

VOL. I.

NO. I.



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MAY, 1886.

# PHILATELIC NOTES.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR  
STAMP COLLECTORS.

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20 Cents a Year.

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F. E. THORP, PUBLISHER, NORWICH, N. Y.

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1 Monthly for Stamp Collectors.

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*Norwich, N. Y., Feb'y. 24th., 1886.*

*GENTLEMEN:—About April, 15th., will be issued the first number of a monthly magazine, called*

## PHILATELIC NOTES.

*It will consist of 8 pages and cover, and will be devoted entirely to the interest of Stamp Collectors. The first edition of 1000 will be sent to collectors as sample copies.*

*I should be pleased to receive an advertisement from you, believing that it will pay you at the following low rates:*

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*Very truly yours,*

*F. E. THORP.*

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1917 г.

№ 10

Всего в 1917 г. издано 1000 экз. (в том числе 500 экз. в 1917 г. и 500 экз. в 1918 г.)

Всего в 1918 г. издано 500 экз. (в том числе 250 экз. в 1918 г. и 250 экз. в 1919 г.)

ВНИМАТЕЛЬНО ИЩЕТЕ

ИЛИ ИЩЕТЕ ИЛИ

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# PHILATELIC NOTES.

VOL. I

NORWICH, N. Y., MAY, 1885.

No. 1.

## HUMORS OF THE POST.

The present postal system is less than a half a century old. The ludicrous side of life, as seen by the postman, the postmaster and the postmistress, forms interesting and amusing features of their existence and vocation. When the penny post was inaugurated in England it required several years in which to acquaint the public with the requirements necessary to make the service perfect. The earlier letters sent by the Government post in England, and even those delivered by special messengers before the general post was established, were very peculiar as to their addresses. The address on the envelope, or on the back of the written sheet, was usually penned in every imaginable way except in the right manner necessary for an immediate transmission of the message.

While the comedian Hay was performing in a play-house at Bolton, England, in 1802, he received a curious marked envelope, containing a letter from Charles Diblin, a brother actor. The envelope was surcharged with the following:

“Postman, take this sheet away  
And carry it to Mr. Hay;  
And whether you ride mare or colt on  
Stop at the theatre Bolton.  
If in what county, you inquire,  
Merely mention Lancashire.

Equally as curious and very mysterious was the address placed upon a letter by a sturdy resident of Cheshire. It was received one morning at the Cheshire postoffice bearing the simple inscription:

“For moi son, London.”

After passing through a succession of hands it was at length duly deposited, along with a thousand other letters, at the office for “Left-till-called-for” letters, there to await the chap-

ter of accidents. A few days afterwards a simple-looking young countryman presented himself and inquired;

“Han yo gotten a lettur for me fa moi feythur?”

There was a titter among the postal clerks, and then a whisper and a significant nod. A look in the pigeon holes revealed “feythur’s” letter, which was handed to his son, who looked upon the whole proceedings quite as a matter of course, and departed from the postoffice contented and happy.

Recently a letter was placed in a letter box in a provincial English town, the apperance of which denoted that the writer was unaccustomed to the use of stamps. The sender had tried in vain to make the stamp stick up the letter. The portrait of Her Majesty would curl up at the corners, and the stamp would not stick. At last, in utter dispair, the sender pinned the stamp to the envelope and wrote under it: “Paid, *providing the pin doesn’t come out.*”

In one of the post boxes at Vienna, not long ago, was found addressed as follows:

“To infant Jesus, in Heaven,  
To be given to St. Peter.”

Upon being opened this curiously addressed envelope was found to contain the prayer of a little child who asked to be given a great number of presents at Christmas. Frequently in all large postoffices are found letters addressed to Santa Claus and to the Almighty. These as a general thing are written by little children who fancy they can reach through the aid of the mails, the persons addressed.

Insane people and those termed by Americans as “cranks” often address letters to unknown deities and rulers. The following story of a lunatic in New South Wales, Australia, will be of interest. At a recent trial in the capital city of South Wales, to test the validity of a will, it was proved that in 1867, the testator became impaired in intellect to such an extent, that he went to the postoffice with a postage stamp stuck on his forehead, and requested to be sent by post to a place he mentioned.

The pillar letter box furnishes its full quota of amusing anecdotes. An Irishman was seen to walk to a letter box in London, and to drop in an unstamped letter and after it a shilling. He stood there for a few minutes knocking on the



pillar, and getting no answer he cried, "Plaze can I get my change?"

