



# W. F. BISHOP'S MONTHLY JOURNAL.

VOL. II.

JANUARY, 1890.

No. 3.

## VARIETIES IN U. S. STAMPS.

It has always been a source of wonder to me that so many American collectors fail to collect the oddities of stamps—errors and the various colors in which stamps are printed. Especially is this the case in the stamps of our own country. How few collections contain the two sets of due stamps, the brown and the red brown; or the black and sage green of the postoffice department; the light and the dark red of the War; each of these in two distinct colors.

In the 1870 issue have appeared the following different colors: The one cent has appeared in light and dark blue, and also in a blue that might, I presume, be called a slate blue; the two cents have appeared in light and dark brown, the head in a very dark oval; the six cents in carmine and red; the ten cents of this issue have appeared in the same colors as the brown two cents; the twelve cents in two shades of purple. The one, two, three, six and ten cents have appeared with a plain frame, instead of the usual lined one familiar to all. Perhaps the whole series has been so issued, but I have never been able to get but the five values. These stamps made their appearance in 1873, and, I presume, lasted but a short time, as I have never obtained any except on letters written in that year. There has been quite a number of the three cents collected, and it is to be found in the collections of many of the older collectors; also the one and ten cents are occasionally to be met with; but the two and six are much more rare. I have also obtained a twelve cents Treasury department, printed upon pink paper, and is, I think, a genuine specimen. It shows conclusively, to my mind at least, that the revenues were not the only stamps printed on pink paper.

No collector wastes his time collecting and arranging stamps with such differences. A collector must collect for himself, and if he wishes to advance in philately he must study the subject, and necessarily study up the colors and oddities in stamps. When you once get into the study of stamps you will find many treasures to reward your diligence, and it will not cost you so much money as you imagine either. Nearly all advanced collectors collect colors, errors and odd perforations as eagerly as they do the regular issues. The time was when it was thought foolish to collect the varieties of five cents issue of 1861; now which many wish they had been wise enough to save all the five cents buff, and also the three cents scarlet of the same issue. And it was the same way when stamps were embossed with a grill, collectors who now pay handsomely for them when the opportunity presents itself—which does not occur every day.

## HISTORY OF U. S. POSTAGE STAMPS.

If you want to know fully and minutely all about the postage stamps of the United States, get this work by the eminent stamp collector, JOHN K. TIFFANY.

It is the only reliable and complete work published, and in its 275 odd pages you cannot help but to find many things that you have been altogether ignorant of. No one interested in U. S. stamps can afford to be without it. It is handsomely bound and well printed on good paper.

Paper Binding, untrimmed, \$1.00 post free.  
Cloth Binding, gilt, . . . 1.50 “

## INTERNATIONAL STAMP ALBUM. NINTH EDITION.

In every respect this is superior to any previous issue, and I feel justified in stating that it is the best postage stamp album ever published.

The spaces for United States revenue stamps are omitted, and spaces provided for all varieties of surcharges, including all official and kindred stamps.

The spaces for cut envelopes have been considerably enlarged, thus allowing for large margins on all such specimens.

Although the album is almost 50 per cent. larger than the previous edition, and printed on paper far superior in quality, the prices will remain the same, viz:

### PRINTED ON BOTH SIDES OF PAPER.

Boards, half cloth, - - - - \$1 50  
Cloth, magnificent gilt, elaborate design, 2 50  
Cloth, gilt, with guards and blank pages, 3 50

### PRINTED ON ONE SIDE OF FINE HEAVY PAPER.

Cloth, gilt, - - - \$5 00—post free, \$5 25  
French Morocco, full gilt, 7.50— “ 7.75

## THE IMPERIAL STAMP ALBUM.

This beautiful new book is the latest thing in the way of a POSTAGE STAMP ALBUM, and gives a large amount of useful information. It gives the names of rulers, the government, the area, population and standard coin of every country. It also gives accurate representations of the FLAGS AND ARMS OF THE WORLD.

Upwards of 500 pictures represent all the different issues, and provides space for 2,600 stamps. Beautifully bound in cloth with elegantly designed cover in gold and black.

Price, 75 cents, post free.

## DESCRIPTIVE PRICE CATALOGUE. REDUCED TO SIX CENTS.

Giving prices of nearly ten thousand different stamps, both used and unused, with descriptions of the issues, will be sent post free on receipt of six cents. Send at once for a copy, as we have but a limited supply on hand.

## EPISTLES OF PHILATELICUS.

### No. I.

BRETHREN: Acquaint thyself thoroughly with thy hobby. Peradventure ye are a new beginner, seek ye then a catalogue wherein ye may find out the many different stamps with their value, etc. Ye should also supplement it with a hand book, whereby ye can follow up the subject fully and intelligently. For it may come to pass that whereby ye glory in thy knowledge that there will come along ye "wise man," and shall offer ye stamps worth dollars for dimes, which straightway ye will buy, whereat you will chuckle at your own cunning. Then a wise man will come along and call you a fool, for being swindled with counterfeits. Thou wouldst then straightway write a letter to the man who sold thee the stamps, and would declare unto him that the stamps were not as he told thee. Thou wouldst call him a base deceiver of men and a son of Belial. Verily thine heart will quake because of thine anger and thine own helplessness. Therefore be ye wise and deal not with the man who offers ye dollars for dimes.

