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BOYS AND GIRLS WEEKLY

STORIES, ADVENTURES,
TRAVELS AROUND THE WORLD,
DISTINGUISHED SCHOLARS,
POPULAR SCIENCE, MAGIC,
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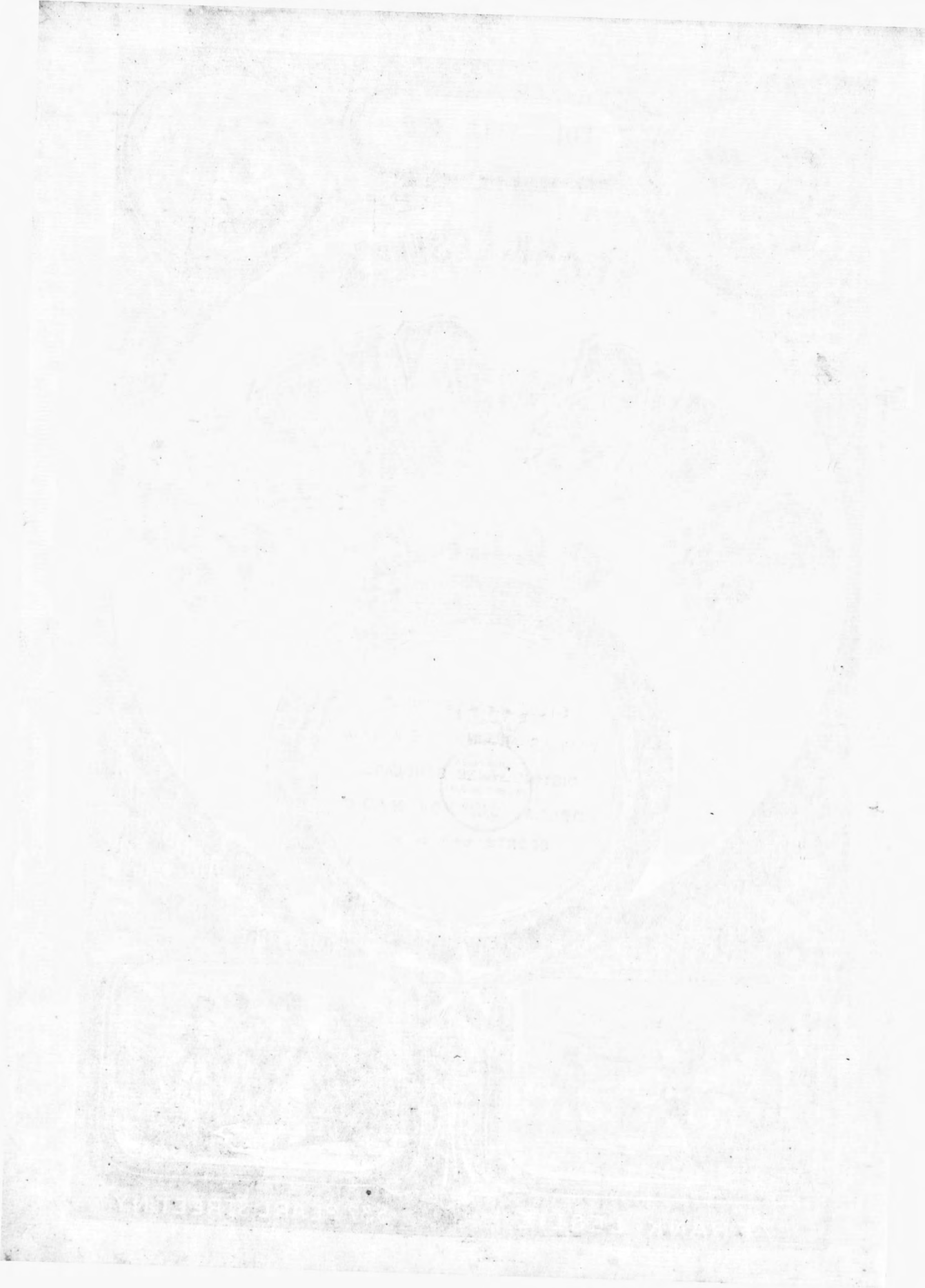
AN ILLUSTRATED
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AMUSEMENT
& INSTRUCTION
ADVENTURE



FRANK LESLIE

537 PEARL STREET N.Y.



FRANK LESLIE'S BOYS' AND GIRLS' WEEKLY

An Illustrated Journal of Amusement, Adventure, and Instruction.

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Vol. XVI.—No. 413. NEW YORK.

SEPTEMBER 19, 1874

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

[All communications relating to stamp-collecting should be addressed JOSEPH J. CASEY, at this office.]

No. I.

NOW, boys and girls, we are going to have a chat with you about Postage Stamps. We beg to introduce you to PHILATELY, as we big collectors like to call it, and trust that you may find the acquaintance profitable, long, and interesting. Some of you may not know what Philately is. Well, the word is derived from the Greek language, and means the love of stamps; a Philatelist is, therefore, one who loves stamps for the pleasure they give one in collecting them.

"What! Postage stamps give pleasure?" may ask the uninitiated. Yes, and real pleasure, too. For anything which helps our knowledge, which instills into our minds ideas of the great world around us, doing it in such a way as to make us feel unconscious of what is going on, is not only a pleasure but a lasting happiness. We did not think so always of postage stamps as we think now. And perhaps it would be interesting for you to know the great power there is in stamps, and how we are now thoroughly subject to it.

About eleven or twelve years ago, some of us schoolboys—for we were schoolboys then—began to collect the stamps that came on foreign letters, and for that purpose used to meet every Saturday at the post-office and have an exchange of our own. A passer-by hearing a Nova Scotia offered for a Cuba, or a Saxony for a Russia would think us more reckless than the man who offered his kingdom or a horse. But he would soon learn that we were trading little bits of colored paper, sometimes all marked up, sometimes clean. And this was the beginning. These little pieces of paper were then arranged in books, and caused many inquiries. What did this mean? Where did that come from? A Western Australian stamp came along. It had the figure of a swan engraved on it, and one then found out it had something to do with the Swan River Colony. You saw an old Nova Scotian, with the thistle, rose, and shamrock, and that had something to do with Great Britain. And a stamp from Berge-dori. Berge-dori? Humbug! There's no such place. And then geographies were brought out, and gazetteers were consulted just to see who would win the pie. Then a Sandwich Island stamp would show a new face. Ah! you expected that. A few more ago the king had died. His successor would, of course, want his portrait on the stamps. So it went, until, gradually, from looking at pretty colors, and arranging them to produce harmonious effects, we found ourselves looking over our maps, consulting our histories, taking the newspapers, becoming interested in the politics of a country, watching the changes going on, so as to know what stamps would become rare; until, without feeling that we had studied a bit, we are almost amazed to find how much of geography, and history of the different governments and their rulers, the characters of the peoples, and even the condition of art among a people—how much of all these have slyly crept into our brain.

And we could go on this way for hours to tell you that postage stamps makes one an excellent judge of colors; that they educate the eye to a wonderful degree; that they improve the taste—but you would rather try this for yourselves. So we will stop here now, and the next time will tell you how to collect stamps, and how to keep them. We expect every one of you to become good collectors, and, therefore, want to put you in the right track at the start.

No. 414, SEPTEMBER 26, 1874.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

[All communications relating to stamp-collecting should be addressed JOSEPH J. CASEY, at this office.]

No. II.

BEFORE entering upon a description of the postage stamps used all over the world, we have several suggestions to offer, which will be of great benefit to you hereafter.

There is a very large business done in the sale of postage stamps, and, as a consequence, dealers spring up everywhere. Sometimes they are honest, and return you the full worth of your money. And again, there are other parties who, in return for money, send vile counterfeits. It is against these we wish to warn you, as many a young boy and girl who started out in full promise of becoming the possessor of a fine collection, have found, but too late, that nearly all their stamps are forgeries.

The way these unprincipled dealers try to catch you is by offering packets or sheets of rare stamps, at a merely nominal price. Now, all stamps have a market value; when they are offered considerably below this, you may make up your mind that, at least, they ought to be inquired into, or you should have assurance of the dealer's honesty. Therefore, in warning you, we add this: shun all dealers who offer you sheets or packets of stamps for a mere song; and, again, have no dealings with parties who trade under the name of a stamp company. There is nothing disgraceful in stamp-dealing; therefore, when you receive some glaring announcement from the Great American Stamp Co., or the Spread Eagle Co., or other high-sounding named company, make up your mind that there is something wrong.

We are using every means in our power to break up the sale of counterfeit stamps, and have before us the names of several parties who make a practice of swindling their customers. At the proper time they shall be attended to.

Having now disposed of this point, we have something to say on the manner of keeping your stamps. The first requisite is to get an album; at first a common one, with spaces for all the stamps issued. These albums are gotten up in different styles to suit all tastes and purchasers, and are the best means of encouraging the study of postage stamps. As you get along, as your collection increases, as your knowledge of the subject enlarges, you may find it necessary to procure larger and better albums, or keep your stamps in books especially prepared.

Whether you intend to collect canceled stamps or those which have never been used—for the latter you will require a very long purse—exercise a little care in the selection of specimens. By no means cut them close up to the outer lines of the engraving, for reasons which will be told you further on; and in placing them in your books, fasten them down in the page by a little gum at the corners only. It is then very easy to remove a poor specimen for a better one. We have heard of collectors who glued their stamps to the page as if they were afraid they would take wings and fly away. The gluing process over, they then varnish them, to heighten the effect, you know! We trust our young collectors will have better judgment.

One word about envelopes and post cards. Do not cut out the stamped impression. By so doing you will deprive yourself of a great deal of pleasure in their examination, apart from the fact that you may be destroying many a valuable envelope or card.

In our next we shall enter at once upon the description of stamps.

To be continued. Commenced in No. 414.

XVI.—No. 415. OCTOBER 3, 1874

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

[All communications relating to stamp-collecting should be addressed JOSEPH J. CASEY, at this office.]

No. III.

UNITED STATES.

THE United States were not the first country to use postage-stamps; they were in use abroad for many years before adoption here. But as we all have a desire to know everything of our own country before going elsewhere, it would be better to let our first description treat of United States stamps.

It was not until 1851, eleven years after the introduction of the penny postage-stamp in Great Britain, that the United States Post Office Department brought out its first regular series of stamps. Previous to this time post-masters in many of the large cities, in order to simplify the pre-payment of letters, received permission from the General Government to issue stamps. These stamps were called *Government locals*, in contra-distinction to the *Private locals* used by the numerous express companies, which made a business and a profit out of the carrying of letters before the reduction of postage took place.

The first Government local used was issued in 1844, by the New York Post Office. The design consisted of a full-faced portrait of Washington on crossed lines in oval, lettered POST-OFFICE, and full value in curved labels, New York in top corners. The value was five cents, and the stamp was printed in black, on white paper and on blue. This is the stamp which from its size is known as the "big-head."

In 1845, Brattleboro, Vermont, St. Louis, Mo., and New Haven, Conn., followed with stamps. The design of the first consisted of the initials of the post-master, P. N. P., in fac-simile, on lines in transverse oval, the name above, value below, which was five cents. The impression was black, on buff paper.

The St. Louis stamp consisted of the arms of the State—namely, two bears supporting a circular shield; St. Louis, and large figure of value above; POST OFFICE below. They were printed in black on buff, and were of the values, respectively, five, ten, and twenty cents, though of the last there is some doubt.

All the stamps thus far mentioned were engraved on steel or copper. An ordinary wood-cut was used for the stamp issued by the New Haven Post Office. The design was a simple rectangle, with large figure five and PAID in centre; POST OFFICE, NEW HAVEN, CT., in two lines above; E. A. MITCHELL, P. M., below, in writing. This design was impressed directly on the envelopes, and thus sold to the public at the price indicated, five cents. The color of the stamp was red.

In 1846, Providence, R. I., issued two stamps, the designs being similar (save the letters of value), and consisting of POST OFFICE, PROVIDENCE, R. I., and full value in lines in oval, ornaments in the corners. The values were five and ten cents each. These were printed in sheets of twelve, eleven of the fives, and one ten.

In 1847, Alexandria, D. C., issued a stamp of very simple design—namely, PAID 5, encircled by ALEXANDRIA POST OFFICE, with circle of stars. Printed in black on buff paper. All of these stamps are extremely rare, and, as a consequence, are extensively counterfeited.

This takes us to the stamps issued by the Government, but we must postpone their consideration until next week.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

[All communications relating to stamp-collecting should be addressed JOSEPH J. CASEY, at this office.]

No. IV.
UNITED STATES.
(Continued.)

IN our last we described the first Government locals issued in this country. We also gave illustrations of the more common of these.

The rarest of these we have reserved for this number, and our readers will here be pleased to see the New York Post Office, Five Cent, Washington Stamp of 1844, the "Big Head," as collectors generally call it. We need not repeat or add to the description as given in our last. The illustration speaks for itself, and it is, so far as we can ascertain, the first engraving that has ever appeared. It was printed in black, on white and on blue paper.

We also give illustrations of the Providence Post Office Stamps of 1846, engraving both denominations—five and ten cents.

From the rarity of these stamps, counterfeits have been got up, against which we shall more fully warn our readers.

writing, and thus make the people better educated. There were other causes also to compel a reduction of rates, but we need not here to discuss these, as they will be fully spoken of when we come to speak of the "private local" stamps. The postage to California was first reduced to ten cents, when reductions followed, until now, you know, it is three cents to any place in the United States.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

[All communications relating to stamp-collecting, but those only, should be addressed JOSEPH J. CASEY, Box 1636 New York.]

No. VI.
UNITED STATES.
(Continued.)

WE give this week four of the 1851 stamps. They were all of the same size, all lettered "U. S. POSTAGE," and value in full; but having various heads and various frames, as follows:

ONE CENT, Blue (fig. 1).

Head of Franklin, facing to the right in a background of lines. Above, "U. S. Postage" on curved scroll; ornamental corners. Below, "One Cent" on curved scroll, and ornamental corners.

OUR LETTER BOX.

F. L., Cincinnati.—The stamp you describe is a Saxony Revenue Stamp. *Stempel* does not mean postage. Your other query will be noticed in due time in the "Stamp-Collectors' Corner."

FRED.—There is no fluid; and the cleaning of U. S. stamps is a very dangerous thing; it is a States prison offense to use or sell cleansed stamps.

