

More Trouble,
And Plenty of it."

As if all this "plating" did not furnish enough complexity to amply serve the purpose of the wealthy collectors,

the catalogue further complicates matters by separating Sydney Views into various classes of paper. You will note that the catalogue mentions and prices separately specimens on three kinds of paper—ribbed, laid and wove—and also different shades of color in each. Then, to cap all this, there are the "retouches," constituting separate major varieties, each one of which can, of course, be "plated" also. Re-touching consists in deepening and strengthening worn lines in a plate after it has been so much used that it does not print clearly. This retouching had to be resorted to several times in the course of the two years that Sydney Views were in use; and entire new plates had, too, to twice be made for the second value. And the result of all these things is one of the most remarkable labyrinths of minor varieties which our catalogues record.

Of course, these Sydney Views are not stamps that you are likely to have much to do with—for a while yet, at least. Most of us would be glad enough to just simply own one specimen of each of the three values, 1d, 2d, and 3d, without going after any of the other varieties. And, as a matter of fact, all these minor distinctions have been made solely in the interests of wealthy collectors, who like to go into such things in a big, elaborate way. "Plating" Sydney Views is a spectacular thing to do. And that is about all there is to it. I like to have you get an intelligent understanding of such things as this; and that is the reason I have taken such pains to try to explain here the true inwardness of this "plating" notion. But do not get the idea that I am in favor of your collecting minor varieties "on your own hook"—for I am not, even when they are not a hundredth part as costly as these New South Wales specimens.

Now,

Turn to Victoria.

Victoria's issuance of stamps in the year 1850 is unique among all the cases that we have met with thus far, in that it was the act of a very young government. All the other stamp issues that had thus far appeared in the world emanated from countries and colonies that, compared with Victoria, were immeasurably ancient. The colony of Victoria was, in fact, only a few months old when its issue appeared—the stamp numbered A1 in the catalogue. The entire colony contained at that time not over eighty thousand people, about one-third of whom resided in Melbourne, then, as now, Victoria's leading city. Even this, however, was a marvellous population for so youthful a colony—for it was not until 1834 that it was first settled. As early as 1840 the settlers agitated for separation from New South Wales and in 1850 their wishes were acceded to and it was constituted

(Continued on page 7.)

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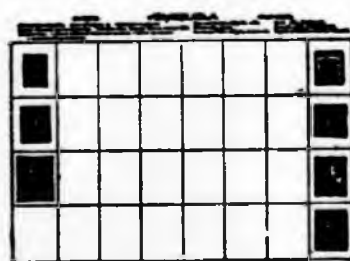
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1886	1 1	brown	No. 64	\$0 02
"	5 1	green	" 66	01
"	10 1	yellow	" 67	02
"	25 1	blue	" 69	02
"	50 1	gray green	" 71	03
"	1 dr	gray	" 72	04
1889	40 1	blue	" 98	06
"	1 dr	gray	" 99	07
1891-92	40 1	blue	" 115	05
"	1 dr	gray	" 116	06
1900	20 on 25	blue	" 128	04
"	40 on 21	bistre	" 132	05
"	50 on 40 1	salmon	" 133	05
"	1 dr on 40 1	violet	" 134	10

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THE READING TABLE.

What We Find in the Journals of the Hour.

The January Issue.

The January issue of the P. J. of I., we find, upon examination, contains much more original matter than its predecessor. It opens with a contribution on "Paper: Its Importance in Philately," from the pen of Mr. E. W. Wetherell, which is capitally written and decidedly interesting, though we fear it is to be followed up (as it bears the sub-heading "Preliminary Notes" and is manifestly only the first of an extended series of articles) by an attempt to re-classify various of the world's issues in accord with variations in paper that the microscope and Mr. Wetherell have conjointly brought to light. He makes, indeed, a beginning in that direction on the page before us, by listing some varieties of paper (hitherto, most fortunately, not known to most collectors) existing in several British Colonial issues of De La Rue manufacture between the years 1855 and 1867. We look forward to what his further efforts may bring forth with many misgivings; though he is so entertaining a writer (even who dealing with a subject which in most hands is dry beyond description) that we can hardly help but forgive him even for being up to such arrant mischief as this.

Mr. B. Gordon Jones, another of the mainstays of Indian Philately, puts an effectual quietus upon the claims of a bogus candidate for philatelic attention, in an article aptly headed "Exit the Puttilla 'Error.'" Mr. Crofton continues to painstakingly sift out the facts regarding the fiscal stamps of Perar, at which occupation we left him in the last number. N. Yaar, the eminent Dutch philatelist, devotes two pages to exploding the fallacious theory that the forgeries of the infamous Fournier (whose advertisements a number of carelessly conducted stamp journals have been deluded into accepting) are not dangerous to collectors, as they bear the word "Fac-simile" to indicate their nature. M. Fournier's productions do not, in the majority of cases, bear the word "fac-simile" in any way, shape or form, as Mr. Yaar has personally proved, by ordering some of his wares for purposes of inspection and exposure. The present article, unqualifiedly denounces M. Fournier's forgeries as being dangerous in the extreme; and should, it would seem, result in eliminating Fournier's ads from every respectable philatelic journal. The usual twenty to thirty pages of reprinted matter is next in order, the most notable article to be thus given fresh currency being a very able essay on "The Stamps of Paraguay," by R. T. K. Smith. The number closes with the usual supply of "Notes."

The Stamp Collector's Fortnightly, London, England.

Every number of the Stamp Collector's Fortnightly that comes to hand nowadays proves on inspection to be a wonderfully fine one. Perhaps the Entrance of Gibbons Weekly into the field has stimulated Mr. Bishop to fresh efforts. At any rate, his paper has never, we think, been quite so good as during the last few months. Two very excellent numbers are before us, dated respectively Feb. 25 and March 11. Each is filled to the brim with readable paragraphs and witty headings, with the regular departments and with special articles that have the value of lying outside the beaten path, both in subject and treatment. The leading feature of the issue of Feb. 25th, is the continuation of Mr. W. Buckland Edwards exceedingly interesting paper on "Specialism for the Medium Collector", to the previous instalment of which we gave considerable attention. The present instalment is no less worthy of detailed analysis than its predecessor, but we can hardly spare the space for more than a superficial survey of a few of the chief points presented.

Mr. Edwards indicates three main modes of procedure for the medium collector who wishes to become a specialist: (1) To take up some one country where there is a reasonable chance, in time, of completing the collection; (2) To take up a part of some larger country (meaning larger in the stamp-issuing sense) or of two or three countries forming a natural group; (3) To take up some special method of collection not falling under either of the above heads. Among interesting specialties in class three are suggested: the collection of fiscals used postally; the collection of stamps used abroad in other than the country of issue; the collection of stamps on original paper; the collection of used blocks of four. All these are out-of-the-ordinary specialties, and likely to be all the more interesting on that account. Mr. Edwards leans however, to the belief that classes 1 and 2 offer after all, the best opportunities for specializing though he points out the extreme importance of choosing a country or group not too difficult and expensive. He instances New Zealand, Spain, and the United States as very interesting countries whose expense bars the medium man from taking them up. British Honduras, Jamaica and Lagos are cited as examples of British Colonies that offer good opportunities for specializing without being encumbered with many costly specimens. France, Holland, Belgium, Chili, Brazil and Uruguay are all likewise, good countries for the medium collector.

In groups, Mr. Edwards suggests Gibraltar, Malta and Cyprus; or the Spanish Colonial group; or some of the West India Islands, omitting the surcharges. Much excellent advice is added as to the modus operandi to be followed; but into this we cannot take

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All are postage stamps no duplicates and varieties of shades perforations or watermark marks.

to enter here. Suffice it to say that Mr. Edwards' article on the whole is the best and most practical exposition of the possibilities of rational specialism (as opposed to specialism of the overminute, bloating order) that we have ever seen.

The Issue For March 11th.

The Fortnightly for March 11th is a special Birthday Number, celebrating the completion of its tenth year of publication—during all of which time it has been under the control of the same able editor, Mr. Percy C. Bishop. The number contains several important special articles, first of which is one on "The Postage Stamps of France," by Thomas Whitworth; followed by "Varieties of Army Officials," by Capt. J. R. P. Clarke, an excursion into "dotty" Philately with which we personally can feel little sympathy, but which will probably prove of much interest to many Fortnightly readers, since "Officials" in all forms are so much to the fore in England at present. Mr. C. B. Purdom writes on "Why Stamp Societies Dwindle," in answer to Mr. Warhurst's recent contribution on the same topic; Mr. Purdom taking the view that the "dwindling" is due in most cases to lack of enterprise and energy in their management, and citing the success of the Junior Society as an evidence of what can be done by "hustling" and progressive methods. Mr. J. C. Gibson contributes a not displeasing bit of philatelic fiction, entitled "The Colonel's Story." And then comes the feature of the number—the second of Mr. Bishop's articles on "The British Philatelic Press," supplemented by an index to the principal articles in the entire twelve volumes of the Stamp Collectors Magazine, the giant of the early stamp press and the chief organ of Philately in England from 1863 to 1875. More than six months ago Mr. Bishop published a paper on early British philatelic journalism, treating the subject in a general way. He now proposes to take up different of the early journals in detail and give modern philatelists some conception of their character and contents—and has, of course, commenced with the Stamp Collectors Magazine, the first really serious and able philatelic journal to appear in England. The pleasantest feature of this intellectual treat is that the contents of each journal is to be adequately indexed as he proceeds—a step in the direction of the much talked of General Philatelic Index, which seems unlikely to ever materialize unless in some such piecemeal form as this, which may pave the way for work on a larger scale. The Index in the number before us is the most fascinating thing imaginable. It gives us a hundred glimpses into the romance and quaintness of primitive Philately, and makes us fairly hungry for a chance to get at the volumes that contain this fund of enticing matter. A table of contents is, in general, dry reading; but this one is not a mere

index, but a leaf out of history and the genuine student of philately cannot but find in it many a hint to the ways of collecting and the modes of philatelic thought prevalent in its period. It would take too much space to try to make the reader see what we see, by quoting the headings that appeal to us and explaining wherein they set us to conjuring up whole hosts of fancies anent the stamp collecting of these olden times. But we can, at least, in small compass mention the names of some of the contributors—and in this most of our older readers will be interested, as these authors with few exceptions continued their connection with stamp journalism till a much later period. Berger-Leorault was one of them, and he died only last year. Overy Taylor (who has been dead but two or three years) was a voluminous contributor; so was the famous E. L. Pemberton, of whom all philatelists, young or old, must have heard, though he died many years since. Others are; Joseph J. Casey, an American who edited the American Journal of Philately for some years and was prominent in New York philatelic circles up to a few years ago; Judge Philbrick, still alive, and for forty years one of the great lights of English Philately; R. B. Earce, known to all of us in later years as author of "Album Weeds" and philatelic editor and writer; Dr. Gray, the early cataloguer; Dr. Viner, the grand old man of British Philately; J. B. Moens; W. A. S. Westoby; C. H. Coster; and our own John K. Tiffany. Truly a distinguished list and one that makes us more than ever anxious to make the personal acquaintance of a file of this old journal. We are pleased to note that in the next issue of the Fortnightly, "The Philatelist" is to be written of and indexed. Mr. Bishop, in all his career as a philatelic editor, has never, in our judgment, builded better for his own fame than in taking this practical step toward supplying the need of a reference list to the philatelic literature of past periods.

The Philatelic School Room.

(Continued from page 5.)

a separate colony. It had previously been known as the Port Phillip Settlement, or Port Phillip District.

