

The American Philatelist.

VOL. I.

DAYTON, O., JANUARY, 1884.

No. 1.

A NEW HANDBOOK.

A REVIEW: BY T. MARTIN WEARS.

"THE YOUNG COLLECTOR'S HANDBOOK OF POSTAGE STAMPS." By Walter T. Ogilvy, of the British Museum. London: W. Swan, Sonnensheim & Co. Paternoster Row.

So seldom is it we find anything concerning our hobby without the pale of our own press and in the works published by stamp dealers, that the book before us deserves at our hands a hearty welcome. It is one of a series of penny handbooks—foolscap, 8 vo., 32 pp.—designed as an introduction to the subjects of which they treat, and can deservedly lay claim to being the cheapest penny worth of philatelic literature ever issued from the press. It is embellished with twenty-three illustrations, all tolerably well executed, if we except the three hundred reis of Brazil, only it would have been better to have left out the two skillings Holte local, which I understand is a fictitious stamp. The idea seems to have been to set these cuts in juxtaposition to items which refer to them, but how comes it that the Holland is found between Hungary and the Ionian Isles, the early Servian between Spain and Switzerland, and the Curacao beside Cuba, or rather what purpose are these intended to serve since nothing whatever is said concerning the issues of these three places?

The style of arrangement is remarkably simple and well adapted for the class addressed, if it had been more fully carried out. A penny British stamp is taken and something is told of it: observe it has letters in every angle, and a watermark—this is all. Since the collection of varieties is urged an opportunity is here missed of noting any that exist of this value, and there is no mention of the specimens that are to be had in so many shades, with letters in upper corners as well as without them. Indeed some technicalities in the descriptions might have been explained at this juncture, and what has often formed a barrier to many would thereby have been removed; at least the young collector's attention should have been drawn to the plate numerals, which are to be found on our earlier stamps. It is stated that all stamps on blue paper are rare, "and owe their color to the chemical action of the gum." One would have thought that this *bleute par la gomme* theory was untenable after Mr. Pearson Hill had shown two years ago an entire sheet of the One Penny printed upon paper

which had never been gummed, but was nevertheless *bleued*, so that without this alleged cause we still have the same effect. Can Mr. Ogilvy explain? Neither is it the case that the four-penny English of 1855 is on blue paper that "owes its color to the chemical action of the gum." This is not an engraved stamp but a type-printed one. The blue tinge in the paper was caused by a small quantity of prussiate of potash being mixed with the pulp during the manufacture, and the original intention was to guard against its being used a second time.

After the remarks on watermarks, accompanied with a few handy illustrations, come those on perforations, on the albums, the best modes of mounting, some hints on what to collect and what to avoid, with an advertisement to Stafford and Alfred Smith, followed by a list of the different countries annexed to which are a few lines of advice. This ends at page twenty-four, and here also the handbook may be said to end, as the remaining pages are taken up with a catalogue of "recent stamp issues." The first "recent issue" noted is the post cards of Austria inscribed in the various languages, an incomplete list of which is given. Perhaps the party who drew up that list is not aware that these things have been in existence almost since post cards were invented, but it is so nevertheless. In describing a provisional issue for Costa Rica we are only told one half the tale. He says, under this heading, "Adhesive—Surcharged in red with new value 2 cents, blue," but since the 1863 issue consists of four different values, whether it is the $\frac{1}{2}$ real, the 2 or the 4, or the 1 peso that is treated? It is the $\frac{1}{2}$ real, and without the knowledge of this his information is really of no use whatever. But I will not criticize the tacked on list further, because I see neither the wit nor the wisdom of its being in the book at all. All that has been attempted in the previous pages is, as I have said, to give the name of the stamp issuing countries with one or two hints concerning such matters as their method of arrangement, etc. This list can serve as no addendum to any preceding one, as it at once darts off into subjects quite different from what have been previously treated. The only purpose it can claim to serve is to fill up the remaining eight pages that had to be completed some way or other. Now this could easily have been done without damaging, or departing in any way from the plan of the book. The hints would have been all the better of enlargement, or the aforesaid eight

pages could have been filled to more advantage with a succinct guide to current and dangerous forgeries. In an introductory treatise such as this a list of abbreviations with their meaning is indispensable, for how is the young lad who has just gone in for his half-crown album and his six-penny packet to know what such contractions as "Wmk. Col. imp. perf." stand for?

On several things the author is not just qualified to speak. For instance, he has a guess at the date of the commencement of stamp collecting—1862 he says is the time—and mentions France as the country where the *penchant* first arose. Now both statements are incorrect. There were collectors at least ten years before the date given, and Dr. Viner, who himself saw a collection in 1854, about the time when M. Moens began, was collecting stamps in 1859. It was at this latter date too that one of the first collectors you have in America—Mr. Tiffany, of St. Louis—began. Belgium is the country that produced the first collectors, but this is a small matter.

Another thing in which Mr. Ogilvy is not up to the times with is the portion devoted to the literature of our science. Here he incidentally tells us that between the years '64 and '74 collectors were most enthusiastic; at the latter date many dropped off, and indeed it looks as if our author was one of the number. Of course it is mere conjecture on his part to tell us of so marked a falling off as this; collectors are continually doing so, but it is a pleasing reflection to know that the recruits are sufficient to keep our army in point of numbers about the same. But it looks very much as if he has been drawn into making the assertion through the mistaken belief he entertains of the two important English magazines coming to a termination in 1874, so that he would argue if two papers collapsed this means that a large number gave up collecting, a quite unwarrantable conclusion. The papers referred to are the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* and the *Philatelist*. The latter is set down as consisting of eight volumes, and ending on the above date, but everybody knows that this journal consists of ten volumes, 1867-76, and practically was not concluded until the far end of 1879, when the last number of the *Philatelic Quarterly*, its successor, was issued. The list of periodicals given with the object of assisting the tyro, consists of three and only three at present in circulation, all published at prices I fear rather heavy for the "young collectors'" purse to stand.

