

N 12

The American Stamp Circular.



NEW YORK, JUNE, 1877.

PUBLISHED BY THE

AMERICAN STAMP CO.

P. O. Box 4045, New York.

Dealers in all kinds of Foreign and Domestic Postage Stamps and Confederate Bonds and Bills.

SALUTARY.

In presenting this, our eleventh Price List and Circular to the Trade, we would thank our customers for the kind favors during the past five years, and solicit a continuance of the same, assuring them that in the future, as in the past, it shall be our endeavor to furnish all kinds of Stamps at the very lowest possible rates, and to do what we can for their benefit, of course reserving a margin for a small but fair profit to ourselves; our motto being "Quick sales and small profits."

Our aim is to sell at an *average* price of ten per cent. cheaper than the *cheapest* other dealer in *genuine* Stamps, and we shall do so, under any and all circumstances, even if a loss some times, for the price of particular stamps will be lowered as soon as we find them offered as cheap by any other dealer who is known to be thoroughly reliable. We do not claim that none of the stamps on our list have been *advertised* cheaper than we now price them, for we allow that some of them have been advertised a little cheaper, but we contend that the stamps cannot be bought at lower rates, and that the dealers were either not reliable or they sold counterfeits, and our readers can easily assure themselves of this by sending a few dollars to some of these dealers.

RELIABLE DEALERS.

What is meant by the above term is decidedly a hard question to answer if we allow that all who advertise themselves as such are reliable, for to our sorrow and disgust we have accounts on our books now against no less than eleven of the *gentlemen* (?) who have advertised them-

selves as "reliable dealers," during the past few years, some of which we will never get and all are exceedingly doubtful. Our definition of a reliable dealer is a person who sells just as he represents, and pays his just debts. We are egotistical enough to affirm that *we* answer the definition perfectly, as do a *few* other dealers in the country; but alas, a *very* few, as the great mass of the so-called dealers are unmitigated frauds and humbugs, and more especially those who bear the semblance of being all right, for a wolf cannot succeed in deceiving the public unless he wears the lamb's skin. Now we contend that all men should be judged by their works, and if any one can show a single instance in which we have wronged them, or not given them their full and just equivalent or due for all they have favored us with, or can show us any just debt that we have not paid, we respectfully request them to publish same *under their sworn statement* in any or all of the amateur and other papers and circulars, and **WE WILL PAY FOR INSERTION OF SAME.**

A number of the editors and stamp dealers of amateurdom have been publishing what they call lists of "reliable dealers," and advising their readers to deal with no others. In some of these lists we have found our address, and in others we have been omitted. Also, strange to say, in some of the lists we have been unable to find the names or addresses of two of the most prominent dealers, besides ourselves, in the country, and they are therefore to be judged as unreliable. The "milk in the cocoa-nut" is to be found in the fact that these enterprising editors charge the sum of fifteen cents for each and every insertion in the list, or else require an "ad" in their paper before they will insert any dealer's name in the "reliable dealers" list, no matter how reliable they may be.

Our readers can judge how much reliance can be placed on these lists when they know that *any* one, except the sworn enemies of the editors, can have their names inserted in them if they will forward fifteen cents—the magic reliability transformer—to the editor. Many of the dealers so advertised we know to be cheats, and we advise collectors to know who they are trusting before they forward their money. As for our own reliability we will furnish innumerable references, if applied for, and would state in connection with same that we have been established since May, 1872, and have held our P. O. Box without complaint since then; application at Post Office, will doubtless satisfy any one as to same, and the public will know that frauds cannot hold a P. O. Box very long.

THE AMERICAN STAMP CIRCULAR.

PRICES OF SINGLE STAMPS.

Stamps at two cents each.

Alsace, 1, 2, 4 cts.; Antiqua, 1d.; Bermuda, 1d.; Brazil, 10, 20, 100, 200 reis; Canada, 10 cts. 1864, 12½, 1868, 5 and 10, 1876; Confederate, 2, 5, 10, 20, 1863; Dutch Indies, 50 cts.; Heligoland, ½ sch.; Holland, 50 cts., 1875; Hong Kong, all except 18 cts. and 96 cts.; Jamaica, ½, 1, 2d.; Luxemburg, 10 cts.; New Zealand, ½, 1d., 1875; Queensland, 1, 2d., 1861; Roman States, 1 b., 1864; Russia, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 10, k.; Spain, officials, 1867, ½, 1, 4 duzas; 50, 200, 400, m. d. c., 1870, 10, 12, 50 c. 1872, 10, 25, 50 1873, 10, 1874, 10, 1876, 5 cts. black war; Dep't of Interior, 2, 12, 15, 24; Post Office, 1, 2, 12; Justice, 3, 6; Navy, 1, 2, 3, 6; Treasury, 7, 24, 90.