This new colony showed greater loyalty to the mother country than did New South Wales—at least, insofar as the design of her stamps was concerned. The older colony had used a local subject; the younger adorned its stamps with a portrait of the Queen for whom it had been named. The portrait, as you will see by looking at the catalogue, is a quaint affair, showing the Queen in as stiff and stilted a pose as one could easily imagine. It may have been taken from some portrait of the Queen, but more likely it is purely fanciful, evolved by the artist from his own imagination. It is, in any event, a fascinating stamp, of appearance positively mediaeval; and differing in general treatment from any other postage stamp portrait of the Queen. There are few stamps

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U. S. 1895, 50c orange 10c 80 05
 " " 81.00 black " " 17
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 " " " 85. orange " 10
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500 fine foreign stamps and rare U. S. and foreign coin 15c. U. S. half cent 12c, big U. S. cent 5c, 5 diff. dates big U. S. cents 20c, eagle cent 5c, 2c piece 4c. N. C. Bateman, Lowville, New York.

U. S. 1857, 3c red, Type 1 80 07
 " 1868, 3c verm. mint 06
 1868 Rev. 1c Prop. " 05
 Our Bargain List will save you money. Yale Stamp Co., Dept. M. Ann Arbor, Mich.

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 " 15c " 1870 9c " St. Mort cat \$3.85c
 Postage free. C. T. EDGAR, Birdwood, Va.

Mr. H. Wendi, Duniap, Iowa, writes under date of March 25, 1905; "This little Stamp-Lovers Album is, so far as I know, the best on the market. Its handy form and attractive appearance, good paper, etc., is to be appreciated, and all for Ten cents. Cannot see how you can issue it so cheap and so good."

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Cat. No.	Unused.	Cat. Price	My Price
20	Bolivia '90, 2c violet	\$0 08	\$0 03
49	'97, 5c green	3	1
50	10c br. violet	3	1
64	'90, 5c dark green	4	2
65	10c vel. orange	3	1
69	'01, 5c dark red	8	3
70	1c maroon	2	1
73	5c rose carmine	3	1
75	10c blue	3	1
*91	Col. Rep. Bolivia '04, 20c red	8	3
96	Cuba '03, 12c deep blue		5
*114	Guat. '02, 1c gr & purple 30c per 100		
*115	2c lake & bl. 48c per 100		
120	50c br. & blue	15	7
*121	75c blue & black	25	20
*122	1p brown & black	45	22
*122	Nicaragua '00, 2c vermilion	4	2
*130	50c lake	50	16
*132	2p salmon	2 00	60
*133	50c black	4 50	1 50
141	'01, 30c dark green	60	20
157	30c dark green	60	20
*262	'00, 30c or. brown	20	8
*403	1c red violet	2	1
*404	2c vermilion	3	1 1/2
*406	5c dark blue	3	1
*407	10c purple	6	3
*408	20c brown	10	4
*409	50c lake	25	15
*410	1p ultramarine	60	25
*411	2p br. orange	1 25	45
*419	'03, 30c on 20c brown	40	15
160	Peru '00, 22c green & black	50	20
164	22c green	10	4
209	Venezuela '04, 25c ultra.	3	1 1/2
301	'08, 10c rose & black	20	10
316	'00, 50c vel. & black	12	6
317	1b violet & black	25	11
318	'04, 50c claret	8	3

E. T. Parker, Bethlehem, Pa.

which we have thus far come across that I for my part like better than this first issue of Victoria.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

(Continued from page 1.)

Philippines 4,939,404 pieces were coined.

The Postoffice Department has issued an emphatic order in reference to the removal of canceled postage stamps from parcels sent through the mails. There has been much complaint along this line and the Department proposes to remedy the evil if possible. Letter carriers or postal clerks who are apprehended violating this rule will be summarily dismissed from the service.

There is nothing new in the Philippine new issue matter, the Bureau not having as yet received final orders with reference to the 4 centavos denomination. It being still a question whether the design shall be Washington or simply the coat of arms of the Filipinos as in the other values above 2 centavos. The Bureau of Engraving and Printing last week filled the following requisition for current United States stamps overprinted "Philippines" for use on the islands. The supply of the larger denominations is ample. In fact values above the 10 cent are not used in large quantities. The requisition shipped last week was as follows: 2,000,000, 1 cent; 200,000, 2 cent; 200,000, 5 cent; 50,000, 8 cent.

The Postmaster General, in a special order refers to the special delivery stamp as follows: a procedure that is rather mystifying to philatelists in Washington, in view of the fact that no change has been made:

Ordered, That the Note under Section 769 of the Postal Laws and Regulations, Edition of 1902, be amended to read as follows:

Note.—The following is a description of the special-delivery stamp of the current issue, series of 1902:

This stamp is of fine engraving, rectangular in form, thirteen-sixteenths by one and seven-sixteenths inches in dimensions. The color of this stamp is blue. Its design is as follows: At the top is a heavy panel, upon which are the words "United States of America" in white, supported on either end by fluted columns, at the

base of each of which is the numeral "10" in white surrounded by an acanthus scroll. On the left of the inner space is the figure of a special-delivery messenger boy on a bicycle, riding toward the right. On the right, inclosed in an acanthus scroll, appear the words "Secures immediate delivery at any United States Post Office." Directly over the wording is a ribbon, which arches over the head of the messenger boy, containing the words in small capital letters, "Series 1902," and in large capital letters, "Special Delivery." In a panel on the right half of the base of the stamp are the words "Ten Cents."

Regarding the mailing of identical pieces of mail matter without the use of postage stamps, the Department has issued the following order:

The attention of postmasters who have been granted authority to accept third and fourth class matter without postage stamps affixed, under the provisions of section 483 1/2, P. L. and R., is directed to the following regulation:

Postmasters at whose offices identical pieces of third and fourth class matter are mailed without postage stamps affixed, as provided in section 483 1/2, must promptly at the close of each quarter send to the Third Assistant Postmaster General a sworn statement on form 3606 showing the names of all patrons who have made use of the privilege at their offices, the numbers of their permits, the number of pieces of each class of matter mailed by each, the amount of postage collected in money thereon, and the total amount collected on each class. (Sec. 408 1/2, P. L. and R.)

When it occurs that during any quarter there are no mailings of such matter, the postmaster must, nevertheless, send to Third Assistant Postmaster General form 3606, properly filled out, with the words "No mailings" written across the face thereof. In such a case the affidavit may be omitted; the signature of the postmaster is sufficient.

If there are no mailings it is not necessary for Presidential postmasters to report to the Auditor on form 3604, nor for fourth-class postmasters to report to the Auditor on form 3605.

British Central Africa.
1891-1894

8 pence, used	-	-	80
1 shilling, unused	-	-	25
2 " " "	-	-	55
3 " " "	-	-	90
4 " " "	-	-	1 10
5 " " "	-	-	1 35
Bavaria 1870 12kr unused	-	-	3 30

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The following unused stamps are offered at the following greatly reduced prices for quick cash orders.

Cata. No.	Mint o. q.	Cata. No.	Price.
9	1/2p violet	30	1/2p green
10	1p green	31	2p orange
11	2p yellow	32	4p blue
11b	2p orange	33	2sh 6p violet
12	4p blue	34	1p red brown
13	6p maroon	35	5p scarlet
14	1sh rose	36	6p maroon
15	2sh, 6p, violet	37	1sh rose
16	2 1/2p rose		
20	5p carmine red		
21	2 1/2p on 2p orange		
22c	3p on 2p orange surcharge		
23	2 1/2p black		
24	2 1/2p on 1sh rose		
25	2 1/2p on 2s 6p		
27	2 1/2p on 1p green		
28	1/2p green		
29	1p red brown		

Provisional Government.

30 1/2p green
31 2p orange
32 4p blue
33 2sh 6p violet
34 1p red brown
35 5p scarlet
36 6p maroon
37 1sh rose

German Dominion.

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BETHLEHEM, PA.

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THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

Entered as second-class matter December 17, 1904, at the post office at Bethlehem, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

VOL. II.

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, APRIL 15, 1905.

No. 5.

Dominican Republic.

1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50c, 1p unused o. g.	35
1, 2, 5, 10, 12, 20, 50c., unused o. g.	25
2 on 50, unused o. g.	75
2 on 1p " "	75
10 on 50 " "	75
10 on 1p " "	75
5 No. 142 " "	10
1 on 20 No. 144 " "	10
Official 1 on 2 " "	10
" 2 on 2 " "	10

All the above unused o. g. fine \$3.50.
Next Auction will take place early in
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Prices upon application.

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Do Not Forget.

that the J. W. Benn collection will be sold at public auction on Saturday evening April 22nd at the Club Room of the Chicago Philatelic Society. Your bids should now be on the way. If late use special delivery, wire or long distance phone, call up Chicago Central No. 1918.

Next Sale May 13th.

will be one of the finest of the season, the collection of C. Arthur Eddy, Brooklyn N. Y. and will be 88 per cent single stamps of fine and desirable copies with many rarities.

P. M. Wolsieffer,

Stamp Auction Specialist.

401 Ft. Dearborn Bldg. Chicago.

CHICAGO CHAT.

The meeting of the Chicago Philatelic Society, last Thursday evening, was well attended, considering the state of the weather, which was exceptionally bad. It has been noted by some of the members that the majority of Thursday nights, commonly known as stamp nights in Chicago, for some season or other seem to be in conflict with the elements and the weather evidently does not favor Philately.

The attraction at this meeting was a lecture by Mr. Edward Rosenthal on Die Varieties of United States Envelopes, which was illustrated by a hundred different Dies and Envelope varieties. This is a very large field for the lover of minor varieties and Mr. Rosenthal, having made a study of them for such a long period, was able to give the members a very fine lecture and imparted many little bits of information unknown and unnoticed by the average collector who does not make a study of it.

At this meeting there were four applications for membership posted, several resignations and the annual list of indifferent members who permitted themselves to be dropped by limitation for non-payment of dues, notwithstanding the fact that they had been notified time and again of their neglect of duty. Among the list were some well known names and some collectors that the Society did not care to have drop out in this manner, but the constitution is very strict on this point, the Board of Directors were

obliged to carry out its provisions. The Secretary has some letters on file from a few of these members who went so far as to write and tell him to drop them, which is an indicator that their sense of honor was somewhat dulled. Surely it would have been far more creditable for these members to have squared up and resigned in an honorable manner, and the only conclusion that can be reached in cases of this kind is that they have lost their interest and do not realize the fact that it is considered a point of good policy as well as honor to resign from any organization in due form.

The auction sales held in Chicago this season that have contained fine stamps and good material have been uniformly successful. Wolsieffer's last sale of the Brinkerhoff collection containing in a large majority of twentieth century stamps was very successful, and prices ruled high. The sale on the coming Saturday evening consisting of the John Rose collection of Wayne, Pa., also promises to be a very successful sale, as the catalogue shows it to contain a large number of fine stamps. The sale following that, Mr. Wolsieffer announces, will be the J. W. Benn collection, of Medford, Wis., and which will contain a number of rarities. Mr. Wolsieffer states that there is still another very fine sale to follow, which will be made up largely of single stamps and rarities, and it seems that the best sales with the finest material are coming at the end of the season.

The next meeting of Branch No. 1, American Philatelic Association, will be the most important one of the year. In addition to the interesting subject announced for that meeting, which is the Machinery of the A. P. A., there will, no doubt, be a ticket nominated for the coming year.

Chicago members of the C. P. S. seem very well pleased with the selection of the Stamp-Lovers Weekly for their official organ and they are very much pleased with the sendoff that editor Quackenbush gave them.

Mr. W. H. Adams has been requested by the Y. M. C. A. Philatelic Club, of Oak Park, to give the illustrated C. P. S. lantern slide lecture, which will take place at one of their meetings next week.