A Liverpool merchant sent his servant Dennis to catch the post at the pillar box. When Dennis returned his master asked him: "Well Dennis, had it gone?"

"What sir?" said Dennis.

"Why the post; you blockhead," replied his master.

"Divil a bit, sir," said Dennis with a bewildered look; "I lift it standin' there."

In Italy the postoffice letter box is called the "buca." At each locality where the traveler finds them, he will see two boxes side by side, the one labelled "Lettere," or written correspondence, and the other "Stampe," or newspapers and other printed matter. An American traveler upon coming across a pair of these boxes remarked, "Well, this is a pretty country for postal arrangements, where they make you post the letters in one box and the stamp in another."

Since the postal card came into service a few years ago, it has been the cause of many amusing incidents. A Philadelphia Irishman, Pat McGoules, invested a cent in a postal card and wrote on the back of it:

"Felix McConnell—

Come up this evening. There's going to be a dog fight at Barney Degen's. I'm going to bet on Hautehan's dog. Don't miss the fight.

PAT."

The writer then enclosed the written card in an envelope, which he sealed and addressed. Then he handed it to the postoffice clerk, who, as a matter of course, required the payment of an additional three cents for postage. Pat was very angry, and remarked to a friend: "Be me soul, the postoffice man made me pay three cents for the mean one cent swindle."

Postoffice employes take great delight in reading the messages on postal cards. In a Kentucky office a letter was dropped into the box addressed to the Rev John Brown. It was an ordinary postal card, and the postmaster was an ordinary postmaster. He took up the card, turned it over and leisurely read: "You to whom this card is not addressed, but whom, nevertheless, have the cheek to read it, are a contemptible, unprincipled sneak, and a prying, pusillanimous coward."

The postmaster dropped the card like a coal of fire. So did

his clerk, who also read it, and likewise did the mail agents, and the others through whose hands it passed before reaching its destination.

The young postmaster of a village in the district of Znaim, was busy at work in his office, when a gentle knock came to the door, and in stepped a buxom young country lass. Walking up to the desk she handed the official, with a bashful smile, a post-office order, which he closely examined, and paid the young woman the sum inscribed. At the same time he asked her why she had not detached the coupon from the order, as the sender had written on it a further communication for her. "Indeed?" said the girl; "Well you see, I can't read: perhaps you'll be so kind as to read it for me." The postmaster read as follows: "I send you herewith three florins and a thousand kisses." Glancing rapidly at the young person, he added, with his accustomed official gravity: "You have now got the money and I am ready to give you the kisses at once." The young peasant woman accepted the balance of her order. On reaching home she said to her folks: "Eh but it's a grand concern—this postoffice; you can now get kisses sent along with your money-orders."

(To be Continued.)

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#### NOTES.

Postal cards are printed in sheets of 40 cards.

Stamps for taxation were invented in Holland in the seventeenth century.

The *Collectors Companion* for March consists of 32 pages and covers, and contains many interesting articles.

Nearly all of the Unpaid letter stamps, are gotten up with a large numeral in the center.

When the stamps of the German Confederation replaced those of Brunswick, in 1868, all of the remainders, of which there were about two million, were sold to a German stamp dealer.

Send 20 cents and receive this paper for one year. A rare stamp free, to every one whose subscription is received before May 25th.

The postal service of India extends as far north as Kolghur, a village of the Himalayas. Beyond this point a letter is sent by a native runner, who carries the missive for days in the split end of a stick, and delivers it at the end of his journey, as clean as when he received it. These runners are so honest that money is entrusted to them, which they will carry for days, along wild mountain tracks, where they could never be traced, and then deliver it into the right hands.

Stamp gathering has for its votaries some of the most prominent men both in England and America, who take a lively interest in all journals and books published concerning it. In defense of this pursuit an extract from the *Curiosity Cabinet* some years ago, says: "Let no collector of stamps or coins be considered engaged in a foolish pursuit, or subjected to ridicule when such noble personages as the Royal Family of England, the Pope, Baron Rothschild and probably the most prominent of American collectors, Gen. W. T. Sherman, deem it entertaining enough to pay attention to it."—*California Philatelist*.