V. H. K., Louisville.—1. English one-halfpenny stamp. There are no special postage stamps for Ireland. 2. Austrian, current issue. 3. Used in the Austrian ports of the Mediterranean. 4. German Empire, current. 5. Yes. North German Confederation. 6. Swiss stamp. 7. The stamps of the German Principalities should receive each a separate classification.



FIG. 1.



FIG. 2.



FIG. 3.

THE STAMP-COLLECTOR'S CORNER.—SEE PAGE 15.



Brattleboro, Vt.



New Haven, Conn.



St. Louis, Mo.



Providence, R. I., 1846.



New York Five Cent "Big Head" Washington stamp of 1844.



Providence, R. I., 1846.

THE STAMP-COLLECTOR'S CORNER.—SEE PAGE 419.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

[All communications relating to stamp-collecting should be addressed JOSEPH J. CASEY, Box 1698, New York.]

No. V.
UNITED STATES.
(Continued.)

ONE of the great benefits derived from the study of postage-stamps is that it gives us an insight into some of the methods of the Postal Department. Because we said in our previous number that postage-stamps were not introduced by the government until 1845, you must not imagine that there were no post offices. On the contrary, the Post Office Department existed from the foundation of the Republic, and the first Postmaster-General was—can you guess? Why, none other than Ben Franklin.

Before the introduction of stamps, the charge for carrying a letter was paid in money, either at the post office or at the place of delivery. This had its inconveniences and its annoyances, which were not remedied until England took the first step, in 1840, by the introduction of the "Penny Post," followed very tardily by our government.

From the descriptions in our last paper you will readily understand that five cents and ten cents were ordinary rates of postage. These charges were higher according to distance; for instance, twenty-five cents was the postage on a letter from New York to New Orleans; to San Francisco it was much higher.

You may imagine that letter-writing in those days, when twenty-five cents was worth as much then as is a dollar or two now, was rather an expensive luxury, in which the people could not indulge. But the good time came.

Before the first general reduction in the postage rates, and before the issue of the first regular series of stamps, the Government, in 1847, issued two stamps for prepayment of letters. Perhaps it was induced to do this on seeing with what success the postmasters' stamps were received. These stamps were of the values of five and ten cents. The first (fig. 1), had the portrait of Franklin to left in oval, background ornamented, and lettered U. S. POST OFFICE, full value and numerals below. The second (fig. 2), had the portrait of Washington to right; the other features of the stamp being similar.

From 1851 to 1852 the Government issued stamps for the use of the letter-carriers. One (fig. 3), the rarest of all our Government stamps, presented an appearance similar to the three-cent stamp of the general issue, with the exception that the oval was occupied by the Franklin head. This stamp was printed in blue, on pink. The other carriers' stamp (fig. 4) had for a design, eagle at bay on branch in oval, U. S. P. O. DESPATCH PREPAID ONE CENT, foliage at corners. This was an oblong stamp.

In 1851, all these were superseded by a regular series of eight stamps of different values. The Government now saw the advantage of the stamp system, and also saw that low postage would increase letter-

THREE CENT, Red (fig. 2).
Antique head of Washington, facing to the left, in an oval background of lines. Above, "U. S. Postage" in white letters, straight. "Three Cents" below, in white letters. Intricate line-work about oval.

FIVE CENT, Brown (fig. 3).
Full face of Jefferson, coat partly shown, in an oval on background of lines. "U. S. Postage" above, "Five Cents" below, partly on ornamental border of stamp, which encloses another border, and within that, horizontal lines.

TEN CENT Green (fig. 4).
Full face of Washington. "U. S. Postage" above white ground, on a curve, "X" in each of the upper corners. Thirteen stars circling around head. "Ten Cents" below on curve; scrollwork at sides.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

[All communications relating to stamp-collecting, should be addressed JOSEPH J. CASEY, Box 1698, New York Post Office.]

No. V.
UNITED STATES.
(Continued.)

WE continue our description of the issues of 1851.

TWELVE CENTS, Black (fig. 1).
Head of Washington, full face, turning a little left; above, on a curve, "U. S. POSTAGE" in white letters; below, "TWELVE CENTS," white. The head in a wide oval, the rest of the stamp covered by intricate line-work, forming rosettes in the corners.

TWENTY-FOUR CENTS, Lilac (fig. 2).
Head of Washington, full face, turned a little to right, narrower and smaller oval than the last, surrounded by a band on which the lettering is engraved. Above "U. S. POSTAGE," below "TWENTY-FOUR CENTS," with a little ornament on each side; outer edge of engraved work in ornamental curves.

THIRTY CENTS, Orange (fig. 3).
Head of Franklin, facing to the left in large oval. Above "U. S.," below "POSTAGE," forming two lines. Below head "30" in figures. On the left edge "THIRTY," on the right "CENTS;" a small U. S. shield in each corner.

NINETY CENTS, Dark-blue (fig. 4).
Head of Washington, very much inclined to the left, younger than other portraits, and showing part of his uniform as general. Portrait in a frame, curved at top only. Above, on scroll, "U. S. POSTAGE," below, "NINETY CENTS."

You will see by these details that Washington and Franklin had almost a monopoly of the stamps; afterward, our Government got a little tired of this monopoly, and extended the portraits on the stamps, but not until 1870.



FIG. 4.



FIG. 1 (blue).



FIG. 2 (red).



FIG. 3 (brown).

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.—SEE PAGE 31.



FIG. 4 (green).



FIG. 1 (black).



FIG. 2 (lilac).



FIG. 3 (orange).

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.—SEE PAGE 47.



Fig. 4 (dark-blue).

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. 420. NOVEMBER 7, 1874.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

[All communications relating to stamps, should be addressed JOSEPH J. CASEY, Box 1698, New York Post Office.]

No. VI.

HOW TO MOUNT STAMPS.

WE find our attention called by some of our correspondents to the question of mounting their stamps in a satisfactory manner. Our first remarks on this subject were based on the idea that many of our readers had not theretofore been stamp-collectors, and accordingly we advanced the simplest form of mounting, in order not to confuse the young amateur at the very start. But as we are met with communications, and suggestions, and inquiries concerning this most important problem, we have determined to devote this number to its solution.

We well remember the time, in the early ages of collection, when collectors pasted their stamps closely in their books, having previously trimmed them close to the edges, and to make sure that the stamps would not take unto themselves wings and fly away, or that the colors would not vanish in the night, varnished them over. What think you of this? Happily, this Philatelic vandalism had left us, particularly when the collector found that the stamps over which he exercised such a scissorial scrutiny, and for which he spent such countless pennies in investing in gum and varnish, had lost nearly all their value when he offered them for sale. Collectors now exercise more taste and ingenuity in preparing their specimens.

The plan which we now offer has met the approval of the great body of collectors, and is the only one which is at all countenanced by those who make any claim to be considered collectors. While they are divided as to the manner of preserving their specimens—some using the albums, others preparing the blank sheets—all are united as to the manner of mounting. We shall present the details of each, and then leave you to select for yourself.

While an album is a hindrance to the advanced collector, inasmuch as it takes no note of the thousand-and-one essential varieties which continually occur, and the study of which constitutes the real science, we should strongly advise the young collector to procure one of the prepared albums, not only as a convenience, but as a guide, which are made of every shape and size, and of all prices.

To prepare your stamps for mounting, select nice clean specimens, disregarding all those soiled and torn, or very badly obliterated, and remove from them any portion of the paper or letter to which they may be adhering. Do the latter operation neatly, as it will repay you in the end. Therefore, apply no water to the face of the stamp, but to the back, and just enough to remove the adhering paper smoothly, and not soak off the gum originally put on the stamp. Then get some fine foreign letter paper, that known as "onion-skin" being the best, and with a weak solution of gum-arabic, spread over one side of the sheets. When dry, cut them into strips, say one-half inch in width. Then moisten one-eighth inch along the edges, and upon the moistened part place the stamps to be mounted, one after the other, as in the following figure:



Then separate the stamps by means of a scissors, and trim the two upright edges, so that, when folded over, they will not project beyond the sides of the stamps, as is here illustrated. Then fold this slip over, making the crease at the edge of the stamp, and you have what is called a hinge—and the process described is named *hinging the stamps*. A little touch of water by a brush upon the gummed hinge, and you can securely fasten the stamp to its allotted space on the page in your album. If you wish to examine the watermarks to be found on many of the stamps—sometimes

the only test to fix the correct date of the issue—simply turn the stamp on its hinge. If you wish to remove it, a moistened brush applied to the hinge will do the work without injury to the stamp or the page.

Here, then, is all there is of the process, requiring merely a little patience, as skill will come by practice, and possessing innumerable advantages over every other plan proposed.

Those who are more ambitious, and prefer blank pages to a prepared book, will do well to secure some fine French pearl-gray drawing-paper, cut to proper size. The stamp can be hinged to card-board mounts, and these, in their turn, hinged (preferable) to the page. These card-board mounts should be cut a trifle larger than the stamps, as the effect of the white border separating the varicolored stamp from the neutral tint of the page is almost indescribable, and is productive of this good result: that it reduces the discord formed when certain colors are placed in juxtaposition, to a minimum. This is the plan we have adopted, as the result of many experiments; and, also, find it excellent to arrange each normal issue of a country on one page, arranged in some geometrical figure; a labor of love, truly, but one which amply repays the many hours spent in the completion of even a single page.

The plan we have detailed above is the only one which gives complete satisfaction, is neat and tasty, serves all the purposes of preserving your stamps, and offers unexpected facilities in case you wish to change to a new album, or wish to be counted among the higher class of Philatelists—those who can see in Philately all the elements and attributes of a science.



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' CORNER.—SEE NEXT PAGE.

No. 421. NOVEMBER 14, 1874.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

[All communications relating to stamps, should be addressed JOSEPH J. CASEY, Box 1698, New York Post Office.]

No. IX.

UNITED STATES.

Continued.

FIRST SERIES OF ENVELOPES.

THE first form adopted for the prepayment of letters was the envelope, with an engraving covering the face. This was in Great Britain, in the year 1840. Prepaid envelopes became very popular and were extensively used, but not in the form first introduced. This was changed a short time afterward, and a stamp was impressed in one of the corners. You have seen how slowly the U. S. Post Office moved in the matter of adopting adhesive stamps; they moved still more slowly in adopting envelopes, for it was not until August, 1853, two years after the introduction of the first series of stamps, that embossed envelopes were put in use. Two values were at first employed—an envelope of three cents, and one of six cents. The design, embossed in a plain colored disk, consists of a profile bust of Washington (after the famous Houden statue), turned to the left, within an upright oval frame, inclosing at top and bottom labels of the values in Roman capitals (THREE or SIX ABOVE, CENTS BELOW); at either side of frame, connecting the labels, is a simple engine-turned pattern, composed of interlacing lines (three and three), forming a series of loops, these loops varying in number, and are the chief means of detecting the several kinds of the stamps. The color of the three-cent envelope was red; that of the six-cent, green.

In October following, a large envelope, that known as "Official," was issued, bearing the six cents, with

the color changed to red; and in April, 1855, an additional value was emitted, of identical design, of the ordinary size for ten cents. This was impressed also in green.

And now let us digress here, for a moment, to give our readers some few words of advice concerning the collection of envelope stamps. In our second paper we advised you not to cut out the stamped impression, as by so doing you may destroy what would otherwise be a very valuable envelope. This practice of cutting out the impression was inaugurated in the early days of stamp-collecting, before stamps came to be studied. The practice was increased by the album-makers, who, to save room, or some other reason, marked out spaces in their books, into which these envelope impressions fitted. They were, therefore, mercilessly cut. And the result of it is that to-day this trimming process is deeply deplored, as by its means many a rare envelope has lost all its value. When you get deeper into the study of Postage Stamps you will understand why we are so particular in warning you to keep envelopes *in toto*. It is not the embossed impression that makes an envelope valuable. This is sometimes a mere secondary consideration. It is the shape of the envelope, often its size, or again, some inscription or ornament upon it, that gives it its value. Sometimes an experiment is made with a peculiar shaped envelope, just to see if it can be made a success. And the most valuable envelopes in our collection are two, made of a very peculiar shape, which the government tried, but which presented so many bad points that they were obliged to discontinue their use. Suppose we were to cut the stamp out, and throw the envelope away? We would not only lose an important link in the working of the Post Office, but would also find ourselves with a stamp worth not more than a few cents, whereas the entire envelopes are worth a few dollars. So, once more, do not cut out the envelope stamps, but keep them entire, and apart from your adhesives, either in a separate album or in wrappers or drawers or boxes.

Returning to our subject: These different values of envelopes remained in use from 1853 to 1860, and during that time were subject to many changes, both of the stamp and of the size and shape of the envelope itself. Of the "THREE CENTS," it is believed that two dies were prepared. In consequence of the immense amount of work it had to perform, the second became badly worn, and at intervals, the ends of the labels (the parts most liable to wear) were trimmed. This is the official reason, and is most likely the correct one. These slight alterations have produced five distinct varieties of the die.

In the first die (fig. 1), the ends of the labels are straight, and but seven loops are formed in each label by the intersecting lines. The words "THREE" and "CENTS" occupy much more space than any of the other values. The ends of the labels are much further from the first and last letters of the value.

In type I. (fig. 2) of the second die, the ends of the labels are curved, the first and last letters of the value nearly touch them, and the intersecting lines form ten loops on one side and nine on the other.

In type II. the ends of the labels are straight, with their angles intersected by portions of the interlaced lines, the loops counting eight and a half by nine.

In type III. (fig. 3) the ends of the labels are straight, ending in a distinct line.

In type IV. the ends of the labels are slightly curved, without any lines at the four ends, as in III.

In type V. (fig. 4) the commonest variety, the ends of the labels are curved.

The die for the SIX CENTS is precisely similar to type III. above. The TEN CENTS has two distinct dies; one similar to the SIX CENT impression, the other like the first of the THREE CENT envelopes.

There were three sizes of envelopes used for this series—note, letter and official.

The SIX CENT envelope was of both official and letter size; the TEN CENT only letter size, while the THREE CENTS was used in note and letter sizes. This value was also placed in a very peculiar envelope, one in which the lower flap was gummed under the side flaps, contrary to the general rule. It was found that such an arrangement admitted of an increased liability to tear, and it was therefore in use for a very short period.