A list of fourteen hand-books is given and out of this list no less than eight bear a date previous to '68, the majority of these being close on twenty

years of age! All these hand-books are simply catalogues, and if for nothing more than the sake of experiment it might be interesting to know how the "young collector" succeeds in the arrangement of his stamps through the aid of a catalogue issued in 1864, according to the author two years after stamp collecting was begun. Two of these treat of forgeries (Stourton and Dalston's manuals), and if these are to be taken as our guide where are we to look for a list of forgeries current between the dates 1864 and 1883? Pemberton's first work, here ignored, was always looked on as far superior to either of these, and to show how widely known these two are I may quote the first sentence of Mr. Earcé's work on forgeries: "The *only* guide to the detection of forged stamps with which I am acquainted is that by Messrs. Lewes and Pemberton, published in 1863," so that one may judge of their importance. We will ask in vain why "Album Weeds" is not included in the works of forgeries; why do we not find suitable mention made of Philbrick and Westoby's "Stamps of Great Britain," Moen's Catalogue, Evans' Catalogue, French and New York Society's Bulletins, and quite a host of modern scientific treatises not for a moment to be compared to these ancient, unreliable *brochures*, all out of date for they have long since served their day and generation?

Another word and we take leave of our author. It is one thing to make a list of what books there are, quite another thing to procure them, and yet he tells us "any of the dealers in stamps" will be able to get them for us. I should like to be there to see the stock of that dealer who still keeps Mount Brown's Catalogue, Stourton and Dalston's Forgeries, or any of the once well-known Berger-Leorault publications. How few now can manage to get a complete set of the two old English magazines at *any* price, and still fewer of the "young collectors" are likely to have the wherewithal to buy them if an offer should happen to be made, no matter how much they may wish to have them in their possession; verily, the spirit is willing, but the purse it is weak!

The defects of the work however will hardly detract from the benefits the average school-boy will gain through a perusal of this little hand-book. It will form a fitting introduction to the study of stamps, and perhaps urge him on to a more scientific system of collecting. Still there are defects that should have been absent, and these could easily have been remedied had its preparation been entrusted to any of the many English collectors *à fait* in Philately. The publishers have performed their part in the get-up of the booklet well, and it is to be hoped that their placing a guide even within the reach of the poorest school-boy who carries his collection in his trouser's pocket, will not pass unrewarded.

RAKINGS.

A. D. Hazen has given notice that all three and six cent stamps and envelopes will be redeemed.

The authorities of St. Helena showed the *long head* when they manufactured their stamps. They engraved but one plate, and made it do duty for seven, by printing in seven different colors, and then surcharging the value.

The United States newspaper stamps are used by publishers who pay postage by weight. The papers for each city are done up in a bundle, and the whole package stamped with a single newspaper stamp.

Some New York ladies do not like to lick their postage stamps. Pity the gum is not flavored. They get around difficulty by licking the corner of the envelope, and then putting on the stamps.

Scott's new edition of the five-dollar International album has just appeared. There are no cuts of *United States* stamps in it, as the government has forbidden it. The page for "*Two Sicilies*" has been entirely left out in this issue.

We now put a two-cent stamp on a letter without a moment's thought, and the old three-cent is already quite a stranger. The new postage and money order rates are a great gain for collectors.

We received a letter recently prepaid by an envelope stamp, which had been pasted on the letter. Also, four letters, from the same place, each having a different variety of two-cent postage stamp.

Everybody wants a specimen of the Pacific Steam Navigation Company's stamps, and they are not hard to get, yet very few albums provide spaces for them.

In England, after a newspaper has become eight days old, it can not be mailed to places abroad at newspaper rates, as it is no longer regarded as a newspaper.

CHINESE STAMPS.

BY I. NASU.

I have long looked upon what are called *Chinese Stamps* with doubt and distrust. About four years ago Mr. Rasmussen said in his journal that they are *not genuine*, and sustained his statement with an undeniable proof. Since that time I have so regarded them. But when such standard catalogues as Scott's, Durbin's, etc., class them as genuine among the U. S. 1c. blue, and 3c. green; when such reliable dealers as those above mentioned openly sell them as genuine, then it seems to me to be a *terrible* philatelic affair. I respect Mr. Rasmussen as to what he said, and also believe him to be correct; but at the same time I have respect also for Messrs. Scott and Durbin. It seems to me that this thing must be positively settled. We do not want to allow dealers to sell counterfeits, nor collectors to have them in their albums. Therefore, all I want to know is, whether those dealers, who warrant those so-called stamps of China to be strictly genuine, *imported them directly from China*. If so, it is pretty certain that they are authentic; if not, an English swindle (as Mr. Rasmussen said).

STAMPS WHICH ARE NOT STAMPS.

Some number of *The Philatelic Monthly* said, under the above heading, that the stamps issued in U. S. of Columbia in 1860 and 1861, are "not stamps in the meaning of the word," because they were issued by the "rebels." Are the Confederate stamps not stamps? They were issued by the "rebels," and were never authorized by the government of the United States. Are the "Don Carlos" stamps of Spain not stamps? "Rebels" issued them, as we all know. I think the "meaning of the word" sustains their being *stamps*.

There has been some talk of abolishing the one cent postal card. This would about balance the letter reduction.

The American Philatelist.

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Published on the 15th day of every month.

JOHN DOHME, } EDITORS.
CLINTON COLLINS, }
I. NASU..... ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

SUBSCRIPTIONS :

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To any foreign country 1s.

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SALUTATORY.

There is always much to be said in presenting the first number of a new journal before the philatelic public; many promises as regards promptness, regularity and neatness. And we generally find that those who make the most promises palm out the smallest in the long run.

