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WOLVERINE



will soon

COLLECTORS

❧ **JOURNAL.** ❧



VOL. 1.

JANUARY, 1885.

No. 1.

Devoted to

PHILATELY & NUMISMATICS.



B. E. SMITH,

MANCHESTER, MICHIGAN.

EDITOR & PUBLISHER.

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SPECIAL INDUCEMENTS.

As a special inducement to agents I will give a triangular Newfoundland to any one whose remittances reach two dollars.

Address everything as above.

Mention this paper.

JUST LOOK!

*Argentine, 1862, 5c.	3	cents.
" " " 10c. or 15c.	10	" "
" 1/2, 1, 2, 4, or 8c.	2	" "
" 5 10 or 16c.	3	" "
Austria Italy, 1850, 15, 30, or 45c.	2	" "
" " 1858, 5, or 10, s.	2	" "
" " 1864, 5, or 10, s.	2	" "
Bavaria, 1870, 7, 9, 10 or 18 kr.	2	" "
Belgium, 1850, 10 or 20c.	1	" "
Bt. Guiana, 1c. or 2c.	1	" "
" " 4, 8 or 12c.	3	" "
Ceylon, 2 or 4c.	1	" "
Cyprus, 1/2p.	2	" "
Dominica, 1/2d.	3	" "
Greece, 20 L. rose.	2	" "
15 Australia.	10	" "
2 Allen's Locals.	6	" "
1000 Assorted Stamps.	25	" "

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U. S. Stamps a specialty,

My stamps have been reduced, and collectors will find them a bargain. Commission 25 per cent.

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100 Letter Heads, name and business on, 35 cents. Envelopes and Business Cards same price. 1000 Circulars, 4x6, \$1.50. 1000 Circulars, 6x9, \$2.50. All kinds of Job Printing equally low. Amateur papers neatly printed. Send stamp for samples and prices. Our paper **Boys and Girls** 25c. a year. Send for sample copy. R. M. RULISON, FLUSHING, MICH.

Subscribe for this paper before Feb. 15, and receive 100 foreign stamps as a premium. B. E. SMITH.

The Advancement of Philately.

BY "PROVISORIO."

The primary object of all philatelic literature is the advancement of philately and we propose to mention in this article a few things that will tend to the elevation of our science.

First of all every collector should subscribe for a live paper devoted to his interests. Not one edited with a pair of scissors, but one which has intelligent articles on interesting topics, which chronicles new issues, exposes forgeries, and strives to keep fully abreast of the times. No collector who is worthy of the name can afford to neglect this, for besides the support his subscription will give to the cause of philately it will doubtless be the means of saving him many times his subscription price before the year is ended. Then every collector should strive to know everything possible about each stamp in his collection and here philatelic literature is of the greatest aid to him. For instance how many collectors would know of the peculiar uses of the Mexican "Porte de Mar" stamps or the U.S. newspaper stamps or many others which might be mentioned, were it not for our philatelic publications. I would also advise every collector to interest as many of his friends as possible in philately and, where there are sufficient numbers, to form philatelic societies. If concerted action were taken there is no reason why our societies might not rival in numbers and interest the now famous Agassiz Association which no one will deny is a success and the influence of such an association would be felt wherever philately is known. The result

would certainly be worth the effort and as collectors themselves would be the ones most benefited we fail to see why they are so slow to take action in the matter.

Last of all but not by any means least we should endeavor to clear our ranks of every dishonest collector. Taken as a whole, philatelist's will, I think, compare favorably with any other class of people both for honesty and intelligence, but there is yet room for improvement. To publish the names of such collectors as defraud him and thus render them unable to bring further discredit upon philately is a duty which every dealer owes to himself and to honest dealers and collectors everywhere. Of such dealers as handle stamps of a doubtful nature I will not now speak for they are usually quick to meet their just deserts.

Prince Edward Island.

BY "EPSILON."

This insular colony of Great Britain was first taken possession of by the British in 1745 and was finally retaken by them in 1758, since which time it has been continuously in their possession.