We have now given a brief but comprehensive outline of the first series of United States envelopes. There are many details connected with them which would be intelligible to only advanced students. They are not as plentiful as might be expected, owing to the fact that on the outbreak of the Rebellion in 1860, the Post Office Department suppressed all its stamps and envelopes in use up to that time, and rendered them worthless for postal purposes. Quantities of them must, therefore, have been destroyed; but a diligent search among old papers and in dark corners or deep pigeon-holes, may unearth many of them. And every collector should by all means take particular pride in having the United States well represented by its stamps in his albums, as by them he learns who were the heroes of the Republic in bygone days.

No. 422. NOVEMBER 21, 1874.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

[All communications relating to stamps, should be addressed JOSEPH J. CASEY, Box 1698, New York Post Office.]

No. X.

UNITED STATES.

Continued.

SECOND SERIES OF STAMPS.

BEFORE proceeding to describe the series of stamps and envelopes issued soon after the

outbreak of the late civil war, we wish to call your attention to a change in the envelopes described in our last number. In the Autumn of 1857, a new value for envelopes was issued—namely, ONE CENT, which was also applied to newspaper wrappers. The design, embossed on a plain colored disk, consists of a profile bust of Franklin to right, within a double lined oval frame, containing at top "ONE CENT," below "U. S. POSTAGE," in capitals, with a five-pointed star on either side, midway between the inscriptions. (Fig. 1.) There are two dies of this stamp, the second differing from the first in the absence of the dot after the word POSTAGE. It is a stamp seldom met with, as it existed but a very short time.

In September, 1860, the first series of envelopes were replaced by others of the same values, but of different designs, being similar to that of the ONE CENT envelope, with the exception of the bust of Franklin, displaced to make room for that of Washington, in all the values, which were three—3 CENTS, red; 6 CENTS, red; and 10 CENTS, green. To these was added another value of 4 CENTS, made by stamping the 1 CENT and 3 CENTS (fig. 2) in their respective colors, on the same envelope. This series is full of interest, as it contains many envelopes which are now seldom met with. We shall enumerate some of the varieties:

1. The first die of the 1c. is found impressed in both buff and orange papers in the plain envelopes used for the previous series.
2. It exists on envelopes, the lower flap of which had three black lines, for convenience in writing the address, these lines being thin in the white envelopes, thick and heavy for the buff.
3. The 3c. is found in a very small envelope, the smallest ever made by the Post Office, not much larger than an ordinary visiting card.
4. It was also impressed in the ordinary envelope, in white and buff, and in two sizes, one small.
5. It is also found in envelopes with ruled lines, which differ from each other, and also from the lined envelope of the previous series in the cutting of the flaps. White and buff.
6. The 4c. is found in all the envelopes mentioned in 5, except the two very small ones.
7. The 6c. is found only in the official size, in white and buff.
8. The 10c. in white and buff in the plain envelopes of the previous series.
9. The 1c. on newspaper wrappers varying in quality from bright-yellow paper to the ordinary manilla of different sizes. The second die is also found in newspaper wrappers.

were discontinued. Of the envelope stamps, the following are the designs and values, which were all issued during the year 1861:

The values were of 3c., 6c., 10c., 12c., 20c., 24c., and 40c. The design of the 3c. and 6c., embossed on a plain colored disk, consisted of a profile bust of Washington to left, within a double lined oval frame, inclosing inscriptions of open Roman capitals; above, "UNITED STATES," below, "THREE CENTS," or "SIX CENTS." Midway between the inscriptions on either side, and touching the lines of the frame, is a small circle, inclosing the figure 3 for the first value, or an oval with the figure 6 for the second. Both were of the same color, rose.

10, 12, 20, 24, and 40 cents. The design is more elaborate, and is embossed on a plain colored disk. It consists of a profile bust of Washington to left (same as preceding), within a broad oval frame, containing inscriptions in color; value above, "U. S. POSTAGE" below, in block-letter capitals. On either side, cutting into the frame, and touching at its inner edge, extending an equal distance beyond its outer edge, is a circular disk, inclosing figure of value of same color, with inscriptions; whilst extending to these disks, from the upper and lower portions of the oval frame, is a branch, within a curvilinear figure, thus making of the whole design a slightly transverse oval.

The color of the 10c. is green; 12c., brown; 20c., blue; 24c., green; 40c., black. In the 10c. envelope, the inscriptions and figures of value are impressed in the color of the disk. In the 12c., 20c., 24c., and 40c., they are printed in red. The last four values were used for official envelopes, of a straw-color. The other value in various envelopes to be described hereafter.

In 1863, a new value of envelope was issued of 2 cents, with embossed head of Jackson. This suffered some very radical changes, which, together with the various sizes used for the envelopes of the other values, will be fully detailed in our next paper, so that our readers may be well posted in all the stamps and envelopes used by the United States.

G. R. W., Pittsburg.—Your plan of mounting stamps has been long known; but, like the many other devices advocated, has given way to the process of "hinging the stamp," as described in No. 420. With a little more experience, you will learn whether there is "anything" of value in envelopes, except the stamps. You need have no difficulty in changing entire envelopes for the cut stamps.

solve. Many plans have been suggested, some of which are very ingenious, but none has yet been submitted which meets with general approbation. We would suggest, therefore, that for the present our readers shall keep their envelopes in large manilla boxes or wrappers, such as are used by lawyers, and which may be procured of any size at the stationer's. By-and-by some plan may be discovered to the great delight of all collectors.

The envelopes of the third series, some of which are illustrated, are of different sizes, on white and buff papers, and, like all the envelopes of the Government, bear the watermark of the department in large capitals, U. S. P. O. D. The 3c. is found in five sizes, from lady's size, 2 1/4 by 4 1/4 in., to the extra letter size, 3 3/4 by 6 1/4 in., and also with and without ruled lines beneath the flap. The 6c. (fig. 1) is used in only the official size, 3 3/4 by 8 3/4. The 10c. in letter size, 3 3/4 by 5 1/2; the 12c. (fig. 2), official size, 3 3/4 by 8 3/4; the 20c. 4 by 9 1/2; and the 24c. and 40c. in extra official size, 4 1/2 by 9 3/4. These are merely the prominent varieties, as they may be extended in reference to the peculiar shapes of the flaps, and other extraneous circumstances.

On the 1st of July, 1863, appeared a new value, "2 CENTS POSTAGE," which was soon destined to undergo a radical change, both in type and shape. The design consisted of an embossed profile bust of Jackson to left, on colored disk; "U. S. POSTAGE," above, "Two CENTS," below, within lines following the upper and lower outlines of the disk. Large figure of value within upright pointed oval, to right and left of bust, and supporting inscriptions. Disk shield-shaped at top and bottom, the curves at either side springing from the upper and lower extremities of the ovals. Printed in black. (Fig. 3.) There was only one size, made, however, from two distinctly shaped knives.

FOURTH ISSUE.

In 1864, the design was somewhat enlarged, and "U. S. POSTAGE" replaced by "U. S. Postr," one size only, in yellow and buff paper. The 3c. and 6c. of the previous issue were also changed, and the design was embossed profile bust of Washington, to left, on colored upright oval disk, and within lined frame "UNITED STATES" above, value below, separated by large figure of value within frame, and to right and left of bust. 3c., rose (fig. 4). 6c., rose. The 3c. was impressed on white and yellow paper, and on four distinct styles of envelopes. The first, a lady's size, 2 1/4 by 4 1/4; the second, letter size, 3 3/4 by 5 1/2; the third, larger, 3 3/4 by 6 1/4; and the fourth, on envelopes with ruled lines on one of the lower flaps, 3 3/4 by 5 1/2. The 6c. was impressed on one size only, 3 3/4 by 8 3/4. Newspaper wrappers of the value of 2 cents, on manilla and buff papers. These were of different sizes.

In 1866, a series of periodical stamps was issued of three values. The general design consisted of a profile bust in elaborate engine-turned frame, lettered "U. S. POSTAGE, NEWSPAPER AND PERIODICALS, SEC. 38, ACT OF CONGRESS APPROVED MARCH 3, 1863," large numerals above. 5c., head of Washington, blue; 10c., head of Franklin, green; 25c., head of Lincoln, red. These stamps were not very long in use, but are easily procurable.

In 1868, the Post Office authorities began to emboss upon the adhesive stamps a small grid of fine dots, which pierced the paper, and rendered it a matter of impossibility to clean the stamps. A larger grid was at first used; afterward a smaller one.



Fig. 4.

NOTE.—All the adhesive stamps we have thus far described, with the exception of the Carriers' Stamp, are easily procurable at moderate prices. The later envelope stamps can also be obtained; but the early envelopes are very rare. A search among old packages

of letters and envelopes may bring forth some choice specimens, and we therefore advise our young friends to institute such a search, and shall be pleased to give any information upon any stamp or envelope submitted to us.



Fig. 1.



Fig. 6.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XI.

UNITED STATES.

Continued.

STAMPS ISSUED IN 1861.

ON the outbreak of the war, all the previous stamps and envelopes were repudiated by the Post Office Department, to prevent their employment by the Confederacy, and a new issue ordered, which appeared in July, 1861.

The series of adhesives consisted of eight stamps, and were of the following designs and values: 1c., head of Franklin, blue; 3c., Washington, rose; 5c., Jefferson, brown; 10c., Washington, green; 12c., Washington, black; 24c., Washington, blue; 30c., Franklin, yellow; 40c., Washington, blue. In 1863 an addition was made to the series, of a 2 cent stamp, very large head of Jackson, black; and a further addition in 1866, of a 15 cent stamp, head of Lincoln, the martyred president, in black.

At the same time with the adhesives was issued a rather extensive series of stamped envelopes, and an innovation was also attempted, that of embossing a stamp of 3 cents in letter and note sheets, which were in use from August, 1861, to April, 1864, when they



THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XII.

WE have referred to the envelopes of the third issue, which we now proceed to speak of in detail. Before doing so, however, we have a few words to say further to our readers in reference to the collection of entire envelopes. There is scarce any trouble experienced in regard to keeping adhesive stamps properly, and the hints we gave on this matter will be sufficient guide to all collectors, upon which they may improve as their fancy dictates. But the preservation of envelopes has long been a stumbling-block in the pathway of all amateurs. It is admitted on all hands that the only way to collect envelopes, if they are to be collected at all, is to preserve them intact, without cutting out the specimens. But how to get them together in any convenient way for study or for examination is the problem for philatelists to



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XIII.

FOURTH SERIES OF ENVELOPES.

WE have already referred to the envelopes of 3 cents and 6 cents, those with large embossed figures. They are considered as forming a part of the series of envelopes under discussion.

The series was completed in 1866 by the issue of envelopes of the following values and colors: 9c., lemon, or orange; 12c., claret, or stone; 18c., vermilion; 24c., blue; 30c., green; 40c., rose.

The designs on all are identical with that of the 10c. envelope mentioned in the third series, and therefore, we need spend no further time in describing them particularly.

All the values are impressed on the official size envelopes, and offer many interesting and peculiar varieties to the collector of entire envelopes. The colors of the embossed designs also vary. The 9c. is found in all shades varying from bright lemon yellow to intense orange, but we should advise the collection of merely the two extremes. The earlier impressions of the 12c. were made in dull stone-color, the later in bright claret. The size of the envelopes for both values is 3 1/4 x 8 1/2. The 18c. and 24c. are impressed in larger envelopes, 4 1/4 x 9 1/4. The 30c. and 40c. in still larger, 4 1/2 x 9 1/4.

We stop here for a moment to consider two letters we have received from our readers. We insert them without note or comment, in the hope that you may draw your own inferences.

Illinois, October, 27.

JOSEPH J. CASEY—Sir: From the Boys' and Girls' WEEKLY I learn that you are the source from which information concerning stamps flows, and as this city is a sort of a stampocracy, hence the liberty taken in writing this.

"Will you be kind enough to send me all the information you can gratuitously by return mail, and inform me the cost of information not gratuitous, and oblige. Yours, etc."

October 28, 1874.

JOSEPH J. CASEY—Sir: I was just perusing 'The Stamp-Collector's Corner' in the last WEEKLY, and must say that your method of mounting stamps is excellent. I have heard of a great many ways of mounting stamps, but this, I must say, supersedes them all. I thought that when I had adopted the plan of cutting thin paper in an oblong form, and gumming and folding it, that I had discovered the

very best method; but we live to learn. I used to simply paste one side of the paper to the book, and the other to the centre of the stamp, never thinking of watermarks, although I knew it was necessary, in some cases, to examine watermarks. I hope you will speak more of watermarks in your later articles on stamps. I have a collection of about one thousand (1,000) postage, uncanceled, and about five hundred canceled stamps, also about five hundred Revenue Stamps. I do hope you will say something in behalf of Revenue Stamps. I take more interest in these than I do in postage, and I know a great many others do. They are by far prettier and cheaper.

"Where are the postage stamps that exceed some of our document, match, and revenue (proprietary) stamps in beauty?"

"You are very right in saying philately contains all the elements and attributes of a science. I suppose you have a very large collection yourself?"

"I think there is nothing in the Boys' and Girls' WEEKLY that will do its juvenile readers more good and instill more useful knowledge into their minds than the 'Stamp Corner.' Long may it live."

"If it is customary, I would like your opinion through 'Our Letter-Box' about the order of placing stamps in an album. Would you recommend the Chronological, Alphabetical, Numerical, or County System? An album is not permanent except it be chronological, having one book each year."

"I think sheets of drawing-paper (using only one side, and only one county in a sheet) are the best and most permanent. Q. CUMBER."

We trust that other of our readers will favor us with their views, and give us all information concerning the state of their collection.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XV.

PORTRAIT SERIES OF 1870.

THE withdrawal of the previous series, as described in our last, has by some been referred to the clamors of the public press of the country, who could see in them no beauty worthy of a great nation like ours. Whether this be so or not, we assert that a sight of the proofs of this series, or of the stamps in an uncanceled state, will convince one that the charge of ugliness cannot be held. However, they were withdrawn, and in April, 1870, the National Bank Note Company prepared a new set, which by all odds is the handsomest series of adhesive stamps in use in any country. Our illustrations cannot do even the smallest measure of justice to these stamps, as they must be seen in their pure, bright colors, and arrayed as a whole, in order to be fully appreciated. The general design consisted of an oval on a groundwork of varying patterns; within the oval, a bust turned to right. The portraits in the stamps were modeled after celebrated statues and busts of the different individuals represented, except that of Stanton, which was engraved from a photograph. The likenesses are all true, and form a very fine portrait gallery of the different heroes who have figured in the history of our Government. The following is the full description of the stamps, which are rectangular in shape, and perforated:

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XIV.