Of all the stamps of the United States the so-called "Government Locals" are the most interesting. They preceded the general issues and probably hastened the adoption of postage stamps by the government. Most of them are extremely rare, and of several but two or three copies are known to be in existence. No one collection contains the complete series. It is possible that some were issued which have not yet come to light, for but a short time since one was unearthed which had hitherto been quite unknown. It was issued by the postmaster of Millbury, Mass., in the year 1846. One specimen we know of is postmarked Dec. 6 and is on an envelope addressed to a person in Worcester. The stamp is circular and bears in the centre a portrait of Jefferson, enclosed in a circular frame. The outer frame is a double circle and between the outer and inner frames is the inscription: "Post Office" at the top and "Paid 5 cts." at the bottom. Three stars are at each side. The stamp is from a rudely cut wood block and is printed black on white. But two copies have thus far been found.—*Philatelic Monthly*.

From the Philatelic Monthly.

### NEW ISSUES.

*Ceylon.* The surcharged stamps are evidently not to have a much longer currency. The first of a new series has been issued, without surcharge, having the head of the Queen in an oval, "Ceylon above, "Postage" on the left, "Revenue" on the right, value below. The value is 5 cents, lilac.

*Finland.* The 10 pennia, carmine, long ago announced, is now in use. A 10 pennia card has been issued in carmine and black on buff.

*Gibraltar.* In addition to the stamps already mentioned, there is a 2 pence registered envelope, made from that of Barbadoes.

*Gwalior.* The following additional values have been issued: 1 anna and 6 pies, brown; 3 annas, orange; 6 annas, brown.

*Helsingfors.* A new type of the local for this town has been prepared. It is printed in brown on green paper.

*Mexico.* We have received letter cards of the value of 4 centavos, carmine, on white.

*Peru.* A couple more provisional stamps have come under our notice, 5 centavos, olive and 10 centavos, gray. Both have the arms in the centre, the 5 centavos having "Correos Del. Peru" above, the 10 centavos, "Franqueo" above.

*St. Lucia.* We have the 1 penny, printed in lilac.

*Shanghai.* By favor of Mr. Chaumont, we have specimens of a couple of new surcharged stamps, viz: 40 cash on 80 cash, salmon, 60 cash on 100 cash, yellow.

*Portugal.* We have a 1000 reis, black stamp, of the type of the 1871 issue.

*Santander.* A new type has been prepared for the three values in use in this state. The colors are unchanged, they being as follows: 1 centavo, blue; 5 centavos, red; and 10 centavos, violet.

*Tobago.* We have specimens of the 6 pence of the current issue, surcharged  $\frac{1}{2}$  penny in black.

*Tolima.* Le Timbre Poste chronicles a 5 peso, yellow of the type of the old 5 centavos, brown.

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### OUR OWN COUNTRY.

BY WILL M. CLEMENS.

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Only two or three years ago one could buy the official or department stamps at a very reasonable figure—in fact the rare State departments, many of them could be purchased for 2 or 3 cents each. The value of the department stamps has doubled and trebled, and doubled again, and are fast becoming rare. The same is true of our high value adhesives, our old issues, revenues, match and medicine stamps. And with this state of affairs what are our young collectors doing—simply spending all the money they can, for foreign stamps.

They long for old Spain, they cry for Tobagos, for surcharges, seek the highest priced stamps from foreign countries while their U. S. collection is neglected. This is a sad mistake. Money is lost by the delay, U. S. stamps were cheaper a year ago than now, far more so at the present time than they will be a year hence, and this is the reason I urge young collectors to begin at once and complete your United States collection, if such a thing is possible.

Take pride and glory in the stamps of your own country, study them well, know their history. Collect fine specimens, and replace the poor ones in your albums with better ones when you can do so. By doing this I assure my young friends that their collections will be far more valuable than if they possessed the rarest of foreign stamps.

In comparing the stamps of our own country with those of other nations, what do we find. No foreign stamps are more valuable than our own. No foreign stamps are more handsome in appearance. To my eyes there is nothing prettier in all the science of philately than a well arranged, systematic collection of United States stamps. By all means give the stamps of your own country preference to those of any other land on the face of Mother Earth.