We make no promises but one, and that is regularity. We have determined to publish an eight page monthly journal, and such it will be, no matter how scanty or how liberal the support we receive. Of course everything will glide on much more smoothly if we have a generous number of advertisers and subscribers.

As regards the editing, we have very little to say, except that the first two volumes of the *Stamp World* was carried on largely by M. Clinton Collins, so that in

our first number of volume one, we find ourselves where most journals are after two years of publication, moreover the public will know from our former enterprise that we understand pretty well where to place a paper in order that an advertiser may receive a fair amount of the "filthy lucre" in return for that which they expend in advertising.

Every new paper promises a large amount of *spice, originality and independence*; these three words have been proverbial since 1840, the issue of the first postage stamp, but how few attain this much-talked of state?

Each journal in its turn loses its start, because it has raised the expectations of the public too high by its promises of coming wonders. Our column will be open largely to the Philatelic public, and any article or notes of interest we shall gladly publish, if such seem of sufficient merit. And now, thanking those who have already favored us, and trusting in a renewal of the same, we are, Most respectfully,

CLINTON COLLINS.
JOHN G. DOHME.

THAT REPRESENTATIVE JOURNAL.

In the October number of the *Stamp World*, some really good ideas were set forth by "Haviland" about a representative journal of Philately.

It is true that collectors will not support Philatelic journals, while Philately is upon the basis which it now holds and although dealers are more liberal in this respect, yet nearly all the larger dealers refuse their patronage, on the ground that the paper is merely the publisher's advertisement, or because they fear that the next number will never appear. The consequence is that very few journals are able to run through a long siege, and reach that firm position, in which the public no longer refuses their patronage. And again, the majority of Philatelic journals as they now exist, are almost worthless to the subscribers, except

for the advertisements which they contain. What we want is a paper which shall contain nothing but good, fresh and solid matter, by the best writer of the day, and this can only be brought about by a combination of all the journals now published, which is a difficult matter to bring about, although it would probably be a good transaction for all concerned.

This combined journal would easily be recognized as really the only journal devoted to Philately, and would be patronized accordingly, then, let the upstart and opposition papers do what they can. It is rarely the case that a small undertaking can damage a well-founded enterprise.

NEW ISSUES.

Under this heading we will keep our readers posted regarding newly-issued stamps. Any information regarding new issues will be acknowledged and appreciated by us. However, if requested, we will not publish the name of the informer. As our arrangements were not completed for receiving news from foreign countries this month, we hope our readers will pardon the deficiency. We learn that New York City will receive a *Special* stamp for local use, owing to the confusion arising in that office in sorting mail.

At last SIAM is represented in Philately by a handsome set of stamps. As there is at present such conflicting lists of the values, we will not publish a list of them until we have more reliable information.

The two-cent envelope stamp, of the United States is now printed from a new and much handsomer die.

WHICH IS THE WORSE?

Why are letters from East India like much-married Mormons? Because they often have six or eight Annas stuck to them.—*Philatelic Monthly*.

Why are letters from Japan like sensible gentlemen? Because they have sens(e) stuck to them.—*I. Nasu*.

PHILATELIC NOTES FROM ENGLAND.

THIRD SERIES: SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED BY T. MARTIN WEARS.

"A child's among you takin' notes,
An', faith, he'll prent them."—Burns.

It is now exactly two years and two months since I began to discourse to American readers on stamp matters connected with this country under the title "Philatelic Notes from Great Britain." The first series saw the light in the columns of the *Stamp World*, then entering on its second volume; the *Empire City Philatelist* was, until it collapsed in July last, the vehicle of a second; and this month a new series is begun in these columns. This idea of sending to a foreign journal notes on the doings of British philatelists was a little idea of my own; and since it seems quite "the thing" for stamp collectors and dealers of all sorts and sizes to blow their own horns, I suppose I need be no exception and say that the project has all along been attended with a moderate degree of success.

The *Philatelic Referee*, a quarterly British magazine just completed its first volume, is a good paper doubtless, any way it is to be had free gratis and for nothing, still its articles are not distinguished by that thorough mastery of the details regarding our hobby, combined with correctness in fact, which should be characteristic of all papers having for their aim the enlightenment of stamp collectors. Suppose, by a few instances, I give a better idea of what I mean. The "Secretary" in speaking of stamp collecting in the United States insinuates that it is a pursuit of comparatively recent growth there compared to what it is in this country. Now as a matter of fact there was little difference in point of time between its adoption here and in America. Postage stamp collecting is a very modern idea all the world over.

In borrowing another statement from the *National Philatelist* (where on turning to the preceding page he would have found this: "The origin of stamp collecting may be said to date from 1862, when Mount Brown, of London, published the first list of postage stamps") he has fallen into another error in saying that the first American hand-book was published in 1863. It was no such thing, for the "Stamp Collector's Manual" compiled by A. C. Kline, was published at Philadelphia in 1862. I would warn him that the paper he seems to borrow from is no authority on the subject of philatelic literature, or it would never have said what I have above quoted from it, viz.: "Mount Brown, of London, published the first list of postage stamps." This statement evidently

means that he published the first list—the first pure and simple—but in case the writer should happen to insist that he means the first in the country where it was published, I will proceed to prove that Mount Brown's list was neither the first published, nor the first in England, the earliest being Potiquet's French Catalogue, while the first in England was Booty's "Guide." Dr. Viner told me this years ago, and if any living authority can be relied on, the Doctor must be the man.