SERIES OF MEDALLION STAMPS.

IN the year 1869, the Post Office Department resolved upon making a change in its postage stamps, and accordingly instructed the National Bank Note Company of New York city—the engravers and printers, by-the-way, of the series of 1861-66—to prepare a new set. Accordingly, a series of ten stamps was prepared by this company, and formed a new departure in stamps. The stamps were adopted, not only for the beauty and minuteness of the workmanship, but also for the novelty presented in some of the specimens.

The stamps are all square in shape, and each bears a different design. The novelty consisted in the production, by some peculiar process which it would take too long to describe, of copies of paintings of two of the most important events in the history of our country—namely, "The Landing of Columbus" and "The Declaration of Independence."

The following is a complete list of all the stamps: 1 cent, yellow (fig. 1). Profile bust of Franklin to left, in beaded circle; inscription, U. S. POSTAGE, and value in circular label surrounding value.

2 cents, brown (fig. 2). View: in the foreground horseman and carrier riding to left; scrolled ornaments inclosing design.

3 cents, blue (fig. 3). Locomotive train running to right, surrounded by scrolled ornaments.

6 cents, blue (fig. 4). Bust of Washington, three-fourths to right, within beaded circle, surrounded by rectangular labels, bearing inscriptions and value.

10 cents, orange (fig. 5). Eagle, with expanded wings, mounted on shield; an arc of thirteen stars, and sun's rays behind.

12 cents, green (fig. 6). Ocean view: steamship sailing to left, within transverse oval, surrounded by scrolls and ornaments.

15 cents, blue and brown (fig. 7). Miniature of the "Landing of Columbus," within rectangular frame; between the frame and miniature are ornaments, inscription, etc. The miniature is printed in brown, the rest of the stamp in blue.

24 cents, purple and green (fig. 8). Miniature of "The Declaration of Independence," printed in purple. The rest of the stamp is in green.

30 cents, red and blue (fig. 9). The design of the 10 cent stamp is used here, and in addition, supporters, formed of the flags of the country, on either side.

90 cents, red and black (fig. 10). Bust of Lincoln, three-fourths to right, in upright oval, surrounded by labels containing inscriptions and value. The profile is printed in black, and the rest of the stamp in red.

On all the stamps except the last, in the central lower portion is a large figure of value; in the 90c., there are figures in each of the upper corners.

These stamps were in use scarcely a year. We do not know why they were repressed. As specimens of engraving, the whole series is remarkable.

1 cent (fig. 1). Profile bust of Franklin, after Rubriht. Color: imperial ultramarine-blue. 2 cents (fig. 2). Profile bust of Jackson, after Powers. Color: velvet-brown. 3 cents (fig. 3). Profile bust of Washington, after Houden. Color: millor-green. 6 cents (fig. 4). Profile bust of Lincoln, after Volk. Color: cochineal-red. 7 cents. Profile bust of Stanton, from photograph. Color: English vermilion. 10 cents (fig. 5). Profile bust of Jefferson, after Powers's statue. Color: chocolate. 12 cents (fig. 6). Profile bust of Clay, after Hart. Color: neutral tint (purple). 15 cents (fig. 7). Profile bust of Webster, after Cleveger. Color: orange. 24 cents (fig. 8). Profile bust of Scott, after Coffee. Color: pure purple. 30 cents (fig. 9). Profile bust of Hamilton, after Cerrachi. Color: black. 90 cents (fig. 10). Profile bust of Commodore Perry, after Wolcutt's statue. Color: carmine. These stamps, when first issued, were impressed in the back by a grid, as it is called, a series of small points just penetrating the paper. In 1873, the printing of these stamps was given to the Continental Bank Note Co., of this city, who also prepared the official stamps of which we shall speak presently; and now the stamps appear without this grid. These stamps being still current, it is a very easy matter to obtain them, and have a choice of specimens. Those who prefer uncanceled ones can find enough variety in the different stamps to form two sets.

As stamps are becoming very rare, the 1c., 10c., and 90c., being seldom met with. We would advise collectors, therefore, to secure all the stamps as quickly as possible.

Do not be deceived by forgeries—at least, the forgeries that are offered. No counterfeit can ever imitate the beauty of finish and fineness of engraving of these stamps, and no one but the veriest tyro of a collector would ever be imposed upon by a counterfeit. If you have doubts that such is the case, either in these or in other stamps, we shall gladly give an opinion if the specimens are sent to us.

C. S. MURDOCK.—Our stamp articles began in No. 413, and we can supply them to date. Remit money for what numbers you wish, or order through your newsdealer. You ask, "Can I get those cuts of you?" Do you wish impressions of the cuts, or electrotypes to print from?

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XVI.

THE U. S. OFFICIAL STAMPS.

BEFORE describing the series of Envelope Stamps issued conjointly with the adhesives, described in No. XV., we devote this paper to a brief consideration of the official stamps used by the various Departments at Washington.

On the repeal of the franking privilege, a year ago, it was thought advisable to prepare series of stamps for the Departments affected by this repeal, and, accordingly, the contract for supplying them was given to the Continental Bank Note Company, of this city; and on July 1, 1873, the stamps were issued. The general designs were identical with the corresponding value of the adhesives, described in No. XV., the name of the Department replacing the words "U. S. POSTAGE"; therefore, illustrations are unnecessary. In the case of the State Department, four additional values were employed, and for these a new design was prepared, namely, a profile bust of W. H. Seward (once Secretary of State), in oval, with ornamental surroundings, value in words at bottom. The stamp was a very large one, and was printed in two colors, black and green. The stamps for the Post Office Department inserted, instead of the busts in the adhesive stamps, a large figure of value, with the words "OFFICIAL STAMP" above and below.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.—The inscription reads, "DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE, U. S." All the stamps are printed in orange, and are of the following nine values: 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c., 30c.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.—The inscription reads, "U. S. EXECUTIVE." The stamps are printed in brilliant carmine, with five values: 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 10c.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.—The inscription reads, "DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR, U. S." The stamps are printed in vermilion, and are of the following ten values: 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c., 30c., 90c.

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.—The inscription reads, "DEPT. OF JUSTICE, U. S." The stamps are printed in purple, and are of the following ten values: 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c., 30c., 90c.

NAVAL DEPARTMENT.—The inscription reads, "NAVY DEPT." The stamps are printed in blue, and of the following eleven values: 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 7c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c., 30c., 90c.

POSTAL DEPARTMENT.—The inscription reads, "POST OFFICE DEPT., OFFICIAL STAMP, U. S." The stamps are printed in black, of the following ten values: 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c., 30c., 90c.

STATE DEPARTMENT.—The inscription reads, "DEPT. OF STATE, U. S." The stamps are printed in green for the ordinary values. On the high values of the stamps the inscription is "DEPARTMENT OF STATE, U. S. OF A." and they are printed in black and green. 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 7c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c., 30c., 90c., \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 7.



Fig. 8.



Fig. 9.



Fig. 10.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.—The inscription is "U. S. TREASURY DEPT." The stamps are printed in *brown*, and are of the following eleven values: 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 7c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c., 30c., 90c.

WAR DEPARTMENT.—The inscription reads, "U. S. WAR DEPT." The stamps are printed in *red*, and are of the following eleven values: 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 7c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c., 30c., 90c.

These stamps form a splendid series, and with the exception of the high values of the State Department, and some few others, are easily procurable in a canceled condition.

Two Departments also use Stamped Envelopes; but these we shall notice when we speak of the Envelopes of the regular Government issue in our next paper.

We might take occasion here to state, in answer to numerous inquiries, that on the completion of the description of the United States Stamps—the 1870 Envelopes, newspaper stamps and card—we shall then pass to other countries, until we have given a fair idea of the domain of stamp-collecting.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.



Fig. 10.



Fig. 6.



Fig. 7.



Fig. 8.



Fig. 9.

XVII—No. 429 JANUARY 9, 1875

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XVI.

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AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.—The inscription reads, "DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE, U. S." All the stamps are printed in *orange*, and are of the following nine values: 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c., 30c.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.—The inscription reads, "U. S. EXECUTIVE." The stamps are printed in *brilliant carmine*, with five values: 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 10c.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.—The inscription reads, "DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR, U. S." The stamps are printed in *vermillion*, and are of the following ten values: 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c., 30c., 90c.

JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.—The inscription reads, "DEPT. OF JUSTICE, U. S." The stamps are printed in *purple*, and are of the following ten values: 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c., 30c., 90c.

NAVY DEPARTMENT.—The inscription reads, "NAVY DEPT." The stamps are printed in *blue*, and are of the following eleven values: 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 7c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c., 30c., 90c.

POSTAL DEPARTMENT.—The inscription reads, "POST OFFICE DEPT., OFFICIAL STAMP, U. S." The stamps are printed in *black*, of the following ten values: 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c., 30c., 90c.

STATE DEPARTMENT.—The inscription reads, "DEPT. OF STATE, U. S." The stamps are printed in *green* for the ordinary values. On the high values of the stamps the inscription is "DEPARTMENT OF STATE, U. S. OF A.," and they are printed in *black and green*. 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 7c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c., 30c., 90c., \$2, \$5, \$10, \$20.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.—The inscription is "U. S. TREASURY DEPT." The stamps are printed in *brown*, and are of the following eleven values: 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 7c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c., 30c., 90c.

WAR DEPARTMENT.—The inscription reads, "U. S. WAR DEPT." The stamps are printed in *red*, and are of the following eleven values: 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 7c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c., 30c., 90c.

These stamps form a splendid series, and with the exception of the high values of the State Department, and some few others, are easily procurable in a canceled condition.

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We might take occasion here to state, in answer to numerous inquiries, that on the completion of the description of the United States Stamps—the 1870 Envelopes, newspaper stamps and card—we shall then pass to other countries, until we have given a fair idea of the domain of stamp-collecting.

XVII—No. 430 JANUARY 16, 1875

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XVII.

U. S. ENVELOPES OF 1870.

OCTOBER 1, 1870, is given by the Government as the date of this series of envelopes, although many of the varieties did not appear until July, 1872. The different dates, however, are not of any special importance, and the whole series may be called that of 1870. Eleven denominations are used, all but two of which are illustrated, and no special description is necessary, except the mention of the portraits and colors, and the different sizes and styles of the envelopes.

It will be noticed that the portraits correspond to those of the adhesive stamps, and although the whole appearance of the impression is immeasurably superior to anything else in the line of U. S. Envelopes, still they are far below the designs of other envelope-producing countries. A series of these, arrayed side by side, in their bright colors and the three shades of the paper, presents a very beautiful appearance indeed.

The types illustrated include all except the 15c. and 90c., and we shall enumerate again the names of the heroes figuring on the stamps by their portraits.

- 1c. FRANKLIN (Fig. 1); profile bust, after Rubright. *Imperial ultramarine-blue*.
- 2c. JACKSON (Fig. 2); profile bust, after Powers. *Velvet-brown*.
- 3c. WASHINGTON (Fig. 3); profile bust, after Houden. *Milori-green*.
- 6c. LINCOLN (Fig. 4); profile bust, after Volk. *Cochineal-red*.



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

No. 431, JANUARY 23, 1875

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XVIII.

U. S. ENVELOPES OF 1870.

(Continued.)

7c. STANTON (Fig. 5); profile bust from photograph. *English vermillion*.

- 10c. JEFFERSON (Fig. 6); profile bust, after Powers's statue. *Chocolate*.
- 12c. CLAY (Fig. 7); profile bust, after Hart. *Neutral tint*.
- 15c. WEBSTER; profile bust, after Clevenger. *Orange*.
- 24c. SCOTT (Fig. 8); profile bust, after Coffee. *Pure purple*.
- 30c. HAMILTON (Fig. 9); profile bust, after Carrachi. *Black*.
- 90c. COMMODORE PERRY; profile bust, after Walcutt's statue. *Carmine*.

There are three qualities of paper used by the P. O. Department for the three tints: *white, cream, and amber*, employed for the envelopes. *White* is always of the first quality; *cream* invariably of the second, with the sole exception of the extra official sizes, where the first quality is assigned; *amber* is common to all the qualities. Dark-buff, for circular envelopes, and manilla for wrappers, complete the varieties of paper used. The watermark on the envelopes consists of a monogram formed of the letters P. O. U. S., and has superseded the old watermark.

The following schedule of sizes may be interesting to those who intend to keep their envelopes entire:

SIZE.	DENOMINATION.	QUALITY.	COLOR.
No. 1. Note size, 2 3/4 by 5 1/2 in.	3c.	First.	White.
	3c.	Second.	Amber.
No. 2. Ordinary letter. 3 1-16 by 5 1/4 in.	1c.	First.	White or Amber.
	2c.	First.	White or Amber.
	3c.	First.	White or Amber.
	3c.	Second.	Cream.
No. 3. Full letter. 3 3/4 by 5 1/4 in.	3c.	Third.	Amber.
	6c.	First.	White or Amber.
	6c.	First.	White or Amber.
	6c.	Second.	Cream.
No. 4. Full letter, un- gummed, for cir- culars. 3 3/4 by 5 1/4 in.	6c.	Second.	Cream.
	6c.	Third.	Amber.
	6c.	Third.	Amber.
	7c.	Third.	Amber.
No. 5. Extra letter. 3 3/4 by 6 1/4 in.	1c.	—	Dark-buff.
	2c.	—	Dark-buff.
No. 6. Extra letter, un- gummed, for cir- culars. 3 3/4 by 6 1/4 in.	3c.	First.	White or Amber.
	6c.	First.	White or Amber.
	3c.	Second.	Cream.
	6c.	Second.	Cream.
No. 7. Official. 3 15-16 by 8 1/4 in.	3c.	Third.	Amber.
	6c.	Third.	Amber.
	6c.	First.	White or Amber.
	12c.	First.	White or Amber.
No. 8. Extra Official. 4 1/4 by 10 1/4 in.	24c.	First.	White or Amber.
	30c.	First.	White or Amber.
	30c.	Second.	Cream.
	30c.	Second.	Cream.
	30c.	Second.	Cream.
	30c.	Second.	Cream.
	90c.	Second.	Cream.
	90c.	Second.	Cream.
No. 9. Official. 4 1/4 by 10 1/4 in.	6c.	First.	White or Cream.
	12c.	First.	White or Cream.
	15c.	First.	White or Cream.
	24c.	First.	White or Cream.