The "Castle" Australian Collection, lately sold for the huge sum of \$28,250, contained no less than 366 "Sydney Views" - 25 of which were unused specimens.

Paul Kohl, the famous German dealer and catalogue publisher, who will be remembered as having paid a visit to all the principal American stamp centers two or three years ago, has lately launched a new monthly periodical called the "Philatelistisches Echo" which is expected to take high rank in the philatelic press of Germany.

The United States is the only one of the great nations of the world whose postal system is conducted at a loss.

A fine lightly cancelled specimen of the U. S. 15c, 1869, with inverted centre sold in one of the London auction rooms recently for \$102.50.

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

LOUIS G. QUACKENBUSH,
MANAGING EDITOR.

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From The Editor's Point Of View.

Pruning

the Color Lists.

That able English authority on stamp colors, Mr. Warhurst, has very happily satirized the inanity of much catalogue classification in the matter of shades of color by remarking that in a certain catalogue case where a stamp is listed in three shades, mauve, lilac-brown and lilac, the cataloguer might with equal reason have described them as mauve, mauver and mauvest. The sins of the catalogues in this regard are so numerous and we are all so well accustomed to them that it is but seldom that anyone takes the trouble to hold them up to criticism in the public print. But, really, in view of the deal of talk about cutting this or that or the other out of catalogue lists that is nowadays going on, would it not be well to give some attention to the question of whether it is necessary or desirable to particularize trifling variations of shade to quite the extent at present practiced in the books that tell us what and what not to collect.

Differences in shade are unquestionably the most interesting and important of minor stamp variations. We do not think that even differences in watermark have quite so good a claim upon our attention; and certainly, varieties dependent on "paper" or "perforation" are not to be mentioned in the same breath. If two stamps otherwise identically alike, differ visibly in shade the variation thus presented is of very tangible interest. We would not for a moment attempt to discourage the collection of shades or seem to hold this interesting class of varieties in slight esteem. But at the same time we want to suggest a

decided pruning of the lists of shades that appear in most of the modern catalogues. This listing of lilac-brown and lilac is a case in point. Is lilac-brown so very different from ordinary lilac? Does the term lilac-brown really convey any very definite chromatic image to the mind's eye of the average collector? Again, take a case we light upon at random, where a stamp is assigned four shades, gray green, olive green, yellow green and slate green. Where is the collector who is going to make head or tail of this Joseph's coat of greens? We do not say that if the collector acquired clearly differentiated specimens of these four shades he does not recognize their right to be considered separate and distinct varieties. But we do say that in our judgment the catalogue would answer every reasonable requirement in the matter if, instead of using a line for each of these four shades, it simply said, in one line, "green and shades." What is the need of going into these details? What good purpose is served in doing so? Why not go even farther and sum up, as Mr. Warhurst suggests, a whole bevy of quite plainly distinct shades in the one line "lilac to violet," or whatever the range of tints might be. Separate shade quotations of the sort of which we have cited examples play a considerable part in making catalogues the bulky books they are. Catalogue condensation is one of the crying needs of the hour; and here is a class of varieties whose condensation is easy, practicable and, so far as we can see, without evil effect of any sort.

We are not

Carping Critics.

We sometimes wonder if the gentlemen who compile catalogues do not feel that in such comment and suggestion as the above we trespass on a domain not properly our own. We have, taking one issue with another, devoted a good many columns of space in this paper to suggestions for catalogue revision along various lines. But we wish it understood that not a line of all this matter has been inspired by any ill will or malevolence toward catalogues in general or any catalogue in particular. We are not carping critics, finding fault simply for fault-finding's sake. We recognize that the modern catalogue is at bottom a business proposition and fully accept it as such. But the peculiar position occupied by the leading catalogues in the matter of laying down the limits of collecting makes their attitude on such points as those we have been considering vastly important to the general body of collectors; and we regard it as highly desirable that all debatable points of catalogue policy

should have all possible light thrown upon them from every point of view. It is not merely a threshing out of old straw to take up these matters and turn and twist them about so that we can see all sides of them. Conditions of collecting are continually changing; circumstances alter cases; and the modern demands for catalogue condensation are simply the logical outcome of a situation of affairs which makes simpler modes of collecting an essential to the welfare of Philately.

Philately in

the Y. M. C. A.

In considering ways and means for enlisting the interest of boys and young men in stamp collecting the Scottish Philatelic Society is giving serious attention to a suggestion that for their meeting place they hire a room at the Y. M. C. A. The idea seems to be a decidedly good one. A philatelic society, meeting in such quarters and throwing its meetings open to visitors, could hardly fail to sow the seeds of philatelic interest in the breasts of some of the Y. M. C. A. members who would casually drift in to see what was going on—especially if the meetings are made picturesque by lantern displays and educative stamp exhibits, as is, we believe, the Scottish Society's idea. The membership of the average Y. M. C. A. is largely made up of young fellows just at the right time of life to turn a receptive ear to Philately's siren song. It has over and over again been proven that philatelists must be caught young. And we do not know of a better place to corral youths of the proper refinement and mental calibre than in the building to be found now in all our large cities, devoted to the purposes of this admirable institution.

In England, philatelic societies mostly hold their meetings at hotels in this country, principally in hotel rooms, or rooms in office buildings. In both cases they are rather too remote from the ebb and flow of ordinary life to stand any great probability of gaining the interest and attention of the chance passerby—by which term we do not so much mean the passing multitude in general, as the occasional wayfarer who has collected a bit in a chance-may-happen way, but has no acquaintanceship with collectors and only a very vague knowledge of the fact that there are stamp clubs, stamp journals and the like. It would be well if stamp clubs held their meetings in rooms contiguous to places of public resort, and encouraged and invited the visits of outsiders, making a feature of papers and exhibits which non-philatelic visitors could take an intelligent interest. Of course

TALKS TO DEALERS.

No. 7.

We do not say "put an ad in our paper and see how well it pays". Whether it will pay or not depends on the ad. Our subscribers are keen, active collectors, who spend money on their hobby . . . some in large sums and some in small sums, according to their means. If you will offer them the right things, in the right way, your ad will pay. Otherwise it will not.

If you advertise in *THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY*, we shall want you to change copy often . . . every week if possible. It is unfair both to you and to us to run the same copy week after week . . . because only under very exceptional circumstances can "standing ads" produce any results worth mentioning. Give us a fair chance: give us the right kind of copy and change it often. Advertisers who follow this course are finding the *Stamp-Lovers Weekly* an excellent medium. The number of good advertising mediums for stamp dealers is admittedly very few. Can you afford to neglect one of these few?

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY,
BETHLEHEM, PA.

Philadelphia Philatelic Society.

Branch No. 18.

American Philatelic Association.

President, H. J. M. Cardeza, Jr.

Vice President, A. F. Henkels.

Secretary, J. M. Repplier, 2038 Pine Street.

Treasurer, Charles Beamish.

Sales Manager, Vacant.

The April meeting of the Philadelphia Philatelic Society was held on Wednesday evening, the fifth, at the Hotel Walton, with the following members in attendance:

Messrs. Beamish, Cordeza, Hahman, Henkels, Kellar, Parke, Parrish, Repplier, Lee, Steinmetz, Hollowbush, Hozeltine, Osborne and Hand. In addition the Society was honored with the presence of the following guests: Messrs. W. Steel, A. P. Brown, H. Chapman, J. T. Morris, John Poolgow, E. R. Durborrow, W. B. Hale, Dr. F. L. Amend, Mr. Ziele, of New Zealand; Messrs. Bishop and Kelly.

As there were several fine collections on hand for inspection, it was moved and carried that the order of business be reversed and the auction sale held first. Forty-four lots were offered, many of which fetched good figures, notably United States postage and British Colonials.

Mr. Steinmetz then exhibited his fine collection of United States stamps, proofs, essays, covers and franks. For novel and instructive arrangement, Mr. Steinmetz has achieved a happy result. His entire collection (and it's an especially fine one) is arranged on historical lines. His albums are the loose-leafed variety, and in addition to his pleasing idea of color and shade comparison, he has introduced full-page

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steel engravings of the Presidents and statesmen whose faces adorn our stamps. Where possible, the plates are taken from the paintings from which the engraver secured his subjects. Martha Washington's portrait is the sole representative of the fair sex.

Mr. Poolgow showed a fine general collection, the piece de resistance being a full set of Bergedorf originals. Mr. Poolgow's father was postmaster at Bergedorf, during the stamps' emission, and with the stamps is the letter which accompanied them.

Mr. Ziele had a fine lot of old Australian stamps, as well as those of his own country, New Zealand. One of the handsomest things was a sheet of the one penny yellow-brown and blue, 1898 issue, of the London printing and perforation, which are quiet rare.

Mr. Henkels showed an unusual collection of stamped bank checks of the Civil War period.

On the next meeting, a new competitive exhibition will be held, Egypt being the subject.

We do not hold that members of stamp clubs should go to uncomfortable extremes in matters of this kind. We would not counsel the exchanging of snug, cosy, time-hallowed quarters, perfectly adjusted to the mood and inclination of men who like their philatelic communion on the retired, quiet side, for noisy rooms in some institution of public unrest. But why shouldn't a sort of supplementary meeting place be established in the latter, to use when there was something big going on—some important lecture to be given, some spectacular competition to exhibit to be made, or any other occasion that would naturally draw an unusually large muster of the regularly enrolled stamp men, so that the social coziness of ordinary meetings would, in any case, be largely maintained. On any such occasion the more the merrier—and what philatelist does not take pride in "a big meeting," even if the attendance is watered by the importation of outsiders. We would like to see local stamp societies in general do a little more toward getting out from under the bushel, so to speak; hence these suggestions.

Junior Society Entertains.

At the risk of seeming to lug in the Junior Philatelic Society by the ears on every possible occasion (our regular readers do not need to be told how often we have found cause of late to mention the doings of this energetic body) we must again remark in this connection that Mr. Melville and his confederates seem to us to have just the right idea of how to entertain all, whether members or visitors, who attend the Junior meetings. They "make an evening of it," starting at 6 and ending until 10. Tea is served from 7 to 7: between 7 and 8 is devoted to Sale and Exchange among the members; and from 8 on, the meeting settles down to the stated features of the evening—papers, displays, debate, or whatever else is provided. The members are often gotten together, on other than meeting days, for some special purpose, such as the annual dance, held in the latter part of March; and that even more notable gathering on the 8th of the present month, when the Society visited the Phipps Collection at the British Museum in the afternoon, next had tea together, and wound up by a visit to the Fiscal Society's Exhibition in the evening. Such things as these help wonderfully to hold a society together. We wish a lot of our American stamp societies could take a leaf out of the Junior's book.

The Philatelic School Room.

For The Primary And Intermediate Classes.

Conducted by Oliver Crinkle, N. G. S. Professor of Philately in Knowlton University.
(Continued from No. 4 page 5.)

The Famed

"Circular" British Guianas.

There still remains one more British Colonial issue of 1850 to be considered—the crude, circular shaped stamps of British Guiana, now to be counted among the great rarities of the world. Of all the great gems of Philately, the "Post Office," Mauritius alone has attained higher prices in public competition than some of these circular British Guianas; and in point of actual rarity the latter really outclass the former, the number of known copies of almost any of the 1850 British Guianas, with the exception of the twelve cent, being smaller than in the case of either variety of the Post Office Mauritius. There is a halo of romance and sentiment about Post Office Mauritius stamps, however, which keeps them ahead of all other rarities in point of price. Circular British Guianas have been less often on the market, or perhaps they might have attained equal altitude.

