# THE
# LONG ISLAND COLLECTOR.

25 CENTS PER ANNUM. 4 CENTS A C

VOL I, BROOKLYN, OCTOBER 1885. NO I.


FOR THE L. I. COLLECTOR.

## HOW MONEY IS MADE.

### A VISIT TO THE U. S. MINT AT PHILADELPHIA.

THE good city of Philadelphia among other historic distinctions, possesses that of being the first place in which money was made for the use of the newly independent nation On July 31st, 1792, the foundation stone of the first mint was laid. The first purchase of metal for coining was made in the fall of the same year. It consisted of six pounds of old copper. A small beginning; one that strikes the writer as particularly so for he has seen gold bars of one size in the mint worth twentyfive millions of dollars, of another size to an amount almost as large. and huge stores of silver, not to mention nickel and copper, which amaze only less than the treasure represented in the gold.

#### The Mint Building.

The building in which most of our coin is made was erected in 1834. It is of the Grecian style of architecture. and though small and unimposing is large enough to accommodate three hundred workmen. Four departments complete the general system under which all the business of the Mint is done. Each is under the control of a superintendent appointed by the President of the United States, confirmed by the Senate. and under heavy bonds for the faithful discharge of his duties.

#### Receiving Bullion.

When bullion for coining is received it is sent to the Weigh Clerk's room, where it is weighed with great exactness. The most notable scales in the apartment are large enough to balance 6000 ounces Troy on each side. Any deviation, even the slightest, is indicated by a pointer three feet in length. The beam of the scales is cased in glass and so is the pointer, so that no breath of air can reach them. Very interesting it is to watch the effect of using the tiniest weight upon the long pointer. With the deliberation that nice work requires, it tells of the little intruder's presence With an accuracy that is

most remarkable. An adjoining room, small in size, contains enough gold to make a score of millionaires.

Each of the bars which in the aggregate make up the twentyfive millions is worth about Four Thousand Dollars, and is of a size convenient for handling. Smaller bars elsewhere avarage Five Hundred each. The larger bars are made chiefly of foreign coin melted up at the Assay Office in New York, and sent on to Philadelphia for coinage. A few years ago there were fifty million dollars in Napoleons in the assay department, for melting and preparing for the mint.

When gold was being shipped to England in large quantities some years ago, the British Government converted double eagles into Sovereigns. These soon after came into this country in large quantities, and were reconverted into American pieces.

The standard of purity for bullion is nine-tenths fine.

## Making a Specimen Chip.

Metal received, after careful weighing, is melted up in the deposit melting room. Intensely hot furnaces make the whole into a uniform mass, from which on cooling, a small chip is taken, as affording an exact index of the rest. This is sent to Assay Department, where the percentage of pure gold or silver is ascertained. Payment is made to the sender from the Treasury of the United States for the precise amount of gold or silver thus ascertained, by the addition of a simple calculation as collectable from his shipment.

## About Ingots.

In the next department, that of the melter and refiner, the gold, silver, nickel or copper is made ready for coinage. Here ingots are prepared —those shapely bars of alloy from which coins are actually made.

Refining, by processes the same in the mint as elsewhere, is succeeded by the alloy of the pure metal, in the case of silver with ten per cent of copper, and in that of gold with ten per cent of silver and copper.

The crucibles used in the mint are made of equal parts of black-lead and plastic clay. Metal intended for coins is placed in these crucibles, which are then deposited in the furnaces. A stand of brick receives the crucible, which is so placed that the zone of greatest heat begins at a fifth from the bottom of the vessel.

[ TO BE CONTINUED. ]

## A FAMOUS PAPER.

THE paper used for printing the Bank of England notes is manufactured solely for that purpose. Unless stolen, it is impossible to obtain a scrap of the precious paper produced at the mill at Laverstock.

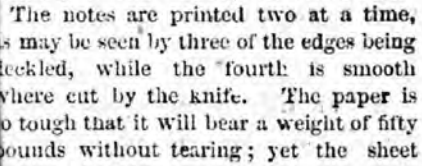
Each piece of this paper is registered before it is taken from the frame, a locked automatic dial keeping the account, and each damaged note is accounted for by being ground up again into pulp.

Mr. Portal's paper has a real value apart from its worth as paper, for it has always been regarded as so essential to a passable counterfeit that the Worshipful at large felt at perfect ease when transacting these notes. It is needless to state that this paper is quite unique; tests

y touch, it emits a sharp, crackling sound; its color is beyond desciption.

The notes are printed two at a time, as may be seen by three of the edges being deckled, while the fourth is smooth where cut by the knife. The paper is so tough that it will bear a weight of fifty pounds without tearing; yet the sheet is so thin that erasures are extremely difficult.

But the main safeguard of the Bank lies in the watermark. This device is ob-




tained, as all watermarks are, by twisting wires to the desired shape and sticking them onto the face of the mould, so that when the pulp settles it must be thinner on the wire design than on the rest of the sheet. The water is then permitted to run through the mould, and the sheet in embryo, "couched" by the mould being pressed upon a blanket, to which the sheet clings.

Above is a rough diagram of the watermark. Of course the design is much more elaborate, being closely interwoven with wavy lines and surrounded by a triple scroll on either side.

The largest bank note in circulation in 1827 amounted to 1000 pounds. It is said that two notes for 100,000 each, and two for 50,000 each were once engraved and issued. A tradesman who had amassed a large fortune once applied to a private banker for a loan on one of these notes. On a hint from the banker of the folly of hoarding such a sum and losing the interest, he laughed.

"Wery true, sir," replied the man, "but I likes to look on't so much that I have tother one of the same kind at home."

An eccentric gentleman in London framed a bank post bill for thirty thousand pounds, and exhibited it for five years in his parlor. He then died, and the picture was at once taken down and cashed by his heirs.

## EXPOSURES.

Under this head we propose to publish a complete list as near as possible, of the counterfeits appearing to date. Most of these have been mentioned in other papers, but the Editor wants his list a complete one and therefore inserts them.

Argentine, 8c. on 5c., 24c on 30c. are bogus, and were invented, probably in Boston.

Confederate States, 1863 5c. The letters in "five cents" are smaller in the counterfeit. Otherwise it is a good imitation.

Hong Kong.- Beware of surcharged 10c on 18c, also 3c on 2c. No such stamps ever existed.

Italy, Unpaid, 1870.- Counterfeits are easily distinguished as they are poorly executed. The letters in "segnatasse" vary in size, and the oval enclosing numeral is irregular.

St Domingo.- The light ink with which the 1883 stamps were cancelled, renders it difficult to tell whether the surcharge is genuine. We have received specimens which appeared all right, excepting that the type used is too large and the accent over the e is omitted

**THE LONG ISLAND COLLECTOR,**

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

Vol, I. OCTOBER, 1885. No. I.

**Terms;**

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WILBUR W. THOMAS, Editor & Pub'r
780 Lafayette Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

With this issue we present to you our first number, and hope it will meet with your approval

We call attention to "Exposures", intended mainly for beginners, though many of the items are published for the first time.

"How money is made" is an interesting and instructive article, and will, no doubt, be attentively followed in our pages until completed

The Exchangers' and Correspondents' columns will be carefully conducted; they are intended for the benefit of subscribers only

Advertisers will find our paper a paying medium, as this issue is of a thousand copies This will be increased as soon as warranted.

Editors will oblige by exchanging with us regularly.

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As an inducement to subscribe, we offer a good coin or stamp to each subscriber received this month. Lot includes Jackson cents, foreign etc. The stamps are catalogued at 5 cents upwards The best pieces will be given first.

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We wish to apologize for our appearance this month. The future issues we shall endeavor to improve in this respect.

If sufficient encouragement is received from collectors, we will illustrate this Journal in a short time with cuts of new issues etc.

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Most collectors imagine that the authenticity of a surcharged stamp can be proven by placing it under a microscope, which will tell whether the surcharge is over the cancel, or not. This is sometimes a mistake; a dealer can surcharge a new stamp and cancel it himself, thus evading the above method. Beside this, some kind of ink, used in surcharging, will appear to be under the cancel, when it really is on top. To test this theory, we surcharged a stamp, and took it to a well known dealer for inspection. He pro-

nounced it good — surcharge under the obliteration. The surcharging was done with rubber-stamp ink.

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Only a short time ago, the stamp collecting public was denouncing the publishers of the International albums for inserting spaces for the Hamburg Locals in the book. This is not the only blemish. Referring to Messrs. Scott & Co's circulars we see that especial mention is made of the valuable statistical information contained in the album. It is stated to be correct to date, etc.

Now mistakes are abundant. Many of them are ridiculous in the extreme; — for instance, the President of Switzerland is given as B. Hammer. Now that gentleman has been dead for over ten years. The country has no President; the executive authority being vested in a Council, one of whose members presides over the body for a year, another then taking his place.

A Mexican dollar is said to be worth $1.00 when in reality it is worth but 80 cents. Similar mistakes are very common.

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— Varieties of the 1872 issue of Swedish stamps exist, the difference being in the size of the stars.

— Gold was first coined, at Rome, in the year B. C. 206; and silver, at the same place, 63 years earlier.

— One of the four Gold medals commemorative of the death of President Lincoln is in the possession of an attache of the Paris consulate. The others have disappeared.

— We have seen specimens of the ten pesos stamps of Bolivar, with inverted medallion. It is printed vermillion and blue.

— THE L. I. COLLECTOR, per year, only 25c

## CONSTANTINOPLE SURCHARGES.

BY EL PIASTRE.

Some years ago, the German Government received so many complaints from merchants trading with Turkey, of the slowness and irregularity of the Turkish mails, that investigations were made, which resulted in the establishment of an independent post-office in Constantinople, with branches.

German stamps were put in use, doing duty as follows:

5 pfg, used as 10 paras.
10 .. .. 20 ..
20 .. .. 1 piastre.

Now as 1 piastre equals only about 18 pfennig, certain people saw a profit here; buying quantities of the stamps, they carried them over to Germany, selling them at face value, and clearing about 2 pfennigs on each piastre thus invested.

The home government was not long in detecting this method of fraud, and stopped it by immediately surcharging all the stamps intended for foreign use, with the Turkish selling value. This had the desired effect, as such surcharged stamps were worthless in Germany.

The surcharges which followed the first issue, are;

in large type, value repeated;

10 paras. } with blue
20 .. } surcharge.
1 piastre. }

Shortly after the above set appeared, a new set, with type slightly

altered, came out. The surcharging was still in blue ink, and the values identical, with the addition of 1 1-4 and 2 1-2 pi. stamps.