No. 9.
Newspaper
Wrappers.
6 1/2 by 9 1/2 in.

1c.
2c.

Vanilla.
Vanilla.

Light-buff.
Light-buff.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.



Fig. 6.

No. 433., JANUARY 30, 1875.

Vol. XVII
THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XIX.

ENVELOPES OF 1874, AND THE OFFICIAL ENVELOPES.

IN connection with the envelopes of 1870, there are some very interesting and very scarce specimens—those with the black-ruled lines on one of the side-flaps, for convenience in writing the address, and those having faint blue lines on the face of the envelope. These varieties are confined to the three lower values, and to the first four sizes of the envelopes.

ENVELOPES OF 1874.

It is not many weeks since the contract for making these envelopes was awarded to a manufacturing company in Connecticut. After considerable delay, their envelopes have been issued to the public, and our conclusion, derived from an inspection of the values thus far seen, is that the Government, instead of improving upon its stamps, are retrograding. The new issue is simply hideous. The portraits, bad enough in the previous issue, have been distorted beyond all hope of recognition. The Jackson of the new type is not the hero of New Orleans, but some commonplace individual, without a particle of expression in his face. The Franklin of the new type is not that grand old man who bottled the lightning, or who commands the admiration of the whole civilized world, but a sleepy-looking person, who seems to have been disappointed in love. The Washington of the new type is certainly not the same party who traveled through the forests of Virginia, and the snow and ice of Winter, and the angry vengeance of the Indians, to the French forts in the Ohio, with the simple request that the Frenchmen "quit." Nor is he our Washington who led this country through a seven years' war, and then sent England about her own business, after taking away her playthings at Arktown. But the Connecticut people have given us another wooden nutmeg, this time in the shape of a rejuvenated dandy, with hooked nose, pert lips, and sweetly-perfumed perukes, and then ask us to call this Washington. How the other heroes will be disfigured, we know not. They have not come to New York yet; perhaps a hamed to show their faces.

OFFICIAL ENVELOPES.

At the same time with the official stamps were issued envelopes for the use of the Post Office and War Departments. The Post Office Department uses but three values—2c., 3c., 6c.—all impressed in black, on yellow paper. The envelopes are of the various sizes used by the Department, and bear superscriptions according to the uses to which they are to be applied—such as "Registered," "Money Order Business," etc.

The framework of the design, as shown in Fig. 1, serves for all the envelopes of both the Post Office and War Departments. In those of the former, a large figure of value holds the central position. In the latter, the figure of value is replaced by the busts of the regular envelopes. Of the envelopes for the use of the War Department, there are nine values: 1c., 2c., 3c., 6c., 10c., 12c., 15c., 24c., 30c. All the stamps are embossed in vermilion.

POST CARD.

These useful exponents of cheap postage had been in use for three years in countries abroad before our Government could be prevailed upon to adopt them, which they finally did in 1873. The Fig. (2) will explain the design, with which all our readers are, of course, familiar. Changes have taken place in this card, not generally known. When first introduced, the water mark consisted of a very large monogram, of the letters U. S. P. O. D. Afterward, the letters were made very much smaller. This is the only change which should be noticed by the collectors. The quality of paper used sometimes changes, as also the shade of ink. These are minor varieties.

In our next paper we shall conclude our long article of U. S. Stamps with a description of the new newspaper stamps, and then we shall proceed with the stamps of other countries.



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.—SEE PAGE 255.

No. 433, FEBRUARY 6, 1875

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XX.

THE NEWSPAPER STAMP.

ON the 1st of January, 1875, the new newspaper law went into effect. As this law requires the publishers to prepay all postage on their publications, the Post Office Department ordained that special stamps be prepared for the newspaper postage. The contract was given to the Continental Bank Note Company, and we are now in a position to give stamp-collectors full information of these stamps, with all necessary details. As the law stands at present, there will not be the remotest chance for the albums of collectors to be blessed with the canceled specimens. It seems that by the terms of the Act, postage on newspapers and periodical publications mailed from a known office of publication or news-agency, and addressed to regular subscribers or news-agents, is to be charged at two (2) cents per pound if issued weekly or oftener, and at three (3) cents per pound if issued less frequently than once a week. The matter is to be weighed in bulk, and the postage paid with adhesive stamps specially provided for the purpose. At first the Department was in doubt as to the method of applying these stamps. Three methods were suggested. The first and second provided that the stamps be affixed to such matter, or to the sack containing the same. To affix the stamps to the matter itself to go through the mails, as evidence of prepayment, would require almost an infinity of denominations, the most of them in fractional parts of a cent, as it not infrequently happens that only a single number of a publication is sent to a particular point of destination. Besides, as the law allows the publisher to pay for his matter in bulk, the labor of separating it and affixing the stamps to each piece or parcel would fall upon the postmaster at the mailing office—a hardship equaled only by that imposed upon the publisher by the delay it would involve. The only plan then remaining of the three suggested is the one permitting the stamps to be affixed to a "memorandum of mailing." The foundation of this plan is a coupon receipt-book, with a form of receipt as follows:

No. ———	\$ ———	No. ———
[Date.] ——— 187—		Post Office — 1—
Name of Publication		[Date.] ——— 187—
— or —		Received of ———
Of News Agent ———		— dollars and — cents,
Rate per pound — cts.		postage on
Amount of postage ———		— pounds of the —
		at — cents per pound.
[Here affix stamps.]		——, Postmaster.

NOTE.—The publisher or news-agent will please preserve this receipt.

The above will need but little explanation. This book is to be kept in the Post Office, and when a

consignment is received from a publisher or news-agent, the receipt is to be filled out and given him, upon payment of the required amount of postage.

The stub, also, properly filled out and stamped, will serve as a record of the transaction.

The advantages of fixing the stamps to the stub instead of to the receipt is manifest. Not only will the canceled stamps remaining in the Post Office be in themselves evidences of the good faith of the Postmaster, but their retention there will prevent outside parties from attempting their re-use. As a more effectual means of cancellation, it is intended to perforate the stamps with a punch, instead of defacing them with ink, as in the ordinary method.

The values used are the following:
2c., 3c., 4c., 6c., 8c., 9c., 10c., 12c., 24c., 30c., 48c., 60c., 72c., 84c., 96c., \$1.92, \$3, \$6, \$9, \$12, \$24, \$36, \$48, \$60.

These stamps are all of the same size, in shape of an upright rectangle, 15-16 in. by 1 3/4. The general design consists of a vignette in the centre, figures of value in the upper corners, value in words along the lower edge, the words "NEWSPAPER PERIODICALS" on either side, and "U. S. POSTAGE" above the vignette. All the values from 2c. to 10c., inclusive, bear the same design: the vignette is an emblematic figure of America looking to right, and clad in long, flowing robes. All these values are printed in black.

The stamps from 12c. to 96c., inclusive, have the same design. The vignette is a full length figure of Justice, facing, holding scales in right hand, and resting with left on shield. The figure wears coat-of-mail, and is helmeted. The set stamps are all printed in the same color—namely, carmine.

The \$1.92 stamp has for a vignette the Goddess of Agriculture. It is printed in a rich brown.

The \$3 bears the Goddess of Liberty. It is printed in vermilion.

The \$6 bears the Goddess of History, and is printed in blue.

The \$9 bears the statue of Minerva, the color being orange.

The \$12 represents a Vestal Virgin, the color being green.

The \$24 bears the figure of Juno, and is printed in purple.

The \$36 bears the Goddess of Commerce, and is printed in brick-red.

The \$48 bears figure of Hebe, and is printed in light-claret color.

The \$60 bears figure of Minnehaha, and is printed in purple.

The very meagre description we have given of these stamps is but faint praise of their beauty and the originality of their conception. The Continental Company has fairly outdone itself in these stamps, and the fortunate possessor of a set, at an outlay of the moderate sum of \$204.66, will have a set of which he may well be proud, for the stamps are among the finest specimens of steel engraving we have ever seen.

No. 434, FEBRUARY 13, 1875

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XXI.

HOW POSTAGE-STAMPS ARE MADE AND DISTRIBUTED.

[New York Letter to Buffalo Express.]

EVERY United States postage-stamp in use is made here in New York. The contract was held by the American Bank-note Company from July 1, 1861, until the same day in 1873. That was for three terms of four years each. The Continental Bank-note Company at that time offering to do it for one-half the amount required by the other company, the contract was awarded to them. The office of the Continental is at the corner of Greenwich and Liberty Street, but as it was desirable to have the postage-stamps made in a perfectly fire-proof building, the fifth story of the Equitable Life Insurance Building, on the corner of Broadway and Cedar Street, was rented by the company for that purpose.

The office here is for the use of Mr. Daniel M. Boyd, the Government Agent, and Mr. Charles F. Steel, the agent and superintendent appointed by the company. The facts given in regard to the making of stamps were obtained by your correspondent from Mr. Henry Bowen, Mr. Boyd's assistant. Two passenger elevators run to the top of the building, and upon leaving them, the only entrance to the postage-rooms is by means of a door which is constantly locked and guarded by a janitor, who always sits inside to answer the bell, which is just outside. On the right-hand side are the office and printing-room, and away to the left, at the front of the building, are the other rooms used in making the stamps.

In printing, steel plates are used, on which 200 stamps are engraved. Two men are kept hard at work covering them with the colored inks and passing them to a man and a girl, who are equally busy at printing them with large rolling hand-presses. Three of these little squads are employed all the time, although ten presses can be put into use in case of necessity. After the small sheets of paper, upon which the 200 stamps are engraved, have dried sufficiently, they are sent into another room and gummed. The gum used for this purpose is a peculiar composition, made of the powder of dried potatoes and other vegetables, mixed with water, which is better than other kinds; for instance, gum arabic, which cracks the paper badly.

This paper also is of a peculiar texture, somewhat similar to that used for bank-notes. After having been again dried, this time on little racks, which are

anned by steam power for about an hour, they are put between sheets of pasteboard and pressed by hydraulic presses, capable of applying a weight of 200 tons. The next thing is to cut the sheets in half; each sheet, of course, when cut, contains a hundred stamps. This is done by a girl with a large pair of shears, cutting by hand being preferred to that of machinery, which method would destroy too many stamps. They are then passed to two other squads, who in as many operations perforate the sheet between the stamps.

Next they are pressed once more, and then packed and labeled, and stowed away in another room, preparatory to being put in mail-bags for dispatching to fulfill orders. If a single stamp is torn, or in any way mutilated, the whole sheet of one hundred is burned. About 500,000 are burned every week from this cause. For the past twenty years not a single sheet has been lost, such care is taken in counting them. During the process of manufacturing, the sheets are counted eleven times.

There are 36,000 Post Offices throughout the country, and they use in the course of one year 700,000,000 postage-stamps. A week or two since, 64,000,000 finished and 87,000,000 unfinished stamps were put into the safes. The New York Post Office alone uses 120,000,000 a year, somewhat over one-sixth of the whole number used, or equal to the amount required by 6,000 other offices. Four times a year the different Post Offices send an order for the number of stamps they expect to have occasion to use during the coming three months. Of course, if they run out during that time, they are at liberty to send for more.

The office here in New York is supplied differently. Twice a month an order is sent for about 500,000 of various denominations. Three-cent stamps are, of course, in much greater demand than those of any other value. In answer to the orders the stamps are made and sent to the offices, and there counted immediately in the presence of a witness. An accompanying blank receipt is filled up and sent to the Third Assistant-Postmaster at Washington, who has charge of this branch of the Post Office Department. The pay of the majority of Postmasters is not by any means extravagant. The holder of that position in Guthrie, Indiana, receives the small salary of \$1 per annum, and there are many others who get the same. Others get \$2, \$3, \$4, \$5, and so on up to \$6,000.

Although a salary of a few dollars is not in itself of importance, the holder of such an office generally is. For instance, in a little village the Postmaster is almost always the owner of the grocery store, and the villagers, while waiting for the mail, find it convenient to lay in a stock of provisions, so that the Post Office draws custom. Besides, the Postmaster is usually considered a man of much importance in a small town. I know a store-keeper who is the Postmaster of a village in the southern part of New Jersey, and who gets only \$12 a year for that position. But he wouldn't resign it for three times that amount every year.

It is only the Postmasters of large towns or cities who receive as much as \$4,000. Mr. J. L. James, the Postmaster of this city, gets a salary of \$6,000, the largest given, but really small, considering the large amount of responsibility and work which it involves.

No. 435. FEBRUARY 20, 1875

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XXII.

THE CONFEDERATE STATES.

THE history of the late Rebellion is so well known to our readers that a review of the causes which led to it, its progress, the final subjugation of the Southern States, and their reconciliation with the Union, would be entirely unnecessary; a detailed history of the stamps used throughout the Confederacy is, however, not so well known, and, therefore, this subject will form the present paper.

One of the first steps the Government took, after the adoption of the various ordinances of secession by the several Southern States, was the repudiation of the Government postage-stamps, in order that those in the Post Offices throughout the South could not be utilized. And one of the first steps the Confederate Government made was, to issue postage-stamps for its own use.

The Post Office Department was organized with John H. Reagan as Postmaster-General, but the chief work was performed by H. St. George O'felt, who, from his long connection with the Post Office Department, was fully capable of undertaking the difficult task. On the 1st of June, 1861, the Department was prepared for the successful operation of the offices under its control. Of course, we can imagine that many difficulties were encountered in the perfect workings of the Department, particularly in the preparation of the stamps, which did not appear all at the same time, and that to effect this want of a supply of postage-stamps, the various local postmasters were obliged to resort to numerous expedients for the purpose of collecting the mail charges on their letters. The stamps, when they did appear, were not of the finest execution. However, we all know how the Southern States were cramped in their resources, and that the preparation of fine stamps, or their speedy completion, was not the greatest boon to the Southern people, as many of them did not have the envelopes upon which to stick these stamps until they made them out of wall-paper, newspapers, or any kind of paper that came handy. However, these are the romances of the Rebellion, before proceeding to the list of the provisional stamps, we shall give the Government stamps as they finally appeared.