What a poor return it is for the patience and exactness which Mr. Tiffany brings to bear in every stamp journal, no matter how obscure, as it appears, to refer to them as a "great multitude which no man can number." Now how is a man busily engaged and succeeding in numbering *every one!*

It is certainly an unlooked-for honor on my part to find my name *invariably* accompanied with so strong indications of the prominent part I play in philatelic journalism, but if the "Secretary" had read the prospectus of my work aright he would have found that the *brochure* is not entitled, as he puts it, "A Monograph on the Sydney Views." The prospectus I thought very explicit on this point, for it recited that "a new monograph on the first issue of the stamps of New South Wales" was to be published "entitled 'The Sydney Views.'" The critic will please forgive me again referring to the matter in consideration that this time he is the cause of it.

There has lately been a good deal of discussion about Mulready envelopes in the columns of the *Standard*, *Youth*, and other papers which have no connection with philately in any way, except it be through some correspondent desirous of astonishing the readers of such papers—to him—marvelous stories about *pounds* being paid for a single stamp. In this discussion there has arisen an anomaly concerning the Mulreadies, which it would be well to explain. It has doubtless struck more than one of you, in regard to their prices, how some one would talk at one time of a good specimen fetching only ten shillings, and shortly after another would give the slightly additional figure of ten or twenty pounds. I will explain how I think the error has arisen. For an ordinary "Mulready Envelope," one which has either passed the post or was intended for this purpose, I should not advise a sum exceeding ten shillings to be given for it. But there is yet another kind of Mulready. Whenever John Thompson finished the wood engraving, and before the stereo-plates were constructed,—from which come the ordinary ten shilling copies,—six proofs were struck off in black on Indian paper. In the *Times* of 17th March, 1864, one of these six impressions was advertised for sale at twenty guineas.

Whether they are worth this sum is a matter to be settled by intending purchasers, as it concerns them alone. If, however, my opinion can be of any service I most unhesitatingly say they are not worth it. The original design of Mulready's pencilled outline drawing, the block of which is now in the South Kensington Museum, was sold at the sale of the artist's effects early in 1864 for twenty guineas, and surely this original drawing is of far greater value than one of six proof impressions. I consider half this sum a fair price.

The above facts will account for the wide differences found noted in prices; and of course it is not to be expected that we should find all non-philatelists posted up in the distinctions of originals, proofs, and ordinary copies, as well as the different values which regulate them.

QUERIES.

A collector writes: "I see in an old edition of *Oppen's Postage Stamp Album*, that before the issue of the Paraguay stamp, essays were struck off in several colors, red among the rest. The design was a lion seated, holding the cap and pole, somewhat similar to the regular issue. I have heard from another good source that this stamp (or essay) is a counterfeit. Can any one inform me correctly concerning this stamp?"

Was the New Caledonian stamp printed on one plate of fifty varieties?

A queer forgery arises from postage stamp collecting in England. Forgeries of the rare envelope stamps are made; an ordinary postage stamp is then affixed and it is then mailed to a confederate.

Thus the stamp and forged envelope receive an official date and effacing mark, and after the ordinary postage stamp is removed they are sold for a high price.—*N. Y. Herald.*

The "Philatelic Headlight."

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New Monograph on THE STAMPS OF SYDNEY.

Will be Published Shortly.

A New Monograph on the Stamps of New South Wales,

ENTITLED

THE SYDNEY VIEWS,

By T. MARTIN WEARS,

Author of "Stamps of Great Britain," &c., Correspondent to the American Philatelist, and Stamp World of U. S. A.

The above work contains a concise history, in four parts, of these interesting colonial-made adhesives. The first treats of their mode of engraving and chief peculiarities; the second consists of a general description of the allegorical design; the third includes all forgeries, essays and proofs, while the fourth is devoted to a valuable reference list embracing over sixty varieties of the three values.

It is intended to issue the work in the form of a brochure, embellished with a frontispiece of the views, showing the chief varieties of type.

Copies may be had at 12 cents each post free, and it is requested that orders be sent in as early as possible, as the right to raise the price is reserved. Application for copies to be addressed,

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Blue " " " " " " " " " " " "	4 00
Great Britain, 10 sh., postage, gray.....	0 25
" " " " 20 sh., " " " " " " " " " " " "	0 50
" " " " 1 £ " " " " " " " " " " " "	4 00
Tasmania, fiscals, 1d. black.....	0 25
" " " " 6d. lilac.....	0 35
New Zealand, " 2sh. blue.....	0 35
" " " " 3sh. violet.....	0 75
" " " " 5sh. green.....	0 50
" " " " 10sh. brown.....	2 00
I have also 2sh. 6d., 4sh., 6sh., 7sh. 8sh., 20sh., used <i>postally</i> , but only <i>one</i> , or <i>two</i> specimens of each.	
Bulgaria, set of 10, price.....	25c.
Angola, " 6, " " " " " " " " " " " "	20c.

The following are $\frac{1}{2}$ cents, each, NETT:

Gold Coast, 2d., 4p., 6d.; Sierra Leone, 1½d., 3d., 6d.; Angola, 25 r. and 50 reis; Cape Verde, 25 r., 50 r., Portuguese Indies, 1 tanga, 6 reis; Bulgaria, 15c. 15c. 25c. 25c.; Bosnia, 10 kr., 15 kr.; Austria, 50 kr.; Great Britain, 1d. I. R.; Antigua, 4d.; Dominica, 4d.; St. Christopher, 4d.; Persia, 1 kran; Cyprus, 30 paras.

The following are 6 cents each, NETT:

2½d. stamps of Grenada, Antigua, Trinidad, St. Lucia, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Christopher, etc.; Great Britain, I. R., ½d.; Transvaal, 1883, 3d.; Montserrat, 4d.; West Australia, 1sh.