Ye have heard it said of them of old time, Cut thy envelopes round. But I say unto ye, if thee must cut thine stamps from the envelopes, cut them square, forgetting not to leave margin in plenty. They shall then shine forth from your albums like sparkling gems. Yea, they shall shine as rotten mackerel by moonlight.

And it shall come to pass that one day ye shall order goods and forget to send the money or to sign your name and address, and when ye have not received thine stamps, the day they were ordered, although your order took a week, ye will say that the dealer is no good on earth. Thou would do him a great wrong and make enemies unto thyself, and get left all around, all because thee forgot the essentials in thy order. Then straightway ye would send thine order to another dealer, and say unto him, Send my order promptly, for there is a man who hast taken my money and gives me nothing in return, and who is no good on earth. And it shall come to pass that the dealer to whom he speaketh is a shrewd man, having a great head, and he sayeth to himself, This man acteth hastily in his anger. He is stuck on himself and knoweth it not. Howbeit, I will profit by his anger and fill his order promptly. For he haveth not sense enough to write to the dealer and findeth out his mistake. And when the man shall receive his stamps promptly, he shall say, Verily this dealer is promptness, and sendeth me stamps that are like unto blossoms in the wilderness. I will give him all my orders and trade with the other dealer no more forever.

Be ye wise in dealing with your customers, for the things that are open to thee they see not. Therefore, I charge thee make all things plain before them, lest they, not wishing to let ye know their ignorance, pretend to understand when they know not whereof thou speakest, and so render unjust judgment against thee.

## TEN CENT PACKETS.

Each packet contains 15 different stamps, *all scarce* and in fine condition.

No. 101. Bulgaria, Ceylon, Ecuador, etc.  
 No. 102. Venezuela, Natal, Bosnia, etc.  
 No. 103. Guatemala, Spain, Mexico, etc.  
 No. 104. Peru, Mauritius, Monaco, etc.  
 No. 105. Siam, Cuba, Swan River, etc.  
 No. 106. Thurn and Taxis, Greece, Macao, etc.  
 No. 107. U. S. of Columbia, Egypt, Chili, etc.  
 No. 108. Salvador, Azores, Heligoland, etc.  
 No. 109. Costa Rica, Turkey, Transvaal, etc.  
 No. 110. United States, 1851, 1861, 1869, and department stamps.

Every stamp in the series is equally as good as those named. Unquestionably the best ten cent packets sold. The entire series, 150 all different, \$1.00.

## UNITED STATES ALBUM.

I have a few copies of the "National Postage Stamp Album," which I will dispose of at low prices to close them out *at once*. Price, unbound \$1.00, or in fine cloth binding, \$1.50.

They contain spaces for all U. S. Locals, Adhesives, Envelopes and Post Cards; are complete to date.

We will cheerfully and promptly refund money on return of album if not entirely satisfactory to the purchaser.

To a collector of U. S. postage stamps this album is the *best and most satisfactory* one ever published.

## EXCHANGE AND PURCHASE

I am frequently asked to take duplicates in exchange, so have been led to establish the following terms:

No stamps catalogued less than five cents each taken. Half catalogue price allowed in exchange for others; one-third catalogue price allowed in cash. Privilege of rejecting any stamps sent is reserved.

Return postage *must* accompany all stamps sent for exchange.

## CHEAP PACKETS.

One hundred all different stamps, 10c. The best 10c. packet up.

One hundred "special," all different, a very desirable packet for trading, containing unused and many old issues. Price, 25c.

One thousand continentals, superior quality, 25c.

Fifty different United States stamps, 30c.

## NEW CATALOGUE.

We have in press a new catalogue, containing price lists of single stamps, sets and philatelic literature. It will be one of the handsomest catalogues published.

Your request on a postal will procure a copy as soon as issued.

## W. F. BISHOP'S MONTHLY JOURNAL.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

By W. F. BISHOP,

LA GRANGE, ILL.

Subscription, per Year, - 15 Cents.

Entered at the Post Office at La Grange, Ill., as Second Class Matter.

**NOTICES** :—Remit money by Postal Note or Money Order, payable at Chicago, Ill. Fractional parts of a dollar can be sent in one or two cent stamps. All orders under one dollar, and letters of inquiry, should contain stamp for return postage.

## ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION.

We intend to publish a journal that shall at once be found of permanent value and interest, containing original matter only. Articles of merit will be reprinted when of interest.

Commencing with the February number a list of new issues, with illustrations, will be published. Owing to delays in receiving copy for this issue it is unavoidably crowded out.

We send out several thousand sample copies this month to stamp collectors. If the JOURNAL shall be found of value or interest we solicit your subscriptions, at a price that any one can afford.

The JOURNAL will be enlarged to eight pages with the next issue. Should the support accorded it warrant, it will be enlarged to a twelve or sixteen page paper.

Mr. W. J. Arkell of New York has offered the Postoffice Department the sum of \$100,000 per annum for the right and privilege of printing advertisements upon the back of postage stamps. It is not likely, however, that Mr. Arkell will have the job, as the now ever-present English syndicate has made an offer of ten times that much for the privilege.

There are many sly hits in the papers now at Postmaster General Wanamaker, and much comment on the design of the new set of stamps. One has it, "Go to Wanamaker's, the cheapest place in town," in place of the familiar old portrait.

