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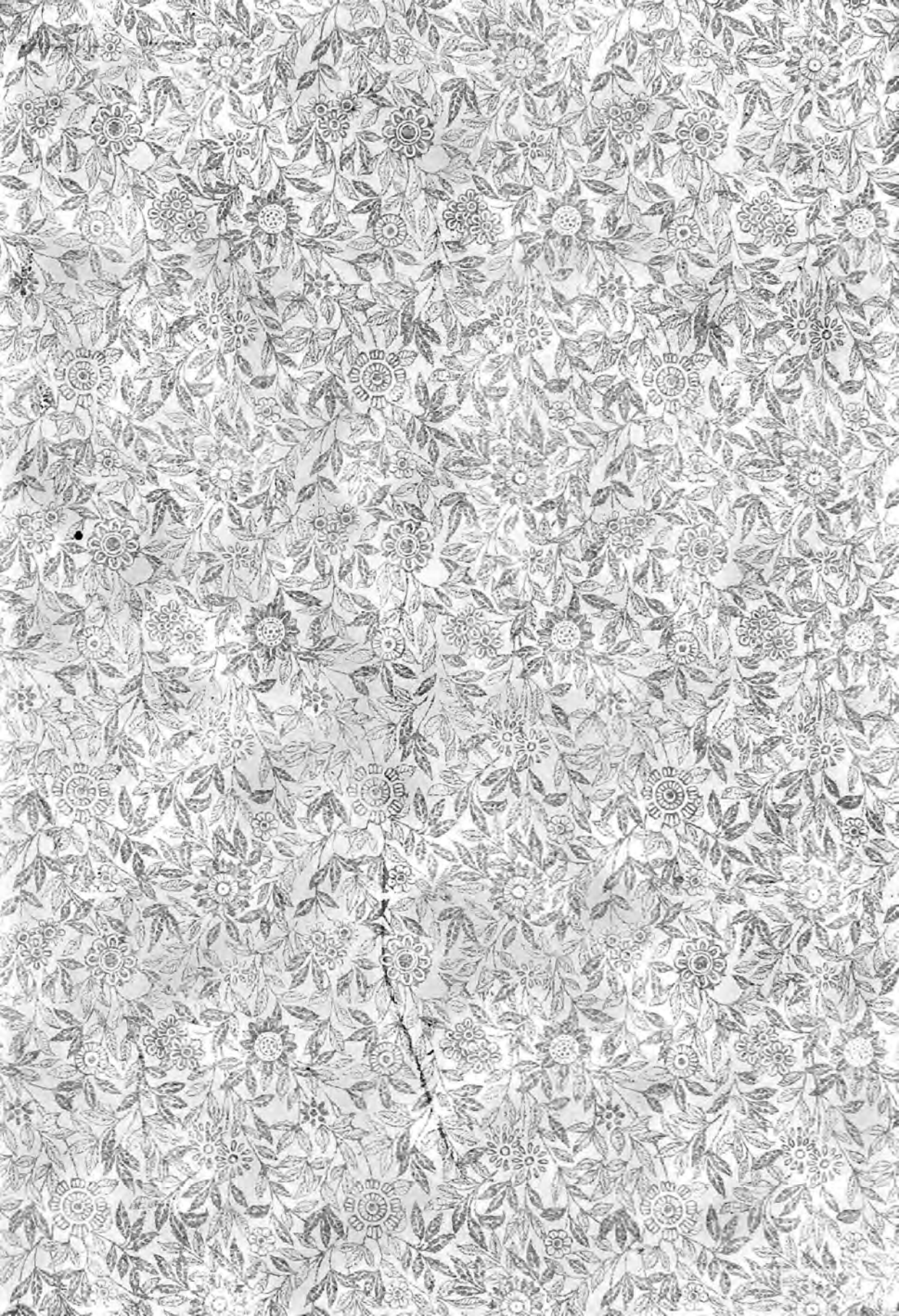
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UNITED STATES
WE FIGHT

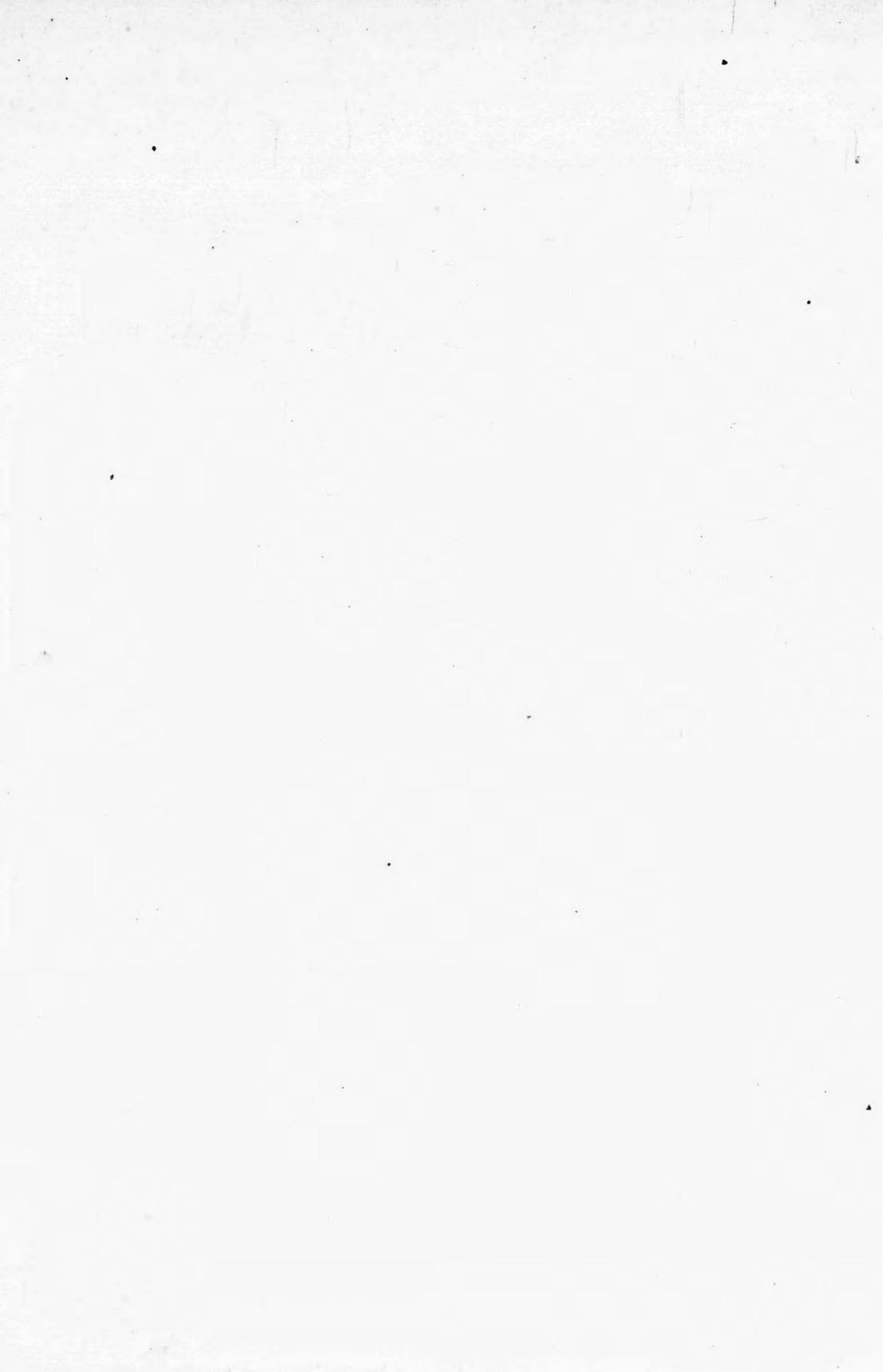
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Crawford 1827

THE

NATIONAL PHILATELIST.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF STAMP COLLECTORS.

VOLUME I.

MDCCCLXXXIII.

PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY,
ROOM 38, TRIBUNE BUILDING, NEW YORK CITY.
W. F. SMITH, MANAGER.

1874-1884.

NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY.

ORGANIZED OCTOBER 17th, 1874.

Meets on Second Tuesday Evening of Each Month,
Room 38, Tribune Building, New York City.

Officers for 1884.

R. R. BOGERT, *President.*

C. B. CORWIN, *Vice-President.*

W. F. SMITH, *Secretary.*

CHAS. MUECKE, *Treasurer.*

R. R. BOGART, *Librarian.*

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The National Philatelist.

VOL. I.

NEW YORK, JANUARY, 1883.

No. 1.

A FEW WORDS WITH OUR READERS.

It has long been a matter of regret among the ardent Philatelists of our country, that there has been attempted no publication of a first class Journal here, devoted to their Science.

Knowing this to be the case, the NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY have resolved to supply the want (so far as lies in their power), and this, the first number of the *National Philatelist*, is the result of their resolution.

They do not herald the advent of their Journal with a flourish of trumpets, nor hold forth any glowing promises for the future. It suffices to say that they will endeavor to provide a good reliable publication, and one that they trust will meet with approval.

The main reason that is always given for the non-existence of a Journal of this character, is, that it would not meet with proper Philatelic encouragement.

The society feels this to be a fallacy, and, hence have no hesitation in thrusting themselves upon the attention and tender mercies of their friends.

All that they desire is that this Journal may be self-supporting, and, to that end they invite the subscriptions and hearty co-operation of their friends.

They guarantee that every subscriber will receive this year the twelve numbers of the *National Philatelist* that they contract for, and further than this year they make no promises. If they are repaid for their labors, it is their intention to make this publication permanent.

The future of this Journal, therefore, rests entirely with their friends who are confidently expected to rally to its support, always premising that the society furnishes what it claims, viz., a first-class, original publication.

The proceedings of the society will be noted each month, and in these proceedings, the readers will doubtless find often noted matters of Philatelic importance.

The Society.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

National Philatelic Society.

ARTICLE I.—NAME.

This Association shall be known as the NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY.

ARTICLE II.—OBJECTS.

The objects for which this Society is formed are:

I.—The encouragement of the Collection and Preservation of Postage Stamps and Revenue Stamps of all nations, as well as those issued by states, corporations and individuals.

II.—The procuring and dissemination of knowledge in relation thereto.

III.—The inculcation of the best principles of classification and arrangement.

IV.—The consideration of Stamps in their relations to Geography, History and Chronology, Politics, Language and the Fine Arts.

ARTICLE III.—MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1. The membership of this Society shall be divided into the three following classes:

- I. Active members.
- II. Corresponding members.
- III. Honorary members.

The first class shall constitute the governing body of the society, from which all officers and committees must be chosen.

The second class shall consist of those who, by reason of residence abroad, or distance from the place of meeting, do not desire to become active members. They are expected to take an interest in the objects of the society, and to aid it by contributions or information.

The third class shall consist of those persons who, by virtue of valuable service in the cause of Philately, are considered deserving of the distinctive title of honorary members.

SEC. 2. Proposals for membership in either of these classes must be made in writing, by an active member of the society, at one of its meetings, and shall be referred to the Executive Committee, who shall report thereon at the next regular meeting.

SEC. 3. No candidate shall be entitled to membership without the unanimous consent, by ballot, of the members present at a regular meeting, nor shall any candidate be balloted for, upon whom the Executive Committee may have made an adverse report.

SEC. 4. A rejected candidate cannot be again proposed during the period of twelve months following his rejection.

SEC. 5. Any member, in good standing, may become a life member by the payment at any one time of a sum equal to five years' dues.

ARTICLE IV.—GOVERNMENT.

SECTION 1. The government of the Society shall be vested in the following named officers:

- I. President.
- II. Vice-President.
- III. Secretary.
- IV. Treasurer.
- V. Librarian.
- VI. Executive Committee of three members.

SEC. 2. The term of each officer shall be for one year from the date of his election, and until a successor be appointed.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of the President, and in his absence, that of the Vice-President, to preside at all meetings of the society.

In the absence of both President and Vice-President, a temporary Chairman shall be appointed.

SEC. 4. The Secretary shall keep accurate minutes of all transactions and proceedings of the society. He shall conduct all its correspondence, keeping copies thereof in a book provided for that purpose. All letters received by him in his official capacity, shall be filed among the archives of the society.

SEC. 5. The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all moneys; provided that no moneys shall be expended by him, except by resolution therefor, duly adopted by the society. He shall keep a strict account, in writing, of all moneys which he may so receive and disburse, and his books of accounts shall at all reasonable times be open to the inspection of the society or any of its members.

SEC. 6. The Librarian shall take charge of all books and papers belonging to the society, and shall keep the same in good order.

SEC. 7.—The Executive Committee shall inquire into the merits of all applicants for membership, and report thereon to the society. It shall also act as a standing committee of reference for any matters that may be duly referred to it by the society.

ARTICLE V.—MEETINGS.

SECTION 1. The regular meetings of the

society shall be held on the second Tuesday of each month, but no regular meeting will be held in July or August.

Special meetings shall be called by the President, at the written request of three members, due notice of which must be given by the Secretary.

SEC. 2. One-third of the active members shall constitute a quorum to transact all the necessary business of the society.

ARTICLE VI.—ELECTIONS.

SECTION 1. The annual election for officers shall take place at the regular meeting in June. Whenever a vacancy occurs in any of the offices, the same shall be filled at the next regular meeting.

SEC. 2. The election of officers shall be by ballot, a majority of the whole number of votes cast being necessary for a choice.

ARTICLE VII.—SUBSCRIPTIONS.

SECTION 1. The annual subscription, which is payable in advance, shall be two dollars for active and corresponding members.

SEC. 2. Any member, in arrears for over three months' dues, shall be notified of the fact by the Treasurer, and requested to pay the same. If, within thirty days after such notification and request, the arrearage be not paid, he shall then, on motion, cease to be a member of the society, and his name stricken from the roll.

ARTICLE VIII.—PUBLICATIONS.

The society may, from time to time as it may determine, issue a bulletin or other publication, containing an abstract of its proceedings, and full reports of, or extracts from papers read at its meetings, when such papers may prove of interest to collectors. Copies of these bulletins or publications shall be distributed in such manner as the society shall direct.

ARTICLE IX.—AMENDMENTS.

This Constitution shall not be altered, modified or amended except at a regular meeting, by a two-thirds vote of the mem-

bers present. No action thereon shall be valid, unless one month's notice shall have been given.

OFFICERS FOR 1882-3.

<i>President and Librarian,</i>	R. R. BOGERT.
<i>Vice-President,</i>	C. B. CORWIN.
<i>Secretary,</i>	W. F. SMITH.
<i>Treasurer,</i>	N. F. SEEBECK.
<i>Executive Committee.</i>	
R. A. BRITTON,	W. F. SMITH, C. MUECKE.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY.

The first meeting of the season was held in the society rooms, Sept. 13, 1882, with the President in the chair, a large attendance being present.

The Committee on Revision of Constitution presented its report and was discharged with thanks.

Various novelties were exhibited by the members present among which may be mentioned the new Mexican postal card, 1c. green U. S. of Colombia regularly perforated, etc., etc.

The greater part of this session was occupied in discussion of the plans of the society for the season.

At the meeting of Oct. 11th, the President being in the chair, the amended Constitution reported by the Committee at the last meeting was unanimously adopted.

The subject of the Color Chart was presented by the Executive Committee, and after discussion was referred back to said Committee with request to report fully at the next regular meeting.

Messrs. Bogert and Corwin having prepared for the society a paper on "The Postal Emissions of Peru," the same was listened to with gratification by the members present.

Nov. 14th, 1882, regular monthly meeting of the society; the President in the chair.

The Executive Committee having presented its final report on Color Chart, the matter was referred with power to a special Committee of three; viz. Messrs. Bogert, Seebeck and Smith, with instructions to report at an early date.

The Secretary read communications from Dr. A. Kloss of the "International Philatelic Society," Dresden, announcing the election of the "National Philatelic Society" as a corresponding member of that body.

At this meeting it was determined that the society publish a monthly journal to be known as the *National Philatelist*, and the President appointed Messrs. Corwin, Collin and Smith, as a Committee to arrange the necessary steps for the publication of the initial number.

After an exhibition of newly issued stamps and envelopes the society adjourned.

A special meeting was held Dec. 5th, 1882, to listen to the report of the committee on the Color Chart.

After the reading of the various tenders for the execution of the chart, it was decided that the contract be awarded to the American Bank Note Company.

The Committee were then requested to prepare and forward letters soliciting subscriptions to the Color Chart, and pending the answers to these letters it was decided to leave the matter *in statu quo*, the society not deeming it to its interest to bind itself to the publication of this work, until it was positive of philatelic support.

The regular meeting of Dec. 12th, 1882, following so closely upon the special meeting of the week previous, elicited nothing of importance, the session being mainly taken up with the inspection of novelties and also the member's collections of the stamps of Newfoundland, which were the duly appointed subject of discussion.

At the meeting of Jan. 9th, 1883, the Committee on Color Chart reported prog-

ress, and the receipt of a number of subscriptions.

The Committee on publication reported that the first number of the *National Philatelist* would probably be ready for issue by the 20th inst.

The stamps of St. Vincent being before the society for discussion at this meeting the collections of some of the members present were exhibited and were productive of much admiration. Further consideration of this subject was postponed to the Feb. meeting.

W. F. SMITH, Secretary.

Chronicle.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—On the 7th September, a newspaper band was issued, of the value of $\frac{1}{2}$ centavo. The stamp is at the right, and of the same type as the recently issued adhesives. To the left, in capital letters, is "Republica Argentina." A little lower down, to the left, is "Impresos," and at the foot, "Libreria Europea, L. Jacobsen & Ca., 242, Calle Florida, Buenos Ayres." The upper part of the band is gummed, and has the corners cut. The inscriptions and stamp are brown, on manila paper.

Band, $\frac{1}{2}$ centavo, brown on manila.

AUSTRIA.—We learn from "Le T. P." that the Postal Union Cards 5 soldi and 5 x 5 soldi, have been issued.

Post Cards, 5 soldi, red on buff.

" 5x5 " "

AZORES.—The following have been seen with small surcharge, "Azores," measuring only 10 mm.

2 $\frac{1}{2}$, 5, 10, 25, 50 reis of the current issue.

BARBADOS.—We have received two cards, two bands, and an envelope. The half-penny card has the inscription in three lines "Post Card,"—"Barbados,"—"The address only, &c." the words "Post" and

"Card" being separated by the arms of Great Britain. Stamp in upper right corner; Head of Victoria to left in circle, with solid ground, inscribed "Barbados" at top, and "Half-penny" below, in curved lines. Ornamented angles. Brown impression on thick white card, 120x75 mm. The one penny card is inscribed in four lines "Union Postale Universelle,"—"Barbados (Barbade)"—"Post Card"—"The address only, &c.," with arms of Great Britain between "Post" and "Card." The stamp is of peculiar shape, being an upright rectangle, rounded at top and bottom, and having head of Victoria on solid ground in circle in the center, and "Barbados" above, "One Penny" below. Carmine on thick white card. 139x88 mm.

The bands are of the same values, and have the same stamps as the cards. They measure 124x297 mm.; are gummed at the top and upper corners cut. There is a notice at top in five lines. Colored impression on manila paper.

The envelope is of the value of one penny. The stamp has head of Victoria to left in oval, with "Barbados Postage" above, and "One Penny" below. Pink on white laid paper, size 144x87 mm.

There are also registration envelopes of three sizes, values 1*d.* and 4*d.* They have the usual inscription, and large letter R on the face. The stamp on the flap (which varies in the two values) is circular, and contains embossed head of Victoria to left, with "Barbados Registration Fee," above, and "One Penny," or "Four-pence," below. The inscriptions are blue.

Post Cards, $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* red brown.

" 1*d.* carmine.

Bands, $\frac{1}{2}$ *d.* red brown.

" 1*d.* carmine.

Envelope, 1*d.* pink.

Registration envelope, 1*d.* rose, size 135x85.

4*d.* olive gray, sizes 135x85, 293x154 and 254x178 mm.

BELGIUM.—A Postal Card has been issued which can be sealed, and it is called

a "Carte-Lettre." It consists of a card folded at the top; white inside and blue outside. When folded, it measures 115x160 mm. It is perforated all round, near the edge, and gummed outside of the perforations, so that it may be sealed. The face has at top inscription in two lines, "Carte-Lettre,"—"Kaartbrief." Lower down the letter "M," and at the left side, reading upwards, "a ouvrir le long du pointillé," with equivalent in Flemish.

The stamp is of the value of 10 centimes, and of the current type. On the fourth page of the card is an inscription in French and Flemish, denoting that the card can be sent to Foreign Countries by adding the necessary stamp. Of course, the postage, either in the interior or abroad, is the same as that for sealed letters.

Letter Card, 10c. carmine on blue.

BOLIVAR.—A new set has been issued, dated 1882. The general design is as follows: Head of Simon Bolivar to left, in circular frame, inscribed at top "Correos de Bolivar," and at bottom, "E.E. U.U. de Colombia." The figure of value is in the center at the top of the stamp, and at the bottom is the value both in words and figures. The corners of the stamps are ornamented differently in the different values. The date is found in the circular frame, below the head of Bolivar, except in the 40c., where it is at the top of the stamp, 18 being in the left corner, and 82 in the right. This stamp also differs from the others in having the word "Certificado" at the bottom. Perforated 16 horizontally and 12 vertically. There are also two stamps without date, of the value of 5 and 10 pesos, printed in two colors. The portrait of Bolivar is almost full face, and is in an oval, surrounded by engine turned pattern. At the top "Correos de Bolivar," and "E.E. U.U. de Colombia," in two curves. The figures of value are in the upper corners and at the bottom, in the center in a star-shaped ornament. The value is also in words at the bottom. Perforated 11 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Adhesives, 5 centavos, blue.
“ 10 “ lilac.
“ 20 “ red.
“ 40 “ brown.
“ 80 “ green.
“ 1 peso, orange.
“ 5 “ blue, with portrait red.
“ 10 “ red brown, with portrait blue.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—There has lately been issued a 2*d* brown, of the current type; also a band of the value of one half-penny; the stamp on which has head of Victoria to left, in oval, on colored ground, surrounded with oval white band, lettered in color, “Cape of Good Hope,” above, and “Half Penny,” below. The stamp is rectangular, the corners being ornamented. Olive green on manila, 124 x 247 mm. We have a registration envelope with the usual inscriptions, circular stamp on flap, with head of Victoria to left, and inscribed, “Cape of Good Hope Registration, Four-pence.” Inscription and stamp blue. There are four sizes; 130x82, 150x97, 253x175, and 292x150. The first two have large letter R, and the other two have the word “Registered” in rectangular frame.

Adhesive, 2*d*, brown.
 Band, ½*d*, olive green.
 Registration envelope, 4*d*, blue.

CEYLON.—The “Ph. R.” describes two provisional stamps; they are the current 24 and 64 cent stamps, surcharged “Sixteen” or “Twenty” across the top, and “cents” at the bottom, in Roman capitals, 3 mm. high; and in the center are the numerals 16 or 20 in figures 2 mm. high. Adhesive, 16 cts. black, on 24 cts. green.
 “ 20 “ “ on 64 “ red.

CHILI.—New cards are in use in this Republic; at the top a large fancy label, containing the words, “Tarjeta Postal.” Three lines for address, the first preceded by “Sr.” In lower left corner, in two lines, “En este lado debe escribirse—unicamente

la direccion.” The stamp consists of a shield, with branches on each side and a ribbon below, inscribed, “Republica de Chile.” At the top of the shield a small circle containing portrait of Columbus, “Colon” below, then a large figure “2” and the word “centavos” in a curved label below. The frame consists of two closely ruled parallel lines and Japanese ornaments in the corners. There is a reply paid card, with additional inscription, “Con respuesta pagada.” Colored impression on gray card. It remains only to add that they are made by the American Bank Note Co.

Cards, 2 centavos, red.
 “ 2x2 “ red.

COSTA RICA.—The half real blue comes surcharged 1 cto. in red, in the same style as the 2 cts., but the numeral 1 is nearly 10 mm. high, and the letters are larger than in the 2 cts. There are two types, in one of which the “cto.” is in italics, and in the other in ordinary letters.

Since writing the above we have learned that two new provisionals have been issued and have received one value of the 1883 issue. The provisionals are 10 and 20 cents on the 2 and 4 reals respectively which are surcharged also “U. P. U.”

The 1883 is of the value of 10 centavos. It contains the portrait of a military gentleman in oval band inscribed “Union Postal Universal, Costa Rica.” In right upper corner, “1 En 1883,” and in the other corners “10.” It foot in straight line “centavos.”

Adhesive, 1c. red on blue.
 10c. black on red.
 20c. “ “ green.
 10c. orange.

CUNDINAMARCA.—Two adhesives have been issued lately of the value of 50 cents and 1 peso. Both have the usual arms in the center, and the same inscriptions, but the details vary. In the circle surrounding the arms, we read, “Estado Soberano

de Cundinamarca," at the top, and "Correos," below, the latter being in a straight line in the 50 cent and following the circle in the 1 peso. At the top of the stamp, "E.E. U.U. de Colombia," in one line in the 50 cent, and two lines in the 1 peso. The value in words is at the bottom of the stamp in a curve in the lower value, and in a straight line in the other. The figures of value are in the four corners, and also below the word "Correos" in the 50 cent. Unperforated, and measuring about 25x30 mm.

Adhesive, 50 centavos, lilac.
" 1 peso, brown.

CURAÇAO.—"Le T. P." describes a reply paid card as follows: At top, in four lines, "Algemene Postvereniging,"—"Union postale universelle,"—"Briefkaart met betaald antwoord nit Curaçao,"—" (Carte postale avec reponse payée, de la colonie de Curaçao.)" Stamp in upper right corner of the usual type. The reply card has the third and fourth lines as follows: "Betaald Antwoord naar Curaçao,"—" (Carte reponse pour la colonie de Curaçao.)" The card is rose on one side and white on the other, and as the form is No. 1, the face of the original card is rose, while that of the reply card is white.

Card, 5x5, carmine.

FARIDKOT.—"Le T. P." illustrates two stamps from this state which is one of the Sikh states, and a dependency of the Government of Punjab.

The first is a small rectangle measuring about 18x14 mm., and is divided into two equal parts by a horizontal band. Both the upper and lower parts are filled with native characters.

The other is also rectangular but measures 19x24 mm. It is divided into two unequal portions by a horizontal band about 6 mm. from the bottom. The upper part contains two concentric circles, both filled with similar characters, as well as the lower part. Colored impression

on white paper, unperforated. The smaller stamp has been succeeded by the larger.

Adhesives, 1 anna blue
1 " "

FIJI I.—The "Ph. R." describes the new 5 shilling stamp, which is of the same shape, dimensions and perforation as the 1 shilling. The same profile, portrait of Victoria on ground of horizontal lines occupies the central circle, which is printed in rose. A fancy black label surmounts the circle, and is inscribed "Fiji" in white letters, whilst below an eccentric *cartouche* is lettered in two lines, "Five Shillings." In the upper corners are octagon blocks with the numeral 5, and each of the lower spandrels is a five pointed star. The stamp is printed in black, except the central circle.

Adhesive 5 sh. black and rose, perf. 10.

FINLAND.—"Le T. P." states that the following stamps are now perforated 12½ instead of 11.

Adhesives 10 penni brown.
20 " blue.
25 " carmine.
1 mark violet.

FRANCE.—We have received an envelope of the value of 5 centimes. It is printed in green on green paper and measures 114x75 mm.

Envelope 5 centimes, green.

GREAT BRITAIN.—From "A. S. & Co's M. C." we extract the following: The 1d wrapper is now printed on paper of a better quality similar to that employed for the ½d wrapper.

Plate 18 of the 4d is now in circulation.

On Jan. 1st the 3d. and 6d. stamps will be printed in mauve and surcharged in red with value in large numerals.

On the same date a new law goes into effect, parts of which are quoted and the Editor says, "It appears to us that after the 1st of January the Inland Revenue stamps, of which we believe there are five

values (2d., 3d., 6d., 1sh., 2sh., 6d.) will be applicable for postal purposes."

"Le T. P." informs us that the 5 shilling and 1 pound stamps have now the anchor watermark and are perforated 14.

Adhesive, 3d. red and mauve.

6d " " "

5sh. rose.

1pd. lilac.

HAYTI.—A new card has been issued inscribed in three lines. "Administration des Postes d'Haiti"—"Carte Postale"—"Ce coté, etc." There is no stamp printed on the card, which measures 122x87 mm.

Card, red on white.

HONDURAS.—We have received a telegraph blank from this country printed in black on yellow paper, and measuring 207 x132 mm. It is headed "Telegrama" with four lines of instructions below, and six dotted lines for the message. In the upper left corner is a double circle inscribed "Telegrafo del Gobierno de Honduras" and enclosing an arm with thunderbolts and clouds. In upper right corner is surcharged "Vale Dos Reales." On the reverse a hand stamp in each of the lower corners, containing a pyramid and inscriptions in double lined circle; that in the left corner reading, "Oficina general de cuentas de la Republica, Tegucigalpa," and that on the right reading, "Direccion general de rentas de la Republica, Tegucigalpa."

Telegraph sheet 2 rls., black on yellow.

LABUAN.—An eight cent stamp has been issued of the same type as the current set, watermarked CC and Crown.

Adhesive 8ct., red.

LIBERIA.—We have received three sizes of the registration envelopes, as follows: 131x83, 150x98 and 227x101 mm.

Registration Env. 10ct., blue

LUXEMBURG.—The new set has come to hand. They somewhat resemble the current French stamps. Two figures sup-

port the arms of Luxemburg which rest on a square, containing simply the figure of value, (except in the 1 and 5 fcs. which are distinguished by the letter F. in addition.)

Below in two lines, "Gd. Duché de"—"Luxemburg."

These also come surcharged "S. P." for official use, and there are new cards, with stamp of the new type.

Adhesive,	1 cent,	violet.
"	2 "	grey.
"	4 "	yellow.
"	5 "	green.
"	10 "	carmine.
"	12½ "	grayish blue.
"	20 "	orange.
"	25 "	blue.
"	30 "	green.
"	50 "	brown.
"	1 franc	lilac.
"	5 "	brown.

Same surcharged, "S. P."

Cards, 5 cent. lilac.

" 10 " yellow bistre.

" 5x5 " lilac.

" 10x10 " yellow bistre.

MEXICO.—We have an envelope, with a 5 centavo stamp in the usual position and two 10 centavo stamps in the left upper and lower corners. The 5 centavo stamp is of the same design as the 10 centavos, and is printed in a kind of reddish brown.

Envelope, 25ct., reddish brown and green.

NEW CALEDONIA.—Mr. Voigt has kindly shown us two new surcharged stamps for this island.

Adhesives, 5ct. black on 40 ct. vermilion.

25 ct. " on 75 ct. carmine.

NICARAGUA.—We have received from a correspondent in Leon a new set. The stamps are made by the American Bank Note Company. The design consists of arms in a triangle which with "Mayo 1882" is enclosed in a circular band inscribed at top "Union Postale Univers-

al" and below, "Republica de Nicaragua." The figure of value is in the four corners and the word "centavo" at the bottom.

Adhesives	1	centavo	green.
	2	"	carmine.
	5	"	blue.
	10	"	grey.
	15	"	yellow.
	20	"	purple.

ORANGE FREE STATE.—"Le T. P." notes five varieties of surcharge on the provisional 3d. on 4d. blue, in two of which the "d." is upright, and the "3" respectively 3 and 4 mm. high. The other three have the "d." italic. One of these has the "3" italic. The other two have the "3" upright; but one is heavier than the other.

Adhesive 3d. on 4d., blue.

PORTUGAL.—From "Le T. P." we learn that the 10 and 20 reis cards are now almost white, and that the 20x20 reis card is now of form 3.

Cards	10	reis,	brown.
	20	"	blue.
	20x20	"	"

PORTUGUESE INDIES.—We hear of several more provisional stamps as follows:

Adhesives	4½	reis,	on 5	black.
	6	"	on 10	green.
	1	tanga,	on 20	bistre.
	2	"	on 300	brown.

QUEENSLAND.—We have received a new two penny stamp which differs somewhat from the old one. The letters are larger and the oval band wider, the head is slightly different, and nearly fills up the oval which is smaller. The spandrels contain arabesques on horizontally lined ground and the whole is enclosed in a narrow rectangular frame of color containing white beads.

Adhesive 2d., blue.

RUSSIA.—"Le T. P." illustrates new stamps from this country. The first type serves for the 14, 35 and 70 kopecks, and is very similar to the current 7 k.

There are two stamps of higher values—3½ and 7 roubles—which are about 30 mm. square and printed in two colors. The Russian Eagle is embossed in white in a circle with colored ground. This is surrounded by a square frame with inscriptions at top and bottom, and the values at the sides.

	14	kopecks	blue, rose	center.
	35	"	lilac, green	"
	70	"	bistre, orange	"
	3	roubles	50 kop.	silver, blue
	7	"	gold, rose	"

SIAM.—The 2, 8 and 10 cents of Strait's Settlements have appeared, surcharged with a B in black, and as the envelopes are post-marked Bangkok, it is to be presumed they are in use in that city. Possibly these stamps have been borrowed by the Siamese authorities in the same way that those of the Strait's Settlements borrowed the Indian stamps in 1867.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—"The Ph. R." says that the provisional half-penny on the one penny, is surcharged "O. S." in black, for official use.

ST. VINCENT.—We have received a very handsome stamp from this island, of the value of 5 shillings and of the same size as the 5 shillings of Trinidad. In a white oval band are two female figures, above which is an arched label, inscribed, "Pax et Justicia." In the upper part of the oval is a crown. The oval band is lettered in color "St. Vincent." at top, and "Five Shillings," below. The color is almost identical with that of the old one penny, red, of Great Britain. No apparent water mark; perforated 12. The 1d, grey, is now watermarked "C. A." and "Crown," instead of "Star." It is better printed and perforated.

Adhesive,	1d.	grey.
"	5s.	red.

UNITED STATES.—The new 5 cent envelope has been issued, with embossed profile of Garfield in the place of Taylor. It

is printed in brown instead of blue. We have seen the following sizes noted :

Envelopes, 5c. brown on white, 83x140mm
 " 5c. " " 86x150 "
 " 5c. " on amber, 83x140 "
 " 5c. " " 86x150 "
 " 5c. " on blue, 86x150 "
 " 5c. " on fawn, 100x225 "

U. S. OF COLOMBIA.—"Le T. P." mentions a reply paid card of the same design as the 2 cent of the Postal Union, except that the words "Respuesta" and "Response" are found on the reply card. Form 2.

The same journal also illustrates a new registry stamp. In the center is a large letter R in an oval, surrounded by the following inscription, "EE. UU. de Colombia, 10c." Above the oval "U. P. U." signifying, no doubt, *Union Postal Universal*. A label below contains "No. —" Colored impression on yellow paper. Perforated 12½.

Card, 2x2, rose on white.

Adhesive, 10c. red on yellow.

VENEZUELA.—"Le T. P." illustrates the new set. The design, which varies only in details, is as follows: Profile of General Bolivar to left, in oval band inscribed "Correos de Venezuela," above, and "Centimos," or "Bolivar," below, in variously shaped labels. The figures of value are in the four corners, except the 5c. in which they are at the bottom only. Colored impression on white paper. Perforated 12.

Adhesive, 5 centimos, blue.

" 10 " red.

" 25 " bistre.

" 50 " green.

" 1 bolivar, violet.

NOTE.—In describing reply paid cards, we have followed the plan of the Society, and divided them into eight forms, as follows:

Form 1. The card folds at the top of the original card, and the inscrip-

tions and stamp (if any) are on the first and third pages.

Form 2, folded at top, inscrip. on 1st & 4th p
 " 3, " left, " " " 3d "
 " 4, " " " " " 4th "
 " 5, " right, " " " 3d "
 " 6, " " " " " 4th "
 " 7, " bottom, " " " 3d "
 " 8, " " " " " 4th "

All measurements of stamps, cards and envelopes are in millimetres, and the horizontal measurements are given first, then the vertical.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

BY C. B. CORWIN.

CANADA.—Some time since, I saw noted in the *Philatelic Record*, the existence of a 3 cent Canada stamp, emission of 1868, on *laid* paper.

In looking through my Canadian varieties, after reading this note, I discovered, also, a copy of the one cent red, same emission, on *laid* paper.

A close examination of specimens of this series may, perhaps, unearth other values on this paper.

VENEZUELA.—Can any one inform me whether the medio and un real of the 1874 emission, were ever officially perforated? I have specimens of both regularly perforated 12.

SPAIN.—I also solicit information concerning the 4 cuartos of 1864, a copy of which I have perforated, 12½.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—Some two years since, I noticed, on letters from this colony, the stamps of Griqualand, notably the 6d and 1s. used in conjunction with the regular issue of the Cape,

I have also lately seen two unsevered 3d stamps from the same sheet, one surcharged with the long and slim, and the other with the short and thick figure 3. These stamps were one above the other. Were these different sized figures em-

ployed in surcharging the same sheet, or is this instance an error?

COLOMBIA.—Has it ever been noted that all values (5, 10, 20 and 50c. and 1 peso) of the 1876 emission are to be found on *laid* paper?

The 1 peso is common, but all the other values are rare. I have very seldom found them save on stamps post marked Barranquilla, which seems to be unaccountable, as it hardly seems probable that one office should receive all of them, and I believe that all the stamps of Colombia are prepared at Bogota.

All the 1880-1 emissions of this country have been roughly perforated or pin pricked. This perforation seems as though it were made by a sewing machine. These stamps have never become common, and now have apparently ceased coming out altogether. I believe that these perforations were the work of private parties, else they would not have remained so uncommon.

I have just received information from one of my Colombian correspondents stating that the issue of 1881 for inland postage was withdrawn, by the government, from circulation, on December, 1st., 1882, and that, hereafter, the Postal Union stamps will be employed instead.

FRANCE.—I have just seen a letter from Paris prepaid with one 15 centimes blue, present issue, perforated, and two 30 centimes light brown, laureated head of Emperor, *unperforated*, the latter being such as were used in the French Colonies in 1871.

Can any one explain the use of the stamps of the Colonies in France?

MEXICO.—During the prevalence of the yellow fever in Matamoras, in the summer of 1882, postal matters in that city seem to have been somewhat mixed. I have an envelope, mailed there, prepaid with a regular 5 cent postage stamp and a 1 cent blue, *fiscal*. I also noticed a great

many letters mailed there, prepaid with a 4 cent stamp and a half, the latter divided perpendicularly by a knife or shears.

It is to be presumed that, owing to the quarantine established against Matamoras while the fever was raging, the postal authorities there ran out of 1 cent Stamps, and, therefore, had recourse to makeshifts, in order to make up the rate of 6 cents, which then was and now is the Postal Union rate of Mexico.

Among the instances of "half Stamps" or those divided diagonally or otherwise to do half duty, I note the few following, most of which I have never seen mentioned in print.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—The 8d vermilion, cut perpendicularly, also diagonally, and the 5 cent black (seal), cut diagonally.

COLOMBIA.—Since 1876 this method seems to have generally prevailed, and nearly all values are found in this condition, nearly always cut diagonally.

PERU.—I have just seen an Arequipa 10 cent blue, cut diagonally, used for a 15 cent rate, in connection with a whole 10 cent stamp.

CUBA.—This method was employed quite generally during 1875 to 1881.

A COLOR CHART.

As long ago as 1878 the National Philatelic Society suggested the idea of compiling a color chart which would represent the various colors used in printing stamps, with sufficient accuracy, to avoid confusion in the minds of Philatelists. While the society was convinced that such a chart could be arranged, it was reluctant to undertake the publication, on account principally of the expense, and circulars were sent out asking the coöperation of leading dealers in this country and abroad. Subscriptions were received amounting to about

500 copies, but it being necessary that 1,000 at least should be sold, the matter was dropped for the time.

At a late meeting of the society it was decided to make another attempt to place such a chart in the hands of the Philatelic public, and a committee of three was appointed with full power.

After consulting with several Lithographic and Bank note companies, and obtaining estimates it was decided to have the work done by the American Bank Note Company, provided subscriptions were obtained for 1,000 copies. A second circular was prepared and sent out and the committee reports that nearly 500 subscriptions have been already taken.

It is admitted on all hands that a color chart is one of the necessities of philately, and when it is considered that its preparation will be committed to the American Bank Note Company, the beauty of whose work is known wherever there are collectors, it seems probable that the chart will become a standard all over the world, in the same manner that the Metric scale has been adopted almost universally, to measure the sizes of stamps, cards and envelopes. There is now no agreement among philatelic writers and compilers of catalogues as to the names of many of the colors in which stamps are printed. Among many instances of this we find the 2½d. of Great Britain 1874, is given *seven* different colors in *ten* catalogues we have examined, although the color of this stamp varies as little perhaps as any that might be chosen.

One very great advantage in having a standard of color would be the saving of the necessity of translating the names of the colors from one language to another. It often happens that an English Journal in describing a newly issued stamp, translates from a French Journal, which in turn obtained its information from a German source; and admitting that the color was rightly designated originally this

double translation is very likely to cause error. But if the German paper gave the color as No. 5 of the color chart no error could occur, in any number of translations, and the color would be recognized at once by any one possessing a chart, no matter what his nationality.

Dealers who have not already subscribed are requested to do so at once and lend a helping hand to the good work; and Philatelic Journals are requested to bring this matter before the public, and make suggestions with regard to the details of the work.

Subscriptions are received for not less than 25 copies, and particulars can be obtained by addressing any of the officers of the Society.

Postmaster Pearson's New Year cards to the Post Offices in foreign countries were 4 by 3 inches in size. Seals of the New York and general Post Offices occupy opposite corners at top of the card, and the numerals "1883" are emblazoned between them. A figure of Mercury flying across New York fills up the central ground. On left hand are figures representing the several nations of the globe apparently admiring the progress of the New World. The United States shield is at the foot of the card, while in the right hand corner is a card which reads as follows: "From the officers and employes of the New York Post Office with best wishes for a happy New Year."

Correspondence.

We solicit, and are prepared to insert under this heading, any information or suggestions that may be thought of interest to the Philatelic world.

We will not hold ourselves responsible for the views of our correspondents, and we reserve the right to reject communications that do not seem to us as proper for publication.

Answers to Correspondents.

We hold ourselves in readiness to give here such information as lies in our power, and are prepared, at all times, to assist Philatelists in the solution of such questions as we are able to. All questions addressed to the Society, not requiring an answer by letter, will be replied to here.



The National Philatelist.

VOL. I.

NEW YORK, FEBRUARY, 1883.

No. 2.

TO OUR READERS.

In presenting the second number of the *National Philatelist*, the Society begs leave to thank its friends for their subscriptions, which have been handed in, in a manner far exceeding its expectations, and to again call their attention to the opening remarks in the first number. These remarks cover about all there is to be said upon this subject, and we trust will have their desired effect.

The Society begs to announce that the matter of the Color Chart is receiving its special attention, and it hopes soon to be able to state that work has been commenced thereon by the contractors, the "American Bank Note Co.," and that a definite time has been set for the issue of the Charts.

During the last month, several additional subscriptions to the Chart have been received, but the total number still falls short of the amount required, before the Society feels qualified to undertake the large outlay incidental to its preparation.

Desirous of doing all in its power to further Philately, the Society begs to state that it will be pleased to correspond, through any of its officers, with any Philatelists who may desire to join its ranks. Parties who have this in view, are referred to the first number of this journal, where will be found, *in extenso*, particulars of the Society's rules and regulations.

What Philately in this country needs, more than any other one thing, is the free interchange of thought and information, which has done so much to foster the science in Europe. And where will a better

opening be found, than in the ranks of our Society, and in the columns of this journal? Glance back through the past twenty years, and ask yourselves what America has done for Philately, compared with the vast researches and labors of our fellow laborers across seas. We have been content to follow, supinely, in the footsteps of Europe, and, as a rule, to place blind faith in all information thence derived. Do not understand us as being cavillers or envious, we are simply laying the naked truth before you.

This journal is established for the advancement of Philately, and *all* are welcome as contributors; therefore do not be backward in addressing us upon abstruse points, or in forwarding articles for publication, or items of general Philatelic interest. Our great aim is to make this the leading American publication of its kind, without depending upon European articles and writers to help us along. Americans enjoy the reputation of Independence, let it be verified in this instance.

FERDINAND MEYER.

European contemporaries bring us the painful intelligence, that on December 31st last, Ferdinand Meyer, one of the most prominent European Philatelists, departed this life. He was born in 1846, at Franzensbad, a prominent bathing resort in Bohemia, where his father was Postmaster.

Entering the College at Eger in 1862, his admission to the University at Prague followed in 1868, where chemistry was his special branch of study. Having

graduated from the University, he returned to his native town to establish himself in that branch which principally claimed his attention while at the University.

His Philatelic career began after the death of his father, who left him a small collection of stamps. From that time on, he devoted all his spare moments to Philately, in which his interest grew to the greatest degree. We soon find publications of great interest to Philatelists, of which we mention as the most prominent "*Die Postwerthzeichen des Ottomanischen Kaiserreiches*" (The Postage Stamps of the Ottoman Empire), for which he received a silver medal from the "*Societe des Timbrologie*," of Paris. Later appeared "*Afghanistan, seine Post und Postwerthzeichen*" (Afghanistan, its Post and Postage stamps), which created quite a sensation among collectors, as it cleared up a great deal of the uncertainty existing in Philatelic minds as to Afghanistan's postal affairs.

His last and best work, "*Handbuch fur Postmarken sammler*" (Hand-book for Postage Stamp Collectors), was published in 1881; two supplements to this followed, and he was engaged upon a third at the time of his death.

This work was accepted as a standard by all Philatelic authorities.

For ten years, or more, he was closely confined by illness; in 1880 it was found necessary to amputate his left hand, and thereafter he never left his bed; but no physical suffering could quench his love and ardor for our science.

He bequeathed his fine collection to his sister, Miss Mathilde Meyer, who was his constant nurse and companion. This lady also takes great interest in Philately, and will, doubtless, make the best use of her newly acquired possession.

By the death of Ferdinand Meyer the Philatelic world has been deprived of one of its greatest ornaments.

C. M.

Chronicle.

ANTIOQUIA.—"Der Ph." states that the colors of the 1879 stamp have been changed as follows:

Adhesives, 2½ centavos, green.
" 5 " " dark violet.

AZORES.—The 20 and 100 reis have been met with surcharged in small letters.

BARBADOS.—The 4d. of the new set has appeared and is printed in gray.

Adhesive, 4d. gray.

BAVARIA.—"Der Ph." illustrates the stamp on a new 5 pfennig card. It consists of a large figure "5" with "pfennig" below on a ground of diamonds of two colors, in a fancy rectangular frame. In the upper left corner are the arms of Bavaria. The inscriptions read, "Königreich Bayern"—"Postkarte"—"An, &c.," and are printed in black on buff card. Size, 140x91 mm.

Card, 5 pfennig, violet.

BELGIUM.—Capt. Evans writes as follows to the "Ph. R." "I have seen an imperforate specimen copy of the new two francs adhesive. The portrait is a profile, to left, closely resembling that on the current stamps. The frame is that of the new Barbados, but lettered "Belgique" above, and "Deux Francs" below, in white on color. The ornaments in the spandrels are the same as those of the two-pence, New Zealand, issue 1874 but are in color on white instead of the reverse. The combination is, I should say, dear at frs. 5000. The color of the specimen I have seen is as nearly as possible that of the late lamented Venetian red, one penny, De La Rue of Great Britain."

BRAZIL.—The "Ph. R." states that a new type of 10 reis is about to be issued, printed in brown instead of black. Essays have been prepared of a new type of 100 reis to be printed violet. Alterations are also to be made in the 20 reis post card. The 50 and 50x50 cards of the *Casa de*

Moneda (Mint) are ready, but it is not known when they will be issued.

CANADA.—We have received a reply paid card from this country. The design is the same as the 1 cent card of 1882, but it is printed in gray. The reply card has the word "(Reply.)" Form 1.

Card, 1x1 cent, gray.

CHILE.—Three new cards have been prepared by the American Bank Note Co. of New York, two single cards and one reply paid card. The single cards are headed "Union Postal Universal" in a curve. Below this is "Chile" in a straight line with ornaments on each side. Four lines for the address follow, and in the lower left corner in two lines, "En este lado debe escribirse—unicamente la direccion." The stamp is in the upper right corner and somewhat resembles the current adhesive. The portrait of Columbus is at the top in a small circle, with "Colon" below; then the figure of value in engine turned oval frame, and "centavos" below in curve. At the bottom the word "Chile;" on the left side "Correos," and on the right "Porte Franco." There are stars in the four corners.

The reply paid card has the words "Tarjeta Postal" under the word "Chile." There are only three lines for address and the first is preceded by "Sr." In the lower right corner is the word "Chile." The stamp and other inscriptions are the same as in the single cards. The reply card is headed "Respuesta" only.

Cards, 2 centavos, blue on (?)

3 " red on lilac.

3x3 " red on lilac.

COSTA RICA.—We have the complete set of the new issue of which the 10 centavos was described last month. We omitted to state that a broad band crosses the stamp diagonally from the lower left corner to the upper right corner, passing behind the oval containing the portrait. The date "1° En° 1883," is on this band in the upper right corner and the figure

of value is on the other end of the band, in the lower left corner of the stamp. There are five values and the design differs only in the shape of the small frames in the upper left and lower right corners which contain the figures of value. In the 1 centavo this frame is square and is composed of what may be called beads. In the 2 centavos it is a square with the corners cut out. In the 5 centavos we find a circular disk. The 10c. has a square in the lower corner, and in the upper a section of a circular band. The 40c. has a shield in the upper corner and an octagon in the lower. We are indebted to Mr. Calman for a view of a post-card; which is inscribed at the top "Tarjeta Postal." Below this is a curved label containing the words "Union Postal Universal," and crossed by two large letters "C. R." This is followed by "Escribase de este lado la direccion y la comunicacion del otro." The stamp is in the upper right corner and contains the same head in an oval as that on the adhesives. Above is inscribed in a curve "Republica de Costa Rica," and below "Dos Centavos," the two words being separated by a shield containing the figure 2. Flags and branches are on either side of the portrait. In the upper left corner of the card are the arms of the Republic. Black impression on brown card.

There is a second card of the value of 4 centavos, but whether a reply paid card or not we cannot say.

Mr. Collin has shown us another provisional, surcharged in the same manner as the 10. and 20c. noted last month. It is the 5c. surcharged on the $\frac{1}{2}$ real in red.

Adhesives, 5 centavos, red on blue.

1 " green.

2 " carmine.

5 " purple.

10 " orange.

40 " blue.

Cards, 2 " black.

4 " (?)

DOMINICA.—From the "S. N." we learn

that a provisional $\frac{1}{2}$ d. was issued Nov. 25, 1882. It consists of the penny stamp roughly cut in two, perpendicularly, and each half surcharged in small figures in black. A second edition has since been issued, surcharged in red and in larger type.

Adhesives, $\frac{1}{2}$ d., black on lilac.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., red on lilac.

ECUADOR.—It is reported that the 1 real of 1873 is now surcharged "4 cvos." in black. The 10c. orange of the current issue has not yet been emitted although sent down in 1881. The 1 real orange of the last issue does duty for that value.

Adhesive, 4c. on $\frac{1}{2}$ real.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Mr. La Tourette has shown us some bands for printed matter. They measure 122x230 mm. and are of the value of 4d., 6d., and 10d., the latter being formed by a combination of the 4d. and 6d. The stamps are identical with the envelope stamps and are dated June 15, 1882.

We take the following from the "Ph. R.": Registration envelope size G has a large block letter R, 15 mm. high enclosed in an oval in upper left corner. It is stated that postmasters are to be supplied with hand stamps of similar design to stamp the stock of envelopes not already provided with the large R. There are new envelopes which are sold at 1s. 9d. per 20; they are printed on white laid paper with pointed flaps and measure 136x80. The stamp is without die number, and also with die number 24. Six new cards have been issued. The inscription is the same in all, and is in four lines, "Union Postale Universelle"—"Post Card—Great Britain and Ireland"—" (Grand Bretagne et Irlande)"—"The address only, &c." The stamp occupies the usual place, and for the two lowest values is the same as on the cards superseded. The 2d. has the Queen's head to left, in a circle of solid color, surrounded by a circular band inscribed "Postage" above and "Two-pence" below; an

irregular frame completes the design. The reply paid cards have on the first half in the lower left corner in two lines, "The annexed Card is intended for the answer" with the equivalent in French below, also in two lines; and the second half has the word "Reply" beneath "The address only, &c." The impression is in color on medium straw colored card, and the reply paid cards are of form 1, and perforated with holes 4 mm. apart. Size 139x89 mm. The Inland reply paid cards on stout white cardboard are no longer perforated between the two parts; but the perforation is replaced by a strip of linen, forming a hinge; and the perforation holes in the thin ones are now much farther apart than they were.

Bands. 4d. red.
6d. violet.
10d. red and violet.

Reg. Env. 2d. Size G. R. in oval.
Cards, $\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on buff; variety of perf.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ x $\frac{1}{2}$ d. on white not perf.
1d. brown.
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. "
2d. "
1x1d. "
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ x $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. brown.
2x2d. "

GRENADA.—The "Ph. R." notes a curious error in the current one shilling, the last word in the surcharge being spelled "Shillins."

HONG KONG.—By the courtesy of Mr. Clifford, we are enabled to note that the 12 cents fiscal has done postal duty.

Adhesive, 12c. black on rose.

HUNGARY.—The "W. P." informs us that the Croatian card, value 2 kreuzer is now without watermark.

JAPAN.—The 5 sen stamp is now printed in the Postal Union color.

Adhesive, 5 sen blue.

MEXICO.—A companion to the envelope noted last month, has been shown us. It contains a 5 centavos stamp in each of

the upper corners. We are informed that 5c. envelopes were prepared some years ago, but there being no use for them they were laid aside, and they are now being utilized by impressing 5c. and 10c. stamps at the left.