Although not of great extent, the soil is of great fertility and very little bad land is found, about five-sixths of the surface being under cultivation, and as might be inferred agriculture is the chief occupation of the people. The island is deeply indented by arms of the sea and deep and spacious harbors abound. It is of very irregular outline, its breadth varying from 4 to 34 miles while its length is over 130 miles. The climate is milder and much healthier than that of the continental regions in

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the vicinity. The island boasts of one railway, which is a narrow gauge, 198 miles in length. Charlottetown the provincial capital and largest city has a population of over 10000 and has the only college on the island. Previous to its entering the confederation the government consisted of a lieutenant governor, appointed by the crown, a House of Assembly, a legislative council and an executive council appointed by the governor. The legislature of the island refused to agree to the plan for a union of the British North American colonies which resulted from the negotiations of 1864 but it finally yielded and in 1873 became a province of the Dominion of Canada.

The stamps of Prince Edward Isle are of neat designs and tasty colors, making a fine addition to the contents of any collector's album and are comparatively cheap and within the reach of all. They are thirteen in number and their colors and values are as follows:—1 cent yellow, 2 cents blue, 3 cents pink, 4 cents green, 6 black, 12 cents purple, 2 pence pink, 3 pence blue, 4 pence black, and 6 pence green. The two remaining stamps of the series, owing to the depreciation of the currency, have their values given both in currency and sterling. 3d. sterling or 4d. currency, brown, and 6d. sterling or 9d. currency, purple. These stamps were all withdrawn in 1873 and the Canadian stamps have since been current there—a poor exchange surely from the philatelist's standpoint.

A Few Interesting Coins.

BY "ESCUELAS."

The Austrian Silver Crown of the Emperor Ferdinand is worthy of a place in every collection. The obverse has a fine portrait of this ruler surrounded by an inscription in Roman characters; the reverse has the Austrian arms in circle and is also surrounded by an inscription

which, taken with the one upon the reverse is translated as follows:—

"Ferdinand, By the Grace of God, Elector, Roman Emperor, always sacred, Ruler of Germany, Hungary, Bohemia, etc. Infane of Spain. Archduke of Austria. This ruler was born in 1503 and died in 1564."

The ill-fated kingdom of Poland is brought vividly to mind by the silver 3 gros piece of Sigismund III the obverse of which bears the portrait of this successful ruler surrounded by an inscription in Roman characters while on the reverse are the arms and date. This ruler was born in 1566 and elected king in 1587, many years previous to the breaking out of those dissensions which finally rendered his unhappy country an easy prey to its enemies.

The silver chuckrum of the state of Travancore, India, is of great interest to Numismatists. On the obverse is a representation of the silver idol worshipped by these people while the reverse is covered with native characters. The shape of this coin is circular.

The silver half dollar of Bolivia is a fine addition to any collection. This state like Peru claims the llama as its national emblem and on the reverse of this coin two of them are seen resting in the shade of a tree, while on the obverse is a portrait of that most noted of South American statesmen—Simon Bolivar.

The silver 12 shillings struck for use in the Danish American colonies is another very interesting coin. In the centre, surrounded by a circle is a representation of the vessel which brought the colonists to their island homes while underneath is the date and outside of all is the value and an inscription in Roman letters.

My space warns me that I must draw this article to a close but, should the interest of my readers warrant, it will be continued in future issues of the JOURNAL.

Devices on American Coins.

The act of April 2, 1792 which established a mint at Philadelphia, then the seat of Government, provided that upon one side of the gold and silver coins of the United States there should be an impression emblematic of liberty with an inscription of the word "liberty" and the year of the coinage, and upon the reverse the figure or representation of an eagle, with the inscription "United States of America."

The act of January, 1837, made similar provisions, and when the silver bill providing for the restoration of the "dollar of our daddies" was enacted, it was provided that the same inscription should be placed on the standard dollar. But few people outside the mints understand the care and delicacy required to produce well-finished coins; but the work of coining or perfecting a piece is as nothing compared with the designing and engraving of a die. The extremely limited space presented by the surface of a coin for a display of artistic embellishment is of itself a very unfavorable condition imposed upon the inventive faculty of the artist, and when the more rigid limitation upon the relief is considered, it is obvious that the artist has to work with fetters on his hands to an extent unknown in any other department of art. It has often been the case that artists of well-known reputations, but having no experience in the engraving of coins, have had designs of great artistic merit rejected simply for the reason that such designs were not adapted to the purpose for which they were intended.

The device on our coins emblematic of Liberty is no doubt devised from a similar device on the coins of the Roman republic, anterior to Augustus, and has much of classic

authority in its favor. Its adoption does not seem to have been determined by any specific act or instructions, and in fact the journals of the Senate and other proceedings of Congress show that the head of the President was first intended as the device for one side of the coins.