Send us the names of your stamp collecting friends and we will be pleased to mail them a sample copy of the JOURNAL.

Already proofs of the Salvador stamps for 1890 are as plentiful as blackberries in the East. Nuf ced.

The contract for the new adhesives has been awarded to the American Bank Note Co. It runs for four years from Jan. 1, 1890. The stamps will be reduced considerably in size and measure  $\frac{3}{8} \times \frac{7}{8}$  inch, about the same size as the Canadian stamps. The colors chosen are as follows: 1c. ultramarine, 2c. carmine, 3c. purple, 4c. chocolate, 5c. light brown, 6c. vermilion, 10c. green, 15c. steel blue, 30c. black, and 90c. orange.

The selection of colors is only provisional, and subject to change after the dies are selected. It is quite probable that the portraits of Grant and Clay will appear somewhere, and also that the positions in the series of many except Franklin and Washington will be changed.

It is believed that there will be more three-quarter face pictures (like the five cent Garfield) rather than the profiles that have adorned the series heretofore.

There have been received 170 designs for the new post card, but as the officials have been so busy getting out their annual reports, nothing has been done yet as to selection.

## JANUARY PACKET

Contains 50 choice used and unused stamps from Japan, Mauritius, old Holland, Greece unpaid, U. S. Columbia, Mexico, Turkey, Venezuela, Australia, Heligoland, Java, Egypt, Greece, etc. Price 20 cents.

These monthly packets have been a special feature with me since 1884, and are not equalled by any packet in the market. The stamps are worth, by catalogue, many times the price asked. Try one.

Henry Gremmel, of New York, lately fixed nicely a certain English dealer who had sent him a number of "I. R. OFFICIAL" English stamps of 5s., 10s. and £1. He was pretty certain they were duffers, and therefore sent them to the English Postmaster General, asking him if genuine to return them to New York, and if counterfeit to send them to the source whence they emanated. If they are frauds this English dealer will be in a hole, as the laws are pretty severe over there.

The empire of Brazil having been overthrown and a republic established under the name of the United States of Brazil, we look for the usual number of surcharged issues. Later on a new set of stamps, bearing in all probability the portraits of the officers of the new government, will be issued.

STAMPS IN SETS

SOLD BY

W. F. BISHOP,

LA GRANGE, - - ILLINOIS.

UNUSED SETS.

<i>Alsace and Lorraine</i> , 7 var.....	\$0 20
Angola, 5 to 300 r., 10 var.....	2 25
Baden, 1862-68. 6 var., inc. 30 k.....	30
<i>Baden</i> , Land-Post, 3 var.....	06
Bavaria, 1870, 7 var.....	12
<i>Bavaria</i> , Return Letter, 6 var.....	05
<i>Bavaria</i> , Unpaid, 2 var.....	05
Bergedorf, 5 var.....	08
Cape Verde, 5 to 300 r., 10 var.....	2 25
Cashmere, 5 var.....	50
<i>China</i> , 1885, 3 var.....	40
<i>Constantinople</i> , 3 var.....	05
<i>Corea</i> , 5 var.....	40
<i>Costa Rica</i> , 1863, 4 var.....	75
Cuba, 1888, 6 var.....	08
<i>Danube S. Nav. Co.</i> , 4 var.....	18
<i>Denmark</i> , Official, 1874, 4 var.....	30
<i>Egypt</i> , 1st issue, 7 var.....	1 75
German Empire, 15 var.....	30
Guatemala, 1871, 3 var.....	30
<i>Guatemala</i> , 1875, 4 var.....	25
<i>Guatemala</i> , 1878, 4 var.....	30
<i>Guatemala</i> , 1882, 5 var.....	15
<i>Guatemala</i> , env. and wrappers, 4 var.....	40
Guinea, 5 to 300 r., 11 var.....	3 00
Hamburg, envelopes, 7 var.....	10
<i>Heligoland</i> , 1867, 8 var.....	18
Heligoland, 21 var.....	40
<i>Heligoland</i> , wrappers, 3 var.....	07
<i>Honduras</i> , 1st issue, 2 var.....	15
Macao, 5 to 300 r., 11 var.....	2 75
Mauritius, Britannia, 5 var.....	1 00
Mexico, 1864, engraved, 4 var.....	50
<i>Montenegro</i> , 7 var.....	1 00
Naples, head, 7 var.....	30
<i>Persia</i> , Official, 4 var.....	25
Porto Rico, 1882, 6 var.....	07
<i>Prussia</i> , 1850-56, 5 var.....	40
Prussia, arms, 5 var.....	40
Romagna, 5 var.....	50
Roman States, 14 var.....	25
<i>Salvador</i> , 1867, 4 var.....	55
<i>Samoa</i> , 8 var.....	25
<i>Sarawak</i> , 1871-75, 6 var.....	1 35
Sardinia, 10 var.....	08
Servia, 1869, 7 var.....	20
Siam, 1883, 3 var.....	12
<i>Sirmoor</i> , 1885, 4 var.....	50
So. African Republic, 1883, 5 var.....	45
Thurn and Taxis, 14 var.....	35
Timbr, 5 to 300 r., 10 var.....	2 75

USED SETS.