Great Britain, I. R., ½d., 1d., 6d., the set.....	\$0 40
" " Gov't Parcels 9d. & 1sh. the pr... ..	0 60
" " 2sh., brown, price	1 50
Hong Kong, \$2 or \$3, each.....	10
Straits Settlement, 10c. on 6c., 12c. on 30c., each	08
Hong Kong, 5c. on 18c.....	08
" " 10c. on 12c.....	06
" " 10c. on 16c., 10c. on 24c.....	06
New South Wales, 5c. lilac.....	08
Victoria, 5sh. blue and red.....	05
" 2sh. <i>new</i> , green.....	04
Mauritius, 2 R. 50c.....	35
Ceylon, 2 R. 50c.....	75
Persia, "SERVICE," set of 4.....	25

The following are 8 cents each, NETT:

Samoa, 2d; Mauritius, 50c., Portuguese Colonials, 100 reis, various; Perak, Selangore, Sungei Ujong, 2c.; Fiji Islands, 4d. and 2d. (*surcharged*); Japan, 50 sens; Lagos, 1sh.; Sierra Leone, 1sh.; Transvaal, 1d. (*provisional*); Persia 5 kran.

The following are 12 cents each, NETT:

Ceylon, 2sh.; Phillipines, 100 milreis.

The following are 16 cents each, NETT:

Persia, 50c. or 1 franc; Samoa, 6d.; Mauritius, 5sh., and others equally rare.

A fine lot of tri-angular CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The above are but a few of the thousands of duplicates I have for sale.

Collectors can send list of wants, by any catalogue, and deduct *twenty-five per cent.* Prepay all letters *fully*, as I never take in *unpaid* letters, or post-cards.

W. B. CLINTON,

27 PRINCES CRESCENT, MARGATE, ENGLAND.

The American Philatelist.

America's Representative.

VOL. I.

DAYTON, O., FEBRUARY, 1884.

No. 2.

NEW ISSUES.

AS GLEANED FROM OUR CORRESPONDENCE:

STAMPS THAT HAVE APPEARED AND ARE ABOUT TO APPEAR.

AUSTRIAN ITALY.—The adhesives and envelope stamps of this part of the Austrian domain have been changed to the same design as those of Austria, which we herewith illustrate. The values are of the same color as those of Austria, and only differ in the denomination which reads "Soldi." The postal cards also bear the new stamp.



BAHAMAS.—It is announced that a 5sh. and 1c. stamp will be issued before long. A new postal card has made its appearance.

1½d. x. 1½d. carmine on buff.

BRITISH GUYANA.—The postal card lately brought into our use in this colony is a 3d. x. 3d., carmine on buff.

ECUADOR.—A new provisional is announced for this country. It is the 50 centavos, surcharged "DIEZ CENTAVOS" in two lines.

HAWAII.—We learn from our correspondent that the 10 keneta, and 12 keneta, which were black have been changed to bright vermilion and purple respectively.

This makes them more attractive. Three new stamps are reported about to be issued. A twenty-five cent, lilac, with the bust of Kamehameha I, a fifty cent, red, with the head of David Kalakua, and a \$1.00, carmine, with portrait of Queen Emma. Stamped envelopes have been in use some time.

The values are two cents and five cents, each bearing a view of the capital as seen from the sea.

PERU.—A new set of stamps for this country is now in preparation. It will supersede all the

surcharged stamps now in use. We are indebted to a friend for the following list of stamps which have been in use since the Chilians evacuated Peru:

I.—With horseshoe:

- 1 centavo, orange.
- 2 centavo, vermilion.

II.—Plata, Lima, and Triangle.

- 2 centavo, carmine.
- 5 centavo, blue.
- 50 centavo, green.
- 1 sol, pink.

III.—With triangle.

- 1 centavo, orange.
- 10 centavo, green.
- 50 centavo, green.
- 1 sol, pink.

IV.—With horseshoe and triangle.

- 1 centavo, green.
- 2 centavo, vermilion.
- 5 centavo, blue.

PORTUGUESE INDIA.—This month we note these resuscitations of the old star series:

- 1½ reis, black.
- 4½ reis, olive-green.
- 6 reis, green.

SIAM.—The stamps which were issued some time ago, are as follows:

Adhesives:

- 1 Pei, blue.
- 1 Sol-ot, carmine.
- 1 At, salmon.
- 1 Song pei, orange-gold.
- 1 Salong dark orange.

Postal Card:

- 1 At, red on yellow.

The first three, of which we illustrate one have the values in the four corners, surrounded by circles. In an ellipse in the center of the top is the name of the coin represented. The fourth has the value in a scroll at the bottom, and the fifth in an arched scroll at the top.



The postal card is printed on a medium stout yellow board, and the stamp is of the same design as the 1 At, adhesive. In the upper portion of the card is an inscription of two lines,

of Siamese characters with the arms of the kingdom in the center. The engraving is in steel, by Messrs. Winslow & Co., and is an extremely creditable piece of workmanship, and artistically perfect.

ST. LUCIA.—Three new stamps have been issued to take the place of the provisionals, heretofore used:

- 1½ d., green.
- 1 d., carmine.
- 2½ d., blue.

SWITZERLAND.—The entire set of "unpaid letter" stamps has been changed in color, to green with red figures of value.

TRANSVAAL.—An entire new set has been issued, but we have definite information of but a single one:

3 pence, red on white.

THREE CLASSES OF PHILATELISTS.

By I. NASU

In our town, though small, there are three collectors whose collection amounts to over a 1,000, five or six whose collection is over 500 and a great many beginners. In fact all boys take a fancy to philately or rather in possessing stamps.

In looking over their collections and hearing their opinions, I am struck with the odd arrangement of their stamps and with the singular difference of their ideas concerning philately.

There is one class who paste their stamps both postage and revenue, in a dirty blank book some, being up side-down. He takes great interest in gathering up one and three cent United States stamps, having no thought of what he is going to do with them. He derives no benefit in the knowledge of Geography and History. He is not struck with the artistic beauty of Guatemala and other Central and South America stamps. He thinks them common. He collects stamps, simply because his friends do and that is all.