One of the set, you will observe, is priced in the catalogue at \$150.00. The probable marketable value of the others varies from a few hundred dollars per specimen to some thousands; the two cent (of which only ten copies are known) being the scarcest, with the four cent next in rank.

The attainment of stamps as early as 1850 by so remote and relatively unimportant a colony as British Guiana is singular—although, of course, it infinitely exceeded Mauritius (which had had stamps as early as 1847) in population and trade. Still, it preceded Canada, India, and many other far more important portions of the British dominions. British Guiana has never been an especially valuable colony to England, except from the sentimental point of view that it enables her to boast of having possessions in all five continents—since without it she would own no territory in South America. The country at present known as British Guiana has been in possession of England since 1803. The Spaniards were its first occupants, at some time in the sixteenth century; but the Dutch were the first to colonize it on any permanent basis; and owned it, (in addition to Surinam, which they still retain), until 1796, when an expedition from England captured it. By the Peace of Amiens the English were compelled to give it back to the Dutch, but secured it again in 1803 and have held it un-

interruptedly since. The question of the boundaries of the three Guianas—British, Dutch and French—has caused endless contention between the three powers, in which the two adjoining countries, Venezuela and Brazil, have also joined. Each of the five disputants has pressed claims for territory which conflicts with the claims of one or more of the others; and of none of the Guianas have the absolute limits ever been fully determined. The disputes between Great Britain and Venezuela on the boundary question have, in particular, been heated and quarrelsome in the extreme, as readers of the newspapers of a few years back will not need to be reminded. The plantations of British Guiana lie mostly along the sea coast; and sugar and rum are the staples of export. The population is now probably somewhere between three and four hundred thousand, only a small per cent. of which are Europeans. Its population when these first stamps were issued, viz. 1850, was probably not much in excess of a hundred thousand, a mere handful of which were Europeans.

The Acme of Simplicity.

The design of these first stamps is certainly the acme of simplicity—if we can dignify with the name of design so crude a contrivance. An ordinary postmark very evidently served as the inspiration of the artist(?) responsible for its execution. A circle, of such sort as the faltering hand of a schoolboy might have drawn, surrounds the roughly lettered name of the colony, with the face value of the stamp in straight line in the centre—surely the crudest label that ever carried mail matter. Facilities for producing stamps were naturally primitive in such a colony as this at that era. We must not be too critical in such a case. And who, after all, would prefer the circular British Guianas to be other than they are, when their very crudity serves but to add to their picturesqueness and preciousness as emblems of a time when it was a wonderful thing for so remote a country to have any stamps at all, whatever their form, design or method of production.

British Guiana was the second South American country to adopt postage stamps; Brazil being the first.

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500	Do Asia and Africa only.	
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1861	" "	26
1870-71	" "	15

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1463	1890, 2c vermilion on cream	50
1504	1884, 2c red on fawn	25
1509	1884, 2c brown on blue	50
1706	1864, 2c black, die 2	50

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When writing advertisers please mention THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY.

Back to Europe Again.

And now we must go back to Europe again, for 1850 saw Spain also enter the list of stamp-issuing nations. We find on the first issues of Spain the commencement of another series of "Queen's heads," only second in duration of use to the Victorian series of Great Britain. And queer enough it seems, to reflect that this queen, whose profile figured on so many stamp issues, Spanish and Colonial, has only now (1905) been dead a year or two. Although a contemporary of Queen Victoria, Maria Isabel Luisa—crowned as Isabella II. and known to philatelists and all the world simply as Queen Isabella—she was somewhat younger than England's famous Queen. Isabella was born in 1830, the daughter of that same Ferdinand VII who played such a craven part in the time of Napoleon, when the great Corsican had handed over the crown of Spain to his brother Joseph, and France and England were plunged into a bloody war in consequence, and of his fourth wife, Maria Christina. She became Queen of Spain on the death of Ferdinand in 1833, being at that time a trifle less than three years old—her mother, Maria Christina, being made Queen-Regent and becoming, of course, the actual ruler. In order to make Isabella the heir to the throne, her father had decreed,—and the Cortes (the legislative body of Spain, corresponding to our Congress) had confirmed—the abrogation of the ancient Salic Law—a law which excluded females from the succession to the throne. Her uncle, the first Don Carlos, (from whom the Carlist party of Spain takes its name) would have been next in succession had the Salic Law still existed. He had endeavored desperately to have it re-instated before Ferdinand died, but had failed. Unable to prevent the choosing of Isabella as Queen, he raised the standard of civil war, proclaiming himself the only lawful heir to the crown and calling on all who believed in the justice of his cause to aid him in gaining the throne by force of arms. Insurrections in his favor started up in many parts of Spain; and Don Miguel of Portugal, also espoused his cause, furnishing him men, and to some small degree, money as well. This first Carlist rebellion raged violently for seven years, more particularly in the north-eastern provinces; but France and England finally came to the aid of the Queen-Regent, and sent armies which, uniting with hers, effectually ended the rebellion and sent Don Carlos himself flying from the country as a fugitive. This was the first act in the Carlist troubles, destined to play a great part in Spanish history during the latter

half of the Nineteenth Century, as we shall have occasion to note hereafter. But it is scarcely probable that the young Queen was much disturbed in mind over her uncle's rebellion; for even on its conclusion in 1839 she had only attained the tender age of nine years. There were troubles at home, too: in the court and the city of Madrid. The Queen-Regent had been forced in 1837 to grant a more liberal constitution to the Spanish people; but in 1839 she attempted to disregard it in some important points, with such poor success that she, too, had to flee to France, leaving the Regency and the young Queen to the care of one Espartero, a Spanish statesman of the period. In 1813, when but thirteen years of age, Isabella was declared by the Cortes to have attained her majority and was forthwith invested with full power, the Regency being, of course, done away with. Fancy a little girl of thirteen turning her hand to the governing of a great country like Spain! Of course, in actual fact the real power rested in the hands of her Prime Minister, one Narvaez, who was virtually Dictator of Spain for some years. At the age of sixteen, she was married to her cousin, Don Francisco d'Assisi; after an agitation, extending to all the courts of Europe, known in history as the "Spanish Marriage" question. The poor Queen could not choose her own husband; the question was decided for her as an affair of state, in which every power of Europe felt called on to intermeddle. The marriage was fruitful of unhappiness. How true in the average is the old saying, "uneasy lies the head that wears the crown."

In 1850, when these first Spanish stamps appeared, Isabella (then twenty years old) was still, in respect to actual power, a mere figurehead. Does it not give a new interest to her portrait, as shown on these stamps, to view it in the light of all these facts? (To be continued.)

The Secretary of a leading English stamp society rejoices in the somewhat peculiar name of W. Halfpenny.

Virgin Islands is endeavoring to dispose of a large lot of "remainders" of its issue of 1889; and is inviting offers for them from dealers, in any size lot desired the only proviso being that no offer of less than face value will be considered. In the face of the of the recent total failure of the effort to sell certain St. Helena remainders at face, we anticipate no great rush for these Virgin Islands left-overs.

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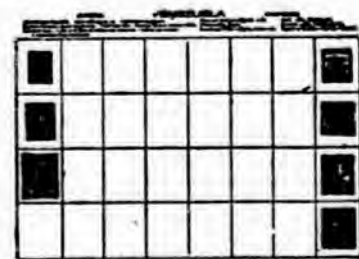
GREECE.

1886	1	1	brown	No. 64	\$0 02	
"	5	1	green	" 66	01	
"	10	1	yellow	" 67	02	
"	25	1	blue	" 69	02	
"	50	1	gray green	" 71	03	
"	1	dr	gray	" 72	04	
1889	40	1	blue	" 98	08	
"	1	dr	gray	" 99	07	
1891-92	40	1	blue	" 115	05	
"	1	dr	gray	" 116	05	
1900	20	on 25	blue	" 129	04	
"	40	on 2	bistre	" 132	05	
"	50	on 40	salmon	" 133	05	
"	1	dr	on 40	violet	" 134	10

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A Weekly Magazine, issued in interest of Stamp Collecting (in 19th. Volume) 50c per year, 10 weeks on trial 10c.

C. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUB CO.
 ST. LOUIS, MO.

stamp Collecting," a manual for beginners, which we have frequently spoken of in these columns as a most valuable and practical aid to the young collector. He is, moreover, the compiler of a series of very useful and well-known English albums; Secretary and mainstay of the International Philatelic Union, England's only national society; and collector and philatelic enthusiast of thirty-five years standing. Mr. Hinton, we are glad to add, is a generalist, and collects used stamps chiefly. It is good to see men of Mr. Hinton's philatelic experience and attainments sticking to this grand old style of collecting in these days when "specialism" and "un-used" are so much to the fore.

"Queries and Replies" occupies a couple of pages to the advantage of the seeker after knowledge on abstruse philatelic points. The Junior's Exhibition is given an airy and not very serious, but, withal, sympathetic review by a correspondent terming himself "an outsider." "New Issues" have their accustomed place, succeeded by a letter from Mr. Warhurst on the ever vexatious question of uniform catalogue classification of stamp colors—all catalogues at present seeming to agree to disagree on the names of certain shades of color whenever they can possibly do so. Mr. Warhurst believes that the leading English-speaking societies should unite in compiling an authoritative catalogue, giving no prices, but settling once for all, and on a correct basis, the color name of each stamp; and that the dealers' catalogues should confine themselves to simply quoting prices for the varieties thus listed, without making any attempt at any classifications whatever on their own initiative. The idea is, we fear, Utopian. If such an arrangement could be made, the present difficulties of the collector in properly naming and placing shades would, of course, vanish; but the "if" is a very large one.

Rather Thin Number.

The Stamp Collector's March number is rather thin. The regular departments all seem to be somewhat abbreviated; and there is not much in the way of special articles to serve as an offset. Several pages are given over to a paper by that constant contributor, Mr. Heginbottom; his subject being "Victorian vs. Edwardian Issues of Stamps." Assuming that a young English collector has decided to confine his efforts to British stamps only and to still further simplify matters by either ceasing with the last stamp of the Victorian era, or else commencing only with the first stamp of the Edwardian era, Mr. Heginbottom en-

deavors to ascertain which of the two courses would be the wiser. By an elaborate chain of argument, and the citation of a goodly number of prices and statistics, Mr. Heginbottom reaches the conclusion that the Edwardian issues should by all means be the choice—a conclusion with which we take liberty of disagreeing. The older issues may average more per piece in price, the difficulty of getting specimens in good condition may be great, completeness of even an approximate sort may be impossible—but in intrinsic interest the Victorian issues are so infinitely richer than the Edwardian as to make Mr. Heginbottom's plea, to our mind, almost ridiculous. The stamps that are easiest to get are not the stamps that are most prized. This is a fact which Mr. Heginbottom, in his argument that the accessibility of Edwardian issues is the main point in their favor, seems to have entirely overlooked.

In place of its usual photograph of some philatelic celebrity, the S. C. this time treats us to a reproduction of the first page of a pamphlet issued in 1681 in behalf of Dockwra's London Penny Post. The antiquarian and philatelic interest of this document (Dockwra impressed on all letters carried by his Post, a peculiar form of stamp or postmark, which is held by some authorities to be the great-grand-parent of Sir Rowland Hill's adhesive stamp) leads us to reproduce its wording on another page. The quaintness of the phraseology and the naivete of the argument will, we think, both amuse and interest our readers.

A Letter From A Lover.

I think THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY is the best of any stamp paper I have ever read. I got over 200 stamp papers, published in the last two years, to read while laid up sick, and I consider THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY away ahead of any of them.

Some way THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY has just exactly what you want to know about, and has it in shape so you can learn from the article.

Your paper is all O. K. Keep it up the way you are going and you will please all of us, Can't help but do it.