For some reason, black ink was substituted in the printing, the set remaining the same in other respects. This is the current variety.

Of errors, quite a number exist. Most of the stamps are to be found with inverted surcharge, or occasionally a letter is up side down. The most notable of all, however, occurs in the 10 para, which appears as "PARA." This is a rare type though all the errors are rated as scarce.

Great Britain has recently issued a similar set to the above for similar reasons - the imperfect Turkish Postal systems. As these stamps, like all British Colonials, are well known no description is here necessary.

## THE RECENT AUCTION SALE.

The sale of stamps on Sept. 24 & 25 was well attended; prices realized, however, were considerably below the avarage. The most notable pieces sold as follows:

Lynchburg 5c., $7.25. New Brunswick 1s., 19 Mauritius* 1s. env., 12 – St Louis 10c, 20.– Tuscany 3l., 5.25 The set of P. S. A. Co. complete, brought $18.80.

The early issues of Spain and the U. S. envelopes were well represented, though the value of many of the latter was greatly impaired by the stamp being cut out. This and the trimming of various adhesives shoud be a lesson to collectors.

The lots were mostly uncanceled and the collection was undoubtedly the finest offered in a long time.

*Possibly a Counterfeit.

Mr. Lyman H. Low announces the sale of the Kingsford collection, of coins and medals, to take place in the latter part of this month. Catalogues on application.

We are now gathering evidence against a gang of counterfeiters in New York City, which, when completed, will be published in full in this paper. If you would read the whole 'give-away,' subscribe now.

## EXCHANGE NOTICES.

25 different foreign stamps - no English or German - for every Agriculture Executive, Interior 15 or 90c. Justice, Navy except 8c Post Office except 3 & 6c State, 7 or 24c. Treasury, and 7 or 90c. War Dept. No torn or 'specimen' stamps taken E C Griffith, Box 1465, N Y City

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| Danube Steam Navig'n Co, | 4 | var- | 15 | cents |
| Heligoland | 15 | " | 30 | " |
| Porto Rico, 1881 | 6 | " | 20 | " |
| Sardinia | 10 | " | 12 | " |
| Saxony | 4 | " | 6 | " |

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European stamps, well assorted, 50c per 5000; extra fine, 25c per 1000. U. S. & Canada post cards - used - taken in exchange.

Remittances to be made by P.O.O. on A wholesale price list, post-free 3c. English and foreign references.

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## RECORD OF NEW ISSUES.

We are indebted to the Collectors' Companion for the following:

Bahamas. - A 1-2d. green, 21-2d. blue and 1 sh. violet may be expected soon.

Barbados. - A new adhesive has appeared; 3 d. mauve.

China. - The P. W. informs collectors that a new issue is expected.

Denmark. - 2 and 4 ore official cards have been issued.

Mauritius. - A 16c. yellow brown is out; the colors of the 2 and 4c. have been changed to green and carmine respectively. The 38c. is surcharged 2c and the 8c. card 2c.

Monaco - has issued a set of stamps of its own, bearing portrait of Chas. III as follows: 5c. blue, 15c pink, and 25c. green.

Persia - According to Mr. Bogert, the new 5s. is lilac, instead of as announced

Portugal The 50r. envelope is now violet.

St Christopher - The latest provisional consists of the 1d. cut in two and each half surcharged, in small type "half penny."

Tobago - The 4d. is gray.

Western Australia - The surcharge 1d. appears on the 3d. adhesive.

The Capital City Philatelist

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**Box 91, Augusta, Me.**

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25 CENTS PER ANNUM. 4 CENTS A COPY.

VOL. I. BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, NOVEMBER, 1885. NO. 2.


## HOW MONEY IS MADE.

CONTINUED.

AFTER the melting process, the crucible is removed by skilled hands, with tongs constructed for the purpose, and with the contents the moulds are rapidly filled. When the mass has cooled, the mould is quickly removed by a clever workman, who drops the newly-made ingot into a bath of cold water. Upon their removal, the rough end produced by the overflow of the metal in filling the moulds is rapidly cut off by powerful machinery. The ingot is further prepared for the next process by filing off any roughness of its edges. The precious cuttings are of course melted up again. Ingots are about twelve inches in length, half an inch thick, and vary in width according to the size of the coin to be made. The process of making them is exactly the same in the case of all the metals used in coinage.

### Rolling and weighing.

Rolling the ingots is next in order. The rollers are four in number, and are powerful machines which so lengthen and make thin the ingots that they are of the proper dimensions for the cutting press. Power in each machine is adjustable to requirement, but the usual plan is to pass the ingots from one to another until the needed length and thickness are reached. Ingots thus treated are six times their original length, but made brittle by the pressure to which they have been subjected, need to be made red hot in ovens before being fit for cutting. Silver is placed naked in these ovens, but the more precious gold in cylindrical copper canisters which protect it from waste.

Ingots are then cooled and greased and passed to the cutting presses. Watching the operation of a cutting press is somewhat bewildering on account of the rapidity of its action. No less than 286 blanks for dollars or double eagles drop into the receptacle every minute, perfectly round, but still remote in appearance from the completed coin. A number of them are not the exact weight required, it being impossible to make the ingots with infallible accuracy of thickness.

The business of eighty women in the department is to make those blanks that are too heavy the right weight by filing to pass those that are correct, and to set aside such as are too light and must therefore be remelted.

Each of these operators sits close to a table on which is a pair of sensitive scales. She has on a leather apron fastened under her arms and tacked to the table, which catches the filings she may find occasion to make.

The Seyss Automatic Weighing Mach-

ine is a wonderful invention, four of which are in use at the mint. Each has ten balances, weighing forty pieces per minute. These are fed through tubes and discharged in three piles, for light, correct and excessive weights.

Another ingenious appliance is the counting board, which is nothing more than a sort of box, so arranged in compartments that by piling the coins up to a level with the top a certain number are obtained without the trouble of counting them.

TO BE CONCLUDED.

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For its private mark the Bank of Devil's Lake, Dak., has adopted a vignette the base of which is a sheaf of wheat on which rests a silver dollar, over the back of which Satan is climbing, holding in one hand the scales of justice and in the other a lance. At his left is a map of the lake, forming the place for the amount of draft or check, and on which are the word, "Give the Devil his due."

But one thing is now necessary to complete the new special delivery system. The one thing needful is immediate delivery. If that is carried out the service will prove to be a success.

A writer in the P. O. of A. remarks that as the P. O. department contributes a big revenue to the Government, the latter should be willing to do something for the postage stamps. Evidently the author has made a mistake. There are less than a dozen offices in the U. S. that can be credited with fully paying their own running expenses. Only one of these, New York, leaves any bonus for the Government. The department was never intended to make money, as is demonstrated by the present low rates on second class matter.

## --COINS AND MEDALS.--

One of the most abundant materials for History, in the absence of other authentic sources exists in coins and medals, which may be regarded as a species of portable monuments. Such a number of events have been recorded by ancient medals, and so great has been the care of antiquarians and others in selecting and preserving them, that they have been made to throw great light upon history. They confirm such statements as are true in old authors, clear up what was doubtful, and supply what has been omitted. It is remarkable, for instance, that history scarcely makes mention of the magnificent cities of Balbec and Palmyra, whose ruins are now so famous; we know but little of them beyond what is supplied by inscriptions and medals. --A small collection of medals gives a complete chronicle of the Kings of Syria, not mentioned by any ancient writer whatever.

We find upon medals traces of customs, figures of buildings, instruments, etc., which show the state of the arts at the period in which they were executed.

Many interesting matters have been neglected by historians as being too familiar to require notice, or from a belief that they would never engage the attention of after times

Yet, fortunately these are preserved by coins. By their help we know that the first Roman Emperor wore a beard, and rode with stirrups; we see Nero with his fiddle, and Commodus with his lion's skin. We can see also plans of ancient buildings not otherwise known to the world.
— MERRY'S MUSEUM.


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To any part of the United States or Canada 25 cents per annum.
To Foreign countries, postage extra.

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WILBUR W. THOMAS, Editor & Pub'r
780 Lafayette Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y.

ENTERED at the Post Office in Brooklyn as second class mail matter.


Mr. Whilden, Jr. has favored us with a copy of his International Collectors' Guide It contains some interesting facts about the Confederate provisionals, an article on 'Early Foreign Posts", and other matter equally interesting 48 pages, price 25 cents Address the publisher, at Atlanta, Ga

We think this issue shows considerable improvement over no 1. At any rate this number is not a fraud on its face by dating 500 years back as was the case last month, through a printers error.

We have a few Star Match Corporation stamps black on pink paper, which we offer to any one obtaining two subscribers for this paper.

## TO ADVERTISERS.

Next month we shall issue a fine double number, filled with attractive reading matter An extra edition of 250 copies beside the regular 750 will be mailed to all parts of the world. An inch ad at 35c will pay you Cash in advance

Unless a few settlements are made with us, certain parties against whom we have claim may have to suffer by an unpleasant legal process.

## -- EXPOSURES. --

Costa Rica – Some dangerous counterfeits are being shoved out from Germany They are lithographed, and badly perforated.

Liberia – The first issue is extensively counterfeited. The bogus is printed from an electrotype and is perforated, while the genuine is lithographed and unperforated.

Mauritius -- The early issues are all imitated. Lithographed, in Germany as usual The coloring is bad

## COINS — STAMPS.

AGENTS wanted for sale of stamps and coins. Liberal commission allowed. Large 24 page illustrated catalogue and 100 superior stamps, 15c. Birds egg list for stamp. Match and Medicine stamps wanted for cash or very fine exchange. Collections purchased. W. F. GREANY,
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## RECORD OF NEW ISSUES.

Our readers will greatly oblige us by informing us of any recent emissions that may come under their notice.

British Guiana.- We have the 2c. in brown. Perhaps an error.

Ceylon - Mr. Sloan has favored us with a 28c. on 32c.

Jamaica -We are in receipt of a 1d. revenue used postally. The 1d. postage has changed to carmine.

Japan - The C C. states that stamped wrappers are in preparation. The 1 and 2 sen cards are now red.

Mexico - The colors of the entire series have been altered. Those at hand are, 2c. carmine, 5c. blue and 10c. orange.

Nicaragua - Double card, 2 x 2c.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

Can anyone of your readers explain to me the meaning of the surcharge "ausser kurs" so often found on the obselete Swiss stamps?

Frank I Brown.

I have an Indian 1 anna stamp, surcharged 'Ashburn". Do you know anything concerning it? L P.