The first coins struck were cents, in 1793, on which the emblem was a female head, with hair flying wildly behind. In 1795 the cap of liberty was introduced, supported on a wand projecting behind the head. In 1796 or 1797 the cap was discarded.

The first silver coins were struck in 1694. The head of Liberty with flowing hair and without the cap formed the obverse. This style was maintained, with slight modifications, until the year 1808, when a more pleasing head of Liberty, with hair dressed and cap, was adopted. The device was taken from life, and was considered a model in good taste of the fashion of the time. The inscription of the word Liberty was at the time transferred from the margin of the coin to the band of the cap.

The first gold coins struck in 1795 were ornamented with a head of Liberty and a cap head-dress, corresponding with the fashionable head-dress of that period. This continued until 1807, when the head-dress on the gold coins was made to conform to that on the silver. Upon the change of standard in 1834 the liberty cap of the goddess was removed from the head, and the hair confined by a band inscribed with the word liberty. The next change took place near the end of the year 1838, the hair being looped up behind and entwined with braids, a couple of stray curls hanging loosely upon the neck, and the front of the head embellished with a tiara inscribed "liberty." Since then the changes in the artistic devices have been few and unimportant. The

reverse of all our larger coins has always presented to a certain extent the heraldic elements forming the arms of the Union, and no doubt in accordance with the almost universal usage of the independent sovereignties, of presenting a device on the reverse of their coinage bearing heraldic allusions more or less elaborate, to the arms of the government or sovereign authority. In the various changes made from time to time, every effort has no doubt been made to present as beautiful coins as the limited space would permit, and also to secure designs which would present no difficulty in mechanical execution. The head of "Liberty" on the standard dollar, designed by a young English engraver, is chaste and beautiful, and is considered by artists the best executed head that has ever appeared upon United States coins. It is so well distributed as to be susceptible of easy work under the die, and, like its predecessor of 1808, was taken from life.—*E. T. Kaye, in Chicago Inter-Ocean.*

New Issues.

BAHAMAS.—A 1 pound stamp has been issued for postal service. The design is about the same as the 1. s. color red-brown.

BERMUDA.—The new 2½ d, blue, has come into use.

BRITISH HONDURAS.—We learn from the *Phil. Monthly* that the color of the 1d. has been changed to red.

CEYLON.—The color of the 2c. has been changed to green, and of the 24c. to violet.

ECUADOR.—The 2c. and 3c. cards have undergone a slight change in design.

EGYPT.—A new reply card has been issued. val. 10 peros; color, carmine on buff.

GOLD COAST.—The ½d. 1d. and 2d. have been changed in color, being sea-green, rose and slate-grey respectively.

MEXICO.—A 25 centavos and a 5 pero have been added to the new set.

PERU.—Several of the stamps of this country have been surcharged with the red circle and black triangle. The 5, 10, 20 and 50c. unpaid are among them.

TRANSYLVANIA.—An entirely new set of stamps has been issued for this country, consisting of 8 varieties all perforated.

Collectors and Dealers.

In presenting this, the first number of our paper, to your consideration, it is meant that we should make known our intentions and our aims.

First of all, we have come to stay. We are well aware that this is the time of year when numbers of philatelic papers spring up only to linger along a few months and finally die, unmourned except by the few subscribers whom their publishers have fleeced. We have no doubt that a good stamp and coin paper can be made a success and, with your co-operation, we propose to place the *JOURNAL* in the front rank of philatelic literature of this country. To enable us to do this we have employed the best talent to be found and shall not follow in the footsteps of those papers whose columns are filled with articles taken from the back numbers of some of their contemporaries. Striving at all times to be punctuate, to interest each of our readers, and to merit the approbation of all interested in the kindred sciences of Philately and Numismatics, we ask for our paper your kind consideration.

Wolverine Collectors Journal.

Entered in P. O. Manchester as 2nd class matter.

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½ inch.	25	60	1.00	1.75
1 inch.	40	1.00	1.75	3.00
3 inches.	1.00	2.50	4.00	7.00
1 Col.	2.00	5.00	9.00	15.00
1 Page.	4.00	10.00	18.00	30.00

Publishers Notices.

ADVERTISEMENTS for the Feb., number must be in by Feb. 15th to insure insertion.

AGENTS wanted for this paper everywhere. Premiums given or a cash commission made known on application.