We learn from Nonantum Stamp Co., that the following new stamps have been issued on multiple crown and C. A. paper. Gold Coast 2p; Lagos 6p; Natal 1/2p; Morocco Agencies 10c.

Also, that Bosnia has issued a set of Postage Due stamps. The 1 heller in red and black on yellow tinted background is quite handsome.

The Earl of Crawford's wonderful collection of United States stamps will, when its mounting is fully completed, occupy no less than 40 large volumes.

Adlets

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 " 15c " 1879 9c St. Mort cat 83. 85c
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Free a 19th. Century \$1.50 Scotts Album to the one making the largest purchase from my 50c approval sheets before May 20th. To all applying a set of Venezuela 1898, * cent. 42c. C. B. Rogers, So. Orange, N. J.

107 All diff. Foreign, Cuba, Nyassa, Guatemala etc. 10 cents. 1,000 Hinges 7 cents. W. W. Dayton, Nashotah, Wisconsin.

Special!!! Do you want good Exchange Correspondents in countries such as Camerouns, German E. & S. W. Africa, Tahiti, Paraguay etc., etc.? Then you should send me your name and address, and commercial reference with 5c. (to help pay for this ad) and I will send you particulars about the "C.C.C." which has over 2,000 members, scattered all over the world. Address: A. W. Dunning, [C. C. C. 1916], Newton, Mass.

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Bargains in U. S. Revenue Stamps, 1862, 3c Telegraph, green, Imperforate, catalogue price \$2. My price for a copy in extra fine condition \$1. for one in average good condition 65c., for a good looking copy repaired, or for one not repaired but not as fine as my average, only 35c. C. F. ROTHFUCHS, 3 Savin St., Roxbury, Mass.

Precancelled Stamps, are you one of the many who collect them? If not start now, and send for a selection on approval. For ten different whole Envelopes, wrappers or Cards with a permit number or I will give twenty five varieties of Precancelled stamps or will exchange Permit. D. C. NEEFUS, Hudson, New York.

U. S. Post.	50c 1894	\$0 15.	50c 1892-3	\$0 06
" "	\$1.00 "	45.	\$1.00 "	10
" "	2.00 "	1 65.	2.00 "	1 15
" "	5.00 "	2 25.	5.00 "	1 00
" "	.50 Col.	24.	.50 Col	22

All in finest possible condition. Postage 2c extra under \$0.25 net. Wanted to buy 5c Omahas, 5c St. Louis and 8c Prns. F B Kirby 227 Arnold St., New Bedford, Mass.

C. H. Roberts, 31 Litchfield St., Walsall, England, Exchanges Stamps with anyone outside British Isles, can send good ones in return.

The Stamp-Lovers Weekly is the best paper published of its kind. Couldn't get along without it. W. F. Van Dusen.

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PHILATELIC SOCIETY.**



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 C. E. Severn, Vice President.
 Chas. F. Mann, Secretary, 343 Rush Street.
 E. C. Dodd, Treas., 332 South Ashland Ave., 14th Fl., Chicago, Ill.
 A. F. Boehm, Manager Circulating Sales and Exchange Department, 1201 Turner Avenue.
 Dr. F. B. Merrill, Examiner of Sales Books, 100 State Street.
 F. N. Massoth, Manager Auction Sales, 1149 Marquette Building.
 Dr. F. B. Merrill, Manager Open Exchange.
 A. F. Boehm, Librarian.
 Dr. F. B. Merrill, Counterfeit Detector.

The 49th. regular meeting of the Chicago Philatelic Society was held in the Society's Club-Room 151 Washington street on Thursday evening April 6, 1905. President Mudge called the meeting to order with 21 members present. The following bills were ordered paid.

Rent month of April	\$25 00
Gas	60
Premium of Bonds of Treas. & Sales Supt	7 50
Printing for Treasurer	2 00
House Com. expenses	3 56
Total	\$38 66

The following applications were ordered posted.

B. D. Butler for active membership
 G. G. Bergman for passive "
 D. Faucett " " "
 W. G. Fritz " " "

The resignation of F. Colson of Norwalk, Ohio was ordered posted.

The following resignations were accepted.

C. L. Annan Passive member No. 119
 J. W. Deglmann " " " 279
 C. E. Hussman " " " 62
 A. Holland Active " " 104

The membership of R. Robinson was changed from Active to Passive.

The following members were dropped for non payment of dues.

G. H. Dickinson, A. P. Hosmer, Max Haenel, W. H. McDonald, D. B. Stephens, C. R. Spaulding, C. R. Treadwell, R. L. Wickes, P. J. Flanders, A. C. Brooks, C. B. Bostwick, J. A. Craig F. Cushing, H. L. Erwin, O. E. Heine- mann, W. H. McDonnell, P. D. Peterson, W. S. Pelovbet, W. Schultz, W. J. Stevens, H. R. Shields, G. H. Still- man, T. J. Sainz, H. S. Vanderburgh, L. P. Waeglin, B. M. Winkleman, S. E. Cole.

The Bonds of the Treasurer & Sales Supt. were approved.

Mr. W. H. Adams was given per- mission to give the Chicago Philatelic Society Lantern Slide Lecture before the Oak Park, Y. M. C. A.

The adjustment of the claim of F. W. Pickard against the Exchange De- partment was referred to the Secretary.

A hearty vote of thanks was tendered the Scott Stamp & Coin Co., for dona- tion of the reference list of the stamps of Panama.

Mr. C. E. Severn reported progress in regard to the Stan Zajicek matter. The Treasurer reports as follows.

Cash on hand March 1, 05	\$69 45
Cash received during March	45 25
Total	\$114 70
Disbursements	43 05

Cash on hand April 1, 1905 \$71 65

The Sales Supt. reports as follows.
 300 books on hand March 1, 1905
 valued at \$5,161 13

39 books retired (from which sales amt. to \$167.78) valued at 389 33

261 books on hand April 1, 1905
 valued at \$4771 80

\$3.89 insurance remitted to Treasurer.

Mr. Rosenthal's exhibition and lec- ture on die varieties of U. S. envelopes was enjoyed by all present. The meet- ing then adjourned. Next meeting April 20th. 1905.

The Sales Supt. desires to call atten- tion to the fact that the Dept. is now in good running order and members who are not receiving circuits are mis- sing some great snaps. Members hav- ing good duplicates would do well to place them in the Dept. as sales from books marked right are always satis- factory. Information regarding the Dept will be promptly furnished by A. F. Boehm, Sales Supt. 1201 Turner Ave., Chas. F. Mann, Secy.

British Central Africa.

1891-1894

8 pence, used	-	80 24
1 shilling, unused	-	24
2 " " "	-	50
3 " " "	-	50
4 " " "	-	1 10
5 " " "	-	1 10
Bavaria 1870 12kr unused	-	3 00

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10	1p green	51	50 00
11	2p yellow	52	50 00
11b	2p orange	53	50 00
12	4p blue	54	50 00
13	6p maroon	55	50 00
14	1sh rose	56	50 00
15	2sh, 6p, violet	57	50 00
16	2 1/2p rose	58	50 00
20	5p carmine red	59	50 00
21	2 1/2p on 2p orange	60	50 00
22	3p on 2p orange green surcharge	61	50 00
23	2 1/2p black	62	50 00
24	1sh on 1sh rose	63	50 00
25	2 1/2p on 2sh 6p	64	50 00
27	2 1/2p on 1p green	65	50 00
28	1 1/2p green	66	50 00
29	1p red brown	67	50 00

Provisional Government.

30	1/2p green	68	50 00
31	2p orange	69	50 00
32	4p blue	70	50 00
33	2sh 6p violet	71	50 00
34	1p red brown	72	50 00
35	5p scarlet	73	50 00
36	6p maroon	74	50 00
37	1sh rose	75	50 00

German Dominion.

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Entered as second-class matter December 17, 1904, at the post office at Bethlehem, Pa., under the Act of Congress of March 8, 1879.

VOL. II.

BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA, APRIL 22, 1905.

No. 6.

Dominican Republic.

100 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50c, 1p unused o. g.	35
100 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50c., unused o. g.	25
100 2 on 50, unused o. g.	75
2 on 1p " "	75
10 on 50 " "	75
10 on 1p " "	75
3c No. 142 " "	10
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Official 1 on 2 " "	10
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All the above unused o. g. fine \$3.50.
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Send us your want-list and we will quote prices.

The stamps are all used copies.

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I will sell you a fine copy except that it has no gum or is slightly off center for \$5.00.

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LONDON LETTER.

Fred J. Melville.

Australia has at last come within the range of the new Imperial postage scheme and we can now send letters from here to Australia at the rate of one penny per half ounce, instead of two pence half penny. With the exception of Rhodesia and British Bechuanaland the whole of the numerous colonies and parts of our empire are within reach of a penny letter. Australia is the last of greater colonies. And even now the Commonwealth does not grant the same privilege on letters coming from its shores homeward. It is only a one sided arrangement so far. The home letter rate has also been reduced by one-half penny, and is now therefore two pence per half ounce.

The Victoria League of this country has instituted a novel and interesting prize contest amongst juniors. The League is inviting essays from boys preparing for the public schools or the navy on "How the Union Jack came to be the National Flag." For the best essay received the prize is to be a complete set of Mafeking stamps valued at between £20 and £30. There is nothing to equal a prize competition for arousing the interest and enthusiasm of boys, and I hope when other similar leagues are inviting essays from boys they will adopt a similar prize, as it is sure to add to the interest taken in our hobby by the juniors.

Some folks seem pretty fond of setting the postal officials pretty tasks, though these officers do not, I think, now take so much pride in carrying them through as they used to do. Many a stamp collector has tried the experiment of sending a postcard round the world, and latterly they have been finding out that the post office is returning their cards without their having completed the journey. A card has, however, just arrived back in Claygate, in Surrey, which has made an interesting tour. It was dispatched on December 19, 1904, from Esher, Surrey, and reached Batavia, Java, on January 20, 1905; its subsequent calls being Yokohama, Japan, on February 25; San Francisco on March 3; Ottawa, Canada, on March 13, and it arrived back at Claygate on March 23.

The first part of Stanley Gibbons' new catalogue, dealing with the adhesives of the British Empire, has been out some days now. It is very much enlarged though there is no appreciable difference in the thickness of the book, which is printed on strong, thin paper. The size of page is increased and renders the book less handy for slipping into the limited space of the collector's coat pocket. Outside the new catalogue presents a more flashy appearance than heretofore, being adorned (?) with gilt. The illustrations throughout the book, however, are a great improvement and the compact little volume is well worth the extra twelve cents asked for it this year. With regard to the price-

ing, I can say nothing, as I have already explained my views and my ignorance in such matters. I am told however that there is a pretty general increase in the better class Colonial stamps.

Writing of the new catalogue recalls a note I have read only this morning in the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly. In the organ of the London Philatelic Society, Mr. M. P. Castle describes the head of the firm of Gibbons as "the Marshall Oyama of Philately." Will anyone, asks the Editor of the S. C. F. pointedly, be rude enough to suggest a Philatelic Kuropatkin?

At the time of writing, the Exhibition of British Colonial Fiscals is open at Exeter Hall. This show has been admirably organized by the Fiscal Philatelic Society, which has amongst its members a body of very earnest and enthusiastic workers for philately. The catalogue of the Exhibition is in itself a splendid testimony to the substantial work done by these excellent collectors, a work the effects of which on Fiscal philately are likely to be enduring. I hope to send a full report in a few days, but as the judging is just over, I am able now to state the results of the competition for the medal in the chief prizes.

In Class I, which is for collections of Ceylon, India, Indian Native States, New Zealand or Straits Settlement (excluding Malay States.) the first prize was gained by W. Morley for his Ceylons, the second prize by Mr. C. S. F. Crofton for India, and diplomas
(Continued on page 3.)