In 1861, a two-cent was issued. This bore the portrait of Andrew Jackson to the left, in oval, "C. S. A. POSTAGE" above, ornaments around, full value in scroll below. The color was a pale-green. The stamp was rectangular and unperforated, as were all the stamps issued by the Confederacy.



Fig. h.

(d) During the same year, a five-cent stamp was issued. This had the head of Jefferson Davis, the President of the Confederacy, to right, with inscription "CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA," all within double-lined oval frame; "POSTAGE" above, "FIVE CENTS" below, ornaments of flowers and scroll-work filling up the design. These stamps were printed in green, and afterwards in blue.

(c) In 1862, another value was issued. This had the portrait of Madison to right, within wide oval

frame, containing in the upper a label inscribed "CONFEDERATE STATES," in the lower part a label inscribed "POSTAGE," the intervening portion of the frame being ornamented. The word "POSTAGE," between two stars, ran across the upper edge of the stamp, the value, "TEN CENTS," across the lower edge. In the four angles is the value in figures. This stamp was printed in rose, and then blue.

These stamps soon gave way to another series of five stamps.

(d) 1c., head of Calhoun, orange
(e) 2c., head of Jackson, claret
(f) 5c., head of Davis, blue. With the exception of the portrait and value, this stamp is identical in design with that represented in Fig. a.

(g) 10c., bust of Davis to right, blue
(h) 20c., head of Washington to left, green
Two dies of the 10c. were made, one as in the cut, the other with the value in words, "TEN CENTS."

These stamps are found in great variety, owing to the changing in the tints of the ink, and also the paper used, sometimes the paper being very hard and smooth, sometimes soft and rough.

The stamp-Counterfeiters have found an ample field for their nefarious practices, as all these stamps have been counterfeited and extensively circulated, until, at the present day, perhaps nine out of every ten collections contain one or more counterfeits, of which the owner may be ignorant. This is, of course, to be deplored, since the stamps we have named are not of such great rarity. These counterfeiters are shrewd fellows, too. They put all sorts of canceling marks upon their humbugs, seeing which many will buy, little suspecting that the obliterating marks are part of the plan to impose on the credulity of collectors.

We insert here a list of the stamps we have named, and the prices for which the genuine ones may be obtained from any respectable dealer.

The letters a, b, etc., refer to the descriptive list. The first column of prices is for new stamps, or those not used for postage; the second column is for the canceled specimens:

(a) 2c., green	\$ 75	. . . . .	95
(b) 5c., green	30	. . . . .	20
(d) 5c., blue	25	. . . . .	20
(e) 10c., blue	60	. . . . .	25
(f) 10c., rose	1.25	. . . . .	75

SMALL SIZE.

(d) 1c., orange	8	. . . . .	—
(e) 2c., claret	2	. . . . .	10
(f) 5c., blue	2	. . . . .	3
(g) 10c., blue	2	. . . . .	3
(h) TEN CENTS	1.00	. . . . .	1.00
(i) 20c., green	3	. . . . .	10

No. 436. FEBRUARY 27, 1875.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XXIII.

WE give in this paper illustrations of the remaining Confederate Stamps described in our last, but not illustrated there.



Fig. d.



Fig. e.



Fig. f.



Fig. b.



Fig. c.



Fig. e.



Fig. f.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

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THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XXIV.

THE CONFEDERATE STATES.—THEIR PROVISIONAL STAMPS.

"NEW postage stamps," writes an English collector, "will prove to be such memorials as those of the late Confederate States. By their issues, with such varying portraits, and by the emissions from the various cities which formed the chief rallying-places, they remind us of those material points in the history of the struggles which hold the prominent places in the pages of recent American history. It is upon these 'locals,' or, more distinctively, 'provisionals,' that our greatest interest centres. 'Provisional local' issues were called forth by the exigencies of the war, often after the Government was reduced to making localities its headquarters. The authorized Government emissions, of course, vary considerably in the particulars of paper and color, so it is not surprising that many of the stamps

provisionally issued in various cities should possess no ascertained normal condition. Of course we must accept all we may find genuine, trusting to future emendations to supply the requisite explanations of their vagaries. Such variations are to be expected in a case where the Government was always moving, and where all the peaceful acts were virtually at a stand-still. As a parallel, look back at the coinage during the civil wars in England, when every species of plate was worked into coin by the royal party. The local coinages of Newton and Pontefract must be known to many of us, in which the plate was not even melted down, but the king's impress, etc., were struck upon the flattened silver, leaving the marks of the original chasing or engraving plainly visible.

In stamp-collecting we find hardly such striking things as these; but when a century has given age to philately, many of these Confederate provisionals will be eagerly sought for and most highly valued. Age gives respectability, and it is only that the whole system of prepayment of cheap postage by stamps is so comparatively new, that philately is thought so lightly of by the general public. An invention which has done so much for the good of mankind, and whose visible signs (stamps) possess every historical record which the future student can desire to command, must, in time, take its proper position, and become subsidiary and indispensable to the study of numismatics.

To collect both coins and stamps thoroughly is far beyond the reach of most, but to be a faithful philatelist is not so difficult. To possess a fair exposition of the wondrous advance of civilization during the past quarter of a century, in the remotest parts of the globe, can be done for a sum which would not be missed when spread over a few years. These remarks are in strict accordance with our heading, for the locals or provisionals of the late Confederate States possess original claims upon us as matters of history, and that is the great ground upon which philately will take its stand for all time.

Any further comment on the value of these Confederate provisionals would be unnecessary, except to urge upon our readers the most diligent search for these historical stamps, and all matters of interest connected therewith. There may be more than we at present are acquainted with, and, therefore, any information throwing light upon these described, or others which may be found, will be thankfully received, to be embodied in these papers, so that all our philatelic friends may know the full stamp-history of the Rebellion.

ALABAMA.

On the 11th of January, 1861, the ordinance of secession was passed, and on the 13th of March the Confederate Constitution was adopted. Owing to the want of Confederate stamps, several of the postmasters resorted to stamps of their own getting-up.

GREENVILLE is situated on the Mobile and Great Northern Railway, forty-five miles from Montgomery. The stamps issued by the postmaster of this town are among the scarcest of the provisionals. The design consisted of a pair of scrolled ornaments, printed in blue, with space between filled in with type-set inscription, "PAID—FIVE, GREENVILLE, ALA.," in red. This stamp is represented in Fig. 1.

LIVINGSTON is situated on the Selma and Meriden Railway, about eighty miles west of Selma. The stamp represented in Fig. 2 is of equal rarity with that last mentioned. It is printed in blue. It is a fine lithograph, and one of the prettiest stamps of the whole Confederacy.

MOBILE is the largest city in Alabama. It is situated on the Mobile River, near its entrance into the Bay. Stamps of two values were issued, one for two cents in black, the other for five cents, in blue. (Fig. 3), the former, almost identical with Fig. 3,

except the denomination. The black ones are very scarce.

GEORGIA.

As far as known, but two towns in this State had postage-stamps of their own—Athens and Macon.

ATHENS is situated on the Athens branch of the Georgia Railway, being the county seat of Clark County. The stamp represented in Fig. 5 was printed in purple, and closely resembles, in design, the stamp of Nashville.

MACON is situated on the Ocmulgee River, at the crossing of the Central Railway. The stamp (Fig. 6), is printed from type, in black, on bluish or greenish paper.



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.—SEE NEXT PAGE.



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 6.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 7.



Fig. 8.

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THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XXVI.

CONFEDERATE STATES.—(CONTINUED.)

NORTH CAROLINA.

ALTHOUGH no adhesive stamps were issued by this State, yet two of the cities issued prepaid envelopes—that is, envelopes in which a simple design, or perhaps postmark, was imprinted in one corner of the envelope. In reality, these have no philatelic value, and if collected at all, are noticed only by the few enthusiasts in the science who wish everything having the semblance of postal use.

SALEM is situated about seventy-five miles west from Raleigh, the capital. Orestes A. Keehl, whose name appears on the stamp, as seen in Fig. 1, was the postmaster at the breaking out of the war, and he continued in his position under the Confederacy. The design was engraved in wood, except the word "Paid" and figure "5," which were written in with ink. The impression was in black.

STATESVILLE is located on the Western North Carolina Railway, twenty-five miles from Salisbury. The design employed by the postmaster, Mr. Robert F. Simonton, who was appointed before the war, and, like many of the postmasters, was retained under the new government, is simplicity itself. Fig. 2 will give all the explanation necessary. This was stamped in the right hand upper corner of the envelopes in blue or black.

VIRGINIA.

This State, the birth-place of so many Presidents, also has the honor of being the birth-place of many varieties of Confederate locals.

FREDRICKSBURG, on the Rappahannock, about seventy-five miles from the mouth, has given us stamps of two values. These are type-set, having the inscription "FREDRICKSBURG," and "R. T. THORN," and figure of value, "5" or "10," within a frame of asterisks. The fives are printed in blue, the tens in red.

LYNCHBURG is situated on the James River, about one hundred miles west from Richmond. The stamp represented in Fig. 3 was printed in blue.

MARION must be rather a small place, as it does not appear on the maps of the ordinary school geography, and yet it issued, according to all accounts, four stamps of the values of 5c., 10c., 15c., 20c.

PETERSBURG is twenty miles directly north of Richmond. The stamp issued is identical in every respect, except the color and name, with the stamp represented in Fig. 4. The color was rose-red, and the postmaster's name, "W. E. BASS."

PLEASANT SHADE, somewhere in Virginia, where, it does not matter. The stamp, Fig. 4, was printed in blue.

PITTSYLVANIA, another out-of-the-way place, issued a stamp, or at least it is pretended that it did. Whether the specimens we have examined are authentic, or gotten up to sell, we cannot, at present, determine. The design is an ornamented framework; inscription within. Fig. 5 will give a very good idea of this newest discovery.

XVII.—No. 440. MARCH 27, 1875

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XXVII.

CONFEDERATE STATES.—(CONTINUED.)

SOUTH CAROLINA.

CHARLESTON, situated at the junction of the Cooper and Ashley Rivers, employed two stamps, or rather stamp and stamped envelope. The adhesive (Fig. 6) is printed on very thin paper, in blue; the envelope-stamp (Fig. 7) is also impressed in blue, and sometimes twice on the same envelope.

COLUMBIA, the capital, is situated on the Congaree, one hundred and twenty-four miles from Charleston. The stamp (Fig. 8) was impressed in blue on the right upper corner of the envelope.

TENNESSEE

has also supplied many stamps, some of which are exceedingly rare.

KINGSTON, a small place about twenty-five miles from Nashville, is credited with a stamp. Diligent inquiry from residents of the place failed to get any information concerning it. We shall not, therefore, describe the stamp purporting to come from there.

KNOXVILLE, one hundred and thirty miles east from Nashville, introduced three stamps; one was an adhesive, corresponding with that for Athens, Ga., the others like Fig. 9, which were both adhesive and struck upon the envelope. They were printed in black.

A RARE POSTAGE-STAMP.

NOW that stamp-gathering is such a wide-spread recreation, says the *Springfield Republican*, it will be of interest to many to learn that the second postage-stamp issued to the United States was engraved by Thomas Chubbuck, of this city, at Brattleboro, over twenty-seven years ago. Mr. Chubbuck was in Brattleboro from 1845 to 1848, while his invalid wife was undergoing treatment at a water-cure there, and had an office directly over the post office, by which he became intimate with F. N. Palmer, the postmaster. At that time it cost five cents to send a letter, and prepayment was optional. Postmasters' salaries, moreover, were graded, as they are now to some extent, by the amount taken in at the office, and the postmaster at New York, thinking that people would be more apt to prepay their postage if they could do so by means of stamps, had some struck off at his own expense. One of these reached the Brattleboro post office, and the plan commended itself to Mr. Palmer's judgment, who determined to increase the revenues of his office, if possible, by the same means. Accordingly he employed Mr. Chubbuck to prepare a copperplate for him, containing eight stamps, and had five hundred printed. They were printed in black ink upon buff paper, and were of about the same dimensions as those now in use. The design was very simple, consisting of an octagonal centre, differing from the border in the direction of the tinted lines. The centre contained the initials of the postmaster, "F. N. P.," in fac simile of his handwriting; above it was "Brattleboro," below, "Five Cents," and on the sides "P. O." Before the issue of five hundred stamps was used up, the Government began to publish postage-stamps, and the destruction was ordered both of the stamps on hand and the dies. Hence has happened the extreme rarity of the stamps, which has led some to doubt their existence. Mr. Chubbuck had a single sheet of the stamps in his book of samples of his work for a number of years, but finally sold them, about two years ago, to a New Haven gentleman, who gave him a dollar apiece for them, leaving the engraver chuckling over his bargain. Meeting the gentleman some time after, Mr. Chubbuck learned that he had sold the stamps for \$10 apiece; "but the man I sold them to," said he, "got \$20 apiece for them." This gentleman wrote an account of the stamps, which was published, without Mr. Chubbuck's knowledge, in an English postal magazine, with a wood-cut of the stamps. In consequence of this publication, Mr. Chubbuck has received numerous letters inquiring about the stamps, and offering generous prices for copies of them, one man being willing to give \$100 for the original plate, if obtainable. The plate, however, has been destroyed, and the stamps are never met with except in the album of some philatelist who has been fortunate enough to secure a copy of the rare curiosity.

XVII.—No. 438. MARCH 13, 1875

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

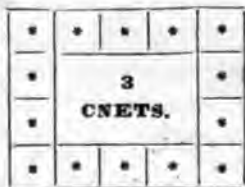
No. XXV.

CONFEDERATE STATES.—(CONTINUED.)

FLORIDA.

THE first provisional stamp issued in the Confederacy came from **MADISON**, which is situated on the Pensacola and Georgia Railway, about fifty-five miles from Tallahassee. This stamp was in use as early as January, 1861, and is one of the rarest of the locals. This stamp, it is singular to relate, was inserted by the *New York Herald* in the early part of 1861. As this is a very interesting piece of gossip, we insert the extract as found in the *Herald*:

"We have been favored with a letter bearing the postage-mark of 'Madison C. H., Fla., March 1st.' The right-hand upper corner was decorated with a postage-stamp of a new design and style, intended as the equivalent of the three cents, which, at present, under the postal law of the United States, is the sum required as payment of a letter under the half-ounce weight. The size of the said piece of adhesive paper is the same as our present three-cent stamp, the only difference being that the lengthwise position of the latter is reversed in the former, the greater length lying in a horizontal direction. The design is printed in gold, in a white ground, and is as follows: Around the edge are fourteen ornamented squares, the centre of each forming a heraldic rose; the top and bottom edge having five, while the sides have but four of these squares. In the centre of the stamp is its denomination, '3 CENTS.' The following is a rough copy of the design, which could easily be counterfeited by an ordinary printer,



"On the envelope of the letter before indicated, immediately over the direction, was written in a bold business hand, in red ink, the following:



Fig. 9.