Foreign dealers finding this paragraph marked please send consignment of stamps and an advertisement for this paper.

ALL remittances must be made by means of Postal note payable at Manchester, Mich.

My terms on advertisements are strictly cash with advertisement.

I would be pleased to exchange regularly with all stamp and coin papers. Address:

B. E. Smith, Manchester, Mich.

GLEANNINGS.

We present our paper the middle instead of the first of the month, it will hereafter appear promptly on the 15th.

We have received *The Collector's Companion*, published by J. H. Raymond of Chicago. It presents a fine appearance, is ably edited and will take its place among the first Philatelic Journals in America. Success to it.

The stamp business, like all others, has been quite dull so far this season.

We have not received the *Granite State Philatelist* for some time. A little late probably.

The new one and two centavos of Paraguay, are not so attractive as their predecessors.

All who subscribe for this paper during the month of February will receive 100 mixed foreign stamps, or a set of 3 Baden Land Post as a premium.

In looking over the stock of stamps of the Union Stamp Co., of this place, we find they have a large and complete stock of unused stamps and some of the finest specimens of used stamps we have ever seen.

Every agent sending us 5 names and \$1.25 will receive his subscription free or 1000 assorted foreign stamps. Each subscriber will receive the 100 mixed stamps or the set of Baden Land Post.

Wanted, copy of every Philatelic and Amateur paper published I have an advertisement for each and will continue with all that pay.

Geo. H. Richmond, Northfield, Vt.

DIRECTORY.

Your business and address inserted one year for 25 cents.

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H. G. SPAULDING,
 Manchester, Mich.

PREMIUMS!

To all who subscribe during February for this paper will receive 100 foreign stamps for a premium.

Agents taking 5 subscriptions for the paper and stamps with it, sending us \$1.25 by Postal note will receive free one years subscription or 1000 assorted stamps.

To all agents taking 10 subscribers and sending us \$2.50 we will send a set of Guatemala '78 and one of '75. Eight rare stamps in all.

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Remember all who subscribe during February will get the 100 foreign stamps.

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Michigan.

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*unused.	fused.
*Argentine Republic, '62, 3 var. complete	\$.09
*Baden, 6 var. including 30 kr	.49
* " Land-Post, 3 var. complete	.08
*Bavaria, unpaid, 1 and 3 kr	.70
* " retain letter 6 var. complete	.10
*Bergendrf, 5 var	.12
*Bremen, 6 var	.40
*German Empire, 10 var	.10
*Guatemala: 1st issue, 3 var	.22
" " '75 4 var. complete	.25
" " '78 4 var. complete	.30
" " Envelope, 4 var. entire	.50
" " " 4 var. cut square	.38
*Hamburg, Envelope, 7 var. complete	.10
*Heligoland, 15 var.	.40
*Ionian Isles, 3 var. complete	.75
*Japan, 1st issue, 4 var. complete	.47
*Mexico, Porte de Mar, '75, 12 var. complete	1.65
" " " '79, 6 var. complete	1.05
*Prince Edward's Island, 12 var	.50
*Sardinia, 10 var	.12
*Siam, 5 var. complete	.70
*Serbia, 7 var	.22
*Thurn and Taxis, 12 var	.25
*U. S. Agriculture, 9 var. complete	2.45
" " Interior, 10 var. complete	1.75
†China, 3 var. complete	.25
†Guatemala, '82, 5 var. complete	.23
†Transvaal, 5 var	.25

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9 Greece	8	11 Hungary	8
7 Mexico	16	9 Portugal	9
6 Russia	3	10 Roumania	10
5 Switz'land un'pd	6	10 Switzerland	8
21 US-Locals gen.	65	40 United States	20

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Publisher who will send me a copy of their papers will be given a notice free gratis in The Philatelic & Amateur Directory, which is to be issued soon.

Wanted.—Dealers to advertise in the Directory—Rates $\frac{1}{2}$ in. 30c. 1 in. 50c. 2 in. 90c.

L. EMERSON, Creighton, Neb.

THE ADVERTISER.

Is a monthly journal devoted to the interest of collectors of stamps, coins, etc., and contains articles of real worth to the readers. Besides its regular circulation it is sent free every issue to a large number of Agents, Collectors, and others. *Agents Wanted.*

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The Stamp Collector's Journal, Coin Collector's News and Antiquarian Gazette.

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