**F. E. THORP,**

DEALER IN

**STAMPS, COINS & C.,**  
**NORWICH, N. Y.****A FEW BARGAINS.****STAMPS.**

|                            |       |       |
|----------------------------|-------|-------|
| Fernando Po, 1d unused     | ----- | \$.05 |
| Norway, 60 ore             | ----- | 8     |
| "    kr 1.00, kr 2.00 each | ----- | 8     |
| New Brunswick, 2c unused   | ----- | 12    |
| Great Britain, 5 sh        | ----- | 5     |
| 100 Foreign all different  | ----- | 10    |

**COINS ETC.**

|                                       |       |    |
|---------------------------------------|-------|----|
| 5 Foreign Coins all different         | ----- | 10 |
| 3 Confederate Notes " "               | ----- | 10 |
| 2 Broken Bank Bills "                 | ----- | 10 |
| Indian Arrow Heads, each 6c.; 3 diff. | ----- | 12 |
| "    Spear    "                       | ----- | 20 |

**Price Lists Free.**

SPECIAL OFFER:—Any one ordering 50 cents worth of above, will receive this paper one year free.

**ADDRESS:**

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**NORWICH, NEW YORK.**

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**Edwards, Peeke & Co.**

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| 35 Varieties Foreign Stamps | .....\$ .05 |
| 100 " " "                   | ..... .10   |
| 150 " many rare             | ..... .25   |
| 200 " " "                   | ..... .50   |
| 300 " " "                   | ..... 1 00  |

Every collector should send 4 cents for our Large Illustrated Catalogue, upwards of 400 surpassingly Cheap sets and unequalled *Packets*; also extended list of single stamps, at lowest possible prices.

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Orders filled by return mail.

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827 Brannan St. San Francisco, Cal.

**J. G. BINGHAM,** McGrawville, N. Y.  
Dealer in Coins, Stamps and Curios.  
Choice a dime. 30c & 90c stamp U. S. 1870, 8 var. Japan, 5 War dep., 5 Allen locals, 5 Am. Rapid Tel., 15 var. U. S. Documents 1c to \$1., 100 var. foreign. Price list free with each.

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## 25 cent Series.

No. 1 contains 100 foreign stamps. Brazil, Chili, Peru, etc. .25

No. 2 contains 50 good stamps, such as Norway, Belgium, Russia, Iceland, Bolivia, etc. .25

No. 3 contains 40 stamps, such as Victoria, Luxemburg, Peru, etc. .25

No. 4 contains 35 stamps, such as Jamaica, Portugal, Queensland, Trinidad etc. .25

No. 5 contains 30 stamps, such as Cape Good Hope, Egypt, Dutch Indies, etc. .25

No. 6 contains 25 stamps, such as Turkey, Cuba, etc. .25

No. 7 contains 20 stamps, such as Ceylon, Chili, Bermuda etc. .25

No. 8 contains 15 stamps such as British Guiana, West Australia, French Colonies, etc. .25

No. 9 contains 12 stamps such as Cuba, Porto Rico, etc. .25

No. 10 contains 10 stamps, such as Iceland, Guatemala, etc. .25

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**F. E. THORP,**

DEALER IN

# STAMPS, COINS & C.

## NORWICH, N. Y.

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| 2 Broken Bank Bills " "               | 10 |
| Indian Arrow Heads, each 6c.; 3 diff. | 12 |
| "    Spear " "                        | 20 |

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No. 2 100 varieties foreign, 10c  
No. 3 100 " many rare 20c  
No. 4 125 " " 30c  
No. 5 150 " " 40c  
No. 6 200 " " 75c  
No. 7 250 " " \$1.00  
No. 8 300 " " \$1.25

No. 9 500 varieties, including stamps from almost every country, and many that are sold from 5 to 15c. each by other dealers. This is without doubt the cheapest packet for the price put up in America.

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| Agates. .05                                | " arrow head .07      |
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| 10 Coins, fine 30c. |                         |

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589 Monroe St.; Brooklyn, N. Y.

W F. GREANY, 827 Brannan Street, San Francisco, Cal. Dealer in U. S. Revenue stamps. Selections sent on approval



# PHILATELIC NOTES.

VOL. I

NORWICH, N. Y., JUNE, 1886.

No. 2.

## HUMORS OF THE POST.

In England, some years ago a letter intended for the Old Oak Orchard, Tenbury, had this address:

To dad Thomas  
hat the ole oke  
Otchut  
10, Bary, Pade.

Sur plees to let ole feather have this sefe.

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"To my sister Juan  
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She has a wooden leg."

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"Dear Pat, I received your letter, but wait answer it until the first of next month, when the chape postage begins."