THE STAMP-LOVERS WEEKLY

BETHLEHEM, PA.

A MAGAZINE-NEWSPAPER devoted to Stamp Collecting and Kindred Hobbies.

LOUIS G. QUACKENBUSH,
MANAGING EDITOR.

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E. T. PARKER, Publisher.

From The Editor's Point Of View.

The

Fiscal Exhibition.

At the time of writing we have heard no news from the London Fiscal Exhibition and are as yet unable to say whether it fared well or ill with the plucky promoters thereof. But we feel decidedly certain that when the returns are in it will be found that the Fiscal Philatelic Society has scored a great artistic, if not a financial, success. Whether collectors will visit such an exhibition in as great numbers as where the objects on view are postage stamps seems to us rather doubtful. Perhaps the very novelty and unconventional character of the show may have served to draw good crowds. But whether or not this is the case, the Exhibition is certainly a notable milestone in the hitherto rather uneventful history of fiscal Philately.

Fiscalism has not much of a past; but we are inclined to believe that it has a good deal of a future. Those who collect Fiscals can marshal a formidable stock of arguments in favor of their specialty. Fiscal stamps are, in the main, equally as fine in coloring and engraving as postage stamps. In fact, in many cases their greater size has permitted the attaining of even finer artistic effects. Again, they are cheap as compared with postage stamps; not so much on account of greater supply as through lesser demand. And this is a factor in their favor which cannot lightly be set aside. Add to this the virtual absence of counterfeits and speculative issues and one can easily see why the fiscal field seems so inviting to many of its followers who are converted postalists.

We regret to see a tendency to import into Fiscalism the same microscopic methods of classification that postage stamp collecting has groaned under of late years. The big fiscalists seem to be just as ready to take note of infinitesimal variations of paper, type, et al, as their postal brethren—a particularly serious mistake in Fiscalism (much more so, indeed, than in postal Philately) because even the major varieties of fiscal stamps form a monumentally numerous army, requiring for their full enumeration catalogues so voluminous as to offer little or no relief to the variety-ridden postal philatelist. Fiscalism had far better stick to the main types and leave the minor variety incubus in the hands of those who nursed and reared it. Postal Philately can carry considerable weight for age and still keep up a pretty lively canter; but Fiscalism is too young a pursuit to get along well under a similar load.

The Drawback to Fiscalism.

The minor variety question does not as yet, however, cut any great figure in Fiscalism, because in the virtual absence of handbooks and definite lists (in the case of only two or three countries have the fiscal issues of those countries been the subject of published volumes, while only the upper ten of Fiscaldom collect according to the lists of M. Forbin P' Hoste and Walter Morley) most fiscalists collect on the catch-as-catch-can principle. All's fish that comes to their net, and there is no disposition to indulge in the niceties of classification which rule postal Philately. The principal drawback to Fiscalism is not a practical, but a purely sentimental one—the fact, namely, that the designs of fiscal stamps run a great deal along one rut and do not, taking them all in all, cover so wide a field of interest as postage stamps. Fiscal stamps are less intimately related in design to men and things. Nations have not bestowed upon their designs, as a rule, (speaking now of the significance and emblematic character of those designs, not their mechanical excellence) the same amount of consideration received by postal issues. The fiscal stamp is an article of purely domestic use; the postage stamp, on the other hand, goes forth to no small extent among other nations—a distinction of decided weight and moment. National pride is involved in the choosing of postage stamp designs; national prestige and credit enter into the question. The selection of postage stamp designs has been from the first, in fact, more or less a matter of state. Kings, and Presidents, and high dignitaries of every

kind do not disdain to concern themselves with such questions. Cabinets and legislative bodies deliberate over them. And the result is that postage stamps in the average stand for more than have more meaning, possess in their designs a more vital, living significance than fiscal stamps. And for this reason, if for no other, it may be accepted as morally certain that fiscal stamp collecting will always have to play second fiddle to stamp collecting—though it is destined, we believe, to grow greatly in popularity and prestige in the future.

A Fascinating Field of Inquiry.

By the way, what a fascinating field of inquiry awaits the philatelic scholar who will devote his life to the study of the genesis of stamp designs—to the influences causing the selection of the particular symbol or form of design or portrait chosen for stamp exploitation—to the proposed designs that were rejected and the reasons therefor—in short, to the whole inside history of stamp design, with especial attention to the preliminary period of discussion that precedes actual decision. We get bits of light on such matters now and then. A good deal of interesting information (along with much conjecture, of scarcely less interest) along these lines is scattered about here and there in the philatelic literature of the last half century. And it might all be woven into a narrative of such value and interest as to give lasting fame to the man or men responsible for the performance of the task. Why do philatelic students and writers plough over and over again with patient care fields grown sterile from incessant cultivation; when there is such a world of work to be done in making plain the history of stamp designs. Philately must, as time goes by, turn more and more to the study of the significance of designs instead of the circumstances of production. The latter field has been done to death. It is daily growing more sterile, flat and profitless. Of what doubt profit a man to know that in a certain year the state of Thingumbub changed the perforation of its stamps the frequency of an eyelash and to be profoundly ignorant of the meaning and history of the designs?

The Size of Stamps.

We have spoken, elsewhere on this page, of the difference in size of postage and fiscal stamps, taking the general average of both classes; and of the fact that the relatively larger size of many fiscals gives greater scope for really artistic effects. In this connection it is of interest to note that the

average size of postage stamps, figuring in the issues of the whole world, has increased considerably of late years. The commemorative issue, the landscape stamp, and others of this ilk have demanded more room for the attaining of anything like a satisfactory effect; and the number of large size stamps to be found in the albums of those of us who give modern issues equal favor with the older ones is becoming very noticeable. The tendency toward larger-sized stamps does not exactly help the symmetry of a collection, unless a blank album is used; but, on the other hand, it lends variety to the view our album pages present, and adds to the general picturesqueness of collecting. The extra large stamp is vastly to be preferred, from a philatelic standpoint, to the abnormally small stamp. The later, in a cancelled state, are veritable eyesores in most collections, because, no matter how carelessly the canceling mark may have been applied, there is little chance of the main portion of the design escaping defacement. Philately owes much to the haste and carelessness of canceling clerks, which, in unnumbered thousands of cases has brought the main portion of the canceling mark on the envelope, smudging only a corner or so of the stamp itself. And this is only one of the reasons why good, sizable stamps are better liked by philatelists in general than tiny ones. Perhaps most current stamps do not need to be any larger than they are; but we wish current canceling marks might be made a goodish bit smaller.

LONDON LETTER.

were given in this class for W. Morley's Ceylon, C. S. F. Crofton's India, W. Morley's Indian Native States, A. Halliere's New Zealand, and W. Morley's Straits Settlements.

Class II was for Canada and provinces, Griqualand, Mauritius, Natal, Orange River Colony, Transvaal. The first prize went to Gilbert & Kohler for Mauritius, the second to T. P. Dorman for Canada. Diplomas to T. P. Dorman (Canada), W. Morley (Griqualand), W. Morley (Natal), W. Morley (Orange River Colony), W. Morley (Transvaal) and Gilbert & Kohler (Mauritius.)

The prize for Class X (telegraphs) was given for Mr. Morley's Natal.

In Class VIII, for rare stamps, the first prize was given to Gilbert & Kohler, the second to W. Morley.

Exeter Hall is covered in every corner with the exhibits which are exceedingly numerous, and the Exhibition which is only just in its early hours at time of writing, is deserving

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No. 7.

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of every success. No doubt many converts to "fiscallitis" will be made during these two days at Exeter Hall.

The World's Greatest Stamp Collector.

(For the benefit of our younger readers, we reprint from the Australian Philatelist the following short article concerning the famous Herr von Ferrary.)

The wealthiest and most lavish collector of all is M. Phillip la Renotiere, of Paris, known to most collectors as Herr von Ferrary. When his philatelic life comes to be written it will be found to be a most remarkable one, full of eccentricity and romance. For many years he has occupied a leading position in stamp circles. To many dealers he has been a veritable gold mine. Some years ago a report of his death got into circulation, and when a certain London dealer heard of it he dropped down in a dead faint, and had to be taken home in a cab. To him it meant the loss of a serious portion of his livelihood. If a great rarity turns up it is forthwith offered, by the earliest post, to the great Parisian at a good round figure. If he returns it, then it comes down considerably in quotable value, and is sent out in turn to less wealthy specialists, decreasing in price till it finds a buyer.

M. la Renotiere is the possessor of great wealth, inherited from his mother. But his father's still greater wealth he absolutely refuses to touch, because, in his opinion, it had not been acquired by strictly just means. Neither would he wear the honors of dukedom to which he fell heir. He indignantly renounced his father's millions and his father's title. For

years he earned his living as a tutor, and to this day he insists on being addressed as plain M. la Renotiere. He has devoted his life to the collection of postage stamps, and regularly visits London and the capitals of Europe inspecting stamp dealers' stocks in his never-ceasing search for gems to add to his great collection. Two secretaries are continually at work arranging and re-arranging it, and a large room is specially set apart for its care and preservation. It is estimated that during the past thirty-five years he has spent close on to a quarter of a million sterling (or \$1,250,000) on his philatelic treasures. This greatest of all great stamp collections is destined by its owner, at his death, to be handed over to an Austrian museum.

The Valhalla Lord Crawford, Owner.

A yachting note in a philatelic journal may seem an anomaly; but when the owner of the yacht is also one of the world's most distinguished philatelists the case is altered materially. We deem it therefore of interest to note the fact that the "Valhalla," owned by the Earl of Crawford, President of the London Philatelic Society, is of much the largest tonnage of any yacht that will compete in the coming international race for the Kaiser's cup, which is to start at Sandy Hook on the afternoon of May 15. The "Valhalla" is a giant yacht of 1500 tons, carries a crew of 130 men, is 237 feet between perpendiculars, has 37 feet beam, and is 20 feet deep. In general design she is the replica of an old privateer. The "Valhalla" was formerly owned by Count Boni de Castellane, from whom Lord Crawford purchased her several years ago, and in which he has since cruised to almost every corner of the world.

The Philatelic School Room.

For The Primary And Intermediate Classes.

Conducted by Oliver Crinkle, N. G. S. Professor of Philately in Knowlton University.

(Continued from No. 5 page 5.)

A Related Paragraph.

Before closing up the books on the stamp issues of 1850 or earlier, and commencing the study of the latter half of the nineteenth century, we must pause a moment to note two or three second issues of countries whose first issues have been previously treated. Hardly any of the countries who commenced issuing stamps in the decade between 1840 and 1850 found it necessary to change the design of their stamps before the conclusion of the decade. Great Britain, as we have previously seen, added a couple of high values, of a new rectangular type of design, to her original set of 1840. But, other than this, in only two or three cases did the designs originally chosen fail to fill all requirements up to the time of which we are writing. The exceptions, now to be noted, are to be found in the stamps of Mauritius, Switzerland and Brazil. The first named superseded her 1847 issue within a year, replacing it with a Queen's head design (A 2) almost identical save for the change from the words "Post Office" to "Post Paid." These "Post Paid" Mauritius are of no such overwhelming rarity as the "Post Office" type of that ilk; but they belong to the rank of valuable stamps, for all that, as you may see from the prices annexed in the catalogue to the various varieties. Perhaps the next best thing to owning a "Post Office" Mauritius is to possess a copy of its "Post Paid" brother; at any rate the latter are much sought after, and much prized in the possession.

The First

Error of Spelling.