Mr. Corwin has shown us some envelopes issued by Wells, Fargo & Co. for use in this Republic. At the top in the center is a label measuring about 70x20 mm. There are two varieties; the first is inscribed in three lines, "Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express"—"Charges Paid"—"California & Mexican Coast Routes." Below this label is printed the word "Paid" followed by the value. The second variety is inscribed, also in three lines, "Express de Wells, Fargo y Ca."—"Franco en la"—"Republica Mexicana." There is no value on these latter. All on white laid paper, various sizes.

Envelope, 10 centavos, brown.

Envelopes of Wells, Fargo & Co.

10 cents, blue; 150x85 mm.

20 " black; 170x95 "

40 " black; 220x100 "

No value, green; 150x 85 mm.

" " 170x95 "

NEWFOUNDLAND.—Mr. Calman has shown us the new stamp of the value of 2 cents, which has just been issued, although prepared two years ago. The figures of value are in the lower corners only and in ovals instead of circles. The lettering is larger and the word "Two" is omitted at the sides.

Adhesive, 2 cents, green.

NEW ZEALAND.—The frame of the post card has been retouched, the inner and outer lines being much thicker than before.

PORTUGUESE INDIES.—The "Ph. R." describes the following card: at top "India Portugueza," the two words being separated by the arms of Portugal. Then "D'este lado somente o nome e morado do Destinatarío." The stamp in the left

upper corner, is of the same type as the current adhesives. There is no frame nor lines for address. The front of the card is bluish gray and the reverse white. The inscription and stamp are printed in red. Size, 141x91 mm.

Card, 1 tanga, red.

SALVADOR.—Mr. Calman has shown us what we take to be a proof of a post card for this Republic. In a rectangular frame in the center at the top is a stamp printed in green, but without value. The design consists of the arms in an oval band inscribed, "Republica del Salvador,"—"America Central," and in curved label below "15 de Set. 1821." At the top of the card "Union Postale Universelle,"—"Republique du Salvador,"—"Amerique Centrale." At the left, reading upwards, "No. ———" and "Tarjeta—Correspondencia." In small letters at the foot is inscribed "Este lado sola es para el titulo o direccion." In the upper right corner is a frame for two stamps. The inscriptions are in black and the card white.

Card, black and green. (Proof?)

SELANGOR.—The surcharge on the 2 cents of Straits Settlements is now printed in larger letters than formerly.

Adhesive, 2c. brown.

SEYCHELLES.—The "Ph. R." mentions two cards of Mauritius, with what appears to be a stencilled black circle, 35 mm. in diameter in the lower left corner, whereon appears in white, "Post Office" above, "Seychelles" below, and V. R. in a script monogram, surmounted by a crown in the center.

Post Cards, 4 cents, black and blue.

6 " green on buff.

SHANGHAI—"Der Ph." notes the current set of adhesives perforated 9½, and the "S. N." describes a card headed—"Shanghai Local Post Office Card"—"For use of Volunteers only." It is printed in green on white card. Size 114x77mm.

SIAM.—The 24 cents of Straits Settlements is noted surcharged with a B as described last month.

SUNJEI UJONG.—The "Ph. R." states that the word "Ujong" in the surcharge, now occupies more space than the word "Sunjei." In the old stamps the reverse was the case.

Mr. Tapling showed at a late meeting of the London Society a half anna, blue, of India, surcharged in black, with crescent and star, and the letters "S. U." within an oval. The stamp is postmarked, but it was impossible to make out the name of the post town or date.

Adhesives, 2 c. brown.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ a. blue.

ST. DOMINGO.—The issue of 1880 became obsolete on February 1st, and one month is allowed for their exchange for stamps of the new issue. The new issue is identical with the old issue, with the exception of a surcharge in black of the word "centimos" and the value in figures above. There seems to have been a change made in the currency, the *centimo* equaling the French *centime* or about one-fifth of the *centavo*. We have seen only the following but presume the whole set has been surcharged.

Adhesives, 5 centimos, on 1 centavo.
 25 " 5 "
 50 " 10 "

TRINIDAD.—Two values of a new set have appeared. The head of Victoria to left in circle, with ground of horizontal lines. Above, in arched label, "Trinidad Postage," in white letters, and value below in colored letters. Watermarked C A and Crown, and perforated 14.

Adhesive, $\frac{1}{4}$ d. green.
 " 1d. carmine.

UNITED STATES.—Some of the Envelopes have been seen with the watermark modified by the substitution of the date "82" for the "Star." This is to distinguish the envelopes made under the new contract.

U. S. OF COLOMBIA.—The 2c. has been re-engraved, the principal change being in the figures and letters in the corners which are now placed diagonally in the small circles, instead of being upright.

The "Ph. R." chronicles a provisional made by surcharging the current 10 centavos in three lines, "Dos—y medio—centavos" in black.

Adhesive, 2c. red.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ centavos, black on violet.

URUGUAY.—The 7 centavos, blue, is surcharged "Oficial" in red.

WURTEMBERG.—"Der Ph." notes a new 2 mark stamp, printed in yellow, with the inner circle white, and figure of value black. The 5x5 pfennig card has the inscriptions in violet as well as the stamp.

Adhesive, 2 marks, yellow and black.
 Card, 5x5 pfennig, violet.

THE POSTAL EMISSIONS OF PERU.*

BY R. R. BOGERT AND C. B. CORWIN.

We approach the subject of the Postal Emissions of Peru with extreme diffidence, inasmuch as the ground relating to the earlier issues has already been so ably treated by more experienced writers than ourselves; still, in view of the fact that the later issues have remained an open field, we have ventured this paper, trusting that our labors will meet with philatelic approval.

We do not claim originality as a feature of our paper, most of the information we convey having already appeared in print, but simply endeavor to present in condensed form the most important facts relating to our subject.

For convenience sake we have divided our paper into two parts, viz:

- 1st. A Reference List, and
- 2d. Notes on the various Emissions.

* Read before the *National Philatetical Society*, October 11, 1882.

We have also divided the several emissions into distinctive classes which we designate as groups, and, in order to preserve the strictly chronological order, we have, in some instances been obliged to separate the groups into two portions.

Without further preface we will at once proceed to the consideration of our subject.

I.—A REFERENCE LIST.

Group I., December 1st, 1857, oblong, imp.

1 The 1 real blue on bluish paper of the Pacific Steam Navigation Co.

Group II., March 1st, 1858, square, imp. waved ground.

2 1 Dinero Light blue varying to

3 Dark blue

4 Slate "

5 1 Peseta Light Rose varying to

6 Dark "

7 Light brick

8 $\frac{1}{2}$ Peso Yellow

9 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Rose (error).

Group III., December 1st, 1858, square, imp. waved ground. Double lined frame.

10 1 Dinero Light slate blue varying to

11 Dark " "

12 Light greenish blue

13 1 Peseta Light rose varying to

14 Dark "

15 Very dark rose

16 Vermillion

17 Light brick red

18 Dark " "

Group IV., 1861, square, imp. unbroken zigzag lines.

19 1 Dinero Light blue varying to

20 Dark "

21 1 Peseta Light rose varying to

22 Dark "

23 Light red varying to

24 Dark "

25 Brick red

26 Light reddish rose varying to

27 Dark " "

28 Light " " (Llama with tail.)

Nos. 26, 27 & 28 we class as varieties, being with cornucopia on white ground.

Group V., 1862, square, imp. broken zigzag lines.

29 1 Dinero Light blue varying to

30 Dark blue

31 Light blue varying to

32 Dark "

33 Light " (Llama with tail.)

Nos. 31, 32 & 33 same as 26, 27, and 28.

Group VI., November 18, 1862, square, imp. embossed arms on white.

34 1 Dinero Light pink varying to

35 Dark "

36 Light red varying to

37 Dark "

38 Brick "

39 Pink (error) arms turned one-quarterway around to the left

40 Jan. 1863, 1 Peseta Light brown varying to

41 Dark brown

42 Jan. 1, 1866, $\frac{1}{2}$ dinero red, being $\frac{1}{2}$ of the 1 dinero used between Lima, Callao and Chorrillos from Jan. 1, 1866, to June 5, 1866, when the 5 c. green of the next group arrived from N. Y.

Group VII., rect. perf., 12, Llamas on rock.

43 June 5, 1866, 5 centavos, green

44 July (?) 1867, 10 centavos, red

45 July (?) 1867, 20 centavos, brown

Group VI. again, sq., imp., arms on colored ground.

46 July 18, 1868, 1 dinero light yellow green varying to

47 Dark yellow green

48 Light blue green varying to

49 Dark "

50 Green (error) arms reversed

April, 1871, Railway engine and arms.

51 5 Centavos Light red

52 Dark red

53 Very dark red, almost carmine.

1872 Arms on white ground

103 20 " Dark blue.
Group XVI, 1881-2, rect., perf. 12, with grill on back. Surcharged in black, "Union Postal Universal," in double lined horse shoe, and "Peru" in straight line beneath. Chilian arms additionally surcharged in various colors.

104 1 Ct., Green, arms surcharged in red.

105 5 " Dark blue, " " "

106 50 " Rose " " blue.

107 1 Sol Light blue " " red.

Group XVII, 1881-2, rect., perf. 12, and grill on back. Surcharged in various colors, with Chilian arms only.

108 1 Centavo, Orange, surcharge blue.

109 2 " Dark violet, " black

110 5 " Ultramarine, " red.

111 10 " Green, " "

112 20 " Rose, " blue.

Group XVIII, 1881, rect., imp. Provisional, used only at Arequipa. Lithographed in blue, on very thin paper. Inscribed in straight labels, at top "Diez Centavos," and at bottom, "Peru." In double lined oval, surrounding the Peruvian arms, "Departatos del Sur. Timbres, 1881-1882." Surcharged in red double lined circle, "Arequipa." Re-surcharged in half circle in fancy black capitals, "Provisional," and below in straight line "1881-1882."

113 10 Centavos, Light blue, varying to

114 Dark blue.

115 Light blue, on yellow paper.

Group XIX, 1882, Envelopes, surcharged with Chilian arms within a semi-circular inscription reading, "Caja fiscal de Lima," the whole being printed in red, by the side of the stamp.

116 2 Centavos, Blue.

117 5 " Green.

118 10 " Red.

119 20 " Violet.

120 50 " Pink.

Group XX, 1858. [?] Square, Imp. Re-suscitated in 1882. Provisional, surcharged on stamps of Groups II and III in

three lines, ^{VALE MEDIO} ^{PRO} ^{50 CTS.} also diagonally across the stamp, from left upper corner downward, is printed in aniline carmine ink, "Certifdo." in Roman capitals, extending 27 mm., the letters being 3½ mm. high. Above this, diagonally, is "Habilitado," in black, 15 mm. in length, on

121 1 Dinero, Blue, of Group II.

122 1 Peseta, Red, " "

123 1 " " " III

Group XXI, 1882. Stamp No. 80. Surcharged "Arequipa," in double lined circle, in carmine aniline ink.

124 5 Centavos, Dark blue.

(To be Continued.)

ON DIVERS TOPICS.

Now that postage stamps have multiplied to such an extent, that the most ordinary collections number their several thousands of specimens, the question naturally arises, where shall we draw the line, or how gauge our pursuit, so as to render it not too cumbersome or oppressive.

Already suggestions have been made that, in order to be strictly thorough, collectors should take up one branch only, either postage stamps, entire envelopes or post cards.

Again it has been suggested that attention should be confined to only one of the five divisions of the globe. But this latter plan does not seem to commend itself very favorably to the mind philatelic, and we know of very few who have adopted it.

Some of our American philatelists collect only the stamps of the United States in their entirety, viz.: government and private postals, fiscals and uncut envelopes; the latter class of themselves affording ample scope for the longest purse and the most unwearying patience, as many of the specimens are virtually unattainable.

And this brings us to the oft mooted

question of cut vs. uncut envelopes, on which topic fierce warfare has been waged for the past fifteen years.

Our own opinion is that every collection should include in itself, specimens of all envelope stamps, cut square. They have as much right to a representation in our albums as any other government emissions for postal purposes. Collectors of uncut envelopes must, of necessity, keep them separate from their adhesives; while specimens cut square, are naturally mounted upon the same leaves of our albums as the adhesive issues of the same countries.

We do not condemn the practice of preserving the envelope entire, but simply claim a place for "square cuts" in our albums as well, thus enhancing the interest of our collections, and properly preserving all varieties and types of the various issues.

The writer of this article collects both ways, but is free to confess that the entire envelopes possess but a secondary interest for him: in the words of one of our largest American dealers, "it seems to be simply collecting stationery."

This ground has been gone over so often that one can scarcely advance any new arguments in favor of either plan, but does not the idea above set forth seem to be the most feasible way of solving the vexing question?

Within the past three years an alarming crop of provisional issues has seen the light, and, as a rule, they have been absorbed by collectors upon the ground, who have held them for sale at fabulous prices. This is something that cannot be regulated, and the poor collector must perforce, pay the price demanded, or go without the stamps desired. Then too, every little error in type setting (which is part and parcel of nearly all recent provisionals) is taken advantage of by advanced collectors, duly heralded in the various journals, and the stamps showing these errors held at enhanced values by the fortunate possessors. In

order simply to acquire a respectable showing of these provisionals, one must either be possessed of the purse of Fortunatus or else sigh in vain.

These remarks seem to be more or less tending into a growl, but the solid facts are still there and one can't get over them. Does it not strike one as rather short sighted that collectors should go in either for used or unused stamps *solely*! Has it never struck these "single minded" individuals, that there are some stamps which can never, (or hardly ever) be procured in an unused state (save as reprints) or *vice versa*?

It is of course desirable to have a preference for either condition, but why surround your collections with an insurmountable barrier?

Our preference is for used specimens, where attainable, because they have done their allotted duty, and are in the strictest sense of the word, postage stamps, but we never refuse an unused specimen when used ones are not to be had.

The collection of Mr. Wm. P. Brown, of New York, was made up almost entirely of used specimens, and was one of the finest ever yet disposed of in this country.

But we have wandered far enough from our starting point, and would simply state that if these desultory remarks are of any interest to the readers of this journal, they will probably be resumed in some future number.

RAMBLER.

AUCTION SALE.

A sale of Postage Stamps, catalogued by Messrs. Scott & Co., was held on February 9th, at Leavitt's Auction Rooms, but owing to the small attendance, which was no doubt due to the auction taking place in the afternoon, the stamps, as a rule, brought only moderate prices. The collection sold, was that of the late Mr. A. J. Dovale, and consisted mostly of unused

stamps and proofs, made by the Bank Note Co's. Mr. Dovale seemed to have taken great interest in his collection, which was mounted in the neatest manner yet seen by the writer, each sheet of stamps being decorated with the most fanciful and pretty designs, which attracted the attention of all the philatelists present.

The principal buyers were Dr. Hunt, Messrs. Voigt, Smith, Rechert, Hill, Hobby, Frossard, Sampson and Calman. The monotony of the sale was greatly relieved by frequent sallies of wit by Messrs. Smith, Sampson and the genial auctioneer.

The stock of Department Stamps belonging to H. B. Seagrave of Detroit, Mich., will be sold by the above firm, at Leavitt's Art Rooms, Monday evening March 12, 1883.

ABSTRACTED BY THE THOUS- AND.

J. Hogge, A. Schnalzer and J. W. Robertson, messengers for Boyd's Dispatch Co., at 1 Park Place, this city, were recently arrested, charged with a systematic robbery of the company, amounting to \$20,000. In the Tombs Police Court, J. L. Robertson, counsel, said: "Mr. Blackman, manager of the company, met with an accident last November, and Mr. Williams assumed charge. It was discovered that a larger number of letters were delivered than the amount of stamps sold warranted. Finally, R. J. Mooney, a carrier, was caught with some of the company's stamps in his possession. He said that Schnalzer, Hogge and Robertson obtained a duplicate of the key opening the office, and studied the combination of the safe. When they had mastered it, they regularly abstracted stamps on Sunday afternoons. Schnalzer took them home, and then sold to the employees, his confederates."

Court policeman Guise found \$3,000

worth of the stamps in the cellar of Schnalzer's house, 27 Norfolk Street.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY.

The regular Monthly meeting of the Society was held Tuesday Evening, Feb. 13, the President, Mr. Bogert, in the chair. The Publishing Committee reported the issue of the initial number of the *National Philatelist*, at the same time stating, that, owing to the press of business incidental to the opening year, the printer had delayed the publication some two weeks, but that they had the assurance of promptness for the future.

The Color Chart Committee reported the receipt of a number of subscriptions. Various novelties were then exhibited by the members, among which were noted the new issue of Costa Rica, new type of 2c. Colombia, Postal Card of Salvador, &c., &c.

W. F. SMITH, Sec'y.

OUR NOTE BOOK.

The stamps of Cashmere are printed from ivory blocks, which accounts for their indistinctness.

The "F" at the end of value on the early issues of Cuban stamps, is an abbreviation of *fuerte* and signifies that the real of $12\frac{1}{2}$ cents is intended instead of the ordinary real of 10 cents or half pistareen.

Hidalgo, whose portrait figures on all the stamps of Mexico previous to 1874, was a priest, who in 1812 organized the revolution against Spain, which led to the independence of Mexico. He was captured and shot in 1814.

The arms on the New South Wales, (1838) Envelope Stamp are those of Great Britain and Hanover, and were

used by the Kings of the Hanoverian dynasty; but on the death of William IV, in 1837, the crowns were separated, the salic law debarring Victoria from the throne of Hanover. This stamp which was not issued until a year later bore the arms of the united crown, and is the only stamp bearing the English arms. By a clerical error it represented those of the dead king instead of the living queen.

The Newspaper Tax Stamps of Austria were issued to collect a tax on all foreign newspapers entering the country, and were stuck on the papers by the post office authorities and the amount collected on delivery; although not postage stamps they have been universally collected as such.

"T. Crawford, P. M.," appears on upper label of the 5 ct. Athens, Ga., (Confederate) 1861 stamps which were undoubtedly circulated in that way. The postmaster's name was John.

A rare variety exists of the 5 ct. green and carmine, Baton Rouge, La., (Confederate) 1861, with name spelled McMack instead of McCormack. The 5 and 10 ct. stamps which this gentleman supplied to collectors a few years ago were counterfeits.

The letters "L. H. P. A." in the spandrels of the Bergedorf stamps signify *Lubec* (and) *Hamburg post amt* (post office); the arms being composed of half of the arms of each country. W. F. S.

Correspondence.

We solicit, and are prepared to insert under this heading, any information or suggestions that may be thought of interest to the Philatelic world.

We will not hold ourselves responsible for the views of our correspondents, and we reserve the right to reject communications that do not seem to us as proper for publication.

To the Editor "National Philatelist:"

DEAR SIR.—Owing to the agitation caused by the discovery of forgers of Cuban Stamps lately, in this country, the government has been looking more closely than ever before, into publications which might come under the pale of the law.

Chief Drummond, of the United States Secret Service, lately visited one of our leading New York dealers, and took a copy of his illustrated catalogue to lay before the authorities, claiming that the illustrations contained therein would likely render the whole edition liable to confiscation. This seems to be a rather far-fetched claim on the part of a government which counterfeited its own stamps.

Probably this agitation will cease shortly, but, in the meantime, imagine the feelings of those enterprising publishers and dealers, who have their good money locked up in electrotypes, catalogues, &c.

Moral:—Eschew illustrations, *vide National Philatelist*.

With great respect, I am, dear sir,

Faithfully yours,

NEW YORK, Feb., 1883.

AMERICUS.

Answers to Correspondents.

We hold ourselves in readiness to give here such information as lies in our power, and are prepared, at all times, to assist Philatelists in the solution of such questions as we are able to. All questions addressed to the Society, not requiring an answer by letter, will be replied to here.

H. J. B., ALBANY, N. Y.—The Barbados, on blued paper, were issued April 17, 1852, consisting of three values, viz.: $\frac{1}{2}d.$ green; $1d.$ blue; and $4d.$ red. No date is assigned to the issue on white paper, without value, unperforated. It has generally been claimed that there existed a $4d.$ on white paper, as well as the $\frac{1}{2}d.$ and $1d.$, but we have yet to learn of the existence of any specimen of this value on white. While it is generally acknowledged that the gum blued the paper of the first issue, yet we think that those on white paper should be considered as a separate and distinct issue, else why do we not find the $4d.$ also?

A. S. R., ST. LOUIS.—All counterfeits. Send stamp if you wish them returned.

W. R. W., BALTIMORE.—We should very much doubt the genuineness of your obliterated first issue Bergedorf. They were in use but ten days. Better submit your specimens to us for inspection.

J. H. C., SYRACUSE, N. Y.—Both the Charleston and Athens are genuine. A lucky find.

J. B. M., NEWARK, O.—The most elaborate and complete catalogue is the one now being published by J. B. Moens, Brussels. You will find therein noted every known variety of water-mark, paper, &c.

C. S. B., NYACK, N. Y.—Laid paper is paper watermarked with fine parallel lines close together. It has the appearance of being *inlaid* with lines.

The abbreviation "mm." stands for *millimetre*, which is equal to about $\frac{1}{25}$ of an inch or more accurately 0.03937 inch.

The Colombian stamps of 10 and 20 centavos 1876 are sometimes found cut in halves diagonally and used as 5 and 10 centavos stamps. You will find the stamps of many other countries used in the same manner.



The National Philatelist.

Vol. I.

NEW YORK, MARCH, 1883.

No. 3.

Chronicle.

ANGOLA.—The "Ph. R." notes the 40 reis, with color changed from blue to yellow.

AUSTRIA.—"Le M. des T." describes a *Postsparkarte*. It is inscribed in two lines at top "Postsparkarte"—"zur Ersparung am Betragen unter 50 kr." In the upper right angle "K.K. Postsparcassen—Amt." The middle of the card is occupied by 10 squares of which the first bears a stamp of 5 kr., the others being inscribed "5 kr. Aufzulegen." There are other inscriptions on the face and back. Size 209x87 mm.

Card. 5 krenzer, rose and black on white.

CANADA.—In "Notes and Queries" in our January number is mentioned the one cent, red of 1868 on laid paper, also the three cent, of the same issue.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—"Le M. des T." describes two varieties of surcharge in the half penny on three-pence. In one the black line across the old value is 2 mm. and in the other 1½ mm. wide.

CHILI.—The new cards of Chili it is now stated will be printed in the following colors, and not as stated in our last.

- Cards 2 centavos, blue on buff.
- 3 " rose on lilac.
- 3x3 " lilac on rose.

CONFEDERATE STATES.—"Le T. P." has received from Mr. Tapling a local from Houston, Texas. It consists of a large oval at the top and bottom of which are diagonal lines crossing each other and forming small diamonds. In the middle

between two waved lines "Post Office."—"Houston, Tex., 20 cts."

Adhesive, 20 cents, carmine on blue.

CYPRUS.—The 6 piastres is now water-marked C. C. and Crown.

FRANCE.—In "Notes and Queries" in January number Mr. Corwin mentions the 30 centimes 1869 *unperforated*, post-marked Paris. This is a stamp of the French Colonies used in France.

GERMAN EMPIRE.—"Le M. des T." states that a sheet of the current 5 pfenig green, *unperforated*, has been sold to the public at Leipzig. The cards of 5 pf. and 5x5 pf. now have the date of issue in the lower right corner. "Der Ph." mention the complete series of the 5 pf. from "1—82" to "12—82" also "1—83" and "Le T. P." notes, the 5x5 pf. with "7—82" to "10—82".

GRENADA.—From the "Ph. R." we learn that the one penny, orange, fiscal stamp, has been surcharged "Postage" in Roman capitals 3 mm. high, and pressed into the postal service.

Adhesive. 1d. black on orange and green.

HONDURAS.—Of precisely similar description to the Telegraph Formulars mentioned in the Chronicle for January, we have another value.

Telegraph sheet. 4 rs., black on yellow.

INDIA.—"Le T. P." announces a new series of stamps, but does not describe the type.

- Adhesives ½ anna, green.
- 9 pies, carmine.
- 1 anna, brown.
- 2 " blue.

- Adhesives 3 annas, orange.
 4 " olive green.
 6 " citron.
 8 " violet.
 1 rupee, gray.

JAPAN.—The 1 sen and 2 sen are also issued in the Postal Union colors. The "Ph. R." states that the 12 sen of January, 1875, has been re-issued, with syllabic character 2.

- Adhesives 1 sen, green.
 2 " rose.
 12 " pale rose.

LUXEMBURG.—"Le T. P." illustrates the design of a series of Telegraph stamps. At the top in colored letters on white label "Telegraphes;" arms in the center, surrounded by an oval band, inscribed "Grand-Duché de Luxembourg." There are winged wheels and thunderbolts, and the value is at the foot. Size 23x29 mm. Printed in color on white paper, perforated 14. No watermark.

- Telegraph stamps. 5 centimes, gray.
 25 " orange.
 50 " green.
 1 franc, rose.
 5 " ultramarine.

MEXICO.—Cards of the value of 3 and 5 centavos have been issued, the latter value being composed of the 2 c. and 3 c. stamps. We learn from "Notes and Queries" of January that the 1 cent blue, *fiscal* has been used for postage.

- Cards 3 centavos, blue and carmine.
 5 " blue, carmine and green.

NORWAY.—The "Ph. R." says that the 6 öre card has now the inscription "Paa denne side, etc." in small letters, and a new 10 öre Postal Union card has been issued. Inscription in four lines as follows: "Verdens Postforeningen" in a semi-circle—"Union Postal Universelle"—"Bref kort fra Norge (Norvège)"—"Paa denne side, etc." Then four dotted lines for address, the first preceded by "Til." Stamp, type of adhesive, in upper right corner;

and frame of the usual key pattern measuring 129x79 mm. The impression is in color on thin white card without watermark.

- Cards, 6 öre, green on buff.
 10 öre, rose on white.

PORTUGUESE INDIES.—In addition to the card described in our last, there is one of another value, viz: $\frac{1}{2}$ tanga, blue on buff card, with reverse white. "Le T. P." states that the stamps on this card and on that noted last month, are in the upper right corner, and that the first line of inscription is as follows "India Portugueza" (Arms) "Bilhete Postal."

- Card $\frac{1}{2}$ tanga, blue.

QUEENSLAND.—Two new stamps have been issued; a six-pence of the same type as the two-pence described in January, and a ten shilling of similiar design to the lately issued two shillings and two shillings and six-pence.

- Adhesives 6 d., yellow green.
 10 sh., brown.

ROUMANIA.—"Le M. des T." states that a new post card is in use, printed on card of two colors; orange on the face and gray on the reverse. The stamp is of the old type and the inscriptions are unchanged. The card is perforated at the top and sides, and measures 160x113 mm.

- Card. 10 bani, red on orange and white.

ST. VINCENT.—Mr. J. A. Hughes has kindly sent us a specimen of the new $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp, which is the 1d. stamp, printed in lake and surcharged $2\frac{1}{2}$ pence in letters 3 mm. high. The value "One penny" is obliterated by a heavy line. We cannot make out the watermark, but presume it is C. A. and crown. The 4d. has now that watermark as well as the 1d. noted in January.

- Adhesives, $2\frac{1}{2}$ d., black on lake.
 4 d., blue.

SIAM.—"Le M. des T." notes the fol-

lowing stamps of Straits Settlements surcharged with the letter B. The 12 cents blue, with watermark C. C. and Crown, and the 8 cents printed in *lilac* with the watermark C. A. and Crown, and the "Ph. R." mentions the 4 and 6 cents with the old watermark.

SUNGEI UJONG.—The "Ph. R." notes the following varieties of surcharged Straits Settlements stamps.

1. Surcharged "Sungei Ujong" in two lines.
 - 2 c., brown, watermarked C. A.
 - 4 c., rose, " C. C.
 - 8 c., orange " C. A.
 - 10 c., black, " C. A.
2. Surcharged "S. U."
 - 4 c., rose, watermarked, C. A.

TASMANIA.—Mr. Freeman informs us that the following fiscal stamps of Tasmania have been used for postage.

First type, Ornithorhynchus.

- 1 d. blue black.
- 3 d. reddish brown.
- 6 d. mauve.
- 1 sh. rosy carmine.

Second type, St. George and Dragon.

- 2 sh. 6 d. rose red.
- 5 sh. sage green.
- 10 sh. brown red.

TRANSVAAL.—Mr. Clifford sends to the "Ph. R." a sheet of the four-penny stamps, with the surcharge "Een penny" inverted throughout; also some used specimens of the same stamp with a similar surcharge, but rather larger, the smaller letters being 2 mm. high. This second type of surcharge seems to have been printed in the republic, as it is very inferior in execution to the first.

TRINADAD.—We have seen of the new type the 2½ d. blue and 4 d. gray.

UNITED STATES.—Mr. Collin has shown us a frank stamp of the Mutual Union Telegraph Co. It is inscribed at the top with the name of the company;

"Frank No." in the middle; the President's signature and the word "Complimentary" at the bottom; on each side "1883," and in the upper corners "M. U." in monogram. Rose on white.

We have seen the following envelopes with the new watermark "82."

1 cent, on white paper, 140x83 mm.
3 " " 160x88 "
5 " " 148x85 "

U. S. OF COLOMBIA.—The inland stamps of Colombia, 1881, were withdrawn from use on December 1st, 1882.

We have seen the 10 centavos of 1876, and the 5c. 1881, (inland) perforated 12.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—"Le T. P." mentions the 3d. and 4d. with the new watermark C. A. and Crown.

Adhesives. 3d., brown.
4d., red.

THE POSTAL EMISSIONS OF PERU.

BY R. R. BOGERT AND C. B. CORWIN.

[Continued from Page 21.]

NOTES ON THE VARIOUS EMISSIONS.

Group I.—This stamp was used from December 1st, 1857 to March 1st, 1858, between Lima and Chorillos.

The stamps were gratuitously delivered to the Government by the Pacific Steam Navigation Co., for the purpose of trying the system of prepayment by means of Postage Stamps on the correspondence of the towns between Lima and Chorillos.

The utility of the system having been thoroughly demonstrated by the use of these stamps, it was decided to give the whole Republic the benefit of the innovation.

Group II.—On March 1st, 1858, the use of these three stamps was commenced between Lima, Callao and Chorillos, and fifteen days later their use was extended over the whole Republic.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ peso was suppressed June 18th, 1858, by a decree of that date.

We hardly need state that the $\frac{1}{2}$ peso, rose, is one of the rarest stamps, being practically unattainable, while the $\frac{1}{2}$ peso yellow is one of the stamps which are classed among the *desiderata* of Philatelists.

Group III.—There is a generally accepted variety of both the stamps of this group, caused by the wearing of the stones, whereby the waved lines in the spandrels became very faintly impressed, and sometimes, to the naked eye, totally non-existent. The use of a magnifier, however, invariably reveals traces of these lines.

While we advocate the collection of this variety as showing the secondary state of the stones, still we do not think that the stamps should be classified as of a different type than those first issued.

Group IV.—There are two distinct varieties of the 1 peseta; 1st, heavy shading on the flags, and 2d, little or no shading. We deem these varieties caused simply by the wearing of the stones.

Both states of the stone in Groups III and IV mentioned above, may be found in all the color varieties stated in the "Reference List."

Groups IV and V.—Cornucopia on white ground. By a great many philatelists these variations are attributed to the wearing of the stones, but we are inclined to an opposite opinion, and have classed them as "varieties" where we think they properly belong.

We have examined a great number of stamps of both values, and find:

1st. That there is not the faintest trace of horizontal lines on the 1 peseta, and,

2d. That the 1 dinero have a perfectly white ground, save in the upper right corner, where may be discovered remains of the horizontal lines. Most of the 1 dinero show eight lines varying in length.

We know of no reason for the above changes in these stamps, but think our re-

marks will be verified by a careful examination of large numbers of specimens.

We also note two distinct varieties each in the 1 dinero and 1 peseta; in one the llama has a clearly defined tail and in the other it has none.

General notes applicable to Groups II, III, IV and V.

We fail to find any appreciable differences in the paper used for these issues. They were all lithographed on white paper by Señor D. Emilio Prugue of Lima.

The stamps of Group III are 22 mm. square, while all the others are 21 mm.

The dates of issue assigned by us to Groups IV and V are unofficial, and are based upon a careful examination of post-marked specimens.

Although an official decree, of December 15th, 1860, authorized the burning of the old stock of stamps (Groups II and III) remaining in the office of the Administrator General of Posts, thus indicating the issue of Group IV in December, 1860, we have been unable to lay our hands upon any specimens dated prior to 1861.

The several Groups of the lithographed series are too well known to warrant any extended description, but, we think that a mention of the leading characteristics of each Group will add to the completeness of our paper.

Group II.—Waved ground in spandrels. Small letters in inscription, the letter P of Porte Franco touching the frame.

(This letter is removed from the frame in Groups III, IV and V.)

Llama's neck is short and thrown back and its tail touches the shield; top of tree does not touch the shield. In the 1 dinero the dots inside of the circle are roundish in the 1 peseta the dots are triangular in all the Groups.

Group III.—Waved ground in spandrels; large letters in inscription; llama's neck long, the head almost touching the shield; top of tree touches the shield. Dots inside of circle oblong in 1 dinero.

Group IV.—Unbroken zigzags, and Group V, broken zigzags in spandrels; letters of inscription a little larger than those of Group II; llama well shaped and set almost in centre of upper left hand part of shield; dots inside of circle round in 1 dinero; tree smaller than in Group II, and does not touch the top of shield. All the stamps of these four groups are found in an infinite variety of shades. We have not deemed it advisable to list any but the more pronounced, but the advanced collector may easily multiply our list by four or five.

THE EMBOSSED STAMPS.

Group VI.—These stamps were all printed on a machine invented by M. Lecocq, of Paris, which arrived in Lima September 14th, 1862. The machine printed the stamps in endless strips like so much tape, the strips being joined by gum. Thus will often be found stamps of this Group printed upon two pieces of paper, which, of course, occurred wherever the paper was joined.

The machine was claimed to be infallible, but, despite this claim we possess the 1 dinero pink with the arms turned quarter way to the left.

The various European publications chronicle the 1 dinero green with arms inverted; this error we have never seen.

We also note the 1 dinero green with the value spelled DINIRO and also DINLRO which we deem due to careless engraving. These two errors are distinct and are found in all the shades we have noted.

All these embossed stamps vary greatly in color. Our notes on this head in the remarks on the lithographed series apply equally well here. Mons. Moens chronicles the 2 centavos blue, roulett'd without lines of color, but we hardly think this is correct, as there is invariably more or less blue on the lines of the roulette. The 2 centavos was so disposed on the strips that the top of one was adjacent to the bottom of the next, while all the other

values were placed with their sides adjacent. The use of half the 1 dinero pink was consequent upon a reduction of postage to 5 centavos between Lima, Callao, and Chorillos.

THE ENGRAVED GROUPS.

These present very few varieties of color other than noted by us. They are all the work of the American Bank Note Company, of New York.

The stamps of Group VII were used during the dictature of Col. Prado in 1866-7. No mention is made of these stamps in the official records, as all the acts of the dictature were considered illegal. During Col. Prado's dictature, the fiscal stamps dated 1866-7 must have been employed for Postage, as we find by a decree dated July 18th, 1866, that the use of these and all other fiscal stamps, was after that date prohibited for prepayment of postage. We have not attempted to describe, generally, the various issues of the engraved stamps, they being so well known that detailed description seems to us superfluous.

Postal matters in Peru, since the Chilian occupation, seem to have been very much mixed.

We believe that we have chronicled all the varieties extant, but are not positive upon this point. All that we have mentioned we have seen.

"Le Timbre Poste" of October, 1880, mentions a 2 centavos of Group XII, surcharged in black, but we take this to be a mistake. The surcharge on this stamp is in very dark blue and can easily be mistaken for black.

The surcharged Unpaid Letter Stamps were used for postage indiscriminately with the regular issues.

The black horse-shoe surcharge on the stamps of Group XVI was applied in the office of the engravers in New York; while the roughly printed Chilian Arms surcharge was applied after the stamps arrived in Peru.

This latter remark applies to the stamps of Group XVII as well.

Since July, 1882, the Chilian Stamps have come into general use in Peru. We have lately seen both Chilian and Peruvian stamps on the same envelope, thus indicating as much of a "mix" in postal affairs as ever.

The Arequipa Stamp of 10 centavos.

This was first noted in 1881, and very few seem to have been used, judging from their scarcity.

Arequipa is the well known city in the southern interior of Peru, which was lately made the seat of the Peruvian Government by Vice-President Montero, who has been acting as President of Peru since the Chilians carried away President Garcia Calderon, on November 6th, 1881.

We think that this should be regarded as the only legitimate issue of Peru in present use, inasmuch as it is the only one authorized by her Government, the stamps with the Chilian Arms upon them being issued under the auspices of the conquerors; but *all* varieties should be preserved.

We find some copies of this Arequipa Stamp surcharged first "Arequipa" in red, and, over that, "Provisional 1881-1882" in black, and *vice versa*.

The envelope stamps, Group XIX, we chronicle upon the authority of the "Guia del Coleccionista," published at Valparaiso. The sizes and colors of paper are not given.

The resuscitations of surcharges on Groups II and III, we chronicle as we find them mentioned in European publications, having, as yet, never been favored with a view of any of them.

ADDENDA.—March, 1883.

As explained by a foot note in the last number, our original paper was read before the society October 11, 1882. Since

that time several papers upon the same subject have appeared in various journals, and we deem it but fitting, in order to complete our paper, to avail ourselves of the information thus afforded.

In the January number of the "Philatelic Record" appears an exhaustive article upon "The Surcharged and Provisional Stamps of Peru in use since 1880," from the able pen of Mr. E. D. Bacon. This article bears to our minds, proofs of its reliability upon its face, and we therefore make it the base of the reference-list hereinafter noted. Our readers will kindly bear in mind the fact that to Mr. Bacon belongs the credit of what follows and not to the writers of this paper.

REFERENCE LIST.

Group XII.

- 89 a 2 centavos, rose, surcharge black.
 90 a 5 " ultramarine double red surcharge.
 93 a 1 sol. pink, blue surcharge (inverted.)

Group XIII.

- 96 a 50 centavos, green, surcharge red.
 96 b 1 sol. pink, " blue.
 94 a 1 centavo, green, double red surcharge.
 94 b 1 " green, red inverted surcharge.
 95 a 2 " rose, blue inverted surcharge.
 96 c 5 " ultramarine, red inverted surcharge.
 96 d 50 " green, red inverted surcharge.
 99 a 20 " dark blue, red surcharge.
 99 b 50 " brown, blue surch'ge.
 The last two are Unpaid Letter Stamps.

Group XV.

- 102 a 10 centavos, orange.
 103 a 50 " brown.

Group XVI.

- 105 a 5 centavos, dark blue, surcharged
arms inverted.
106 a 50 " rose, arms surcharged
in black.

Group XVII.

- 108 a 1 centavo, ofange surcharged red.
108 b 1 " " " yellow.
108 c 1 " " " blue
(inverted.)
109 a 2 " violet, " red.
109 b 2 " " " yellow.
109 c 2 " " " ultrama-
rine.
110 a 5 " dark blue " red.
112 a 20 " rose, " ultrama-
rine.

NOTE—The 2c. arms surcharged in ultramarine does not appear in Mr. Bacon's list.

Group XVIII.

- 114 a 10 centavos, grey blue, red inver-
ted surcharge.
114 b 5 centavos light blue, being the
10c. stamp cut in half diagonally.
115 a 10 centavos, grey-blue.
115 b 10 " light blue.

In Nos. 115 a and 115 b the red surcharge "Arequipa" is replaced by one in lake, having "Puno" above and a date in the inner circle.

Group XXI.

- 125 1 centavo, orange, surcharged "Are-
quipa."
126 5 centavos, dark blue, surcharged
"Puno."
127 20 centavos, rose, surcharged "Are-
quipa."

As we stated in our original paper that we gave only those varieties of the surcharges that we had seen, so we have only extracted from Mr. Bacon's paper, those varieties which he announces as unquestionable, making no mention of a number of queried varieties incorporated with his list, as we think this plan more fully bears out our intention as previously expressed

A MODERATE SCHOOL.

WILLARD K. FREEMAN.

It is many a year now since I became a Philatelist; indeed, I may claim to be one of the *first*, among stamp collectors; and many a precious specimen, rich with memories of the past, now adds beauty and value to my album pages, gathered in 1856-61, during school-days, and when *en pension* at Antwerp. Well do I remember my pleasant visits to Monsieur Moens' little *boutique* in the *Marché au Couvert* at Brussels, where many gems and rarities of my collection were obtained in exchange for francs and centimes.

But it is not my intention to draw a personal sketch; my object is to show, that all along, through the age of philately, I have been, and am, an ardent student and admirer of the science; and having, in by-gone days, contributed my views to the pages of the "Stamp Collectors' Magazine"—an old friend indeed—the "American Journal of Philately," and other well-known periodicals, I feel qualified to write upon a subject, that, it seems to me, is uppermost in the minds of many collectors: *i. e.* what shall we collect?

It is only a few months since that eminent collector, Capt. Evans, undertook this question, and closed his essay by *repeating* his subject, really finding himself no nearer the solution than when he began.

Travel with me, then, along the paths of our science; let us note the attractive points among these land marks—the stamps of the world. Let us pass an evening with our albums, and see if, after sober, sensible thought, we may not gather our random ideas and settle upon a system of collecting in a more rational, simple yet complete form; a "Moderate School;" *Sancta simplicitas*.

First of all, let us *decide* to collect Pos-

tage Stamps only, *i. e.* the emissions of governments for *postal* purposes; not *locals*, not *fiscals*, not the hundred and one objects, humbugs and etceteras that are foisted upon collectors by too zealous dealers, and which, alas, not a few publishers of albums stand ready to avail themselves of to enlarge their works. At the outset, then, let us *resolve* to collect only those labels that are essentially of government postal origin, distinctly leaving the revenue and private stamps for those who like to collect such.

Having agreed on this conclusion, we may sub-divide our collectable friends into three classes: adhesive and envelope stamps, and postal cards.

Adhesives—It has been argued for and against the admission of the "Un-paid Letter," "Tax," "Too Late," "Revenue,"—when sanctioned for postage—"Postage Due," and other stamps, to our collections. I clearly think that all labels of every sort or kind issued by the P. O. department of a nation, in any way connected with the transmission of articles through the mail, are entitled to form part and parcel of our collections. Let us instance the "Postage Due" stamp. Maybe they have not the essentials of those stamps that have traveled *with* the letter; but they represent nevertheless, a sum of money that was paid for carrying that letter to its destination; paid *before* its delivery. In the one case, the money was paid at the time the letter was mailed—evidence the stamps on the face of the envelope, in proof—in the other case, the money was paid at the time the letter was received, and the stamps affixed then and there, in proof.

Envelope stamps:—Mark you, I do not say stamped envelopes. It is the *stamp* and *not* the *envelope*, we collect. There is no common sense in taking twenty envelopes of all sizes, shapes and colors, impressed with the *same* identical die, and calling them twenty different stamps; truly they are twenty different pieces, but the stamped impression in each

case is the *same*, and hence, but one stamp. After all, it is this impression we take; it is the value stated in this impression that really carries the letter, *i. e.* it represents the money that has been paid for that service. Then again, what possible connection with stamp collecting have tresses; long gummed or short gummed flaps, etc., etc.? These are valuable only, so far as they determine dates of issue, reprints, &c.

I admit the free use of the shears, generally, and advocate cutting envelopes to a uniform, large margin.

There are some few exceptions to this, as to every other rule. I would of course say to the owner of such rarities as a pair of entire "small sixes" or "tens" of the United States, 1857 issue; don't cut them!!! Why? Because you reduce their financial value if later you choose to sell them to a collector of "stamped envelopes," not because their *philatelic* value would be diminished a cent.

This much accepted; what *varieties* then shall we take? I say *any* that are marked and reasonable. Certainly dies, not perhaps all of any one specimen or value, but enough to show the principal distinctions. No one would ever think of getting all the "corner letters" of the English; or the "syllabics" of Japan; or the "numerals" of the Uruguay; but would want sufficient varieties of the U. S. Envelopes, Mauritius and other "native" prints, to illustrate the prominent types. Avoid such errors as the mis-spelt Modena, etc.

Shades.—Take such as were and are actually issued by the government bureaux of printing. All stamps have three distinct densities of color, *i. e.* normal, light—when insufficient ink is used—and dark—when too much ink is used. The normal variety is *the* one to collect; the others are practically errors. Don't run to *tints* of a *shade*. If a stamp was printed in dark Prussian blue, and had its currency as such, and afterwards was changed permanently to light ultramarine, take the

two specimens. Use reason in this branch of the science and be guided by the question; *what colors did the government issue this or that stamp in?* If a color was first *yellow* and later *orange*—Baden—take both.

(To be Continued.)

NOTES AND QUERIES.—II.

BY C. B. CORWIN.

Under the above caption, it is my intention to lay before the readers of the *National Philatelist*, from time to time, various matters which may be thought of interest to them. Much of what will be treated upon, has doubtless already appeared in print, and, therefore, it should be distinctly understood that I do not claim originality as a special feature of these papers, but prepare them with the expectation of receiving and giving information, the latter to the best of my ability.

Should any of the items herein conveyed be found to be erroneous, it is my earnest request that the errors should be corrected (in the columns of this Journal,) at the earliest possible moment, by any one in position to refute any of the above statements.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—The following values have appeared watermarked "C. A. and Crown" viz: $\frac{1}{2}$, 1, 2, 3, and 6d., also the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. provisional surcharged on the 3d. The 4d. and 1s. received by the last mail showed the old watermark "C. C. and Crown."

COSTA RICA.—The $\frac{1}{2}$ real is found surcharged 2 cts. in three distinct colors, viz: light rose, red, and dark reddish brown. I also note two varieties in the 1 cto. on $\frac{1}{2}$ real, in one, the abbreviation cto. is in italic, and in the other, upright characters.

CURAÇOA.—The stamps first issued were upon faintly blue tinted paper, but lately they seem to be impressed upon

pure white. This also, may be the case with Surinam, but I am not able to speak understandingly upon this point.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.—I have an unperforated copy of the 1 real 1879 issue, pink on white paper. Are any other stamps of this series known in like condition?

ECUADOR.—The last specimens of the 1 real received are of a bright orange hue, and perf. 10 instead of 11 $\frac{1}{2}$, as formerly, the dents being small and roughly done. These stamps are still in use, conjointly with the finely engraved issue of 1881, the 10c. of which has not yet appeared. Hence we are led to suppose that there is a surplus of the 1 real on hand, and that they are used in lieu of the new 10c. stamps, which will doubtless appear as soon as the stock of the former is exhausted.

ITALY.—Copies exist of some of the values of the 1870-74 Ségna Tassa issue with the figures of value inverted. I have noted the 50c. and 10 lire in this condition.

Of the 2c. newspaper stamps surcharged upon the official series, I have seen the following, with invested surcharge, viz: 2c. on 0.20, 1.00, 2.00 and 10.00 lire.

LUXEMBURG.—I have met with many values of the first official series, with inverted surcharge, and these errors seem to be far from uncommon.

MEXICO.—Some time since I received from a European correspondent of undoubted probity, an uncanceled specimen of a 50 cent. stamp of the issue of 1872, color light blue instead of yellow. I would like some information as to the status of this stamp, as all parties to whom I have hitherto shown or mentioned it profess total ignorance upon the subject. The 4 cent. orange red, issued in 1880, and for sometime thereafter rarely encountered, is now in quite general use, specimens coming up by every mail.

The series of 1874 has never been withdrawn from use for inland postage. I have lately seen specimens dated '83. It may not be generally known that Mexico's domestic rate of postage is 25c, which I believe, is the highest rate known among civilized nations using stamps for pre-payment of postage.

The first series of *Porte de Mar* stamps, issue of 1875, are noted as having the figure of value both in large and small type. I have not yet been able to secure complete sets of both varieties, but am informed that they exist.

NATAL.—The provisional stamp, surcharged "Postage, One Penny" on the 6d. rose, exists with the surcharge inverted.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—By the last mail, were received copies of the 8d yellow, of a much lighter color than before, and perf. 10 instead of 12½. The 1d rose is also now coming over perf. 10 the watermark remaining unchanged.

The perforations are ragged and very roughly done.

NICARAGUA.—Before this country's admission to the "Postal Union," many letters were received here, prepaid with 30c. in Nicaraguan and also 4d. in English Stamps. In many cases the latter were placed directly over the former. I am informed that 30c. covered the Nicaraguan rate to the seaport town, Greytown, and 4d. the rate from Greytown to New York.

PERU.—I have lately seen an envelope from Lima, prepaid with a 10c. blue Chilean and a 1c. orange (Chilian arms surcharged in blue,) Peruvian stamp, the two making up the present postal union rate of 11c. from Peru.

PORTO RICO.—I possess, from an undoubted source, a specimen each of the Cuban issue dated 1871, 25c. gray, and 50c. green, surcharged upon which is the same *paraphe* that is found upon the 1874 issue.

I am informed that these stamps never existed treated in this manner, but am disposed to place a considerable amount of faith in my specimens, considering the source whence they were derived. Information as to these stamps is solicited.

SALVADOR.—In the 1879 issue every stamp in each sheet was separately engraved, and, therefore no two stamps will be found to be exactly the same. This is particularly noticable in the three lowest values, 1, 2 and 5c.

URUGUAY.—The 1 cent brown (lithograph,) issued in 1880, exists rouletted horizontally and imperforate perpendicularly.

The surcharge "*Fuera de Hora*" upon the present issue is found impressed in both blue and black.

VENEZUELA.—The small surcharge upon the stamps of 1874 is found reversed about as often as in its proper position. The issue of 1875, surcharge somewhat larger, is generally found with the surcharge correct.

Numbers of the Stamps of this country, up to and including the 1875 issue, exist with figures, simply, as cancelling marks, among which may be noted 2½, 3 & 8, the last two occurring most frequently. I have occasionally received requests from foreign correspondents for stamps thus treated, my friends evidently deeming them varieties, when in reality the figures are simply postmarks.

The first series of *Escuelas* were certainly used occasionally for postage as I have frequently met with them regularly postmarked. The most of those seen in collections, however, have been used as fiscals, and, therefore I would advise all collectors (postal) to accept postmarked copies only.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—I have seen several of the values of the current issue, with a Crown and the word "**PAID**" impressed obliquely thereon in black. It

may be that this is simply a cancelling mark, but as there is some doubt among those whom I have consulted, mention is here made of the fact, in order that anyone having positive knowledge upon the subject, may kindly transmit the information.

Among rare errors of impression, may be mentioned a 2d of the current issue, impressed in light lilac, the exact shade of the 6d. But few copies of this are known in our American collections.

POSTAL ROUTE IN ALASKA.

On March 22d, Second Assistant Postmaster-General Elmer ordered the establishment of a monthly post route in the Territory of Alaska, to extend from Haines to Juneau, a distance of 105 miles. The mails will probably be carried by canoe. The contract was awarded to Sheldon Jackson, of the New York Presbyterian Missionary Society. This is the first mail route established between points within the Territory of Alaska. General Elmer contemplates establishing a post route to extend from Mannelito, N. M., to Keen's Cañon, Ari., via Gunado and Fort Defiance, most of which points are in the territory occupied by the Zuñi Indians.

When the late Sir Henry Holland was a very old man he regretted that in early life he had not taken to collecting, and he touched off its advantages in a few neat sentences. The interest, he said, "is one which augments with its gratification, is never exhausted by completion, and often survives when the more tumultuous business or enjoyments of life have passed away. The young man who does not collect will be miserable when he is old. The inexhaustibility of the object adds immensely to the advantages of collecting."

POSTAL ACTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

BY PHILO.

In 1792 the first postage act was passed. Every separate sheet of paper, large or small, without reference to weight, was considered a letter, and two or three small pieces in one envelope paid double or triple postage. The rates were six cents to places within sixty miles; ten cents to places within one hundred and fifty miles; fifteen cents to places within two hundred and fifty miles; and twenty-five cents to places more than four hundred and fifty miles distant. In 1799 the rates were changed. The lowest rate was raised to eight cents and the lowest distance to forty miles. In 1816 the minimum rate was again reduced to six cents and the distance to thirty miles, only three rates were established. Eighteen cents carried letters four hundred miles, and for longer distances twenty-five cents was charged.

These rates continued in force until 1845, when the first material reduction took place. Five cents then became the postage for letters carried a distance of less than three hundred miles; for greater distances ten cents was charged. At the same time the drop letter system was introduced, such letters being charged two cents. In 1845 the one-half ounce weight was made the standard instead of the number of sheets. In 1851 the single rate was made three cents for all distances under three thousand miles, and six cents for greater distances, if prepaid, this being the first inducement held out to prepay letters. Unpaid letters were charged five and ten cents, according to the distance. In 1855 prepayment was required, the rate remaining the same. In 1863 the present rate of three cents (which was substantially the rate of 1852) prepaid by stamp, for all distances, was established.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY.

The seventh regular meeting of the season was held on Tuesday evening, March 13th, at Room 38, Tribune Building, the President, Mr. Bogert in the chair. Owing to illness of the secretary, Mr. C. B. Corwin was appointed secretary *pro tem*. The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

The Color Chart committee reported that all preliminary arrangements for issuing the Chart had been perfected in accordance with the power given the committee. Report accepted and committee discharged with congratulatory remarks by the President on their efforts to perfect the Chart, and make its issue a grand success.

On motion the Publishing committee was increased to five members; W. F. Smith, Manager, C. B. Corwin, Henry Collin, Willard K. Freeman and Philip La Tourette.

Owing to dereliction of duty on the part of the Treasurer his office was declared vacant. Mr. Charles Muecke was unanimously elected to fill the unexpired term.