During the noted star route postal trials in the United States

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 No. 4 125 " " 30c  
 No. 5 150 " " 40c  
 No. 6 200 " " 75c  
 No. 7 250 " " \$1.00  
 No. 8 300 " " \$1.25  
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|--|----------------------|
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| Iron Ore " .04                             | War Envelopes, .75   |
| Chinese chop stks .09                      | Egypt coins, fine 10 |
| " coins fine .05                           | Old Indian coins .07 |
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589 Monroe St., Brooklyn, N. Y.

# PHILATELIC NOTES.

VOL. I

NORWICH, N. Y., JUNE, 1886.

No. 2.

## HUMORS OF THE POST.

In England, some years ago a letter intended for the Old Oak Orchard, Tenbury, had this address:

To dad Thomas  
hat the ole oke  
Otchut  
to, Bary, Pade.

Sur plees to let ole feather have this sefe.

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"Dear Pat, I received your letter, but wait answer it until the first of next month, when the chape postage begins."

During the noted star route postal trials in the United States

the case of the "Gum boot route" was called. Mr. Ker, one of the lawyers summed up the evidence concerning this route with the following expressive rhyme:

The mail was small,  
Scarce any at all:  
A letter or two and a paper  
Went over this route  
In the leg of a boot:  
The horse on a five-mile caper.

### The Approval Sheet Evils.

BY WILL M. CLEMENS.

The selling of stamps by the methods known as approval sheets has become an enormous business. Resulting from this modus operandi of dealing in foreign stamps, has arisen the necessity from time to time, of dealers complaining of being swindled, and the publication in philatelic papers and magazines of long lists of frauds and "approval sheet" beats. While I do not call this the greatest evil of the approval sheet business, it is nevertheless a serious evil in itself. It brings the frauds to the front and gives our noble science an air of dishonesty. Collectors begin to think that their brother collectors are a gang of frauds and sharpers instead of honest, and well intending students. Thus we have evil number one. But the greatest evil of all lies in the fact that by the means of the approval sheet the country is being

flooded with counterfeit, base and inferior stamps. To my mind one half of the counterfeit stamps now sold are disposed of by approval sheets. To make myself understood more perfectly I will explain in this manner.

1. An established dealer who sells from his price list and catalogue only sells rare stamps at a decent figure—very often very high figures I admit, but as the stamps are rare and scarce they are worth the price asked for them. If this dealer was to sell a \$1. stamp for 5c and so advertise it in his pricelist, the philatelic public would at once decide that the dealer's good reputation was a thing of the past and that he was dealing in bogus stamps stamps, so the reputed dealer sells only genuine stamps and philately prospers.

2. In the next place take the case of the dealer who sells stamps by means of approval sheets only. He does not publish his prices to the world. He sends out his sheets in most cases to amateurs and young boys who do not know a counterfeit stamp when they see one. He can sell a rare \$1. stamp for 5c. to one of his customers and the general philatelic public will never know of it. Thus counterfeits of rare and valuable stamps are sent broadcast over the country and there is no way to check the evil which keeps on spreading and growing.

My readers will doubtless un-

derstand these illustrations and see at once the evils arising from the sale of stamps by means of approval sheets. In thus writing upon this subject I do not mean to throw any discredit upon those gentlemen who deal in stamps by the approval sheet method, but I merely want to show that the method in itself is a great and growing evil to our science. It can be remedied and should be by all possible means.

#### STAMPED ENVELOPES.

Third Assistant Postmaster-General Hazen has completed the proposals for bids for making stamped envelopes for the next four years. May 1 every four years these bids are advertised for, and the competition is more active and hair-splitting than for any other Government contract, as it is the largest single contract which the department makes. For twelve years the Plimpton Envelope Company of Hartford, Conn., and the Morgan Envelope Company of Springfield, Mass., have had all the making of stamped envelopes. Since the Government began in 1851 to sell stamped envelopes there has been a steady increase in the amount required each year, until the Government has for several years been selling more envelopes than all other producers combined. Last year 270,000,000 stamped envelopes,

worth \$5,773,000, were sold. With every letting the size of the contract increases and the price of envelopes is reduced. Envelopes which in 1869 cost \$4.80 per thousand can now be sold for \$1.80 per thousand, and the extra letter size that then cost \$6 are now sold for \$2.40.