Fig. 10.



Fig. 11.



Fig. 12.

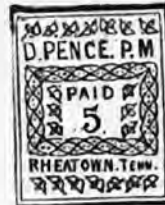


Fig. 13.



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.

Vol. XVII.—No. 441.

NEW YORK, APRIL 3, 1875

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XXVIII.

CONFEDERATE STATES.—(CONTINUED.)
TENNESSEE.

MEMPHIS, on the Mississippi, in the southwest corner of the State, used a stamp of a design similar to that used in Lynchburg, and seen in Fig. 10. The adhesive was printed in red; the same design was impressed on the envelope, and both were of the value of five cents. Another of two cents, in blue, was of similar design, but the Postmaster's name, M. C. CALLAWAY, takes the place of the city's name.

NASHVILLE, the capital, used four stamps, one of three cents (Fig. 11), printed in rose; a five-cent stamp (Fig. 12) in rose, and then changed to purple-brown; and a ten cent stamp of similar design, in deep-green.

RHEATOWN, some out-of-the-way place, used the stamp represented in Fig. 13. The color was red.

TEXAS

is stated to have issued stamps at two of its cities, Goliad and Helena; but we are not prepared to endorse these statements, and must therefore pass them by. There are rumors of other stamps, but time alone can settle their authenticity.

Vol. XVII.—No. 442. APRIL 10, 1875

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XXIX.

THE STAMPS OF BRITISH AMERICA.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, formerly called Island of St. John, is a large island of British America, in the southern part of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Its area is 2,134 square miles; its greatest length, measured in a line crossing through its centre, is about 130 miles; its greatest breadth, 34 miles. In its narrowest part, just near the centre, it is only 4 miles wide.

At one time the whole island was covered with a dense forest, and though destructive fires, lumbering, and cultivation have made large gaps in it, a considerable part of the injured forest still remains. The whole island is eminently agricultural and pastoral. The soil consists of a light-reddish loam, sometimes approaching to a stony clay, but more frequently of a light and sandy texture. The prevailing rock is a reddish sandstone, but a large part of the surface is alluvial, and entirely free from stone.

In the latter part of the year 1852, telegraphic communication was established between Prince Edward Island, the neighboring province, and the United States by means of a submarine cable.

Who discovered Prince Edward Island is not accurately known, but Cabot is supposed to have seen it immediately after he had discovered Newfoundland. Champlain gave it the name of St. John. It was afterward included by the French in their vast and undefined territory of New France, and in 1663 was granted as a feudal tenure to Sieur Doublet, a French naval officer. Little progress was made in settling the island until after the peace of Utrecht in 1715, when its fertility allured great numbers of Acadians from Cape Breton. It was taken by the British in 1745, restored by the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, retaken and finally annexed to Great Britain in 1758.

Prince Edward Island is one of the best fishing stations on the Gulf of St. Lawrence. The fishing is principally in the hands of fishermen from the United States. Prince Edward Island joined the confederacy "The Dominion of Canada," in 1873. It has a Lieutenant-Governor and Legislature of its own.

Postage-stamps were introduced in the island in 1860. They were engraved by a certain Mr. Whiting

in London, and are as ugly and inartistic as they can well be, in marked contrast with the stamps used by the neighboring colonies.

The issue at first included five stamps, the general design of which was a crowned profile of Queen Victoria, to left, in various frames, lettered "PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND POSTAGE." The following are the denominations and colors:

- 1 penny - - - - - buff.
- 2 pence - - - - - pink.
- 3 pence - - - - - blue.
- 6 pence - - - - - green.
- 9 pence, currency, equal to sixpence - - - - - lilac.

In 1869 an addition was made to this series of a stamp of similar execution.

- 4 pence - - - - - black.

In 1870, the Continental Bank Note Co. of this city was called upon for a design, and, it is needless to state, one was adopted which reflects considerable credit on the designer. It is a finely executed stamp in every particular.

- 3 pence, sterling, or 4 1/2 pence currency (Fig. 1) - - - - - brown.

When the currency was changed, in 1872, and the decimal system introduced, a complete change took place in the postage-stamps of the island. A new series was ordered. One would naturally expect that after the experience with the Continental Bank Note Company, resulting in the stamp last adopted, some effort would be made to replace the old set by a new one finer in design and execution. The philatelic world, however, was astonished when it saw the new stamps for Prince Edward Island, as uglier or coarser stamps could hardly be gotten up. They were made in London, by the same party who manufactured the previous issue. The several designs consisted of a profile of the Queen in various frames. The following are the values:

- 1c. (Fig. 2) - - - - - orange.
- 2c. (Fig. 3) - - - - - blue.
- 3c. (Fig. 4) - - - - - rose.
- 4c. - - - - - green.
- 6c. (Fig. 5) - - - - - black.
- 12c. - - - - - lilac.

These stamps became obsolete on July 1, 1873, when the island became part of the Dominion of Canada.

The cut here illustrated (Fig. 6) is given, that collectors may be on their guard against it. It is an impostor, and was made by one S. Allen Taylor, when the regular issue appeared, and was sent with the genuine set to a well-known foreign dealer, who had them all engraved to illustrate his paper, to the immeasurable delight of the maker of the 10 cents! Some of the other values of these stamps have been counterfeited, so collectors must examine their specimens very carefully.

The following are the prices at which these stamps may be obtained:

	1860.	NEW.	USED.
1 penny, orange	3	3	3
2 pence, rose	8	8	3
3 pence, blue	12	12	6
4 pence, black	15	15	6
4 1/2 pence, brown	20	20	10
6 pence, green	30	30	12
9 pence, violet	40	40	20

	1872.	NEW.	USED.
1 cent, orange	3	3	3
2 cent, blue	6	6	5
3 cent, rose	6	6	5
4 cent, green	12	12	10
6 cent, black	15	15	10
12 cent, violet	30	30	20

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

XVIII.—No. 443. APRIL 17, 1875.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XXX.

THE STAMPS OF BRITISH AMERICA—(CONTINUED).

NEW BRUNSWICK.

THIS British Colony in North America has an area of 27,700 square miles; its greatest length is, from north to south, 230 miles; its greatest breadth, 190 miles. The general surface of the country presents a series of bold undulations. Coal is plentiful, extending, it is said, over 10,000 square miles. Plumbago is inexhaustible. The climate is subject to great extremes of heat and cold, sometimes rising to 100° during the day, and falling in the forest during the night of the same day to 50° below zero, owing to the shifting of the wind.

New Brunswick was first settled by the French about the year 1610. It continued to form part either of Acadia, or New France, until it fell into the hands of the British, after the conquest of Quebec. The first British settlers in New Brunswick emigrated from Scotland to Miramichi, in 1764; and in 1784, New Brunswick was separated from Nova Scotia, and formed into a distinct province. In 1825, the standing timber in the district around Miramichi Bay took fire, and enveloped an area of 6,000 square miles in flames, consuming four thriving towns, many large vessels lying in Miramichi River, and destroying 500 human beings. New Brunswick is now part of the Dominion of Canada.

Stamps were introduced in this colony in 1857. The design consists of a crown in the centre of a white octagon, surrounded by white stars containing emblematic designs—the rose, shamrock, and thistle—in engine-turned ground in square lettered frame, containing name, POSTAGE, and full value. The values and colors are:

- 3 pence (Fig. 1) - - - - - red.
- 6 pence - - - - - yellow.
- 1 shilling - - - - - violet.

But the 6 pence and the 1 shilling are now rare, the latter, particularly so. Many years ago, some small stock of the 1 shilling stamps lay at the Post Office, and a then well-known dealer prided himself in having found them out. He sent his money to secure them, and received in return the stamps, hideously obliterated by five impressions of the postmark employed in the office. The postmaster thought that collectors of old stamps would prefer them defaced, and acted accordingly.

On the change of currency from the pence to the decimal series, in 1860, a corresponding change, with additions, was made in the postage-stamps. Designs were sent to the American Bank Note Company in this city, and formed by the latter into a series of very beautiful stamps. On the 1 cent stamp is a representation of a locomotive train (Fig. 2); the 2 cent, 5 cent (Fig. 3), and 10 cent contain three-fourth bust of the Queen, crowned, to left; the 12 1/2 cent has a figure of a ship in full sail (Fig. 4); and the 17 cent contains portrait of the Prince of Wales in Highland costume (Fig. 5). The following are the colors:

- 1c., lilac brown, afterward changed to mauve in 1864.
- 2c., orange, issued in 1863.
- 5c., green.
- 10c., vermilion.
- 12 1/2c., blue.
- 17c., black.

In our next we shall describe the famous Cornell stamp.

XVIII.—No. 444. APRIL 24, 1875

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XXXI.

NEW BRUNSWICK—(CONTINUED).

THE CORNELL STAMP.

[In No. 29 some lines were printed referring to a cut, Fig. 6, which was not given. We wish to withdraw all reference there made to Mr. Taylor. He disavows having got up the stamp, but states that

he received it as a proposed design for a stamp, and so considers it. He never included it in his catalogue as a stamp.]

IN our previous article we noted that when the change of currency took place from the pence to decimal denominations, a change was made in the postage-stamps. Mr. Charles Cornell was the Postmaster-General. Among the designs which he submitted was one of the value of 5c., containing his own portrait. The stamps were made, according to instructions, by the American Bank Note Company, and forwarded to New Brunswick. They were very short-lived, however. The Government was struck with astonishment at the presumption of a postmaster who caused his own physiognomy to be engraved on the stamps, and naturally made a row. Mr. Cornell was commanded

to stop issuing the stamps with his portrait. He refused, and added that if the command was enforced he would resign. The Government immediately repeated the order, and Mr. Cornell resigned his postmastership.

The affair created considerable excitement, and all sorts of motives were attributed to the Government. Whether from political reasons or otherwise, the speedy suppression of these stamps was certainly a question of profound policy. Had the Government permitted this piece of self-laudation to go unnoticed, it would have furnished a precedent for future New Brunswick postmasters, each of whom, immediately on his accession to office, would have suppressed the stamps of his predecessor and caused his own portrait to be engraved thereon.

These stamps have long been considered to be merely essays. But the question of their postal use is now fully established, and they may be considered legitimate postage-stamps. Many were issued to the public, and a few have been found properly post-marked. These are exceedingly rare. The specimens commonly met with are the proof-impresions in india paper, many of which have found their way into collectors' albums.

The following are the prices at which these stamps can be purchased:

ISSUE OF 1857.		
	New.	Used.
3 pence, red	75	15
6 pence, yellow	1.50	1.50
1 shilling, violet	3.00	5.00

ISSUE OF 1860-64.		
	New.	Used.
1 cent, brown	5	5
2 cent, orange	10	8
5 cent, green	10	4
10 cent, vermilion	20	5
12½ cent, blue	25	10
17 cent, black	40	25

Vol. XVIII.—No. 445. MAY 1, 1875

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XXXII.

THE STAMPS OF BRITISH AMERICA—(CONTINUED).

NOVA SCOTIA.

NOVA SCOTIA, originally part of Acadia, is a colonial province of British America. Its greatest length, from southwest to northeast, is 280 miles; its greatest breadth is about 120 miles. It contains 15,627 square miles.

Its southeast coast is remarkable for the number of its harbors, there being no fewer than twelve ports capable of receiving ships of the line, and fourteen of sufficient depth for merchantmen. Nova Scotia is beautifully diversified with rivers and lakes. The most remarkable body of water is Mines Bay, the east arm of the Bay of Fundy. The tides here rush in with great impetuosity, and form what is called the bore. At the equinoxes they have been known to rise sixty to seventy feet, while in Halifax harbor, on the opposite coast, the Spring tides rise only from six to nine feet.

Nova Scotia is rich in geological resources. Large trunks of trees, such as are at present unknown in a living state, are here seen at various points standing at right angles to the sandstone strata. The climate is remarkably temperate, considering its northern latitude; the almost insular position of the province, and the proximity of the Gulf Stream serving to render the temperature milder than that of Canada.

Possessing above 1,200 miles of sea-coast, everywhere penetrated by the finest bays in the world, and open to navigation throughout the year, Nova Scotia

enjoys facilities for commerce surpassed by no other country on the globe.

Nova Scotia was first visited by the Cabots in 1497, but was not colonized by Europeans till 1604, when De Monts, a Frenchman, attempted for eight years to form settlements in Port Royal, St. Croix, etc.



THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.—NOVA SCOTIA STAMP.—SEE NEXT PAGE.

Their establishments were broken up by Argal from Virginia, England, who claimed the country by the right of discovery of Sebastian Cabot. In 1621, Sir William Alexander applied for and obtained from James I. a grant of the whole country, which he proposed to colonize on an extensive scale, and in 1623 the attempt was made; but the proposed colonists, finding the various points where they wished to establish themselves thronged by foreign adventurers, did not think it prudent to attempt a settlement, and therefore returned to England. During the reign of Charles I. the Nova Scotia baronets were created, and their patents ratified by Parliament; they were to contribute their aid to the settlement, and to have portions of land allotted to them; their number was not to exceed 150. Cromwell sent out an armed force and took possession of the country, which remained with the English till 1667, when it was ceded to France by the treaty of Breda. But the English from time to time attacked the French colonists at various points, and ravaged their settlements, continuing to harass and annoy them till 1713, when the country was finally ceded to England. For some years it was neglected, but, in 1749, efforts were made to colonize it by emigrants sent out at the expense of the British Government. Some 4,000 settlers and their families reached the colonies in this way, and founded the town of Halifax. The French, who were still numerous, excited suspicion during subsequent wars with France, and these Acadians were at last cruelly seized and carried off from their homes, and landed destitute on the shores from Massachusetts to Georgia, wives separated from husbands, and fathers from children. Longfellow's poem, "Evangeline," is based on an incident in this cruel treatment of the Acadians or neutral French. A constitution was granted to Nova Scotia in 1768, and by the treaty of Paris (February, 1763), France renounced all future claim upon any of her former possessions in North America. It is now part of the Dominion of Canada.