Three Cents Each.—Alsace, 5, 10; Austria, 1, 2, 1850; Bavaria, 10, 12, 1874; Belgium, 1 franc; Canada, 15 cts.; Cape, 1 shil.; Chili, 5, 1867; Denmark, 20, 25, 50, 1874, 16, official, 1870; Dutch Indies, 1, 5, 10, 20; Thurn and Taxis, any; Great Britain, 5 shillings; Hanover, 1-15, 1856; Jamaica, 4, 6, 1 sh.; New Brunswick, 1, 5 cts.; New Foundland, 1, 2, 3, 6 cts.; Nova Scotia, 1, 2, 5 cts.; Prince Edward Island, 1, 2d., 1, 2, 3, cents; Spain, 4 c. 1854, 1855, 1856, 1860, 1862, 1864, 50, 1867, 5 cts. green war; Portugal, 25, 1858, 20, 1862, 25, 1870, 5, 20, 25, 100, 1872; Post Office Dep't, 15, 24, 30; Navy, 10, 12, 15; War, 1, 3, 6, 15; Justice, 1, 2; U. S. Postage, 90 cts., 1870.

Keep a large stock of all other kinds on hand at all times, and are constantly making additions to same, being glad to purchase for cash or allow fair exchange for all American stamps except the 1, 2, 3 and 6 cent postage, and all rare foreign stamps. All of our stamps, without exception, are positively guaranteed to be *genuine* and *good* selected *perfect* specimens. The great fault of most dealers is that they do not always send a good perfect specimen. Parties purchasing of us can rely on getting *selected* stamps, as we throw all imperfect or badly inked stamps in the waste basket, giving no credit for them to any who send them to us. Dealers and parties intending to send us stamps, will please pay attention to this; a poor stamp is dear at any price, no matter how rare.

Dealers all over the globe are requested to send us good saleable stamps, and they will receive in exchange American stamps, that they may order, or anything else we advertise, but they must be careful to send only *genuine* postage stamps that are perfect and *rare*. Varied lots are desired more than large lot of one kind.

Foreign collectors will find it especially advantageous to send to us for all kinds of American

stamps, as we can supply them at very cheap rates, and will allow them very fair exchange prices for used stamps of their own country, especially the rarer ones.

We cannot use common mixed Continentals, as we have a very large stock on hand.

STAMPS ON APPROVAL.

Hereafter we will send stamps on approval to those parties who desire to buy at least five dollars worth per month (for time being), as our trade is getting so large we can accommodate no others. They must send reliable references and list of wants. We have adopted lately a new plan for such customers as desire to complete their collections, and it is already a great success as we can do much better by them in the long run. It is to have each customer send us a marked catalogue (1876 or 1877) of all the stamps he has in his collection, and let us send him what we get of unmarked stamps as we get in lots of from five dollars per month, upwards, as customers desire, and as often as desired. By this plan we can send direct to our correspondents in countries which the customer needs, and get particular stamps (fine specimens) especially for him at cheap exchange rates, thereby being able to sell him the stamps at very low prices, and send him them on approval. Of course customers are expected to guarantee their entire trade so long as we satisfy them, and to give us fair warning as to any change.

AGENTS are not wanted except in colleges and schools where they can sell ten dollars to fifty dollars per month; twenty-five per cent. discount allowed them and to no others—except those customers who send us five dollars in advance to pay for stamps to be taken out of lots we send them on approval, selected according to lists of wants they send. This is a good plan, as it removes all risk of loss of money, and customers get twenty-five per cent. discount. This applies to all stamps except sets. On sets we will allow twenty per cent. discount when six dollars worth are ordered and paid for in advance; that is, for six dollars cash they can order seven dollars and fifty cents worth of sets. This is a splendid chance for customers who wish to sell to their friends, as they can easily retail six dollars worth of sets for at least ten dollars if they sell the stamps singly at regular rates. We also make up packets of mixed stamps for those customers who buy to sell again. No. 1 contains one hundred stamps that will retail for \$2.50. No. 2, fifty stamps, retail for \$2.50. No. 3, seventy-five stamps, retail for \$2.50. No. 4, forty stamps, retail for \$3.00. No. 5 contains five hundred stamps, for \$25.00. Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, we sell for \$1.00 each. No. 5, price \$5.00. These are splendid packets for amateur dealers, and we guarantee satisfaction with them; stamps retailing for from one cent to ten cents each.

THE AMERICAN STAMP CIRCULAR.