The proposals this year provide a greater variety of paper and a number of new grades. It was found that people preferred to buy the best quality of envelopes rather than the medium sorts, while no cheap grade was provided. This time a plain, ungunmed manilla envelope has been called for, which can be sold for 40 cents a thousand. This will meet the demand of circular advertisers, which is a large one, monopolized hitherto by private dealers. Two sizes called baronial, about 3x4 inches, have been inserted for the benefit of the ladies who like to use fancy note papers.

The size most used is the plain white or amber, known as No. 6, 3½x6 5-16 inches. Of this, for the year ending March 31, 130,475,000 were required, more than twice as many as any other kind used.

Bidders are required to give a bond for \$200,000 that they will go on with the contract if it is awarded to them. The contractor is required to do the work under supervision of a Government agent. The composition of the paper must be

according to Government formula. Rags must be kept in the beater engines not less than sixteen hours, and jute not less than ten. The water-mark, which has been a large monogram "U. S. P. O. D.," will be changed to a small plain "U. S." The cost for the supply of stamped envelopes is reduced by this year's proposals 20 per cent. In 1882 the reduction was 7 per cent, and in 1878 20 per cent.

The advantages of stamp collecting are: It shows a desire for useful amusement, a turning a pleasant pastime to useful labor. It tends to keep young men at home, or at least away from places that would be worse than useless to them. It furnishes employment for minds that would be otherwise idle, and "an idle mind is the devil's workshop." It furnishes a means for spending a few pennies in some better way than at a billiard table, or at the bar. We think for these reasons, (and who can say they are not substantial ones?) stamp collecting should be encouraged and everybody should be gratified at its increase.—*Philatelic Monthly*.

#### EXCHANGE NOTICES.

Under this head we will insert offers of exchange for our subscribers only. Must be written on one side of paper and contain not more than 40 words.

#### OUR EXCHANGES.

*The Stamp and Coin Gazette* received, and is as interesting as ever.

We have not as yet seen a copy of the *Collectors Science Monthly*, although it is said to have appeared.

The *Tag World* is a new paper from Cleveland, Ohio, devoted to collectors of tobacco tags.

The *Philatelic News* of Chicago, has been sold to Mr. I. C. Green, publisher of Fitchburg, Mass., *Philatelic News*.

Can it be that *The Collectors Companion*, and *Philatelic Magazine*, have suspended. They were two of our most promising journals.

We have also received the following papers since our first issue. Publishers will please accept thanks. *Philatelic J. of America*; *Philatelic Guardian*; *Stamp*; *Capital City Philatelist*; *Philatelic Herald*; *S. & C. Gazette*; *Philatelic News*; *Garden City Philatelist*; *Arizona P. of Philately*; *Carson City Philatelist*; *Mohawk Standard*; *Naturalists' L. H. and Monthly Bulletin*; *Youths Messenger*; *Chemung Review*; *Philatelic Monthly*; *Monthly Journal*; *Mystic World*; *Empire State Philatelist*; *New York Collector*; *Sunny South Oologist*; *Young America*; *Advantage Courier*.



# Philatelic Notes.

*A Monthly for Stamp Collectors.*

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*P. O. DRAWER 24, NORWICH, N. Y.*

## NOTES.

Dont forget to send 12 cents and receive this paper one year.

The 15th edition of Durbins, catalogue is out.

When writing to advertisers always state that you saw the adv. in PHILATELIC NOTES.

The recent auction sale of stamps held at St. Louis, netted over \$500.00.

The new edition of the International Album is greatly improved and enlarged, and is printed on better paper.

The Professor of a school in Illinois has offered a prize to the boy who gets the largest collection of stamps.

We will give a prize of 50 cents, for the best philatelic article of not less than 300 words, 30 cents for second best. Must be original.

Dr. F. N. Palmer, who was postmaster at Brattleboro and issued the famous stamp in 1846, recently jumped from a Boston and Portland steamer, and was drowned.---*P. M.*

From the Philatelic Monthly.

## NEW ISSUES.

*Antigua.* The following cards are reported: 1 penny, carmine; 1x1 penny, carmine; 1½ x1½ pence, brown; all on buff.

*Austria.* Letter cards of the value of 3 and 5 kreuzer and 3 and 5 soldi are announced as in preparation.

*Bulgaria.* The 30 stotinki stamp of 1881 and 1883 have been cut in half diagonally, and made to do duty as 15 stotinki stamps.

*Dutch Indies.* The 7½ cent card are now printed in white instead of buff.