<i>Austria</i> , 1867, 7 var.....	10
Baden, 1851-68, 6 var.....	10
<i>Bavaria</i> , 1870, 7 var.....	04
<i>Bosnia</i> , 1879, 7 var.....	25

Bulgaria, 7 var.....	12
Chili, 6 var.....	06
Cuba, 1855-84, 25 var.....	55
Denmark, 16 var.....	15
Ecuador, 4 var.....	06
<i>Egypt</i> , 1885, 4 var.....	08
<i>Egypt</i> , 6 var.....	05
Finland, 10 var.....	15
Greece, 6 var.....	04
<i>Holland</i> , unpaid, 1870, 2 var.....	08
<i>Hungary</i> , 1872, 6 var.....	15
<i>Hungary</i> , 1874, 5 var.....	06
India, 16 var.....	30
Italy, unpaid, 8 var.....	14
Italy, unpaid, 12 var.....	45
Italy, Emanuel, 13 var.....	10
Jamaica, 6 var.....	05
Japan, 10 var.....	18
Luxemburg, 10 var.....	12
Mauritius, 3 var.....	05
Mexico, 10 var.....	10
Norway, 1877, 8 var.....	11
<i>Persia</i> , 1885, 5 var.....	16
<i>Persia</i> , 5 and 10 francs.....	30
Peru, 6 var.....	06
Prussia, head, 6 var.....	10
Russia, 10 var.....	10
Russia, 15 var.....	22
Roumania, 7 var.....	05
So. African Republic, 1867, 5 var.....	28
So. African Republic, 1885, 5 var.....	18
Spain, Isabel, 10 var.....	12
Spain, 40 var.....	40
Spain, 50 var.....	60
<i>Sweden</i> , 1872, 10 var.....	06
<i>Sweden</i> , official, 11 var.....	18
<i>Sweden</i> , Losen, 10 var.....	20
<i>Tonga</i> , 4 var.....	75
Turkey, 10 var.....	15
Venezuela, 5 var.....	09
Victoria, 10 var.....	15
Wurtemberg, 8 var.....	06

All countries in *Italic* are complete sets. No sets broken.

Postage Stamps.

We make a business of buying and selling U. S. and foreign postage stamps. Possessing first-class facilities and foreign connections we are enabled to sell stamps at fair prices. We go wherever stamps can be had to the best advantage and take them in such lots as will enable us to sell them at low prices—no odds what the common prices are.

A Point.

Our Catalogue and Monthly Journal will convince you as to the reason why we do so large a business. We send them free to any address on request.

W. F. BISHOP,  
La Grange, Ill.

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VOL. II.

FEBRUARY, 1890.

No. 4.

## NEW ISSUES.

**ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.**—A new 6c. blue is out. Portrait of Sarmiento, "Correos y Telegrafos" above.

**AUSTRIA.**—We hear of a new set, with values running up to 3 florins.

**BRITISH NORTH BORNEO.**—The 8c. green and 10c. blue are now inscribed "Postage and Revenue."

**CANADA.**—The post card 1 x 1 d. gray, has gone back to the type of 1882, with large ornaments under the circles at each side.

**CUBA.**—We have a 1c. bistre and a 5c. black, with head of Alfonso XIII, "Isla de Cuba" above.

**DUTCH INDIES.**—Some of our exchanges report a 5c. ultramarine, with figure of value in the center.

**EGYPT.**—There is a letter card of 1 piastre blue, and envelopes of 1 mil. brown, and 2 mils. green; small size.

**HOLLAND.**—A 3c. with figure of value in center is expected.

**JEYPORE.**—*Das Post* says the Indian stamps are surcharged "Raj. Service" in two lines in black or red.

**MONACO.**—We are informed that a new issue has taken place here, with head of the new prince.

**NATAL.**—Since the first of November, the 3d. has been pearl gray.

**NEW SOUTH WALES.**—The current 4d. and 4d. are surcharged "O. S." in black and the 5 sh. in red, and the fiscal stamps, 10 sh. and 20 sh. lilac and rose, are surcharged "Postage" and "O. S." in black.

**PAHANG.**—*Le T. P.* reports the 10c. slate, surcharged in black "Pahang."

**PARAGUAY.**—*Der Ph.* chronicles the 15c. surcharged "1c. official" or 2c. official" in carmine, "3c. official" in violet, and "5c. official" in rose.

**PERSIA.**—There is a 7 sh. brown, current type, small lion, according to Mons. Maury.

**QUEENSLAND.**—*Der Ph.* notes the 2 sh. 6d. red, 5 sh. carmine, 10 sh. brown, and £1 green with water mark, upright Q and Crown instead of Italic Q.

**RUSSIA.**—Mr. Brieffuss has sent us the 7k. stamp slightly modified. There are now thunder bolts across the posthorns. Also the 7k. envelopes with similiar change; sizes 144 x 80 and 144 x 120 mm. The *Am. Ph.* informs us the following were expected Jan. 1st. Wrappers, 1 kop. yellow, 2 kop. green; letter cards, 5 kop. lilac, 7 kop. blue, 10 kop. blue.

**SALVADOR.**—Mr. Krebs has shown us the 2c. red of the American Bank Note Co. The inscription at the top, "Union Postal del" is obliterated by a heavy black line like the 1c. It seems the 1c. and 2c. were ordered of the same type as the 3c., that is, with "Servicio Postal del," and it is to remedy the error of the Bank Note Co., that the words are erased. The 1c., 3c., 5c. and 10c. have been surcharged "1889."