We must say such a collector is not welcome to the philatelic fraternity and a disgrace rather than any thing else. But an excuse may be offered on the ground that he is a beginner.

Another or better class is represented by those having over five-hundred. Their stamps

are pretty well mounted in cheap albums.

They know to what countries their stamps belong. They are fairly fascinated by the charms of philately. They want to see what kind of stamps a certain country issues. Their attention is directed however to the accumulation of stamps in their album, rather than to the study of interesting points which are to be obtained from their specimens.

The third is a higher class. They commenced philately years ago. Some have twelve-hundred, some nearly three thousand. They take stamp journals by which they familiarize themselves with new issues, and every thing that is connected with philately. They have the "International" or "Globe" album for their collections. The stamps are mounted by hinges carefully and systematically. Philately to them is a pleasure, the collection a treasure. They are the students of philately, the investigators, the lovers. It is this class who shouts: "*Let philately advance. Let it be taught to every one, philately is an interesting and profitable study as well as an innocent pleasure.*"

PHILATELIC NOTES FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

THIRD SERIES: SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED BY T. MARTIN WEARS.

*"A shield's among you takin' notes,
An' faith, he'll prent them."*—Burns.

Two important circumstances in connection with stamps have just occurred, and these have had the effect of inducing many influential British newspapers to devote a leader, or at least a paragraph, to the "craze" of stamp collecting, as they term it; and what is specially noticeable is that all combine in the precaution of telling their readers that this is not so trifling a matter as might be supposed. The circumstances alluded to are the publication of two works, one the biography of a prominent stamp dealer, the other a volume telling us all about "this respectable of modern manias."

Doubtless many of our readers have read the announcement—"STAMPS! STAMPS!"—Don't destroy, or give away, what you can sell to Palmer, and get good prices for. Collections

of Foreign stamps bought. English bought if over a quarter of a million. Stamps sent on approval from $\frac{1}{4}$ d. each. J. W. Palmer & Co. (Established 1852) 281 Strand, London, W. C." yet how few knew or would have credited the fact that this was the announcement of the prince of stamp dealers, the Philatelic Millionaire, who has realised a fortune of over \$100,000 by selling postage stamps. He is yet still a young man, and this sum of money he has earned "by ministering to the wants of crazy people to whom stamps are as precious as gold!" He—like many others—was led into this business quite by chance. When barely seven years old he found near the Exeter Arcade a triangular Cape of Good Hope stamp. This was so fondly regarded by his school companions that he determined to keep it for himself, and he spent all his spare money in acquiring other treasures of a similar kind. Soon he gained a valuable collection, and being offered one pane of glass of a shop window in Catherine Street, Strand, he began to sell as well as to buy stamps. His prettiest stamps were fixed on a sheet of paper, and marked with prices varying from a farthing to a penny each. The business was so successful—all ready money, and the profits being counted in hundreds per cent—that windows were engaged in other parts of London. When not ten years of age he left school, and spent his days in buying and arranging his wares, and in visiting the shopkeepers who sold his stamps. This involved his trudging along miles of street. He continued his education, however, by attending evening schools. His sales became so large that he had to arrange with city clerks to provide him with foreign stamps. In due time he took a share in a desk in an office; afterwards he took the whole upper floor of a building; and now he is the head of the firm of J. W. PALMER & Co. and has realised a fortune sufficient to enable him to retire from business. Last year he purchased 2,900 collections of stamps, numbering from 50 to 10,000 each, and costing from a few shillings to several thousand pounds.

Mr. Palmer also possesses the faculty of discriminating the values of stamps as well as forg-

eries. The late Mr. Pemberton gave as the recipe for detecting forgeries the following:—"Learn to examine stamps learn their peculiarities, their styles of engraving, their watermarks, perforations. Study your specimens, and you will find an imperceptible sense come to you, by which you can at once reject an ordinary forgery, and which sense will make you suspect—and that instinctively—the best of imitation." This is the true secret of how to become a good judge both of genuine and forged stamps, than whom no better than Mr. Palmer lives, seeing he can accomplish the *philatelic* feat of inspecting a collection numbering upwards of one thousand, point out all the forgeries as well as the valuable stamps, and appraise the value of the whole collection in less than half an hour!

I find I have written so much about this wonderful man, that there remains little space in which to notice M. Paul Endel and his book. M. Endel is at present contributing to *Le Figaro* articles on stamps and stamp collecting, which are to be followed by a volume on the subject. He is said to be a great authority on philately, in fact "he knows all about it," but from the collector well posted in his hobby the verdict will be that, judging from his writings, this Frenchman knows very little about it. However he has the right sow by the ear, and having had the good fortune to attract the attention of the English press, his book will doubtless be widely read with interest.

I beg to respectfully draw the attention of American dealers and collectors to the fact that I will publish in March a new monograph on the first series of the stamps of New South Wales, entitled "The Sydney Views," the price of which is twelve cents, post free. The issue will be limited to 500 copies each numbered and signed, and the printing will be executed in the best style on antique rough-edged paper. A limited number of advertisements can be accepted, to lessen cost of production, at \$2.50 per page, \$1.50 per half page, net cash in advance. Messrs Collins & Dohme are sole American agents for the work.

The American Philatelist.

VOL. I. FEBRUARY, 1884. No. 2.

Published on the 15th day of every month.

JOHN DOHME, } EDITORS.
CLINTON COLLINS, }
I. NASU ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

One year, post free.....25c.
Six months.....15c.
To any foreign country..... 1s.

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1 inch.....40c.	1 column..... 2 00
2 inch.....75c.	1 page..... 4 00

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All advertisements must be in by the tenth to insure insertion in next number.

Special rates on all standing advertisements.

Twenty-five cents entitles you to a year's subscription to this paper.

Send fifteen cents in stamps for this paper for six months on trial.