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## -- TO STAMP DEALERS. --

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VOL. I. BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, DECEMBER, 1885. 3.


FOR THE L. I. COLLECTOR.

## COUNTERFEITS.

### HOW AND WHERE THEY ARE MADE.

"I've brought you another customer, Ed," remarked my friend as he ushered me into the office of E. B , maker of and dealer in p st-age stamps at William Street in New York.

Some time previous to this, having heard of the extensive fraudulent trade carried on by this party, I had searched for some one willing to pilot me to his office and introduce me as a dealer, in a small way who could use some of his goods. The person was found at last, and the plan carried out as in our opening.

After a formal introduction I cast my eyes around the small room, noticing particularly a small printing press in one corner. "I had that made to order for my own use;" he explained; "ordinary presses do not give the clear impression which is indispensable to my business." Going over to a pile of boxes in a corner he selected one and laid it upon the table. Opening it he disclosed a number of almost perfect counterfeits.

Taking up a few of them, among which were, Fiji Islands 1 sh., Trinidad 5 sh., Ceylon 2 1-2 Rupees, Bolivar 1863 set, and others equally good – or bad, rather – B ' said; 'These are some of my best stock. See that Bolivar set; put it side by side with the genuine and ten to one you can't distinguish them." They were indeed imitat-

ions of a dangerous character. The majority advanced collectors woul be deceived by almost any of them.

Having recently had an interview with the Editor of Harper's Youn People, in which we explained the nature of the goods sold by B his advertisements of "50 rare Colonials for 25 cents" and the like, whic so often deceived beginners and eventually caused them to retire fro the ranks in utter disgust will probably be excluded from those colum in future. This will cripple no small part of his trade, which we hop ere long to still further hinder, or to destroy.

## ODDS AND ENDS.

Many collectors have been deceived by Peruvian stamps of 185 to 1862 issues, apparently surcharged "Arequipa" in large letters. Th is nothing but an obliteration. "A word to the wise is sufficient"

The latest wrinkle is collecting the embossed designs, or trade-mark found in the upper corner of letter-paper. This is just about as sensibl as the crank who boasted of his collection of lucifer matches.

At an auction sale held at a church fair in Portland, Me., recentl an autograph of Grover Cleveland was knocked down at seven cents.

Mr John K Tiffany, of St. Louis can boast of possessing the large and finest collection of postage stamps in America His Philatelic L rary, of several hundred bound volumes, is the finest of its kind in t World Mr T. informs us that he is a subscriber to about 75 stam journals. We have fewer than that on our exchange list.

Rumors have lately been afloat to the effect that J. W. Scott had sold out l estate business to a stock company. Inquiry upon our part confirmed the rep and we find that important changes are about to take place. Henry Collin & C will be merged into the company, and Wm. P. Brown will give up his business, t take charge of the Numismatic Department.

## AROUND THE WORLD IN 84 DAYS.

— R. M. B. —

In the early part of January of this year, while looking over some old magazines, I chanced to read of a letter which had made the journey around the world in 84 days. The thought came to me that I might procure a letter of the same kind; but on inquiry at the P O, I learned that correspondence addressed to be forwarded "around the world" would not be sent,* but returned to the writer or addresse direct. But I conceived a plan which I executed successfully, and later in the month I had the letter all ready. As the mail that made the Yokohama connections on its arrival at San Francisco did not leave here until the 27th. I kept the letter in my pocket until then and mailed it just before the mail closed. I well remember how I hung around the P. O., keeping the letter as long as I dared.

A five-cent stamp paid the postage, and the envelope contained the following memorandum. — "On Tue day, Jan. 27th at 5.45 p. m. this envelope was mailed at the P O. addressed to the writer, care of R. C. T., with W. H & Co. Yokohama. Another letter to Mr T. himself requests him to cross out the address Yokohama, and mark it 'not here' and care of J.B.S — —Broadway New York. Letter is then to be re-mailed and if possible returned via Singapore Suez and London. The object of this is to see if the circuit of the Globe can be accomplished in three months time.

On the envelope are the N.Y. postmark of Jan. 27th. 6 p. m. and San Francisco of Feb. 3rd. the letter reaching its destination one month after starting, and beginning its homeward trip the next day.

My letter came back to me 84 days after I mailed it, on the twenty second of April. Although it did not get around in the time that Jules Verne's Phileas Fogg and his man Passepartout did, I am satisfied with its record, and consider it a valuable acquisition to the treasures of my stamp collection.

* A section of the laws of the Postal Union, adopted in 1883.

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MANY of our esteemed contemporaries have remarked with regret the lack of interest felt in the collecting of postal cards. But the reason is plain enough. If the press fails to encourage collectors it is not likely that much enthusiasm will be evinced. Our next number will contain the first of a series of papers on the subject which all should read. Don't forget it.

## A CURIOUS COIN.

Among the coins which attract more than usual attention from the collecting public, on account of beauty or oddity of design, or of some historical interest attached to it, the little Rin pieces receive a foremost

place. Neat in design, and of excellent workmanship, it is an ornament to any cadinet, and may be considered the neatest Japanese coin.

But their principal point of interest lies in the trivial value which they represent; equalling, in our money, one-tenth of a cent. There is quite a demand for them and they sell readily at ten cents each.

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## TAKE WARNING!

There are scores of men, both old and young who are gaining a livlihood by the detestible trade in bogus stamps By representing themselves as authorities on Philately, they cunningly scoop in their victims.

History teaches us that men of evil designs have at some period of their existence been made to bite the dust. Therefore, counterfeiters should take warning, for already many of their evil practices have been brought to light. As water always finds its level, so they will most assuredly find theirs. F. H.

---

## A FAIR OFFER.

In order to increase our subscription list, we will, until Feb. 15th accept 15 cents for a years subscription.

## THE LONG ISLAND COLLECTOR.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

VOL. I. DECEMBER, 1885 No 3

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Wilbur W. Thomas } Editors.
Thomas A. McNicholl }

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780 Lafayette Avenue. Brooklyn, N. Y.


Our thanks are due to Messrs Wm. H. Warner & Bro. for a handsome Christmas medal, which we fully appreciate.

Publishers would confer a great favor upon us by sending us a file of what back-numbers they can spare. Some of our files are rather bare.

Prices have been reduced all round at the Scott Stamp and coin co's, and we think that our readers would do well to send for their price lists.

Bemed's Manual is an excellent hand-book of the coins of this country, as complete as is possible in a work of its kind.

Mr. Fabian has shown us a Gibraltar stamp surcharged in black on a Bermuda From the same gentleman we learn that the expected Spanish stamps have appeared. He has the 5 cent. blue, with profile of Alfonso to right in oval, above corners 1885, to right, value below

### — CORRESPONDENCE —

L P - Your stamp is probably a local surcharge, of but little value.

T. C B - Your coin is a 1-4 real of Mexico. Value about 15 cents.

F. I Brown, see our next issue.


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# PROSPECTUS FOR 1886.

We intend to rank the L. I. C. among the foremost collectors' papers of the day. To that end, we have arranged with many well known writers to supply us with their productions throughout the year. Among the many interesting articles which will appear shortly, are ..

Notes on U. S. Stamps. By Robert S. Hatcher.

The Origin and Growth of Metal Currency. By T. A. McNicholl.

Autographs, and how to collect them.

Auction sale quotations, Correspondence, Etc.

## ILLUSTRATION.

No expense will be spared by the Publishers, now that this magazine has been placed upon a firm financial basis, to embellish each successive issue with fine engravings of coins, new stamps, curiosities, and other objects of interest to our readers. Other novel features will soon appear.


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The regular price for the stamp alone is 50c. We charge but 45c for it with a year's subscription.

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# THE
# LONG ISLAND COLLECTOR.

*AN ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE,*

—Devoted To—

## PHILATELY & NUMISMATICS.

VOL. 01. MAY, 1885. NO. 1.

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1000 copies each issue.

constant mark – Pallas and the Owl. It was found possible to celebr almost all great political events upon coins, which thus became not m currency or chronology, but an authentic abstract of the times.

Without ancient coins we would know very little about Ancient Histo Although allowance must be made for conscious anachronisms, re-stri ing with new dies and forgery, the evidence of coins, when they have b deciphered, is generally admitted to be superior to that of other writ records.

The only means of exchange among the primitive inhabitants of t planet must have been that of barter. But as Civilization increased, so m convenient methods of exchange were employed. Metal has been used a medium of exchange from a very early date, the value of the medium pending upon the metal employed, its weight and purity. Homer speaks of brass money as existing 1184 B C. It is supposed that the inhabitants of Ægina were the first to use metal money.

DIDRACHM OF ATHENS. B. C. 470.

The various metals used as money by our ancient fathers were not coined, but passed by tale or number of pieces of the s weight and sh Thus $ 25 of money, in Sp tan curren would weigh ton. The i venience of veying the money induced the Ancients to substitute coined pieces for their rough meta

The invention of coin is ascribed to the Lydians, who cherished comme and whose money was of gold and silver. Both were coined by Phid tyrant of Argos, in 862 B. C.

The lumpish appearance of the Ancient coins was due to the manner which the money was coined. The process consisted in placing a sphero lump of metal, of a fixed weight, over a die, on which was engraved religious or national symbol to be impressed. A wedge or punch pla at the back of the metal was held steadily with one hand, and str

by a hammer with the other, until the metal was sufficiently fixed on the die to receive a good impression. The impression was a guarantee of the weight of the piece. On the reverse of the coin was a rough, irregular, hollow square, corresponding to a similar square on the punch, devised for the purpose of keeping the coin steady when struck by the coining hammer.

TO BE CONTINUED.

## *NOTES FOR COLLECTORS.*

By Will M. Clemens.

The stamps of Bergedorf, first issued in 1861, were lithographed, and remained in circulation until 1867, when the Bergedorf Post Office business was made over to the German Confederation.

The first organized plan for the transmission of private correspondence in France was in 1619, when a public letter office was opened.

John Burke, receiver general of stamp duties in Ireland, formed a collection of stamps in Dublin, in 1772. It contained stamps of the value of six pounds down to one penny.

The telegraph became an official department of the British post office, December 6th, 1838.

The first post office in the United States was started in Boston, by Richard Fairbanks in 1659.

Letter boxes on lamp posts were established in this country in 1860

The first issue of the Austrian journal stamps appeared in 1851, and are known as the "Mercury" stamps.

There are numerous shades of color in all Egyptian stamps, and varieties of the 5 paras 1872 are found with the centre reversed.