NEW DEPARTMENT.—On account of numerous customers writing to us to enquire if we will take such and such articles in exchange for postage stamps and Confederate bills, we have concluded to announce that hereafter we will take all kinds of articles of gold and silver, or that contain gold and silver, in exchange for stamps, the same as cash. Have made arrangements with a prominent jeweler to assay all such articles for us as soon as they are received, at their very highest market rates, and if customers are not satisfied with the value offered, we will immediately return the articles. There are hundreds of articles such as old coins, broken jewelry, old fashioned jewelry, cane heads, worn out rings, and the like, laying in out of the way places all over the country, that parties would be glad to dispose of if they knew where they could do so. Hunt them up and send them on. Those customers who have gold and silver articles that they want to sell for cash, we shall be glad to dispose of at best advantage for them, reserving ten per cent. commission for our work and trouble.

We would also state that as the senior member of our firm is collecting all kinds of standard books for the purpose of forming a large library we shall be pleased to allow very fair exchange rates for all kinds of nicely bound works, especially the standard authors, and all rare manuscripts. Those who have such to exchange will please write us full particulars as to title, author, print, date, binding, condition, number of volumes, etc., and state their lowest exchange prices at our regular rates. If they prefer to have us make an offer we will do so. A strongly bound nice set of Shakspeare, in two, three or four volumes, large print is especially desired.

Customers will find this a very desirable branch of our business, as they can easily form large collections at very little if any cost to themselves.

CONFEDERATE BILLS AND BONDS.—This is now becoming a very important part of our business, and the number of collectors though still somewhat limited on account of the newness of the subject, is increasing at a very fast pace, and is soon destined to be on a par with stamp collecting, for certainly the money on its face is fully as interesting as the rarest and finest stamp, and possesses much more value as a curiosity to the great majority of people, besides it is a deeply interesting historical memento of one of the darkest hours in our country's history, and bears upon its face scenes connected with same. Curiosity and stamp collectors will find it advantageous as well as very interesting to make a collection of five or six hundred bills and bonds, as the stock will gradually but surely become exhausted as the demand increases, and in a very few years—one or two, perhaps—they will easily sell for many

times the present prices, which for the purpose of making their collecting universal, we have made very low for the time being, and far under any other dealers. We offer, until further notice, complete sets of the 1864 issue, consisting of nine bills, for the remarkably cheap price of 40 cents per set, or without the \$500 bill for 25 cents per set of eight. Have fine stock of other dates C. S. Also, State, Railroad, County, City and Bank bills, at 10 cents each; 12 for \$1; 25 for \$2; all different. \$500 bills, 1864, 15 cents each. We can make up very fine collections of 500 bills for libraries, societies and the like for \$40. Require, however \$10 cash deposit with order, and two months time to get the collection in, for after two hundred or three hundred varieties are gathered it becomes somewhat difficult to obtain as many more, all different. This is a very fine present to make to a person fond of curiosities, or who possesses a large library. Offer \$500 and \$1000 bonds for 50 cents each, or ten varieties for \$3.50. All bonds and bills are perfect and clean. Liberal terms made with dealers and agents. Boys will find that the 1864 sets sell very fast in the schools and colleges. Sample sent on receipt of 3 cent stamp.

Hereafter we shall issue our Circular and Price List regularly on the 1st day of June, September, December and March of each year, and it will be sent only to those who send us an unused stamp (1 ct.), or stamped envelope. No advertisements of any kind inserted.

STAMP ALBUMS AND CATALOGUES of all kinds furnished at regular advertised price. Customers are requested to forward order and cash, and if we have not got the album or catalogue in stock it will be obtained and forwarded immediately. We particularly recommend the "International Postage Stamp Album of 1876," price \$2.75, post free. A perfect gem: bound in cloth; gilt lettering.

GUARANTEE.—We positively warrant all our stamps genuine, under ten dollars penalty.

PARTIES sending us stamps on approval must fully prepay their letters and enclose stamps for return postage, otherwise they will not be returned if rejected. State lowest cash or exchange price. Soiled and torn specimens will be thrown in our waste basket.

REMITTANCES of over \$1 should be made by registered letter, P O order or draft. Smaller amounts can generally be sent in ordinary letter, but all letters, etc. are at customer's risk. Never inclose coin under any circumstances. Unused one, two, three, seven, and twenty-four cents U. S. stamps of any issue taken same as cash, at face value. Discount will be made on other values.

COMMUNICATIONS of all kinds will remain unanswered unless sufficient stamps are inclosed for return postage.

THE AMERICAN STAMP CIRCULAR.

A NOVELTY.—We have received a very unique novelty in the scissors line that is particularly desirable for stamp collectors. They are of the finest steel, and one of the scissors blades contains a small knife blade which can be run in and out by means of a spring. Is very useful in taking stamps in and out of album, and also for everything that scissors are used for. Recommend them as very neat and useful. Price 75 cents, post free, return postage.