Address all communications to

COLLINS & DOHME,
DAYTON, O.

PREMIUMS.

To every person sending us his subscription before March 20, 1884, we will give as a premium, either **125 Foreign Postage Stamps or The Stamp Collector's Companion**. A fine Philatelic book, devoted entirely to stamp collectors.

LAST month we made a mistake in giving the heading Rakings to a column of original notes; it should have been Notes and Comments.

THIS issue is unavoidably late on account of moving into our new office in the Post Office Building. We hope our readers will not judge us by this number, but by the future.

OF the four journals advertised to appear in January, but one was issued, and that one was **THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST**.

CONTRIBUTIONS are respectfully solicited from our friends and readers. If it be desired we will not publish the name of the contributor.

A NEW scheme for the more speedy delivery of mail is now under consideration by Congress. It provides for the immediate delivery, from 7 A. M. to midnight, of letters, that have been prepaid extra with a special delivery ten-cent stamp.

THE article, *Britain; Its Stamps*, which appeared in the *New Jersey Philatelist* in the last year of its existence, has been purchased by us for our journal. It has been entirely rewritten by the author, and has been thoroughly revised.

WOULD-BE PHILATELIC JOURNALS.

WE have lately received several journals (?) devoted to our hobby, which are not at all what they claim to be. These would-be journals contain a list of New Issues, which, by the way, are six to nine months old, and a Black List in which prominent dealers are exposed as frauds no doubt simply because the editor or some of his youthful friends does not receive the five, or ten cent packet, he has ordered in an unreasonable time.

The editors of these journals are without doubt, the beginners who think they know all that there is in Philately, and who are so conceited that they will not take the advice of the advanced collector, and leave Philately alone until they are better posted.

POSTAL TELEGRAPH.

AT the commencement of this session of Congress, two bills, relating to Postal Telegraph were introduced. The one authorizes the Post Master General to purchase the lines of all the companies now operating, at a reasonable valuation, while the other advises the government to build new and independent lines to all points, where it will be deemed necessary. It has been acknowledged that there are difficulties to overcome should either bill become a law, but it is also acknowledged that owing to the gradual increase of the business of the Post Office Department, such a system of Telegraph has almost become a necessity.

BRITAIN: ITS STAMPS.*

A COMPLETE AND RELIABLE ACCOUNT.

BY T. MARTIN WEARS.

Part I.—*Introduction of the Penny Post, with a retrospect of the old system.*

The earliest reference to be found of the posts or *posita* dates from the time of the Roman Empire, when this name applied to fixed places where couriers were stationed to facilitate the rapid conveyance of despatches. In England, during the reign of Edward I. a similar system of posts was established; at these places horses were kept in readiness by certain parties who were allowed to levy an uniform charge of 2½d. per mile. These horses were required to travel at the rate of not less than seven miles an hour in summer—five in winter, and were kept exclusively for government use, the right of private individuals to use the posts not having been bestowed on them. It was not until the year 1635 that the privilege was extended to all and sundry, when a post was run between the English and Scottish capitals, with the vague directions of taking such letters as were addressed to any town in or near that road. The minimum rate was 2 d. if under 60, and 4 d. if under 140 miles. Shortly after the practice of farming the Post Office revenue commenced, a practice which continued in some branches to exist till the close of the last century. A fair idea of the rapid advancement made by this governmental department can be gathered from the fact that at first the annual revenues were let for £5,000, whereas by the time of accession of James II they had reached the comparatively larger sum of £65,000.

The government at quite an early date reserved to itself the sole right of carrying letters and the one who did attempt to infringe that monopoly might make up his mind to receive

scant justice at its hand. This was the case in 1649 when the corporation of London attempted to set up a rival post for inland letters; as it was also the case with Murray and Dockwra's local post of 1683. As the latter is our first Penny Post, and as the mere mention of this magic word "Penny" has presumably led several otherwise intelligible parties astray in questioning Rowland Hill's claim to the organization of the modern system of Penny Postage, and credited Murray or Dockwra's "with the discovery of the principle which he so successfully elaborated," (*vide Empire City Philatelist*, vol I, pp. 118-9) as well as for other reasons it will be necessary to give a short account of it, reserving the question of priority incidentally mentioned for consideration later on.

To Robert Murray, an upholsterer, is said to be due the credit of suggesting the idea of a post from one part of London to another. His post, afterwards assigned to one Dockwra, carried letters and parcels not exceeding one pound in weight or £10 in value, at the rate of one penny within the city and suburbs, and two pence for any distance within a ten mile radius. This primitive Penny Post was just as vehemently opposed in the reign of Charles II, as was Rowland Hill's in the early days of Queen Victoria's reign. Titus Oates denounced Dockwra's post as a Jesuit scheme, useful for transmitting Popish treason; and the City Fellowship porters tore down the inscription "Penny Post letters taken in here" from the doors of the receiving houses. Government, at the instigation of the Duke of York, who had got the postal revenue made over to him by his Royal Brother, did not quash the project until they found it had become profitable. Then Dockwra was coolly told that his postal department must be absorbed by the Government; but to compensate him for this loss he was appointed by the Duke, controller of the District Post. Ten years after one Povey unsuccessfully attempted to rival the government with a half penny post.

(To be continued.)

Our readers will oblige the publishers by mentioning this paper when answering advertisements.

THE PHILATELIC NEWS.

A TWELVE-PAGE MONTHLY PAPER,
Devoted to Stamps. Only 25 cents a year, Post Free.

DEALERS ADVERTISE

in it only. 40 cents per inch, 3 inches, \$1. 1 column \$2.50. 20 per cent discount on large and standing ads.
Send for a copy. **Price list (ill.) free.**

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130 EAST THIRD STREET.

DAYTON, OHIO.