There are many bogus Russian Local stamps in the market. Those of Livonia and the Levant are genuine.

The stamps of Montevideo were engraved by Messrs Nissen and

Parker, of London.

The V nickels without cents although hoarded by many are not ra
Over Six Million pieces were struck.

The so-called reprint 10 and 15c. stamps of 1862 issue Argentine a
counterfeit, as the plates of those values have been destroyed.

## *CORRESPONDENCE.*

C.C.H., Plainfield. —The coin of which you send us a drawing is a silv
piece of Ægina, the face value corresponding to about 19 cents in o
money. It commands a market value of about Ten dollars. For oth
particulars we refer you to our new serial.

T C B, Middletown.—1. The Japanese coins bear no date, their peri
being determined by means of characters, which represent the reign
which the piece was made. 2. We cannot explain the unperforated 1 c
Prince Edward Is. stamp; it may be a proof.

F.W., Detroit.—We cannot answer your question positively, as it is
matter of much doubt whether the "Connell" is only an essay or reall
did service in the mails. This stamp has been probably more disput
than any other—except, perhaps, the issues of Native India. The plat
are owned by the American Bank Note Co., who have furnished quite
number of proofs.

F I B, New York —The surcharge "Ausser-kurs" on Swiss stamp
is printed, when a new issue takes place, on all remaining stock and redeem
stamps of the old variety. It signifies that the stamp is no longer val
for postage. Cancelled specimens are, of course, humbugs.

Back numbers of this paper can be furnished at the following prices; no
1, 2 & 3, 3 cents each; the file for 7 cents. We have but few of no. 2 le

Several communications have been received to be answered in our next

# *A PLEA FOR POSTAL CARDS.*

The collecting of Postal Cards has many important advantages over stamp, coin or curiosity collecting. It is surprising to the writer, when the array of impartial arguments is brought forth, that more Philatelists do not embrace this important branch of their study; yet, when it is considered that the Philatelic press almost totally ignores cards, beyond the mere chronicling of new issues, it is hardly to be wondered at. Stamp collectors, like other people, require encouragement in their advances, and where support is lacking, it is unreasonable to expect that much enthusiasm will be evinced.

The old story that post-cards are too bulky to be conveniently collected is hardly a sensible argument. A mineralogist who has a collection of any size must get a wagon to transport it from place to place. The same may be said of the Numismatist. Yet these sciences do not lack adherents; why should postal card collecting, by the "too bulky" argument?

Comparing the collecting of adhesive stamps with that of postals, we find many important considerations decidedly in favor of cards. There are but few specimens which are so rare that the average collector cannot afford to purchase them. Indeed, fully two thirds of the entire number issued since their introduction in 1869 can be bought for less than twenty-five cents each;—generally for much less The remainder can nearly all be procured, depending only upon the extent of the collectors' pocket-book, at various prices. A first-rate collection can be made up for ten dollars.

Then too, the face-values of postal cards are invariably low, seldom reaching above five cents, or an equivalent value. This is a very important consideration, as the collector can almost always procure an unused card at a nominal cost when issued. But with adhesives it is different. Take,

for instance, the £5 British stamp; no one cares to invest $25 in tha

The statement that there is no interest in cards is frequently brought I dispute that claim, and ask the reader to consider a few facts, followin

The cards of Nicaragua, Hawaii and other countries bear typical la scape views; the issues of many other nations bear portraits of their fam men; and to me it is a great satisfaction to know that myinterest is not n placed upon counterfeits or humbugs. Some collectors say that the lack of terest felt in postals is due to the fact that so few of them being rare, one never make a valuable collection of them. But can the average colle obtain a really valuable colletion of stamps without considerable outl Of course not Then how much better to put his time, energy and spare m in something that will at least offer the possibility of a complete collecti And then, with increased demand will come advancing values. The ti may be when rarities enough may be named, to satisfy you.

But by far the most important and convincing argument that the wi can present, is the fact that as yet, postal cards remain unimitated. C ectors may buy with perfect confidence, knowing that they are getting w they pay for. This alone should suffice to make up for their inconve size. And it is improbable that the Boston School will ever turn attention to cards as too great an outlay would be involved.

TO BE CONTINUED.

—The Post-Office Department has adopted a new watermark for offi envelopes. It consists of but three letters—"U" in centre, small sized left, and D to right. The envelopes now in use are all of manilla.

—Bolivia entered the Postal Union on April 1st. This effects a consider reduction in postage rates; from twenty seven to five cents.

—Mr. J. K. Tiffany has in his library 194 different stamp papers, wh have issued 1885 different numbers, an average of not quite ten numbers e The average to the Volume is but 5 numbers.

# EDITORIAL.

It is with pleasure that we resume the publication of our magazine, after a suspension of some months. Our friends will hardly recognize us in our new dress, but we are sure that they will be pleased with our improved appearance. In course of time, we shall make such changes and additions as we deem advisable, and as our success warrants.

But we hope that our efforts will not go unappreciated. With proper support we can and will rank this magazine among the foremost in the Journalistic field.

There seems to be a prophetic craze in circulation among our contemporaries at present. A New York editor attempts to describe Philately as it may be 100 years hence, while a Western writer confidently shoots out as far as 2886. If postage stamps are not, by that time, supplanted by some other than the Postal system, it is doubtful whether there will exist such an appalling number as those worthies apprehend. An International issue is not improbable. Don't worry about the future, boys; just tackle the present - you'll have plenty to do.

## OUR NEXT NUMBER.

We have prepared a very attractive number for July. A new article entitled: ***Autographs, and how to Collect them.*** will be profusely illustrated with fac-simile autographs of the world's rulers and other prominent people: the novel methods of obtaining them are brought out. Other interesting matter will appear.

J M Hubbard, Lake Village, N. H., has sent us a copy of his neat little Stamp Dealers of the World, containing 600 addresses. A useful work for those desiring to import their own stamps. Price, 10 cents; at this office.

In our next issue we expect to open a department devoted to the int of Geology and Natural History. It will be conducted by a collect long standing, and some interesting articles may be looked for.

This month we have prepared a frontispiece for our Journal, in correct colors. In future we shall illustrate the new issues of sta each stamp in its individual color. This will be mailed with the scribers' edition only.

## *OUR LIBRARY TABLE.*

The Philat'ic Star, Berwick-on-Tweed, England, has made great pr in the past few months. Mr. Herdman has transformed it from an adv ing medium into a first-class magazine, and has added a Numis department.

The editor is, we are glad to say, very pronounced in his views rega the Argentine Samoa and other reprint stamps and their manufacturers, advocates a wholesale boycott of the objecti nable firms, who owe major part of their business to the very papers whom they swindle their vile trash by paying advertising bills with it. We heartily agree the Star and hope for better things.

The Capital City Philatelist is one of the most entertaining and a papers that reaches us. It is a well manage.l and ably edited journal. seems to be quite popular, it sixteen pages, full of well written ar —and advertisements—are signs of prosperity. We think they are.

Published Bi-Monthly by
THE COLLECTORS' PUBLISHING COMPANY,
***780 Lafayette Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.***

Remittances must be made by Postal Note. Draft or unused stamps of low va
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Mention this paper.

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## *FOREIGN STAMPS.*

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Stamp papers copy once in 1 in space with this notice & send copy for prompt pay.

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***All premiums forwarded post-free.***

# THE LONG ISLAND COLLECTOR.

## A Monthly Magazine for Collectors.

Vol II Brooklyn, N. Y., July, 1885. No 2.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE, 25 cents per annum in advance. To foreign countries, 35 cents.

ADVERTISING RATES; Fifty cents per inch, ninety cents per two inches; half column, $1.35. Rates for larger or continued insertions upon application. Small notices, 6c. per line of 8 words.

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KNOB.

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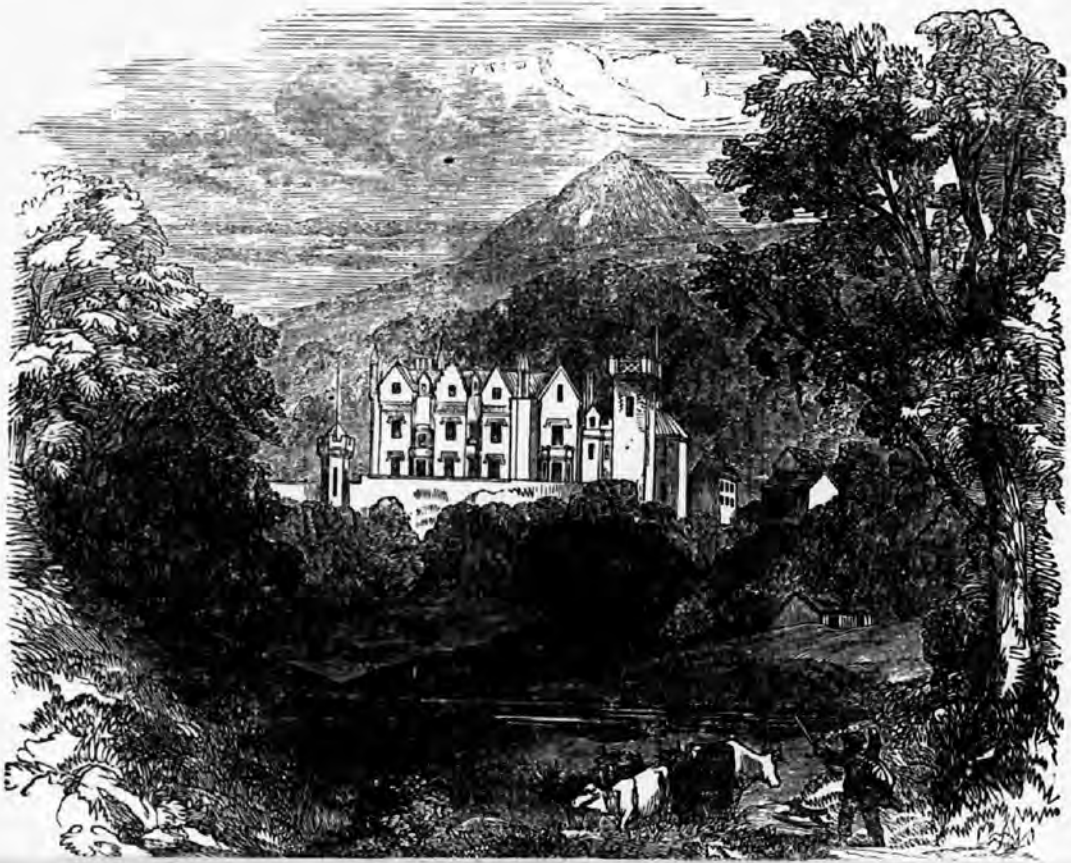


# THE LONG ISLAND COLLECTOR.

VOL II. JULY, 1886. NO 2.