**SELANGOR.**—The 2c. is now surcharged vertically "Selangor" in capitals. There are two varieties on the sheet. In one the letters are upright and in the other italic.

**SPAIN.**—*Der Ph.* notes cards with the new stamp, 5c. green, 10c. carmine, 15c. brown, and the corresponding reply paid cards.

**SURINAM.**—*Le T. P.* chronicles the 15c. card surcharged "7½ cents" in violet. There are surcharges in different positions and double surcharges, also one of 17½ by error.

**SWITZERLAND.**—The 15c. is now violet.

**TOLIMA.**—We have the 5c., 10c., 2p., 5p. of similar design to those of 1886, but unperforated.

**URUGUAY.**—The *A. J. of P.* illustrates two new stamps, 2c. rose, with large figure of value in center, and 5c. blue, with arms in circle and figure of value below. They are now perforated 15.

Mr. Mekeel has been investigating the alleged reprints of Mexico, 1864, noted in the *Ph. World* in December. A reliable and competent P. O. official in Mexico informs him that the original plates were sent to Mexico in 1867, and are now there, and that two lots of stamps were sent out, one in 1864 and the other in 1867. No reprints have been made, nor could they be as the Post Office Department has not the machinery for such purpose, and furthermore there could be no possible object in it, as the bulk of the second lot is still on hand.

### THE NEW STAMPS.

The postage stamps about to be issued are in the course of preparation, but it is said at the department will not be sent to postmasters for sale until the whole series is completed. Up to this date the dies for the one-cent, two-cent, three-cent and the ten-cent stamps have been accepted by the Postmaster-General. The familiar face of Franklin on the one-cent stamp is from a bust by Ceracchi, the color being about the same as that of the present stamp of that denomination. The two-cent stamp has a fine head of Washington similar to that on the present two-cent stamp. The color, however, has been changed to a carmine, somewhat like that of the 90-cent stamp of the 1870 issue, but a little more of a claret hue. This die has been approved and the color finally agreed upon. The three-cent stamp has been approved. It bears a profile bust of Jackson, somewhat like that on the four cent stamp of the current issue; color is a rich purple, similar to the "royal purple" which enriches the official stamps of the Department of Justice. The die of the 10-cent stamp has also been approved. It has a fine three-quarter likeness of Daniel Webster from the well-known portrait which has been copied and re-copied by the bank note companies so frequently and embellishes one of the greenbacks. The color of this stamp will be green, a little darker than that of the four-cent stamp which preceded the present four-cent carmine stamp. The four-cent stamp will be brown, somewhat like the first issue of the Garfield stamp, and will have a three-quarter face of Lincoln. The portrait accepted was like that of the old 90-cent stamp of the 1868 issue, but the design was rejected by the department as not being a fine likeness. The five-cent stamp will contain a full face of Gen. Grant and will be in color somewhat like that of the present 10-cent stamp. The essay has been approved for the border, but the portrait of Grant did not come up to the requirements. The six-cent stamp will be of a reddish color identical with the hue of the stamps formerly issued by the Department of the Interior. It is intended to reproduce upon this stamp the fine portrait of Garfield which now adorns the five-cent stamp. The 15-cent stamp has been approved for both border and portrait, which is a three-quarter likeness of Clay, similar to that upon the old 12-cent purple stamp, which was dropped, just exactly why no one can say. It has been suggested that this denomination be issued again, as it would be most convenient for

registered letters. Jefferson, whose face has been absent from the postage stamps at short intervals, has been assigned to the new 30-cent denomination, which will be black as it was before the last change. The new 90-cent stamp will have a portrait of Perry, and will be of an orange color, similar to that on the 15-cent stamp of the 1870 issue. Essays of neither of these last named denominations have as yet been received. The stamps to be will a trifle smaller than the present ones, and there will be but two varieties of frame. The colors submitted are bright and attractive.

### TEN CENT PACKETS.

Each packet contains 15 different stamps, *all scarce* and in fine condition.

- No. 101. Bulgaria, Ceylon, Ecuador, etc.
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Send your duplicates to

W. F. BISHOP, La Grange, Ill.

## THE PARIS STAMP EXCHANGE.

A collector visiting Paris should not miss the Stamp Exchange that is held every Sunday afternoon, and one day in the middle of the week, from 2 to 5 p. m., on an open space in the Champs Elysées, near the President's palace.

Learning that Sunday was the best time to visit "Change," I went around there one afternoon about 3 o'clock. There were about one hundred and fifty persons standing under the trees near the sidewalk, talking and mingling among themselves, buying, selling and exchanging stamps.

Some had their stamps in large albums, some in small books, while others had sheets, and many had none in sight, but seemed eager to see what everyone else had.

As I approached the crowd, I was struck by its miscellaneous character, composed, as it was, of old men, young men, women, girls, and, of course, a good sprinkling of the school-boy, who abounds as well in France as elsewhere.

Some were well dressed, some were threadbare, and everybody talked to everybody else, although no degree of intimacy prevailed, and stamps were the absorbing topic of them all.

Here they meet week after week, year after year, and the oldest of them can hardly remember when the Stamp Exchange of Paris did not exist.