SPECIAL INDUCEMENT.—Any customer forwarding us ten dollars at a time in advance, will be allowed fifteen dollars in trade at our lowest rates; goods to be taken all at the time, or ordered in lots to suit. This is a great chance and only offered until September.

DULL SEASON is supposed to be during the summer months, therefore we advise customers to make all the purchases they can during that period, as we are willing to do more for our customers and sell at greater advantage to them than at any other time. Try us, and we will not disappoint you, as it would be decidedly to our disadvantage in the long run.

NOTICE our cheap sets and packets. They are made especially low for the summer months and cannot be excelled.

EXCELSIOR PACKETS.

No. 1 contains fifty varieties including Alsace, Spain, Denmark, Java, Portugal, Belgium, etc., 25 c.

No. 2, seventy-five varieties including Java, (20 cts.), Finland, Spain, Russia (8 k.), Roumania, etc., 25 c.

No. 3, forty varieties, including Cape, Spain, Chili, Turkey, New Foundland, Great Britain (5 shillings), etc., 25 c.

No. 4, 30 varieties, U. S. Dept's stamps, 50 cts.

No. 5, 50 varieties North and South American and West India stamps, including Mexico, Cuba, New Foundland, New Granada, Jamaica, etc., a gem, \$1.00.

No. 6, fifty varieties, war, agriculture, Executive, State, Navy, Interior, Justice, Treasury and Post Office Dept's, a wonder, \$1.25.

No. 7, three hundred varieties, including Spanish official, Bermuda, New Foundland, Canada (pence), Portugal, 1st issue, Argentine, Japan, Chili, Turkey, Finland, Java, 2½ G., Egypt, Confederate, 5 cts. green, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, Madeira, Sarawak. This is guaranteed the best packet ever sold, and is a gem for those who buy to sell again at retail. Price \$3.00.

No. 8, five hundred varieties, including all in last packet, and some from nearly every country in the world, including also a complete set Confederate States, the ninety cents of War, Navy, P. O., Interior and Treasury Dept's, Bolivia eagle, 9 d. Prince Edward Island, and many other rare stamps amounting to over sixteen dollars at cheapest retail rates. Price \$7.50, post free.

SUMMER SERIES SETS.

*Alsace and Lorraine,	7 varieties..	\$.20
*Austria, 1850,	5 " .....	.10
Bolivia, 1867, Eagle,	3 "	1.75
Brazil, 1866,	7 " .....	.20
*British Columbia, 1868,	6 "	4.50
Canada, 10 varieties,	.....	.06
*Confederate States, 1861,	5 "	1.50
" " " 1863,	5 " .....	.15
*Denmark, 1874,	8 " .....	.20
Dutch Indies, (incl'd g 2½ G.)	6 " .....	.20
Finland,	5 " .....	.10
*Heligoland, 1867,	8 " .....	.40
*Mexico, 1874,	7 " .....	.40
*New Foundland, (pence)	10 "	2.50
" " " (cents)	11 "	1.25
*Orange Free States,	3 " .....	.20
Portugal, (4 issues)	6 " .....	.20
*Prince Edward Island,	13 " .....	.75
*Rome, 1867,	7 " .....	.25
Roumania, 1865, 1866,	4 " .....	.10
*Sarawak, 3 cents, 1868,	1 " .....	.08
*Sardinia, 1851,	3 "	2.00
" " " 1853,	3 "	1.50
" " " 1855,	3 "	1.25
Spain, old issues,	15 " .....	.25
Cuba, "	6 " .....	.20
*Executive,	5 " .....	.45
*War,	11 " .....	.75
*Navy,	11 " .....	.40
*Interior,	10 " .....	.30
*Post Office,	10 " .....	.30
*Treasury,	11 " .....	.05
State,	4 " .....	.25
*Venezuela, 1859,	3 " .....	.25

A WARNING.—We, as well as other dealers, have a number of accounts against certain parties, which they do not seem inclined to pay, and would say in connection with same that in our next circular we will advertise each and every unpaid account, with *full particulars, name, address, &c.*, as we are determined to obtain what justly belongs to us, and will do everything in our power to get same. Some of the parties have moved to other places since the stamps were sent them, and that shall be duly mentioned in the particulars with name of both places and all the information we can get. Some of them have pretended that they have sent us letters, which have been lost. This old dodge is about played out; and we advise such ones to either prove same or pay their account, as everything will be thoroughly ventilated and advertised; complete lists of the delinquents will be sent to every dealer and amateur editor in the country.

Further and *complete* publicity will be avoided by attending to this immediately, and it may be decidedly inconvenient later in life to see one's name so advertised. Delinquents will receive circular with this notice marked.