All matters pertaining to the Color Chart were referred to a special committee with *full power*, consisting of Messrs. W. F. Smith, R. R. Bogert, and C. B. Corwin.

Various novelties were then exhibited by the members, among which were noted the 6d (Revenue) Tasmania used as postage; 1c. first issue Escuelas, Venezuela, perf. 12; 10c. 1876, Colombia on white paper, perf. 12; 5c. Inland 1881, Colombia perf. 12; 4d. gray 1883 issue Trinidad, etc.

Communication was received from Mr. E. F. Gambs stating that he had entirely recovered from his recent indisposition and that he should remain in California.

C. B. CORWIN, *Sec'y pro tem*.

In the management of the Post Office Savings Banks of Canada, a continued expansion of business has been noted. The number of banks open on the 31st December was 323. The number of deposits during the six months then ended was 53,569, amounting to \$3,406,006, an increase of 27 per cent. over the previous six months.

Correspondence.

We solicit, and are prepared to insert under this heading, any information or suggestions that may be thought of interest to the Philatelic world.

We will not hold ourselves responsible for the views of our correspondents, and we reserve the right to reject communications that do not seem to us as proper for publication.

Answers to Correspondents.

We hold ourselves in readiness to give here such information as lies in our power, and are prepared, at all times, to assist Philatelists in the solution of such questions as we are able to. All questions addressed to the Society, not requiring an answer by letter, will be replied to here.

H. DE S., N. Y.—Of the first issue of Canada the 3, 6 and 12d, are the only ones found upon laid paper. It is now undoubtedly ascertained that the 5c. issue of 1859, is to be found imperforate.

C. D. W., NASHVILLE.—The Cyprus piastre rose, surcharged 30 paras, was, we understand in use for a few days only, and specimens are already virtually unattainable.

R. T. M., PHILADELPHIA.—It is a matter of doubt as to the genuineness of an issue of 3 kr., Austria, 1850, brown in error. Authorities disagree upon this point, but the majority incline to the belief, that this so called Error was changed by chemicals from the 3kr. red.

T. R., RICHMOND, VA.—The 1865 issue of Spain, is found in all values, both imperforate and perf. 14.

J. S. B. BOSTON—Your 3pf. red, Saxony is a forgery. The Tuscany is genuine.

B. A., SPRINGFIELD, MASS.—Full particulars of the regulations of the Society are to be found in Number 1, of this paper. Any proper person interested in Philately, is entitled to membership. You had better communicate with the Secretary.

T. M. W., SCOTLAND.—1st. We cannot, under any circumstances, return rejected mss. at our expense; remit one shilling for postage, and they will be returned, otherwise they are worth but 2c. per pound. 2d. Write direct.

Exchanges.

In order to facilitate the exchange of duplicates, and with a view to bringing about more intimate relations among collectors we offer a column per month, *free of charge to our subscribers only*, wherein they may briefly state what they have to dispose of and what they desire in exchange.



The National Philatelist.

Vol. 1.

NEW YORK, APRIL, 1883.

No. 4.

POSTAL REFORMS.

BY W. F. S.

During the last session of Congress great changes were made in the postal laws; notably, the adoption of two cent postage, which gives us—what has for forty years been the boast of England—penny postage (two cents).

The English postal system covers a country not larger than the State of Kansas, and the number of post offices is only one-third that of the United States. In various directions of public accommodation the English post office system has been far in advance of the American. Since 1870 the English government has controlled the telegraph lines, and for a charge of one shilling, a message of twenty words may be sent to any part of the United Kingdom. Telegraph cards are in use, by the aid of which a person may drop his message in a mail box, from which, within an hour, it will be taken to the nearest telegraph station and transmitted. The post offices issue money orders, at a charge of from one penny for ten shillings, to one shilling for ten pounds, and also receive deposits, upon interest, as postal savings banks.

The new law in this country takes effect on October 1st proximo, and while it reduces the general postage to two cents per one-half ounce, it leaves the city postage at the same rate as before—two cents. This will occasion very great inconvenience to the Post Office Clerks, as the difference in color in the stamps has

been of great assistance in sorting mails. The natural sequence of the two cent postage law must be a reduction of the rate on one-half ounce city letters to one cent, which would be simply following the natural interpretation of the new decree, *i. e.* that of reducing the old rate for carrying sealed letters, one cent. Why such an important item as city delivery should have been overlooked in the formation of the New Postal Act we cannot explain, as it stands to reason that, if our Government can afford to carry a letter 3,000 miles across the continent for two cents, it certainly can afford to deliver a city letter, within a radius of ten miles for one cent.

By all rules of custom and propriety, the general postage stamp will bear the profile of Washington, as it has done since the foundation of the American postal system.

Another very important feature of the new law is that authorizing the new postal notes, which will be furnished in amounts under five dollars, at a cost to the purchaser of but three cents each, and is of special interest to philatelists and persons transmitting small sums of money through the post offices.

During the late war, and for some years thereafter, the shinplaster devices (postal currency) met the wants of the people most admirably, and had they not been an integral part of a depreciated currency, they doubtless would have survived the filtrations of time. With the redemption and destruction of this currency, and the growth of business in

every direction, the people were left in the lurch, and forced to adopt some medium in place of the retired shinplaster. Postage stamps naturally were selected, and in this way one of the greatest national nuisances has grown to its present astounding proportions, enabling the Post Office authorities to chronicle the wonderful increase in the sale of postage stamps.

The postage system is, without dispute, a great blessing, and an integral part of our economic structure, but it has contained within the petals of its benefits the stamen of an evil, that has daily waxed stronger, with all the virulence of weeds, until the last Congress supplanted the growing evil by authorizing the postal note. This will leave several million dollars worth of postage stamps in the hands of our people, which have been circulated as practical currency.

The note is about the size of a greenback. At the right hand side are two columns giving the month and date for twelve years, beginning with 1883. On the left hand side are three columns of figures, the first representing dollars, and numbered up to four; the second representing dimes, and numbered up to nine; the third, representing cents, and numbered up to nine. This note is only for sums less than \$5. The postmaster issuing the note will punch the date, dollars, dimes, and cents, thus preventing any alteration of date or amount. It will be sold like a postage stamp, and made payable to the bearer any time within three months from date of issue. The body of the note is a form stating the place of issue and where to be sent (but we are not informed if a note purchased for New York would be payable in any other city), and when paid is endorsed by the bearer. Although there is not the same degree of security about the note as there is about

the postal money order, its cheapness and convenience will compensate for other disadvantages. It has been in operation in Great Britain for two years. During last year nearly four and a-half millions were used. The new American system is less cumbersome even than the English. For sums over \$5 the money order will be used, though the cost will be materially reduced. The charge for orders on sums not over \$10 will be eight cents; from \$10 to \$15, ten cents; from \$15 to \$30, fifteen cents; from \$30 to \$40, twenty cents; from \$40 to \$50, twenty-five cents; from \$50 to \$60, thirty cents; from \$60 to \$70, thirty-five cents; from \$70 to \$80, forty cents; from \$80 to \$100 (the highest order), forty-five cents.

Chronicle.

AZORES.—The 25 reis envelope, has now the surcharge in small type, also the 15 and 80 reis adhesives and the post card 10 reis without frame.

BARBADOS.—The "Ph. R." describes a variety of the 1d. provisional card, in which the "W" of "written" and the "S" of "side" are of the same size the "T" of "the" and the "A" of "address." We have still another variety in which the "W" of "written" and the "I" of "this" are smaller than any of the other letters in the line, and there is no period after "Barbados." while there is one after "Side."

BAVARIA.—The card described in February has three companions.

Cards,	3 pfennig,	green,
	3x3	" "
	5x5	" violet.

BRAZIL.—"Le T. P." states that the frame of the 20 reis card is now the same as that on the 80 reis but smaller.

CAPACUA.—The same journal is informed by one of its correspondents, that a new Republic has been formed from a

portion of Bolivia, with Santa Teresa as the Capital. This Republic it is said, has issued a series of stamps of the following design: In the center a shield with mountains and sun, projecting above which is a quiver with three arrows. In a curve at the top "Repub. del Capacua." and at the foot in straight line "Correos 1 Cent." The figures of value are in the four angles. Unperforated.

Adhesives,	1 cent,	green.
	2 "	rose.
	5 "	blue.
	10 "	bistre.
	20 "	violet.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—The "Ph. R." state that the Half-penny on Three-pence, is to be found with watermark C. C. as well as C. A., also that the post cards of the first issue were printed in black as well as rose. One of its correspondents has seen used specimens.

CAPE VERDE.—We have before us a sheet of the 40 reis, yellow, and find that it contains the same error as when printed in blue, namely one stamp of Mozambique.

CHILI.—We have received from Mr. Eberhardt, a 1 centavo card of the same design as the 2 centavo card described in January. It is printed in dark green on pale green.

COSTA RICA.—Mr. Collin informs us he has seen the current stamps surcharged "Oficial." in red on the 1 and 5, green on the 10, and in blue on the 2 centavos. The 20 c. provisional noted in January is surcharged in red, and not in black. The portrait on these stamps is stated to be that of Prospero Fernandez, President of the Republic.

The 4 c. card has been received, and turns out to be a reply paid card. It is of form 8. and bears the same inscriptions as the 2 c. card, except that the original card is inscribed "La otra tarjeta sirve para la respuesta." and the reply card bears the word "Respuesta." The stamp on the

original card has no value expressed, and that on the reply card is "Cuatro, 4, centavos." It is printed in black on buff card.

CUBA.—A variety of the 2 c. de peso card has the tilde omitted over the "n" of España.

CYPRUS.—From "A. S. & Co's. M. C." we learn that the $\frac{1}{2}$ piastre will shortly be issued in yellow.

DOMINICA.—The "Ph. R." states that new post cards of the value of one penny, are about to be issued. We have a third type of the provisional half-penny which is surcharged in black letters, "Half-penny," instead of in figures.

FARIDKOT.—It seems the value of these stamps is 3 pies or $\frac{1}{4}$ anna. The "Ph. R." is informed that they are to be found in green and brown as well as blue.

FINLAND.—From "Le T. P." we learn that the 10x10 penni card has the inscription altered as follows: It now has "Postkort" instead of "Brefkort;" "Postikortti," instead of "Kirjekortti;" there is a change in the third word of the third line, and the other inscriptions have been reset.

FRANCE.—A new wrapper has been issued of the same design as the 1 and 2 centimes.

Band, 3 centimes, vermilion.

GREAT BRITAIN.—We extract the following information from "A. S. & Co's. M. C." The designs of the new stamps are as follows: The half-penny and the penny remain of the present design. The remaining stamps are divided into three categories: first, there are five of 3d. and under, then those of 4d. up to 1sh., and lastly those of 2 sh. 6d. to £5. In the first the 1d. remains, followed by the $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. with the Queen's head within a horseshoe; the 2 d. with the head in a circle; the $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. in a square, and the 3 d. in a hexagon. All these are in light purple. Then we have the same thing repeated for the other

five values, only that they are in green. The 4 d., oval; the 5 d., horseshoe; the 6 d., circle; the 9 d., square, and the 1 sh. hexagon. The 2 sh. 6 d. is to be something like the present £1., the 5 sh. the present one modified; the 10 sh. remains nearly as it is; the £1. is borrowed from the telegraph £1, as also is the £5. The distinguishing feature of the stamp is the introduction of the figure of value into all, from 1½ d. upwards. All up to 1 sh. will be of the usual size, though the 2 d., 2½ d., and 3 d., and the 6 d., 9 d., and 1 sh. will be oblong rectangular instead of upright ones, and all on "Crown 1880" paper. The £1 stamps will probably have three Crowns, and the 2 sh. 6 d., 5 sh., 10 sh., and £5, will either be on "large anchor" paper or on a new kind.

GRENADA.—From several sources we learn of the following novelties: The 1 d., fiscal has the surcharge "Postage" inverted. It also has the word "Postage" written across it obliquely in ink; and has been used for postage without any surcharge. The same stamp has been cut in half diagonally, and each half surcharged "Postage" and used as a half-penny stamp. There are two varieties of this surcharge, the letters in one being 2 mms. high, and in the other 3 mms.

Besides these provisional issues, there is a new issue of the De La Rue type, but the upper and lower labels are entirely cut off. "Grenada Postage" is at the top and the value below. At least two of the values, ½ d., and 1 d., are printed *tele beche*, that is a row with the head up, and then a row with the head down. Watermarked C. A. and perforated 14.

Adhesives, ½ d., green.

1 d., rose.

4 d., gray.

GRIQUALAND.—The surcharging seems to have been resumed in this colony, the current 2 d., and 3 d., are now surcharged with small G.

INDIA.—"Le M des T." describes some postal notes. They measure 145x86 mm. There are three kinds, 8 annas with inscriptions in blue, 1 rupee, brick, 2 rupees 8 annas in black. The sum indicated is payable at any post office, provided the notes bear a special postage stamp of the proper value. These stamps are the 8 annas rose of 1865, the 1 rupee slate of 1874, and as no stamp exists of the value of 2 rupees and 8 annas, that value is surcharged in black, on the 12 annas red violet; all these stamps have also surcharges in black ^{P. N.}

The "Ph. R." says "The die of the one rupee stamp has been altered." The inscription in the upper part of the octagon now reads 'India Postage.' The ornaments in the four corners have been modified, and those on each side of the octagon completely changed. The color of the new stamp is bluer than the old one." Watermark star; perf. 14.

ITALY.—"Le T. P." describes new post cards. They have the ordinary stamp at the left and a circle at the right, inscribed in three lines. "Unione postale Universale.—Cartolina Italiana per 1, Estero,—15 centesimi 15." Four lines for address the first preceded by "A." In the lower left corner "N. B. Su questo lato non deve scriversi che il solo indirizzo." The reply paid card has the word "Risposta" under the value. It is of form 2 and perforated.

Cards, 15 c., brown on gray blue.

15x15 c., " "

LABUAN.—Of the same type as the other values, watermarked C. A. and Crown and perforated 14, has been issued a 40 cents, orange.

MAURITIUS.—"Le T. P." says the 17 cents has been surcharged "16 cents" in black across the original value. It was issued Feb. 26, the rate to Europe having been reduced from 17 to 16 cents on Jan. 23. The "Ph. R." gives an account of

the cause of this change. It seems the Director General of the Postal Union, objected to the rates of postage of 17 and 27 cents as the equivalents of 40 and 65 centimes or 4 d. and 6½ d. British. On the change of currency, the equivalent of 1 d. was fixed at 4 cents, that of 3 d. at 13 cents, that of 4 d. at 17 cents and of 6 d. at 25 cents. As may readily be seen these equivalents are not proportional, and the Mauritius postal authorities have been compelled to make the 4 d. equal 16 cents. Whether the 3 d. will be changed to 12 cents and the 6 d. to 24 cents is not stated.

Adhesive, 16 cents on 17 cents.

MEXICO.—Mr. Collin informs us, that some of the stamps of 1879 have a double surcharge of the number and name of the city.

NEW CALEDONIA.—“Le T. P.” notes the 25 c. on 75 c. with surcharge inverted.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—A reply card has been issued. It is headed “Post Card” in capital letters, below which are the arms and “The address &c.” There are three dotted lines, the first preceded by “To.” At the bottom is “The receiver should cut or tear off this half, and send the reply on the other half.” These instructions are omitted on the reply card, and the word “Reply” is printed below the arms. Form 1, size 126x87 mm.

Card, 1d.x1d. rose on buff.

NORWAY.—A 5 öre card has been issued of the same size as the 10 öre of the Postal Union, and with the same frame. It is inscribed “Brev-Kort,”—“Paa denne side &c.”—“Til” with four lines for the address. It is printed in blue on white.

ORANGE FREE STATE.—Mr. Clifford sends us the 1 sh. fiscal used for postage. There are two varieties, one printed in gray and the other in brown. The 6 d. fiscal has also been used for postage. Two new values have been issued of the current type, the ½ d. and 3 d.

Adhesives, 6 d. fiscal, gray.

1 sh. “ “
1 sh. “ brown.
½ d. red brown.
3 d. blue.

PERU.—We have a set of the envelopes before us surcharged with the Chilian Arm, and find the sizes to be as follows: 2 c., and 10 c., 140x83 mm; 5 c., 138x78 mm; 20 c., 162x90 mm; 50 c., 225x180 mm. The latter is cloth lined. The surcharge is at the side of the stamp, and is some what larger than that on the adhesives, the branches on the sides are omitted, and in their place in a curve is “Caja fiscal de Lima.”

PHILIPPINE I.—“Le T. P.” chronicles two telegraph stamps that have done postal duty.

Adhesives, 25 c. de peso, blue.
1 peso, bistre.

PORTUGAL.—A new stamp was issued on March 1. The portrait is similar to that on the 25 and 50 r. lately issued, and is enclosed in an oval band which crosses at the bottom. It is inscribed at top “Portugal,” at the left “Correios,” on the right “Telegraphos,” and at the bottom “Cinco 5 reis.”

Adhesive, 5 reis, gray.

QUEENSLAND.—The “Ph. R.” notes a new 1 d. stamp of the same type, watermark, and perforation as the 2 d. described by us in January.

Adhesive, 1d., orange vermilion.

RUSSIA.—There have been some changes made in the designs of the new stamps, and they will differ therefore from the description in our January number. The two higher values, instead of being 30 mm. square will measure 27x31 mm. The eagle is in the center in an oval inscribed band, which is enclosed in a rectangular frame, having stars in the four corners and a greek pattern at the sides. The top and bottom of the frame contain the values. There will be new bands, envelopes and

cards, and it is stated the emission will take place on the 1—13, April.

Adhesives,	14	kop.,	blue and rose.
	35	"	lilac and green.
	70	"	bistre and orange.
	3½	roubles,	black and white.
	7	"	black and yellow.
Bands,	1	kop.,	orange.
	2	"	green.
Envelopes,	5	"	lilac.
	7	"	blue.
Card,	3	"	carmine.

SALVADOR.—"Le M. des T." gives a decree dated Dec. 6. 1882, providing that the postage stamps of the current issue, shall be surcharged in blue violet "Contra-Sello," and arms between two branches all enclosed in a circle. These stamps are for use as fiscals and telegraph stamps.

SIAM.—The 5 cents has been surcharged for use in Bangkok.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—From "A. S. & Co's M. C." we learn, that a half-penny stamp is in preparation, which will probably be printed in brown, on the same paper now employed for the one-penny stamps. It will not be issued until the present stock of provisionals is exhausted, of which 4000 sheets were printed. No more of the half-penny provisionals will be surcharged "O. S." The same journal has been making inquiries about the 2 d. stamp surcharged "3" which was lately chronicled, and is convinced that it was a *carotte*, but has discovered an unchronicled provisional issued in 1876. When the inter-colonial postage was reduced from 6 d. to 3 d. in 1870, a three-penny stamp was made by printing from the four-penny die in blue and surcharging it "3 pence." Information has been received from undoubted authority, that in 1876 one of the district offices being out of stamps of 3 d. surcharged some few of the 2 d. with "3 pence" in black. A specimen has been seen post-marked June 13, 1876.

The one-penny stamps are now printed in aniline, so they will not bear immersion.

ST. DOMINGO.—In addition to the stamps noted in February, we have seen the following. We are informed that this surcharge has been printed on the island and not by the manufacturer of the stamps. It is a result of the change in the currency. We presume it exists on the stamps, both with and without net-work.

Adhesives,	10	centimos,	on 2	centavos.
	1	franco,	on 20	"
	50	centimos,	on 10	"

(surcharge inverted.)

ST. LUCIA.—From "The Ph. R." we learn that some time ago, the 1 d. black was surcharged 1 d. with pen and ink in script, and both in black and aniline inks. The yellow adhesive without value is now surcharged "Four Pence." in black block letters.

SWEDEN.—Messrs. Green & Barns write us, that Sweden is to issue new reply paid post cards, but no particulars are given.

SWITZERLAND.—M. Diena informs "Le T. P." that the unpaid letter stamps now have the frame green instead of blue.

TRINIDAD.—"A. S. & Co's M. C." is informed by a correspondent, that a letter received by the January mail, was franked with a six-penny stamp, surcharged with "4" in red.

U. S. OF COLOMBIA.—The 5 c. as well as the 2 c. has been re-engraved. The scroll containing the words "Libertad y Orden." does not touch the flag staffs as formerly, and the bottom of the flags is white instead of being shaded.

URUGUAY.—From "Le T. P." and the "Ph. R." we get the following information: The 1 c. green of 1882 has been surcharged "Oficial." A new 5 c. stamp was issued on the 1st March, containing the portrait of General Maximo Santos, the President.

A letter card has been issued similar to

that of Belgium and inscribed "Tarjeta Epistolar"—"la serie." The stamp contains the head of Liberty in a pearled circle with "Republica Oriental" above, and "del Uruguay" below. The figures of value are in the angles. The impression is on gray card, and the interior is white. There will be new post cards of three kinds: 1, ordinary inland cards; 2, reply paid; 3, Postal Union. The inland cards will probably be printed in blue on white and bear the same inscriptions as those of 1878. Outer border of four lines measuring 117x78mm. Central scroll with "Tarjeta Postal." In the upper right angle a large oval, that of the cards of 1880-81, re-engraved, with the numeral 2 on either side and at the bottom. In the upper left angle is a circle of 25 mm. diameter, containing a view of the General Post Office in the Calle Sarandi. Then follows the same inscription as in the cards of 1878, and below is "Litog' che la escuela de artes y oficios."

The reply paid cards will probably be without borders. The letters "R. O. U." of large size traversed by a scroll inscribed "Tarjeta Postal" are at the top. In the upper right angle, an oval stamp as in the inland card described above. In the left corner a circle with view of the Government palace. There are three lines of inscription, the first reading "A Serie 188" and the second and third the same as in the cards of 1880. The reply card has a scroll with the words "Tarjeta Postal." curling round a representation of the palace of the Government. The same large oval already mentioned in the upper right angle, and two lines of inscription as in the card of 1880, the first reading "Respuesta."

The Postal Union Cards will be without borders, and will probably be printed in rose or green. Above is a scroll somewhat of the shape of an eight lying on its side, inscribed "Union Postal Universal." The stamp is the same as on the cards above described, but with numeral 3 at

the sides and bottom. In the left upper corner is the word "Tarjeta" and below it a view of the Palace of the School of Arts and Design. Two lines of inscription, the first reading, "a Serie 188" and the other as in the card of 1881.

Adhesive,	1	centesimo,	Official.
	5	"	dark blue.
Letter card,	3	"	carmine.
Post cards,	2	"	blue. (?)
	2x2	"	(?)
	3	"	(?)

VICTORIA.—To Mr. Hill we are indebted for a specimen of the new reply paid card. It is headed in three lines, "Victorian—Post Card—The address only &c." Then the word "To" and three dotted lines. In lower left corner, "The attached card is for the reply." The stamp contains a diademed head of Victoria to left in oval band inscribed "Victoria" above and "One Penny" below. There are ornaments at the sides and four small circles in the corners, those at the top containing ornaments somewhat resembling Maltese crosses, and those at the foot containing the value. The reply card has "(Reply.)" below "Post Card." Form 2. Size 114x75 mm.

Card, 1x1 d. lilac on buff.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—In addition to the two values noted last month, the 1 d. has appeared with the new watermark.

A MODERATE SCHOOL.

WILLARD K. FREEMAN.

(Continued from Page 33.)

Watermarks.—As a study, to determine dates, reprints, etc., they are useful; and a knowledge of them and their varieties is unquestionably a part of a collector's education; but to collect a dozen—more or less,—of the same stamp, (as some of those of Victoria,) is philatelically, nauseating. Endeavor rather, to obtain some of

each variety of watermark, when selecting your set, all are *not* necessary. (Jamaica, part pine-apple, part C. C. & C., etc.) And, I say again, avoid collecting absurd *errors*.

Perforation.—I recognize unperforated as differing from perforated, and of the latter, large from small perforation; "*En scie*," from "*En couleur*," (P. E. Island, Austria, Bremen, Thurn and Taxis) but my previous remarks, *re* watermarks, hold good here. Only collect such as are needed to illustrate the different kinds, say a portion of a set unperforated, the remainder perforated, (Bremen, Portugal, &c.)

Paper.—Color, quality, thickness, etc.; my foregoing remarks are equally applicable here. There is admitted, a great difference between stamps printed on thick or on thin paper, on blue (or other) tinted paper, and on white; collect as I have said before, some of *each* variety.

Errors in general should be avoided. There are a number however, that are collectable, such as the wood-block "*Capes*" *reversed* colors; the Lubeck and Bergedorf mis-spelt specimens.

Any *pronounced* type of either die, shade, paper or other feature, should be taken. Reprints should not be collected under *any* circumstances. Motto: have the original or none. And now I ask, have I not *simplified* the collection; reduced its unprofitable varieties and exterminated many questionable specimens,—not to say, imposters? Is not here, Mr. Gibbons' idea of a "*Moderate School*" of Philately? *i. e.* "those who desire to collect every reasonable and marked variety, without going to the extreme that some do." It is this "*extreme school*," that I fear will hurt collecting if it is persisted in. There is no reason why one, with a well filled wallet may not collect "*ad infinitum*," but he has no right to force his school upon collectors to the detriment of the science. Those with "*shorter pockets*," unable to keep pace with their richer brothers, will sooner or

later, give up disgusted, unless the "*Moderate School*" comes to their rescue. It is my present aim to bring forward this reform, in the interests of Philately and for the common good of, I feel sure, a large number of its clients. I know this effort is faulty and not nearly as complete in details as it should be; there is much more to be stated upon the subject, as upon other weighty matters, notably the collecting of surcharged stamps. Surcharging is now carried to such an extent, that its limit has been abused, and it requires a thorough overhauling. But more of this, anon.

A collection may be still further reduced and the interest still kept up, by giving more especial attention to a *portion*, a part of the great whole. One may collect adhesives only, or adhesives and envelope stamps; a third may take to postal cards exclusively; still others may select some particular portion of the world,—as Europe, or America, or Great Britain and her Colonies.

In this way, the money and time spent upon hundreds of commoner stamps, may be expended for the high values and varieties of the smaller *section* of the world and so it may be made very complete.

For my own part, I have in mind something still different and I think entirely new. In lieu of gathering a collection as complete as possible, made up of everything, I would take only the gems and varieties, *excerpta* of low and high values in an *unused* condition.

In looking through an ordinary collection, there are, of course, thousands of pieces to be found in every *other* collection. It is only now and then that something of special remark is seen. Mine would be a collection, first, of beautiful designs, true gems of the engravers' art; it would comprise generally, stamps of the higher values, not commonly seen, and they would all be *unused*. "*Per contra*." I would indulge in ugliness of design, when neces-

sary, for I would want a representative, or more, from every stamp issuing country. Secondly, I would aim to possess rarities, those almost unattainable specimens, (Mauritius, shilling envelopes, etc.,) and lastly, errors of die, color, paper, watermark, or perforation, oddities that were truly issued from the government printer, not singly, but in limited quantities. (the Cape Verde and Mozambique 40 reis, unsevered pair)—which, when discovered, ceased. Mine then would be a collection interesting, it strikes me, beyond question. The ordinary collector would find much to admire, beautiful specimens he had not seen before; the advanced philatelist would meet with many a genuine rarity,—originals, upon whose surface even his eyes had never rested.

These now, are new ideas. A Moderate School and a Limited School. If I have at least, laid a strong foundation for either, I shall feel myself amply repaid.

THE BRATTLEBORO STAMP.

“On Tuesday private sale of a Brattleboro stamp was made in this City for a price which may or may not be the largest ever given for a piece of paper an inch square, but which was certainly without any warrant in reason. The story is one which will appeal to all collectors. In 1846, the Postmasters of certain cities issued stamps by authority while awaiting a supply from the department. Of the Brattleboro issue 800 were printed, and half were burned. Considering the nature and uses of postage stamps, it would seem nearly as hopeless to raise the dead as to find one of those 400 after the lapse of a quarter of a century. No sane man would attempt it, and the problem is enough to distroy the last distinction between a collector and a lunatic. While others searched for the stamps, one shrewder than the rest looked for the engraver. He found him alive in Springfield. He had still seven of the

precious squares, and he parted with them for his own price of 75 cents each, besides furnishing indisputable proof of the genuineness of an issue the very existence of which was doubted. The fact was heard of and a dealer offered a dollar apiece for six. The purchaser demanded five times that sum, and before the money reached him—though it was promptly sent—he had an offer of \$10 apiece. But he was honest and parted with six for \$30. The most precious, bearing the engraver's name he kept, and has now sold it for \$190, or for five times the value of a double eagle, and perhaps a thousand times, more or less the weight of the stamp in gold. Regarded purely as a speculation, we do not know of any neater operation than this, showing as it does a clear profit of several thousand per cent. Most people will think that the giving of such a price for such a thing sufficient proof of monomania, but the task which the purchaser is supposed to have set himself leaves no possible room for doubt. These Brattleboro stamps were printed in sets of ten we believe, and each of the set, of course, differed to an extent appreciable with the microscope. No ordinary collection is complete without a Brattleboro stamp: but this quite too altogether priceless collection has now three and may yet have a complete set of the Brattleboro issue. A collector of this sort is either a stark lunatic, or is filled with a holy rage which none of the common herd are capable of appreciating.”

The above article appeared in the columns of the “New York Times,” of April 1st, and, as a conglomeration of facts and fancy, has rarely been equalled. We doubt if any member of the Munchausen family could spread himself upon paper to better mendacious advantage, than the writer in question. This aspirant to Philatelic lore, probably obtained some of his facts from the vender of the Brattleboro, and jumping to hasty conclusions, and relying upon the accuracy of the informa-

tion afforded him by the said vender, evolved out of his inner consciousness, this precious jumble. Without wasting too much space upon this matter, we desire to correct several grave misstatements noticeable in the article.

Every school boy knows that the United States Government first issued stamps on July 1st. 1847; our friend states that "in 1846, the post-masters of certain cities, issued stamps by authority while awaiting a supply from the department." How could the post-masters have been awaiting supplies of that which never existed, and, perhaps, was even at the time of issue of these provisional stamps, not yet in contemplation by the Post Office department?

The truth of this matter is, that these stamps were issued by the various Post-masters, for their own convenience solely, and although their emission was winked at by the government, it never had any thing to do with them, either by sanctioning their usage or otherwise. The post-masters issued them for the simple reason that it simplified the routine greatly, by selling these stamps in large lots to parties having heavy correspondence, instead of making change for them every time they presented a batch of letters for mailing. Being issued upon the individual responsibility of certain post-masters, the holders could only use them whence they emanated; whereas if they had been issued by authority, would not the same authority have provided for the acceptance or redemption of Brattleboro stamps at the New York Post Office, say, or *vice versa*.

Instead of 800 only being prepared, and half of them burned, there were 500 sheets of ten stamps each (or 5000 in all,) issued by the Brattleboro post-master, F. N. Palmer, M. D., it is not thought however that over one-tenth part of these were used, as will be seen from the following extracts, from a letter written by Dr. Palmer to a leading American Philatelist, under date of Dec 10th, 1868, viz:

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

"My object in issuing it was to accommodate the people, and save myself labor in making and collecting quarterly bills, almost everything at that time being either charged or forwarded without payment. As to the number issued, I should say only five or six hundred."

The story of the *Times*, as to the finding of the sheet of stamps at the office of the engraver, is strictly true, as well as the subsequent prices realized by the fortunate holders, and this part of the article and that relating to the sale of the stamps for \$100, is the only redeeming feature about it.

We may add here, that this price was paid by an enterprising firm of stamp dealers, in this city, who immediately resold the rarity for \$200, a modest price, truly.

The Brattleboro's are few and far between, and we doubt if over a dozen specimens are known. We should like to have the name of the party who has three, in his "quite too altogether priceless collection," and, who according to our friend of the *Times*, "may yet have a complete set."

The last Brattleboro offered for public competition, was at the auction sale of March 27th 1832, where after lively bidding, it was purchased for \$150. The remaining parts of this article do not call for any comment upon our part; they speak for themselves, and only serve to show the folly of anyone attempting to write up a subject, with which he is not thoroughly conversant. **RAMBLER.**

NOTES AND QUERIES.—III

BY C. B. CORWIN.

Two ridiculous printer's errors occurred in last month's "Notes and Queries." First, the last clause of the prefatory remarks, made me say, "by any one in position to refute any of the *above* statements," instead of "any of *my* statements." Second, in the last paragraph of the Notes on Italy, the surcharge is spoken of as "*invested*," instead of "*inverted*." It is to be hoped that this month's contributions will go to the readers of the *National Philatelist* in an un-mutilated condition.

Since I last had the pleasure of appearing before you, I have received information as to a number of facts suitable for mention in these papers, and I am greatly indebted to several gentlemen for their courtesy in this matter. Any persons possessed of information that smacks of novelty, are invited to communicate the same to me, with a view towards its appearance in these papers.

Due mention will be made of the source whence the information is derived, unless my co-workers prefer to hide their light under a bushel, in which case I am fully prepared to bear the "blushing honors" *solus*. Without further preamble, let us at once plunge *in medias res*.

ECUADOR.—During the last two or three weeks, a number of specimens of the 20c., 1881, issue have been received, cut in twain obliquely, and used instead of 10c. stamps; which, as I remarked last month, have not as yet made their appearance. These, therefore, must be added to the overflowing list of "half-stamps."

UNITED STATES.—I possess a copy of the 12c., black imp., 1851 issue, divided

obliquely, that has done duty as 6c.; also a 2c. black, 1863 issue, similarly treated, and used in connection with an entire stamp of the same denomination, in lieu of a 3c. stamp.

Both these instances are upon the entire envelopes, and show plainly that no extra postage was collected from the respective recipients.

Of late years our government has refused to recognize any but whole stamps, and those letters bearing portions only are treated as insufficiently prepaid.

GUATEMALA.—Having lately had the pleasure of handling a number of surcharged stamps, I have noted the following errors, some of which have already been commented upon, and others I have never seen mentioned in print. 1st, The 1c. upon $\frac{1}{4}$ real, with the word centavo printed *centavo*. 2d, The 5c. upon $\frac{1}{2}$ real, with the word printed *centavos*. 3d, The 10c. upon 1 real, with the word printed *centavos*. 4th, The 20c. upon 2 reals, with a *comma* instead of a period after the word centavos. 5th, The same, with no punctuation whatever after centavos. 6th, The same, with the letter "t" in centavos dropped considerably below the other letters. These are no manufactured errors, but were found among a parcel of thoroughly authenticated specimens, and I can vouch for their reliability.

The 5c. brown, of the 1871 issue, exists *tête bêche*.

TASMANIA.—Most of the 5 sh. stamps of this colony, found in a canceled state in our albums, have been used as fiscals, not postals. Post-marked copies are exceedingly rare, while those canceled with pen and ink (mostly simply dated), are comparatively common.

I believe that the 5sh. sage green fiscal (St. George and the Dragon), has never been withdrawn from use. Can anyone, therefore, explain why the 5sh. postage stamp should be so regularly used

for fiscal purposes, when the proper fiscal stamp was on sale. Every one knows that lately Great Britain and her colonies have permitted (and in a number of cases authorized) the use of fiscals for postal purposes, and perhaps, the reverse also; but the postals under discussion seem to have been used for fiscals, ever since their emission in 1872.

A line of explanation upon this point, from some of our Australian friends, would be acceptable.

ROUMANIA.—A rare error of color is found in the 1879 issue of this country, namely, the 5b. struck in blue, the color of the 10b. I discovered the one in my collection among a large lot of 10b., that I chanced to be looking over incidentally. Perhaps some of our readers may be equally rewarded by delving among similar dross.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY.

On Tuesday evening, April, 13th, the eighth regular meeting of the season was held at Room 38, Tribune Building, the president, Mr. R. R. Bogert, presiding. The minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

The Special Committee on Color Chart reported, that all the necessary arrangements pertaining to its issue had been completed; the contracts had been closed, and the design (as prepared by Mr. W. F. Smith.) had been engraved and approved.

The inks used in the printing of this work, will be ready for the Company about the 20th. inst., it being necessary, to insure uniformity of color, that each ink should be specially made to order. After that date the printing will be put forward as expeditiously as possible, and it is expected that the charts will be ready for delivery in about three months.

The Committee promised to prepare, as soon as possible, for the *National Philatelist* an illustrative article on the Color Chart.

The meeting was then resolved into a *conversazione*.

W. F. SMITH, *Secretary*.

Correspondence.

We solicit, and are prepared to insert under this heading, any information or suggestions that may be thought of interest to the Philatelic world.

We will not hold ourselves responsible for the views of our correspondents, and we reserve the right to reject communications that do not seem to us as proper for publication.

WOODSIDE, N. Y., April 10, 1883.

Editor "National Philatelist."

DEAR SIR.—I send you the following * clipping from the *N. Y. Times*, and wish to speak a word in defense of the so called lunatic and philately.

I do not myself, advocate collecting all the varieties of the Brattleboro stamp, as the minute differences, of each stamp, would not compensate for the heavy outlay, even if such could ever be accomplished, and I doubt if any collector would be foolish enough to attempt it, but I do advocate paying one hundred dollars for a genuine copy, as the person so doing would be very sure to realize, should he ever wish to part with it. Supposing the author of this fallacy had been present at a certain sale not long since, and had there witnessed the spirited bidding on a despised Brattleboro, until it was finally bought in at \$150, verily, he would imagine him self in a nest of lunatics, or, perhaps he is a confirmed numis-matist and would not hesitate to give seven or eight hundred dollars for a dollar of 1804, in which case the old saying would prove at fault, the sauce would all go to the goose and none to the gander.

The ridiculousness of this attack upon philately is equaled only by the ignorance of its author regarding the subject he writes upon. If such constitutes lunacy, I am proud to be called a lunatic.

Yours truly, C. W. C.

* See Page 45, "The Brattleboro Stamp"—Ed.

Answers to Correspondents.

We hold ourselves in readiness to give here such information as lies in our power, and are prepared, at all times, to assist Philatelists in the solution of such questions as we are able to. All questions addressed to the Society, not requiring an answer by letter, will be replied to here.

Exchanges.

In order to facilitate the exchange of duplicates, and with a view to bringing about more intimate relations among collectors we offer a column per month, free of charge to our subscribers only, wherein they may briefly state what they have to dispose of and what they desire in exchange.



The National Philatelist.

Vol. I.

NEW YORK, MAY, 1883.

No. 5.

Chronicle.

AZORES.—The new 5 reis of Portugal noted last month, is already surcharged "Agores" in small letters.

BAVARIA.—"Le M. des T." informs us that the 10 pfennig card of Postal Union is now watermarked with undulating lines, and that a *mandat poste* of the value of 30 pfennig has been issued with the same watermark. "Le T. P." adds the 19 pfennig envelope.

BAHAMAS.—We have before us a provisional. Having run short of 4d. stamps, that value has been made from a 6d. stamp by surcharging it in black "Four-pence." This is already obsolete. Reply paid cards will be issued shortly.

BRAZIL.—"Le T. P." illustrates a new 100 reis stamp, which was issued on the 20th of March. The head of the Emperor is in a pearled oval with "Correio" on each side. "Brazil" is at the top and "100 reis, 100" at the bottom. White laid paper. Perforated 14.

Adhesive, 100 reis, mauve.

BULGARIA.—At least one value of the long expected set has been issued. We have the 25 stotinka which is printed in two shades of blue.

CYPRUS.—The information taken from "A. S. & Co.'s M. C." in our last issue in regard to the new color of the $\frac{1}{2}$ piastre seems to be an error. Mr. Clifford has sent a specimen to the "Ph. R." which is printed in green but of a darker shade than before. Watermark C. A. and Crown.

ECUADOR.—We are informed by a correspondent in Guayaquil, that the reported 4 centavos on the 1 real has never existed, but that *two* provisional stamps have been issued in Guayaquil. These are the 5 centavos on the 20, and the 10 centavos on the 50. He omits to send specimens of the first of these, but his letter is franked with one of the latter, which is surcharged in black in two lines in capitals 4 mm. high, "DIEZ CENTAVOS." As stated in our February number, a supply of the 10 centavos stamps was sent to Ecuador with the other values in 1881, but it was decided to use the 1 real stamps for that value until exhausted. We presume the stamps of 1 real in the post-office at Guayaquil have been used up and that the new 10 centavos could not be procured from the Capital on account of the revolution, because for some time letters from Guayaquil have been franked with *one-half* of the 20 centavos stamp. Now, however, this is replaced by the 10c. on 50c. above noted. It is quite probable that other provisionals have been used in other parts of Ecuador.

Adhesives, $\frac{1}{2}$ of 20c. used as 10c.

5c. on 20c.

10c. on 50c.

FARIDKOT.—The "Ph. R." illustrates a new type on the $\frac{1}{4}$ anna stamp. It is 22 mm. square and contains in the middle a small square about 12 mm. square, the corners of which are connected with those of the stamp by four straight lines. The whole stamp is covered with inscriptions.

Adhesive, $\frac{1}{4}$ anna, blue.

FRANCE.—The same journal states that the 50 centimes pneumatic card has been

altered. The map on the face has been extended until it almost touches the top perforation. The inscription on the left side now reads "Depuis le 1er Avril 1883," instead of "Depuis le 1er Février 1882." Also that the ordinary 10 centimes card has now four lines for the address, the last being much shorter than the others. "Le T. P." informs us that the Postal Administration has decided to withdraw the unpaid letter stamps of 1, 2 and 5 francs and issue them in Van Dyck brown instead of black.

GRENADA.—Mr. Calman has shown us the 1 shilling, lilac, of the new type.

ITALY.—"Le T. P." says the date "81" on the reply paid cards of 15 centesimi has been changed to "82," and the new 10 centesimi *estero* has been issued.

MEXICO.—M. Maury has found among the cards of the first emission with double stamp, the 1 centavo with the color of the 2 centavos, and *vice versa*:

2x2 centavos, brown on pale yellow.

1x2 " slate and brown on pale yellow.

The first was issued for 1x1 centavos, the second for 2x1 centavos.

PORTUGUESE INDIA.—Mons. Diena has sent to the "Le T. P." a copy of the 1½ reis with this value also printed at the top of the stamp over the word "correio." It is inverted, and must have been so printed on the whole sheet, the value being printed after the rest of the stamp.

RUSSIA.—The same journal notes an envelope of medium size, type 1849, having the arms watermarked in a square. This envelope, used in 1863, must have been issued in December, 1862, when the Postal Administration decided to issue this size of envelope.

There exists at Moscow as well as St. Petersburg, a card used to obtain certain addresses. This is the 3 kopec card with additional inscriptions. At the top the name of the city and a second line in

Russian characters; at the left, four Russian words all impressed in red; over the inscriptions at the left, an embossed stamp with arms and inscribed in Russian: "9 kopecs—Administration of the city of Moscow."

SIAM.—In addition to the surcharged stamps previously noted, we have the following:

Adhesives, 12 cents, blue.

96 " gray.

We have just received a letter from General Halderman the United States Minister at Bangkok, and make the following extract "Siam has not yet issued postage stamps. Postal arrangements for this kingdom will hardly be perfected for some months, though the authorities are at work in that direction. The stamps to which you refer, surcharged with "B," are so issued by Straits Settlements Government, Singapore, when delivered to their agents here, merely that they may trace them and letters bearing them should occasion require. Siam yet remains outside the Postal Union.

All our mail matter starts from Singapore or Hong Kong and is stamped accordingly."

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Mr. Calman has shown us a reply paid card precisely the same as the 1 penny card with the addition of the words "with reply card" on the original card over the arms, and the word "reply" similarly placed on the reply card. Form 1, perforated.

Card, 1x1d., pink on buff.

SPAIN.—"Le T. P." says, that on some copies of the 15c. stamps the figure "1" is entirely missing, making it a 5c. stamp instead of 15c.

ST. LUCIA.—From "A. S. & Co.'s M. C." we learn that new stamps have arrived from England, and will make their appearance as soon as the stock of the present issue is exhausted. A penny post card and a reply paid card will also be issued.

ST THOME.—"Der Ph." informs us that the 40 reis, yellow, has been emitted.

SWEDEN.—The new reply paid cards are the same as the single cards except that on the first card in the upper left corner is inscribed "La carte ci-jointe est destinée à la réponse," and the same in Swedish. On the reply card the words "Svar" and "Réponse." They are of form 1 and were issued April 1st.

Cards, 10x10 öre, red on white.
15x15 " green on white

TRANSVAAL.—From the "Ph. R." we learn that a three-penny adhesive has been issued, printed from the old block on the rose paper employed for the blue and rose six-pence of October, 1877. It is roughly perforated 12, and is likely to be of short life as only 23,520 were printed.

The one-shilling and half-penny stamps (Queen's head) have been out of use for some time; the one-penny are nearly exhausted, and as soon as the remaining values of this type are used up, no more will be printed. The substitutes will be the originals printed on colored paper of which the three-pence is the forerunner.

UNITED STATES.—We have two new 1 cent envelopes. The first is on a pale brown paper, and measures 160x89 mm. It has the *star* watermark, and the flap is un gummed. The other is on fawn colored paper, measures 150x87 mm., has the "82" watermark, and has the flap gummed.

U. S. of COLOMBIA.—We have just received a new 5c. stamp from this Republic, which somewhat resembles the current German, 10pf. The arms are in an oval band inscribed, "Correos Nacionales de los EE. UU. de Colombia." The word "Centavos" is at the bottom, surmounted by a large figure 5 in a circle, and the corners are filled up with scroll work. Perforated 11, and printed on bluish paper.

Adhesive, 5 centavos, blue.

URUGUAY.—We have before us the new 5 centesimo stamps with portrait of the President Maximo Santos. At the top in a curved label is "Republica del Uruguay," and at the bottom in a straight label "Cinco Centesimos." The figures of value are in the four corners. It is printed in dark blue and perforated 12. The stamp on the letter-card seems to bear the head of Minerva instead of Liberty. The size of the card when folded, 115x78 mm.

There are four post cards instead of three as noted last month. They are all on white card and were issued March 10th. The reply paid cards are of form 4. All the cards have borders of four ruled lines, and are dated "Año 1883."

The 7c. of 1881 as well as the 1c. of 1880 has been surcharged "Oficial." Finally, a new 1c. stamp was issued on the 16th of March. The arms of the Republic are in a small oval in the center, above which on curved label is "Republica O. del Uruguay," and below on a similar label "Un Centesimo." Ornamental figures of value are in circles in the four corners, and in small curved labels at the top and bottom the word "uno."

Since writing the above, we have received a new 10 centesimo stamp, which is almost an exact copy of the 5 centavos of the Argentine Republic, except the portrait in the center of a gentleman unknown to us, and the inscriptions which are as follows "Republica O. del Uruguay" and "Diez Centesimos."

Adhesives, 1c. Oficial, black on brown.
7c. " red on blue.
1c. green.
5c. dark blue.
10c. brown.

Letter Card, 3c. carmine.

Post Cards, 2c. black.
2x2c. brown.
3c. blue.
3x3c. green.

A PERMANENT SYSTEM FOR MOUNTING STAMPS.

WILLARD K. FREEMAN.

Whether the collector belongs to the "Advanced," "Moderate," "Limited," or other School of Philately, of which I have recently been writing in these pages, on one point all are agreed, *i. e.*, that no *permanent* method has, as yet, been announced for keeping, safely and conveniently, one's stamps.

Certainly, no *Album* has yet been invented that accomplishes the purpose. There are very excellent works of this sort published, but the *main* feature is still lacking. While Messrs. Stanley, Gibbons & Co.'s "Imperial" edition is, to my mind, one of the best; and their aim in the direction of permanency, by the issue of supplementary volumes every year—creditable,—the *fact* that the stamps of almost any country are scattered through two or more books, condemns the work, so far as convenience goes. Supposing a collector had bought one of the early editions of the *Album*, say the *second*; the fifth (and shortly, the sixth), supplement is required to contain the yearly issues of the stamps of many countries. Fancy looking through six or seven books to get at the continuation of the stamps of Spain, Cuba, etc. If the author will accept advice, I would say: print your work on *one* side of *loose* sheets of cardboard. Let the right-hand page only of the present *Album* be used, which gives the compartments intended for the stamps. Accompanying these loose leaves, issue a thoroughly good, complete, concise catalogue, which (if you please), shall be a copy of the left-hand page of the "Imperial:" the numbers in the catalogue to correspond with the compartments, as at present. The leaves do not require to be numbered. They may be kept in covers, cases, drawers, cabinet, or otherwise, and

may be arranged in order alphabetically or geographically—I prefer the former—for convenience.

Albums prepared on this plan, it strikes me, would be, at least, a step in the direction of permanency, as new leaves could be issued from time to time—as new stamps came out—and could be put in their proper places without intruding upon any other country.

And a second suggestion would be to change the color of the paper, or card, to a darker shade, say to a neutral or gray; something that would "bring out" the colors of the stamps better than white or cream.

From years of practical experience, I must say that blank Albums, with moveable leaves, do not answer the purpose at all.

The advice given my English friend, above, will not, however, satisfy the collector who does not wish to be tied to any "hard and fast" line of collecting, which would, of course, be the case with any work giving *prescribed* receptacles for just "such and such" varieties. Therefore, I now offer my own system, which I have found works well, and improves with age; and I am glad to know is approved of by several leading American collectors, who have done me the honor of following it.

I first procure my blank cardboard sheets, as stated, of a fine quality, quite thick, and of a *dark* French gray shade. They are cut for me specially, 8x10 inches. I prefer them perfectly *plain*, *i. e.* without border or other printing, as I hold that *any* ornamentation or outside "show," such as fancy type, flags, coats-of-arms, etc., detracts from the looks of the stamps; or, at least, lends no additional beauty, and is of no advantage whatever.

Upon these sheets the stamps are to be arranged, *after* they have been duly affixed to their respective "mounts." The "mounts" consist of a very fine quality of thin, *pure* white card, and are cut to

order, in several sizes, to suit the dimensions of the stamps. The following are the most useful, viz. :

Squares.—1x1 inch for ordinary square stamps, such as Bavaria, Baden, Germany, (T. & T.) etc.

$1\frac{1}{8} \times 1\frac{1}{8}$ inch for larger square stamps, like Mecklenberg Schwerin, Wurtemberg, the high value Bergedorf, etc.

Rectangles.— $1 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ for the general run of adhesives.

$1\frac{1}{8} \times 1\frac{1}{4}$ for the larger adhesives and for small envelopes, such as Lubeck, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, etc.

$1\frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{4}$ for very large adhesives, *i. e.* the 5sh. stamps of Barbadoes, Natal, the 5 and 10 pesos of Bolivar, &c., and for envelopes generally.

Of course, stamps of unusual dimensions, very small (Bergedorf, Bolivar, etc.), or very large, triangular or otherwise, require special size cards; and these, being of a limited number only, can readily be cut by one's self, with a good pair of shears. Extra pieces of card, precisely like the regular shapes in quality, may be obtained from the stationer.

Fasten the adhesive to its "mount" by simply drawing a fine line with a small paint brush—dipped in a solution of gum arabic, if the original gum is wanting—across the stamp at its back, very near the top, even as far as its perforation—if it be perforated. This will be sufficient to hold it firmly, and will, at the same time, avoid the paper "hinge" now so much in vogue. Thus secured, the stamp may be readily thrown back on its own "self-acting" hinge, for examination of gum, water-mark, paper, etc., without the least detriment. They should be affixed *evenly and neatly*, on the card "mounts," *equidistant* from the edges—and thus a clear, white margin of about $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch will

be obtained, and when placed on the gray sheets, will appear to great advantage and sightliness, and all the necessary trouble will be amply repaid.

Envelopes, as I advocated in my previous papers, should be *cut*, and they should be attached by a "drop" of gum at their under extremities to the four corners of the mount. The envelope should be *cut* to *exactly* the size of the mount, and, of course, no white margin of card will be seen; but, if correctly mounted, the design will appear nearly in the center of the mount, and there will be sufficient room at the top corners—left or right—to show any inscription.

The pieces now being attached to their individual "mounts," a small dot of gum at the very centre of the back, is all that is required, with a little pressure, to fasten them securely to the sheet.

Arrangement of stamps on the sheets; what the collection shall be composed of, is left to the individual taste of its owner, and varies, naturally, according to the "school" of Philately he belongs to. In any event, a first-class catalogue, or better still, Pemberton's "Hand-book," as a general guide, is necessary. Having selected one, begin to arrange the collection. I advise using the sheets *lengthwise*; the width is sufficient to accommodate from four to seven stamps in a row, and five or six rows can be placed on a page. Further, let me advise keeping the *different* issues of a country separate, *i. e.*, in *different* rows; and when it is necessary to use *two* rows for a *single* issue, place such rows *nearer* than if *two* issues were being mounted. That is to say, while $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch of space should be left between rows of *different* issues, $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch only should be left between the rows of a *same* issue. These are small differences, but if the detail is carried out precisely as written, the effect will be harmonious and very beautiful. It is hardly necessary to state that a space varying from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ an

inch, should be left between the individual stamps comprising a row.

All this detail means care, patience and time; but if the work is well, neatly and thoroughly performed, it is done once for all, for *permanency is secured*.

The date of issue may be put in ink, or with a hard black pencil—latter preferred—*lightly*, just above the rows, and in the center of the sheet. And, further, the name of the country—now supplied by several Stamp Dealers—may be neatly pasted at the top right-hand corner; only be careful to select a small, compact and clear type.

Arrange the sheets alphabetically (as previously remarked), in covers, which can be had of binders, at prices to suit the pocket. It will take six or eight of such covers—which resemble a book with all the leaves taken out—to hold an ordinary collection; as not over 50 sheets should be held in one cover. Three sets of tape strings should be fastened to the top, side and bottom of the covers, on either side, to tie the volume, and thus hold the sheets. An outside case (an additional luxury), may further be added, to slide the covers into, for protection against dust, etc.

Entire Envelopes and Postal Cards may also be mounted on these sheets, if desired; but in such cases, it is recommended to “hinge” them to the pages with paper, as is very generally done, and requires no explanation.