They have the permission of the authorities to meet at that place for this purpose, and it is known all over Paris, so when an old collection turns up, or old stamps are found, they are usually taken to the Stock Exchange for sale.

The office boys and clerks of importing houses bring the spoils collected from the waste baskets, and small dealers come to dispose of their stamps and to replenish their stock.

The bargains that are to be picked up here attract even the large dealers, and it is said that Murray and Barbarin are to be seen here occasionally.

I noticed Rossinin, Gelli, Nales, among the crowd the day I was there.

As I approached the stamp exchangers, a young girl of about eighteen, on the outskirts of the crowd, smilingly offered me a little red book with *Voulez vous voir mes timbres, Monsieur?*

I was bound to take the book and stammered in poor French, *Sil vous plait, Mademoiselle?*

The stamps were neatly placed upon the pages with hinges, but were of the commonest of Euro-

pean. Not to disappoint my fair dealer, I selected the poorest specimens of the 5 and 10 pf. German, the 1 p. Gt. Britain, and giving her a few coppers, passed on. I could see that she was pleased with her sale, and I was pleased with my purchase, for I had actually purchased stamps on the great Paris Stamp Exchange!

When it was seen that I was a purchaser, books of all sizes and shapes were thrust at me from all sides. *Des timbres, Monsieur? Desirez-vous des timbres?* etc., etc.

As these were sharp-eyed Frenchmen, I was not so easily charmed, and merely shook my head and sauntered around among the throng. Some really good stamps were to be seen and no doubt many rarities changed hands here, but the most of the business is trifling.

A quiet old man stood holding an album that contained a collection he wanted to sell for 3,000 francs (\$600). No one seemed to be noticing him, so I looked through it. Almost every space was filled, and had the stamps been genuine it would have been cheap, but all the rare ones were counterfeits.

I afterwards heard that this same old man comes to the Exchange every Sunday, but never finds a purchaser. He will not believe the stamps are not genuine. The collection belonged to his son, now deceased, and the old father is probably still trying to sell the collection.

Very rare stamps are sometimes purchased at the Exchange by the dealers who attend regularly, very cheap.

For instance, the 3 lire Tuscany, a stamp worth \$50, was bought by a dealer from a boy for 1 franc (20 cents). Another boy brought a collection of 800 varieties for which he asked 100 francs. The collection contained nothing of particular value except the Mauritius, which was almost complete in the old issues.

There were forty stamps on the Mauritius page and a dealer asked him what he would take for them alone. The boy got out his pencil and figured out the problem. If 800 stamps are worth 100 francs, forty stamps are worth 5 francs. So the page was torn out and a very profitable transaction (for the dealer) was closed. The last two instances were matters of hearsay and not personal observation. P. J. A.

## DESCRIPTIVE PRICE CATALOGUE. REDUCED TO SIX CENTS.

Giving prices of nearly ten thousand different stamps, both used and unused, with descriptions of the issues, will be sent post free on receipt of six cents. Send at once for a copy, as we have but a limited supply on hand.



### LONDON FORGERS.

We think the time has now come for a serious warning to be given to these dishonest persons—a swindling gang composed of artful individuals, who keep just within the law, and foolish office boys, who risk their freedom and reputation for the sake of a few shillings. It is well known to the majority of London collectors and dealers that there is a gang of at least half-a-dozen in London continually engaged in the occupation of foreign surcharges, making post marks on stamps, and changing the colors to make varieties.

This gang, which consists of two or three dealers who keep up a reputation by a good supply of genuine stamps, and several others who send out stamps and advertise in various names, have long since lost their London and English business; but they openly admit that they do a large business on the Continent, especially in Germany and France, in what they describe in their own language as "fakes." These persons openly admit that they sell forgeries; but they screen themselves behind the argument that they do not guarantee them to be genuine. The moral is, as ever, the same warning—do not deal with any dealer unless he is one of known integrity and honesty; and we earnestly advise no one to buy unless it be from a firm who are known to have a reputation to keep up. There are many such firms, and yet, on the chance of getting a bargain, or for the sake of making a few pence, many dealers jeopardise their reputation, and many collectors spoil their collections and waste their money by buying worthless forgeries. As we have already said, it is time that this gang, which is a curse to legitimate dealing, was exterminated; and we are preparing a list of those connected with the business, and warn them that we are on the lookout for their next manufacture, and shall certainly expose them all, ere long, unless their forgeries cease. To sum up for the present, we may mention that Mr. S—, who helps in the business of Mr. B—, has openly made forged surcharges in the presence of a well known dealer, and that he also offered to us, in the presence of a member of the Philatelic Society of London, to give a public exhibiton of making forged surcharges, either at a meeting of the Philatelic Society of London, or at their own offices.

Writing on the above subject, reminds us that Mr. Torres is still suffering imprisonment in Bremen for selling forged stamps some years ago. This should be a warning to those Londoners who admitted to us that they intended visiting Germany this month to sell forgeries.

We learn from the *Oesterreichische Philatelisten Zeitung* that a man named Morion was to be prosecuted in Burcares for forging stamps, and that 200 *cliches* (electrotypes) for manufacturing stamps were found in his possession. They manage these things better in Roumania!—*Stamp News*.