*Greece.* Two values of a new type have made their appearance. Whether the entire set is to be changed or not we are not yet advised.

*Guatemala.* We have been permitted to examine the proof of a new 1 centavo stamp, engraved by the American Bank Note Co. If prepared and issued like the proof before us, the series will make a beautiful addition to the album.

In the centre of the design there is a scroll bearing the inscription "Libertad 15 de Setem-

bre 1821" and on the scroll is seated a parrot. Around this is a horse-shoe inscribed "Union Postal Universal." In the left upper corner is a train of cars and in the right upper a steamship. Below the horse-shoe is "Guatemala C. A." and at the bottom the value.

*Mexico.* Late impressions of the 10 centavos stamps are of a light yellow color. New postal cards are expected July 1st.

*Roumania.* The 10 bani, red of the new type has appeared.

*Persia.* We have received the following named stamps surcharged "Official" and with new value:

6 on 5 shahis, green;  
12 on 50 " black;  
18 on 10 " orange & blk.  
1 toman on 5 fr., blk. & red.

It will be noticed that the surcharged 50 shahis is a different color from those issued in 1882.

*Russia.* The 3 kopeck card has been issued in double form.

*Shanghai.* The 40 cash has changed color to brown.

*St. Christopher.* Double 1 and 1½ penny cards have been issued.

*Turkey.* We have the 5 paras printed in black and are informed that the 5 piastres is now green and the 25 piastres, bistre.

*U. S. of Columbia.* Mr. De. Sola favors us with a new type

of the 10 centavos, orange. A bust of some celebrity is in an oval frame with the name around, "Republica de Columbia;" value below. It is probably the fore-runner of an entire new series.

There is possibly no branch of stamp collecting which affords more interest and study than provisional stamps do, and collectors having specimens of this class generally look upon them as being a special novelty of their collections, and are themselves entitled to be considered energetic and quick-sighted collectors. It is particularly necessary with a provisional stamp to seize the earliest, for to pass a specimen frequently results either in failure to get it at all, or in having to pay a price which, during its brief currency, would have purchased maybe a hundred. — *Monthly Journal.*

In Peru in 1527, the Spanish invaders found a regular system of posts in operation along the great highway from Quito to Cuzco, and messages as to the progress of the invasion, as well as other subjects, were forwarded to the Inca by fleet footed runners, who wound around their waists the *quipu*, a species of sign writing by means of knotted cords. — *E. C. P.*

ESTABLISHED 1876.

**C. L. STAKE,**  
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**JOB PRINTING** BY MAIL.

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1000 of either of the above by Express for \$2.00.

Circulars and Price Lists from \$1.00 per 1000 upward.

Send for estimates.

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DEALER IN

**Stamps Coins &c.,**  
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**STAMPS.**

|                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| 100 all diff. foreign   | 100 |
| 1000 well mixed foreign | 180 |
| 8 U. S. Departments     | 60  |
| 12 ,, Revenues          | 60  |
| 10 Canada Bill          | 60  |

Price list of Single Stamps  
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|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| 5 Foreign Coins all diff.     | 100 |
| 4 War Tokens                  | 120 |
| Cal. Gold \$1/2               | 500 |
| Cal. Gold \$1/4               | 250 |
| U. S. 1/2 cents               | 100 |
| 3 Confederate Notes all diff. | 100 |
| 2 Broken Bank Bills           | 100 |
| 1 Colonial Bill               | 100 |

**CURIOSITIES.**

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Indian Arrow Heads, each     | 60  |
| ,, ,, ,, 3 all diff.         | 120 |
| ,, Spear                     | 120 |
| Sea Fan                      | 200 |
| Chinese chop-sticks per pair | 60  |
| ,, horn nut                  | 60  |
| Liver Bean                   | 60  |

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**Norwich, N. Y.**

ESTABLISHED 1877.

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25 all different Foreign Coins, including Japan Tempo, China etc..... 50  
10 U. S. 3/8 Cents all different including the scarce 1810 good..... 50  
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**Acme Stamp Co.**

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R. W. MANIER, MGR.

Drawer D,

Binghamton, N. Y.

Vol. 1.

April, 1892.

No. 1.

THE



# Collector's Press.

*A Monthly Magazine,*

DEVOTED TO ALL BRANCHES OF COLLECTING.

---

J. C. WECKERT, EDITOR.

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