If I have not succeeded in making my remarks clear, I shall be very happy of an opportunity to furnish ocular *proofs* of my system to any Philatelist desiring them, for I want collectors to avail of my mode of arranging their “treasures,” *knowing* that they will be truly pleased and satisfied.

[Having examined thoroughly Mr. Freeman's collection and experimented with the above mode of mounting we have no hesitation in recommending it as a *superior* method for the permanent mounting of stamps.—ED.]

EARLY POSTAL SERVICE.

COMPILED BY W. F. S.

The first news about Post Offices heard in this country, was near the middle of the seventeenth century, when Charles the II. conferred on his profligate brother, the Duke of York, the right to establish and regulate posts in the North American Colonies, and collect such revenue therefrom as he could. Postal history up to that period is brief. Rome had its stated places where messengers or couriers were kept for State use. These places were *positum*, or fixed stations; hence “post”—as we use it meaning the moving courier—was simply a station. The first letter posts were started in the Thirteenth Century, by some of the Hanse-Towns' merchants. During the reign of Maximilian, the Princes of Thura and Taxis established posts, and soon got a monopoly of great value. In the time of Charles V., their posts covered the whole of his Empire. In England, the Crown employed messengers who wore the royal livery in the time of Henry III., but carried only official documents. In the reign of Edward I. posts were established where horses were to be had for hire. Camden mentions, in 1581, an officer called the “Master of the Postes.” There appears to have been a post for letters between London and the Continent in the fifteenth century, when certain disputes between the Flemings and the Italians led to the appointment of a “Chiefe Poaste Master,” who had charge both of the English and foreign posts. Thomas Randolph was the first Chief Post-master of England. It was a hundred years after the establishment of a foreign post that private letters were taken. James first naturally improved communication with his native Scotland, but only for Government business. He also instituted a foreign post, for letters going abroad from England

and conferred the office of "Post-master for England and Foreign Parts" on Mathew De Quæster, the elder, and Mathew De Quæster, the younger. Lord Stanhope, who was then Post-master of England objected, but soon after resigned, leaving all to the Quæsters. They assigned the office to William Frizell and Thomas Witherings. In 1635 a post was authorized to run night and day, between London and Edinburgh, going and returning in six days. In 1637 the English Government took control of letter-carrying, and has kept it ever since. In 1705 the post office business was extended to the Colonies in America, the chief office to be at New York. This arrangement went into effect about the year 1710. The first cheap venture was a penny post, established in London in 1681, but it was declared an interference with the monopoly of the Duke of York, and was suppressed.

The first attempt to establish a postal system in this country, was by Gov. Lovelace (Colonel, *not* Lord Lovelace), in 1672. On the 10th of December in that year, he issued the following proclamation:

"Whereas it is thought convenient and necessary, in obedience to his Sacred Majesty's command, who enjoines all his subject in their distinct colonies, to enter into a strict Alliance and Correspondency with each other, as likewise for the advancement of Negotiation, Trade and Civil Commerce, and for a more speedy Intelligence and Dispatch of Affayres; that a Messenger or Post bee authorized to sett forth from this City of New Yorke montheley, and thence to travaile to Boston, from whence within that monthe hee shall return again to this City. These are, therefore, to give notice to all persons concerned, that on the First Day of January next the Messenger appointed shall proceed on his journey to Boston. If any therefore have any letters or small portable goods to be conveyde to Hartford, Connecticut,

"Boston, or any other place in the Road, they shall be carefully delivered according to the directions by a sworn Messenger and Post, who is purposely employed in that Affaire. In the Interim, those that bee disposed to send letters, let them bring them to the Secretary's office, where, in a lockt box they shall be preserved till the Messenger calls for them. All Persons paying the Post before the Bag be sealed up."

The man employed to carry the letters, was called the Post-master, and was required to take an oath that, "he would promptly perform his duties, and that he would neither directly nor indirectly detain, conceal, or open any letters, packets, or other goods, but carefully deliver, or cause to be delivered all such goods; that he would use all speed, making no unnecessary stay; and in all things truly and soberly to comport yor selfe, so as belongs to that trust reposed in you, and as a Post-master ought to doe." Elaborate instructions were prepared, the chief of which are, "to be civil to all people, and not exact too much postage; to apply to the Governors—especially Governor Winthrop—from whom he would receive the best directions about the road; to fix by-stations to leave and call for letters; to give account of his actions to Gov. Andros; to mark trees that shall direct passengers the best way; when any persons are desirous to travaile with you, you are to treat them civilly, and to afford them your best help and assistance, that I may heare noe complaint of you; you are also to detect and cause to be apprehended all fugitive souldyers and servants runn away from these parts."

It does not appear that any thing like a post office or mail carrier, existed under the Dutch Government of New York. But three years after the province came under English rule, we find the Common Council selling to Johannes Verveshe, the monopoly of a ferry over Spuyten Duyvil

Creek, for five years, with the condition that he should carry free, all messengers going to or from the city with letters or packets; from or to the Governors of New York and Connecticut.

In 1671, John Archer of Westchester, having purchased a part of the Van Der Donck estate, built a new villiage, "near unto the passage commonly called Spiting Devil," on the road to Connecticut. Gov. Lovelace, made Archer's villiage an enfranchised township, with the usual immunities, under the name of Fordham, on condition that "the inhabitants should always send forward to the next town, all public packets and letters coming to New York, or going thence to any of the Colonies."

The first mention of a post office in Boston, is under date of 1677, when such an office was established by the Massachusetts Colonial Court, and put in charge of John Heywood (or Heyward) as Post-master.

In 1683 William Penn, issued to Henry Waddy, of Taconah, an order or grant to establish a post, and to supply passengers with horses from Philadelphia to Newcastle or the Falls. The rates of postage were: "From the Falls to Philadelphia, three pence; to Chester, five pence; to Newcastle, seven pence; to Maryland, nine pence." The post rider went once a week, and the time of departure was to be "carefully published at the meeting house door, and in other public places."

Owing to the Dutch war and other interference, Lovelace did not succeed in his effort, but the matter was taken up by Gov. Dongan, who corresponded on the subject with the home authorities. A letter to him from the Secretary to the Commissioners for the Colonies, dated August 27, 1684, says;

"As for setting up post-houses along the road from Carolina to Nova Scotia, it seems a very reasonable thing, and

"you may offer the privilege thereof to any undertaker for three or five years by way of farme; reserving what parte of the proffit you thinke fitt to the Duke; (not less than one-tenth:) the farmers to account to the Duke. And we think you were much in the right when you asserted that the Duke's title to the proffits of all the post-offices within his Majesty's dominions was not to be doubted, but is intended over all the fœraigne plantacions as well as in Europe."

Dongan replied; "You are pleased to say I may set up a post-house, but send me noe powe to doe it." He said the neighboring colonies desired such accomodation, and that post riders had been established in some places. He would go to Pemaquid in the spring, and try to settle a post-office in Connecticut and one in Boston. He did so and had a conference with Gov. Trent, of Connecticut, about arranging a post route as for east as Boston, in which city a post-master had been appointed as early as 1677. On his return to New York, Gov. Dongan got an ordinance through his Council "that for the better correspondence between the Colonies in America, a post-office be established; and that the rates for riding poste be three pence per mile, and for every single letter not above one hundred miles, three pence; if more proportionately." This was in 1685, and was the first established rate of postage in this country.

(To be continued.)

ERRATA.

At the bottom of the first column of the 28th page (March number,) in speaking of the lines in the shields of the 1 peseta and 1 dinero stamps the word *horizontal* is twice used. This is a serious error, and our readers will kindly substitute the word *perpendicular* in its stead, in both instances.

THE POSTAL NOTES.

BY VIDO.

The new postal notes will not only be a great convenience to the public, but may in time become a kind of currency, and in a small way help inflation. They will be issued on any sum under five dollars, on payment of three cents for each note. They will be largely used by newspaper subscribers, purchasers of packages of goods, and for remitting small balances. The person receiving them, instead of collecting the money, may be tempted to pay them out in retail dealings. There is an immense retail business done in this country in groceries, small wares of every description, patent medicines, and packages of various kinds. The money sent to the centres of population for newspaper subscriptions amounts to a large figure in the aggregate, and hence in time there may come to be a great number of these postal notes in the channels of trade. The moneys paid for them will remain in the Treasury and help to swell the balances in the government vaults, while the notes themselves will pass through the mails and find their way into the retail channels of trade. The Secretary of the Treasury could now safely withdraw the one and two dollar greenbacks, the sole excuse for which has been their usefulness in settling minor obligations by mails. The ones and twos could be re-issued in larger denominations, so that there would be no contraction, and then there would be an opening for the much abused silver dollar, which would no longer remain unused in the Treasury. It is these one and two dollar greenbacks which have heretofore prevented the circulation of the honest "dollar of our daddies."

STAMP COLLECTING.

Probably there are few persons outside of those personally interested, who are aware of the immense numbers of cancelled and uncanceled stamps which are annually amassed by collectors. So great has become the demand for them that several firms have been incorporated for the sole purpose of carrying on this business, and many people make a fair living by selling stamps gathered from letters received by the large importing houses. It is estimated by an experienced dealer that there are to-day at least a million persons seriously devoted to collecting stamps, some of whom are enthusiasts, and collect simply from a love of rare and curious, while others purchase them in order to reap the golden harvest which they eventually yield. The sums realized from good collections are almost incredible. In 1876 one was sold in London for £8,000, another was sold last fall in Paris for 40,000 francs, and it not unfrequently happens that \$5,000 is received for them by dealers in this city. The album of stamps owned by a leading banker, whose residence is in Madison Avenue, is worth \$30,000 at the lowest estimate. Another owned by a lady, is valued at \$25,000, while those worth from \$20,000 down to \$5,000 are numerous. These figures will not seem so surprising when one takes into consideration that a single stamp often sells for \$200. Among those which bring this price are the provisional stamps issued from 1844 to 1846 by the postmasters of Baltimore, St. Louis and Brattleboro. It is true that at one time many of these valuable stamps found their birthplace in the factories at Chicago and other cities, but now stamp counterfeiting has been entirely broken up; and besides, it is almost impossible to deceive a stamp dealer as to the genuineness of them.

The origin of stamp collecting may be said to date from 1862 when Mount Brown, of London, published the first list

of postage stamps. This list was followed by another, written by Dr. J. E. Gray, of the British Museum, in the same year, and these works, being widely read, stirred up much curiosity and caused thousand to become stamp collectors. For these persons are prepared hundreds of various styles of stamp albums.

OUR POSTAGE STAMPS.

The new two cent rate of letter postage goes into effect on the first day of October next, and by the change the familiar green three cent stamp bearing the profile of Washington will go out of common use after thirteen years of service. The first issue of adhesive postage stamp used by the Government appeared in 1851, and consisted of two denominations, a five cent stamp bearing the face of Franklin, whose zeal and ability laid the foundation of our postal system, and a ten cent stamp with the head of Washington upon it. Not long after a second series of five denominations was issued. The one cent stamp bore Franklin's image, the three Washington's, the five Jefferson's and the ten and twelve a varied picture of Washington. In 1857 the series was increased by the issue of a twenty-four, a thirty and a ninety cent stamp, and of these two different portraits of Washington monopolized the twenty-four and ninety, while a second view of Franklin filled the frame of the thirty. The third issue appeared in 1861, Washington still appearing on five of the denominations, Franklin on two and Jefferson on one. In 1863 the first two cent stamp was printed. It was black, and bore the face of Jackson very conspicuously placed. In 1866 the fifteen cent stamp was introduced for foreign postage, and had placed upon it the portrait of Lincoln. These remained in use without change till 1870, when a series of ten square stamp of various designs appeared. Three of them bore portraits.

The one cent was still reserved for Franklin. Washington was placed on the six cent, and Lincoln on the ninety cent. The other designs were fanciful and unpopular, and a new issue, the one now in use, was brought out a month later. In this Franklin is on the one cent. Jackson on the two, Washington on the three, Lincoln on the six, Jefferson on the ten, Clay on the twelve, Webster on the fifteen, Scott on the twenty-four, Hamilton on the thirty and Commodore O. H. Perry on the ninety. The seven was later given to Stanton, and the five to Garfield. Thus it will be seen that, from the first, the denomination in commonest use has borne the head of Washington. As the 3 cent stamp will now go almost entirely out of use, and two cent become universal, it is very proper that the Postmaster-General should place the image of Washington on a newly designed two cent stamp, as he intends to do.

The first stamp dealers and collectors in the United States arose in 1861; the first hand-book appeared in 1863, and the first philatelic paper in 1864.

The postal clerks are very much averse to the three cent postage stamp giving out, because it gives them so much pleasure to punch the head of the "father of his country," for, unlike them, never telling a lie.

Prior to 1847 the mail was carried on horseback, and it took three days to send a letter from New York to Boston.

Of the number of adhesive stamps, Spain leads with 212, and the United States comes next with 178, including 92 officials.

The blue numbers on the backs of the 1875 issue of Spain denote where they were taken from the sheet, the stamps being numbered consecutively.

NOTES AND QUERIES.—IV.

BY C. B. CORWIN.

HANOVER.—Does the 3pf. small network exist cancelled? Authorities say not, but numbers in this country pin their faith to this stamp as an authorized emission. Personally, I believe this to be a mere essay, and have yet to hear of a cancelled specimen.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—The 1 and 2c. surcharged, issued in 1877, are found upon both the rouletted and perforated 5c. red. The existence of the 2c. surcharged reversed, is denied by Mons. Moens, in his catalogue now being issued; or, rather, he chronicles the 1c., and makes no mention of the 2c., in this condition.

I possess copies of both the 1 and 2c., with inverted surcharge, which I found several years ago, in a large invoice of these stamps, that had just been received from Buenos Ayres. Careful examination, under a powerful glass, plainly shows the cancellation marks to be *over* the surcharge, thus, to my mind proving the authenticity of my specimens.

ITALY.—I have lately received, from abroad, a copy of the 3 lire, perforated, and, apparently, properly canceled. I have always understood that this stamp, and the 5c. in like condition, were never issued to the public, and should be placed in the same category as the 2, 3 and 15 soldi, 1861 issue of Austrian Italy. I am, therefore, somewhat at a loss to know where to place the specimen under mention, and would be pleased to know that the question of the issue of these two stamps could be settled one way or the other.

FRENCH COLONIES.—I have an 80c. France, perf., issue of 1872, that has been used in Martinique. It shows the postmark of that colony very plainly. I have seen several of this issue and value, with

the same postmark, but have never come across any other perforated values of France, used in her colonies; still, I presume that they exist, and that patient research will bring them to light.

WEST INDIES.—In June, 1882, I received from a correspondent in Trinidad, a parcel of West Indian stamps, which had been evidently subjected to acidulous influence. Upon inspecting the consignment, I found that nearly all the light and delicately tinted stamps had been very much deepened in hue, and were as fine a lot of changelings as I have ever come across. The only way in which I could account for their condition, was, that the letter had been fumigated, and the fumes of the acid employed in the operation, had effected the change.

The 1sh. Trinidad orange, and the 4d. grey, on the envelope itself, were changed respectively to an indescribable dark yellow brown, and to almost black.

In the envelope I found Cuba 5c. and Barbadoes 1d. light blue, changed to a clear grey; Trinidad ¼d. and Barbados 3d. lilac, to a dull, purplish black; Grenada 6d. vermilion, to a mere smudge color, a dirty deep brown, and 2¼d. lake red, to a deep brown red, and so on.

These are the most prominent changes that I can call to mind at present, but of course, there were many others. Some colors did not seem to be affected at all, namely, browns, yellows, and greens. I remember, also, that the British Guiana stamps, in this parcel, were in perfect condition.

I have gone into this matter thus at length, as the impression seems to be extant that a number of the shades I have mentioned above are to be preserved. I have seen them noted in several philatelic publications as changes of color, notably the Barbados 1d., Cuba 5d., and Trinidad ¼d. I believe these remarks will be found to contain the correct solution of this small problem.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY.

The Ninth regular meeting of the season was held on Tuesday Evening, May 8th, at Room 38, Tribune Building, the President, Mr. R. R. Bogert, presiding. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The president presented to the society, on behalf of Mr. F. Trifet, a copy of his recently published catalogue of Postage Stamps, which was accepted with thanks, and the same ordered to be placed in the society library.

The Special Committee on Color Chart reported, that subscriptions had been received from the London, French and Dresden Societies. That the work was being put forward as expeditiously as possible considering the delicate nature of the work, and that debaring any unforeseen difficulty, the Charts would be ready about the middle of August. They also requested that letters be sent to the societies not having responded to recent circulars, asking if they intend offering their co-operation or not.

Owing to lateness of the evening, the compilation of the stamps of St. Vincent was deferred until another meeting.

W. F. SMITH,
Secretary.

Correspondence.

We solicit, and are prepared to insert under this heading, any information or suggestions that may be thought of interest to the Philatelic world.

We will not hold ourselves responsible for the views of our correspondents, and we reserve the right to reject communications that do not seem to us as proper for publication.

To EDITOR *National Philatelist*:

Are any of the following stamps known to exist?
Peru, 1874 10c. *Blue.*

St. Domingo, 1867 $\frac{1}{2}$ real yellow without word "Correos." St. Domingo, 1867 1 real blue, without either word "Correos" or expressed value. St. Domingo, 1880 1c. *yellow.* St. Domingo, 1880 2c. *yellow.*

Parties having either of these stamps are respectfully requested to communicate at once with the undersigned.

J. ROGERS,
P. O. Box 100. St. Thomas, West Indies.

Answers to Correspondents.

We hold ourselves in readiness to give here such information as lies in our power, and are prepared, at all times, to assist Philatelists in the solution of such questions as we are able to. All questions addressed to the Society, not requiring an answer by letter, will be replied to here.

C. T. H., WASHINGTON, D. C.—The 1853-60 issue of France is found in six states of perforation; 1st, Imperforate; 2nd, Perf. 7; 3rd, Rouletted; 4th, *percé en Scie* or Saw perforation; 5th, *percé en pointe*, or pointed perforation; 6th, regular perforated $13\frac{1}{2}$ to 14. All the values are found in the above six conditions, save in the 3rd and 4th which methods seem to have been applied to but few values.

J. D. B., NEW LONDON, CONN.—The 2 and 5c. Nicaragua are found upon, 1st, yellowish paper, and, 2nd, greyish white paper, thinner than the first issue.

W. C. S., BOSTON.—There are about 75 varieties of the Guadalupe Stamps, and it is not within the limits of this column to enumerate them here, at some future time, we may be enabled to convey full information in regard to these interesting stamps, as we are now in communication with a Philatelist who has been thinking of writing a paper upon them for some time past.

P. A. G., OBERLIN, O.—You will find full information as to the newly issued Grenada and other West Indian Stamp, in this and last month's "Chronicle." to repeat them here is needless.

Exchanges.

In order to facilitate the exchange of duplicates, and with a view to bringing about more intimate relations among collectors we offer a column per month, *free of charge to our subscribers only*, wherein they may briefly state what they have to dispose of and what they desire in exchange.

I wish to exchange stamps (postage and revenue post cards, entire envelopes, philatelic papers, magazines, books, etc., with collectors in all parts of the world. STEPHEN W. SMITH, 399 West 126th St., N. Y.

South American and other rare stamps for those not in my collection. New issues and provisionals especially desired. 1,000 well mixed foreign for anyone of the following: Providence, P. O., 5 or 10c.; general issue 1847, 10c.; 1851, 90c.; 1861, 5c. yellow or 90c., 1869, 90c.; State Department, 2, 5, 10 or \$20. Correspondence from all stamp issuing countries solicited. Exchange orders filled by return mail. PHILATELIST, office this paper.

I desire rare American or Canadian stamps (postage or fiscals); envelopes, entire or cut square, large margins; post cards, etc., for rarities. Send sample parcel of stamps and state what you want in exchange. JNO. GREEN, JR.

25 Maryland's Road, Harrow Road, London.



The National Philatelist.

Chronicle.

AUSTRIA.—From "Le T. P. we learn that the 10 kr. and 10x10kr. Pneumatic cards have been altered. In the former there are now 30 lines at the left instead of 19, and the title reads "Amter für den pneumatischen Dienst in Wien." In the reply paid card the inscription at the left is headed "Ausgabe Aemter" and contains 22 lines instead of 16.

BAVARIA.—In addition to the 30 pfennig mentioned last month, "Le M. des T." informs us that the whole series of *cartons mandats* has now the new watermark. Also that the unpaid letter stamps were issued May 1, watermarked with vertical undulating lines and perforated, 13.

Mandats, no value,	blue.
10 pfennig,	rose.
20 "	blue.
40 "	yellow.
Unpaid, 3 "	gray & rose.
5 "	" "
10 "	" "

Barbados.—We have just received a reply paid card of the same size as 1½d. card, and with the same inscriptions, and in addition in the lower left corner in four lines "The annexed card is intended for the answer. (La carte ci-joint est destinée a la reponse,)" and in the reply card the word "Reply" at the top. The stamp is the same as that on the 1½d. card, and it as well as the inscriptions, is printed in lilac on heavy pale buff card. It is perforated at the top. Value 1½x1½d.

We have another size of the 4d. regis-

tration envelope, which measures 200 x 125mm.

We are informed that an additional charge over the face value is made for the following cards and envelopes, which are sold at the post-office at the following rates per dozen :

½d. card,	- - - -	9d. per dozen.
1d. band,	- - - -	1s. 2d.
1d. envelope,	- - - -	1s. 2d.
1d. registry envelope,	- - - -	1s. 6d.
4d. " " "	- - - -	4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.

BRAZIL.—The 20 reis card, brown, has appeared with the frame of the 80 reis card, the stamp in the middle. The 50 reis card, blue, has now a frame somewhat similar to the 20 reis card of the second type. The frame is heavier and coarser and has no interior line.

Cards, 20 reis, brown.
50 " blue.

BULGARIA.—We have the new set before us and find it consists of the following values :

Adhesives,	3s. two shades orange.
	5s. " green.
	10s. " rose.
	15s. " lilac.
	25s. " blue.
	30s. lilac and green.
	50s. blue and pink.

CASHMERE.—The ¼ and 8 annas are now printed in the following colors :

Adhesives, ¼ anna, brown.
8 " blue.

COSTA RICA.—Mr. Muecke has shown us *three* unchronicled varieties of the provisional 2c. stamps on the half real blue. The first has the red numeral 22mm. high. There is surcharged in black "DOS

cts." reading upwards. The third is the same as the second but has in addition the red surcharge of 1881.

CUBA.—A quantity of the three highest values having been stolen, the Post Office authorities have surcharged the remaining stock with a peculiar countersign of which we have seen five varieties. They are all found on the same sheet but in unequal numbers. It is almost impossible to describe these surcharges, but it will suffice to say, that four of them are fancy rectangular frames composed of interlacing curves, and containing in an open space in the center, the figures of value. The fifth is similarly composed but square, and contains no figures of value and no open space. The rectangular surcharge measures 13 x 17mm. and the square one 17 x 17mm. The 5c. is surcharged in red, the 10c. in blue and the 20c. in black.

Adhesives, 5c. blue and red.
10c. bistre " blue.
20c. brown " black.

CYPRUS.—"Le T. P." notes a registered envelope, with a large "R." instead of the word "Registered" in a frame.

Reg. Env. 2 piastres, blue.

DENMARK.—One of the correspondents of "Der Ph." has discovered the 2s. blue of 1858 with lined ground. M. Joannides informs "Le T. P." that the 4 öre bands are now printed in a paler blue and have the figures of value more open than those first issued.

DUTCH INDIES.—"Le T. P." describes an official card, as follows:

No. —

STAATSBLAD 1880, No. 165.

Dienstbriefkaart.

van

Assistent. Resident van.....

aan

Assistent. Resident van.....

It is impressed in black on gray card and measures 141 x 118mm.

FRENCH COLONIES.—The "Ph. R." has seen a 15c. of the issue of 1879, printed in carmine. It is canceled with the dots and anchor, and on the piece of paper to which it is affixed is a portion of the Re-union postmark.

GERMAN EMPIRE.—"Der Ph." mentions the 5pf. card with "5. 83" and the 5 x 5pf. card with "3. 83."

GRENADA.—Of the new type we have received the following, every other row being inverted as in those already noted.

Adhesives, 2½d. blue.
6d. violet.

INDIA.—The "Ph R." is informed that the color of the ½ anna envelope is to be changed from blue to green.

JHIND.—"Le T. P." notes the 1 anna brown of the new type on *laid* paper.

NEW CALEDONIA.—We have received the 5c. on the 40c. surcharged "05" instead of "5."

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.—From Mr. C. A. Brown we learn that the following novelties are in course of preparation:

1. A 25c. stamp, with statue of Kamehameha, I. in profile.
2. A 30c. stamp, with portrait of Lunailo.
3. A 50c. stamp, with head in profile of Queen Dowager Emma.
4. A 2c. return postal card.
5. A 2c. stamped envelope.
6. A 5c. stamped envelope.

The colors for these various issues are not yet fully decided upon.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—"Le T. P." states that the Telegraph Stamp, 250 mils blue, has been surcharged for postal duty as follows: "Habilitado para Correos de dos Rles," in carmine, and that the current postage stamps of 5c. blue and 8c. brown have received similar surcharge in green, with the substitution of the value 1 rl. for 2 rls. Mr. Ackerman has just shown us the 10 cuartos—"Derecho Judicial"—

surcharged for one real in the same manner, in green.

- Adhesives, 1 real, blue and green.
 1 " " brown and green.
 1 " " " "
 2 " blue and carmine.

ROUMANIA.—M. Stihl has sent us some new cards; The 5 bani, is now rose on the face, and white on the other side; it measures 156x100 mm. The words, "Carta Postala," now occupy the space of 64 mm. instead of 47 mm. The 10x10 bani, is now orange colored on the face, and white on the reverse. The inscriptions are unchanged. "Le T. P." mentions a 5 bani with the words, "Carta Postala," measuring 60 mm., this may be a misprint for 64 mm.

- Cards, 5 bani, black or rose.
 10x10 " red or orange.

SALVADOR.—We are indebted to "Der Ph." for the information that two post cards have been issued. The stamp in the upper right corner has a large figure of value in a circle, with branches below, and the value in letters on a curved label above, all enclosed in a rectangular frame of Greek pattern. In the upper left corner is the stamp described in our February number. The inscriptions are not given, but there is a heavy lined frame around the card. The values are, 2 centavos, dark red on buff, and 3 centavos, blue on white. Size, 140x85 mm.

SAMOA.—We have a 2d. stamp, rose, which it is stated, was in use only a few weeks before the post was given up.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—"A. S. & Co's. M. C." states that the new half-penny stamps have made their appearance. The printing is coarse, the paper not properly milled, and the gumming and perforation as bad as can be. The perforation 10, roughly executed, is not adapted to so small a stamp. The paper is "Crown, S. A.," and the stamps are printed across

the sheet, so that one row is "Crown," and the next "S. A."

Adhesive, $\frac{1}{2}$ d. brown.

ST. DOMINGO.—Mr. Muecke has shown us a 5 Centimes, with an acute accent over the "i" in "centimes."

ST. LUCIA.—"A. S. & Co's. M. C." furnish the information that two cards were issued on April 9th. They measure 140 x88 mm. The inscription "Union Postale Universelle."—"St. Lucia, (Ste. Lucie,)" is in two lines above the words "Post Card," which are separated by the royal arms, while under this is the usual direction "The address, etc."

- Cards, 1d. pink on buff.
 1x1d. brown.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—"Der Ph." illustrates a new provisional 2c. stamp on the 32c, and states that the 8c. has been similarly surcharged. The surcharge is in black block letters, and reads upwards through the center of the stamp.

- Adhesives, 2c. on 8c.
 2c. on 32c.

TASMANIA.—We copy the following from the "Ph. R."

"A correspondent sends us a cut specimen of a two-penny envelope—embossed profile of Her Majesty, to the left, on an oval of solid color; then an oval, with reticulated ground, inscribed, 'Tasmanian Postage' above, and 'Two Pence' below, in colored block letters, a dot separating the inscriptions; then an oval of white pearls; and last of all an engrailed colored border. Our correspondent says that this envelope—of which there is but one size at present—and registration envelopes of two sizes, were issued on the 3d of April, last.

- Envelope, 2d., green and white laid paper.

TOBAGO.—The same journal notes the current six-penny postage stamp, surcharged $2\frac{1}{2}$ pence. The chief numeral 2 is 4 mm. high and the letters (in Roman

capitals) 2 mm. high. The surcharge is well done, and was probably not printed in the colony.

Adhesive, 2½d. black on 6d.

U. S. OF COLOMBIA.—We learn from "Le T. P." that there is a whole series of stamps similar to the 5c. described in our last number. There are two varieties, all the odd values having the eagle turned to the right, and the even values having the eagle turned to the left.

- 1c. green on pale green.
- 2c. red on rose.
- 5c. blue on blue.
- 10c. orange on pale yellow.
- 20c. violet on lilac.
- 1 peso, claret on blue.

The same journal mentions the 10c. surcharged, "dos y medio centavos," in red.

URUGUAY.—"Der Ph." illustrates a new 2c. stamp. The arms in an oval, are enclosed in a diamond shaped frame, inscribed, "Republica O. del Uruguay. Dos cents." The figures of value are in the corners, in circles. The 10c. stamp noted last month contains the portrait of General Artigas.

2c. carmine.

UNITED STATES.—Two more 1c. envelopes have come to light, both size 4½ (150x87 mm.) and with the *star* watermark.

Envelopes, 1c. blue on amber.
1c. blue on blue.

NOTES ON U. S. ENVELOPES

R. R. BOGERT.

To the best of my knowledge the official list of current envelopes has never been published in any Philatelic Journal, and, as it is certainly of great interest and value to the collector of entire envelopes, I print it opposite; and in order to show the changes in sizes and color of paper, I

have included the old schedule in the table. The first column shows the value of the stamp; the second, the color of the paper; the third and fourth, the Government number, indicating the size of the envelope. No. 1, measures 134x74mm. No. 2, 140x78 mm. No. 3, and No. 4, 140x83mm. No. 4½, 150x86mm. No. 5, and No. 6, 160x90mm. No. 7, 225x109 mm. and No. 8, 258x110mm. Nos. 4 and 6, are ungummed and intended for circulars. The paper is laid, and is watermarked with the letters, U. S. P. O. D. in monogram, in addition to which, the envelopes issued under the old contract have as watermark a five pointed star, and those under the new contract the figures 82 about 16mm. high.

Some of the envelopes issued lately have been found on "Star" paper, instead of the "82" and are likely to become rare, as they are only so printed for the sake of using up such of the old paper as may be on hand. As the envelopes are sent from the factory direct to the different post-masters, and not through the Department at Washington, these *errors* get into circulation without the knowledge of the government. Those that I have heard of are the following.

- | | | |
|---------|--------|----------------------------------|
| 1 cent, | No. 4½ | on white, amber, blue and [fawn. |
| 2 | " 3, | on white. |
| | " 5, | on white and amber. |
| 5 | " (?) | on blue. |

I advise collectors to complete their sets as soon as possible, as on October 1st, when the postage will be reduced to 2 cents, a new schedule will be prepared.

It is probable that the eighteen varieties of the three cent envelope will be superseded by a full supply of two cent envelopes of a new design. In this case the two cent envelope in use now will become obsolete. It is also likely that a four cent envelope will take the place of the present six cent.

TABLE OF
UNITED STATES ENVELOPES.

Value.	Color of Paper.	Size of Envelopes, Old Contract.	Size of Envelopes, New Contract.
1 cent.	White.	No. 2.	No. 3. 4½. 5.
	Amber.	" 2.	" 3. 4½. 5.
	Fawn.		" 4½.
	Blue.		" 4½.
	Dark Buff.	" 4. 6.	" 4. 6.
2 cents.	White.	" 2.	" 3. 4½. 5.
	Amber.	" 2.	" 3. 4½. 5.
	Fawn.	" 4½.	" 4½.
	Blue.		" 4½.
3 cents.	White.	" 1. 2. 3. 4½. 5.	" 1. 2. 3. 4½. 5.
	Amber.	" 2. 3. 4½. 5.	" 2. 3. 4½. 5.
	Fawn.	" 2. 3. 4½. 5. 7.	" 2. 3. 4½. 5. 7.
	Blue.	" 2. 3. 4½. 5.	" 2. 3. 4½. 5.
5 cents.*	White.	" 3. 4½.	" 3. 4½.
	Amber.	" 3. 4½.	" 3. 4½.
	Fawn.	" 7.	
	Blue.	" 3. 4½.	
6 cents.	White.	" 4½. 5. 7. 8.	" 4½. 5. 7. 8.
	Amber.	" 4½. 5. 7.	" 4½. 5. 7.
	Fawn.	" 4½. 7.	" 7.
10 cents.	White.	" 4½. 7.	" 7.
	Amber.	" 4½. 7.	" 7.
15 cents.	White.	" 8.	" 8.
30 cents.	White.	" 8.	" 8.
90 cents.	White.	" 8.	" 8.

* In the old contract with *star* watermark, there are two types of the 5 cent envelopes; one with portrait of Taylor in blue, and the other with Garfield in brown. The latter are found only on *white* and *amber* paper, and of both sizes, Nos. 3 and 4½.

EARLY POSTAL SERVICE.

—
 COMPILED BY W. F. S.
 —

(Continued from page 56.)

In 1687, Edward Randolph, who had been Collector of Customs and Licensor of the Press in New York City, was appointed Deputy Postmaster for New England by Lord Treasurer Rochester. Randolph had doubtless acted as Postmaster in New York, as William Bogardus was immediately appointed Postmaster for both the City and Provinces by Gov. Dongan.

In 1690 there was great trouble in New York on account of the Leslier usurpation. We find that "the Publick Post, Mr. John Perry, setting out (Jan. 16) from the house of Col. Lewis Morris toward Boston was not advanced on his way above a quarter of a mile before he was laid hold on by a warrant from our usurper Leysler, and brought back to this place" [New York] "with his letters, which were opened and perused at the will and pleasure of this arbitrary man."

The next serious effort was made by Col. John Hamilton, son of Andrew Hamilton, a shrewd Scotch merchant, who settled in New Jersey. He was one of Lord Neil Cambell's council, and followed Cambell as Lieutenant Governor in 1686. In 1689 he sailed for England, but was taken prisoner by the French and held for some time. He was appointed Governor of New Jersey, and returned in 1692. While he was in England Thomas Neale obtained a patent to establish Post Offices throughout the American colonies, and April 4, 1692, he appointed Col. John Hamilton his deputy for all the American plantations. Col. Hamilton brought the subject before Gov. Fletcher and the New York Assembly, and an act was immediately passed (October, 1792) "for encouraging a Post Office." This act was revived from time to time for a dozen or more

years. Mr. Hamilton's good work was arrested in 1698, when Parliament enacted that all high officers should be natural-born English subjects. Hamilton, being a Scotchman, was turned out, but he afterward recovered compensation from the English Government for the breaking of his patent.

Gov. Cornbury (December, 1702) desired packets between New York and England, as he had to send his letters by posts to Boston. The Lords of Trade about that time favored a proposal of Sir Jeffrey Jeffreys to run two packet-boats between the Isle of Wight and New York.

In 1704, (June 30,) Gov. Cornbury wrote again about the difficulty of corresponding with England. There was a tolerably regular post to Boston, "but westward he goes no further than Philadelphia, and there is no other post on all this continent."

In 1708, (July 1,) Cornbury again complained of difficulty in hearing from England. He was often many months without a word, "'Till I had the favor of these letters of the 7th of May I have not had one line from your honorable board nor from the Secretary of State these fifteen months." There were only two safe ways of sending to England—by the Virginia fleet from Jamestown, and by the mast (corn) fleet from Boston.

The Postmaster in New York City in 1702 and long thereafter was William Sharpas. He was the clerk of the Common Council, having been appointed in 1693. He held that office forty-six years, to his death in 1739. How long he served as Postmaster does not appear.

In 1717 Jonathan Dickinson gave notice that a post had been established whereby advices were conveyed from Boston to Williamsburg, in Virginia, in four weeks in Winter and two weeks in Summer.

In 1727 William Bradford, the celebrated printer then of Philadelphia and afterward of New York, arranged a post to

go from Philadelphia, by way of the eastern shore of Maryland, to Annapolis, returning by way of the western shore, making the trip once a fortnight in the Summer.

Postal improvements still came very slowly. In December, 1731, messengers went once a fortnight in Winter to Boston and Philadelphia. Richard Nichols was the New York Postmaster, and advertised for a man to perform the foot post to Albany for the Winter season.

July 25, 1736, the Postmaster gave notice that he would trust no more, having been a great loser by giving credit.

The next year, 1737, a great event for the Post Office happened. Ex-Gov. Spotswood, of Virginia, was the Postmaster General of the American Colonies. Being dissatisfied with his deputy at Philadelphia, he turned the man out and put in his place "Mr. Benjamin Franklin, printer." The philosopher says: I accepted, and found great advantage, for though "the salary was small, it facilitated the "correspondence that improved my newspaper, increased the number demanded, "as well as the advertisements to be inserted, so that it came to afford me a considerable income. My old competitor's newspaper declined proportionably, and I was "satisfied without retaliating his refusal "while Postmaster to permit my papers to "be carried by the riders."

In 1738, Harry Pratt engaged to ride post between Philadelphia and Newport, Va., to set out at the beginning of each month, and return in twenty-four days. In 1745 a road for post riders was marked out between Philadelphia and Perth Amboy.

Spotswood died in 1753, and Benjamin Franklin and William Hunter were appointed jointly to succeed in the office of Deputy Postmasters General for North America. "The American office," says Franklin, "had never paid anything to "that of Great Britain. We were to have

"£600 a year if we could make it out of "the profits of the office. To do this a "variety of improvements were necessary. "Some were expensive, so that in the first "four years the office became in debt to us "above £900. But it soon after began to "pay us; and before I was displaced "by a freak of the Ministers, we had "brought it to yield three times as much "clear revenue to the Crown as the Post "Office of Ireland. Since that imprudent "transaction they have received from it— "not one farthing!"

In this year, 1753, began the first delivery of letters by penny posts, or local carriers—such carriers generally being the Postmasters or their clerks. This, of course, was Franklin's idea.

In 1754, in October, he established, or tried to establish, a tri-weekly mail between Philadelphia and New York; once a week had been the oftenest until then.

The next year he arranged to have a mail at least once a week all Winter to points as far north as Boston. In 1758 Franklin got a regulation that newspapers, until then carried free in the mails, should pay nine-pence a year for fifty miles, and six-pence a year for greater distances.

Franklin, during his administration of the office, assisted by his son William, (afterward Governor of New Jersey,) made rapid improvement in the business, increased the frequency of the posts, and in time established coaches on the main routes. In 1755 he had posts between New York and Philadelphia twice a week, "to set out at 10 A. M. and arrive at noon the third day."

About the time of Franklin's appointment, Cadwallader Colden was a prominent member of the New York Governor's Council. He was a pushing, obstinate and able man, was President of the Council, Acting Governor, Lieutenant Governor—boss and all hands—from 1761 to the Revolution. Franklin put Colden's son Alexander in the New York Post

Office—or found him there, rather, and there he stuck, with all his father's pertinacity until the last hour.

Under Franklin and Colden the New York Post Office began to be an institution of importance. On Colden's accession he issued the following notice:

"NEW YORK, June 30, 1753.

"The Post Office will be removed on Thursday next to the house of Alexander Colden, opposite Bowling Green, in Broadway, where the Rev. Mr. Pemberton lately lived, here letters will be received and delivered out every day, (Saturday afternoons till the arrival of the posts and Sundays excepted,) from 8 A. M. till 12, and from 2 until 4 P. M., except on post nights, when attendance will be given until 10 o'clock of the night. And all letters for persons living in town that remain uncalled for on post nights will on Monday morning be sent out by a penny post to be provided for that purpose.

"N. B.—No credit for the future will be given for postage.

"ALEXANDER COLDEN,

"Deputy Postmaster."

The New York Post Office now, for the first time, had a definite location. Previously it was at the Governor's house, or oftener in the Governor's Secretary's pocket. The chief place for letters was at the Merchants' Coffee House. James Parker, when editor of the *Post Box*, complained that letters for him left there were lost or stolen, and offered "twenty shillings reward, and no questions asked, for their return"

Colden, though intensely loyal, was superseded in 1776, by the British commander, who kept the City under military rule. The Postmaster during this period was John Antill.

This brings us up to the time when the British assumed control of New York, and gives a very clear idea of the early postal service.

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND MAILS.

According to the latest advices from Australia and New Zealand the report of the Postmaster General to the Parliament of New South Wales has been adopted with but little discussion, and the recommendations of Sir Henry Parkes embodied in the law under which the postal appropriation has been made. In the course of his remarks the Postmaster General, Mr. Wright, gave a lengthy history of the establishment and progress of our mail communications with the colonies, and dwelt especially on the development of our reciprocal trade.

Commenting on his remarks, the Sydney Daily *Telegraph* writes: * * *

"No doubt the day is fast approaching when mail subsidies will not be required. We must, however, take care that we do not retard our progress by assuming that we have arrived at that stage before we have actually done so. The knowledge that the time is not distant when the trade itself will ensure a regular service between Sydney and San Francisco is a special reason why we should take care that the service we now enjoy should not be broken down. The contract sanctioned by the House, is moreover, a far more favorable one than that which is about to expire. The Imperial Government is to convey the mails to San Francisco as heretofore, and a subsidy of £50,000 per annum is to be paid by the United States, New Zealand, and New South Wales, to complete the service. This will involve a charge upon our own Government of less than £14,000 per annum, against £42,000 under existing arrangements, and it is further contended that when the postages are counted in, the service will not cost more than £8,000. The amount is therefore so small that it is really not worth talking about, and shows not only that the

"days of subsidies are numbered, but that the subsidies themselves have so far dwindled down that they are subsidies in little else than name. There is however, just the possibility that the United States may decline to enter into the bargain. If so, the subsidy will have to be divided between New Zealand and New South Wales, and will in that case, be somewhat larger than the amount stated, but much less than heretofore."

The question now rests with the United States Postal Commission as to whether the mail communication between these growing and important colonies and ourselves shall continue for another two years, with a prospect of its renewal after that period on such terms as will secure its support, should it *not* have become self-supporting, or whether it shall cease with the expiration of the coming year.

To be sure for years past, these little colonies, having a population of only about 3,000,000 of people have been at a far greater expense than above referred to in maintaining regular mail and passenger connections with this country with its 60,000,000 of inhabitants, yet we cannot for a moment see what benefit the Government is to derive from paying a subsidy of about \$80,000 to a foreign steamship company, for the transportation of mails to these colonies, thus leaving our lines dependent on their own efforts, or on what they actually earn of our postal department for work done. This must appear somewhat of an anomaly to every American when they consider this enormous tax being levied on our Government for the benefit of so small a portion of its inhabitants, who have communication with these colonies.

The first of the regular line of post office packets to New South Wales, was the "Mary Sharp" which left Gravesend for Sydney, on Feb. 2d, 1844.

REVENUE STAMPS.

The printing of revenue stamps was begun by the Bureau of Engraving and Printing in 1877, the work having previously been performed by the Bank-Note Companies. Since that time there have been delivered to the Internal Revenue Bureau 2,544,000,000 stamps. The Bureau has sold more than 2,381,000,000 stamps. The inventory of stamps on hand discloses the fact that not one single stamp is missing. The stamps which the Bureau has sold have all been sent away by registered mail. Not a single package has been lost during the entire time; one or two packages have gone astray, but they have been tracked up with but little delay.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT RUSSIAN RURAL OR SEMSTVO STAMPS.

In a letter which I recently received from a prominent Russian Philatelist, he surprisingly regrets the aversion to the "Russian Rural or Semstvo Stamps," which is said to exist among American collectors. I have before me six of these different stamps still attached to the original envelopes, duly cancelled by the proper authorities, and think a few remarks in reference to these stamps might be interesting to our readers.

As many of the smaller towns in Russia, and especially those in the more sparsely populated countries are not reached by the Imperial Postal Service, the letters in the surrounding country are collected by carriers, and a fee is charged, which is represented by the Rural Stamp. If this stamp is not affixed the letter remains in the Post Office of the town, which is touched by the Imperial Mail Service. The latter however, requires the regular Postage Stamps to be affixed irrespective of that called for by the local service. These Stamps might be classified under the same

heading with the "Baden Landpost" which are recognized by all collectors, and nothing would be more unjust than to call these Russian "Semstvo Stamps," as is done by many collectors "Locals." They are legally issued under the control and consent of the Russian Government.

I, for my own part collect them as real Postage Stamps, and I don't see any reason why the greatest part of American Collectors should neglect them the way they have done heretofore.

CHARLES MUECKE.

POSTAL MONEY ORDERS.

The new money order regulations have gone into effect in all the money-order post-offices in the United States. Orders can now be issued for all sums up to \$1,000, at the following rates:

For orders not exceeding \$10, eight cents.

For orders exceeding \$10 and not exceeding \$15, ten cents.

For orders exceeding \$15 and not exceeding \$30, fifteen cents.

For orders exceeding \$30 and not exceeding \$40, twenty cents.

For orders exceeding \$40 and not exceeding \$50, twenty-five cents.

For orders exceeding \$50 and not exceeding \$60, thirty cents.

For orders exceeding \$60 and not exceeding \$70, thirty-five cents.

For orders exceeding \$70 and not exceeding \$80, forty cents.

For orders exceeding \$80 and up to \$100, forty-five cents.

The so-called "postal notes" for the transaction of small sums under \$5 will probably be ready about September 1. These notes will be good for about three months, and the fee charged for them will be three cents.

HELIGOLAND.

This island or rather islet, is one of a group which were described by the great Egyptian Geographer, Ptolemy, about eighteen hundred years ago, as the Alokeai Islands. During the "dark ages" it was known as Foretiseland, and was the seat of a peculiar worship to the idol Hertha, or Mother Earth of the Scandinavians, the venerated Roman Vesta.

This ancient deity whose temple was turned into a monastery in the middle of the ninth century, who can say how many ages remained the guardian goddess of eight powerful tribes? Of these four are known by name only; two of them, the Varini, and the Lombards, are represented by existing descendants; the eight—the bold Angli—while the planet, whose name was derived from the goddess, shall endure, may ever claim pre-eminence thereon.

Heligoland or Heiligeland, as it is also called, meaning Holy Land, is about a mile long, by half a mile wide. On the high ground there are about 350 houses; on the low, only 78, and these are merely fishermen's huts. The soil is cultivated for barley and oats, and affords pasture for about 75 cows and 400 or 500 sheep. About \$50,000 worth of fish are exported annually. The Governor is appointed by the English Crown, in whose possession the island has been since September 14th, 1807, when it was surrendered to the blockade squadron of Admiral Russell. In 1815, it was definitely transferred to Great Britain by the Paris treaty.

During the year ending June 30th, 1882, the following number of Stamped Envelopes were issued by our Government: 35,541,500 One cent; 10,434,000 Two cent; 1,68,696,250 Three cent; 193,850 Five cent; 577,650 Six cent; 2,100 Ten cent; 3,100 Fifteen cent; during this year there were no Thirty or Ninety cent Envelopes issued.

POSTAL NOTES.

At the close of each fiscal year with the Post Office Department, we are called upon to note the especial increase in Foreign Mails, which shows the great efficiency in the helmsmen of this important factor of our great commercial ship—the post—and at once suggests the wonderful improvements that have taken place in the past thirty years. During the year ending June 30th, 1883, there were sent to foreign countries 29,913,504 letters, being an increase of 4,444,140 over that of the previous year; 1,616,413 Postal Cards were dispatched, being an increase of 188,205; of packages of newspapers and other printed matter there were 29,277,214 parcels, an increase of 6,354,625; of packages of merchandise 276,076 a decrease from that of previous year of 567,506 packages.

In number of post offices the United States ranks first with 42,989 offices; then Great Britain with 14,549; Germany with 9,460; France, 5,942; Japan, 4,665; Russia, 4,458; British India, 4,409; Austria, 4,025; Italy, 3,328; Switzerland, 2,852; Spain, 2,642; Hungary, 2,301; Sweden, 1,785; the Netherlands, 1,316; Norway, 924; Mexico, 897; Belgium, 792; Portugal, 755; Denmark, 560.

OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

Publishers of the following mentioned Journals, will please accept our thanks for same—*Alfred Smith & Co's Monthly Circular*; *Le Moniteur des Timbrophiles*; *Philatelistische Berichte*; *Der Philatelist*; *The Magazine of Philately*; *The Philatelic Referee*; *Guia del Coleccionista*; *The Berliner Illustrierte Philatelisten-Zeitung*; *Welt Post*; *The Stamp World*; *Philatelic News*; *Empire City Philatelist*; *Memphis Philatelist*; *Black List*; *Granite State Philatelist*; *Stamp Collector's Journal*; *Monthly Echo*; *Curiosity Collector*; *Our Home and Scientific Gossip*; *Union Exchange List*; *Lake-side Philatelist*; *Old Curiosity Shop*.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY.

The Society held their tenth and last regular meeting of the season, at Room 38, Tribune Building, on Tuesday Evening, June 12th.

The President, R. R. Bogert, opened the meeting at 8:15 p. m. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Election of Officers for 1883-4 being then in order, the following gentlemen were unanimously elected to fill the respective offices.

R. R. BOGERT, *President*.

C. B. CORWIN, *Vice-President*.

W. F. SMITH, *Secretary*.

CHAS. MUECKE, *Treasurer*.

R. R. BOGERT, *Librarian*.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

R. A. BRITTON,

W. F. SMITH,

CHAS. MUECKE.

The Secretary gave an interesting account of the business and labors of the Society for the past year. The Treasurer rendered his yearly account which showed the society to be in a highly prosperous state, with quite a large surplus on hand. Resolutions were offered and carried, thanking the President and officers of the society for the able manner in which they had performed their duties, and the efforts they had made to spread the study of Philately amongst the people during the past year.

The Secretary read a large file of correspondence, mostly congratulating and thanking the Society for their efforts to assist philatelist by the issuing of the Color Chart. Quite a large number of subscriptions to the Chart were received from foreign Societies; the Dresden Society co-operating to make it a Standard.

The meeting then adjourned until Tuesday, Sept. 11th.

W. F. SMITH, *Secretary*.

Answers to Correspondents.

We hold ourselves in readiness to give here such information as lies in our power, and are prepared, at all times, to assist Philatelists in the solution of such questions as we are able to. All questions addressed to the Society, not requiring an answer by letter, will be replied to here.

A. D. N., SCRANTON, Pa.—Our acceptance of the terms "Essay," "Proof," and "Specimen," are; "Essay,"—a stamp designed and submitted *bonafide* to the government for approval but rejected. Such for instance are those sent to Washington some months since by the American Bank Note Co. "Proof,"—a copy of a stamp actually used and printed in the usual color, but generally on India paper and unperforated. "Specimen,"—a stamp printed from the regular die, but in a different color, and are originally struck off for the government to decide the colors of each denomination,

R. O. S., WATERTOWN, N. Y.—There are two varieties found side by side on the sheet of 1-30 thaler, noticeable in the shape of the shield. There is also a variety of the letter "A" in THALER, some having a heavy dash on the top of it.

J. A. E., LOCKPORT, N. Y.—You should devote some attention to watermarks and you would have no trouble. The 3 silbergroschen Brunswick 1855 envelope has *no watermark* and is light red, while that of 1862 has the post-horn watermark and is carmine.

R. F. O., PORT HOPE, ONT.—They are counterfeits. 2d. See answer to Philo.

W. F. B., CHICAGO.—Regret to say that we cannot accept your offer. See advertising rates in another column which are the lowest cash rates.

PHILO, NEWARK, N. J.—The Color Charts are expected to be ready September 1st. 2d. There will be 150 tints (colors); each tint showing six different shades; 150 tints or 900 distinct shades will be represented, the chart passing through the press 153 times. 3d. The design was prepared by our publisher. 4th. The price will be announced hereafter.

R. B. A., DES MOINES, IOWA—Thanks for information. You will find your Mexican specimen described in "Notes and Queries," page 33 of this Journal.

P. F. M., GENEVA, N. Y.—"Haste makes waste" is very applicable in your case. When all the information is in our hands we shall publish the same.

C. L. F., COLDWATER, MICH.—The Prince Edward Island 10c. is a counterfeit. The set consists of 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 12c., which became obsolete July 1st, 1873, when the Island became part of Canada.

G. R. S., CATSKILL, N. Y.—It would be advisable to send specimen for examination, we cannot judge from description.

Exchanges.

In order to facilitate the exchange of duplicates, and with a view to bringing about more intimate relations among collectors we offer a column per month, *free of charge to our subscribers only*, wherein they may briefly state what they have to dispose of and what they desire in exchange.

I desire to exchange Postage and Revenue stamps with collectors in all parts of the world. Reference given and required. JOSEPH FIGUEL,
68 Bould St. Germain, Paris, France.

Will give 2r. 1863 unused Venezuela, for used 90c. blue U. S. 1860 PHILATELIST, Office of this paper.

Should be pleased to correspond with collectors in all parts of the world, with view to exchanging U. S. Postage, Match, Medicine and Revenue stamps, also Foreign. COLLECTOR,
1042 Sixth Ave., N. Y.

An International Album containing 500 all different stamps for offers of old U. S. Postage, Department, Match, Medicine, Document and Revenue Stamps. C. H. W., Office of this paper.

I desire to exchange Foreign Stamps with collectors, for those not in my collection. Reference given and required. STEPHEN W. SMITH,
399 West 126th St., N. Y.

I desire rare American or Canadian Stamps (postage or fiscal) for rarities. Send sample parcel of stamps and state what you want. Refer to the publisher of this Journal. JNO. GREEN, JR.
25 Maryland's Road, Harrow Road,
London, England.