The "Post Paid" Mauritius stamps possess the additional distinction of being the first to bear an error of spelling—perhaps a rather dubious honor. Errors of this kind have latterly become so common—more particularly in the case of surcharged varieties—as to be considered one of the inevitabilities of a certain sort of stamp production; and are justly held in very scant respect by the general body of collectors. This error of 1848, however, was manifestly not "made for philatelists," since there was no collecting of stamps worth speaking of at that time. It was simply a blunder, due to carelessness or overhaste. Some latter-day "errors" are of the same sort; but far too many are committed

intentionally, for the purpose of producing a rare variety. The man who invests his money in any "errors" produced within the past dozen years (with the possible exception of errors of color) is putting his money into very doubtful property.

In 1849, some higher values were added to the hitherto very limited Mauritius set, the design (A3) being decidedly odd and picturesque. The female figure represents Britannia, who is armed with shield and spear, typifying the military strength of the British Empire. She is seated on bales of merchandise, and in the background is a clipper ship of the period, emblematic of her supremacy as mistress of the seas and of the vast extent of British commerce. The design was a highly appropriate one for British Colonial use (It figured afterwards on the stamps of Barbados, also), from an emblematic point of view; but did not possess the artistic dignity of the Queen's heads, by which it was speedily supplanted. It remains, however, one of the most interesting variations from the familiar Queen's head type that can be found in the whole range of British Colonial issues.

Switzerland

and Brazil.

To the 1850 issue of Brazil we need give little attention. It adhered to the numeral type, using less "gingerbread" in the background than before, with the result that the numerals stand out much more plainly than in either of the previous issues. The size, furthermore, was made smaller still; these 1850 Brazilians being about as tiny as any stamps ever issued. All these Brazilian numerals are very odd in appearance; and possess, therefore, the interest that attaches to all curious bypaths of stamp design. In all her later issues, Brazil presents us with no stamps really so piquant and interesting as these early numerals.

The Switzerland stamps of 1849 and 1850 include, as you may see by referring to the catalogue, ten different designs; all the same in artistic theme and differing only in details of treatment. The Helvetian cross, the state symbol of the Swiss Confederation, occupies, in each case, the centre of the design, surrounded by various styles of frame forming a sort of shield, which is, in most of the designs, appropriately surmounted by a post horn. The ornamental work

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covering the balance of the space adds to their distinctive individuality. They are quite different in general style from any other stamps of the period—a fact which adds infinitely to their interest.

The Issues of 1851.

The issues of 1851 are varied and numerous. One important European state, Italy and four minor ones, Denmark, Baden, Wurtemberg and Tuscany, came into the fold; while in other parts of the world, Canada, New Brunswick, Hawaii and Trinidad date their use of stamps from that year. In addition, there were several new issues on the part of countries that had entered the arena previously—of which, more hereafter.

Baden and Wurtemberg were last to adopt stamps of all the German states of any importance; Prussia, Bavaria, Hanover and Saxony having already as we have seen, taken up the system. Wurtemberg in 1851 covered practically the same territory as at present it is now, it need scarcely be said, one of the independent kingdoms of the German Empire) and its population approximated a million and a half. In power and importance among the Germanic states, it ranked next below Bavaria, which in its turn, as we have seen, was infinitely less powerful than either Prussia or Austria. During the early half of the nineteenth century Wurtemberg occupied the highest position politically in her history. That history, so far as is known, dates from the eleventh century when the Counts of Wurtemberg owned a castle or two, and some small subsidiary territory. The landed possessions of the house multiplied with the passing of time and by the sixteenth century the extent of their territory justified the Emperor Maximilian in making it a duchy. Early in the nineteenth century, its power and population having meanwhile greatly increased, it was raised to the still higher status of an Electorate. Napoleon conquered Wurtemberg in 1800; but afterward gave it back to its then ruler, the Elector Frederick, who became an ally of the French Emperor, and aided the latter in his war against the Austrians. For this service Napoleon further enlarged Wurtemberg and made it a kingdom which it has ever since remained—being now, of course, joined with the other Germanic states in the modern German Empire, but without any loss of its individuality in matters of internal administration. Its king at the time its first stamps appeared was William I, one of the most liberal and enlightened monarchs of his time, whose reign covered a period of nearly fifty years (1816-1864) of prosperity and comparative peace. Wurtemberg

might therefore with excellent reason have followed Prussia's example and placed on her new stamps the emblems of her king; but she chose to follow instead the precedent set by Bavaria (and hitherto adhered to by all the German stamp-issuing states save Prussia) and adorn her stamps with some non-committal form of design. The design used (A 1, Wurtemberg) is one of the least happy to be found among old German stamps; but is notable for the quaint, old fashioned type of lettering employed. In general character the design, as may be seen, bears a considerable family resemblance to other old German issues of its time.

The Grand Duchy of Baden.

The grand duchy of Baden, which also commenced issuing stamps in 1851, is in area not so very much smaller than Wurtemberg, but does not figure one half so conspicuously in German history as the latter. Like Wurtemberg, Baden owes a good deal of its present territory to Napoleon, who never scrupled to reward his German allies by turning over to them surrounding German principalities conquered by his armies. Baden figures in history under that name from the twelfth century. Its most distinguished ruler was Charles Frederic, Count of Baden, who, by favoring the policy of Napoleon and joining the Confederation of the Rhine, doubled his possessions in extent and population and acquired the title of Grand Duke, which dignity the rulers of Baden continue to hold. The grandson of Charles Frederic, who succeeded him in 1811, married Napoleon's adopted daughter. On the death of this prince in 1830, his brother Leopold became Grand Duke, and still ruled over Baden at the time of which we write. His reign had, however, been so far from being a peaceful one that only two years before a long series of troubles with his people had culminated in his being obliged to flee from the duchy for his life. The revolutionary spirit of 1848, more than once hitherto alluded to in these semi-historical studies, plunged Baden into seething turmoil. A revolution was stirred up, with the object of turning Baden into a republic; and the army siding with the insurgents, the Grand Duke had no resource save flight. Before a republican government could be perfected, however, Prussia sent an army into Baden in the Duke's behalf and, crushing the insurgent forces, reinstated him on his throne.

This was late in 1849; and less than two years afterward Baden's first stamps were issued. These stamps (A 1 Baden) greatly resemble the Wur-

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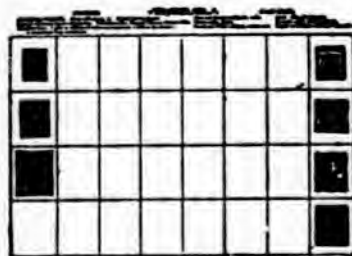
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temberg issue of the same year—as you will see by comparison. Both have the numeral of value as central feature; the peculiar old German lettering at the top and bottom; and the almost indecipherable little side inscriptions. The ornamental work on the two issues also manifestly belongs to the same general school of design. Whether one copied from the other, or whether both were the work of the same artist, I am unable to say; but the coincidence is certainly interesting.

(To be continued.)

A Page of Precept

For Young Collectors.

(Conducted by the Editor.)

Variations in the Classification Scheme.

A number of readers have written us suggesting variations of classification in the collecting-by-subjects plan, which differ more or less from any of our own suggestions along these lines. One correspondent thinks it would be interesting to form groups representing the best work of the leading stamp printers of the world: first, for instance, a De La Rue group showing as many different designs as possible of the numerous British and British Colonial issues turned out by that famous firm, but paying no attention to De La Rue varieties that depend solely upon color; then, a Waterlow group; then, a Perkins, Bacon group; then a Bradbury, Wilkinson group; then an American Bank Note Co. group; then a Hamilton Bank Note Co. group, and so on to the end of the chapter. The idea is a good one and fits in well with the general scope of the collecting-by-subjects plan.

Another correspondent suggests that a picturesque and interesting collection might be formed by arranging one's stamps entirely according to year of issuance—marshalling the issues year by year much in the same manner as in our "Philatelic School Room" series of articles. Under this plan sets would be kept together, but there would otherwise be no classification by countries. Yet another reader offers the plan of classifying entirely by denomination—having first, say, a dozen pages containing all stamps of the face value of a half penny; then another section devoted exclusively to stamps whose face value is one cent, one penny, or any other item of coinage bearing the simple figure one, and so on. And many other variations of one sort or another have been submitted which it is not necessary just now to tabulate here.

The significant point about these suggestions is the evidence they afford

that in branching out into this new system of collecting the ingenious collector will be able to devise all sorts of classifications of his own, according to the circumstances in which he finds himself in regard to material. He will be the architect of his own collection, making his general plan conform to its limitations, instead of to the schemes of arrangement that would be laid down for much larger and finer collections. One of the drawbacks of collecting according to the printed album has always been that it stifled all originality of classification and arrangement on the part of the collector. Despite its great and manifest convenience to the beginner it is open to the reproach of being a bit too mechanical. Half the fun of collecting is in sorting over your stamps and mounting them in your album; and that fun ought to be much greater still if you can arrange them as fancy wills, untrammelled by printed spaces. The way it goes nowadays when a collector abandons his printed album, and remounts his collection in a blank one, he uses pretty much the same methods of spacing and arrangement as in his old album. Probably this will always be so, unless collectors in the mass do get to collecting by subjects instead of by countries and are thereby obliged to discard all their old ideas of arrangement and strike out for themselves.

The Pleasure of Re-Arrangement.

The pleasure of re-arranging a collection of any size, in a new book and along a new plan, ought in the case of any really enthusiastic collector, to be very great. Taking the stamps out of the old album, sorting them over into various classes, deciding on plans of arrangement—all this should be decidedly a labor of love. Moreover in the course of the process the observant collector can hardly help getting better acquainted with his stamps than hitherto. He can inspect them more closely than when they were attached to the album page—can take them up and scan closely every feature of design, and every point of production, front or back, that is of any interest. A good many unremembered or never noticed things will come to light—differences in color or kind of paper, varieties of watermark and the like. Understand, I do not advocate your spending your money on varieties of this kind; but where you have already happened to acquire stamps showing paper or watermark variations, it is certainly pleasant to recognize and identify them. Again, probably you will find on the backs of some of your specimens bits of envelope that you neglect to remove

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A. Bullard & Co., 446 Tremont St., Boston, Mass.

50% Discount.

—FROM MY—

APPROVAL SHEETS.

JAMES D. PATTERSON.

50 EAST 132ND ST., NEW YORK, CITY

Results gratifying on last ad.

Shall continue to use space.

R. Van Benschoten.

when originally mounting them. And before putting such specimens in the new book you will, of course, endeavor to get rid of this superfluous paper. One of the good things about transferring a collection from one album to another under any circumstances is that it enables the owner to "slick up" his collection in a good many ways. In honor to the new book, a lot of pains will be taken to give dirty specimens a bath, to iron out mussed ones, to remove bits of paper and old hinges from others, and so forth. It would, in fact, be a grand thing if it were compulsory with every collector who has not arrived at the advanced stage to transfer his collection from an old album to a new one at intervals of about every two years or so. Stamp collections need house-cleanings every now and then. It betters them and it betters their owners in philatelic insight and zeal. Nothing in collecting is quite so pleasant as the days and evenings spent in placing in our albums the accessions obtained in our first really big packet—containing three hundred or five hundred or a thousand varieties. But the next best thing is to root out all your specimens from the old album and arrange them afresh in a new book. Fle on those who object that it entails a lot of drudgery. Stamps are made for something better than to be just looked at. The pleasure of handling them and fondling them and finding a place in the album for them where their colors will not be "killed" and their interest overshadowed is the most ecstatic of Philately's joys.

A Classified Collection Described.