## *ABBOTSFORD.*

ABBOTSFORD, the Country-seat of one of the most celebrated Authors of his time, Sir Walter Scott, is situated about three miles west of Melrose, in Roxburgshire, which is pre-eminently the border county of Scotland and is rich far beyond all others in legend and ballad, while its ruined abbeys still witness to the monastic magnificence of the past. It was here that, in the year 1811, Scott began his great territorial scheme by purchasing a small farm for the sum of £4000.

As he grew famous and rich, the farm-house gave place to an ever increasing Gothic mansion, which was built after the pattern of the old English manor houses, at a cost of not less than £20,000.

One of the most important features of this building, however, was that the external walls of the house and garden were intercalated with antique carved stones from old castles and abbeys, making this great structure, this "romance in stone and lime" not only one of the finest buildings in its day, but also one one of the most memorable and historical works, in Architecture, that has ever been achieved.

The place where the lone peasant used to wearily trudge along his homeward way; or where, by the rippling waters of the Tweed, the shepherd watered his panting flocks:—there, now stands a stately mansion.

Clarty Hole, the name that distinguished this place from others, in the past, was changed to that of Abbotsford.

Here, but a few years before, a hundred acres of bleak moorland, full of historical association, met the gaze; now a beautiful garden, a Paradise on Earth, is spread about on every hand.

After a life full of triumphs in literature and bedimmed by many financial reverses, on the 21st of September, 1832, the renowned Scott ended his eventful career, leaving behind him one of the most fitting memorials of his great and active life.

SECOND PAPER.

# THE ORIGIN AND GROWTH OF METAL CURRENCY.

BY T. A. MC NICHOLL.

THE precious metals, Gold and Silver, were the first materials em ed by our Ancient Fathers in coining, Asia Minor using Gold, Greece, silver.

Upon examination of the Greek coins we find impressed upon them the decoration of the piece, representations of natural objects, plants imals, birds, men, flowers and emblems of a sacred character, often bodying some legend regarding the foundation of the State; as the p or seal of the Phocians, which alludes to the shoal of seals said to followed the fleet during the emigration of the people. In Greece gods, heroes and their emblems were alone considered worthy to be resented on their coins.

In that dark and superstitious age there was no ruler, however ty ical or despotic, who would have dreamed of placing his own likeness the coinage of the state. It was not until the successors of Alexande Great had ascended the thrones of the powerful semi-oriental monar which arose out of the ruins of the Persian Empire, that the head living rulers were substituted for those of the Gods.

Such a complete overturning and uprooting of the Ancient idea connection between the Gods and the coinage could not be introduce once. It was only by degrees that such an innovation as this could b ected. Nevertheless, the influence of the old religious beliefs mani such a firm hold upon mens' minds, that throughout the Roman Imp period, the reverses of Greek coins continued to bear sacred types.

One of the most noticable features in the early stages of the art of age was the improvement that was made from time to time in the acter of the impressions made upon the reverses of the coins.

The punch-mark was, at first, a rough, irregular dent or hole, detracted much from the appearance of the coin; but as time rolled on mans' finer nature began to take the ascendency, the unseemly punch-m developed into geometrical forms, these forms were then combined wit

ures until finally the whole was wrought into an artistic design.

The gold double stater of Miletus, in Ionia, which is one of the very oldest coins in existence, represents such rude workmanship, both in design and execution, that it does not reflect much credit or reveal much artistic taste on the part of our primæval sires. It shows as its type on the obverse, the figure of a lion's head, which was a symbol expressive of strength and courage, while on the reverse is impressed the punch-mark so peculiar to the coinage of those early days.

The gold stater of Sardis, which some have thought to be even older than the stater of Miletus, bears upon the obverse the type of the lion and the bull, two objects which were prominent in ancient symbolism, and it is supposed that this coin was struck to represent the triumph of the King over all opposition. Here, as in the gold double stater of Miletus, is the rude workmanship of the ancient artisans clearly shown.

GOLD STATER OF SARDIS.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

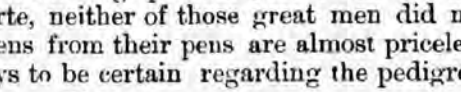
# Autographs, and How to Collect Them.

The collecting of Autographs of eminent persons of this and past centuries is one of the most fascinating and instructive of all our hobbies, and is fast growing in popularity. To look upon the peculiar chirography of our first President, Washington, inspies one with many fruitful thoughts, wandering back to the old-time battle-fields of the Revolution. And what memories of by-gone days are resurrected by a glimpse at the hand-writing of such men as Oliver Cromwell and Napoleon Bonaparte!

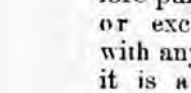
Of course, it is impossible for all collectors to obtain such autographs as those mentioned. Some idea of their extreme rarity and value may be conceived by knowing that the majority of Washington's letters were written entirely by his private secretary, who seems to have enjoyed his full confidence. Beyond the signatures on public documents, but few specimens of his penmanship are in existence. A long letter written by him

in 1789, to Benjamin Franklin, is now in the possession of a New ] firm, who ask for it the large price of $350.! As for autographs of G well and Bonaparte, neither of those great men did much writing; authentic specimens from their pens are almost priceless gems.

It is best always to be certain regarding the pedigree of specimens fore purchasing or exchanging with anyone, as it is a simple matter for an expert penman to copy any l and one is likely to swindled care is tak By far best way is to get your autographs directly from the signers themselves.



WM. EWART GLADSTONE.



ULYSSES S. GRANT.

GEN. EARLY.

A polite note, carefully written, will generally bring a courteous rep though sometimes after a long lapse of time. If no answer is given w six months, it is advisable to write again; it will seldom fail to bri acknowledgement. A good form for a letter would be the following:

Dear Sir: — At your leisure. Would you be kind enough to take the t of sending me your autograph to add to my collection, which now contains n many poets, statesmen and other famous men?

Yours respectfully. ——— — —

I have some valuable signatures which have been procured by a similar to the above. Generals Grant, Sherman and Hancock, Presi Hayes and Garfield and the poet Longfellow–the latter with a bit of attached–have all responded to such notes.

A self-addressed stamped envelope should always be enclosed; othe it is not surprising if no answer is received.

I hope that this discription of how I have successfully collected graphs will offer some suggestions which will be useful to others en in the same pursuit. In a future number I shall try to express my regarding the mounting of specimens. FRANKLIN E. HOTCHKIS

---

THE weight of the Sun has been estimated by scientists to 1,910,278,070,000,000,000,000,000,000 tons!

# EDITORIAL.

An apology is perhaps due to our readers, on account of the tardiness of r last issue. The delay, however, was not through any fault of ours, but e due to a misunderstanding with the Post Office Department. The per was ready promptly, but the postmaster refused to allow us to mail. 8 weeks delay followed during which we did our best to effect an early tlement, and were at last successful.

This number is necessarily late, and is actually the October issue: but hope to catch up by December and begin the new year on time.

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We wish it to be distinctly understood that all articles appearing in this gazine are original, unless otherwise credited, and are prepared espec-y for us. We do not belong to that class who exist by theiving from ir more honorable contemporaries.

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As soon as we can recover our lost ground we will change to monthly m. Our subscribers will all receive twelve numbers, whether in monthly bi-monthly issues.

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## Our Prize Questions.

For the best list of answers received before December 1, we offer a fine of 8 Confederate bills, from 50c. to $100. Second best list, a steel graving of Dom Pedro II. Competition limited to subscribers. Ans-rs in our next, and winners' names in No. 4.

No. 1. — What were the Seven Wonders of the World, and where were y situated?

No. 2. — What is the hardest known substance in the World, and what it used for?

No. 3. — A certain European newspaper has a daily circulation of over 0,000 copies; what is it and where is it published?

No. 4. — Which has the more miles of rail-road, Rhode Island or China?

No. 5. — A celebrated nobleman once saved Sweden from utter financial n, by a scheme which afterward resulted in his trial and execution for gh treason. Who was he?

# The Value of Currency.

How dark and dismal is the night
Which closely holds within its shroud
The valiant deeds of gallant Braves,
Before whom trembling millions bowed.

The exploits of our ancient sires,
Their thrilling history and times
Are told not by the Scribes of yore
Nor early Poets in their rhymes.

If manuscripts do not reveal
The hidden secrets of the past,
Then Currency provides relief
And on the gloom its flashings casts.

With telescopic eye, it views
The mystic deeds of by-gone days;
It bids us penetrate the gloom,
And on the past to fix our gaze.

It points to Monarchs, great and g
Who wisely ruled their Fatherland;
While others, with despotic pride,
Reigned with an iron hand.

It tells of Empires' rapid growth;
It shows us Kingdoms' rise and fall,
Reveals the famines, storms and pl
which did the sturdy hearts appal.

And thus from lifeless bits of ore
we may historic truths unfold;
And reap the impressed knowledge
which ancient writers have not told.

The figures, busts, the letters, nam
Which each primaeval coin displays,
But bring the ancient Heroes near
And tell us of the by-gone days.

# A Plea for Postal Cards.

[CONCLUDED.]

Regarding the mounting of specimens, I would suggest a heavy-p blank-book, of about 150 to 200 pages, each about 6 x 8 inches, as a album to begin with. This will hold two cards on each page. Fo advanced collector, however, I think a larger book more suitable. A s book of 200 or more pages of stiff, smooth paper will best answer. I pages are about 10 x 12 inches, four cards can be placed on a page; will generally admit all the cards of a country to be placed together, w gives a better appearance than when the cards are on separate pages.

The effect of the album can be greatly augmented by a red line n drawn around the cards, about a quarter inch from their edges, and other a half inch from the edge of the page. It is but little trouble, adds much to the appearance of a collection.

I have found from experience that the best way to fix cards in the a is to make a small "crosswise" slit where the corner of the card will c Into these four slits insert your card. It will be firmly held, and can b stantly removed without injuring or soiling either card or album.

In conclusion I would say never cut or trim your specimens. Think it and you will see that it neither improves their looks nor value.

# NATURE'S CORNER

One of the most useful and interesting quadrupeds to be found on the American Continent is the Llama. Before the time of the Spanish Conquest, when horses were introduced by the Europeans, it was the only beast of burden used by the natives of South America, and it is still extensively used in the mountainous regions of Peru and Bolivia; the peculiar formation of its feet enabling it to gain a secure footing where even the steady little burro cannot venture. Indeed, were it not for the llama, the numerous silver mines in the Andes regions could not be worked, as no other animal could travel on the steep and rocky slopes.