Publishers of Stamp Papers, please send sample copy of their paper and retail dealers their circular to PERIDS. care publisher this Journal.

Five hundred and eighty stamps (all different,) a complete set of Treasury Department stamps, a set of War, a 6-cent Navy, a 3-cent Interior, a 3-cent Agriculture, 174 mixed foreign stamps, a 1, 2, 3, 5, and 10 cent Due stamp, 3 cent Post-office, official and post-cards for exchange. Send list of what you have and what you desire.

COLLECTOR, Office of this paper.

Sandwich Island 2 and 6 cents, Sierra Leone ½ and 2d., St. Vincent 1d. green, Barbadoes 4d. (old issue), Tasmania 2d., Antigua 1d., Newfoundland 1, 2, 3, and 5 cents, Hong-Kong 2 and 5 cent British Guiana 1-cent black (old) and 2-cent orange, Mexico 2-cents of 1819, Natal 1d., and Japan 1-sen red, for the 24, 30, or 90 cent 1869 issue of U. S. Would like to correspond with collectors in foreign countries. E. A. S., 58 Robie St., Halifax, N. S.

An unused 90c. 1869, for old high values of U. S. stamps and envelopes. Will exchange stamps and envelopes with collectors in all parts of the world. Reference is required and given
H. R. GOODRICH, Oberlin, Ohio.



The National Philatelist.

VOL. I.

NEW YORK, JULY, 1883.

No. 7.

THE "LEADER."

W. F. S.

In the olden time, before railroads and lightning expresses, and electric telegraphs, every newspaper deemed it necessary to have its "leader" for each issue. Close and stiff under the editorial head, there uniformly appeared the weighty article. No respectable editor would in those good old days have thought of placing a news item or a mere paragraph in the first or chief editorial column. To have done so would not only have offended the prevailing taste, but it would have been looked upon as a confession of weakness—a sort of proclamation of intellectual bankruptcy.

But times change, and men and newspapers change with them. Many things which our fathers respected, we grow weary of, and our children laugh at. Notably is this the case with the *heavy* editorials of the Philatelic Press.

There is doubtless a philosophical reason for this change in the public taste. The newspaper is expected to be just what its name implies—the agent through which and by means of which a knowledge of events occurring throughout the land is communicated to the millions who inhabit the different localities. Thus the important changes in the history of the world are photographed on Postage Stamps, by means of pen, pencil, type, lithography and the engravers' art; and are preserved, if not made the material for the history of to-day, as the same shall be collected, arranged, amplified and

verified, by the book-making historian, who, in the next century, will try to communicate to the students and the people a knowledge of the habits, customs and events of this age.

Men of to-day are actors, rather than thinkers; they seek facts and not theories. "The millions do not read books, yet they make books." In sermons the popular mind seeks no expounding of the antiquated history, nor of incomprehensible and improbable mysteries. Polemics have done their work and had their day. The beauty of holiness, and the beauty and utility of a creed, a church, a liturgy, will be acknowledged; form will be upheld and chants admired, and the dead weight of a stone will be rejected, though it come from a holy mountain itself.

Such, therefore, is the old and modern idea, and the NATIONAL PHILATELIST, ever being in the advance, has during the past few months adopted the modern idea of journalism, to the satisfaction of its many readers, and will continue to make a specialty of giving concise reports of all the doings in the philatelic world which shall prove of interest to its readers, without tiring them with the *heavy* "leading articles," as indulged in by our esteemed contemporaries, yet we shall at all times endeavor to make the NATIONAL PHILATELIST the leader of the philatelic press.

TWO CENT POSTAGE.

The following extract is taken from a circular addressed to postmasters under

date of July 18th, 1883, by A. D. Hazen, Third Assistant Postmaster General.

"On and after the first day of October, 1883, the rate of postage on domestic mail matter of the first-class will be reduced from three cents to two cents per half-ounce or fraction thereof, as provided by the act of Congress approved March 3, 1883.

"The Department has adopted a new design for the two-cent stamp—the head of Washington in profile, from Houdon's bust, being placed on a plain tablet; above the oval surrounding the head are the words "United States Postage," and underneath the tablet are the words "Two Cents." The stamps will be printed in metallic red. The embossed stamps on the two-cent stamped envelopes will also bear the head of Washington.

"A four-cent denomination of postage stamp and stamped envelope, to cover double postage under the new rate, will also be issued. The design embraces the head of Jackson, similar to that on the present two-cent stamps and envelopes.

"The Department will revise the schedule of prices of stamped envelopes by discontinuing the three cent envelopes, and substituting two-cent and four-cent envelopes as may be necessary. The price of the envelopes, however, exclusive of the postage, will remain the same as on the existing schedule for like sizes and qualities.

"No change will be made in the Postage Due Stamps.

"No arrangement has yet been made for the redemption of three-cent stamps and envelopes. Stamped envelopes spoiled in directing will, however, continue to be redeemed at postage value as provided by existing regulations.

"The two and three-cent stamps and stamped envelopes of the present designs will continue to be valid after the first of October, and must be accepted in payment of postage whenever offered in appropriate amounts. The three-cent stamps

may be used in combination with other denominations on letters requiring more than one rate of postage, and on parcels of third and fourth-class matter.

"No three-cent adhesive stamps will be issued after the Fourteenth of September unless the requisition is accompanied with a statement from the postmaster that the stamps are needed for immediate use, and that the full supply called for will become exhausted by the first of October.

"The drop-letter rate of postage will remain the same as now—that is, two cents per half ounce or fraction thereof, at free delivery offices, and one cent at all other offices; no changes are made in the rates of postage on second, third, or fourth-class matter."

[The 4c. stamp will be printed in a shade of green somewhat darker than that in which the present 3c. is printed.—ED.]

Chronicle.

ANDORA.—The "I. B. Z." illustrates a stamp which is said to have been issued by this republic. A head of Liberty with Phrygian cap is in an oval inscribed "Republica de Andorra, Diez centimos." The word "Correos" is at the top, and "Mostazahs" below. The figures of value are in small squares in the four corners, and the sides of the stamp are filled up with scroll work. It is on white paper and perforated. We consider this very doubtful.

10 centimos, dark red.

BAHAMAS.—Stamps of the value of five shillings and 1 pound will soon appear. The former will be a little larger than the current stamps, and the latter larger still. They will bear the head of Victoria, and be inscribed "Bahamas" at the top and the value below. We cannot give the colors nor other particulars.

5 shillings.

1 pound.

BHOPAL.—The "Ph. R." says: "We have received a portion of a sheet of the $\frac{1}{4}$ anna, green, type of 1880 (*i. e.* with the characters denoting the value *not* in parentheses, and with the error **NAWA SHAH** on the sheet) *imperforate*. This variety has, we believe, only been chronicled hitherto *perforate*."

BRAZIL.—We have received a second type of the new hundred reis, lilac. The principal difference between the two types is that the head of the Emperor is now on a ground of horizontal parallel lines.

100 reis, lilac.

CEYLON.—"Der Ph." states that the watermark of the 4 cent stamp is now C. A. and crown.

COSTA RICA.—We believe we have not yet chronicled the 40 cent with surcharge "official."

40 centavos, red and blue.

CYPRUS.—The Registered Envelope mentioned in our last number with the letter "R" instead of the word "Registered," measures 150x95 mm.

FRANCE.—The 30 cent telegraph card has been modified in the same manner as the 50 cent, described in our May number.

GREAT BRITAIN.—From "A. S. & Co.'s M. C." we take the following; "We have seen a copy of the new postage and revenue stamp of five pence, and we must confess that we were at a loss to believe our eyes. The design is a combination of the old Perkins, Bacon & Co.'s three half-penny stamp and the new issue for Hayti. What a curvilinear triangle has to do with a five penny stamp is a puzzle to us, and we should think equally so to anybody else, except to Messrs. De La Rue & Co.'s designer, who we suppose must know. At the apex of the triangle is an escutcheon with the figure of value, as in the Hayti stamps. The color is a dull light green, resembling that of the half-penny, which latter is soon to change its color."

NEW SOUTH WALES.—The 1d. and 2d. stamps are now perforated $9\frac{1}{2}$ instead of $12\frac{1}{2}$, according to "Der Ph."

NORTH BORNEO.—The "I. B. Z." illustrates a stamp of which the design is as follows: in the center is a shield with a vessel sailing at the bottom, and a lion at the top. Above this shield is a curved label inscribed in colored letters "North—Postage—Borneo." In a label at the bottom of the stamp is "2 cent." At the sides are inscriptions in native characters and star-shaped ornaments in the four corners. Perf. 12.

It is stated this stamp is for use between North Borneo and Straits Settlements, Labuan, Hong Kong, China and Siam. Higher values are expected soon.

2 cents, brown.

NOWANUGGUR.—The "Ph. R." mentions a sheet of the $\frac{1}{4}$ anna, blue, of 1877 on white laid paper. It contains thirty-two stamps, eight horizontal rows of four, and there is one specimen *tête-bêche*

SALVADOR.—We have received the two cards noted in our last. The frame of these cards consists of a band 7mm. wide bounded on the outside by two closely ruled parallel lines, the outer one being heavier than the other, and on the inside by a single ruled line. There are ornaments in the four corners, and the frames are inscribed as follows: In the 2 centavos, "Correos Nacionales," at the top, "Servicio Interior," at the bottom. "Enero 1, de 1883" at the left, and "0, 02 Dos centavos 0, 02." at the right. In the 3 centavos "Union Postale Universelle," at the top "Union Postal Universal," at the bottom "Republica del Salvador, C. A." at the left and "Republique du Salvador, C. A." at the right.

There are three dotted lines for address, the first preceded by "Sr." The other inscriptions on the cards are as follows: The two centavos has in the space between the stamp, in two lines separated by

an ornament, "Republica del Salvador." and "Tarjeta Postal" and in the lower right corner, in two lines of small type "Escribase de este lado la Direccion y en la otro la Comunicacion." The 3 centavos has at the top in two lines "Carte Postale" and "Tarjeta Postal." and at the foot also in two lines "Ce coté est réservé exclusivement a l'adresse et l'autre pour la comunicacion. Escribase de este lado la direccion y en la otro la comunicacion."

SERVIA.—The cards have been slightly altered, the arms having been re-engraved.

ST. DOMINGO.—We have to chronicle four additional values of the surcharged stamps, viz.: 1 franco 25 centimos on the 25c.; 1 franco 50 centimos on the 50c.; 3 francos 75 centimos on the 75c.; and 5 francos on the 1 peso. We find the error noted last month with acute accent over the "i" of "centimos," also in the 10, 25 and 50 centimos. The 5 centimos is surcharged on the one centavo with broken "T" in the word "Centavo." In the 1 franco, the word "franco" begins sometimes with a capital F and sometimes with a small one.

- 1 f. 25c., black and lilac.
- 1 f. 50c., " " yellow.
- 3 f. 75c., " " blue.
- 5 f. " " gold.

SURINAM.—The "W. P." describes two cards; one of 5 cents, and one of 5x5 cents, for use only between Surinam and Holland, the rate to other countries of the Postal Union being 7½ cents. They are printed on card of two colors, light blue and white. There is no frame, the inscriptions in four lines are in Dutch and French, and there are five lines for address. Size 136 x 92mm. The reply paid cards are of form 3.

Cards, 5 cents, lilac.
5x5 " "

SWITZERLAND.—On June 1st, were issued new money order cards for the interior of 20c. bright violet on white card.

The unpaid letter stamp of 5 cent, now has the frame light green and the figure of value carmine.

TASMANIA.—We are indebted to Mr. Coyne for specimen of the new Tasmania Envelope. The stamp is as described last month except that the word "Tasmanian" is "Tasmania." The Envelope measures 140x73 mm.

The Registration Envelopes are of the usual pattern and contain the letter "R" in upper left corner. The stamp on the flap contains the head of Victoria on solid ground and is inscribed in a circle "Tasmania Registration, Four Pence." There are two sizes measuring 132x82 mm. and 150x98 mm.

Envelope 2d., green.
Reg. Env. 4d., blue.
" 4d., "

TROMSO.—The 2 öre, brown, is surcharged 5 in black.

UNITED STATES.—On October 1st, two new stamps will be issued, of the values of 2 cents and 4 cents. The 2 cent will contain the head of Washington, from Houdon's bust, on a plain tablet; above the oval surrounding the head are the words "United States Postage" and underneath the tablet are the words, "Two Cents." The stamp will be printed in metallic red. All the information we can give about the 4 cent stamp, is that it will contain the portrait of Andrew Jackson. There will also be 2 cent and 4 cent envelopes, also with the portraits of Washington and Jackson.

U.S. OF COLOMBIA.—The "Ph. R." mentions a provisional stamp, formed by surcharging the 5 centavos, blue, of the Postal Union type of 1881 ^{CUARTO} Centavos in black. This is very doubtful. The 1c. and 10c. of 1881 have been re-engraved. The 1c. differs from that first issued in having the punctuation before the word "Union" square instead of round. The 10c. is more difficult to distinguish, but the new

type has white spaces on the flags, directly over the E and A of "E. U. de Colombia," and the rays over the eagle are hardly perceptible.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.—A $\frac{1}{2}$ penny, orange, of the same type as the $2\frac{1}{2}$ pence has been issued. It is watermarked C. A. and Crown. $\frac{1}{2}$ d., orange.

WEST INDIES.—Under this heading we place some news in reference to several of the British West Indian Islands, which we find in our English exchanges accredited to Mr. Clifford. It is stated that Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Tobago are to be united under one government, and Nevis and St. Christopher under another. The postal issues of these six colonies will then become obsolete, and two new series will be issued for the two new governments. In the mean time we understand if the stamps of any of the islands become exhausted a supply may be obtained from any other island in the same group.

DEAD LETTERS.

What becomes of all the dead letters? Everybody knows that there are millions of them. During fiscal year ending June 30, 1882; to be exact, there were 4,207,496. Doubtless most people think that the law of 1866 ("dead letters shall be restored to the writers thereof free of postage") furnishes a satisfactory reply to the question. But, as a matter of fact, during the same twelve months 2,880,398 dead letters were "destroyed." As Mr. Weller frequently said, or would have said, on such an occasion as this, "That's werry sing'lar."

We are perfectly well aware that such dead letters so destroyed are scheduled as containing "nothing of value." But we are wholly unable to believe that there were lunatics enough in all the United States to take the trouble to write and post over two million letters containing

"nothing of value." Or, even if there be so many, why, we inquire, should the insane writers of 526,179 other dead letters, containing "nothing of value," receive them back again?

Admirable as our Post Office is in many ways, it is, in the nature of things, incapable of deciding what the value of a letter may be to its writer. Nobody mails anything for the purpose of having it destroyed. Nothing should be neglected to enable everyone who posts a letter to feel secure that if he does not get it back again it has arrived at its destination. But how can there be any such feeling of security when so many as two and a quarter million letters are annually destroyed by the agency to whose care they are intrusted?

Why does the Post Office dare to destroy such a quantity of mail matter? The question is certainly pertinent, and the answer not destitute of instruction in an age suffering from an excess of legislation. When the act of 1872 "to revise, consolidate and amend the statutes relating to the Post Office Department" was passed, the above quoted portion of the statute of 1866 was quietly dropped. Another portion relating to the return of letters bearing a printed "return request" was, however, graciously retained. And in the place of a mandatory provision for the return of undelivered letters to their writers appears a provision that the Postmaster General * * * may make regulations for their return from the Dead Letter Office to the writers * * * The practice under this law is a long way from justifying the placing of such discretion in the subordinates who discharge this portion of the duties of the Postmaster General. And, without wishing to be hypercritical, it seems to us more than doubtful whether power to regulate the return of a certain class of letters includes the power to destroy nearly three-quarters of them.

NOTES ON U. S. ENVELOPES.

R. R. BOGERT.

Since the publication of the June number of this paper I have received a copy of the new schedule of envelopes to go into effect on October 1st. It will be found in full below. It will be seen that the number of envelopes will be reduced to 43, there being 53 varieties now current. The changes that bring about this result are as follows. The two-cent envelopes will take the place of the three-cent for domestic postage, and will be found in the same sizes and colors of paper. The design of the stamp will differ however from that in present use. Washington will be transferred from the three-cent envelope to the twos and Jackson will be transferred from the twos to the fours. These latter will take the place of the sixes, and be found in the same sizes and colors, with the exception of No. 7. on fawn which is omitted. The 15 cent envelope is also dropped from the schedule. It will thus be seen that we gain 18 envelopes of 2 cents, (new design,) and 7 of 4 cents, making 25 new envelopes, while we lose 8 of 2 cents (old design,) 18 of 3 cents, 8 of 6 cents and 1 of 15 cents, making a loss of 35 envelopes which will become obsolete on October 1st.

It should be noted that the 1 cent envelopes for circulars with "star" watermark, sizes 4 and 6, are found on two colors of paper; first, that usually known as *orange*, and latter a *pale brown*.

In addition to the *errors* I mentioned last month I have seen the 2c. size 3. on amber.

My attention has been called to the 5 cent envelope chronicled in January on *fawn* and *blue* paper, and a doubt has been expressed as to their existence.

I have never come across these envelopes, but see no reason why they should not exist, as size 7 on fawn and sizes 3 and 4½ on blue were not abolished till October 1st, 1882, before which date the

Garfield envelopes were in use. It is therefore possible that some were made, but, if so, the number was very small and they will be difficult to obtain by collectors.

The note on page 65 should be corrected, so as to include these three varieties.

Some of the 3 cent and 6 cent envelopes with the "82" watermark will also be scarce and perhaps unattainable, as they were in use for only one year, and it does not follow, because they are found in the schedule, that they must have been manufactured, for some of the sizes and colors of paper are very little used.

There is another envelope which is likely to be a rarity, and that is the 90 cent, with "Star" watermark. I have never been able to find a specimen nor to hear of any collector who possesses one.

If any reader of these notes can throw light upon any of the doubtful points mentioned, or can give any information of interest to the collector of entire envelopes, I hope that he will kindly communicate such facts as may be in his possession.

SCHEDULE OF OCT. 1, 1883.

Value.	Color of Paper.	Size of Envelopes.
1 cent.	White.	No. 3. 4½. 5.
	Amber.	" 3. 4½. 5.
	Fawn.	" 4½.
	Blue.	" 4½.
	Dark Buff.	" 4. 6.
2 cents.	White.	" 1.2.3. 4½. 5.
	Amber.	" 2. 3. 4½. 5.
	Fawn.	" 2.3. 4½. 5.7.
4 cents.	Blue.	" 2. 3. 4½. 5.
	White.	" 4½. 5. 7. 8.
5 cents.	Amber.	" 4½. 5. 7.
	White.	" 3. 4½.
10 cents.	Amber.	" 3. 4½.
	White.	" 7.
30 cents.	Amber.	" 7.
	White.	" 8.
90 cents.	White.	" 8.

U. S. STAMPS OF 1882.

W. A. SHERIDAN.

Never having seen published in any Philatelic Journal the number of each denomination of Adhesive Stamps and Envelopes, issued by our Government for ordinary and department use, for the year 1882, I have obtained and herewith present the same, hoping they will be of interest to the reader.

Ordinary Postage.—Adhesives.—283, 934,700 Ones; 106,346,800 Twos; 680, 463,700 Threes; 19,277,280 Fives; 7,968 450 Sixes; 14,541,690 Tens; 1,487,340 Fifteens; 570,400 Thirties; 29,970 Nineties.

Envelopes.—35,541,500 One cent; 10, 434,000 Two cent; 168,696,250 Three cent; 193,850 Five cent; 577,650 Six cent; 2,100 Ten cent; 3,100 Fifteen cent; during this year there were no Thirty or Ninety cent Envelopes issued.

Postage Due Stamps.—2,328,350 Ones; 985,300 Twos; 6,801,650 Threes; 532,560 Fives; 732,930 Tens; 11,050 Thirties; 3,470 Fifties.

War Department.—Adhesives.—109, 500 Ones; 113,980 Twos; 680,425 Threes; 518,440 Sixes; 2,950 Sevens; 30,445 Tens; 133,375 Twelves; 53,500 Fifteens; 33,200 Twenty-fours; 58,240 Thirties; 6,800 Nineties. Envelopes—313,500 Threes; 500 Sixes.

Navy Department.—Adhesives.—5,000 Ones; 6,000 Twos; 15,000 Threes; 1,000 Sixes.

Interior Department.—Adhesives.—8,000 Ones; 30,800 Twos; 341,200 Threes; 65, 500 Sixes; 35,500 Tens; 5,800 Twelves; 3,500 Fifteens; 3,600 Twenty-fours; 2,000 Thirties; 1,000 Nineties.

State Department.—Adhesives.—1,000 Fifteens; 1,000 Twenty-fours; 1,400 Thirties; 700 Nineties; 300 Two Dollars.

Agriculture Department.—Adhesives.—200 Ones; 50,000 Threes; 50 Tens; 50 Twelves; 50 Twenty-fours; 50 Thirties.

POST-OFFICE CENSORSHIP.

The Postmaster-General has informed several correspondents who have requested him to exclude from the mails certain books which they regarded as impure and improper for general circulation that he will hereafter "make no ruling of this character unless the courts have decided the publication to be obscene." It is to be understood, of course that this ruling will be construed in conformity with section 3,893 of the General Statutes, by which obscene books, pamphlets, &c., are declared non-mailable. Unmistakable indecency will be excluded from the mails as heretofore. In that matter the Postmaster-General has no option. But the department will decline to assume the functions of the public censor of morals. It will not pass judgment on and condemn books which may seem to certain very estimable people to be of an improper or indelicate character, while other equally estimable people may not class them among harmful publications. This is a position which has good warrant of law and of common sense. All honest people agree that unmistakable vice should be scourged and stamped out wherever it shows its head; but there is by no means the same unanimity of opinion that the people of the country will be made more virtuous or more happy by committing to a department of the Government the power of rejection and expurgation through the whole field of literature and art, a power which it was never intended to possess, which its officers have no special fitness to exercise, and whose habitual exercise by them would almost certainly result in frequent absurd blunders and not infrequent grievous injury to individuals or the public.

The Post Office Department and Postmasters throughout the country, as well as newspapers, receive many letters on

the subject of books judged by the writers to be obscene. In the private pillories thus set up for castigation of immoral authors justice is administered according to no common code, but in a most varied and capricious fashion. Popular opinion upon the subject is somewhat crude and unformed, and for some distance, on each side of that misty line where "each seems the other and both neither," whim and prejudice or the dictates of an ill-balanced and unpracticed judgment are the commonest basis of the opinions rendered. Verily, it is hard to be consistent in this matter. Subjected to one class of tests, some of the unspeakably precious treasures of literature are gross offenders, while by the same rule hosts of positively wicked and pernicious books would escape censure. Evidence of corrupting intent, if clear, is conclusive, but how can it be made clear in the case of a gifted mind? Who shall say if it is groveling or the license permitted to genius, uncleanness of the airy lightness of a sketch from nature? And, if the form and expression are considered will there be unanimous consent to expunge as foul-mouthed, what, after all, may be only the evidence of rude vigor?

CHARLES I., KING OF ROUMANIA

R. O. RAYMOND.

The Nation over which King Charles I. rules, and which Western Europe has always striven to ignore, emerges from the chaotic agglomeration of widely distinct races inhabiting the valley of the Danube, and takes its proper place among them as a distinct people—a race as sharply defined, as dignified, as deserving the respect of the world, as any other group among those millions of motley men. The singular tenacity with which they have for ages preserved their individuality amid the most discouraging events is

one of the most curious phenomena in history. Hun and Goths and Avari have over-run their territory. Slavs and Bulgars and Turks have each in turn misruled the mild Roumanians. But they have always risen to the surface of this deluge of nations with a buoyancy doubtless due to the strength inherited from the patricians of Rome, of whom the Roumanian peasant believes himself the descendant. "*Romoun no peré*"—the Romain shall not perish"—has long been by turns the defiant or the despairing cry of an oppressed people. In a word, the crowning of Charles was quite as much the knight-ing of a race as the birth of a King.

The Kingdom of Roumania has a territory and a population rather larger than New York State—that is, it has about 49,262 square miles of territory and 5,376,000 inhabitants. Thus it ranks the tenth among the nations of Europe according to population and twelfth according to territory. But if race and not artificial political distinctions were to be considered, both these items of national greatness would have to be largely increased. Thus reckoned, the country of the Roumanians would comprise not only Wallachia and Moldavia south of the Carpathians, but also Russian Bessarabia, the Bukovine, much of Transylvania, and a large zone of the Hungarian Banat. There are colonies of Roumans all along the right bank of the Danube, in Thrace, Epirus, Macedonia, Thessaly, and Albania, and everywhere they preserve their language, costumes, customs, and traditions. In short, between the plains of Hungary and the mountains of Greece there are 15,000,000 Roumanians. Every one of them must be thrilled and attracted by the dignity attaching to those of their blood inhabiting political and geographical Roumania, and it is quite possible that the Roumania of to-day is but the nucleus of a yet larger and more powerful kingdom. Dogmatically, the Roumania Church is

identical with the Greek, but, it should be said, it is entirely independent of the Patriarch of Constantinople, and is administered by a synod which has for its chiefs the two Archbishops of Jassy and Bucharest.

King Charles is not a Roumanian by birth. When Hospodar Cusa was deposed, the Roumanian statesmen agreed that no native Prince, exposed to all the jealousy of the leading families, could hope to succeed him. Looking abroad, their choice fell on a subaltern in a Prussian cavalry regiment. He was brought into the kingdom in the disguise of a servant, he was presented to the people for their sufferages, and he was elected by a nearly unanimous *plebiscite* on the 20th of April, 1866. The individual thus suddenly transported from comparative obscurity into the fierce light which beats about a throne, was only 27 years old, having been born on April 20, 1839. But he came of a race to whom it is as natural to rule as to breathe, being the second son of Prince Charles Anthony of Hohenzollern. He settled himself into his throne in the best manner of the family to which Prussia owes so many admirable rulers, statesmen and soldiers. He found an empty treasury, discordant factions, an ignorant, though gentle and cultivable people. But when his primacy was well established the subordinant princes found less to quarrel about; education has been made more general, and the Treasury, though overweighted by a war, is in better condition than Roumania's imperial neighbors. He has ruled the Mohammedans among his people in a manner which shame the barbarous Bulgars, and he has removed the disabilities of the Jews, who comprise the largest foreign element of his population.

LOCAL POST.

United States District Attorney Root has commenced civil suits against the

Boyd and Hussey agencies for the delivery of letters, in which it is sought to recover penalties for the infringement of the postal laws. The defendants regard the seizures as a test case, and are continuing business as usual. Although they are not selling nor using stamps on matter delivered, and when offered by parties who had previously purchased stamps, they are torn from the parcel before delivered. Postmaster Pearson has had many inquiries as to whether the sending of a letter by a district telegraph messenger is a violation of the law. His reply is that there is no infraction in that case, inasmuch as the letter is sent by an agency that has no special time table for delivery along the postal routes of the city as the private post offices have. The progress of the suit will be watched with interest. There is an impression in legal circles that the principle was sufficiently tested when the Government brought suits against the Express Companies and failed to make it clear that the monopoly of the delivery of letters was allowed to the National Post Offices.

PHILATELY.

Every person who has paid the slightest attention to the interesting science of Phrenology knows that among the different sections or organs of the brain, each devoted to a separate passion or distinct function, there is one called the organ of acquisitiveness, which finds its gratification in searching after and treasuring up some particular class of things which happen to take its fancy. Like any other organ, when its craving has been long indulged, the organ of acquisitiveness becomes largely developed in all enthusiastic or industrious collectors, the miser for money, or the more intellectual man of taste for pictures, engravings, coins, china, bric-a-brac, or stamps. This habit of acquisitiveness is natural to mankind, and

when properly regulated and directed aright, presents an agreeable and instructive pursuit in spare moments from the toil and maddening anxieties of business strife. No wonder, therefore, that among all classes of professions and trades, from the highest to the lowest, we find collectors, whose names are well known to those who administer to their so called "hobbies." One of the most fashionable of the quiet-minded pursuits of the present day—and which bids fair to extend itself over the universe—is the collection of stamps. It is a quiet pursuit, light, composed, reflective, and what is more, it is instructive. It conduces to an acquisition of a good deal beyond stamps only—a knowledge of geography, a knowledge of the advancement of civilization, for the first adoption of the stamp system in any country marks a great and pregnant era in its progress; a knowledge of the different kingdoms, commonwealths and republics in the world, a knowledge of the fall of dynasties, the death of rulers, and the appointment of their successors. Neither is it without interest to the student of the fine arts, as it is curious to note and compare the talent or want of it exhibited by different nations in the art of engraving, as evinced in the devices on the stamp.

THE CHINESE POST-OFFICE.

Each city has a certain number of licensed companies who make a business of receiving and sending letters and small parcels, charges depending upon weight and distance, but always most moderate; and the companies of the several cities being in partnership, or in confidential relation one with the other, a network of communication of a most efficient character, considering its material, is kept up from one end of China to the other. So much reliance is placed by the public upon the safety and cer-

tainty of these conveyance companies that large amounts of money in paper, and smaller amounts of cash, are fearlessly consigned to their charge, and instances are rare of the trust being betrayed.

Speed, of course, is less of a consideration than safety, owing to the defective means of communication at present existing.

But the carriers employed by the companies travel at the fastest rate possible under the circumstances, and cover much more ground in the time than was the habit with English post-boys previous to the mail-coach days, who never exceeded, even on horseback, their three and a-half-miles per hour.

Robberies of the bags must at times occur, but the public are at any rate safe from the risk to their letters which our ancestors so frequently incurred through the loitering and drunkenness peculiar to the English post-boy tribe.

The practice of using carrier-pigeons for express intelligence is common throughout China, and is largely resorted to by merchants and traders for business purposes.

The pigeons are usually provided with one or more whistles, often of elaborate make and finish, to protect them from the ravages of hawks, etc., en route.

AMERICAN POSTAGE STAMPS.

S. W. FURMAN.

Some things are so common that few apprehend the ingenuity and labor required to make them. Postage Stamps for instance, are in everybody's mouth, except the wise ones, who use a wet sponge, but scarcely any one knows how they are manufactured. In printing them steel plates are used, on which two hundred are engraved. Two men are kept hard at work covering them with the colored inks

and passing them to a man and girl, who are equally busy at printing them with large rolling hand presses. After the small sheets of paper upon which the two hundred stamps are engraved have dried enough they are sent into another room and gummed. The gum used for the purpose is a peculiar composition, made of the powder of dried vegetables mixed with water, which is better than any other material, for instance gum arabic, which cracks the paper badly. The paper is also of a perfect texture, somewhat similar to that used for bank-notes. After having been again dried, this time on little racks, which are fanned 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 two thousand pounds. 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 other squads, who, in as many operations, perforate the sheets between the stamps. Next they are pressed once more, and then packed and labelled and stowed away in another room, preparatory to being put in mail-bags for dispatching to fill orders. If a single stamp is torn, or in any way mutilated, the whole sheet of one hundred is burned. About five hundred thousand are burned every week from this cause. For the past twenty years not a single sheet has been lost, such care has been taken in counting them. During the progress of manufacture the sheets are counted eleven times.

The portrait of Benjamin Franklin on the one-cent stamp, in imperial ultramarine blue, is after a profile bust by Hubricht. The head of Andrew Jackson on the two-cent stamp, in vermillion, is from a bust by Hiram Powers. The

Washington head on the green three-cent stamp is after Houdon's celebrated bust. The head on the five-cent blue stamp is that of Garfield after a photograph. The Lincoln profile, in red, on the six-cent stamp is after a bust by Volk. The head of Jefferson, on the ten-cent in chocolate, is drawn from a life size statue by Hiram Powers. The portrait of Henry Clay, in neutral purple, on the twelve-cent stamp, is after a bust by Hart. The head of Webster on the fifteen-cent stamp, in orange, is after the Clevinger bust. The portrait of General Scott on the twenty-four-cent stamp, in purple, is after a bust by Coffee. The head of Hamilton on the thirty-cent stamp, in black, is after the Cerrachi bust; and the portrait of Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, in carmine, on the ninety-cent stamp, is after Wolcott's statue. The style in which these adhesives are printed, and the clearness of outline of the several portraits, as well as the artistic excellence of the engraving, reflect credit on the head of the Post Office Department, Mr. Creswell, under whose authority they were executed. The seven, twelve and twenty-four-cent stamps have been retired from use.

POSTAGE STAMPS SAVINGS.

At post office savings banks in England no sum less than a shilling has hitherto been accepted, but recently parliament authorized the experiment of receiving small deposits in postage stamps. This was done that the pennies might be saved until the shilling limit was reached.

The arrangement made to attract these deposits is a very simple one. Forms are given out to applicants gratis, in the similitude of checks, but divided into twelve small spaces, each to hold a stamp; and when one form has thus been filled up it will be received as the deposit of a shilling.

Exchanges.

In order to facilitate the exchange of duplicates, and with a view to bringing about more intimate relations among collectors we offer a column per month, *free of charge to our subscribers only*, wherein they may briefly state what they have to dispose of and what they desire in exchange.

Stamps, for stamps; also Brazil, Venezuela, Roumania, Egypt, and Sandwich Island stamps, for exchange, besides many others. R. P. B., office this paper.

Thirty different foreign stamps, one Austrian Italy, one Cape of Good Hope, two Turkey, one India, and the U. S. 5 cent brown, 1847 issue, for the 30 and 90 cent of the 1850, 1861 or 1869 U. S. issue, in good condition. J. T. H., office this paper.

One hundred mixed foreign stamps, for a 24 cent U. S. stamp of 1870. D. A., office this paper.

Five foreign stamps for a 7 cent War Department, or the 5, 24, or 90 cent of 1851 issue, or the 10 or 90 cent of 1861 issue, or the 10, 24, 30, or 90 cent of 1896 issue. L. W. REID, Alexandria, Va.

Five postal cards, one Germany (unused), one Austria, (unused), one Canada (used), one England, (unused), and one U. S. (used), of an old issue, and 100 foreign stamps, all different, for the best offer in old American coins. W. N. A., 2 E. 125th St., New York City.

Thirty eight different U. S. stamps, for thirty eight foreign stamps, all different. M. HAMBLIN, 89 Johnson St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Holland postage stamps, for unused letter stamps above the value 10 cent U. S. and foreign unused letter stamps, and other rare stamps. W. C., office this paper.

Stamps from Sandwich Islands, Mexico, old and new issue, Japan, and South and Central American stamps, for rare foreign and U. S. postage and Department Stamps. SIDNEY NEW, 181 East 95th St., N. Y.

Stamps for Stamps, according to value. No duplicates. CHAPMAN, 103 East 61st St., N. Y.

A new lot of 2½, 5, 10, and 25 of Curaçoa, for rare U. S. or foreign stamp. E. A. de L., office this paper.

U. S. revenue and European stamps, for other foreign stamps except Canadian; also postmarks, for foreign stamps. COLLECTOR, Box 70, Holton, Kan.

Four stamps from Antigua, Bermuda, Trinidad, and Barbadoes, for a stamp from Buenos Ayres, Paraguay, Poland, Ionian Isles, old issue of Liberia, 1863 issue of Newfoundland, and rare Department Stamps. Also set of 1847 U. S. stamps, unused, for set of War, Navy, Agriculture, or Justice. Three foreign stamps, for any five match stamps. No postals answered. T. W., office this paper.

Answers to Correspondents.

We hold ourselves in readiness to give here such information as lies in our power, and are prepared, at all times, to assist Philatelists in the solution of such questions as we are able to. All questions addressed to the Society, not requiring an answer by letter, will be replied to here.

A. J. P., BINGHAM, ENGLAND.—Thanks for your offer but we cannot accept; will return on receipt of postage.

R. B. O., SYRACUSE, N. Y.—The stamp described is a Turkish Local which was issued by one M. Liaunos, who attained a concession from the Sultan, for the purpose of distributing letters and papers in Constantinople, and was given up after a six months trial.

J. MCD., PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—You had better communicate with a dealer, the National Philatelic Society does not buy nor sell stamps. (See By-Laws, January issue of this journal.)

B. W. M., BALTIMORE, Md.—The word *Ultramar* means "Beyond the Sea," and *Correos* "Postage."

H. P., AINSWORTH, Iowa.—As regards best mode of mounting stamps, would refer you to page 52, May issue this journal. Many thanks for information.

W. E. S., SENECA FALLS, N. Y.—They cannot be genuine; any dealer would be glad to take 500 sets at that figure. If you buy simply because you get them *cheap* then you must expect to have a collection of counterfeits.

A. F., ITHACA, N. Y.—All the stamps sent are genuine except the Pacific Steam Navigation Co.'s which are counterfeits.

J. T. H., PLAINFIELD, Mich.—We can only devote one column of space to Exchanges and because yours did not appear last month you should not complain but wait, "patience is a virtue." Exchanges are inserted in the order received, consequently those received after the department is closed are obliged to wait until the next month.

S. W. MCD., PAUTUCKET, R. I.—They were in use but ten days and are almost unobtainable.

D. A. S., AMSTERDAM, N. Y.—Respectfully declined, we do not want such trash; you are not familiar with the subject on which you write.

O. M., SOMERVILLE, N. J.—He has gone out of business. Any dealer advertised in this journal can supply you.

W. R. W., TROY, N. Y.—We hope to be able to give desired information in our next issue. Should be pleased to receive them.



The National Philatelist.

VOL. I.

NEW YORK, AUGUST, 1883.

No. 8.

Chronicle.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—The "Ph. R." notes a new 12c. which resembles that of 1882. The inscriptions above and below are in color on white; the Liberty Caps and the poles supporting them are removed; the rising sun has not such a comical countenance as before, and the wreath is much thicker.

12c., slate-gray; perf. 12½.

AZORES.—The 150 reis, blue, and the 300 reis, violet have the small surcharge. The "Ph. R." has seen the 25 reis, current type, surcharged "AGGRES" in large type.

AUSTRIA.—Mr. Calman has shown us two values of a new set, the 5 and 20kr. The other values will be issued as soon as the present stock is exhausted. The design very much resembles that of the Bosnian Stamps, but the figures of value instead of being in the upper corners are on the shield in the center. Above the eagle in a curved line are the words "Kais. Königl. Oesterr. Post." which, as well as the value are printed in black. The "Welt Post" states that the envelopes will be of only one value, 5kr. but in two sizes, on white and yellow paper. The cards and bands will have the same stamp. The stamps and cards for the Levant and other Foreign offices, will be of the same design with the exception of the denomination, which will be in "Sld," and the inscription which, instead of as above will be "Imper. Reg. Posta. Austr." No envelopes will be issued for these offices. Stamps for Newspapers will not be altered.

Adhesives, 2 kr. brown.
3 " green.
5 " red.
10 " blue.
20 " gray.
50 " violet.

Same values in Soldi for Foreign offices.

BAVARIA.—The new 10 kr. unpaid letter stamp has an error on the sheet, one of the stamps being surcharged "Zum Empfänger Zahlbar," instead of "Zahlbar." We have received a new return letter stamp for Munich. There are 36 varieties.

The "Welt Post" mentions a new value of Post Office order (Postanweisung) with out value, printed in blue, on pale rose card, unwatermarked.

BELGIUM.—The 10c. unpaid letter stamp has been cut in two and the parts used as 5c. stamps. A new letter card has been issued of the value of 25 centimes, headed "Carte Lettre pour l'Étranger." The stamp in the current one printed in blue and the card is rose on the outside and white inside; size 115x80mm. "Le. T. P." describes four official cards. The first is a reply paid card inscribed "Ministere des Travaux Publics." In the left corner, the name of the Minister; below which, "Administration—de la Marine." At the right in large letters "Carte Correspondance de Service," below which the Arms and three dotted lines for address. "Contre Seing" at the left before an oblique line. At the foot the usual advice. The reply card has in addition the word "Reponse," under the arms.

The second card has at the top "Administration Communale de—" then "Carte Correspondance de Service." and the arms of large size, four dotted lines and two oblique lines at the left.

The third is headed "Administration Communale" and has a heavy oblique line at the left and "Le Bourgmestre de."

The fourth is similar but inscribed "Enseignement primaire" and "L' instituteur communale de."

They are all printed in black on white card.

BOLIVAR.—A set for 1883 has been issued which is the same as that for 1882, with the date changed.

Adhesives, 5 centavos,	blue.
10 "	lilac.
20 "	red.
40 "	brown.
80 "	green.
1 peso,	orange.

CASHMERE.—"Le T. P." states that the new set is composed as follows, the design remaining unchanged.

$\frac{1}{4}$ anna,	brown	15	var.
$\frac{1}{2}$ "	yellow	15	"
1 "	pale green	20	"
2 "	red on yellow	20	"
4 "	green	8	"
8 "	blue	8	"

CEYLON.—The "D. Ph. Z." informs us that the 12 cent stamp is now *rose* instead of *blue*.

CHILL.—We have received the 5 centavos with color changed from red to blue, which latter is the Postal Union color, 5 centavos, blue.

CUBA.—We have the 2½c. of 1882, of the same color as that of 1881.

CYPRUS.—The "M. des T." mentions the 1 piastre Revenue used for postal purposes. The 1 piastre rose, has the new watermark C. A. The ½ piastre green, surcharged ½—½ is found watermarked C. C. and C. A.

DANISH WEST INDIES.—"Der Ph" describes an International Post Office order without stamp, and printed in Danish and French.

DENMARK.—Four reply paid cards have been issued of Form 1. The 4x4 and 8x8 are inscribed in Danish and the others in Danish and French.

Cards, 4x4 ore,	blue on white.
6x6 "	brown on buff.
8x8 "	rose on white.
10x10 "	carmine on buff.

DOMINICA.—The "Ph. R." notes the provisional ½d. surcharged in red upside down.

DUTCH INDIES.—The 10 cent unpaid letter stamp, rose and black, has been issued

10 cents, rose and black.

ECUADOR.—The 10 cent orange has at last been issued. This completes the series of 1881. "Ecuador Correos" at the top, and "Diez Centavos," at the bottom are both in straight labels. The value in figures is three times repeated, once on each side of the arms, and again in a small semi-circle below the center of the lower label.

10 centavos, orange.

EGYPT.—The "W. B. Z." is informed by one of its correspondents, that reply paid cards will be issued shortly.

FRANCE.—The "Ph. R." describes an unstamped card probably unofficial. It has a space marked for an adhesive in the right upper corner; inscriptions in three lines in the upper center; "Union Postale Universelle.—France.—Carte Postale." Four dotted lines for address, the first headed "M." and the third "à." Frame of exactly the same pattern and color as that of the Postal Union cards of the German Empire; 124x73mm. All the inscriptions are in black; the frame alone in color, on buff card. Size, 144x90mm.

GERMAN EMPIRE.—"Le T. P." men-

tions the following official cards. They measure 138x85 mm. At the top "Post Karte." or "Rohrpost Karte." lower down a dotted line, then towards the right lower corner, "hier" and still lower, "Str. Nr." at the left "Postsache." underlined. They come both with and without a circular hand stamp in carmine, having the arms in the center, and the following inscription "Neubau der Reichsdruckeria." They are printed in black on buff card.

Mr. Muecke has shown us the new band issued the 1st. of August. It measures 160x230 mms. The stamp is the current 3 pf. green. The band now has a green border.

GREAT BRITAIN.—To "A. S. & Co's M. C." we are indebted principally for an account of the following novelties.

A ninepence stamp printed in two panes of 120 similarly to all those issued on "crown 1880" paper. The design is the Queen's head on a horizontally lined ground enclosed in a circular band, intercepted on each side by a small tablet extending to the line of the rectangular frame on which is the figure of value. In the upper part of the band is "Postage and Revenue," in the lower part "Nine pence." The spandrels are left plain with the exception of the lettering, and the resembles a coin within a single lined rectangular frame.

A 2sh. 6d. stamp issued July 1st. The word "Inland" has been dropped both in the inscription on this and the other values in the new series which have yet to be issued. The stamp is of the same size as those of 5sh., 10sh., and 1 pound, and the head appears small in comparison with the frame, but this is a defect which must be overlooked if the same head is to serve for the smaller sized stamps in the series. The head of the Queen is on a background of coarse horizontal lines, better executed than those in the one penny stamps; it has also been re-engraved and a great improvement made

not only in the features, but also in the diadem, which is smaller and is better set on the head. This is enclosed in a double lined frame, shaped like an eight rayed star; with the two side points removed to give place to two elongated octagonal tablets, in which are the figures of value "2/6" in color on a white ground. Letter blocks are introduced into the four angles of the outer rectangular frame with the letters in color on a white ground. Between the two upper letter blocks is a solid tablet with "Postage & Revenue" in white letters, and between the two lower ones is a similar tablet inscribed "2 shils. & 6 pence." The stamp is printed on "large anchor" paper and is perforated 14.

The 10 shillings is the old design, modified by the introduction into the frame on each side of a plain tablet with the figures of value upon it. It is printed on the same paper as the 2sh. 6d.

The 1 pound of the old design is now printed on the same paper.

9d. green.

2sh. 6d. purple.

10sh. greenish gray.

1 pound. (watermark changed)

GREECE.—Six new cards were issued on July 13th according to "A. S. & Co's M. C.;" three single cards and three reply paid cards. They all have a stamp of the current type in the right upper corner, and have Greek frames. The first printed in black on buff is of the value of 5 lepta, and is for local correspondence, that is, for delivery within the limits of the town distribution. The second, printed in blue on buff, is of the value of 10 lepta, and is for general internal correspondence, or from town to town within the Kingdom. The third is printed in carmine on gray card, and is of the value of 10 lepta, but is a Postal Union Card, the inscriptions being printed in Greek with the equivalent in French. The reply paid cards are of form 2.

The same journal is informed that in consequence of an alteration in the rate of foreign postage, new stamps of 25 and 50 centimes, and 1 franc will shortly be issued.

"Der Ph." states that the 5 lepta green which has been issued without figure of value on the back, now has a roughly printed 5.

Post Cards, 5 lepta, black on buff.			
" 5x5 "	"	"	"
" 10 "	"	blue on buff.	
" 10x10 "	"	"	"
" 10 "	"	carmine on gray.	
" 10x10 "	"	"	"

HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.—We are enabled to describe three stamps now being manufactured by the American Bank Note Company, of this city. The values differ from those given in our number for June, one of them being for the high value of one dollar.

The Postal Union stamp of the denomination of 25 cents presents the statue of the famous Kamehameha the First, as it stands in the tropical garden in front of the State House at Hawaii. The illustrious potentate wears the helmet of feathers peculiar to this group of islands, which in shape recalls the bronze helmets of the Phœnicians. He is clad in flowery robes and leans upon a long spear. On the pedestal is the inscription "1883, Hawaii." This is arranged on the stamp as a vignette, seen through an oblong frame with an oval top. The color is a bluish black. The denominational figures are in the four corners—in white at the top and in black at the bottom corners. On the left-hand side of the frame is the inscription "Kamehameha" in black letters, and on the right, "Postal Union" in lettering of the same color.

The second Sandwich Island stamp, prepared by the Bank Note Company, is one for local use, of the denomination of one dollar. This is in vermilion ink, for

the Kanakas love bright colors. It presents a full-face head and bust of the Queen-Dowager Emma, who is said to have preserved her remarkable beauty in spite of time. The portrait is arranged in a medallion frame, on the top of which is the inscription "Hawaii" in white letters; springing from this, at a sharp angle like two horns, is the denomination in white figures inclosed in a leaf scroll. Below the portrait, in a ribbon scroll, is the Kanaka inscription in English lettering, "Aka Dala," which means one dollar.

The third stamp is a portrait of King Kalakaua, the present monarch. This is for fifty cents and is printed in a bright purple color. This is an excellent likeness of the jolly potentate. Its general arrangement is not unlike that for a dollar, but there are no horns on each side of "Hawaii." The denominational lettering below the medallion is "Kanalima Kenita." The portrait medallion is placed on a square-headed shield, and below, at the bottom of the stamp, is the English inscription "Fifty cents" adorned with a leaf scroll decoration in darker purple.

HOLLAND.—"Der Ph." states that the 2½c. and 5c. cards are sold at the Exposition in Amsterdam with a view of the Exposition Buildings.

INDIA.—The "Ph. R." mentions the 8 annas, type of 1868, surcharged "H. M. S." in black; the first two letters in large italic capitals, near the top of the stamp, and the third, a smaller Roman capital below.

ITALY.—"Le T. P." notes the fact that the 10c. cards are now dated "83."

JAMAICA.—The 4d. has now the watermark C. A. A post card of the value of 1½d. has been issued. The stamp is of the type of the two shilling adhesive, the value only being altered. The inscriptions at the top are in four lines, "Union Postale Universelle—Jamaica (Jamaïque)

—Post Card—The address only, &c." The arms of Great Britain are between the words "Post" and "Card." Printed in slate gray on pale buff card, 140x89 mm.—*Ph. R.*

LUXEMBERG.—An envelope (mandat d'encaissement) without stamp was issued July 1st. In the left upper angle is "No. 89—1883—G. D. de Luxembourg," and across the top "Mandat de encaissement—Postausttrag." The remainder is very similar to the envelope of 30 centimes. Black on white.

MALTA.—The $\frac{1}{4}$ d. watermarked C. C. exists not only perforated 14 and perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$ but also with the two combined, $12\frac{1}{2}$ vertically, and 14 horizontally.—*Ph. R.*

MAURITIUS.—Mr. Calman has shown us a second variety of the 16 cents surcharged on 17 cents in thin block capitals and with the original value ruled out. The "Ph. R." states that the surcharging was done in England, the Colonial Government being unwilling to pay the high price asked for a new type. Also that a card of the value of 6x6 cents will be issued shortly. The new 16c. stamp was issued July 14th.

16c. black and rose.

NORTH BORNEO.—Two new values have been issued, 4 cents red, and 8 cents blue. It is also stated that the 2 cent stamp has been surcharged "Eight cents" in two lines.

NORWAY.—"Der Ph." states that there is a second type of the 20 öre brown. The Post Horn is less shaded than before, the value 20 at the bottom larger, and the 2 badly shaped.

This second type is now printed in blue, the Postal Union color.

Adhesives, 20 öre brown.

" 20 " blue.

PANAMA.—"Le T. P." warns collectors against two stamps reported to have been

issued by the Panama Canal Co. They are inscribed at the top "Panama" and at the bottom "Correos." In the center in a circular band are the figures of value and the word "Centavos." The 5 centavos has on the circular band "Service Postal Prive du Canal Inter-Oceanique," and the 10 centavos "Serv. du Canal Inter-Oceanique." The details of the stamps differ.

5 centavos, green.

10 " carmine.

PERSIA.—In this country it is allowed to cut the stamps from the stamped envelopes, and put them on letters.

PERU.—Mr. Calman has shown us the following surcharged stamps; the 1 centavo, orange; the 50 centavos red and the 1 sol blue with Chilian arms, have the word "Multada" in an oval open at one end like the letter U; the 1 centavo green with Chilian arms, has "12 R" in a similar oval; and the 1 sol. blue, also with Chilian arms has an oval with "Lima" at the top, and, "2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " below.

"Der Ph." notes the 10c. unpaid letter stamp surcharged "10 centavos" in an oval frame, and the "W. B. Z." states that the 5c. and 20c are surcharged "20 centavos."

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—"Le T. P." notes the 10 cuartos *Derecho Judicial* surcharged in three lines in blue "Habilitado para Correos." and the "Ph. R." has received information of the following.

- | | | |
|---|--|-------|
| 1 | real, in red, on 2c. carmine | 1880. |
| 1 | " " 5c. blue | 1882. |
| 1 | " " 12 4-8c. blue (<i>Derecho Judicial</i> .) | |
| 1 | " " 10 pesetas brown (<i>Derechos de Firma</i> .) | |
| 1 | " " 1 peso, green (<i>Derechos de Firma</i> .) | |
| 2 | " in black, on 2 4-8c. blue, | 1882. |

PORTUGUESE INDIES.—The 40 reis blue and 100 reis green of 1872, have been surcharged in black "4 $\frac{1}{2}$ reis."

QUEENSLAND.—Two stamps of the value of 4d. and 1sh. have been issued of the same design as the 1d., 2d. and 6d. already noted.

SERVIA.—“Le T. P.” describes a reply paid card lately purchased at Belgrade, of which the first part has no frame nor the two words under the arms, and of which the second part (or reply card) is entirely blank, but has the usual frame on the reverse.

ST. LUCIA.—The new stamps of St. Lucia are coming out. They are of course the same design as the Antigua and others. It is the 2½d. instead of the 4d. which is printed in the Postal Union color, so we presume, the rates are lower in St. Lucia than in the other islands. Watermarked C. A. and Crown and perforated 14.

½d. green.

1d. pink.

2½d. blue.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.—In addition to the provisionals noted in June the 4c. rose and the 12c. blue have been surcharged in black in two lines ²cents. There are also changes in color in some of the stamps.

2c. on 4c. blue.

2c. on 12c. blue.

2c. rare.

4c. brown.

12c. purple.

SWITZERLAND.—The 10c. unpaid letter stamp is printed in green and carmine, as well as the 5c. mentioned last month.

The 25c. envelope has now as watermark an oblique band with arms.

New bands will be issued shortly printed in black and yellow. Values 2c. and 5c.

TOLIMA.—We have a *Cubierta* of the value of 10 centavos, with the date modified to read 18— instead of 187—.

U. S. OF COLOMBIA.—The 2 centavo card for the interior is now printed in

black on gray card. The 2+2 centavo card is now vermilion instead of rose.

Mr. Calman has shown us the 10 pesos rose cut in half diagonally and surcharged “Bueno por Cinco pesos.”

“Le T. P.” is informed that in addition to the 10c. provisional (No hay estampillas) employed at Cali some years ago, there were others of the value of 5, 20, 50 centavos and 1 peso.

URUGUAY.—Mr. Campbell informs the “Ph. R.” that he has the 2c. card on blue as well as on white.