### PHILATELY

Was much ridiculed in its early days, and is still, both by the press and those not acquainted with its value. A London journal once termed Philately as "the most puerile of manias," but, however, be this as it may, stamp collecting is decidedly on the increase, both in this country and Europe. Among its followers in Europe, Baron Rothschild is probably the most noted, while the Royal Family of England, the Prince of Wales, the Pope, the King of Roumania, and many other titled personages yield to its fascinations. While in this country may be named the late A. T. Stewart, who, a few years before his death, paid \$5,000 for a collection. General Sherman and the children of General Grant are also among its followers. A well known New York banker has a collection reputed to be worth \$30,000. A St. Louis lawyer who began collecting in 1858, four years after the date of the first known collection, and who has several times been to Europe in quest of novelties, has, undoubtedly, the best collection in America, and which is not equaled by more than two or three European collections. The owner of this valuable collection, also has a library of Philatelic works, comprising stamp journals, catalogues and other scientific works on the subject of stamps. The whole forms the most complete library of the kind in the world. Among the first to engage in this pursuit was M. Moens of Brussels, who began dealing in stamps in 1860, and has since been allied to its cause, and is to-day an authority, in Europe, on all points pertaining to the science. Postage stamps, as but few are aware, are of recent invention, and it is only since 1840 that letters has been stamped. With the advent of the postage stamp, rates were greatly lowered. Before that, in England, the charge for sending a letter the shortest distance, was six-pence, but with the advent of the stamp, it fell to a penny. In the past twenty-five years dealing in postage stamps has taken rapid strides, and is to-day an established business, with a steady and healthy increase. Stamp collecting not only helps in developing the memory, but develops taste for art and science, teaches geography and history, stimulates research in nearly every branch of learning. To the young, especially, stamp collecting is valuable. Henry G. Bohn, an Englishman, once said: "The pursuit and study of Fine Arts in their various branches, have been a source of constant enjoyment to me in the intervals of business, and often of great solace and relief at trying periods, and this alone would be a pleasurable indemnification for my investments, should they be commercially reproductive. It is said that collectors usually have long lives, and I cannot help feeling that the cheerful exercise of the mind and body which belongs to the pursuit, warrants the assertion."

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**THURN AND TAXIS.**

To many of the younger collectors the signification of the words, "Thurn and Taxis," which appear on the old German stamps, must be by no means clear. People are as much, if not more, puzzled about "Thurn and Taxis" than the Zollverein. One may search geographies and gazetteers without obtaining any solution to the inquiry so often propounded: "What is meant by 'Thurn and Taxis?'"

The story of the mystery is easily told. Thurn and Taxis is not the name of a place, but of a family whose ancestors were first heard of in Italy

as *della Torres*, lords of Valsassiva. Eight of the family were in succession lords of Milan. The last of eight, one Guido, the Rich, perished in a feud with the Viscouti, and one of his sons, Lamorel I., settled in the territory of Bergamo, and took from the mountain Tasso the name of *del Tasso*, and afterwards *de Tassis*. His great grandson inherited the possessions of his predecessor, united his titles, and was known as Roger I. of Thurn and Taxis. This personage was knighted by the Emperor Frederick III. in 1450, and in the latter part of the century founded the fame of his house by the establishment of a post in the Tyrol. This venture proved to be the initial step toward the foundation of a service whose functions only ceased with the Prusso-Austrian war of 1866.

During that year a large portion of the German States served by the Thurn and Taxis post office became incorporated with Prussia, and on the 18th of January, 1866, this princely monopoly ceased to exist.

**SALVADOR LETTER.**

The National palace, the most magnificent building, not only of Salvador, but also of Central America, was set on fire about midnight of November 19th, 1889. The palace, two stories high, stood in the center of the city and occupied a whole block, 100 yards on each side, and all the public offices, civil and judicial, were installed in it. The post office was also located there and with the rest of the offices was burned to ashes. With the exception of a few of the 1c., 3c., 5c. and the new 2c. stamp (not yet in use) all the others were burned, also the stamped envelopes and postal cards. Mr. Marianio Duarte, who owned the best collection in this vicinity, and who is employed in the post office, had the misfortune to lose it. The office also lost two albums. Nothing was saved. The office is temporarily in one of the halls of the National Institute. You will notice that the envelope of this letter has not the post mark of the office, as they have none, and to cancel the stamps they are using a cork seal. It was impossible to save anything. My letter will not go registered, as they have not the means to register.

I hear that after the fire some smoked stamps were taken out of the ruins, and fearing that some good ones could have been found by the people and taken away, they are surcharging those at the office with a small hand stamp "1889." I send specimens.—*Extract from a letter from Mr. Dawson, San Salvador.*

[This letter was prepaid by stamps that bore a surcharge as described above].