LLAMA AUCHENIA.

The llama is about three feet high at the shoulder and has a long neck, carrying its head erect. It is generally of a brownish yellow color, sometimes spotted with black or white. Its hair is coarse, somewhat resembling that of the camel, although sometimes used for manufacturing purposes.

A llama can usually travel about fifteen miles per day, and will carry a load of a hundred pounds. But if tired or overloaded, the animal will quietly lie down, and will not move until its burden is lightened. If ill-treated, tears will appear in its large, lustrous eyes, and frequently the death of the animal will follow. Owners, however, are careful to use their llamas well, as they are patient and docile when properly cared for. A llama will not submit to imposition, but, when teased, will sometimes retaliate by spitting squarely in the face of its tormentor, with aim as true as that of a city politician.

---

The Auction season has at last set in, and is opened with three fine collections. R. R. Bogert & Co. hold their first stamp sale, of 1059 lots, on the afternoon and evening of Nov. 22. Scott's 76th stamp sale follows on Nov. 29 & 30, with 998 lots. Ed. Frossard has a coin sale, the second part of a Russian collection, in the last week of November.

# A Geological Prospective.

THERE are few things more interesting than tracing the history of th velopment of the efforts of the human mind, from the earliest dim infant Science in the records of past times, through the depressing g of the lurid and superstitious era of the dark ages. In those days, Sc was denounced as a crime, and a Bacon and a Galileo, for being its su ful cultivators, were subjected to the thraldom of the inquisition; but in our own brighter and happier days, Geology and the allied branch knowledge are recognized as objects of the first importance; the man ence respected, and his acquirements appreciated.

Once man was straining his mental vision over heriditary superst by the dim twilight of ignorance; now he readily and easily peruses clear pages of Geological truths, beneath the bright and glorious mi sun of knowledge.

Man's ever progressing and ever investigating mind still press ward against the roaring billows of ignorance, passing the dangerous and shoals of superstition, safely anchoring in the beauteous harbor lightenment, from which he commences his journey of exploration int subterranean vaults of learning, rigidly analyzing, in his wearisome m the countless treasures which lie upon his path.

It is only by slow degrees that the knowledge of the formation and ure of our Planet has been acquired; and even now, notwithstanding number of zealous and devoted laborers in the field of Geology, – not standing the accumulated experience of ages, is this knowledge on many very important points deficient.

For thousands of years the eye of genius was dimmed by the mists surd conceits and immemorial blunders, but we of the nineteenth ce can glean and garner the fair wheat of knowledge from the ripe fields of Science.

---

IN sawing up a log, a Georgia man found a horse-shoe imbedde the wood, at a depth of about four inches. Judging from the gr the wood, it is supposed that the shoe, which is perfect, must have placed in a hollow of the tree at least twenty-five years before.

# A Glimpse of the Tower of London.

IN THREE PARTS.

BY J. H. HEWITT.

TIME has left no structure more closely and curiously connected with the history of days gone by, than the Tower of London. Within the circuit of its gray walls, monuments of Mediæval times rise up on every hand;—the relics of past centuries, whose memories are perpetuated alike by historian, painter and poet.

Seen from Tower Hill, a lofty square building, adorned with numerous turrets, surmounts the rest of the fortress. The most conspicuous, it is also the oldest, of all the buildings. This is the White Tower, and was built by William the Conqueror. The walls are fourteen feet in thickness, and the building reaches ninety-two feet above the ground.

On the second floor of this tower is a large hall, known as the Chapel. In another story is the Council Chamber, where the protector Gloucester ordered Lord Hastings to be led away to instant execution.

Below the Chapel is a "prison lodging" where Sir Walter Raleigh was once confined. On it's walls are many curious inscriptions, carved by the numerous prisoners who were incarcerated during the reign of Mary.

There are, under the Tower, a large number of dungeons which were also used for the confinement of prisoners. It was here that King John of France was lodged. Here, many a tragic scene was enacted, in the barbarous days when a man's own opinions would seal his fate.

The White Tower was for many years the only building of what is now a group. It is surrounded by a deep moat, which was drained in the year 1843, on account of its insalubrity; and in levelling the ground afterward, about thirty stone shot were found. From their locality, it is conjectured that they were used against the fortress during the siege of 1460, when Lord Scales held the tower for the King, and the Yorkists bombarded him from a battery on the other side of the river. Several of them are preserved in the Armories.

Inside the wall, a narrow street extends entirely around the fortress. In

this street are many of the old buildings formerly occupied by the M
Mint, and a portion still retain the name of "the Mint." A tower on
left, from the "Lyons Gate" (so called because the Royal Menagerie
occupied an adjoining court), is the "Bell Tower," and contains the
bell of the garrison. It was once the prison of Queen Elizabeth.

The Traitor's Gate, through which state prisoners were generally
to the tower, is on the water front. Opposite this gate is "The Bloody To
believed to be the scene of the murder of the infant princes by their

Beyond the gateway of the Bloody Tower, to the left, is the Chur
St. Peter, famous chiefly as the burial place of Lady Jane Grey and her
band, Anna Boleyn, and a number of the Nobility of early days.

The Beauchamp tower is supposed to have derived its name from h
been the prison of Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, in 1397. Its walls
covered with quaint and curious inscriptions, carved by prisoners who
confined there. A restless lover assures his loved one of his devotio
carving "my hart is hers till deth." Many of the carvings exibit the
of arms of noblemen who were confined in this tower. The inscriptio
all, number over a hundred.

A description of the wonders of the Armories and of the "Jewel H
I must leave for another Chapter.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

The initial letter represents a knight in armor, time of Henry VIII.

## Our Library Table.

THE STAMP COLLECTOR'S COMPANION.—As a compendium of general in
ation, this work is invaluable to philatelists. It consists of 50 pages, a
cludes a dictionary of words and phrases often used by philatelists; an
tributions of Rev. R. B. Earee and other prominent writers. Coll
Mills, Publishers, Cincinnati, O.

THE S. & C. GAZETTE, Altoona, Pa.—This enterprising journal is n
its third year, and is one of the best of its kind in this country. Abl
ited and with a score of well-known contributors, it deserves the
port of every intelligent collector.

We are compelled, by lack of space, to omit a review of several
publications, but will do so in the next issue.

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| Turkey, 1865, | 8 | 19 |
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| Austrian Italy, | 8 | 20 |
| Argentine Republic, | 7 | 13 |
| Bulgaria, | 5 | 10 |
| Brazil, | 10 | 15 |
| Bosnia, complete set, | 7 | 40 |
| Cape of Good Hope, | 7 | 15 |
| Chili, | 6 | 10 |
| Egypt, including 5 piastres, | 10 | 20 |
| Finland, | 7 | 10 |
| France, head of Napoleon, | 14 | 10 |
| Guatemala 1881 complete, | 5 | 16 |
| Hong Kong, | 10 | 18 |
| Japan, including 8 sen, | 10 | 10 |
| Luxemburg, | 10 | 15 |
| Mexico, | 10 | 20 |
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Circulars free, or with 100 Foreign [stamps] for 5c. If you name this paper, [send] change prices paid for Coll'n & [Dup.] Copy Collector's Ad for exchange. [Mixed] Mixed stamps, to trade with, [for] choice varieties, 25c. 4 Brazil, [2] Japan, 8c.; 8 Egypt, 4c.; 8 Spain, [3c.] 8 New Zealand, [3] Cape Good Hope, 8c. The $1 sets, 25c. [Packets of] 50c.; Coats of Arms, 50c.; Portraits, 6c. [Two lines, 6] [illegible]

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# THE LONG ISLAND COLLECTOR.

25 CENTS PER ANNUM. 4 CENTS A COPY

VOL I, BROOKLYN, OCTOBER 1885. NO I.


FOR THE L. I. COLLECTOR.

## HOW MONEY IS MADE.

### A VISIT TO THE U. S. MINT AT PHILADELPHIA.

THE good city of Philadelphia among other historic distinctions, possesses that of being the first place in which money was made for the use of the newly independent nation. On July 31st, 1792, the foundation stone of the first mint was laid. The first purchase of metal for coining was made in the fall of the same year. It consisted of six pounds of old copper. A small beginning; one that strikes the writer as particularly so for he has seen gold bars of one size in the mint worth twentyfive millions of dollars, of another size to an amount almost as large, and huge stores of silver, not to mention nickel and copper, which amaze only less than the treasure represented in the gold.

#### The Mint Building.

The building in which most of our coin is made was erected in 1834. It is of the Grecian style of architecture, and though small and unimposing is large enough to accommodate three hundred workmen. Four departments complete the general system under which all the business of the Mint is done. Each is under the control of a superintendent appointed by the President of the United States, confirmed by the Senate, and under heavy bonds for the faithful discharge of his duties.

#### Receiving Bullion.

When bullion for coining is received it is sent to the Weigh Clerk's room, where it is weighed with great exactness. The most notable scales in the apartment are large enough to balance 6000 ounces Troy on each side. Any deviation, even the slightest, is indicated by a pointer three feet in length. The beam of the scales is cased in glass and so is the pointer, so that no breath of air can reach them. Very interesting it is to watch the effect of using the tiniest weight upon the long pointer. With the deliberation that nice work requires, it tells of the little intruder's presence with an accuracy that is

most remarkable. An adjoining room, small in size, contains enough gold to make a score of millionaires.

Each of the bars which in the aggregate make up the twentyfive millions is worth about Four Thousand Dollars, and is of a size convenient for handling. Smaller bars elsewhere avarage Five Hundred each. The larger bars are made chiefly of foreign coin melted up at the Assay Office in New York, and sent on to Philadelphia for coinage. A few years ago there were fifty million dollars in Napoleons in the assay department, for melting and preparing for the mint.

When gold was being shipped to England in large quantities some years ago, the British Government converted double eagles into Sovereigns. These soon after came into this country in large quantities, and were reconverted into American pieces.

The standard of purity for bullion is nine-tenths fine.

## Making a Specimen Chip.

Metal received, after careful weighing, is melted up in the deposit melting room Intensely hot furnaces make the whole into a uniform mass, from which on cooling, a small chip is taken, as affording an exact index of the rest. This is sent to Assay Department, where the percentage of pure gold or silver is ascertained. Payment is made to the sender from the Treasury of the United States for the precise amount of gold or silver thus ascertained, by the addition of a simple calculation as collectable from his shipment.