UNITED STATES.—The following is a description of the new 2 cent and 4 cent stamps mentioned in our last number.

The two-cent is a head of George Washington engraved by Alfred Jones from a copy belonging to Mr. Powers, the bronze founder, of Houdin's cast from life. It differs considerably from the head of Washington on the present three-cent stamp. This is burly and coarse with a bulging cheek and heavy chin and jawl. The new one is much more refined, has less breadth of cheek, and the chin is delicately discriminated. The hair is more artistically drawn, and there is a better arrangement of the cue, producing altogether a younger, sweeter and more intellectual head without losing any of the power and force so clearly defined as a characteristic of the face of the Father of his Country. It bears considerable resemblance to the Gilbert Stuart head. The new head is set in an oval medallion like the old, and this is placed upon a shield of the heraldic form. In the old one, however, the angles of the top of the shield are not nearly so well defined as in the new, and the outline is indistinct. This has been greatly improved by the addition of a white line which accentuates the outline, and this is still further developed by a fringe of short horizontal lines. Another great improvement is in the lettering. Instead of “U. S. Postage” at the

top of the comparatively light ground, which does not give effect to the white letters, the ground is much darker and the lettering is unabbreviated and reads "United States Postage." The leaf scroll-work decoration on this legend also has been dropped, and the frame of the oval has been developed below the legend by artistic beading. In the lettering below the shield there has been the same improvement of darkening the lines so that the denominational inscription, "two 2 cents," comes out with great distinctness. The whites are made to tell saliently by deepening the lines of the ground, whereas in former stamps the lines were not dark, and it was left to the color to bring out the white letters by contrast, which it never did. The color used is an ink prepared from various ingredients in which an oxide of iron plays a prominent part. It is a light purple or a carmine red of pale tone.

The four-cent stamp, also engraved by Alfred Jones, is intrinsically a better thought-out form than the two-cent. Being a new denomination the shackles of old forms have been thrown off, and the originator has gone to the ultimate purpose of a stamp with a logical directness which is considered admirable. The head is that of Andrew Jackson and is taken from a bust of him discovered at Nashville. It is possibly a good likeness, but there is a stiffness and want of artistic character about it that not even Alfred Jones could overcome and yet preserve the likeness. The head is on an oval medallion, placed not upon a shield but upon a panel with bevelled edges. The legend around the top of the medallion is precisely similar to the new two-cent stamp. In the lower part the lines are closely and deeply drawn, so that when the color is applied it forms a dark background upon which the white denominational lettering, "four 4 cents," is extremely distinct. The color used is green not unlike that of

the present three-cent stamp. There is a play of light and shade near the whole surface, and even the shading of the edges is not formal but artistic, being arranged according to a definite point of view with the light falling from a clearly defined quarter.

OUR AUSTRALIAN LETTER.

DAWSON A. VINDIN.

Sydney, August 1st, 1883.

By request of our publishers I have undertaken to supply the NATIONAL PHILATELIST with a regular monthly series of letters, concerning stamps and stamp collecting in the Australian colonies.

Being acquainted with about eight hundred collectors in Australia and New Zealand, I am in good position to keep the reader well acquainted with "things philatelic" as far as this part of the world is concerned.

In these articles I will refrain from *describing* new issues, being content with merely mentioning their issue, I believe this will give much more satisfaction than my describing each stamp minutely would.

I regret at having to record the death of one of our most enthusiastic and best known collectors, Mr. Andrew Johnson. Mr. Johnson was very popular among Australian collectors and during his residence in Sydney made a large number of friends. Being offered a good appointment in the Fiji Islands, in 1882, there he removed where he resided until his death. Mr. Johnson died on 20th July last at the age of 32. I hear his collection, which was a large and valuable one, will pass into the hands of a brother in Brisbane, Queensland.

During the past month I have, in conjunction with several of our most advanced collectors, been using my best en-

deavors to found a society to be called, "The New South Wales Philatelic Society," and to be conducted on a similar basis to that of the societies in New York, London and Paris. Many collectors of influential position have promised me their support, and with such I hope in my next to be enabled to state that the above Society is an accomplished fact.

At the present time I am busily engaged on a work concerning the postage stamps of New South Wales. This I intend to make the best and most reliable catalogue of our postal emissions yet published. In compiling this work I have received a great deal of information from the Post Office department. I have had placed for my use copies of all the official proclamations concerning postage stamps from the year 1832, A. D., as well as having been offered every facility in my work. With this kind assistance I hope to produce a most interesting work to the philatelic public.

All the Australian colonies, New Zealand and Queensland excepted, intend applying for admission into the Universal Postal Union at the next conference to be held at Lisbon in 1884. The result of this will be the issuing of a large number of new stamps, unless the colonies should federate before that time.

Owing to my business requiring the whole of my time and attention I have deemed it advisable to discontinue the "*New South Wales Philatelist*" for this year at any rate. I have returned all the subscriptions paid to me and so hope to be very successful should I commence issuing it again.

In my next letter I will endeavor to give the readers of this paper a full description of stamp collecting as carried on in Sydney.

THE NEW POSTAL NOTES.

The new postal notes are about completed, and those for the most distant points are now ready to be mailed. They will be ready to be issued from every money order office in the United States on Sept. 3, at which time they may be bought in sums below \$5 each. They will supply a convenient method for the transmission of small sums through the mails.

The notes are bound in books of 250 sheets, or 500 notes each, with stubs to indicate the amount for which each note is issued. Each Postmaster who receives a package is supplied with blanks and instructions for the conduct of the postal note business.

The notes are printed on linen bank note paper of the best quality of a clear lemon color, chemically prepared so as not to be affected by moisture or exposure to light, but, at the same time, the paper is sensitive to acids and other liquids used for the removal of writing inks. The underlying tint of the face is printed in golden brown from steel plates, and is similar to that of the old fractional currency issued during the war. The paper is water marked, and each note is cut in such a manner that its exact place in the sheet is determined. The design of the water mark is a ribbon containing the words "U. S. Postal Note," and only parts of it appear on any single note. The underlying tint covers the entire surface of the note, and contains a vignette of the Goddess of Liberty, upon which is a circle of a watered silk design for recording the places of issue and destination. A broad tint is made by the myriad repetition in very small letters of autographic design of the letters "U. S. P. N."—United States Postal Note—and these words appear in different designs on various parts of the face.

The back of the note is printed in a

rich dark green ink similar to a greenback except that it is done by the surface printing process. In the centre is a geometrical lathe work monogram surrounded by intricate cycloidal lathe work. At either side are pieces of circular concentric lathe work containing more than forty original cuttings, which present an insurmountable task to the counterfeiter. Across the entire back are the legends required by law as to the payment of the note.

The contractors for the new note are the Homer Lee Bank Note Company of New York City, who have had 200 hands employed for ten months in filling the first order to supply the 8,000 offices of the United States.

THE NEW POSTAGE STAMP.

The American letter writer has for so many years had his patriotic sympathies harrowed and his reverence for the Father of his Country sorely tried by the painful caricature of George Washington, with its swollen jaw, brutal features, and drop-sical neck swathed in an untidy dinner napkin, on the three-cent postage stamp, that the 1st of October, with its reduction of letter postage and new issue of stamps, will bring a double relief.

The new stamps are ready for issue, but are to be withheld until that date. In the new two-cent stamp it is to be seen that the aching molar has been pulled, and the facial swelling has subsided while the head and face bear some resemblance to the Gilbert Stuart portrait in the refinement of the lines and expression of the features. There is an improvement in the arrangement of the hair and queue. The engraving is by Alfred Jones, from a copy of Houdin's cast taken from life.

The new head rests in an oval medallion on an heraldic shield. The lettering shows more sharply and distinct than in the present stamps; at the top, the legend,

"United States Postage," and below the medallion, "Two 2 cents." standing out clearly on groundwork darker than the body of the stamp; while the color, a pale carmine red ink, in which oxide of iron is a powerful component, sufficiently distinguishes the denomination without blurring the design.

The double, or four-cent, stamp is of a green color, and bears the head of the Hero of New Orleans, somewhat less unkempt and frightful than other Government caricaturing of the grand old Democrat. If Andrew Jackson actually resembled his postage stamps, he needed neither military skill nor equipment; he had only to go forth and look upon his foe "and the red field was won."

The process of printing these stamps differs essentially from that of England and continental nations who continue to make their plates directly from the original die, and to print from raised designs on blocks like types. The American Bank Note Company's process is, however, to cut the original die on soft steel in sunken lines, and from this being hardened, a roll of raised transfers like type are obtained, and from these, in turn, are produced plates of two hundred steel copies of the original die, in sunken lines, from which the stamps are finally printed.
—Sun.

THE POSTAL SERVICE OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The twenty-ninth annual report of the Postmaster-General of Great Britain and Ireland for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1883, shows the following facts and statistics with regard to the present working of the British postal system:

The number of letters delivered in the United Kingdom during the year was 1,280,636,200, an increase of 4.2 per cent; the number of post cards, 144,016,200, an increase of 6.4 per cent; of book packets

and circulars, 288,206,400, an increase of 6.3 per cent, and of newspapers, 140,682,600, a slight decrease, attributed to increased facilities for sending newspapers on railways as parcels. One London firm posted 132,000 letters for a single mail, and another firm 167,000 post cards; while the number of circulars posted at one time by single firms ranged from 144,000 to 456,000.

The estimated average number of letters carried per capita of population 40 in England and Wales; 30 in Scotland; 16 in Ireland, and 36 in the United Kingdom. Taking the reports of other countries for the year 1881 as a basis, Mr. Fawcett estimated that the average number of letters per capita, in the United States was 21, France 15, Germany 13, Italy 6, and Spain 5.

The number of registered letters sent was 11,264,926, an increase of 3.3 per cent over the preceding year. There were 15,406 post offices in the United Kingdom, employing 44,600 permanent officers, who might become entitled to pensions. This number included 2,561 women, of whom 455 were clerks and 2,106 telegraphers or counter-women. The retired officers numbered 3,335, with pensions aggregating £176,826 per annum. The system of "Good Conduct Stripes" for letter carriers, which was formerly confined to London, has been extended at an increased cost of £63,000 to the entire country with good results. Each stripe entitles the wearer to a special allowance of one shilling a week in addition to his wages, and by continued good conduct a carrier can earn three stripes. Reply post cards have been introduced into the British service, but with limited success.

The number of telegraph message sent in the United Kingdom during the year was 32,092,026, an increase of 746,165 as compared with the previous year. The number of messages sent in London was

12,374,707 against 12,071,034 in 1881-82. During the last year 102 post offices and forty-five railway station offices were opened for telegraphic work, making the total number of telegraph offices 5,742. Mr. Fawcett says that although it has not yet been determined what form the contemplated reduction or tariff shall take, it has been decided that as soon as the necessary increase of plant can be made, the minimum charge for inland telegrams shall be reduced from 1 shilling to 6 pence. Nine companies to whom licences have been granted for the establishment of telephone exchanges have forty-seven exchanges in operation.

The business of the Postal Savings Banks is reported to show satisfactory progress. The total amount due to depositors, including interest, was £40,000,000, an increase of £3,000,000 over the previous year. This is the largest annual increase since the establishment of the system. The deposits during the year were 6,000,000 in number and £12,000,000 in amount, and the withdrawals were 2,000,000 in number and £10,000,000 in amount. The amount of interest credited to depositors was £891,629. On March 31 there were 7,081 post office saving banks and money order offices. There were 788,858 accounts opened during the year, and 537,494 closed, leaving 2,858,976 accounts open at the end of the year, as against 2,607,612 in the previous year. The accounts were apportioned as follows: England and Wales, 2,643,785 (proportion 1 to 10); Scotland, 108,701 (1 to 35); Ireland, 106,490 (1 to 48). The saving-banks business in Ireland again showed a large increase, the number of deposits during the year having been 278,727, amounting to £752,673, as against 251,146, amounting to £662,170 in 1881. The total amount, including interest due to depositors at the end of

the year, was £1,925,460, as against £1,723,395 in 1881.

The postal-order returns show a large increase. About £3,451,000 as compared with £2,000,000 in 1881-82 was transmitted by means of these orders within the year, and no fewer than 7,980,328 orders were used. The gross revenue from the whole postal service during the year was over £9,413,812, and net revenue was £3,061,748, a decrease of £38,727 from that of the previous year. The gross revenue from telegraphs was £1,768,060, and the net revenue £235,570, as against £264,810 in the previous year. This decrease in net revenue is accounted for by heavy additional working expenses.

After an examination of the figures given in this report, post-office officials here assert that the postal system in this country is operated at a cost much less than that of the United Kingdom, when our immense mileage is taken into consideration.

Auction Sales.

Under this heading we shall be pleased to announce any forthcoming sales and to review the same on receipt of priced catalogue.

The Stamp Auction Season will open at Leavitt's on Oct. 15, when two fine collections of postage stamps catalogued by the well-known firm of Scott & Company, will be sold to the highest bidder, in lots to suit. Collectors can obtain catalogues free, of any respectable dealer in postage stamps. These collections contain some of the rarest stamps such as the 13c. first issue Sandwich Islands, figure in fancy border, the 3c. buff, 1843, U. S. A., complete set of War envelopes, and other great rarities for which there will doubtless be spirited competition among wealthy collectors. The same firm have several other albums in their hands in process of cataloguing, which will follow each other at intervals of about two weeks. Catalogues of which will be ready shortly.

Correspondence.

We solicit, and are prepared to insert under this heading, and information or suggestions that may be thought of interest to the Philatelic world.

We will not hold ourselves responsible for the views of our correspondents, and we reserve the right to reject communications that do not seem to us as proper for publication.

A CRITIC OF POST-OFFICE MANAGEMENT.

The writer has read with much interest the remarks of the NATIONAL PHILATELIST relative to the adverse bearing of the Post Office Department re-enacting the law of 1866, which directed the return free of postage of letters that fail of delivery. As the act of 1866—together with other legislation during the six years prior thereto, having for its aim the return of undelivered letters free of postage to the writer thereof—is measurably traceable to the writer, he begs at this juncture space for a few remarks. He will, therefore, state that, prior to 1866, all letters mailed in the United States, which were not "return request letters," and which did not inclose money or things of pecuniary value that failed of delivery, were destroyed without notice to correspondents, and without regard to the evils that their non-return would cause. Millions of letters were thus annually destroyed, and to stop this departmental vandalism the mandatory law of 1866, which directed the return, free of postage, of all dead letters to the writers thereof, was enacted. The benefits of the law were so far reaching, and so universally acknowledged that the entire community, with the exception of the officials of the Dead Letter Office, considered it in full force, and each citizen when he mailed a letter felt that if it failed of delivery it would, free of postage, be returned to notify him of its non-delivery, and thus prevent the complication in social and business concerns that possibly may almost inevitably attend the non-delivery of letters and their destruction without notice to correspondents.

Early during the current year a train of circumstances brought to light the fact that, in 1872, the mandatory act of 1866 had been superseded by a law which left to the discretion of the Postmaster-General the return—if undelivered—of the class of letters acted on by the law of 1866. It is certain that the change was not asked for by the letter writers of the country, for under the new law a sort of postal inquisition was established, the members of which were the employees of the Dead Letter Office, who, in addition to the power to break the seals of letters that failed of delivery, were empowered to determine those that should be destroyed. Now, not less than 30,000,000 letters of our citizens have been thus disposed of during the past 10 years, and as discrimination could not be made without reading the letters—at least to the extent of ascertaining if they were, in the judgment of the Dead Letter clerks, of sufficient importance to be returned—it follows that the scrutiny necessarily bared to the employees of the Dead Letter Office the most sacred family, social, and business secrets of our cit-

izens, as far as the same formed the subject-matter of those thirty and more millions of dead letters.

Now, by simply re-enacting the law of 1866, all this scrutiny—if not espionage—of the letters of our people, further than to ascertain to Post Office address of the writers, so as to enable the return of the letters, would be stopped, and at once. But, lo! here steps forward that bureau of the Post Office Department in charge of the Dead Letter Office, and drafts the letter of July 14, 1882, in opposition to the re-enactment of the law of 1866, and submitting it to the Postmaster-General, he—not dreaming of its disingenuous nature. The letter makes the Postmaster-General assert that as long ago as 1860 “over 50 per cent. of persons owning dead letters” showed that they “were indifferent as to their return.” Now, the postal report of Dec. 3, 1859, states that an attempt had been made “to sound public sentiment on the subject of restoring to the writers dead letters,” and, “in about one-third of the cases, the writers are willing to pay for recovering their letters. Yes, were even willing to pay for recovering their letters, and yet this important fact was withheld from the Postmaster-General, for he clearly signed the letter of July 14, 1882, under the impression that the letters of 1860 were to be returned free of postage, whereas the whole effort to sound public sentiment on the point indicated was based on the condition that every dead letter returned was to pay full postage. The letter also makes the Postmaster General assert “that not one-half of the whole number of these dead letters—probably not one-third of them—are of such value or importance as to justify their return to the writers.”

Now the indications are that during the current year not less than 1,500,000,000 letters will be mailed in the United States. One-half or thereabout of these letters will be “return request letters,” any of which, if undelivered, will be returned free of postage direct to their writers. The undelivered letters of the other half are those that are scheduled as containing nothing of value,” and the writer would ask if it is proper to return free of postage the undelivered letters containing nothing of value,” Each pays full postage. Then why should one be returned by a mandatory law and the return of the other left to the discretion of the Postmaster-General, or rather, in fact, to that of the employes of the Dead Letter Office?

But the letter of July 14, 1882, makes the Postmaster-General assert that “probably not one-third” of the letters opened in the Dead Letter Office “are of such value or importance as to justify their return to the writers.” Now, the answer to this is that the letters that reach the Dead Letter Office fairly index the character of the letters that pass through the mails, and can any human being believe that one third of the 1,500,000,000 of letters that will pass through the United States mails during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, will so lack value and importance that any if undelivered ought not to be returned to the writers?

POSTAL PROGRESS,

Exchanges.

In order to facilitate the exchange of duplicates, and with a view to bringing about more intimate relations among collectors we offer a column per month, *free of charge to our subscribers only*, wherein they may briefly state what they have to dispose of and what they desire in exchange.

Wanted.—Vol. 1 and Nos. 15-16-27-28-30-78-79-80 81-82-83 of the Stamp Collectors Magazine. Also Vols. 1 to 9 (both inclusive) of the Philatelist, and number 12 of the Philatelic Quarterly. Have in exchange old U. S. envelope 1857, 4c. red and blue on buff paper, all the War department envelopes etc., and over 1,000 different foreign and old U. S. stamps. Address with stamp C. W. C. P. O. Box 10, Woodside Queens Co., N. Y.

Correspondence desired with parties in Bolivia, Brazil, West Indies, Br. Guiana, Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Ceylon or native India or with parties having rare stamps from these places. Only used stamps wanted. Reference required and given. H. R. GOODRICH, Oberlin, Ohio, U. S. A.

I am always glad to hear from any collectors or dealers who may desire to open up a correspondence with Australia, I can use any kinds of rare stamps and can give old issue Australia in exchange, all communications should be addressed to DAWSON A. VINDIN, P. O. Box 660, Sydney.

Stamps, for stamps; also Brazil, Venezuela, Roumania, Egypt, and Sandwich Island stamps, for exchange, besides many others. R. P. B., office this paper.

Thirty different foreign stamps, one Austrian Italy, one Cape of Good Hope, two Turkey, one India, and the U. S. 5 cent brown, 1847 issue, for the 30 and 90 cent of the 1850, 1861 or 1869 U. S. issue, in good condition. I. E. N., office this paper.

One hundred mixed foreign stamps, for a 24 cent U. S. stamp of 1870. D. A., office this paper.

Five foreign stamps for a 7 cent War Department, or the 5, 24, or 90 cent of 1851 issue, or the 10 or 90 cent of 1861 issue, or the 10, 24, 30, or 90 cent of 1896 issue. L. W. R. Alexandria, Va.

Five postal cards, one Germany (unused), one Austria, (unused), one Canada (used), one England, (unused), and one U. S. (used), of an old issue, and 100 foreign stamps, all different, for the best offer in old American coins. W. N. A., 2 E. 125th St., New York City.

Four stamps from Antigua, Bermuda, Trinidad, and Barbadoes, for a stamp from Buenos Ayres, Paraguay, Poland, Ionian Isles, old issue of Liberia, 1863 issue of Newfoundland, and rare Department Stamps. Also set of 1847 U. S. stamps, unused, for set of War, Navy, Agriculture, or Justice. Three foreign stamps, for any five match stamps. No postals answered. W. F., office this paper.



The National Philatelist.

VOL. 1.

NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER, 1883.

No. 9.

TWO-CENT POSTAGE.

The reduction of single-rate letter postage to two cents, which takes effect Oct. 1, is a sound and wise measure. For a long time the receipts of the Post Office Department have been increasing at a greater rate than the expenditures, and during the last two fiscal years they have shown a large surplus. The mail service is not intended to be a money-making business; on the contrary, the Government, since it assumes the monopoly of carrying letters, should perform that duty at the lowest possible cost to the people, whose agent it is. Accordingly, the existence of a trustworthy annual surplus of income over outlay in this branch of administration is always a warning either to decrease the rates of postage or to increase the postal facilities furnished to the people.

It is possible that the current fiscal year, and even the year succeeding, may show a slight surplus of postal expenditures over receipts as the result of the present reduction. There will be extra expenses in making the change, besides a probable decrease in the amounts received during many months for the sale of stamps. But an insignificant fraction of the Government's surplus revenue, which is certain to still exist in spite of the tax reductions of Congress last year, could not be better applied than in wiping out this temporary deficit in the Post Office Department. On the other hand, it is certain that with proper economy and administrative skill, and with an avoidance of Star route frauds, the mail service will in a short

time be self-supporting, as under three-cent postage.

This result will take place, not only through the great growth of the population, and accordingly of the business of the Post Office, but also from the fact that many persons who now use postal cards, with some reluctance, because of their cheapness, will accept the advantages of privacy offered by the sealed letter at two cents. Besides, the temptations to extravagance presented by a large surplus income will probably be less where the Post Office finds hard work to make both ends meet.

Great Britain now has a net revenue of between \$13,000,000 and \$14,000,000 on her penny postage, which is equivalent to our two-cent postage. The reason for this result becomes clear when we find that between eleven and twelve times as many letters, even in proportion to the population, are sent now as when penny postage was established, forty odd years ago. Of course there is a great difference between the compact population of the British Islands and that of our country, scattered three thousand miles from ocean to ocean; but our postal statistics also throw light on future results. The reduction in rates which will now take effect is less than the reductions of 1845 and 1851; yet a falling off in the receipts for a short time after each reduction was soon followed by a large increase over the highest point ever before reached. We cannot doubt that the experience of former postal reductions will be repeated in the one about to be inaugurated as we welcome "penny postage."

Chronicle.

ANTIOQUIA.—The "Ph. R." has received the 10 centavos of the current type, profile to left in a circle, printed in vermilion on thin white wove paper. The specimens are a tête-bêche pair.

CYPRUS.—There is a second size of the Registered Envelope of 2 piastres with letter R. It measures 132x82 mm.

DANISH WEST INDIES.—Mr. Corwin has shown us two reply cards issued Sept. 13th. They are the same as the single cards with the exception of the following inscription in the lower left corner in four lines "Vedhængende Kort er—bestemt til Svaret.—(La carte ci-jointe est—destinée a la réponse.)" and on the reply card "(Svar. Reponse.)"

Post Cards.—2x2c. blue.
3x3c. rose.

DRAMMEN.—"Le T. P." signals the following of the same type as the 5 and 10 öre of 1877. They are rouletted.

2 öre, blue on yellow.
3 " " green.
3 " " rose.

FINLAND.—The same journal states on the authority of M. Breidfuss that the 10 penni card is lithographed. The characters in general are different but those of the instructions at the left are more inclined than before.

Card 10 penni, orange.

GERMAN EMPIRE.—The post card of 5 pfennig has been issued with "6-83," "7-83" and "8-83."

GREAT BRITAIN.—From several sources we learn that the 9d. and 1s. stamps, are in use surcharged "Govt. Parcels," in black.

HELSINGFORS.—"Le T. P." describes the following new stamp. In the center a shield bearing the figures of value in

brown on green, surmounted by a white crown on which is "10 penni;" below a band with "10 pennia," in red; the exterior frame is red, the rectangle green with the angles brown.

10 penni, red, green and brown.

NORWAY.—"Der Ph." notes a second type of the 10 öre, similar to that of the 20 öre described last month.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.—The "Ph. R." notes the 2 c. de peso, carmine of 1880, surcharged "Habilitado—Pa. U. Postal—8 cmos," in green. "Le T. P." is informed that the 20 centimos Stamp is in use with this value surcharged in black on the telegraph stamp of 250 mills, blue.

We have the 8c. de peso stamp similarly surcharged "Habilitado Pa. Correos, 20 cmos" in black.

PORTUGUESE INDIA.—The editor of the "Ph. R." has been shown a letter from, the Postmaster of Mosgou (Nova Goa?) from which it appears that all the old stock of Stamps is being utilized by means of surcharges. Attached to the letter as specimens are the 10 reis green, surcharged "1½," which has already been chronicled and the 100 reis, lilac, surcharged "4½," in black.

SIERRA LEONE.—The "Ph. R." describes two reply paid cards. The stamp, type of the adhesives, is in the right upper corner. In the upper center are the Arms of Great Britain; "Union Postal Universelle" above the arms; "Sierra Leone" and the usual instruction below. In the left lower corner, on the first half, the same instruction in English and French as on the British Cards; and on the second half the word "Reply." Colored impression on pale buff card, 141x89 mm. Form 1, perforated along the fold.

Post Cards.—1x1d., carmine.
1½x1½d., slate gray.

SIAM.—The 2c. on the 32 and the 12c. purple have received the sur-

charge B. We presume all these stamps are already obsolete as Mr. Calman has shown us a set of 5 stamps and a post card, which have just been issued. There are three types of the stamps. The first contains the portrait of the king to the left in an oval and what we take to be the value in a small oval at the top. There are three stamps of this type and they all contain in four small circles in the corners a character somewhat resembling the letter C. The second type contains the same portrait in an oval but the inscription is at the bottom on a white label. The third type has the portrait in a frame arched at the top and square at the bottom. The inscription is at the top in a curved label. This type is larger than the others. The post card has the stamp of the first type in the upper right corner and an inscription in two lines, the first being separated by the arms. Lower, to the left, two characters which no doubt mean "Two." The size is 120x75 mm. We are ignorant of the values of these stamps.

Adhesives, Blue, 1st type.
 Carmine, " "
 Vermilion, " "
 Yellow, 2nd "
 Dark Yellow, 3d"

Post Card, Carmine on Yellow.

TOBAGO.—Mr. Calman informs us that Reply Paid Cards have been issued but gives no particulars.

TRANSVAAL.—The "Ph. R." has a specimen of the new Een Shilling Stamp. It is often old type, and perforated 12.

Adhesive, 1 sh., green.

TROMSÖ.—There are two types of the 5 öre surcharged on the 2 öre which differ in the size and shape of the figure of value.

TURKEY.—"Der Ph." states that the 10 paras stamp is now printed in black and green instead of black and red violet.

U. S. OF COLOMBIA.—Messrs. Ortega & Gomez send us a new card of Colombia of the value of 2 centavos. The stamp is the same as that on the card of 1882. The inscription at the top is in two lines as follows: "Estados Unidos de Colombia—Escribase en seguida la direccion solamente." There are four dotted lines for the address, the first being preceded by "A." In the lower right corner, "y a la vuelta la Comunicacion." The whole is surrounded by a fancy frame containing the same inscription as that of the 2c. vermilion of 1881. The impression is in black on gray card. Size 180x32 mm.

Card 2c. black.

VICTORIA.—The "Ph. R." has seen an official post Card used by the Volunteers of the Colony. It bears in the right upper corner the usual hand-stamped *frank*, lettered "Commandant Local Forces;" in the upper center is printed "On Her Majesty's Service," in Gothic type; and in the left lower corner, "Metropolitan Rifle Corps. 1st June 1883" in two lines. Frank stamp in gray blue, inscriptions in black, on white card. 120x82 mm.

THE LOCAL POST-OFFICE OF SHANGHAI.

CAPTAIN E. B. EVANS, R. A.

A correspondent who resided in Shanghai a few years ago has given me some particulars as to the postal arrangements there, which I think may possibly be of interest to the reader.

Most collectors are aware that the Shanghai stamps are not issued by the Chinese Government; they are perhaps also aware that the locality to which they belong is quite distinct from the Chinese town of Shanghai, being in fact, a foreign settlement in China, inhabited, and practically governed, by foreigners.

The Government consists of a Municipal Council elected by the settlers, who make their own laws, and see to the lighting, police, etc. The local post-office is under the control of the Council, and its issues are not Chinese, nor anything else but Shanghaiian (if one may coin such a word) pure and simple.

At the same time these stamps are not solely for local use, because they also frank letters conveyed by sea from Shanghai to the other treaty ports in China, though they cannot be used on letters to other countries, some of which have post offices of their own there. For instance, there is a British post-office, which is a branch of that of Hong Kong, and at which Hong Kong stamps are employed; an American, where United States stamps can be bought, and letters posted to America and Europe, *via* Japan and San Francisco; a Japanese, through which Japanese stamps will convey letters also to America and Europe by the same route; and a French office, where French stamps are current. In short, Shanghai would seem to be a sort of paradise for stamp collectors, where the stamps of all nations can be purchased at face value in the same street.

Doubtless many collectors have noticed the fact that used specimens of the Shanghai stamps are not so common as might be expected or wished. There is an especial reason for this, which is, that any one who chooses to subscribe a certain amount per annum to the local post-office can have all his correspondence conveyed by it free, without the trouble of using stamps at all. No doubt most of the residents, or those, at least, who have much correspondence, are subscribers; and the stamps are principally employed by persons passing through the place, or others residing there who do not send a sufficient number of letters to make it worth their while to subscribe.

This subscription arrangement gives

rise to a peculiar species of post card, which, I think, has no parallel among the issues of any other country. This is the subscribers' card. It is an unstamped card, and bears no indication of any value; but it does not belong to the same class as ordinary unstamped cards, inasmuch as it does not require the addition of an adhesive stamp to frank it through the post. Again, it is different to an official card or a war card; for they denote a freedom from liability to the payment of postage, while this denotes to some extent postage paid.

I do not, as a rule, collect unstamped cards, and I believe there are other collectors who draw the line in the same place; but I do not know what we are to do with this card. It forms an intermediate class all by itself.

Cards are issued also for the official use of the local volunteer corps, but these would come under the head of official or privileged cards; they do not denote postage paid in any way.

In looking at some used specimens of these cards I notice a curious circumstance. In all the printed inscriptions on them the name of the place is spelt thus, SHANGHAI; but in the date stamps of the local post-office it is spelt SHANGHAE, with a final E. It would seem that even the municipal authorities are doubtful as to the proper spelling of the name of their municipality.

My correspondent is of opinion that the CHINA stamps—1, 2, and 3 *candarin*s—also belong to Shanghai, and that they are issued by a species of local post-office worked by the *Customs* authorities. This is nominally a Chinese service, but actually managed by foreigners; and its post-office conveys letters overland, the only route open to some of the northern treaty ports in winter when blocked with ice by sea.

This however is only a conjecture as to the origin of the stamps in question.

The *Customs* post-office exists, but whether it issues these stamps or not is uncertain.—*P. R.*

THE LEDGER DISPATCH.

PHILIP LA TOURETTE.

In December, 1882, a young man named Edward Pidgeon hired two rooms in the old Willoughby Building, No. 419 Fulton St., Brooklyn, hired a few carriers, issued a stamp and commenced carrying mail matter for the public. A number of business houses finding that they could have their letters delivered for eighty cents a hundred, immediately bought stamps and had their city mail transmitted through this Post-Office which was called the Ledger Dispatch. The first stamps used were light pink, but as soon as the issue was exhausted the proprietor had a dark red, and finally a Purple Stamp printed. About the time the Purple Stamps appeared the Government interfered, notifying him that his business was illegal, and that he must discontinue his operations. As he disregarded this order he was visited by the Marshalls Deputies, his place closed, all his stamps on hand destroyed and a fine imposed upon him. As he saw at once that his business was destroyed he redeemed all the stamps in the possession of his customers and left Brooklyn. Since then the Willoughby Building has been partially destroyed by fire no less than three times in as many months. So that all traces of the Ledger Dispatch are obliterated. Unfortunately and very curiously the stamp collectors in New York and Brooklyn knew nothing about all this until after the post was closed, being so close to home it was entirely overlooked.

In contradiction to some Local Posts which have been closed by the Government in the last year the stamps seem to

have disappeared, only a very few are known to exist. The stamp is rectangular and the design measures 19x26 mm. In the centre is a representation of an addressed and stamped envelope, above which are the words "The Ledger" and below "Dispatch," and "419 Fulton Street, Brooklyn." This is all in an octagon with ground work of lines diverging from the centre. In each of the four corner is the letter "L." Roueleted in colored lines.

THE THREE-CENT STAMP.

Good-by, old stamp, it's nasty luck
That ends our friendship so.
When others failed you gamely stuck,
But now *you've* got to go.
So here's a flood of honest tears,
And here's an honest sigh—
Good-by, old friend, of many years—
Good-by, old stamp, good-by!

Your life has been a varied one,
With curious phases fraught—
Sometimes a check, sometimes a dun,
Your daily coming brought;
Smiles to a waiting lover's face,
Tears to a mother's eye,
Or joy or pain to every place—
Good-by, old stamp, good-by!

You bravely toiled, and better men
Will vouch for what I say;
Although you have been licked 'twas when
Your face turned t'other way,
'Twas often in a box you got
(As you will not deny),
For going through the mails I wot—
Good-by, old stamp, good-by!

Ah, in your last expiring breath
The tale of years is heard—
The sound of voices hushed in death,
A mother's dying word.
A maiden's answer soft and sweet,
A wife's regretful sigh,
The patter of a baby's feet—
Good-by, old stamp, good-by!

What wonder, then, that at this time
When you and I must part,
I should aspire to speak in rhyme
The promptings of my heart.
Go, bide with all those mem'ries dear
That live when others die—
You've nobly served your purpose here—
Good-by, old stamp, good-by!

ORIGIN OF POSTAGE STAMPS.

On the seventh of November, 1818, the emission of stamped postal paper was announced in Italy, (Sardina) and the conditions on which it might be used. This paper was prepared under the immediate supervision of the *Directeur des Postes*, and could be procured at post offices, and from venders of tobacco, who received a commission upon their sales. There were three values: fifteen centesimi, twenty-five centesimi, and fifty centesimi, all bearing the same device. These covers were but little used, however, and were finally withdrawn by the seventy-third article of a royal decree of the 30th March, 1836, in consequence of a modification being made in the postal regulations by the seventy-second article of the same law.

The next attempt at issuing postage stamps was made by one Treffenberg, of Stockholm, who proposed to the Assembly of Swedish Nobility to issue stamped paper to be made into envelopes for letters. The proposition was warmly supported by Count de Schwerin, on the ground that it would be both convenient to the public and the post office, but the proposition was rejected by a large majority.

But to Mr. Rowland Hill are we indebted for that postal reform which was introduced by him into the British Parliament in 1837, which among other reforms, proposed that letters should be prepaid by means of stamped covers or envelopes. His proposition met with much opposition. Fortunately thousands of petitions poured in for the furtherance of this bold project, and parliament, moved by such a general manifestation, caused a commission to examine the plan. After many stormy debates it was adopted, and put in operation on the 6th of May, 1840. To Mr. Hill, then, do we owe the adoption of

the idea, and its practical development. As soon as the postal scheme was matured in England, and the emission of postal stamps decided on, the authorities issued a prospectus offering a reward of £500 for the best design and plan for a stamp. The conditions, which were widely circulated, stated that the chief desiderata were simplicity and facility in working, combined with such precautions as should prove effectual against forgery. Thousands of designs—many of the most elaborate workmanship—were sent in; but none were so simple as that furnished by Heath, of London, which was subsequently chosen. It is, however, in use at the present day, its color only having been changed from black to red.

POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTING.

If stamp collecting had been introduced by a schoolmaster as a "Royal road" to acquiring a knowledge of history, geography, national statistics, etc., he certainly would have been considered a clever person and would have received the thanks of many parents for his ingenuity, and the success which attended his labors.

When stamp collecting was a new thing, it was thoroughly ridiculed by non collectors. I will, however in this short article endeavor to lay before the reader some of the reasons which render stamp collecting not only amusing but an instructive pursuit. The first thing which it teaches is I think a knowledge of Geography; for instance, nine collectors out of ten will tell you where Tolima, Alwur, or Labuan are situated but I very much question if one out of ten non collectors could tell you.

Then I will take History; turning over the pages of an album. I come to Portugal. I see that the first stamps were i

sued in 1853 and bear the head of Donva Maria II, but in 1855 it has changed and in its stead is that of King Pedro I, then in 1862 that of King Louis I., and so on— Then again take the stamps of England and its Colonies; they all have the Queen's effigy, and a collector knows at a glance that, Heligoland, Hong Kong, St. Vincent, Canada, New Zealand etc., are British possessions for the simple reason that the stamps of these countries have the Queen's head on them—even to a non-collector it must be of interest to see how the various issues of some countries faithfully reproduce the various changes of Government, &c.

France and Spain are perhaps two of the most interesting

France shows us, on her stamps first, the Republic of 1848, then, Napoleon III. as President of that Republic, then, as Emperor, then, after the French victories, his assumption of Cassanian laurels, then after the German war, another Republic.

Spain shows Queen Isabella, then a Republic, then the short reign of King Amadeus, then, Alphonso, besides the stamps which show the Carlist troubles, etc.

Of course it is impossible in a short article like this to do more than glance here and there.

It may also be mentioned that stamp-collecting teaches a knowledge of the coinage of each country, also of the various methods of printing, engraving, etc.

HOW TO COLLECT.

The young Philatelist who is about to choose an album for the first time in which to mount his treasures, needs some advice from those who have had more experience. A great many of the more advanced collectors use simply a blank-book, in which they arrange their specimens in order to suit themselves,

either Chronologically, or Alphabetically, as they choose. For the beginner, however, we would advise the selection of an album that contains spaces for the various emissions of every country of the correct shape of the stamps. By the use of such an album there will be but very little possibility of any mistakes being made in mounting the specimens. Now having selected an album, the collector has his stamps to mount. If he collects only unused stamps, great care should be taken in their selection, only the cleanest and most perfect specimens being allowable; so, also, if he admits used stamps into his book, only those that are perfect in every respect should be given a place in his collection.

Before mounting, if there is any paper remaining on the backs of the stamps, they should be floated face upward in a goblet of water, and after being thoroughly dampened, the paper can be very easily removed without injury to the stamp. Never paste your stamps down solid in your album, you may sometime wish to change them over into another book, or remove them for the insertion of better specimens, but if they are gummed solid, they can only be removed by wetting, which injures the appearance of the album. The plan which we have adopted, and can recommend to every collector, is to mount your stamps on hinges, which are made from very fine note paper, gummed on one side only, then doubled into hinges of about one-fourth of an inch in width, with the gummed side out. These are to be placed at the top of each stamp, and then the stamp is ready for mounting in its proper place in your album. Stamps fixed in this way can very easily be changed for better specimens, and can also be raised for examination of their watermarks; they also present a far better appearance than stamps which are stuck on solid. Last but not least, keep

your album clean; don't handle it with dirty hands; many collections are ruined by being rubbed and soiled with dirty fingers. When you wish to mount new specimens, or show your collection to a friend, be sure your hands are in a clean condition. If you follow these directions, and keep clear of the counterfeits with which many unprincipled dealers are flooding the country, you will in a short time have a collection fit to adorn the parlor of a nabob, and one which, if you look at it in a pecuniary point of view, will bring a good price, whenever you wish to dispose of it.

THE POST OFFICE OF JAPAN.

Japan, as all Philatelists know, is an insular empire, east of China. It is about as large as California, but as large as the whole United States in population.

In this island, before 1871, there was no such thing as a Post Office. There was, however, a system of carrying communication through what was known as "hikiyaku" (flying legs), professional carriers. They were a very stout set of fellows, making fifty or sixty miles a day, generally employed by princes and nobles, but very seldom by common people, on account of the enormous fee which they charge.

In 1871 a regular Post Office system was organized—one of the grandest and most successful enterprises in Japan.

In every city and town you will find a Post Office, where all classes of people can buy stamps and deposit letters, news papers, and parcels.

All Post Offices, however small the town may be, deliver mail to the person addressed by a Post Office boy. They do not keep boxes, as the U. S. town Post Offices do.

There are now seven or eight different

railroads, altogether making 200 or more miles. The mail can be carried on these roads in a short space of time. But where no railroad exists, it is carried by a *man* both day and night. Of course the man is changed at every station. They make a pretty fast trip under the circumstances; usually a letter takes six days to come from Tokioto to Aomori (a distance of 250 miles.)

As Japan has made and is making a wonderful progress in everything, in twenty-five years hence her mail systems will be of course modified and improved.

Like all other countries, Japan too saw the benefit of the postal system that was instituted by Sir Rowland Hill, and in 1871 Post Offices were opened in every large city, and stamps were issued for the prepayment of postage on letters and parcels. Subsequently Stamped Envelopes which were then and are still used in Europe and America, came to the notice of the postal department. Not only because the spirit of the Japanese is to imitate everything that is foreign, but more especially for the reason that they clearly saw the convenience of such things, that in 1875 a set of Stamped Envelopes was issued. They were as follows:

1 sen, blue.	2 sens, yellow.
4 sens, rose.	6 " brown.

The design of the stamp is exactly the same as the adhesives of 1875.

The next year another set was issued. They are the same as the proceeding, except that the inscription in the centre is different. The stamps of 1875 say "Yubin-kitty," meaning postage stamps, while those of 1876 read "Yubin-hoki," which means postal envelope. "Yubin" means mail; "Kitty" a ticket; therefore Yubin-Kitty is, literally, mail ticket. "Hoki" means literally, a skin for covering a letter—an envelope. It is a curious fact that the right hand side of our envelope is the top of the Japanese envelope, and

hence the stamped impression on the letter is on the left hand corner, and the name and address of a person is written from top to bottom.

PROOFS OF THE NEW STAMPS.

The philatelists, by which polysyllable are designated the collectors of postage stamps are all agog over the new two-cent and four-cent stamps which are to be delivered to postmasters shortly and will be sold to the public on October 1. But the thoroughbred philatelist wants a proof if he can get one, and is not satisfied with an impression. Proofs, however, are not easy things to get, and if collectors were aware of this fact some officials at Washington would be spared the nuisance of several tons of beseeching letters. Our reporter recently visited the headquarters of the American Bank Note Company, and Vice-President James Macdonough explained the matter to him. In the first place a die is cut on soft steel in sunken lines, or as gem engravers would express it, in intaglio. From this, which is hardened, are duplicated a roll of transfers, which are in cameo, or raised like printing type. From these again is triplicated a plate containing 200 steel copies in sunken line exactly similar to the original. The stamps are printed from these plates in sheets of 200. A proof is an impression from the original. This is a process peculiar to the United States Stamps, for making which the American Bank Note Company has a contract. In other countries the plates are made directly from the original die, so that the stamps are printed from raised or cameo blocks like type. The process of duplicating is similar to that now employed in France for the multiplication of etchings. This style of illustration is coming into favor for books and periodicals, but it is obvious that an etching plate can only

give a few hundred impressions and is then worn out. The original plate is therefore hardened and duplicates in cameo are made from it by compression with soft zinc plates, which are subsequently hardened as much as can be done with zinc. In this way etchings appear in periodicals that circulate by the thousand.

GENUINE reprints of the first issue embossed Natal are said not to exist.

THERE are two series of the 1859 issue of Venezuela. One on white and the other on blue paper.

LOCAL STAMPS are stamps issued by private persons or companies, with or without the authority of the State, for the purpose of prepaying the proprietors' charges for carrying letters from one particular town to another, or from one part of a town to another. The Russian local stamps, however, have an exceptional origin, they being issues by the local authorities of the government in which they are current. Of the local emissions with which collectors are acquainted, and for which spaces are allotted in all the principal albums, scarcely one-half are genuine, the remainder being the fraudulent fabrications of dishonest engravers and speculators.

PUNCHED SPANISH STAMPS.—Specimens of many of the Spanish postage stamps exist with a hole punched in, or with one line each way, drawn across with pen and ink, or with three printed bars, crossing transversely, and obscuring the design to a considerable degree. These specimens formed part of the remainders of their respective series in hand when the same were withdrawn, and the obliterating mark was made by order of the authorities (by whom these remainders were sold to dealers), to prevent their being used by any chance for prepayment of postage.

Auction Sales.

Under this heading we shall be pleased to announce any forthcoming sales and to review the same on receipt of priced catalogue.

One of the most important collections of Postage Stamps that has been offered for sale at auction during the past year is that now catalogued by E. B. Sterling, for sale at Leavitt's Art Rooms, on Wednesday and Thursday Evenings, October 24th and 25th. It is one of the most important, from the fact that it contains United States Stamps *only*—all picked specimens, which it would be almost impossible to duplicate in the same condition. The Envelopes are especially to be noted as the collection is undoubtedly one of the most complete ever offered at auction and is worthy the attention of collectors.

The law abolishing match and medicine stamps went into effect on the first of July, hence there is no chance of any new varieties being issued, or additional quantities of those already in use being made. This will have the effect of starting a large number of amateurs collecting this beautiful and interesting series, and certainly they could have no better opportunity of laying the foundation of such a collection, or completing one already well furnished.

The collection of Tin Foil Tobacco Wrappers is one of the finest ever offered for sale, and the first at public auction, it should command the attention of advanced collectors to the rarities offered in this line.

Independent of the revenue stamps, an examination of the Catalogue will reveal some of the rarities in United States postage stamps. We heartily commend it to our patrons, and those contemplating purchasing may obtain catalogues by addressing our publisher who will also execute all orders intrusted to him by collectors living at too great a distance from New York to attend in person.

Following the Sterling Sale Messrs. Scott & Co. announce their 52d sale to be held at Leavitt's Art Rooms on Monday Evening, November 5th, consisting of American and Foreign Postage Stamps and Post Cards, offering as it does an unusual opportunity for collectors who have neglected their albums for a short time to fill up with new issues as it is composed almost entirely of stamps issued during the last two years, they are without exception in the finest possible condition, and are needed in nearly every collection. The remainder of the collection is composed of small quantities of really good and saleable new issues, and will be found a valuable acquisition to collectors who have a taste or leisure for "swapping" with brother amateurs. Dealers will find this a chance rarely met with as it is the kind of a stock which seldom accumulates and is disposed of as fast as received.

Stamp auctions are too well established to need recommendation; there are but few collectors who have not reaped the advantages of this method of purchasing, where, independently of buying in competition with dealers at first price, often less than cost, they have the public guarantee of responsible firms as to the genuineness of stamps purchased.

Collectors who have not already obtained catalogues should avail themselves the opportunity at the very earliest moment by addressing our publisher enclosing stamp, as the collection contains many new issues that could not be bought of a dealer for from two to three times the amount they will bring, consequently it is to your advantage to make your bids early.

The 53d sale of Messrs. Scott & Co. will be held at Leavitt's Art Rooms, on December 10th and 11th, consisting of Coins, Medals, etc. Those interested in Numismatics can obtain catalogues by addressing above firm or our publisher and enclosing stamp.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL
PHILATELICAL SOCIETY.

The first regular meeting of the society for season 1883-4 was held on Tuesday evening, September 11th, at room 38, Tribune Building. President R. R. Bogert presided, and after a short speech of welcome and congratulation to the members declared the meeting open at 8.30 p.m. for the regular transaction of business.

Minutes of June meeting were read and approved together with a large file of correspondence received during summer vacation, including one from the Dresden Society increasing the number of their subscription to the Color Chart, all of which the Secretary was ordered to answer.

A resolution was passed requesting those members who have changed their residence since the last meeting to communicate their permanent address, at earliest possible moment to the Secretary.

Special Committee on Color Chart reported that progress on the same had somewhat been retarded during the past two months owing to unforeseen difficulty in finding a substance suitable to make the dies used in printing from, as the action of the ink, especially red, blue and purple, on the electrotype was such that it was impossible to take but a few impressions from them before the printing was bad. Having found electrotypes a failure after they had been steel plated, plates made of celluloid were ordered but were found soft and would not stand the long run required, the next thing to suggest itself was nickel which has proven to be the desired substance and from which the Charts are now being printed, and are being pushed ahead as fast as practicable. Owing to the difficulty it will delay the issue of the Charts beyond the time announced and the kind indulgence both of members of the Society and the

public is therefore asked in our behalf, promising the Charts at the very earliest possible moment we feel assured that the excellency of workmanship and design of the Charts will amply repay them for the short delay. About one-half of the work being finished up to date.

Rules from the Wurtemberg Philatelic Society also the Internationalen Philatelisten-Vereins of Dresden were received and the Secretary authorized to acknowledge the same and send to each society copy of the By-Laws of the National Philatelic Society.

A letter of resignation was received from Mr. W. W. Phair on account of his inability to attend the meetings.

In order to spread the study of Philately amongst the people and to arouse Philatelists from their lithargic inactivity to a sphere of usefulness it was unanimously agreed to offer a premium of Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) in gold to the person obtaining the largest number of subscribers for the NATIONAL PHILATELIST before January 1st, 1884.

Among the Novelties exhibited were the following: by Mr. LaTourette, the new 2c. envelope of the United States on fawn paper which very much resembles the current series. By Mr. Muecke, specimens of Russian Sempstoo Stamps on original envelopes; these stamps represent the fee charged by carriers in collecting letters in the sparingly populated countries of Russia, that are not reached by the Imperial Postal Service, and are issued by the consent of the Russian Government although the latter require the regular Postage Stamp to be affixed irrespective of the Sempstoo Stamps. Mr. Callman exhibited the 5k. and 20k. Austrian Stamp; Mr. Reichert, the 20 öre Norway impressed in blue instead of brown; Mr. Bogert, the 5c. Chilian in blue.

The minutes being read the meeting adjourned until Tuesday Evening, Oct. 9.

W. F. SMITH, *Secretary.*

Answers to Correspondents.

We hold ourselves in readiness to give here such information as lies in our power, and are prepared, at all times, to assist Philatelists in the solution of such questions as we are able to. All questions addressed to the Society, not requiring an answer by letter, will be replied to here.

J. W. H., NEW LONDON, CONN.—The 10c. Confederate label bearing flag, of which you write is nothing more nor less than an essay, which has been known for years, but to a novice who is *not* familiar with philatelic literature of the past it is comparatively a new label. If you will take the trouble to refer to Stanley, Gibbons & Co.'s catalogue you will find it classified with 20c New Orleans essay. Mark Twain says everybody is insane but himself, consequently it's resurrection (?).

I. E. D., NEWARK, N. J.—If you are collecting counterfeits, you have made an excellent beginning, as the stamps you sent for inspection are *all* counterfeits. We should advise your last suggestion as the best mode of mounting.

W. F. O., POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y.—Thanks for suggestion, the article will be published in our next. It would be advisable to continue your chronicle, even for your own benefit. They are perfectly reliable.

H. W. H.—If you desire our paper you must send yours *regularly* otherwise we cannot exchange with you.

M. B., PORT HOPE, ONT.—*Laid* paper is paper watermarked with fine parallel lines close together; having the appearance of being *inlaid* with lines.

G. R. Y., PHILADELPHIA, PA.—1st. It is a matter of doubt as to the genuineness of the issue. 2d. You can find full particulars and regulations of the Society in No. 1 this Journal.

P. B. A., UTICA, N. Y.—It is to our interest certainly to recommend other Stamp Journals because we know that when you have compared them with the NATIONAL PHILATELIST, your verdict will be unanimous in our favor, at \$1.00 per year. "Men originate, monkeys imitate," likewise the 25c Stamp Journals, who declare that the paste pot and shears are mightier than the pen and common sense.

W. R. S., ROME, N. Y.—Any N. Y. stamp dealer can supply you with desired article, price 20c. Should be pleased to receive your article for examination.

D. McM., N. Y. CITY.—If you send postage your Mss. will be returned—we have no use for such a conglomeration of nonsense; unless you can give some facts regarding the issuing of the stamps, do not bother publishers with your list; we can furnish you our catalogue of postage stamps for 25c which contains all the information of your article together with the issue of 1883 which you do not mention.

Exchanges.

In order to facilitate the exchange of duplicates, and with a view to bringing about more intimate relations among collectors we offer a column per month, *free of charge to our subscribers only*, wherein they may briefly state what they have to dispose of and what they desire in exchange.

Holding direct correspondence in Switzerland, I can furnish the new issues, including the 2, 5, 10, 20, 25 & 40 centimes. Guaranteed all perfect and entire specimens, for offers on old U. S. and foreign stamps. A stock always on hand. Please do not address by postal cards. LOUIS TOCABEN, 30 Maiden Lane, N. Y.

I have an unused 10c. U. S. 1847; (catalogued at \$2.50) also 90c 1851 and 1869 to exchange for offers in rare U. S. stamps, envelopes or revenues. Have also old 2c, black on white, provisional, Hawaii. Guaranteed Genuine. H. R. GOODRICH, Oberlin, Ohio.

Stamps, for stamps; also Brazil, Venezuela, Roumania, Egypt and Sandwich Island stamps, for exchange, besides many others. F. R. R., office this paper.

Five postal cards, one Germany (unused), one Austria, (unused), one Canada (used), one England, (unused), and one U. S. (used), of an old issue, and 100 foreign stamps, all different, for the best offer in old American coins. N. W. A., office this paper.

I am always glad to hear from any collectors or dealers who may desire to open up a correspondence with Australia, I can use any kind of rare stamps and can give old issue Australia in exchange, all communications should be addressed to DAWSON A. VINDIN, P. O. Box 660, Sydney.