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<i>Bavaria</i> , Return Letter, 6 var. ....	05
<i>Bavaria</i> , Unpaid, 2 var. ....	05
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Cape Verde, 5 to 300 r., 10 var. ....	2 25
Cashmere, 5 var. ....	50
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<i>Constantinople</i> , 3 var. ....	05
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Corrientes, 1861-75, 4 var. ....	75
<i>Costa Rica</i> , 1863, 4 var. ....	75
Cuba, 1888, 6 var. ....	08
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<i>Denmark</i> , Official, 1874, 4 var. ....	30
<i>Egypt</i> , 1st issue, 7 var. ....	1 75
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<i>Guatemala</i> , 1875, 4 var. ....	25
<i>Guatemala</i> , 1878, 4 var. ....	30
<i>Guatemala</i> , 1882, 5 var. ....	15
<i>Guatemala</i> , env. and wrappers, 4 var. ....	40
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<i>Hayti</i> , 1887, 4 var. ....	25
<i>Heligoland</i> , 1867, 8 var. ....	18
<i>Heligoland</i> , 21 var. ....	40
<i>Heligoland</i> , wrappers, 3 var. ....	07
<i>Honduras</i> , 1st issue, 2 var. ....	15
Macao, 5 to 300 r., 11 var. ....	2 75
Mauritius, Britannia, 5 var. ....	1 00
Mexico, 1864, engraved, 4 var. ....	45
<i>Montenegro</i> , 7 var. ....	1 00
Naples, head, 7 var. ....	30
<i>Persia</i> , Official, 4 var. ....	25
Porto Rico, 1882, 6 var. ....	07
Prince Edward Island, 8 var. ....	55
<i>Prussia</i> , 1850-56, 5 var. ....	40
Prussia, arms, 5 var. ....	40
Romagna, 5 var. ....	50
Roman States, 14 var. ....	25
<i>Roumania</i> , 1862, 4 var. ....	60
<i>Roumania</i> , 1865, 3 var. ....	15
<i>Roumania</i> , 1866, 3 var. ....	17
<i>Salvador</i> , 1867, 4 var. ....	50
<i>Samoa</i> , 8 var. ....	25
<i>Sarawak</i> , 1871-75, 6 var. ....	1 35
Sardinia, 10 var. ....	08
Saxony, Arms, 5 var. ....	10
Servia, 1869, 7 var. ....	20
<i>Shanghai</i> , 1884, 5 var. ....	60
Siam, 1883, 3 var. ....	12
<i>Sirmoor</i> , 1885, 4 var. ....	50
So. African Republic, 1883, 5 var. ....	45
Switzerland, 1862-8, 2 to 25c, 5 var. ....	06
Thurn and Taxis, 14 var. ....	35
Timor, 5 to 300 r., 10 var. ....	2 75

## USED SETS.

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<i>Austria</i> , 15 var. ....	07
Baden, 1851-68, 6 var. ....	10
Baden, 10 var. ....	28
<i>Bavaria</i> , 1870, 7 var. ....	04
Bavaria, 11 var. ....	05
Belgium, 10 var. ....	05
<i>Bosnia</i> , 1879, 7 var. ....	25
Brazil, 8 var. ....	08
Brazil, 15 var. ....	25
Bulgaria, 7 var. ....	12
Ceylon, 10 var. ....	20
Chili, 1867-81, 12 var. ....	20
Chili, 6 var. ....	06
Cuba, 1855-84, 25 var. ....	50
Denmark, 10 var. ....	05
Denmark, 16 var. ....	15
Dutch Indies, 10 var. ....	20
Dutch Indies, 5 var. ....	06
Ecuador, 4 var. ....	06
<i>Egypt</i> , 1885, 4 var. ....	08
<i>Egypt</i> , 6 var. ....	05
Finland, 10 var. ....	15
France, 18 var. ....	07
Gold Coast, 4 var. ....	20
Greece, 6 var. ....	04
<i>Holland</i> , unpaid, 1870, 2 var. ....	08
Holland, 15 var. ....	08
<i>Hungary</i> , 1872, 6 var. ....	15
<i>Hungary</i> , 1874, 5 var. ....	06
Iceland, 5 var. ....	18
India, 20 var. ....	30
Italy, unpaid, 8 var. ....	14
Italy, unpaid, 12 var. ....	45
Italy, Emanuel, 13 var. ....	40
Italy, 15 var. ....	07
Jamaica, 6 var. ....	05
Japan, 10 var. ....	18
Luxemburg, 10 var. ....	12
Mauritius, 3 var. ....	05
Mexico, 10 var. ....	10
Natal, ½ d to 1 sh, 7 var. ....	25
Norway, 1877, 8 var. ....	11
<i>Persia</i> , 1885, 5 var. ....	16
<i>Persia</i> , 5 and 10 francs. ....	30
Peru, 6 var. ....	06
Peru, 10 var. ....	25
Porto Rico, 25 var. ....	70
Porto Rico, 1882, 8 var. ....	09
Prussia, head, 6 var. ....	10
Russia, 10 var. ....	08
Russia, 15 var. ....	22
Roumania, 7 var. ....	05
So. African Republic, 1867, 5 var. ....	28
So. African Republic, 1885, 5 var. ....	18
Spain, 18 var. ....	10
Spain, Isabel, 10 var. ....	12
Spain, 40 var. ....	40
Spain, 50 var. ....	60
Sweden, 15 var., including officials. ....	08
<i>Sweden</i> , 1872, 10 var. ....	06
<i>Sweden</i> , official, 11 var. ....	18
<i>Sweden</i> , Losen, 10 var. ....	20
<i>Tobago</i> , 1879, 4 var. ....	60
<i>Tonga</i> , 4 var. ....	75
Turkey, 10 var. ....	15
Victoria, 10 var. ....	15
Wurtemberg, 10 var. ....	08

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