## About Ingots.

In the next department, that of the melter and refiner, the gold, silver, nickel or copper is made ready for coining. Here ingots are prepared —those shapely bars of alloy from which coins are actually made.

Refining, by processes the same in the mint as elsewhere, is succeeded by the alloy of the pure metal, in the case of silver with ten per cent of copper, and in that of gold with ten per cent of silver and copper.

The crucibles used in the mint are made of equal parts of black-lead and plastric clay. Metal intended for coins is placed in these crucibles, which are then deposited in the furnaces. A stand of brick receives the crucible, which is so placed that the zone of greatest heat begins at a fifth from the bottom of the vessel.

[ TO BE CONTINUED ]

## A FAMOUS PAPER.

—o—

THE paper used for printing the Bank of England notes is manufactured solely for that purpose. Unless stolen, it is impossible to obtain a scrap of the precious paper produced at the mill at Laverstoke.

Each piece of this paper is registered before it is taken from the frame, a locked automatic dial keeping the account, and each damaged note is accounted for by being ground up again into pulp.

Mr. Portal's paper has a real value apart from its worth as paper, for it has always been regarded as so essential to a passable counterfeit that the World at large felt at perfect ease when transacting these notes. It is needless to state that this paper is quite unique; tested

by touch, it emits a sharp, crackling sound; its color is beyond desciption.

The notes are printed two at a time, as may be seen by three of the edges being deckled, while the fourth is smooth where cut by the knife. The paper is so tough that it will bear a weight of fifty pounds without tearing; yet the sheet is so thin that erasures are extremely difficult.

But the main safeguard of the Bank lies in the watermark. This device is ob-

tained, as all watermarks are, by twisting wires to the desired shape and sticking them onto the face of the mould, so that when the pulp settles it must be thinner on the wire design than on the rest of the sheet. The water is then permitted to run through the mould, and the sheet in embryo, "couched" by the mould being pressed upon a blanket, to which the sheet clings.

Above is a rough diagram of the watermark. Of course the design is much more elaborate, being closely interwoven with wavy lines and surrounded by a triple scroll on either side.

The largest bank note in circulation in 1827 amounted to 1000 pounds. It is said that two notes for 100,000 each, and two for 50,000 each were once engraved and issued. A tradesman who had amassed a large fortune once applied to a private banker for a loan on one of these notes. On a hint from the banker of the folly of hoarding such a sum and losing the interest, he laughed.

"Wery true, sir," replied the man, "but I likes to look on't so much that I have tother one of the same kind at home."

An eccentric gentleman in London framed a bank post bill for thirty thousand pounds, and exhibited it for five years in his parlor. He then died, and the picture was at once taken down and cashed by his heirs.

## EXPOSURES.

Under this head we propose to publish a complete list as near as possible, of the counterfeits appearing to date. Most of these have been mentioned in other papers, but the Editor wants his list a complete one and therefore inserts them.

Argentine, 8c. on 5c., 24c on 30c. are bogus, and were invented, probably in Boston.

Confederate States, 1863 5c. The letters in "five cents" are smaller in the counterfeit. Otherwise it is a good imitation.

Hong Kong.- Beware of surcharged 10c. on 18c, also 3c. on 2c. No such stamps ever existed.

Italy, Unpaid, 1870.- Counterfeits are easily distinguished as they are poorly executed. The letters in "segnatasse" vary in size, and the oval enclosing numeral is irregular.

St. Domingo.- The light ink with which the 1883 stamps were cancelled, renders it difficult to tell whether the surcharge is genuine. We have received specimens which appeared all right, excepting that the type used is too large and the accent over the e is omitted

**THE LONG ISLAND COLLECTOR,**

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

Vol. I. OCTOBER, 1885. No. I.

**Terms;**

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All communications must be in by the 10th of the month to insure insertion in the next number. Address,

WILBUR W. THOMAS, Editor & Pub'r
780 Lafayette Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

With this issue we present to you our first number, and hope it will meet with your approval

We call attention to "Exposures", intended mainly for beginners, though many of the items are published for the first time

"How money is made" is an interesting and instructive article, and will, no doubt, be attentively followed in our pages until completed

The Exchangers' and Correspondents' columns will be carefully conducted; they are intended for the benefit of subscribers only

Advertisers will find our paper a paying medium, as this issue is of a thousand copies This will be increased as soon as warranted.

Editors will oblige by exchanging with us regularly.

---

As an inducement to subscribe, we offer a good coin or stamp to each subscriber received this month. Lot includes Jackson cents, foreign, etc. The stamps are catalogued at 5 cents upwards The best pieces will be given first.

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We wish to apologize for our appearance this month. The future issues we shall endeavor to improve in this respect.

If sufficient encouragement is received from collectors, we will illustrate this Journal in a short time with cuts of new issues etc.

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Most collectors imagine that the authenticity of a surcharged stamp can be proven by placing it under a microscope, which will tell whether the surcharge is over the cancel, or not. This is sometimes a mistake; a dealer can surcharge a new stamp and cancel it himself, thus evading the above method. Beside this, some kind of ink, used in surcharging, will appear to be under the cancel, when it really is on top. To test this theory, we surcharged a stamp, and took it to a well known dealer for inspection. He pro-

nounced it good — surcharge under the obliteration. The surcharging was done with rubber-stamp ink.

—

Only a short time ago, the stamp collecting public was denouncing the publishers of the International albums for inserting spaces for the Hamburg Locals in the book. This is not the only blemish. Referring to Messrs. Scott & Co's circulars we see that especial mention is made of the valuable statistical information contained in the album. It is stated to be correct to date, etc.

Now mistakes are abundant. Many of them are ridiculous in the extreme; — for instance, the President of Switzerland is given as B. Hammer. Now that gentleman has been dead for over ten years. The country has no President; the executive authority being vested in a Council, one of whose members presides over the body for a year, another then taking his place.

A Mexican dollar is said to be worth $1.00 when in reality it is worth but 80 cents Similar mistakes are very common.

—

— Varieties of the 1872 issue of Swedish stamps exist, the difference being in the size of the stars.

— Gold was first coined, at Rome, in the year B. C. 206; and silver, at the same place, 63 years earlier.

— One of the four Gold medals commemorative of the death of President Lincoln is in the possession of an attache of the Paris consulate. The others have disappeared.

— We have seen specimens of the ten pesos stamp of Bolivar, with inverted medallion. It is printed vermillion and blue.

— THE L. I. COLLECTOR, per year, only 25c

## CONSTANTINOPLE SURCHARGES.

BY EL PIASTRE.

Some years ago, the German Government received so many complaints from merchants trading with Turkey, of the slowness and irregularity of the Turkish mails, that investigations were made, which resulted in the establishment of an independent post-office in Constantinople, with branches.

German stamps were put in use, doing duty as follows:

5 pfg, used as 10 paras
10 .. .. 20 ..
20 .. .. 1 piastre.

Now as 1 piastre equals only about 18 pfennig, certain people saw a profit here; buying quantities of the stamps, they carried them over to Germany, selling them at face value, and clearing about 2 pfennigs on each piastre thus invested.

The home government was not long in detecting this method of fraud, and stopped it by immediately surcharging all the stamps intended for foreign use, with the Turkish selling value. This had the desired effect, as such surcharged stamps were worthless in Germany.

The surcharges which followed the first issue, are;

in large type, value repeated;

10 paras. } with blue
20 .. } surcharge.
1 piastre. }

Shortly after the above set appeared, a new set, with type slightly

altered, came out. The surcharging was still in blue ink, and the values identical, with the addition of 1 1-4 and 2 1-2 pi. stamps.

For some reason, black ink was substituted in the printing, the set remaining the same in other respects. This is the current variety.

Of errors, quite a number exist. Most of the stamps are to be found with inverted surcharge, or occasionally a letter turned up side down. The most notable of all, however, occurs in the 10 para, which appears as "PABA." This is a rare type though all the errors are rated as scarce.

Great Britain has recently issued a similar set to the above for similar reasons -the imperfect Turkish Postal systems. As these stamps, like all British Colonials, are well known no description is here necessary.

## THE RECENT AUCTION SALE.

The sale of stamps on Sept. 24 & 25 was well attended; prices realized, however, were considerably below the avarage. The most notable pieces sold as follows: Lynchburg 5c, $7.25. New Brunswick 1s, 19. Mauritius* 1s. env., 12 - St. Louis 10c., 20.- Tuscany 31, 5.25. The set of P. S. N. Co. complete, brought $18.80.

The early issues of Spain and the U. S. envelopes were well represented, though the value of many of the latter was greatly impaired by the stamp being cut out. This and the trimming of various adhesives shoud be a lesson to collectors. The lots were mostly uncanceled and the collection was undoubtedly the finest offered in a long time.

*Possibly a Counterfeit.

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Mr. Lyman H. Low announces the sale of the Kingsford collection, of coins and medals, to take place in the latter part of this month. Catalogues on application.

---

We are now gathering evidence against a gang of counterfeiters in New York City, which, when completed, will be published in full in this paper. If you would read the whole 'give-away,' subscribe now.

## EXCHANGE NOTICES.

25 different foreign stamps - no English or German - for every Agriculture Executive, Interior 15 or 90c. Justice, Navy except 3c Post Office except 3 & 6c State, 7 or 24c. Treasury, and 7 or 90c. War Dept. No torn or 'specimen' stamps taken. E C. Griffith, Box 1465, N Y. City.

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SEND in your subscription now if you think this paper is worth the small sum that we ask for it.

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## GENUINE FOREIGN STAMPS,

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Danube Steam Navig'n Co, | 4 var- | 15 | cents |
| Heligoland | 15 " | 35 | " |
| Porto Rico, 1881 | 6 " | 20 | " |
| Sardinia | 10 " | 12 | " |
| Saxony | 4 " | 6 | " |

PACKET No. 8 contains 10 varieties unused Foreign stamps. Price, only 10 c.

PACKET No. 9 contains 10 varieties unused Foreign stamps, including Cyprus 1d, Bahamas 1d., Costa Rica half rl., St. Helena halfpenny green, Peru unpaid 10 centavos etc. Price only 25 cents.

Orders under 25c. postage extra. Address

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Birds egg list for stamp. Match and Medicine stamps wanted for cash or very fine exchange. Collections purchased.

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## COLLECTORS' COMPANION,

is a Lively, Entertaining First-class monthly magazine for stamp collectors. Contains articles by best writers. Adapted to beginners and and advanced collectors.