Five foreign stamps for a 7 cent War Department, or the 5, 24. or 90 cent of 1851 issue, or the 20 or 90 cent of 1861 issue, or the 10, 24, 30, or 90 cent of 1866 issue. R. W. L., Waterloo, N. Y.

Four stamps from Antigua, Bermuda, Trinidad, and Barbadoes, for a stamp from Buenos Ayres, Faraguay, Poland, Ionian Isles, old issue of Liberia, 1863 issue of Newfoundland, and are Eepartment Stamps. Also set of 1847 U. S. stamps, unused, for set of War, Navy, Agriculture, or Justice. Three foreign stamps, for any five match stamps. No postals answered. W. F., office this paper.

Thirty different foreign stamps, one Austrian Italy, one Cape of Good Hope, two Turkey, one India, and the U. S. 5 cent brown, 1847 issue, for the 50 and 90 cent of 1850, 1861 or 1869 U. S. issue, in good condition. I. E. N., office of this paper.

One hundred mixed foreign stamps, for a 24 cent U. S. stamp of 1870. A. D., office this paper.



The National Philatelist.

VOL. I.

NEW YORK, OCTOBER, 1883.

No. 10.

POSTAL PROGRESS.

The history of the postal system in connection with the reduction of letter postage is a most interesting one. It leads back to the earliest times, when couriers were used for carrying royal or government dispatches. Posts of this kind existed in Assyria, Persia, Greece and Rome. The post office originated in the posts or stations, at intervals along the road of the Roman Empire. The first postal system for commercial and private correspondence appears to have been established between the Haus towns early in the thirteenth century. And from that time the progress was steady, though never rapid. In this country, Massachusetts provided by legislation for the postal system as early as 1639, and Virginia in 1657. A monthly post between Boston and New York was instituted in 1672. In the beginning letters arriving in this country from beyond the seas were delivered on board the ship. Letters not called for were left by the captain at a coffee house near the wharf, where they were spread on a table or shelf, awaiting call. Persons calling not only took charge of their own letters, but those of acquaintances in their neighborhood, either delivering them in person or leaving them at the minister's or at some magistrate's office to be inquired for, or announced in church. Those coffee houses gradually grew into common use for letters between the cities and the interior until regular posts were instituted. One of the first acts of the Continental Congress was the establishment of a general post office department, and

the appointment of Benjamin Franklin, who had enjoyed large experience in the British colonial postal service, as the first postmaster general. How vast has the change been from that day to this, with the perfect system of railway mail service, the carrier system, and now the reduction of letter postage to two-cents.

Now that two-cent postage is an accomplished fact, it is time to cast about for the next reform in the postal system. It will be necessary, no doubt, before further diminishing the postal revenues, to find out how they are affected by the great reduction of Oct. 1, 1883, and to ascertain when the Post Office Department will recover from the temporary lessening of receipts and again show an annual surplus.

But the next accommodation for the people should be an increase in the maximum weight for the single letter from its present standard or half-an-ounce to a full ounce. It is true that the permission to carry an over-weighted letter and to collect from the receiver the surplus postage due neutralizes some of the objections to the present system; but it does not remove them. There are two good reasons for increasing the standard weight of the single letter. One is the general policy of cheap postage; a second is the existing uncertainty as to whether letters are fully prepaid. People who would not grudge a second stamp, yet dislike to waste it by affixing it when it is not needed.

The weight allowed in Great Britain for the single letter is one ounce, or double the present allowance for the United

States. As we have just followed that country in our reduction of postage to two cents, the equivalent of the English penny, so now we may well adopt its standard of letter weight. That standard has now existed there for years, and the annual surplus revenue of the British Post Office is, nevertheless, over thirteen million dollars.

It may be said that this increase of weight would chiefly benefit business and professional men. But that is a hasty inference. As a fact, probably no correspondence is so terse as that of business, in which double letters are rare exceptions.

The great body of city people who have no weighing apparatus at their homes, and who mail their letters in the street corner boxes would be specially benefited by the change. It is letters of friendship or family information that are apt to be the longest. Every office, however, that receives a large mail is made aware that even in other than private correspondence many letters come marked with postage due, when the self-interest or the pride of the writers would doubtless have induced them to fully prepay their missives, had they known how many stamps were required.

The scrimping, half-ounce weight, in short, was better suited to the age when letters were addressed on their backs, without envelopes, than it is to these times, when the use of a separate wrapper is universal.

Chronicle.

BELGIUM.—"Le T. P." publishes a decree dated August 29th, authorizing a new series of stamps, to be issued January 1st, 1884. Those of the value of 10 centimes and above will bear the effigy of the King. The 1, 2 and 5 centimes will be changed in color.

Adhesives, 1 centimes,	réséda.
2	" yellow.
5	" green.
10	" carmine.
20	" blue gray.
25	" blue.
50	" violet.
1 franc,	lilac.
2	" brown.

BRAZIL.—The "I. B. Z." has information from Rio de Janeiro that at the end of September new stamps were to be issued of the value of 10, 20 and 50 reis with figures of value in the middle.

Adhesives, 10 reis.	
20	"
50	"

CUBA.—The 40c. Telegraph stamps have received the same surcharges as the 5, 10 and 20c. postage stamps, in the same five varieties.

DENMARK.—"Le T. P." says that two varieties exist of the 8 öre official stamp, the figures of value being larger in one than in the other.

DUTCH INDIES.—To the set of unpaid letter stamps is to be added the 20c. of the same design as the others. So says the "W. B. Z."

Unpaid letter, 20c. black and red.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Mr. Westoby writes to "Le T. P." that the new stamps will be as follows.

1, 1½, 2, 2½, 3 pence,	purple.
4, 5, 6, 9 pence,	1 sh. green.

The effigy will be in an oval for the 1d. and 4d.; in a horseshoe for the 1½d. and 5d.; in a hexagon for the 2d. and 6d.; in a circle for the 2½d. and 9d.; and in a square for the 3d. and 1sh. The half-penny has been found too beautiful to be changed, but will be put in mourning for its departed brethren, that is to say it will be printed in black.

HELIGOLAND.—The "D. P. Z." states that the 3 and 20 pfennig stamps are perforated 12.

JAPAN.—The "W. B. Z." informs us that the Japanese stamps are surcharged in black with a Japanese inscription, and are used as unpaid letter stamps.

MEXICO.—"Le T. P." says that the 50c. is again printed in the color of 1879. It is on very thin paper and surcharged 5483.

The "W. B. Z." mentions the 25 centavos envelope blue on white and yellow paper of large size and without watermark and that the 10 centavos envelopes have been seen surcharged "Habilitado" in green.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—Messrs. McCorquodale & Co., are extending the varieties of their registration envelopes to this colony. Differences in the lettering and in the size of the stamp frame are to be found similar to those on their envelope for Great Britain. *A. S. & Co's M. C.*

NOWANUGGER.—"L'A. de T." states that there are only 10 varieties on the sheet instead of 15 as formerly.

Adhesives 1 docra, rose.
2 " green.
3 " yellow.

PANAMA.—Mr. Calman has shown us the 5 and 10c. rouletted.

PERU.—The "I. B. J." illustrates what is called a new stamp for Arequipa, which was issued on July 15th. The arms are in the center, "Peru" above, "Diez" below on ribbon and "centavos" still lower "10" in each of the lower angles, and "1883" at the left side "1884" at the right. Printed in blue on thin white paper. This supersedes the 10 centavos red, which was issued in March.

SIAM.—"Le T. P." has obtained a translation of the inscriptions on the new Siamese stamps and card, from which we learn their values. On the blue stamp the word *solos'* (sixteen); on the carmine *ath* (eight); on the vermilion *siyou* a word derived from *si* (four); with regard to the

character in the angles it signifies *one*; thus the stamps are 1-16, 1-8, 1-4, fyang. In the yellow stamp of the second type the inscription means, *sik hnyng*, or one sig which is equivalent to half of a fyang. The dark yellow stamp with inscription in curve above, has *Salyng hnyng* or one salyng. The card is one eighth fyang. The inscription means "Postal Sheet"—"on this side write the address, on the other the letter"—"To." The money used in Siam is as follows: the fyang (8 cents), the salyng (16 cents), the bat. (64 cents), and the tikal (\$2.56). The fyang is divided into fractions, its quarter is sometimes called *pai* as the quarter anna of India.

From the "I. B. J." we get the following information in regard to these stamps. They are for internal use only and in fact are only an experiment. The foreign correspondence is still forwarded by the English Postal Agent at Bangkok, and is franked by the Straits Settlement stamps or the Hong Kong stamps.

Adhesives, 1-16 fyang, blue
1-8 " carmine.
1-4 " vermilion.
1 sig, yellow.
1 salyng, dark yellow.

Post Card, 1-8 fyang, red on yellow.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—The three-penny adhesive has become obsolete, and we are informed that no further issue of the eight penny will be made after the present stock is exhausted. *A. S. & Co's M. C.*

ST. DOMINGO.—A printers' error in the July number makes us say 1f. 50c. instead of 2f. 50c. Please correct.

Adhesive, 2f. 50c. black and yellow.

STRAITS SETTLEMENT.—The following corrections should be made in our August number. The 2c. is surcharged on the 4c. *rose* (not *blue*), and the new 2c. is *rose* (not *rare*). In addition to this the 5 cent has been changed to slate blue.

Adhesives, 5c. slate blue.

SWEDEN.—"Der Ph." has information from Herr. Nielson, Malmö that the Post Card 6x6 öre, lilac on white exists with the stamps not embossed. It is of Form 3.

UNITED STATES.—The new stamps and envelopes were issued on the 1st of Oct. As we have already described the adhesives it remains only to give details of the envelopes. The die of the 2c. is larger than that of the 3c. measuring 30x25½ mm. The head of Washington and the lettering are both larger, and the engine turned work is coarser. The hair is differently arranged and the face has a very different expression. The general appearance is not satisfactory, and we already hear rumors of a contemplated change. The 4c. envelope on the contrary is in our opinion one of the handsomest yet issued in this country. It very much resembles the 2c. War Department Envelope, the inscriptions being placed in curved labels with pointed ends. At the top is "U. S. Postage." and at the bottom "Four Cents." At the sides in small ovals are the figures of value. The engine turned ground work is very fine and closely resembles that in the War Envelope above mentioned. The 2c. is printed in carmine of varying shades, and the 4c. in green. It remains only to give the colors of the paper and the sizes. The list is taken from the government schedule but at the present writing we have not seen all of them.

- | | | |
|-----|-------------|----------------------|
| 2c. | white paper | Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4½, 5, |
| | amber | " 2, 3, 4½, 5, |
| | fawn | " 2, 3, 4½, 5, 7, |
| | blue | " 2, 3, 4½, 5, |
| 4c. | white | " 4½, 5, 7, 8, |
| | amber | " 4½, 5, 7, |

VICTORIA.—"A. S. & Co's M. C." gives the following extract from the *Melbourne Argus*. "In the new postal bill about to be introduced, it is provided that the distinction between Postage, Fee and Duty stamps will be done away with. Until the existing stocks are consumed, Postage, Fee and

Duty stamps may be used indifferently, and uniform stamps will after be issued for all the purposes to which the various kinds of stamps are employed. The issue of Postal notes will be provided for. The franked envelopes at present in use in the government departments will be abolished, and embossed stamps substituted for them to enable the post-office to keep an account of the letters carried for the public service."

The indiscriminate use of the various kinds of Stamps will not be permitted until the bill becomes law.

The 1873 type wrapper surcharged in red "½d." was in use for a short time only. The remaining stock has been withdrawn. A new wrapper of one-half-penny has been issued with a stamp of the present design in pink printed on it. The paper is yellowish white and is that which is watermarked with a crown, and "One-penny—Victoria," in two lines of double lined black letters. There is no band of color, and they are not gummed. They are in sheets of four and they are not sold singly.

Wrappers, ½d., green and red.
½d., pink.

PROVISIONALS.

BY RAMBLER.

Now that these abominations have gone up and down upon the face of the Earth, and waxed fat and multiplied to an unheard of extent, it seems fitting that some one should take up the subject, and open a discussion which may ultimately prove of benefit to Philatelists.

In olden times a provisional stamp was a great exception, but now-a-days they seem to be the rule, particularly with Great Britain and her possessions, the Spanish-American nations, and some of the French, Spanish, and Portuguese Colonies. What with surcharges, half-stamps, fiscals used for postal purposes,

and make shifts of every kind and description, the average collector has his hands full in keeping up with the times.

The past six or seven years have witnessed an increase to an alarming extent, in the numbers of provisional stamps. Were the stamps themselves only noted and collected it might perhaps not have become so serious an evil, but every trifling error and inaccuracy in the setting up of the type (for of course the printer is the important factor in all surcharged stamps) is duly chronicled by the Philatelic press, and, naturally, these "errors" bring fancy prices in the hands of dealers. What is more disgusting to a collector, than, having paid, say, \$5 for a provisional upon its first appearance, and upon a dealer's assurance that a limited number only of this particular stamp having been issued, they would naturally bear an enhanced value as time went by, to find, two or three months afterwards, the same stamps are sold at only 50c. to \$1 and that too by the same dealer from whom he purchased for \$5; and yet, in all this, the dealer probably is perfectly sincere, and speaks from what he considers thoroughly reliable information.

Witness the case of the surcharged Cyprus, 30 paras on 1 piastre.

When they first appeared the report was industriously circulated, by the Philatelic press and by dealers, that but about 150 of them were sold by the authorities, and consequently, the stamps at once commanded a fancy price, specimens fetching to our knowledge as high as \$10.

Now this stamp is in fair abundance, and can be purchased for from \$3 to \$4 all properly post-marked, and apparently genuine.

Look at the late provisional issues of British Guiana. At first they could hardly be procured for love or money, but now they are coming out in shoals.

This stock was purchased almost exclusively by post-office clerks and collec-

tors in that colony, who have held them ever since at exorbitant prices, so that dealers did not care to invest. Now that they are becoming so plentiful, it is fair to suppose that these gentry are getting perhaps, a little short of cash, and, of a certainty, do desire to realize upon their investment.

In this connection we desire to state that a large number of these British Guianas lately passed through our hands, in entire sheets, and that, on a number of these sheets about half the stamps were duly post-marked Georgetown, with some date in July, 1883, while the other half of the sheet was uncanceled, the sheets of course bearing yet the original gum.

Thus all tastes may be suited by the dealer and the collector of cancelled or uncanceled specimens may duly acquire his prizes.

While there is nothing really improper in a possessor of a sheet of these stamps having them cancelled to suit himself at the post-office, still we must say that we think the holders have been a little too complaisant in this matter. It smacks too much of a desire to suit all styles of collectors.

There is a postmaster in the little one horse West Indian Island of Dominica, who has made himself particular obnoxious to collectors and dealers, by pandering too evidently to tastes for varieties.

This party's name is perfectly well known to us, but we refrain from repeating it here, for obvious reasons.

To him alone we believe may be laid the shoal of noxious weeds, called "half-stamps," that have lately emanated from the West Indies; particularly those from St. Christopher, Nevis, Dominica, Antigua, Montserrat, &c. Great numbers of these have lately passed through our hands, and every entire envelope we have seen was addressed to this post-master, while those parts of envelopes sent us, bore the post-mark of Dominica, as the receiving office, as well as the regular

post-mark of the island whence they emanated.

This party has also inflicted upon us three varieties of regularly surcharged Dominican $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamps, and, not content with his gains in this respect, has passed through his office stamps with surcharge upside down, and half stamps with surcharge omitted.

Altogether the page in our albums allotted to Dominica is now (dis)graced with *fourteen* monstrosities evolved from this party's genius, for, of course, *both* halves of these surcharged stamps are collected.

Dominicas surcharged are now as plentiful as the leaves on the trees; the market is over stocked with them, nobody wants them; and yet these provisionals, when issued about a year ago, brought big prices.

We have dwelt somewhat at length upon this, as we think that this post-masters conduct should be well known to the Philatelic world.

What will he give us next? Stamps issued to provisionally satisfy legitimate business demands are all right, but what shall we say to those wretched creatures, that are now being foisted upon the in-offending pages of our albums (we mean stamps made to *sell* not *use*)?

Under no circumstances should the collector touch a half stamp, issued since 1881, unless it is upon the original envelope, plainly showing that no additional postage was paid by the recipient.

Parts of envelopes showing the half-stamp and post-mark only, should be of no value in a collector's eyes, as they prove nothing. Anything may be placed alongside a two cent stamp, in this country, and duly post-marked.

Therefore only retain half stamps (if you must have them) that appear upon the entire envelope.

Who is guarantor for the strange Costa Rica surcharges that have lately made their appearance?

We understand, that the entire remainder of the issue now obsolete was sold to an enterprising individual, and, in order that he might have something to show for his money, the government kindly surcharged in various ways, shapes, and manners, a portion of his purchase.

This party brought his investment to New York, but our dealers fought shy of his strange surcharges, and finally, he was obliged to seek (and find) a market in London.

In conclusion our advice to collectors, upon the subject of provisionals, is to wait till you see how the cat will jump.

It may be, perhaps, once out of twenty times, you will pay a trifle more in six month's time, but, in the majority of instances, you will make money by waiting for the stamps to find their proper level.

THE POSTAL MUSEUM IN BERLIN.

REV. R. B. EARÉE.

In this Museum,—sadly cramped for want of room, by the way,—the authorities have collected together specimens of all and everything which can, by the widest stretch of imagination, be brought into connection with the Post Office and its work. There are large models of all the Post Office buildings of the chief towns of the empire; models of steam packets; models of railway Post Office vans; full-sized street letter boxes, of all dates; stuffed postal officials—or, rather, representations of them—in various uniforms; the impedimenta of the German Field-Post, used in time of war, the whole of these latter can easily be packed up into a small trunk; telegraph instruments of every sort, from Senefelder's primitive instrument, worked by the decomposition of water, to the latest modifications of Morse; the printing telegraph of Hughes, &c. But a catalogue of the objects to be seen would fill this journal

half-a-dozen times over, so I must confine myself to the things more immediately interesting to Collectors. Being a Postal Museum there is, as may be expected, a collection of postage stamps; but it is not very easy to see it. The room containing the collection is not shown to visitors, unless they have got leave before hand, and then only from ten to twelve, so that it is impossible to see the whole at one visit. The stamps are in a tall cabinet, with many drawers, all secured at once by chains passing from the top to the bottom. The specimens are mounted on thin cardboard—(very badly mounted in our eyes, as they are stuck down firmly to the card, so that all distinction of watermark is impossible); but, as the sheets are being turned over many times weekly, it is probably the only way to preserve the collection from damage and theft. The sheets for one country are, as a rule, contained in a stout paper cover; but, in West Indies, South America, &c., two or three countries are lumped together into one cover. In this collection there are some interesting Prussian essays, and some very good stamps; but the great rarities are conspicuous by their absence. There is a nice specimen of the English "V. R.," but the rare Spanish, the "Post Office," Mauritius, and many stamps that we are accustomed to think moderately rare, are absent. Even my very moderate collection could supply a good many blanks in the Museum collection. The envelopes and post cards are kept in strong covers, like thin books without any pages, in tall glass-fronted cabinets, with shelves, like a bookcase. I did not admire the way of mounting; the envelopes or post cards, as the case may be, are spread over the insides of the covers and stuck down to them with drawing pins, the pins generally being placed outside the envelopes, so as not to injure them, but, in many cases, piercing the

envelope itself. The show of German envelopes is very fine; but my enthusiasm was considerable damped by a doubt as to whether most of the very choice old specimens were not reprints! The Prussian authorities, I believe made a holocaust, years ago, of the old envelopes in stock, and so there are some of their own envelope which they do not possess.

Returning to the general contents of the Museum, there are, of course, many inventions for saving of labor, &c., which are very useless for the purposes designed. For instance, there is a machine for cancelling letters. As soon as I tried this, I remarked to the attendant that the stamper would be very likely to jam his fingers in a crank past which the hand has to go. He told me that the machine was a Belgian invention, and that the Director of Posts had nearly cut off one of his fingers on his first essay, so that the machine had not been approved. The idea was to have an ink pad and the letters to be cancelled about six inches apart; a movement of the handle to the right brought down the cancelling stamp upon the pad to receive the ink; then a similar movement of the handle to the left brought the stamp down upon the letter. To have a reversible motion seems to be the height of absurdity; for so much time is lost that I am pretty sure a good stamper would with the ordinary hand stamp, cancel a thousand letters while the machine was struggling on with its second hundred. Those of my readers who have seen an active stamper at work, will remember the marvellous rapidity, almost defying the power of the eye to follow the motions and count the letters. Specimens of the electric light, both incandescend and arc lights, are to be found in the Museum; besides working models of the pneumatic Post. One of the higher officials goes round with the visitors, at

a certain hour, and explains everything in a sort of lecture, setting the telegraphs, pneumatic Post, electric lights, &c., into action. This is a very good idea, and adds greatly to the interest of the Museum, as it is rather stupid looking at row after row of scientific instruments not at work. Want of space forbids a longer article, but I think I have said enough to give the reader a general idea of the Museum and its contents; and the Philatelic visitor to Berlin cannot do better than mark it down as a place worth seeing.

THE STAMP MANIA.

FAMOUS COLLECTORS AND THEIR VALUABLE TREASURES.

[The above is extracted from columns of the *New Orleans Times Democrat*, and is reproduced here for the amusement (not instruction) of our readers.

"Where ignorance is bliss, 'tis folly to be wise." Comment upon our part, is superfluous.—ED.]

While some foreign postage stamps are worth little more than their original government value (sometimes not so much), others obtain fabulous prices in the world's stamp markets. The most valuable stamp—the *rara avis* of the French collector—is that of Mauritius, 1850. Whether blue or red it is worth 1,500 francs cash to its possessor (\$300); but it is not easy to find, as all the French consuls have been looking for it for years. The most valuable French stamp is the one-franc stamp issued in 1849—orange color. Unused it is worth \$40; cancelled it is worth \$12. The first Hawaiian stamp issued, bearing figures instead of a design, is worth \$200. Stamps of LaReunion of 1852 (15 and 30 centimes respectively), printed with a handpress on blue paper, are worth \$200. The Mexican stamps of 1867, known as the "White Guardalajara" ($\frac{1}{2}$ real), is worth cancelled, \$50. British Guiana stamps of 1850 (round, and either black or yellow)

are worth \$55 cancelled. Red Spanish stamps of 1851 (2 reals) are worth \$50 unused and \$20 cancelled. These are a few examples of singular values attached to such bits of colored paper. New Orleans readers may be interested in these quotations; and some of our merchants may be tempted to overlook such of their foreign correspondence as dates from 1849 to 1860.

The value of certain collections is enormous. The most important in the world,—and it is not yet complete,—belongs to the son of the Duchess of Galliera. The sum paid for stamps alone—not including other large expenses—was upward of \$300,000. But this collection consists of many hundred volumes!—albums containing stamps. It will take nine years more to complete the collection.

M. Arthur Rothschild's collection ranks next: it is worth only \$50,000, or 20,000 francs, and comprises over 100 volumes.

M. Rothschild has founded a Stamp-Collectors' Society—"La Societe Timbrologique"—which studies and records the history and peculiarities of all known stamps in their relation to chronology, geography, finance, linguistics and fine arts. This society holds its meetings on the first Thursday of every month; it issues a yearly bulletin and it is preparing a sort of encyclopedic dictionary of stamps.

Huge as the commerce in real stamps has become, with its thousands of wholesale and retail houses in the capitals of the world, it is doubtful whether the trade in counterfeit stamps does not almost equal it. Turkish, Cinghalese, Indian, American, African, Chinese and Japanese stamps are manufactured to order by great firms in Germany and in Belgium, the counterfeiters being careful to cancel the stamps as soon as printed so as to escape prosecution. A new mania has thus been developed. Collectors of counterfeit stamps are numerous and some of their collections are quite costly.

Auction Sales.

Under this heading we shall be pleased to announce any forthcoming sales and to review the same on receipt of priced catalogue.

AS ANNOUNCED on page 95 of the NATIONAL PHILATELIST the first Auction Sale of stamps this season was held under the supervision of Messrs. Scott & Co. at Leavitt's on Monday Evening, the 15th, and proved a rare opportunity for those present that had neglected their album to obtain many rarities. Among the bargains may be mentioned the Petersburg (Confed.) 5c., red, \$4; Fernando Po, 20c., 1871, unused, \$3.50; Great Britain, 1p. Mulready Env., unused, \$3 25, 2p., \$5.50; Philippine Isl., 1863, 2r., blue, surcharged "Habilitado por la Nacion," \$6; Sandwich Islands, 1859, 2c., \$6.25, 1864, 2c., three varieties, brought \$5.75, \$6, and \$7.50, respectively, the 1c., \$2.75, 1867, 2c., \$6.50, variety, \$7.50; 1852, 13c., blue, "Hawaiian Postage," \$28; Spain, 1850, 6r., \$2; 1853, 2r., scarlet, \$5.30; 1854, 2r., green, \$2.50; United States Revenues: \$20 Probate of Will sold for \$19; \$200, 1st issue, \$9; \$50, 2d issue, \$5.75; \$200, 2d issue, \$11; United States Postage: 1842, 3c., on buff, being the one piece most earnestly sought after by collectors was knocked down at \$75; Providence, 10c., black, \$8.10; the "Connell" stamp brought \$3.50, and as a general thing the stamps brought fair prices.

THE SECOND SALE of the season was held at Leavitt's on 24th and 25th by E. B. Sterling, Esq., and consisted entirely of U. S. Stamps. The result of this sale must be rather discouraging to the owners of the two fine collections to be sold next month, providing U. S. Stamps have a philatelic value to form a basis on which a foreign collection may be placed in competition with them, but it is certain to wake up collectors to the chance they have of obtaining good stamps for next to nothing; we have always noticed that even in the sales that realized the highest prices there were many lots that

went for very little, so we should advise all collectors to make bids—say one-half, or three-quarters, what the lot is worth for every stamp they have not got; and although they cannot expect to obtain many lots this way, they are certain of purchasing a few stamps at about half their value. One of the most important lots, and on which considerable interest was centered from the fact of its being the first ever offered at public sale, was that of 200 "Tin Foil" Tobacco Wrappers, which brought \$13.25 for the lot.

THE SALE to be held on Monday Evening, Nov. 5th at Leavitt's under the supervision of Messrs. Scott & Co., was duly announced last month and to which the attention of all collectors is called from the fact of it containing so many late issues and old rarities; the following are a few of the desirable lots catalogued; Bergsdorf, ½s., violet, 3s., rose; Bolivar, 1863, 10c., green; Bolivia, 1867, 5c., violet; British Guiana, 1850, 1c., magenta; Philippine Isl., 1863, 2r., blue; together with complete sets of most of the new issues of many countries since 1875.

ON NOVEMBER 19th, Messrs Scott & Co. will dispose at Leavitt's Art Rooms of the album of Mr. A. E. Kinger, who is retiring from the philatelic sphere of usefulness, preparatory to his "going West." For several years he has been somewhat prominently connected with the National Philatelic Society, and we have no hesitation in recommending his album to collectors, as it contains many of the rare "surcharges," which it would be almost impossible to duplicate, and which are really cheap at any price. This is an important collection from the fact that it is not one made up for an auction as is very often the case, but on the other hand it has been formed with a great deal of care and judgment, containing only "picked" specimens, and should receive the consideration that it deserves at the hands of all philatelists.

ALBERT VAN DEGEN, of Baltimore, announces a clearing out sale at auction, early in December, of a stamp dealer now retiring from business, and informs us that the stock is a large and valuable one and that the lots will be so catalogued that a collector will have the same chance as a dealer, without being compelled to purchase duplicate lots so large that he cannot readily dispose of them at "swapping." Catalogues may be obtained by enclosing a stamp to our publisher, who will also execute all bids intrusted to him.

SCOTT & Co. announce for Dec. two stamp sales, and one of coins, which deserve a special attention at the hands of collectors. The beautiful album formed by Mr. Freeman contains only stamps in the finest possible condition and truly they must be seen to be appreciated. The coin collection is an ideal one, nearly every country and period being represented in its well filled drawers, the object of its owner being rather to trace out the rise and fall of nations and their rulers, than the accumulation of a series of coins of consecutive years in perfect preservation. The latter is simply a matter of money while a collection such as this is a course of study, and ever open incentive to research and a never failing source of intellectual activity and amusement. Although the collection contains many U. S. and other American coins, including some pieces much sought after by collectors of the American series, it is essentially an European one, and is remarkably rich in the coins of the various cities, states and princes of that continent.

Coins have never been lower than they are at this time, so we would advise all collectors, who can possibly spare the time, to attend the sale in person and pick up some of the many bargains which will doubtless abound, but those who cannot attend, can of course send their bids to the different dealers who make it a specialty of attending sales in the interest of the collectors who employ their services.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY.

On Tuesday Evening, October 9th, the second meeting of the season was held at Room 38, Tribune Building, President R. R. Bogert, presiding.

The Secretary read minutes of previous meeting which were confirmed, and the correspondence which was referred to proper officers and committees with instructions for answering.

Manager of "NATIONAL PHILATELIST" stated that since the Society had offered the premium of \$50 in gold to the person obtaining the largest number of subscribers before January 1st, 1884, fourteen persons had entered in competition for the same, and that 41 was the largest number of subscribers received from one competitor thus far. He also recommended that a suitable frontispiece be prepared for Vol. I. and sent out with the December issue of "NATIONAL PHILATELIST." On motion the publisher was authorized to issue 5,000 extra copies of the "NATIONAL PHILATELIST" for October, and that boys be hired to distribute the same in the streets of this city, November 26th, (Evacuation Day.) during the hours the procession is in line.

Bills for past quarter audited were presented, and Treasurer authorized to honor them.

Counterfeit Postage Stamps having become so common it was unanimously resolved that a "Counterfeit Album" be opened by the Society, and remain in the hands of the Society's librarian, and that members and others be asked to contribute to the same; and that the album be at all times open to members for inspection and comparisons.

On motion it was resolved to "Discuss United States Envelopes, and the best mode of Cataloguing same," with the view of compiling a "List."

The President stated that he had re-

ceived information to the effect, that, the United States Envelopes of the value of 2c. which were issued on the first of the present month, would become obsolete after November 1st, as a new die had been engraved, the one in use at present not giving satisfaction.

Minutes being read and approved meeting adjourned until Tuesday Evening, Nov. 13th. W. F. SMITH, *Secretary*.

OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

We desire to exchange with every paper in the world published in the interest of, or having a department in the interest of Philately. Since the first issue of this journal we have regularly sent copies to every known journal published in the interest of Philately, in the world, many of which have never been acknowledged either in their journal nor by reciprocating the exchange, consequently on September 15th we sent out notice to the effect that we had abolished our Exchange List, and that from that date would only send our paper to those who responded to said notice, and make the statement here in order that none of our Philatelic contemporaries may feel offended at not receiving our journal and know the reason, providing they have not received our circular.

Hereafter under above heading we shall regularly announce all journals received by us during previous month and would respectfully ask same courtesy from our contemporaries. All EXCHANGES must be addressed "NATIONAL PHILATELIST, Room 38, Tribune Building, New York City."

Der Philatelist, IV., 9.

Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal, X., 118.

Deutsche Philatelisten-Zeitung, V., 60.

Mitteilungen des Wiener Philatelisten-Club, I., 26.

Wiener Briefmarken-Zeitung, IV., 9.

Vereinsmittheilung des bayrischen Philatelisten-Vereins, I., 3.

Universal Philatelic Magazine, I., 2.

East Anglian Philatelist, I., 1.

Foreign Stamp Collectors News, I., 1.

Philatelic Referee, I., 3.

Philatelic News, I., 6.

Monthly Echo, I., 6.

Union Exchange List, II., 4.

Old Curiosity Shop, II., 9.

Granite State Philatelist, II., 2.

Bayonne Philatelist, I., 1.

Correspondence.

We solicit, and are prepared to insert under this heading, any information or suggestion that may be thought of interest to the Philatelic world.

We will not hold ourselves responsible for the views of our correspondents, and we reserve the right to reject communications that do not seem to us as proper for publication.

TWO BRITISH GUIANA PROVISIONALS

To the Editor of the NATIONAL PHILATELIST.

DAER SIR:—Permit me, through your columns, to lay before the public some facts concerning two of the provisional stamps of British Guiana, issued in 1881-2

Last spring a friend and fellow collector from Trinidad visited me for the purpose of showing his collection of stamps, and among his British Guianas, I discovered a provisional that I had never before seen, viz.: a 2c. on the large 24c., green, official, issue of 1863. The original value and the word "official" were erased by the usual black line, employed on the provisional issues of this country.

The figure 2 was the usual curly tailed one, such as is found on the surcharged 96c. Upon asking my friend where he obtained this stamp, he stated that he received it from a friend in one of the principal cities of British Guiana, who stated that he had purchased it at the post office, together with the other varieties of this provisional issue which graced my friend's album.

I intended to have made some inquiries concerning this stamp through your columns, but the matter slipped my mind until a few days ago, when I received a few of the same stamps from another source, and one thoroughly authentic. This correspondent stated that but 200 of these stamps were issued, that they were immediately absorbed by one or more collectors, and, that not more than 5 were sold to the general public.

If this be true it will eventually be one of the rarest stamps in existence. I would be glad if some of the British Guiana subscribers of this paper would throw some light upon this resuscitation (?).

I can find no mention of it in the official decrees, that authorized the provisionals of 1881-2, nor yet in any philatelic publication.

It may have been only made to sell, and such would be my belief, had I not seen the same stamp in the Trinidad collection six months ago, and this stamp I know was bought from the authorities, and cost my friend only face value.

I earnestly hope that some light may be thrown upon this mysterious stamp.

The other stamp that I wish to mention is a 2c. on 12c., official, of the 1876 issue, with a small "2" of about the same size as the one ordinarily seen, but curly tailed instead of straight. I received it among a lot of other provisionals of this issue, and, although there were many of the straight, this was the only curly 2 on 12c. in the consignment.

To the best of my knowledge mention has never been made of this stamp before. Yours very truly,
New York, Oct. 10th, 1883. C. B. CORWIN

Answers to Correspondents.

We hold ourselves in readiness to give here such information as lies in our power, and are prepared, at all times, to assist Philatelists in the solution of such questions as we are able to. All questions addressed to the Society, not requiring an answer by letter, will be replied to here.

T. P. D., ALBANY.—We are not acquainted with person you name. Stamps are genuine.

W. B., GENEVA.—Declined with thanks. It contains the most complete list ever published.

S. W. E., HAVERETRAW.—Have returned your collection by book post, with a cross on all counterfeits.

WM. V. D., SYRACUSE.—Have not seen the essays you mention, so cannot form any opinion on the subject.

E. T. MCM., NEWARK.—You should send direct to our publisher, who can supply you with desired information.

J. R. V., PORTLAND.—All the stamps you send for our inspection are genuine, except Pacific Steam Navigation Co.'s, which are counterfeit.

C. B. O., OBERLIN.—The Bolivia stamps you sent for inspection are all counterfeits. If you will buy stamps at less than half their value you must expect to get counterfeits.

A. R. C., ITHACA.—It would be impossible to say who has the best collection of stamps in the world, or how much a complete one would cost, even if it could be procured.

G. E. D., TORONTO.—The Island of Heligoland is one mile long, and about one-half that distance wide. The population is about 2,000, living in 400 houses. The name means Holy Land.

B. G. A., UTICA.—The provisional stamps of British Guiana are perfectly genuine, and are moreover varieties. The copies offered in some dealer's catalogues are, of course, not genuine.

W. M. E., ENGLAND.—We cannot pay for extracts from other papers, although we are always ready to pay good prices for *original articles on stamps*—but as a gift will not accept twaddle.

R. E. B., LONDON.—There are a vast many more counterfeits sold in England than in America, counterfeit stamps amount to nearly 25 per cent. in most amateur collections in England, whereas in America they do not exceed 10 per cent.

P. A. D., NEW ORLEANS.—Locals are collected by most amateurs, and of late years have been receiving proper consideration at the hands of advanced collectors; in our opinion they are more interesting than regular Government issues, as there is more excitement in obtaining them, and a collector is often able to obtain a priceless specimen for a few cents.

Exchanges.

In order to facilitate the exchange of duplicates, and with a view to bringing about more intimate relations among collectors we offer a column per month, *free of charge to our subscribers only*, wherein they may briefly state what they have to dispose of and what they desire in exchange.

Stamps, for stamps; also Brazil, Venezuela, Roumania, Egypt or Sandwich Island stamps, for exchange, besides many others. F. R. R., office this paper.

Two Sandwich Island stamps, for two from Mauritius, or one from Nova Scotia, Madeira, Iceland, or Luxemburg. Also postmarks for stamps. G. H., office this paper.

Postage stamps from France, Germany, Switzerland, and the Netherlands, and old American stamps, for those from Asia, Africa, South America, and Mexico. L. B. O., office this paper.

25 varieties of foreign stamps (catalogued by Scott at 5c. each) for a 6c. green on white or 10c. green on buff, 1853 U. S. Envelope or a used 24c. or 90c. State Dept. H. R. GOODRICH, Oberlin, Ohio.

Five foreign stamps for a 7 cent War Department, or the 5, 24, or 90 cent of 1851 issue, or the 20 or 90 cent of 1861 issue, or the 10, 24, 30, or 90 cent of 1866 issue. R. W. L., Waterloo, N. Y.

Rare stamps, match, medicine and revenues of all kinds to exchange for the same. Also postal cards and philatelic papers to exchange for the same. WILL. G. SAXTON, 92 W. Tuscarawas Ave., Canton, Ohio.

Postage and Revenue, Match and Medicine Stamps to exchange for others. Foreign correspondence solicited with small consignments. Refer to publisher of this paper. CHAS. M. METZGER, Norwich, Conn., Box. 1422.

Five postal cards, one Germany (unused), one Austria, (unused), one Canada (used), one England, (unused), and one U. S. (used), of an old issue, and 100 foreign stamps, all different, for the best offer in old American coins. N. W. A., office this paper.

Four stamps from Antigua, Bermuda, Trinidad, and Barbadoes, for a stamp from Buenos Ayres, Paraguay, Poland, Ionian Isles, old issue of Liberia, 1863 issue of Newfoundland, and War Department Stamps. Also set of 1847 U. S. stamps, unused, for set of War, Navy, Agriculture, or Justice. Three foreign stamps for any five match stamps. No postals answered. W. F., office this paper.

I desire a good set of unused United States adhesives, also proofs, and bound volumes of obsolete American stamp journals. I can offer in exchange either cash, other stamps, or copies of my new sixpenny monograph on the first series of the stamps of New South Wales entitled "The Sydney Views." T. MARTIN WEARS, 18 Caledonian Terrace, Dalry Edinburgh.



The National Philatelist.

VOL. I.

NEW YORK, NOVEMBER, 1883.

No. 10.

Chronicle.

AUSTRIA.—The Polish and Italian cards of 1872, exist without inscriptions on the reverse, and without indication of the province.

BANGKOK.—We have the 2c. rose, and 4c. brown, with surcharge B, and "Le T. P." mentions the 12c. purple.

- 2 cents black and rose.
- 4 " " " brown.
- 12 " " " purple.

BAVARIA.—"Der Ph." mentions a card without stamp or watermark, which has the Bavarian arms at the left. It measures 140x90 mm. and is printed on dark buff.

BELGIUM.—The new 10c. and 20c. were issued Oct. 20, and the 25c. and 50c. on Nov. 1. The 10c. has the profile of the king in a circle, with "Belgique," above, and "Postes," below. The figures of value are in square frames in the four corners. The 20c. has the portrait in an oval band, with the same inscriptions and the figures of value at the sides. The 25c. has also an oval band, but the inscriptions are at the sides, and the figures of value at the top and bottom. In the 50c. the head is in a circle, and "Belgique," at the top, "50 Postes 50," at the bottom, both inscriptions in straight lines. It is reported that the color of the 20c. will soon be changed.

- 10 centimes, carmine.
- 20 " gray.
- 25 " blue.
- 50 " violet.

BRAZIL.—"Le T. P." is informed that letter cards are in preparation at the National Printing Office. Brazil is thus the third country to adopt this mode of correspondence, as it was the third to use postage stamps.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.—It seems that some of the first cards were in error, printed in black instead of red. Mr. McDonald states that he found three specimens in a packet of cards which he purchased at the Post Office.—*Ph. R.*

CASHMERE.—"Le T. P." illustrates a post card. At the top are two lines of inscription in Indian characters, the first having in the middle a picture of the Sun. The stamp represents a sort of a shield, upheld by two men; at the bottom is the value, $\frac{1}{4}$ anna. It is printed in red, on white laid card. Capt. Evans writes to the "Ph. R." that a stamp of $\frac{1}{4}$ anna is to be issued to prepay the Cashmere charge on the $\frac{1}{4}$ anna Indian post cards. The Maharajah's charge, it is stated, is in all cases one-half that of the Indian Government.

CEYLON.—A correspondent of the "Ph. R." has a used copy of the 8 cent provisional post card. It is postmarked "Colombo, October 18, 1881," and "London, November 11, 1881."

CUBA.—At least the 5 and 20 cents, with surcharge, are obsolete. We have just seen a sheet of the 10 cents, and find the five varieties of surcharge distributed in a different manner from that illustrated in "Le T. P." The arrangements are given on next page.

MONS. MOENS' SHEET.

1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3
1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4
1	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
1	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
1	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5
1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

OUR SHEET.

1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
1	2	2	2	2	3	3	3	3	3
1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
1	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	4
1	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
1	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
1	5	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5
1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	1
1	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	1

DENMARK.—“Der Ph.” mentions a 4 skilling, 1870, unperforated, and with green instead of rose center.

DRAMMEN.—An envelope has been issued with a stamp of the type of the adhesive in the left lower corner. There are three varieties. 1.—The stamp inverted. 2.—Lying down and facing the right. 3.—Facing the left. The envelope measures 150x122 mm.

5 öre, blue on cream.

FRANCE.—“Der Ph” has seen a used copy of the 10c. printed by error in dark gray.

GUATEMALA.—The same journal mentions three sizes of the 2 real envelope on yellow paper. 100x225, 140x83, 160x89 mm.

HAWAII.—We have received the stamps mentioned in our August number, and have the following corrections to make. In the 25 cent stamp, the inscriptions at the sides are in white letters. In the one dollar, the inscription at the bottom is

“Akahi Dala.” The 50 cent stamp is not purple, but red.

25 cents, black.
50 “ red.
1 dollar, vermilion.

“A. S. & Co.'s M. C.” mentions a provisional envelope issued by Wells, Fargo & Co., who have just opened an express agency in these islands. This envelope was only used for letters by one steamer, the special envelopes not being ready at that time. It is of ordinary laid paper, with an oval hand stamp in the left upper corner, with the inscription “Wells, Fargo & Co.'s Express—Paid—Honolulu, H. I.” in pink. On the reverse side, covering the point of the flap, is a similar hand-stamp in pink, the word “Paid” being replaced by “Aug. 10, 1883.” The envelope has no postal stamp on it, and required a 5 cents Hawaiian stamp to prepay it to the United States. The envelopes themselves were sold at the rate of three for 25 cents.

NEVIS.—We have seen provisionals (?) from this island, but put no faith in them. They consist of the 1d. cut in half and surcharged “Nevis ½d.” in both black and violet. Some of them are apparently put on the envelopes and then surcharged in England, and then sent out to Nevis to be canceled and returned to England by an obliging postmaster.

NORWAY.—“Der Ph.” mentions the 5 öre with color changed to green, and watermarked with Post Horn. The new 20 öre blue has also the same watermark.

ORANGE FREE STATE.—The “W. P.” has information of a new 2d. stamp and post cards of 1d. and 2d.

PERU.—The Chilians having finally withdrawn from Peru, a new series of stamps is issued, whether provisional or not we cannot say. It consists of the old stamps with horse shoe surcharge, but with a new hand stamped surcharge in place of the Chilian arms. This new sur-

charge is an equilateral triangle, measuring $26\frac{1}{2}$ mm. and encloses a representation of the sun at the top, with the word "Peru" below. The new 2 centavos is changed in color to a bright orange. We have seen the 1c. green, 2c. orange, 5c. blue, 10c. green, and 50c. rose.

PORTUGUESE INDIA.—We have the $4\frac{1}{2}$ reis on 100 reis, lilac, of 1877. Also three new stamps, printed from the old dies, with *Star*. They are unperforated, and of the values of $1\frac{1}{2}$ reis, black; $4\frac{1}{2}$ reis, olive green; and 6 reis, dark green.

SELANGORE.—"Le T. P." mentions three varieties of the 2c. brown. 1. E and N thick 2. E and N thin. 3. E thin, N thick. We have the 2 cents *rose*, with surcharge.

SIAM.—In addition to the stamps already described, "A. S. & Co.'s M. C." mentions one of the value of 1 fyang, but is ignorant of the design and color.

SUNGEI UJONG.—"Le T. P." has a variety in which the word "Ujong" measures 10 mm. and is punctuated; also the following: "Sungei," 14 mm., S open, and E thick. "Sungei," $13\frac{1}{2}$ mm., S closed and E thin. "Ujong" with N thick.

SURINAM.—"Der Ph." states that in October a stamp was issued of the value of 1 cent. It is of the same design as the other values, and printed in lilac. We have received the reply paid cards described in July, and find they are of Form 1 instead of Form 3.

SWITZERLAND.—We take the following from the "Ph. R." The lower values of the current stamps (cross and figure of value), are printed on granite paper; the other values (Helvetia), on white paper. All the lower values except the 3 centimes, which is much less used than the other values, have also been printed, by error, on the white paper intended for the higher values. The blue unpaid letter stamps were all printed on white paper, until

quite lately, when at least the 10, 20 and 50 centimes have appeared on granite. The new unpaid stamps (green and red), are on granite. The 5 centimes post card is now printed in *brown* instead of black, and the 10 centimes in a paler shade of rose than heretofore.

TOBAGO.—We have received the reply paid cards already mentioned, and find them similar to those of Barbados, except that they are printed in brown instead of lilac.

THRONDHJEMS.—"Der Ph." notes two varieties of the post card 3 öre, blue on white. In one the frame measures 133×75 mm., and in the other 143×83 mm.

UNITED STATES.—As predicted last month, a new type of the 2 cent envelope has already appeared. It very much resembles the 4 cent envelope, the lettering being on small labels, but the engine turned pattern is slightly different. These were first sold at the New York Post Office on November 1st, but we have seen used specimens dated in October, and have reason to believe that they were issued at least as early as the 15th of that month.

We have seen them on blue paper with both the "Star" and "82" watermark.

URUGUAY.—We have seen the 5 cent of 1877, surcharged in black "1883, Provisorio." This was issued September 21st, according to "Le T. P.," which journal has information that the new stamps in preparation in the United States will bear the following portraits. The 5c. that of the President; the 7c. Bernard Suarez; the 10c. General Artigas. "Der Ph." states that the current 5c. and 10c. are surcharged "Oficial," the former in red and the latter in blue green.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.—We have the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. in new colors.

$\frac{1}{2}$ d.	green.
1d.	rose.

STAMP EXCHANGE IN PARIS.

(Translated from the German by JOSEPH RECHERT.)

The well-known Paris Journal, *Le Figaro*, has in its Sunday literary issue, an article under the heading, "Postage Stamps and Stamp Mania," which fills seven columns, from the pen of Mr. Paul Eudel, an authority in Philately, as *Le Figaro* puts it. We select the following from the many chapters, "La bourse des timbres."

"There are many people," Mr. Eudel says, "who laugh about it, and yet it is a fact. In former times, the stamp trade had its head-quarters in the world-renowned "Hotel Drouot;" however, soon a regular exchange was opened, at first in the Tuilleries, afterwards in the Luxembourg, and now this trade flourishes in the Avenue Marigny. When you stroll down the Elysian Fields in the evening, and turn to your left at the "Hotel Lafayette," you can find a compact, noisy crowd, that gesticulates just as you find brokers do in the Stock Exchange. You can find here stamp dealers of all ages and all stations in life. You see the boy who invests his pocket-money for the first time, and the inveterate amateur who gladly spends thousands for his hobby. You find the lobbyist with small means, and the capitalist who monopolizes the market. All nations are represented, and not only do these parties come here to trade, but you find many examining albums or reading Stamp Journals.

"Who buys Uruguay, 1872?" "I take Ceylon, 1873, at 30 centimes." "I offer 1862 Turkey." "Who sells Peru, 1866?" "I have 500 at 60 centimes." "I have at 40." "Who wants Cape of Good Hope?" "How is U. S. of Colombia quoted?"

This is the way it goes on, and meanwhile stamps are examined, and put up in packages. Some of these small square paper pieces are sold at fabulous prices, and consequently people should not de-

preciate this as a small trade where figures speak of centimes. The rarest French stamp is the issue 1849, 1 franc, *orange*, which quotes at two hundred francs when new, and 60 francs when used. Hawaii, first issue, numeral, command easily a thousand franc bill (?)

Mexico.—Gaudalajara, white, $\frac{1}{2}$ real, brings two hundred and fifty francs. British Guiana, 1851, black or yellow, two hundred and seventy-five francs. Spain, 1852, 2 reales, unused, two hundred and fifty francs; used, one hundred francs. A much sought after stamp is the Bavaria Telegraph stamp of 1870, which brings one hundred and twenty francs. The two Reunion, 1852, on blue paper, are worth one thousand francs. However, the *rara avis* of all stamps is Mauritius, 1850, if red or blue, unused or used, if genuine, will not be sold below fifteen hundred francs (?)

Outside of these high priced stamps, and those that are sold by the hundred at from fifteen to fifty centimes, there are many which bring from one to five francs.

When we speak of collectors who are the backbone of the Stamp Exchange, we must mention, above all, the young Duke of Galliera, who possesses the largest collection in the world, said to be worth one and a half million of francs. This young nobleman has an entire building for this collection in the Rue du Coq. The library, which contains three hundred volumes, is at the Hotel Galliera, Rue Varennes.

This collection will only be open to the public after being completed. The custodian thinks it will take nine years yet, until everything is properly classified, and collectors must, until then, wait patiently. Baron Arthur de Rothschild is one of the most active collectors; his collection is valued at two hundred thousand francs, and is open for inspection to every amateur. The same gentleman has written a book on "Mail Service," which

shows that he inclines in a literary way on this subject.

Finally, a few words about dealers; there are more than one hundred and fifty dealers in Paris, outside of specialists like Arthur, Maury, Vanden Heuvel and others, to which also J. B. Moens, in Brussels, should be counted. Some of these dealers sell two millions of stamps and thirty thousand albums per year. They occupy many clerks, and have correspondents in all parts of the world.—*Illustrirtes Briefmarken Journal*.

DESCRIPTION OF A POST-OFFICE FORTY YEARS AGO.

The Post-office in general was known long ago, but only within the past few years have we been able to realize the improvements and facilities for mailing matter. Since a couple of decennials the postal business has been carried on in such a way, that we must laugh, in fact, about the difficulties of delivering the mail matter in previous times, in comparison with those of the present day.

In No. 1, of the *Hanoversches Volksblatt*, issued January 1st, 1870, a "Saxon" being on the road, and passing Hanover, the capital, makes a complaint that he misses a letter box in the General Post-office, in which to drop letters. He says that he found such letter boxes in all the principal cities of Prussia and Saxony, and gives further proof that it would be in the interest of both the people and the clerks to furnish the General Post-office with a letter box. He also called attention to the fact that it often happened that people delivered letters after 7 o'clock in the evening, that is, after the closing of the Post-offices. Especially, traveling men, wanting to start before sun-rise, would desire very much to drop a letter personally, because such personal delivery would be of very great

value in case of a law suit. The article further states, that the Post-office clerks would not have so much work and trouble shortly before 7 o'clock in the evening, just the busiest time, if the stamp window is crowded with people, in case the Post-offices get letter boxes. In reply to the above article, issued by a "Saxon," somebody calls attention to the fact, that at first the author of the said article was certainly not a citizen of the kingdom of Saxony, but a "Niedersachese" (Low Saxon), a subject, which any native of the country of Hanover has a right to call himself; that also he, "the Saxon," must be interested in the proposal, because he is born in either the city of Pattensen or Buxtehude, as would be supposed. Now the advantages of such letter boxes would be good.

A letter box would not save the Post-office clerks much trouble or work. On the contrary, he would, perhaps, have more work. Of course, shortly before 7 o'clock in the evening, the stamp window is regularly crowded with people, and that on such occasions many are jostled, without any difference if lady or gentleman (in our good country of Hanover the working people having to deliver mail, go to the Post-office just as they are dressed, with shirt sleeves, leather aprons, jackets, etc.) and our fellow citizens by no means are already so far civilized as to quietly and politely clear the way to let pass a "traveling Saxon," with a fancy dress-coat, a foot or so stand-up collar, cuffs and eye-glasses. On the contrary, he will be jostled as well as others, and I can't give him a better advice than to deliver his mail half an hour earlier.

On the other part, it is to be remembered, that in the hours before 6 o'clock in the evening, the Post-office clerk has much leisure time, and, as the Post-office business is now carried on, the clerk can

use his leisure time to separate the letters on which the postage is *not* paid, and to put them in the partitions where they belong (in olden times it only was allowed to drop in the letter box such letters on which the postage was *not* paid). Suppose now, there was a letter box at the Post-office, and it being impossible for the clerk to take out the letters and to separate them, he would get work after 7 o'clock in the evening. The consequence would be, that a second clerk must be appointed to assist in assorting all letters from the letter box, and to stamp them. Perhaps our "Saxon" is one of those statesmen who believe that a country feels better and happier if she has to pay a large number of official clerks.

Another evil in regard to letter boxes is, that people who often do not know how to handle mail letters, put in the letter box, sometimes, letters with a wrong address, which the Post-office clerk at the window would refuse to take. Also often are post paid letters dropped in the box accidentally.