Postage stamps were introduced into the colony in 1857. They were of four values, one penny, three pence, six pence, and one shilling. The design of the one penny stamp consisted of a diamond-shaped face of the Queen on ground of engine-turning in linear diamond, surmounted with section of stars containing flowers, in lettered frame, "NOVA SCOTIA POSTAGE," with full value. The design in the three other values is seen in the cut (Fig. 1) and needs therefore no further description.

In 1860 these stamps were replaced by a new issue, the cent series, consisting of three values—1c., 2c., 5c., which was supplemented in 1861 by three other values, 8½c., 10c., 12½c., black. The design is profile of Queen crowned, to left, on lines in linear circle, labels above, bearing "NOVA SCOTIA" below, with full value.

1c., black; 2c., lilac; 5c., blue.

The design in the remaining values is a full face, crowned, in oval.

8½c., green; 10c., red; 12½c., black.

These are among the most beautiful stamps known to collectors, and in the writer's opinion, rank next to the Penn stamps made by the National Bank Note Company, and to the Russian stamps. They became obsolete in 1868, the Canadian stamps taking their place.

Vol. XVIII.—No. 446, MAY 8, 1875

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XXXIII.

THE STAMPS OF BRITISH AMERICA—(CONTINUED).

CANADA.

ACCORDING to Father Hennepin, a missionary who accompanied LaSalle on the voyage of dis-

covery from Fort Frontenac, the site of the present city of Kingston, to the Mississippi, the Spaniards were the original discoverers of Canada; but landing, and finding that the country did not come up to their expectations, they expressed their disappointment by remarking, *Il capà di nada*, which Hennepin translates, *Cap de rien*. Had his acquaintance with the Castilian tongue been more familiar, he would have been aware of the fact that two of the four words are not Spanish, but Italian. To the River St. Lawrence, the name Canada was originally applied, and there is reputable authority to prove that this was also the name of the country which it watered. And it is further known that the country on both sides of the St. Lawrence was called Canada by the Indians, in its first discovery by the French.

The entire length of the territory is from 1,200 to 1,300 miles, and its average breadth from north to south, between 200 and 300 miles. Estimated area, 357,822 square miles. It was formerly divided into two provinces, called, respectively, Upper and Lower Canada, or Canada East and Canada West, separated by the Ottawa, but now politically united, though still differing in laws, customs, and manners.

Canada West, though by no means so level as it has been represented, is characterized by a general evenness of surface, there being few great elevations, with the exception of a table ridge of considerable height, stretching northwest to southeast. Canada West, though much more fertile than Canada East, is inferior to it as regards romantic and picturesque scenery. The physical features of the latter, generally, are varied and grand, consisting of boundless forests, magnificent rivers and lakes, extensive prairies, bold, rocky heights, and foaming cataracts, diversified by cultivated fields, pretty villages and settlements. This beautiful appearance changes to a very different character in winter. After a heavy fall of snow, succeeded by a rain and a partial thaw, a strong frost coats the trees and all their branches with transparent ice, often an inch thick, weighing on them so heavily, that in a tempest whole forests are laid prostrate, with tremendous noise and uproar. Nothing, however, can be imagined more brilliant and beautiful than the effect of sunshine, on a calm day, on the frozen boughs, when every particle of the icy crystals sparkles, and nature seems decked in diamonds.

The upper province, or Canada West, is settled principally by emigrants from Great Britain and Ireland. There are also large numbers of United States loyalists, or persons who sided with Great Britain during the American War; a mixture of all nations, or their descendants; and in particular localities there are large settlements of Pennsylvania Dutch, and other persons from the United States, scattered over the country. In Lower Canada, or Canada East, the majority of the inhabitants are of French origin, mostly descendants of settlers from Normandy, established in the colony previous to 1763, and to whom they still bear, in many particulars, a close resemblance.

Postage-stamps were introduced in April, 1851, when a stamp of the value of 3 pence made its appearance. The design consisted of a Beaver under crown, and "V. R." in transverse lettered oval, name, and full value; oblong, unperforated, and afterward perforated. 3 pence, red. This was followed at different intervals up to, and including, 1857, with stamps of different designs, as follows:

½ penny, profile of Queen to left, in oval; red. Fig. 1.

6 pence, head of Prince Albert; purple.

6 pence sterling (7½ pence currency), bust of Queen; green.

10 pence, head of Jacques Cartier; blue. Fig. 2.

12 pence, head of Queen; black.

These stamps were unperforated, and then perforated.

In 1859 the decimal currency found new representations in postage-stamps, of exactly corresponding designs, with the exception of a new value, which is represented in Fig. 3.

1c., rose (same as ½ penny above).

2c., rose (Fig. 3).

5c., red (same as 3 pence above). Fig. 4.

10c., purple, lilac (same as 6 pence above).

12½c., green (same as 7½ pence above).

17c., blue (same as 10 pence above).

In 1860 two stamped envelopes were prepared. The design consisted of an embossed head of Queen Victoria, in lettered oval; name and full value; oval; 5c., red; 10c., brown.

Vol. XVIII.—No. 447. MAY 15, 1875

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XXXIV

Stamps of 1860 with Attention

Canada (Continued)

Observe the design of the embossed Queen Victoria and the

design of the embossed Queen Victoria and the

design of the embossed Queen Victoria and the



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.—CANADA.—SEE PAGE 63.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.—SEE PAGE 75.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.—STAMPS OF BRITISH AMERICA—NEWFOUNDLAND.—SEE PAGE 133.

pressed and replaced by a new series of stamps. The design consisted of the head of Queen Victoria to right, in circle, the frames varying for each value.

The stamps were first of a large size, but in 1870 were made smaller, the several designs being identical.

I.—LARGE STAMPS.

- 1 cent, red (Fig. 1), afterward changed to yellow.
- 2 cents, green.
- 3 cents, red.
- 6 cents, brown.
- 12½ cents, blue.
- 15 cents, lilac (Fig. 2).

II.—SMALL STAMPS.

- ½ cent, black (1868), Fig. 3.
- 1 cent, yellow (Fig. 4).
- 2 cent, green.
- 3 cent, red (Fig. 5).
- 6 cent, brown.

In the early part of this year a new value was introduced, of the same design: 10 cent, lilac-red.

VANCOUVER'S ISLAND AND BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Vancouver's Island is an island belonging to Great Britain, off the northwest coast of North America. It is 300 miles long, from northwest to southeast, and 75 miles in greatest breadth. The area is 14,000 square miles. It lies southwest of British Columbia, from which it is separated by Queen Charlotte's Sound and the Gulf of Georgia. The Strait of Juan de Luca and Puget's Sound lie between it and Washington Territory. The town of Victoria, on the site of the Hudson's Bay Company's Fort Victoria, in Royal Bay, near the southeastern extremity of the island, is the residence of the British Governor, and a place of growing importance.

The possession of Vancouver's Island was secured to Great Britain by the Oregon treaty in 1846, and it was consigned by charter to the Hudson's Bay Company, the British Government reserving the right of repurchasing it at the expiration of the Company's charter in 1859. It has become a possession of considerable importance, since the discovery of gold in the neighboring colony of British Columbia.

It was supposed to form a part of the mainland till 1789, when the captain of an American vessel sailed through the Eastern Channel which separates it from the mainland. In 1792, it was visited by Vancouver, who gave it the name of Quadra and Vancouver; the former name, given in compliment to the Spanish commandant of Nootka Sound, is now generally dropped.

BRITISH COLUMBIA, established in 1858, on the Pacific Coast, formed part of the territory resumed by the Crown of England from the Hudson's Bay Company. It extends in a straight line about 420 miles, from north to south, and varies in breadth from 20 to 350 miles. It contains about 200,000 square miles. The formation of this colony was consequent on the discovery of gold.

In 1861 a postage-stamp was issued for the joint use of British Columbia and Vancouver's Island. This is represented in Fig. 1, and represented 2½ pence; color, rose.

On the separate organization of the colony of British Columbia, Vancouver's Island, in 1865, used stamps of a distinct design, represented in Fig. 2. These stamps bear the watermark in the paper, CC and crown. They were issued unperforated, and afterward perforated.

- 5 cents, rose.
- 10 cents, blue.
- In 1865 British Columbia issued a single value, 3 pence, blue (Fig. 3), with the watermark, CC and crown.
- In 1868, a full series was issued, of identical types with the foregoing, the different values made by surcharging the value in different colors on the stamp, as follows:
 - 2c., black, surcharge on brown.
 - 5c., black on red.
 - 10c., blue on rose.
 - 25c., violet on yellow.
 - 50c., red on violet.
 - 1 dollar, green on green.

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THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XXXVI.

THE STAMPS OF BRITISH AMERICA.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

NEWFOUNDLAND is supposed to have been discovered by the Norwegians, or Northmen, in the visited by the Portuguese, who discovered and named Conception Bay. In 1501 and 1502 they established regular fisheries on the shores, and the Biscayans and French soon engaged in the same enterprise. Several expeditions were fitted out by the English and French with the intention of colonizing the island, but none of them were successful up to 1578, when there were fifty ships belonging to England in

the fishery, as many to Portugal, and one hundred and fifty to France and Spain. In 1583 Sir Humphrey Gilbert, in command of four armed vessels, entered the harbor of St. John, and took formal possession of the island in the name of Queen Elizabeth. Various expeditions, more or less successful in their results, were undertaken, and several settlements were made or attempted, principally by the English and French, for the sole sake of the fisheries; but in 1713, by the treaty of Utrecht, the entire control of Newfoundland was given to Great Britain, the French being permitted to catch and dry fish on the east and west shores.

Newfoundland is an island forming the most eastern part of North America, lying at the mouth of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Its extreme length, north and south, is about 420 miles. Its area, about 36,000. The island is triangular in form, and has a coast line of nearly 1,000 miles, everywhere indented with deep bays.

Though from the high latitude of Newfoundland the Winters are long and the Summers short, the severity of the former is greatly mitigated by the proximity of the Gulf Stream. To the same cause are to be attributed the dense fogs which prevail throughout this region; for as the warm and moist air over the gulf waters meet the cold atmospheric currents from the north, the vapors by their condensation become apparent in the form of heavy fogs. The Winter temperature of St. John is so mild that the harbor is rarely frozen over; and the inclemencies of the climate are felt rather in severe storms, which are very prevalent along the coasts, than in the intense cold of Winter. The fogs and violent gales render the coast a dangerous one to navigators, and frequent wrecks occur along the south side of the island, especially about Cape Race.

In 1809, Labrador and the island of Anticosti were annexed to the Government of Newfoundland. The Colonial Government granted, in 1851, a charter to the "New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company," for the purpose of establishing telegraphic communication between Europe and America. Subsequently, the land wires were completed at St. John and the cable terminus at Cape Ray, and the "Atlantic Telegraph Company" was established in 1856, to extend the existing line to Ireland.

Stamps were introduced into Newfoundland in 1857, the first design being triangular in shape, being suggested, perhaps, by the triangular shape of the island. Fig. 1 sufficiently illustrates the stamp, the value of which was three pence, printed in green.

In the same year other values were issued, of a design to the first issues of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, but printed square instead of diamond-shape. The values and colors were the following: 1 penny, brown-lilac; 5 pence, brown-lilac. The color of the latter was changed, in 1863, to brown.

Then followed another series of differing values. The design consisted of the rose, shamrock, and thistle, in various white grounds, with engine-turned lettered ovals; the inscription, ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, POSTAGE, and full value were all in capitals, variously disposed, and differing in the stamps. The impressions were printed in orange, vermilion, and rose-vermilion; the shape of the stamps being upright rectangles. The values were 2 pence, 4 pence, 6 pence, 6½ pence, 8 pence, 1 shilling.

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No. XXXVII.

THE STAMPS OF BRITISH AMERICA.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

IN 1862, the latter six stamps were printed in lake. This series was suspended by the set about to be described, before the supply of the 8 pence vermilion was exhausted; therefore the 8 pence lake was never issued to the public.

In 1869, the cent series was issued. The figures will fully explain the designs, which, in some instances, are suggestive of principal characteristics of the colony. Some of the values were not issued until 1869. These stamps were perforated.

- 1c. (1869, Prince of Wales), violet (Fig. 2).
- 2c. (codfish), green (Fig. 3).
- 5c. (seal), brown (Fig. 4).
- 5c. (seal), black (1869).
- 10c. (Prince of Wales), black (Fig. 5).
- 12c. (Queen Victoria), salmon (Fig. 6).
- 13c. (vessel), orange (Fig. 7).
- 24c. (Queen), blue (Fig. 8).

In 1870, the 1c. stamp was slightly altered by the National Bank Note Company, color, lilac-brown. In the same year were added two other values, containing a portrait of the Queen in widow's cap. 3c., vermilion, changed, in 1873, to blue; 6c., rose.

In 1873, a most beautiful post-card was issued: NEWFOUNDLAND POST-CARD in fancy type; stamp in right corner; the whole on a beautifully raised ground, within fancy engraved border.

1c., green on white. This colony still uses its own stamps, not yet having become part of the Dominion of Canada.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 6.



Fig. 7.



Fig. 8.

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THE STAMP-COLLECTORS' CORNER.

No. XXXV.

STAMPS OF BRITISH AMERICA.

WE give this week illustrations of the three stamps of British Columbia and Vancouver's Island, fully described in our last. They are (fig. 1) 2½ pence, rose color; Vancouver's Island, 5 cents, 1865, (fig. 2); British Columbia, 3 pence, blue, 1865 (fig. 3).



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

FOREIGN STAMPS.—Circulars for green stamp. Sheets sent on approval. John B. Smith, 28 Atwater Building, Cleveland, Ohio.

STAMPS.—75 Interior, Navy, and Treasury, 25 cts.; 100 Official and Foreign, 10 cts. Send green stamp for return postage. Central Stamp Co., Box 655, Woburn, Mass.

WANTED.—To buy and exchange Foreign Stamps; correspondence wanted. Dealers please send circulars. Geo. Washburn, box 48, San Francisco, Cal. 123-23

WE want one good agent to sell our stamps in every town. Write, enclosing green stamp for particulars and terms. Address W. E. Davidson & Co., Box 256, Keokuk, Iowa.