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IN answering advertisements, please do not omit to mention this paper.

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# A CHANCE

Is now offered the Young Men and Ladies of America to start a new, easy and profitable business. I have one agent in a small county in Texas who cleared $150 in one month's time. This is not a mere say-so but a cold fact and I stand prepared to prove it. The business requires no peddling from door to door and is no humbug. I will send two doz. samples charges paid -which is all is required to start in business- together with deed giving you sole agency for your county for one year on receipt of Fifty cts or deed for two counties and 4 doz samples on receipt of 1 dollar. Secure your county without delay as I am advertising extensively and it is likely to be taken at any time. Address Edwin M. Williams

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Editors inserting above and this notice and sending marked copy will receive 75c

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1 Bidstone Terrace, Poulton, Birkenhead - - - - England

Sheets of Rare Stamps sent on approval on receipt of satisfactory English reference or not less than fifty cents deposit.

Gt. Britain postage stamps, used, cotaining a fine assortment of many issues, at 25c per 1000. Entire postcards thick and thin mixed, 30c per 100, $ 2 75 per 1 000.

European stamps, well assorted, 50c per 5000; extra fine, 25c per 1000. U. S. & Canada post cards - used - taken in exchange.

Remittances to be made by P.O.O. only Wholesale price list, post-free 3c. English and foreign references.

Papers please copy and send terms.

## RECORD OF NEW ISSUES.

We are indebted to the Collectors' Companion for the following:

Bahamas. - A 1-2d. green, 21-2d blue and 1 sh. violet may be expected soon.

Barbados. - A new adhesive has appeared; 3 d. mauve.

China. - The P. W. informs collectors that a new issue is expected.

Denmark. - 2 and 4 ore official cards have been issued.

Mauritius. - A 16c. yellow brown is out; the colors of the 2 and 4c. have been changed to green and carmine respectively. The 38c is surcharged 2c and the 8c. card 2c.

Monaco - has issued a set of stamps of its own, bearing portrait of Chas III as follows: 5c. blue, 15c. pink, and 25c. green.

Persia - According to Mr. Bogert, the new 5s is lilac, instead of as announced

Portugal The 50r. envelope is now violet.

St. Christopher. - The latest provisional consists of the 1d. cut in two and each half surcharged, in small type "half penny."

Tobago. - The 4d. is gray.

Western Australia - The surcharge 1d. appears on the 3d. adhesive.

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Box 91, Augusta, Me.

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# THE LONG ISLAND COLLECTOR.

25 CENTS PER ANNUM. 4 CENTS A COPY.

VOL. I. BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, NOVEMBER, 1885. NO. 2.


## HOW MONEY IS MADE.

CONTINUED.

AFTER the melting process, the crucible is removed by skilled hands, with tongs constructed for the purpose, and with the contents the moulds are rapidly filled. When the mass has cooled, the mould is quickly removed by a clever workman, who drops the newly-made ingot into a bath of cold water. Upon their removal, the rough end produced by the overflow of the metal in filling the moulds is rapidly cut off by powerful machinery. The ingot is further prepared for the next process by filing off any roughness of its edges. The precious cuttings are of course melted up again. Ingots are about twelve inches in length, half an inch thick, and vary in width according to the size of the coin to be made. The process of making them is exactly the same in the case of all the metals used in coinage.

### Rolling and weighing.

Rolling the ingots is next in order. The rollers are four in number, and are powerful machines which so lengthen and make thin the ingots that they are of the proper dimensions for the cutting press. Power in each machine is adjustable to requirement, but the usual plan is to pass the ingots from one to another until the needed length and thickness are reached. Ingots thus treated are six times their original length, but, made brittle by the pressure to which they have been subjected, need to be made red hot in ovens before being fit for cutting. Silver is placed naked in these ovens, but the more precious gold in cylindrical copper canisters which protect it from waste.

Ingots are then cooled and greased and passed to the cutting presses. Watching the operation of a cutting press is somewhat bewildering on account of the rapidity of its action. No less than 286 blanks for dollars or double eagles drop into the receptacle every minute, perfectly round, but still remote in appearance from the completed coin. A number of them are not the exact weight required, it being impossible to make the ingots with infallible accuracy of thickness.

The business of eighty women in the department is to make those blanks that are too heavy the right weight by filing to pass those that are correct, and to set aside such as are too light and must therefore be remelted.

Each of these operators sits close to a table on which is a pair of sensitive scales. She has on a leather apron fastened under her arms and tacked to the table, which catches the filings she may find occasion to make.

The Seyss Automatic Weighing Mach-

ine is a wonderful invention, four of which are in use at the mint. Each has ten balances, weighing forty pieces per minute. These are fed through tubes, and discharged in three piles, for light, correct and excessive weights.

Another ingenious appliance is the counting board, which is nothing more than a sort of box, so arranged in compartments that by piling the coins up to a level with the top a certain number are obtained without the trouble of counting them.

TO BE CONCLUDED.

---

For its private mark the Bank of Devil's Lake, Dak., has adopted a vignette the base of which is a sheaf of wheat on which rests a silver dollar, over the back of which Satan is climbing, holding in one hand the scales of justice and in the other a lance. At his left is a map of the lake, forming the place for the amount of draft or check, and on which are the words, "Give the Devil his due."

But one thing is now necessary to complete the new special delivery system. The one thing needful is immediate delivery. If that is introduced the service will prove to be a success.

A writer in the P. J. of S. remarks that as the P. O. department contributes a big revenue to the Government, the latter should be willing to do some thing for the postage stamp. Evidently the author has made a mistake. There are less than a dozen offices in the U. S. that can be credited with fully paying their own running expenses. Only one of these, New York, leaves any bonus for the Government. The department was never intended to make money as is demonstrated by the present low rates on second class matter.

## --COINS AND MEDALS.--

One of the most abundant materials for History, in the absence of other authentic sources exists in coins and medals, which may be regarded as a species of portable monuments. Such a number of events have been recorded by ancient medals, and so great has been the care of antiquarians and others in selecting and preserving them, that they have been made to throw great light upon history. They confirm such statements as are true in old authors, clear up what was doubtful, and supply what has been omitted. It is remarkable, for instance, that history scarcely makes mention of the magnificent cities of Balbec and Palmyra, whose ruins are now so famous; we know but little of them beyond what is supplied by inscriptions and medals. — —A small collection of medals gives a complete chronicle of the Kings of Syria, not mentioned by any ancient writer whatever.

We find upon medals traces of customs, figures of buildings, instruments, etc., which show the state of the arts at the period in which they were executed.

Many interesting matters have been neglected by historians as being too familiar to require notice, or from a belief that they would never engage the attention of after times.

Yet, fortunately these are preserved by coins. By their help we know that the first Roman Emperor wore a beard, and rode with stirrups; we see Nero with his fiddle, and Commodus with his lion's skin. We can see also plans of ancient buildings not otherwise known to the world.
— MERRY'S MUSEUM.


## THE LONG ISLAND COLLECTOR

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

VOL. I. NOVEMBER, 1880. No. 2.

**Terms;**

To any part of the United States or Canada 25 cents per annum.
To Foreign countries, postage extra.

**Advertising Rates;**

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| Per inch .... 35c | Per col ..... $1 75 |
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All communications must be in by the 20th of the month to insure insertion in the next number. Address,
WILBUR W. THOMAS, Editor & Pub'r
780 Lafayette Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y.

ENTERED at the Post Office in Brooklyn as second class mail matter.


Mr. Whilden, Jr. has favored us with a copy of his International Collectors' Guide. It contains some interesting facts about the Confederate provisionals, an article on "Early Foreign Posts", and other matter equally interesting. 48 pages, price 25 cents. Address the publisher, at Atlanta, Ga.

We think this issue shows considerable improvement over no. 1. At any rate this number is not a fraud on its face by dating 500 years back as was the case last month, through a printers error.

We have a few Star Match Corporation stamps black on pink paper, which we offer to any one obtaining two subscribers for this paper.

### TO ADVERTISERS.

Next month we shall issue a fine double number, filled with attractive reading matter. An extra edition of 250 copies beside the regular 750 will be mailed to all parts of the world. An inch ad at 35c. will pay you. Cash in advance.

Unless a few settlements are made with us, certain parties against whom we have claim may have to suffer by an unpleasant legal process.

## -- EXPOSURES. --

Cos'a Rica – Some dangerous counterfeits are being shoved out from Germany. They are lithographed, and badly perforated.

Liberia – The first issue is extensively counterfeited. The bogus is printed from an electrotype and is perforated, while the genuine is lithographed and unperforated.

Mauritius. -- The early issues are all imitated. Lithographed, in Germany as usual. The coloring is bad.

**COINS — STAMPS.**

AGENTS wanted for sale of stamps and coins. Liberal commission allowed. Large 24 page illustrated catalogue and 100 superior stamps, 1.c. Birds egg list for stamp. Match and Medicine stamps wanted for cash or very fine exchange. Collections purchased. W. F. GREANY,
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Order early as the supply is limited. Address this office.

The New York Collector,

A sample copy of the above paper and price-list sent on receipt of stamp.

A set of 10 Venezuela stamps, 10c.
5 Cape of Good Hope, 10c.

E. V. HERNANDEZ,
251 Grand Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Editors please publish above and this and receive the same space in the N. Y. C.

**THE YANKEE PHILATELIST,**
A MONTHLY PAPER,
FOR STAMP COLLECTORS.

25c. per year. Sample copy 1c.
Adv't Rates--50c per Inch, $4. Page.
I C GREEN, 60 High st. Fitchburg, Mass

## RECORD OF NEW ISSUES.

Our readers will greatly oblige us by informing us of any recent emissions that may come under their notice.

British Guiana - We have the 2c. in brown. Perhaps an error.

Ceylon - Mr Sloan has favored us with a 28c. on 32c.

Jamaica - We are in receipt of a 1d. revenue used postally. The 1d. postage has changed to carmine.

Japan - The C C. states that stamped wrappers are in preparation. The 1 and 2 sen cards are now red.

Mexico - The colors of the entire series have been altered. Those at hand are, 2c. carmine, 5c. blue and 10c. orange.

Nicaragua - Double card, 2 x 2c.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

Can anyone of your readers explain to me the meaning of the surcharge "ausser kurs" so often found on the obselete Swiss stamps?

Frank I. Brown.

I have an India 1 anna stamp, surcharged 'Ashburn". Do you know anything concerning it? L. P.

Counterfeiters given away in our next. Subscribe; you'll not regret it.

**-- TO STAMP DEALERS. --**

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