A letter box would lead to the establishment of a city mail delivery. Of course, such a department for city mail, could anyway be of great use, especially in our city and capital of the Kingdom of Hanover. But on the other part, the letter box would give a good chance for blackmailing, and for anonymous writers.

What a difference in our days: Now there are in Germany more than sixty thousand letter boxes, most of all business and private letters are dropped in a letter box, and all railroad companies have letter boxes outside of the mail car.

Yes! the times are changed, the people and all things are changed, but since the last decennials the Post-office business in general is entirely changed.

—I. B. J.

POSTAL ACCOUNTS IN EUROPE AND AMERICA.

MODES OF KEEPING THEM.

The methods of the postal service of the United States are inferior to those of nearly every European country.

The only point in which this country excels is the railway mail service. That is far ahead of anything of the kind in Europe.

Our method of keeping a separate account and making quarterly settlements with nearly fifty thousand postmasters individually, is far inferior to the English system, under which accounts are kept only with the postmasters at money order offices, and they are charged with the management of all the small postoffices within a certain specified district. If we had this system, instead of nearly fifty thousand accounts in the Auditor's office we should only need and keep six thousand.

The money-order system of Germany is much simpler than ours. There is no advice and no complication about making the application. The Government sells a book of blank money orders and stubs, having a stamp of the lowest fee impressed upon each blank, just as the banks used to issue check books with revenue stamps imprinted thereon. The purchaser of a money order fills up one of these blanks with the amount, date, name and address of the payer and payee, takes it to the postmaster, hands him the amount of money he wishes to send, taking a receipt upon the stub, places postage stamp to the amount of fee on the order, and then the postmaster detaches the order from the stub, cancels the stamps on it, and sends it by mail, registered, to the post-office where the payee lives. The postmaster then sends a check to the payee's house or place of business to pay the amount of the order. In case the payee cannot be found within three months the order is

returned to the post-office where it was obtained, and the postmaster there refunds the money to the original payer.

Under this system, it would not be possible for the United States Government to have constantly on hand a fund of over one million dollars of unclaimed, and unpaid money-orders, as it now has.

The suggestions are worthy the consideration of Congress. It certainly is a fact that there is entirely too much machinery about the money-order system of this country.

BIG PRICES FOR OLD POSTAGE STAMPS.

One of the rarest known postage stamps, and consequently one of the most prized by collectors, is the ten-cent stamp issued in 1861 by Postmaster McNish, and bearing this name. Some months ago Mr. Joseph S. Carels sold one he had for many years for \$25, and it was afterward sold in Paris for \$50. It had been taken off the original envelope, and as counterfeits have been manufactured, Mr. Carels before selling it had to get letters from Mr. McNish, Dr. Blackie, and others, vouching for its authenticity. A son of Mr. Edmund Cooper, of Nashville Tenn., found among his father's old letters an envelope bearing a canceled specimen, recently sold the stamp to a New York dealer for \$37.50. The stamp being on the original post-marked envelope, and bearing its own credentials, so to speak, made it much more valuable. Even rarer than this stamp is the three-cent stamp issued by Mr. McNish, as a used specimen has never been found, and one on the original envelope and well authenticated would sell for a most extravagant figure. Mr. McNish also issued a five-cent stamp, used specimens of which sell from \$5 to \$8, the writer of this paragraph having sold a fine specimen for \$10.

OUR NOTE BOOK.

THE STATISTICS of the Universal Postal Union for 1881 show that in number of offices the United States ranks first, with 44,512, and Great Britain next, with 14,918. Germany has 11,088 and France 6,158. Japan, with 5,094 offices, is far in advance of Russia, British India, Austria, Italy and Spain. Switzerland has one post-office to every 985 inhabitants, and the United States one to every 1,126. The United States conveyed more postal cards, Germany next and Great Britain and Austria in order. In respect to the number of letters and postal cards to each inhabitant the countries ranked as follows: Great Britain, 387; the United States, 273; Switzerland, 19.9, and Germany, 15.8. The United States had 91,571 miles of railroad; Germany, 20,578; France, 16,822, and Russia, 14,439 miles. In number of newspapers conveyed in domestic mails the United States ranks first, with 852,180,792; Germany second, with 439,089,900; France third, with 320,188,636; Great Britain fourth, with 140,789,100.

In gross postal revenue Germany has 205,324,215 francs; the United States, 194,630,444 francs; Great Britain, 175,690,000 francs, and France, 152,698,569 francs. Great Britain, Germany and France had a net revenue in 1881 ranging from 68,525,100 francs to 19,900,440 francs, but the United States, Russia, and Japan had a deficiency in revenue in the same year ranging from 14,418,075 to 1,320,846 francs.

THE POSTAL NOTE does not seem to grow in popular favor, and even its friends admit that it has not met their expectations. It was hoped by business firms generally that the tedious signing of the Post Office orders would be done away with in the postal notes, and that the latter would be payable to bearer without requiring any signature. To sign a hand full of post notes each day or so, involves

a loss of much valuable time to business men, and besides, there is but little space left for signature. The postal notes are printed on a brittle paper, that after signing and blotting leave but a faint trace of the signature. The design or form is faulty, and they do not present that neat appearance which usually prevails in the printing of blanks, etc., for the Post Office Department. Reports received from all sections are to the effect that as a substitute for the money order the postal note is a failure. The sales do not seem to increase and people do not appear disposed to adopt the note for the transmission of money except where only a small amount of odd cents is involved. The sale of the postal note has thus far not decreased the use of money orders, except in very rare instances.

A LETTER upon which a Confederate two cent stamp was affixed passed through the mails at Richmond, Va., a few days ago without being detected by the Post Office authorities. The stamp bore some resemblance to the new one of that denomination just issued by the Government in color, but not in the style of workmanship. It is thought, unless proper precautions are observed, old rebate stamps will be revived and put into active use.

THE WEIGHING OF LETTERS.—An actual weighing of letters received at the New York and Philadelphia post-offices show that 94½ per cent, of them weigh less than one-half ounce. The weighing was had at the request of the Postmaster-General, who is believed to be considering the advisability of recommending to Congress an increase of the weight allowance for single-rate letters from one-half ounce to one ounce.

MAIL MATTER IN A CYCLONE.—A package of mail matter was received yesterday at the post-office from Burlington, Mo., in a most pitiable state, being torn and ragged and having evidently

been water soaked. The date could not be made out but this endorsement was written on the package by the postmaster of the place:

"A cyclone struck this town last night. Mail saved was in this condition."

SINCE the 1st of the month Hawaii has issued and received double or reply post-cards. The Danish colony of Greenland also issues and receives such cards; and the Republic of Guatemala, though it will not at present issue them, gives currency to those of other countries.

THE greater majority of United States Locals were issued by private persons, who endeavored to compete with the government by a cheaper rate of carriage or delivery; some of them were used to prepay the conveyance of letters from the districts of a city to the general post office. All of them are now obsolete, and many of them rare.

OUR CONTEMPORARIES.

We desire to exchange with every paper in the world published in the interest of, or having a department in the interest of Philately.

Hereafter under above heading we shall regularly announce all journals received by us during previous month and would respectfully ask same courtesy from our contemporaries. All EXCHANGES must be addressed "NATIONAL PHILATELIST, Room 38, Tribune Building, New York City."

Der Philatelist, IV., 10.

Illustriertes Briefmarken Journal, X., 119.

Deutsche Philatelisten Zeitung, V., 61.

Mittheilungen des Wiener Philatelisten-Club, I., 27.

Wiener Briefmarken-Zeitung, IV., 10.

Vereinsmittheilung des bayrischen Philatelisten-Vereins, I., 3.

L'Ami des Timbres, X., 118.

Universal Philatetical Magazine, I., 3.

East Anglian Philatelist, I., 2.

Foreign Stamp Collectors News, I., 2.

Union Exchange List, II., 5.

Old Curiosity Shop, II., 10.

Bayonne Philatelist, I., 2.

FREE MAIL DELIVERY. Postmaster Henry G. Pearson has transmitted to the Post-Office Department at Washington a tabulated statement of the amount of business transacted in the New York office and its branches, through its carrier service, during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1883, as compared with the preceding year, of which the following is an abstract:

	1882.	1883.
Carriers employed.....	543	585
Registered letters delivered.....	519,186	593,061
Mail letters delivered.....	53,574,834	56,034,602
Mail postal-cards delivered.....	11,391,411	13,874,036
Local letters delivered.....	32,993,460	35,231,113
Local postal-cards delivered.....	13,424,710	15,515,376
Newspapers, &c., delivd.....	17,850,616	22,634,996
Letters returned to the office.....	355,313	357,529
Letters collected.....	74,948,429	77,932,912
Postal-cards collected.....	19,092,815	24,188,310
Newspapers, &c., collected.....	14,840,315	14,255,304
Aggregate number of pieces handled.....	239,002,058	260,612,239
Pieces handled per carrier.....	440,151	445,491

The total cost for handling this immense mail matter during the past year was \$522,889.80 being about 2 mills per piece. The cost per carrier was \$396.83. The amount of postage collected on local matter was \$1,475,533.88.

THE REPORT of the Superintendent of the Free Delivery Service shows that during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1883, that at New York City 260,612,239 pieces of mail-matter were handled; at Philadelphia, 160,043,909; at Chicago, 136,886,336; at Boston, 93,587,918; at St. Louis, 46,765,499; at Baltimore, 39,212,496; at Brooklyn, 34,815,447; at San Francisco, 24,727,771, and Washington, 15,231,674.

APOLOGY.

The article appearing in our last by Rev. R. B. Earée, entitled "The Postal Museum of Berlin," should have been credited to the *Stamp Collector's Journal*, from which it was borrowed. Having credited the same on proof returned to our printer the fault remains with them not us, and we trust it will not again occur—but the printers are not infallible.

Auction Sales.

Under this heading we shall be pleased to announce any forthcoming sales and to review the same on receipt of priced catalogue.

On the 5th, inst. Messrs. Scott & Co., held the 52d Auction Sale of Postage Stamps, being the Album of a well-known collector and contained many desirable gems. The following are a few of the prices realized: Baden, envelopes, 12 and 18k., 1858, reprints \$1.35 each; Bahamas, 4p. surcharged on 6p., 75c; Barbados, 5 sh., \$1.75; Bergedorf, ½s. violet and 3s. rose, \$1.05 each; Bolivar, 1863, 10c. green, \$9.00—1882, 5 and 10 pesos, \$2.00 each; Bolivia, 1867, 5c violet, \$11.00—10c. brown, \$2.25—10c. green, \$6.00—500c. black, \$6.00; Brazil, 1845. 180r. italic figures, \$3.50; British Guiana, 1850, 1c. magenta, \$2.50—4c. blue, \$2.10; Cyprus, 1881, 30 paras, surcharged, \$2.00; France, 1849, 1 franc, vermilion, \$2.00—10 and 15c. brown on rose, \$1.00 each; Guadeloupe, 25c. \$4.00; India, revenue, 6a. surcharged, and used for postage, \$1.00; Mauritius, 1877, 2r. 50c. unused, \$1.60; Peru, 2c. violet, surcharged with Chilean arms in yellow, unused, \$1.65—2c. violet, surcharged in blue, unused, \$1.65—2c. violet, surcharged in red, unused, \$1.60—Arequipa, 10c. blue surcharged in red, \$1.70; Philippine Islands, 1854, 5c. orange, used, \$8.00—1863, 2r. blue, unused, \$9.00; St. Vincent, 1p. surcharged on 6p. \$5.00—4p. surcharged on 1 sh. \$5.00; Surinam, 2½g. unused, \$1.50; U. S Revenue Clearing House stamp, known as "tapeworm," \$1.50; Antofogasta envelope, blue, used, \$11.50; Mexico envelope, 1882, 25c., two 10 and a 5c. stamp on same envelope, unused, \$1.00.

The 53d sale by Messrs. Scott & Co., was held last Monday (November 19th,) at Clinton Hall, and consisted of the Album of Mr. A. E. Krieger, as announced on page 117 of the NATIONAL PHILATELIST. The sale was largely attended, and

prices realized were fair, as the following will show: Austria, 1851, 10p. rose, cancelled, \$1.80; Bergedorf, $\frac{1}{2}$ s. violet, \$1.; Bolivia, 1867, 5c. mauve, \$3.25—1867, 10c. brown, \$4.25—1867, 50c. blue, \$3.25—1867, 100c. green, \$5.25—1867, 500c. black, unused, \$6.50; British Guiana, 1850, 4c. blue, \$5.00—1853, 4c. blue, \$2.00; Buenos Ayres, 1858, 2p. blue, \$1.20—1858, 1p. brown, \$1.50; Canada, 1851, 12p. black, \$2.25; Ceylon, 1s. 9p. unused, envelope, \$1.60; France, 1 franc, vermilion, \$5.75; Mauritius, 1850, 1p. red, \$1.65—1850, 2p. blue, \$2.70—1856, 1p. red, \$2.25; Guadalajara, 1867, 2r. pink, \$3.05—1868, 2r. blue, \$3.10; Natal, 1857, 3p. pink, \$1.05—5 sh. \$1.00; New Brunswick, 1852, 1 sh. violet, \$9.50; New Foundland, 1857, 2p. scarlet, \$1.45; New South Wales, 1p. crimson, \$2.05—2p. blue, vertical lines, \$1.00—3p. green, \$1.06; Peru, 1858, $\frac{1}{2}$ p. yellow, \$7.25—Arequipa, 10c. blue, \$1.25—10c. ultramarine, \$1.70—10c. red, \$3.00; Philippine Islands, 1854, 2r. green, \$4.00; San Domingo, 1862, $\frac{1}{2}$ r. rose, \$4.25—1865, $\frac{1}{2}$ r. green, \$3.75; Trinidad, 1851, violet on blue paper, \$2.00—1869, blue on white, \$1.75—envelope prepaid with three and one-half 6p. stamp, surcharged with pen and ink, "1d." \$3.50; Turkey, 1865, 25 piastres, unused, \$1.20—1868, 25p., unused, 90c.—1876, 25p. used, 50c.; U. S. of Colombia 1861, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. black, used, \$4.00—1861, 5c. yellow, used, \$1.75—1861, 10c. blue, \$2.30—1861, 20c. red, used, \$1.60—1861, 1p. rose, \$2.35—1862, 10c. blue, used, \$2.75; Bolivar, 1882, 5p. blue and carmine, unused, \$2.00—1882, 10p. brown and blue, unused, \$3.25; United States, 1851, Carriers' stamp, horseman, \$2.10; 1851, U. S. Mail, prepaid, \$1.00.

On Monday Evening, December 5th, Messrs. Scott & Co. will offer the Album of Mr. Willard K. Freeman at auction, being their 54th sale. Mr. Freeman was one of the first among stamp collectors; and many a precious specimen, rich with

memories of the past, add beauty and value to the collection now offered; but it must not be understood, in offering his collection at sale, that Mr. Freeman, whose name has so long been identified with stamp collecting, is to retire from the pursuit of our science, for such is not the case. Having found it impossible to obtain a complete collection of all stamps, he has resolved to make a collection of rarities only—and therefore offers his album, excepting his rarities—but yet many stamps will be found in the collection worth from two to ten dollars each, among which may be noted the 1849 set of Belgium, in perfect condition; Bergedorf, $\frac{1}{2}$ s. violet; Bolivia, 1867, 5c. mauve—1867, 500c. black; British Columbia, 1869, 10c. rose pink; Corrientes, 1856, UN REAL MC blue; Liberia, 12c. blue, with outer line, unperf.; Mexico, 1865, 3c. brown; Philippine Islands, 1863, 1r. violet—1863, 2r. blue; Bolivar, 1882, 5 pesos, carmine and blue—1883, 10p. blue and brown, together with many other desirable stamps which would be valuable acquisitions to any collector's album, from the fact of their being such perfect specimens.

The 56th sale by Messrs. Scott & Co., at Leavitt's Art Rooms, will be held on Monday Evening, December 17th, consisting of American and Foreign Postage and Revenue Stamps, the property of W. H. Hotchkiss, Esq., whose name is familiar to stamp collectors as one of the old school. This is the last sale of the year, and coming, as it does, just previous to the holidays, it offers to those desiring to make a Christmas present of stamps, or having surplus money to invest, a chance of obtaining some rarities at great bargains. Among the many lots we notice, British Guiana, 1850, circular provisional, 8c. green, being the only one ever offered at auction in this country, it is very desirable; Canada, 1851, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ p. green, unused—1851, 12p. black; Great

Britain, 1p. black, Mulready envelope; Mauritius, 1850, 2p. blue; genuine original Connell stamp; a fine assortment of Swiss Cantons, United States of Columbia, U. S. of America Postage and Revenue, entire envelopes and wrappers, which collectors will find it greatly to their advantage to inspect.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY.

On Tuesday Evening, November 11th, the third meeting of the season was held at Room 38, Tribune Building, President R. R. Bogert, presiding.

The Secretary read minutes of previous meeting which were confirmed, and the correspondence which included letters from the Astor Library and Cooper Union acknowledging receipt of the NATIONAL PHILATELIST.

The Committee on Color Chart submitted proof of title page and preface which were approved; the committee being requested to submit proofs to two different translators to ascertain if the same were correct before printing; sheets of colors as far as completed were submitted for inspection, and were greatly admired by all present. The Charts will be ready for delivery on January 28th, 1884, and the Committee were authorized to inform dealers to receive orders for the same at 75 cents per copy.

It was proposed in order to stimulate the collecting of Postage Stamps and lay the foundation for holding a Philatelic Exhibition in this city at an early date, that a committee of five be appointed to devise plans for offering premiums to collectors for the best collections and specialties, to be placed on exhibition on the following plan:—A gold emblem for the best and most complete collection; a silver emblem for the second best; and suitable premiums for the following specialties; the best arranged collection, with

special reference for the keeping of entire envelopes; best collection of Confederate provisionals; U. S. Stamps; Foreign Revenue; U. S. Revenue; U. S. Proprietary; Post Cards; Essays and any other branches of the science deemed advisable to offer for competition. That an exhibitor could only be entitled to one prize in order to give all a chance at competing, as it would naturally follow that the exhibitor obtaining the first would be likely to obtain other prizes.

After a somewhat animated debate by the members, it was resolved to table the above proposition until after the Color Charts had been delivered, as it would require more time at the present than a committee could give it.

The National Philatelic Society desires to enter into closer relations with the non-resident members and foreign societies, with the view of furthering the objects for which the society was founded. The Secretary is instructed to correspond with the same, and request that they will inform the Society from time to time of such matters coming under their notice as may prove of interest to all collectors; such as new issues, changes in current stamps, views on Philatelic matters, and, when possible, specimens of stamps, etc., for the consideration of the Society.

Messrs. Charles Gregory, C. L. Brownell, H. M. Craft, C. A. Brown and Jules Fernandez having been proposed were thereupon elected active members of the Society.

The President exhibited specimens of the following sizes of the U. S. Envelopes which were issued October 1st.

2c.—white paper, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4½, 5; amber paper, Nos. 2, 3, 4½, 5; fawn paper Nos. 2, 3, 4½, 7; blue paper, Nos. 2, 3, 4½, 5.

4c.—white paper, Nos. 4½, 5, 7, 8; amber paper, Nos. 4½, 5, 7.

The meeting was then resolved into a *conversazione*. W. F. SMITH, *Secretary*

Answers to Correspondents.

We hold ourselves in readiness to give here such information as lies in our power, and are prepared, at all times, to assist Philatelists in the solution of such questions as we are able to. All questions addressed to the Society, not requiring an answer by letter, will be replied to here.

R. W., BROOKLYN, N. Y.—See NATIONAL PHILATELIST for June.

F. A. A., MAUCH CHUNK, PA.—They are common reprints.

R. O. B., YONKERS, N. Y.—Many thanks but we decline, as we have about three tons of old Philatelic literature on hand. Should be pleased to receive the article mentioned and will pay your price if we can use it.

A. R. D., HOBOKEN, N. J.—The Watermark will show better if the stamp is slightly dampened or held against some dark substance, for instance the coat sleeve.

W. G. B., BORDENTOWN, N. J.—It will appear in our next.

C. B. S., COLDWATER, MICH.—The Honour's City Post was used in Charleston in 1861. Your specimen is a counterfeit, have returned it by mail.

J. R. G., WATKINS, N. Y.—The stamp described is one of the two stamp that was used by the Peruvian Government as a trial of the system of prepaying by postage Stamps. They were used between the towns of Lima and Chorillas, although issued by a private company.

B. T. B., NEWARK, N. J.—Thanks for clippings which we shall make use of in our next.

T. M. W., EDINBURGH, SCOTLAND.—In our next we will give full particulars. We cannot accept your offer. Send your article to *Timbre Post*.

W. L. V., OBERLIN, O.—The Catalogue referred to is published by J. B. MOEN'S, at \$5. You can obtain the same of our publisher. Send the stamps for inspection as we cannot judge from your description as to their genuineness.

H. E. S., HARTFORD, CONN.—They were in use but one month and are consequently quite rare. Your specimen is genuine. The Hamburg are a counterfeit.

S. A. A., BALTIMORE, Md.—All the stamps you send for our inspection are genuine.

E. T. M., NEWARK, N. J.—You should send direct to our publisher, who can supply you.

J. R. V., WATERTOWN, N. Y.—The Bolivia stamps you sent for inspection are all counterfeits. If you will buy stamps at less than half their value you must expect to get counterfeits.

B. G. A., ALBANY, N. Y.—The copies offered in some dealer's catalogues are, of course, not genuine.

W. M. E., TRENTON.—We cannot pay for extracts from other papers.

Exchanges.

In order to facilitate the exchange of duplicates, and with a view to bringing about more intimate relations among collectors we offer a column per month, *free of charge to our subscribers only*, wherein they may briefly state what they have to dispose of and what they desire in exchange.

Postage and Revenue, Match and Medicine Stamps to exchange for others. Foreign correspondence solicited with small consignments. Refer to publisher of this paper. J. R. S., Waterloo, N. Y.

Five postal cards, one Germany (unused), one Austria, (unused), one Canada (used), one England, (unused), and one U. S. (used), of an old issue, and 100 foreign stamps, all different, for the best offer in old American coins. N. W. A., office this paper.

A variety of United States and foreign stamps to exchange for others. Those of Africa, Asia, and South America especially desired.

E. BAILEY, Decorah, Iowa.

Stamps from Salvador, Nicaragua, and other foreign countries, for stamps. Asiatic stamps especially desired. H. CHRISTIANSON, 352 East 15th Street, New York.

A Japanese postage stamp, for one from Mexico or Central America. F. A., office this paper.

Rare foreign stamps, Asiatic, and South American, for other rare stamps. U. S. Department Stamps taken in exchange. J. O., office this paper.

A United States War Department Stamp for one of the Justice, State, Agricultural, Navy, Executive, or Post-Office, or for two stamps from South or Central America, Africa, or any other rare foreign stamps. W. A., MCL., office this paper.

One hundred nicely cut postmarks, for a 90 cent United States postage stamp, issue of 1861 or 1869. Fifty postmarks, for a 24 cent stamp, issue of 1860.

C. F. H., 30 Pearl Street, New Haven, Conn.

Rare foreign and United States stamps. No correspondents wanted unless they have rare stamps or collections of at least 1500 stamps. Foreign correspondents especially desired. L. S. MUDGE, P. O. Box 45, Princeton, N. J.

Four varieties of United States stamps, old issues, for foreign stamps. Two varieties of Syrian stamps, for other Asiatic stamps. H. N. G., office this paper.

Fifty postmarks, for twenty-five rare foreign stamps. W. G. GURNETT, Ingersoll, Can.

Russian, Egyptian, Netherlands, and German postage stamps, for South American, Chinese or Japanese. A. H. H., office this paper.

Rare American and West Indian wanted for British and British Colonials. Correspondence in any languages. W. B. CRINTON, 27 Princes Crescent, Margate, England.

State Department, 7, 10, 15, 24 and 30c. for offers of good stamps or post cards.

W. W. MACLEALLA, Box 1593, Philadelphia, Pa.



The National Philatelist.

Vol. 1.

NEW YORK, DECEMBER, 1883.

No. 12.

VALEDICTORY.

With this number of the NATIONAL PHILATELIST closes its first year of publication, and we regret that we cannot announce the commencement of a new volume, but the truth is, that with this number the NATIONAL PHILATELIST retires from the philatelic arena.

During the past year our labors have been lightened and rendered pleasant by the numerous letters expressing satisfaction that we have received from every part of the world, which has shown that our magazine was in all respects what our subscribers would wish. Our Contemporaries have not, we must say, been very generous or courteous to us, and in September last we almost concluded to discontinue the "exchange" list; however on deliberation, we abandoned the idea, trusting that time would bring with it more genial and friendly feelings, but alas—for the uncourteous treatment we wish them prosperity and bid them an affectionate farewell!

In the words "thank you"—"farewell" are expressed the deepest emotions of our hearts both to our contributors, subscribers and advertisers, and it is with regret that we must part; but our com-

mittee realizing the amount of valuable time necessary to the issuing of such a philatelic journal as we have presented to our readers during the past year, have with one voice, out of justice to ourselves and private business, which is our first duty, concluded to say FAREWELL, and thanking you, one and all, for your generous support, we modestly retire from the philatelic world.—THE COMMITTEE.

Chronicle.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—The new type of the 12c. stamp noted in August, turns out to be an *essay*.

BAHAMAS.—We have at last received the reply paid card. It is inscribed at the top "Union Postale Universelle" then the Arms of Great Britain, below which, "Bahamas" and "The address etc." In the left lower corner in four lines, "The annexed card is intended—for the answer—(La Carte ci-joint est destinée—a la reponse.)" The reply card has the word "Reply" and the note in the lower corner is omitted. The stamp contains the profile of the Queen to the left on solid ground in oval band inscribed in colored letters "Bahamas" at top and "Penny Half-penny" below. Size 140 x 89 mm. Form 1., perforated at the top. Card, 1½ x 1½d. carmine on buff.

BRAZIL.—Mr G. B. Calman has shown us the Letter Cards mentioned last month. They are on card greenish outside and

white inside. The 50 and 100 reis are inscribed "Carta Bilhete" and there are four lines for the address, the first being preceded by "Ill.^{mo}." The 200 reis has in addition the words "Carte Lettre" and the first line is preceded by "M."

The stamps are somewhat similar to the adhesives and bear the portrait of the Emperor, in various frames.

Letter Cards, 50 reis, red
100 " blue
200 " green

BR. GUIANA.—"Der Ph." mentions a reply paid card of the value of 3x3 cents, carmine on buff. There is no frame, the card measures 149x88 mm. and is perforated.

Card, 3x3c. carmine.

CHILL.—The same Journal states that the fiscals 10 cents green and 20 cents orange have done postal duty,

GREAT BRITAIN.—The "Ph. R." states that a new One Pound stamp is to be issued shortly, owing to the present one being too much like the half crown value. The new stamp will be like the One Pound Telegraph stamp except that the word Postage will be substituted for the word Telegraph.

ICELAND.—"Le T. P." notes reply paid cards. They are of form 1.

Cards, 5x5 aur, blue and gray.
8x8 " lilac.
10x10 " carmine.

INDIA.—A new half anna stamp has been emitted. The profile of the Queen is in an oval on lined ground. The oval is inscribed in white letters on colored ground, "India Postage" above and "Half Anna" below. It is watermarked with a star. $\frac{1}{2}$ anna, green.

JAMAICA.—"Der Ph." informs us that the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. stamp is now carmine and watermarked C. A. and crown, and that a card has been issued of the value of 1x1d. blue on buff and perforated at the top.

MAURITIUS.—There is a reply paid card 6x6 cents, violet on buff. It is of form 1 and perforated.

MEXICO.—"Le T. P." notes the following envelopes:

1.—Stamp at left, size 149x81mm. 25c. blue on white laid paper.

2.—Stamp at right, size 149x81mm. 4c. yellow on white laid paper, round flap, 25c. blue " " pointed flap.

3.—Stamp at right, 25c. blue on yellow, 138x78mm. round flap. 25c. " 151x84mm. " " 22c. " 153x85mm. pointed "

NEW ZEALAND.—Mr. Bottely informs the "Ph. R." that he has the One Penny brown of the early type, which is usually watermarked with a star, without watermark.

PERU.—Now that the Chilians have left Peru, we have a new surcharge which consists of a double lined triangle containing a representation of the sun and the word "Peru." We have seen the following:

1. with horseshoe and triangle.
 - 1c. green.
 - 2c. vermilion.
 - 5c. blue.
2. with triangle only.
 - 10c. green.
3. Plata-Lima and triangle.
 - 50c. green.
 - 1 sol. pink.

We have also seen the 1c. green and 2c. vermilion with horseshoe, but without the triangular surcharge above mentioned.

SALVADOR.—Two reply paid cards have been issued, 2x2 centavos rose on buff, and 3x3 centavos blue on white. They are of Form 1.

ST. LUCIA.—In addition to the stamp noted by us in August, the "Ph. R." describes two post cards. 1d. carmine and 1x1d. red brown, both on buff, also two adhesives of the old type printed in blue and watermarked C. A. and crown.

One of them is without expressed value and the other is surcharged "Three Pence" in carmine. We are of the opinion that these are revenues.

ST. VINCENT.—The 5sh. stamp of this island seems to be regarded by many as a revenue stamp only. In order to set this matter at rest we have written to the postmaster there and give the following extract from his reply.

"The Five Shilling stamps without surcharge are Postage. The only difference with our present Revenue stamps being the word Revenue printed across the centre in black."

TASMANIA.—The "Ph. R." says that Frank stamps similar to those employed in Victoria are now in use in Tasmania as follows:

The Treasury, black on white.

" " blue on "

" " black on blue.

" " blue on "

The Attorney General, blue on blue.

" " " white.

The Minister of Lands, " "

TRANSVAAL.—The same paper has information that the three pence is now red on white paper, and that a new set of stamps has been ordered in Holland. The whole stock of the Queen's head series, except the 6d. and 2s. values is exhausted. "Der. Ph." notes the 6d. blue on white, perforated.

VICTORIA.—We have received specimens of new cards, envelopes and wrappers. The card is 1d. rose on buff, with frame of four straight lines overlapping at the corners. The envelope is 1d. green, and is printed on both white and blue paper. The bands are ½d. rose on white and 1d. green on white and blue.

VIRGIN ISLANDS.—From the "W. B. Z." we learn of the issue of the following stamps of the new type.

½d. green.

1d. rose.

2½d. blue.

FORGED SURCHARGES ON SOUTH AMERICAN STAMPS.

From information which came to our knowledge we wrote some months since to *Philatelic Record*, and consequently the following appeared in that journal for October, 1883:

"FORGED SURCHARGES ON SOUTH AMERICAN STAMPS."

"We have received the following communication from Messrs. Theodor Buhl & Co., and as they have assumed the responsibility of giving the full name and address of the person they accuse, we have no hesitation in publishing it. These disclosures confirm the doubts which we have already expressed concerning the authenticity of some of these surcharges.

"In the interests of philately we have done our utmost to get together all the evidence possible against the unprincipled youth to whom the whole affair can be brought home. We always suspected certain surcharged South American stamps chiefly because we found it impossible to get even a single copy of them from persons who obtained hundreds of other stamps of the same countries. We chiefly doubted the following:

U. S. Columbia. DOS Y MEDIO on the 10 c.

" " DOS PESOS on the 10 pesos.

Ecuador . . . 4 cvs. on the 1 real.

From information we have received we can positively affirm that all these are bogus; no stamps of such descriptions ever having been issued in the countries from which they are supposed to emanate. We are informed by several persons that all these are made by a young man whose name and address we here give: viz C. K. Jeffreyes, 111 or (14), Grove Road, Bow, E. We wrote to this address, and the youth called and offered to sell us quantities of the DOS Y MEDIO, red surcharge, with surcharge inverted, sideways and every other way, telling us that the black surcharge was obsolete. We took two

in exchange, and he *guaranteed* them to be genuine in the presence of witnesses. We can also get evidence to prove that he has made forged surcharges on Costa Rica and other stamps. We further send you a forged 10 pesos, U. S. of Columbia, also one of C. K. Jeffrey's wares; and we know that he has sold quantities of these things to various dealers, but of course, from different addresses. We shall be happy to do all in our power to aid those who feel disposed to take the matter up, and can produce others who can give evidence against him."

In the November number of the "P. R." Mr. C. K. Jeffrey *replied* to our letter by various insults and false accusations, which we need not reproduce here, and also condescending to vouchsafe the information that the two stamps he sold us were obtained from a person who had—to quote the Editor of the *Record*—"conveniently left England." He also denied having offered us more, to which denial we again reply by asserting that he showed us a number of the 10c. U. S. Columbia surcharged "DOS Y MEDIO" with the surcharge *sideways*, upside down, &c., &c. We have again written to the "P. R.," and until we receive the January number of that paper we refrain from saying anything further. We have so far, done our duty to the philatelic public, and will let the matter rest now until we receive a reply to our letter addressed to the postal authorities at Bogota. Others know as much, and more, than we do, and it is time they came forward and said it, but, under any circumstances we shall refer again to the matter in an early number.—S. N.

THE EGYPTIAN CIRCULAR STAMPS.

A great deal has been written and much labor wasted upon what have been styled "Egyptian locals,"—a misnomer; for these tickets or labels are not used to frank any

letter or even parcel, being actually and simply seals, or marks of the office whence or whither letters are sent. A slight examination of one of the many lists given in this and the many other philatelic publications, will tend to refute the idea of their being "Egyptian Locals." It will be found that "Konstantinopli," "Bairouth," "Tripoli," and other cities are not in Egypt; and "Latachia," "Salonica," "Scio," &c., Turkish Islands, have their names on some of these labels. Now, though the places just named are not in any way governed by the Egyptian authorities, but the Egyptian post-office attends to its own mails through Turkey; it is evident that the labels in question are fixed to the packages of letters for this or that place, simply to mark their destination. The writer observed one day on the notice board of the Egyptian post-office at Alexandria, a writing concerning the departures of mails. This notice was attached to the board by means of twelve labels, of type No. IV. Alexandria, lilac-rose. A few days afterwards, this being removed by tearing off, the remains of the labels could be seen for some time, still attached to the board. Another time a brown-paper parcel was handed to the station master at RAMLE (who is also post master), which parcel had been sent from Alexandria, sealed by one of the same (type IV) labels. This also was witnessed by the writer. Again, a gentleman travelling from India, being a stamp collector, called in at the Alexandrian office to purchase some of these impressions, and received a handful for which the official charged nothing,—a convincing proof of their non-postal value. These facts will enable anyone to judge to what position these so-called "Locals" should be delegated, and also whether an album devoted to postals proper is the fit place for them.

THE Reply Post-card was first issued in Germany in 1877.

A PROTEST.

IN November number of *Der Philatelist* appeared an article entitled "The Paris Stamp Exchange," in which M. de Ferrari was alluded to by the title of the Duke of Galliera. This seems to have given M. de Ferrari great offence, and to have called forth from him the following letter, addressed to the editor of the *Deutsche Philatelisten Zeitung*. If the whole thing be not an impertinent joke at M. de Ferrari's expense, we presume that we shall be furthering his views by giving increased publicity to his correction of an error, which has been very generally shared with *Der Philatelist*, and to his pæans in glorification of Germany. We are not sure whether we have not laid ourselves open to correction in spelling M. de Ferrari's name as we have been accustomed to do, instead of with a final *y*, as it appears in the signature to the letter we have translated for the benefit of our readers.

"DEAR SIR AND FRIEND,—In the number of the Dresden *Philatelist* of the 1st November last I am, to my great astonishment, alluded to by the title of DUKE OF GALLIERA. Inasmuch as this title has never belonged to me, and can only have been ascribed to me in error, I lost no time in addressing a letter of protest to Dr. Kloss, and the esteemed editor of *Der Philatelist* has in the most friendly way declared himself ready to correct the offensive mistake. In my letter, which in accordance with my earnest request I trust will appear in the next number of *Der Philatelist*, I have shown how, owing to family matters, which created considerable

stir about the end of 1876, I abandoned all present and future claims to the above title, which is now the unchallenged property of another person.

"I further protested how painful it would be for me to be known in the philatelic world, or any other circles, by a wrong name and usurped title, or indeed by any other than my simple name of Philipp von Ferrary. I have also said that if I was anxious that no such misunderstanding should arise, I was still more so that it should not be in my dear Germany, whose child I have always considered myself, and whose child I desire to be. You, dear friend, who honor me with your personal friendship, know to their fullest extent the warmth of the feelings with which old Teutonia inspires my soul. Although, unfortunately, it was not granted to me to be born on German soil, still my young heart was nurtured there, and I drew in love for Germany with the breath of my earliest years. My childish heart beat high for Germany when Danish insolence was quelled at the storming of Düppel and on Aalsund's strand. My boyish heart bled for Germany when, in unholy strife, German fought against German! From the blood-drenched fields of Bohemia I turned my tearful gaze towards the south, where German warriors and German seamen won from the Italians at the victories of Custoza and Lissa two more glorious leaves for Austria's laurel-crown. For Germany my youthful heart rejoiced when the German empire shone forth in all its triumphant glory. My heart throbs for Germany ever since the grand and long-hoped-for day when my beloved Austria, in brotherly reconciliation, sought the peaceful, bloodless, and worthy-of-a-German-nation revenge for Königgrätz. When two noble rulers grasped each other's hands, and bound themselves as with steel to a never-to-be-broken alliance for the unity of all German races, for the preservation of peace, and

German rights from the Alps to the Belt. In such sentiments I grew as a child and studied as a youth, and in them I found strength and comfort when ingratitude and cowardly ill-treatment poisoned my life. These sentiments shall continue mine until I draw my latest breath.

"The songs of Körner, the heroic boy poet, inspired the spring-time of my life, and these songs shall constitute him my friend and example, and fan the flame of love for Germany in my bosom until I die. Thanking you once more for granting me the use of your pages for the correction of the error concerning me, and for the expression of my heartfelt sentiments.

"I remain, yours, &c.,

"P. VON FERRARY."

OUR NOTE BOOK.

GERMAN Post-offices are zoological gardens on a small scale. It appears that in the course of a year, as many as 40,000 animals are sent by post; and if crabs, frogs, bees, and small insects are counted, the total will be among the millions. The post-office authorities have the privilege of excluding such animals as may be deemed either dangerous or disagreeable; but within the last six months or so, only 30 packages of living animals were refused, among which were an alligator done up in a box considered as being too fragile; a lot of dogs whose persistent barking could not be quieted; and a number of pigeons loosely tied up in a sack. On the other hand, during the same period, a crocodile, scores of birds of prey, monkeys, serpents, and 4 living bear cubs, were transmitted by post.

AN ONEROUS PRIVILEGE.—Although the mails (especially those between 18 and 35 years of age) were not allowed to leave Paris during the war of 1870, the national guards have been authorised to post guns on the ramparts.

ENJOYING IT!—The Germans have their post card as well as we, and abuse the institution in about the same manner. At Dresden a gentleman received a card, conveying the following message: "I lost my purse yesterday at the Elbe Baths, with five napoleons in it; I dropped it close to the water-mark, where it must still lie. As you are a good diver, come to the baths this evening at six." The gentleman kept the appointment, and was surprised to see two or three postmen go into the baths just before him. On the platform his astonishment increased, for, in spite of the unusual hour, there were numbers of post-office officials there. They all took uncommonly dives. The writer of the card was sitting at a little distance enjoying the sight.

THE number of Post-offices in Switzerland is one to every 983 inhabitants; in Russia, one to every 5,768.

THE London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* says it is believed that the next report of the Post Office will show the Reply Post-card to have been comparatively a failure. The announcement just made, that these cards will be issued for foreign service, is understood to be the consequence of an arrangement between the countries in the Postal Union; but in London, the Reply Post card is regarded as by far the least satisfactory of Mr. Fawcett's reforms; and when the Postmaster General is able to resume his official duties, it is likely he will be asked to re-arrange it, so that the address and message could be on one side, and the reply address on the other. If the card so made up could be issued for one penny, it is believed that it would be very considerably made use of. An advantage in commercial communication would be that the message and reply could be preserved, where it was desired, upon the same card.

WHY is a solitary letter like a debt? Because it's a loan.

POST-CARDS were invented in 1866, by Dr. Stephen. 400,000,000 are annually used in Europe.

It is curious also to learn that Honolulu is already permeated by a perfect network of telephones. This recalls the odd and significant fact that postage stamps were perforated in Hawaii while they were still cut with a pair of scissors in Paris.

THE GARFIELD ENVELOPES.

There has been a good deal of discussion about the 5 cent stamped envelopes, bust of Garfield, on blue and fawn paper, some even going so far as to say that they were nothing but fancy impressions. The envelopes were not issued for several months after the adhesives made their appearance; perhaps not over six weeks before the expiration of the contract of 1878-82. At some time during this six weeks two hundred of these envelopes on fawn and two hundred and fifty on blue were received by a certain post-office, in the regular way, and were sold in the usual way, most of them being purchased by a gentleman who is well known to us, and who it seems, had a presentiment that these sizes would be abolished. They were; for No. 3 blue and No. 7 fawn had been so little called for in the past, that the Department decided to discontinue them at the expiration of the contract, and on the schedule issued on January 1st, they will not be found. The time (six weeks) we name is merely a supposition, as we do not know exactly how long it was between the appearance of the Garfield envelopes, and the expiration of the contract under which they were made; but this we do know that the envelopes on blue and fawn paper were regularly made and supplied in the usual way to a post office and sold at that office, just as other envelopes are sold.—P. M.

NOT FOR AWHILE YET.

We stated some time ago that the colony of Cape of Good Hope would shortly enter the postal union. A recent number of *The Natal Times*, however, informs us that it may be a long time before the event takes place, should a proposed reduction of the rates of postage on letters throughout the Union be adopted. It says:

"It was hoped that Natal and the Cape Colony would have entered the Postal Union at the beginning of the month, when the rates of postage on mail matter for places in the Union would have been reduced and made uniform, not only from the Colonies but in the opposite directions from all countries comprised in the Union. Unfortunately a proposal which the German Postal Department has announced its intention to make at the Postal Union Congress to be held in Lisbon next year, has rendered a postponement necessary. The proposal is to reduce by nearly a third the rates payable by one country to another for sea carriage of the mails. Should this be agreed to, and South America become incorporated in the Union, it would result in a considerable loss to the revenues of the colonies, as, supporting as they do a Mail Service of their own, they could not afford any reduction in the rates of payment for sea transit and the surtaxes for overland carriage of mails, as fixed by the Convention of Paris in 1878, as it was under the provisions of this Convention they intended joining the Union, any decrease of the sea carriage not being anticipated."

THE GREEN BAY POST OFFICE, being annoyed by people continually asking the price of stamps, posted the following on the doors: "Price of 3 cent stamps, 3 cents each; licked and stuck, 5 cents. The clock will answer the question, 'Has the mail closed?'"

Auction Sales.

Under this heading we shall be pleased to announce any forthcoming sales and to review the same on receipt of priced catalogue.

On the 5th, inst. Messrs. Scott & Co., sold the large and valuable album of Willard K. Freeman, Esq., as announced on page 139 of the NATIONAL PHILATELIST, and we append a few of the prices realized: Bavaria, 1849, 1k. black, \$1.10; Belgium, 1849, 10 and 20c. \$1.05 each; Burgedorf, 1861, $\frac{1}{2}$ s. violet, \$1.10—1861, 3s. rose, \$1.00; Bolivia, 1867, 5c. mauve \$8.25.—1867, 500c. black, \$6.50; Brazil, 1843, large figures, 30, 60 and 90r. \$1.25 each; British Colombia, 1869, 10c. rose pink, \$3.50; British Guiana, 1853, 1c. blue, \$1.80—1860, 1c. pink, \$1.15; Ceylon, 1880, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ r. \$1.70; Corrientes, 1856, UN REAL M C blue, unused, \$5.10; Germany, $\frac{1}{4}$ sg. envelope, \$1.50; Great Britian, $\frac{1}{4}$ d. envelope, silk threads and dated, \$1.00; Heligoland, 5m. green, \$1.50; Liberia, 12c. blue with outer line, unperforated, \$3.00; Mauritius, 1856, magenta, unused, \$5.—1872, 9p. green, \$1.20; Mexico, 1856, first issue complete, \$1.05 each—1867, $\frac{1}{2}$ r. greenish black \$2.60—1868, for Guadalajara, 1r. (sen) laid paper, \$2.50—1868, 2r. violet, wove paper, \$1.25—1865, 3c. brown, \$4.75—1866, lithographed series, \$1.10 each; Oldenburg, 1860, \$1.40 each; Pacific Steam Navigation Co's 1r. blue, \$3.—2r. blue, \$2.—1r. orange, \$2.—2r. orange, \$2.—1r. lake, \$1.75—2r. lake, \$1.75—1r. green, \$1.75—2r. green, \$2.—2r. brown, \$1.75; Phillipine Islands, 1863, 1r. violet, \$10.—1863, 2r. blue \$11. Portugues Indies, 1872, 900r. \$2.15—600r. \$1.45—900r. \$2.25; Prussia, 4p. envelope, used, \$1.25; Queensland, 1882, 2s. 6p., \$1.80; St. Helena, 5s. orange, \$1.75; St. Vincent, 5s. \$1.50; Trinidad, 4p. violet, \$2.50; United States of Columbia, 1859, 1p. on blue paper, \$1.10—Insured Letter Stamps, 25c. first issue, \$1.10—1874, 2p. yellow, unused, \$2.25—1882, 5p. car-

mine and blue, \$3.50—1883, 10p. blue and brown, \$5.75; Venezeula, 1868, 5s. red and blue, \$1.70; Guatemala, 5c. brown, pair unused on sheet, unsevered, \$1.10 each; Cape Verde, 40r. and Mozambique, 40c. both printed on same sheet, unsevered, \$1.10 each; Ecuador, 1866, 4r. red, \$1.45;

UNITED STATES STAMPS.—New York, 1843, glazed paper, dark blue, \$2.—1845, unused, \$2.50; Providence, 1846, 5c. black, \$1.70—1846, 10c. black, \$6; 1851, 1c. "Carriers" Stamp, Horseman, \$3; 1861, 5c. yellow, \$3.50; State Department, two dollars, \$1.80; 1857, envelope, 4c., white paper, \$4.50; 1861 set 12, 20, 24 and 40c., \$1.15 each.

PHILATELICAL LITERATURE.—Album Weeds, \$2.50; Postage and Telegraph Stamps of Great Britian, \$2.60; Revised List of Postage Stamps and Envelopes, \$1.75; *Stamp Collectors Magazine*, Vol. II. \$1.35—Vols. III., IV., V., \$1.10 each—Vol. VI. 70c.—Vol. VII. \$2.10—Vols. X., XI., XII., 50c., 90c. and \$1.10 respectively; *American Journal of Philately*, Vols. IV., V., IX., X. 70c. each—Vols. XI., XII. 60c. each—Vol. III. 65c; *Philatelic Record*, Vol. I., \$1.50—Vols. II., III., \$1.25 each.

Answers to Correspondents.

Editor National Philatelist.

DEAR SIR—In Vol. 4 of the *Philatelic Record*, pages 50-51 and 92, Mr. C. B. Corwin will find mention of the two British Guiana Provisionals he speaks of in your October issue.

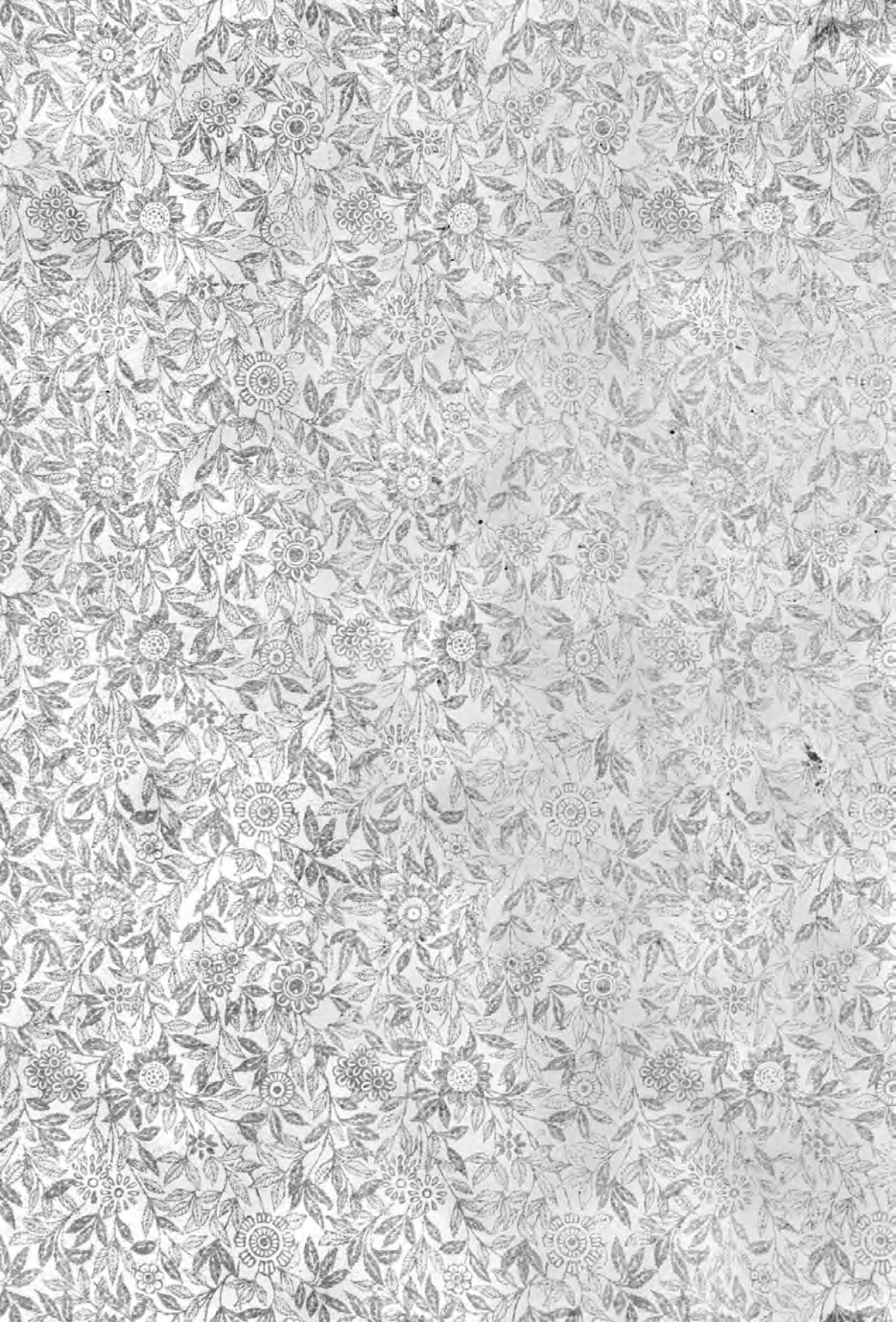
The 2c on 24c green, official, of 1863 type, is doubtfully spoken of together with a 1c on 12c lilac of 1860 type, the latter, of which I possess a copy, properly postmarked, and from a very authentic source, would satisfy me that the *Record* must be in error in judging them other than genuine, even should I have not seen Mr. Corwin's description of the former.

I have also a postmarked copy of the 2c on 12c official of 1876 type with small 2 curly tailed, (also mentioned by Mr. C.) which I am informed is much rarer than the 2 with straight tail. With the surcharged 96c stamps it is the reverse, the large curly tailed 2 being the most common.

WOODSIDE, L. I.

Yours truly,
C. W. C.







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PHILATELIC SECTION.

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THE

Representative Society of *
* Western North America.

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W. H. KANE,

Secretary and Treasurer,

LONG BEACH,

CALIFORNIA.



— THE —

National Philatelist.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF STAMP COLLECTORS.

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W. F. SMITH, MANAGER.

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ROOM 38, TRIBUNE BUILDING, NEW YORK CITY.

W. F. SMITH, MANAGER.

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— THE —

National Philatelist.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE.

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF STAMP COLLECTORS

OCTOBER, 1883.

PUBLISHED BY THE NATIONAL PHILATELICAL SOCIETY,

ROOM 38, TRIBUNE BUILDING, NEW YORK CITY.

W. F. SMITH, MANAGER.

THE
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PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

Entered at New York Post Office as Second Class matter.

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*Ecuador 10 on 50,	1 50
*Nicaragua 1882, set of 6.	1 25
*Salvador Cards, 2 and 3c.	15
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*Cuba 1883, 5, 10, 20.	75
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*Bolivar 1882, 5, 10, 20, 40, 80; 1 peso	4 50
Bolivia 1879, 5, 10, 20, 50	50
*Costa Rica 1 and 2c surcharged on 1/2 rl	25
*Fernando Po 1882, 1, 2, 5c	.....	25
Guatemala 1861, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20	.....	30
*Hawaii Cards 1, 2, 3	.....	15
*Honduras Cards 2, 3, 4, 6	.....	30
*Liberia 8, 16	.....	40
*Nicaragua 1882, 1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 20	.....	1 25
Orange Free States 5c	.....	75
*Portuguese Indies 1881, 1/2, 4/2, 6r; 1, 2, 4, 8t	.....	1 25
*St. Domingo Envelopes entire set of 8	4 50
" " Cards 20 varieties	1 25
*Trinidad 1858, 1d red	75

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*Bolivar 1882, 5, 10, 20, 40, 80; 1 peso	4 50
Bolivia 1879, 5, 10, 20, 50	50
*Costa Rica 1 and 2c surcharged on 1/2 rl	25
*Fernando Po 1882, 1, 2, 5c	25
Guatemala 1881, 1, 2, 5, 10, 20	30
*Hawaii Cards 1, 2, 3	15
Honduras Cards 2, 3, 4, 6	30
*Liberia 8, 16	40
*Nicaragua 1882, 1, 2, 5, 10, 15, 20	1 25
Orange Free States 5c	75
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