In an issue of the Metropolitan Philatelist of a couple of years ago, we find a short description of a collection classified by subjects, which will suggest some very good ideas, indeed, to the young collector who proposes adopting this style of collecting. Here is the description:

"Only one rule has been adopted by its owner, and that is that there are no duplicates of designs. It is divided into chapters. The first represents every country that has ever issued postage stamps, one stamp to each country. The next chapter represents the colonizing powers, England showing a stamp from every colony it has or has had during stamp issuing days. France strings out her assortment of colonies, Portugal follows, Germany makes a good third, while Spain gives an exhibition of past glories. Another chapter is a model picture gallery, where we find portraits of the rulers of the world, surrounded by a goodly array of the men who have made history. Others are devoted to natural

history, which is well represented by birds, beasts and fishes, reptiles and a few insects. Botany also has its chapter. Science is not without its department. Architecture gives a beautiful array of imposing buildings, beginning with the earliest of which we have remaining examples, the hoary pyramids, down to the latest South American Post Office or Opera House. Shipbuilding and Naval Architecture are shown, from the primitive canoe to the modern ironclad monster. Heraldry can certainly claim Philately for her own by the look of the chapter devoted to that art. Cartography has made a good start, and a chapter on languages and also numerics will shortly be added."

What small or medium sized collection would not be infinitely more interesting if arranged on such lines as these.

A State Society For Indiana.

An agitation is on foot for the formation of an Indiana Philatelic Society, to include, we assume, none but collectors residing in the Hoosier state. Mr. Wm. E. Ault, of Jeffersonville, Ind., is the prime-mover in the project, and he writes us that a considerable number of Indiana collectors have signified their intention of according hearty support to the new society. We trust that every one of our Indiana readers may feel inclined to ally themselves with the new body; for we are heartily in favor of state societies, believing that when rightly conducted they are a good thing for philatelic interests in a great many ways. At present, we believe, there is no organized stamp society in the whole state, not even in Indianapolis, which at one time supported quite a flourishing local society. There is, therefore, plenty of room for such an organization as proposed and we wish it speedy and complete success. Any Indianan who is interested is referred for full particulars to Wm. E. Ault, Jeffersonville, Ind.

Tamsen Sells.

Emil Tamsen, the famous South African philatelist, and probably the world's greatest authority on South African stamps, is dispersing a portion of his collection by auction in London.

Answers To Inquirers.

Fred Vogt: You evidently looked in the wrong place in the catalogue when searching for the U. S. stamps surcharged for Cuban use during the Spanish-American War. These varieties are listed on page 218 of the 1905 edition of Scott's Catalogue. The 2c on 2c carmine lists at 3c, used; and the 2½c on 2c red at 5c, used.

Adlets

Small advertisements will be inserted in this column at the rate of 6 cents a line.

They will be set up without display.

A line will average seven words

Cash to accompany copy.

Printing for Stamp Dealers

Merit Press, Bethlehem, Pa.

107 All diff. Foreign, Cuba, Nyassa, Guatemala etc. 10 cents. 1,000 Hinges 7 cents. W. W. Dayton, Nashotah, Wisconsin.

Send for a sample of my approval sheets at 50c to 66 2/3 discount, and receive a set of 12 different Canada free. H. TOUSLEY, 89 Robinson St., Winnipeg, Canada.

The Stamp-Lovers Album with spaces for 1152 stamps. Price 10c. Postage 2c.

Argentine Rep. 1898-01 7 var. cat. .24 .07 Spain 1900-02 6 varieties " .07 .08 Send stamp for approvals and receive 50 diff. for. free. Geo. A. Bates, Westfield, Mass.

Two Very Rare Stamps catalogued 5c each Will be given for the names and addresses of two stamp collectors, and applying for our stamps on approval. The Popular Stamp Co Savannah, Ga.

The best 50c approval sheets in the market. A trial will prove this statement. Price list free. FRED. M. HALSEY, 125 West Grand St., Elizabeth, N. J.

U. S. Rev. 1 Issue 5c playing cards 80 20 U. S. Rev. 1 Issue \$3.50 Inland Ex. 65 " " 11 Issue \$2.00 uncut 25 R. Van Benschoten, Hudson, N. Y.

\$1.85 for 25c. I will send you an unused o.g. fine copy Venezuela 1900, 1b red violet Scott's No. 140 with surcharge inverted (not listed) for 25c. Gibbon price for 131a surcharge inverted is \$1.85. C. F. Rothfuchs, 3 Savin St., Roxbury, Mass.

1c blue 1851 type 2. Three on original cover fine, 55c. W. C. Hoffman, 13 Ralph W. Cleveland, Ohio.

How about 20th. Century stamps? Our Price List is brimfull of choice and desirable 20th. Century Stamps. Surely you will find something to please you. Fine approval selections at 50c commission. Triangle Stamp Co., 228 University Ave., Rochester, N. Y.

Cat. No.	Description	Cat. Price	My Price
4	Hong Kong 1862, 18c lilac	\$0 75	80 35
8	1865, 2c brown	30	15
10	6c violet	50	23
13	16c yellow	75	35
14	18c lilac	5 00	2 25
16	30c vermilion	50	25
18	48c rose	50	25
27	1876, 10 on 24c green 1	20	60
31	1880, 5c ultramarine	35	18
32	10c violet	30	15
39	60c on 48c brown	75	35
48	1891, 2c rose & black	50	25
201	1873, 82 sage green	1 00	40
202	83 violet	1 00	40
206	1880, 85 on \$10 brown 2	50	1 20
75	Transvaal '78, 1p red brown	1 00	45
77	4p olive green	1 00	45
94	'78, 1p on 4p olive gr	1 00	45
102	'85, 3p violet	35	22
112	'87, 2p on 3p	1 50	68
114	2sh 6p yellow	50	25
133	'95, 4p slate	50	25
135	1sh green	75	35
140	6p rose & green	60	30
150	2sh 6p heliotrope & green	60	30
1	W Australia 1864, 1p black	2 00	1 00
3	4p blue	2 50	1 25
4	6p bronze	17 50	4 00
26	1864, 1p rose	75	40
29	1865, 1p bistre	35	20
32	4p carmine	50	23
33	6p violet	75	40
34	1sh green	50	27
58	1854, 3/4p on 1p bistre & red	1 00	50
70	1883, 1p on 3p brown	50	25

E. T. Parker, Bethlehem, Pa.

Dockwra's Penny Post

Our enterprising English contemporary, the Stamp Collector, reproduces in a recent number the first page of a pamphlet issued in 1861 in behalf of Dockwra's Penny Post—the famous institution whose so-called “stamps” (albeit not adhesive, and of the most primitive character) are held by some to have suggested to Sir Rowland Hill the general principle of the adhesive stamp. We take leave to copy the wording of this first page, as shown in the Stamp Collectors photographic reproduction, believing it will highly interest many of our readers. We regret we cannot quote the complete text of the pamphlet: it is of great rarity, only a few copies being known—one of which is in the British Museum.

The fragment pictured in the S. C. reads as follows:

**The Practical Method
Of The
Penny Post.**

Being a sheet very necessary for all Persons to have by them, For their information in the Regular use of a Design so well Approved of, for quickening Correspondence, Promoting Trade and Publick Good: Whereas William Dockwra of London Merchant, and the rest of the undertakers (who are all Natives and free Citizens of London) out of a fence of the great benefit which would accrue to the numerous inhabitants of this Great City, and adjacent parts (with hopes of fame Reasonable Encouragement hereafter to Themselfes) have lately fet up a New Invention to convey Letters and Parcels, not exceeding One Pound Weight, and Ten Pounds in value, to and from all parts within the Contiguous Buildings of the Weekly Bills of Mortality for a Penny a Letter or Parcel, whereby correspondency, the Life of Trade and Buſinesſ, is and will be much facilitated; and having for above a year paſt, with great pains and at ſome Thouſands of Pounds charge, reduced the fame into Practice, which does manifeſtly appear to be for the Publick Good; yet as all new Deſigns at firſt uſually meet with oppoſition and great Diſcouragements, rarely (if at all) proving beneficial to

the firſt Adventurers, ſo hath this alſo incurred the ſame Fate hitherto, eſpecially from the Ignorant and envious; but the undertakers do hope that all People will be Convinced, by time and experience, which removes Prejudice and Errors, and renders all New Undertakings Compleat: for the Attainment of which good Ends, they have with much Induſtry, much expence of time, and at a changable Rate, made ſuch Alterations in their former Methods as (they hope) will now give Universal ſatisfaction, And whereas there has been much Noiſe about the pretended Delays and Miſcarriages of Letters going by the Penny-Post, which has riſen through the great Miſtake and Neglect of other people, as the Undertakers can ſufficiently Evidence by many Authentick Certificate which they have ready to produce, for the Juſtification of their due Performances in General, yet has there been ſo many Confeſſes and Unjuſt Reflections caſt on ſo Uſeful an Undertaking that they hold it highly Neceſſary to undeceive the world, by ſhewing ſome of the grounds from whence they ſpring.

Here ends the fragment. We hope ſome time to find out juſt what Dockwra and the other “undertakers” had to ſay for themſelves on the ſucceeding pages.

A Wholesome View.

“We muſt confeſs that our ſympathies are, to a great extent, with thoſe collectors who ignore paper varieties altogether, and we ſhould be ſorry to ſee exiſting catalogue liſts extended by the inclusion of ſuch very minor differences of De La Rue paper as thoſe deſcribed in the Philatelic Journal of India.”—The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain.

**Dulness In
The Remainder Market.**

We underſtand that there has been no great ruſh for the remainders of the Virgin Iſland ſtamps for which tenders have been invited by the Crown Agents for the Colonies.

It is again announced, as was done in the caſe of the ſtamps of St. Helena, that “offers muſt not be of leſs than face value,” but it is ſignificant that no mention is made of any official bonfire in the event of no ſatisfactory offer being received.

**British Central Africa,
1891-1894**

8 pence, used	80
1 shilling, unused	50
2 " " "	40
3 " " "	30
4 " " "	20
5 " " "	10
Bavaria 1870 12kr unused	30

N. DIESCHBOURG,

87 NASSAU Street, and 130 FULTON Street
Rooms 323 and 324. NEW YORK

**SAMOA
Postage Stamps.**

The following unused stamps are offered at the following greatly reduced prices for quick cash orders.

Cata. No.	Mint P. C.	Cata. Price.
9 1/2p violet	50	06
10 1p green	08	10
11 2p yellow	12	10
11b 2p orange	50	10
12 4p blue	20	10
13 6p maroon	30	10
14 1sh rose	50	10
15 2sh, 6p. violet	150	20
16 2 1/2p rose	12	10
20 5p carmine red	25	10
21 2 1/2p on 2p orange	20	10
22c 3p on 2p orange green surcharge	50	10
23 2 1/2p black	20	10
24 2 1/2p on 1sh rose	15	10
25 2 1/2p on 2s 6p	65	10
27 2 1/2p on 1p green	15	10
28 1p green	05	10
29 1p red brown	06	10

Provisional Government.

30 1/2p green	05	10
31 2p orange	10	10
32 4p blue	15	10
33 2sh 6p violet	125	10
34 1p red brown	05	10
35 5p scarlet	22	10
36 6p maroon	25	10
37 1sh rose	30	10

German Dominion.

57 to 58. 3pf to 80pf, set of nine	100
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C. H. MEKEEL STAMP & PUB CO.
St. Louis, Mo.

Unprecedented Prosperity.

The Junior Philatelic Society of London, continues to enjoy a degree of prosperity which is quite without parallel in all the previous history of similar bodies. At the meeting of April 1, about 140 members and visitors were present, and no less than 74 applications for membership were received at this one sitting. The zeal and energy of Mr. Melville and his co-workers is certainly bearing phenomenally rich fruit.

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