W. A. MacCALLA,

227 Dock St., P. O. Box 1593, Philadelphia, Pa.

— DEALER IN —

U. S. AND FOREIGN POSTAGE STAMPS

Would respectfully call attention to the great reduction in prices. I make it my aim to have my lists compare favorably with any other dealer, and in very many cases much cheaper.

Correspondence solicited in foreign countries and collectors everywhere, with the view to sale or exchange.

Agents wanted to sell my Sheets of Stamps on Approval.

TWENTY-FIVE CENT SERIES

- F. contains stamps from Austria (old), Baden (figure), Bermuda, Jamaica, Luxemburg, and 18 other countries. Price, 25 cents.
- G. contains stamps from Austrian Italy, Cape of Good Hope, Finland, Greece, Japan, and 17 other countries. Price, 25 cents.
- H. contains stamps from Brazil, New Zealand, Peru, Queensland, Sweden, and 19 other countries. Price 25 cents.
- I. contains stamps from Ceylon, Porto Rico, Prussia, Spanish West Indies (1857), Turkey, and 16 other countries. Price, 25 cents.
- J. contains stamps from Confederate States, Egypt, Roumania, St. Christopher, Wurtemberg, and 15 other countries. Price 25 cents.
- K. contains stamps from the Dutch Indies, Mexico, Tasmania, Trinidad, U. S. of Colombia, and 17 other countries. Price, 25 cents.
- L. contains stamps from Natal, Sandwich Islands, Servia, South Australia, Switzerland, and 15 other countries. Price, 25 cents.

Postage Extra. Price List, 1c.

Mention this paper.

POST FREE FOR \$1 GREENBACK.

The Garfield Packet of Foreign and Colonial postage stamps containing 300 all different, including rare Bolivia, Chili, Azores, Ceylon envelope, Egypt 1872, Natal, Roumania, Servia, Spain, old issues Trinidad, Roman States, Naples, Queensland, Luxemburg, Finland, Sweden official, Hong Kong, Java, Australia old issues, Prussia, Portugal and other good stamps, all in good condition and guaranteed genuine. Sent post-free on receipt of one dollar. Wholesale and retail price-lists sent free on application. Sheets of rare stamps sent on approval on receipt of deposit or references. Agents wanted 25 per cent. commission.

J. SARPY & CO., FOREIGN STAMP IMPORTERS,

Peckham, London, S. E.,

12

ENGLAND.

NOTICE! We would like to inform the philatelic public that we are prepared to send sheets on approval to any collector who will send us good reference, or cash deposits.

COLLINS & DOHME,

Dayton, Ohio.

COINS! STAMPS! CURRENCY!

24 PAGE ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE and two silver-plated medals, 10 cents.
Agents wanted for sale of stamps. Good commission allowed. Reference required.

W. F. GREANY,

527 Braunion Street, San Francisco, California.

100 FOREIGN STAMPS and Foreign Coins free to every Subscriber. Monthly Illustrated Magazine. Devoted to Stamps, Coins, Curiosities. Only 50 cents a year. Sample copy 10c. **THE OLD CURIOSITY SHOP, Station A, Cleveland, O.**

1883. HOLIDAY PACKET, 1884.

Contains 50 varieties Foreign Stamps (some unused); price, 10 cents. Address,

HENRY S. HART,

Sorel, Canada.

"THE BAYONNE PHILATELIST."

A MONTHLY STAMP JOURNAL

SUBSCRIPTIONS:

25 cents per year in U. S. - 37 cents per year abroad

ADVERTISING RATES: 25 cents per inch.

Send stamp for sample copy.

BAYONNE PHILATELIST,
Bergen Point, N. J.

L. W. DURBIN,

Fifth and Library Sts., Philadelphia, Pa.

— DEALER IN —

GENUINE FOREIGN POSTAGE STAMPS

Circulars free. New catalogue just published. Price, 20 cents per copy.



IMPORTANT NOTICE.



An advanced collector now offers for sale a superb collection of genuine postage stamps, numbering nearly 7,000 distinct varieties, all clean, perfect, and genuine,—no reprints, no doubtful stamps, no locals. The whole collection must be sold as soon as possible, and the low price will tempt most to clear the sheets. Selections of Colonials and rarities sent on approval on receipt of references, or good deposit. Advanced collectors are requested to forward lists of wants, as nearly all the great varieties are to be found in this collection. V. R. Mulready, etc., also the following duplicates for sale cheap:

Black Mulready Envelope, price.....	\$1 50	Great Britain, 1 R., 1d., 6d., the set.....	\$0 40
Blue " " " ".....	4 00	" " Gov't Parcel: 9d. and 1sh. the pair..	0 60
Great Britain, 10 sh., postage, gray.....	0 25	" " 2sh., brown, price.....	1 50
" " 20 sh., " ".....	0 50	Hong Kong, \$2 or \$3, each.....	16
" " 1 £, " ".....	4 00	Straits Settlement, 10c. on 6c., 12c. on 30c., each..	08
Tasmania, fiscal, 1d. black.....	0 25	Hong Kong, 5c. on 18c.....	08
" " 6d. lilac.....	0 35	" " 10c. on 12c.....	06
New Zealand, " 2sh. blue.....	0 35	" " 10c. on 16c., 10c. on 24c.....	06
" " " 3sh. violet.....	0 75	New South Wales, 5c. lilac.....	08
" " " 5sh. green.....	0 50	Victoria, 5sh. blue and red.....	05
" " " 10sh. brown.....	2 00	" 2sh. new, green.....	04
I have also 2sh. 6d., 4sh., 6sh., 7sh., 8sh., 20sh. used postally, but only one or two specimens of each.		Mauritius, 2 R. 50c.....	35
Bulgaria, set of 10, price.....	25c	Ceylon, 2 R. 50c.....	75
Angola, " 6, " ".....	20c	Persia, "SERVICK," set of 4.....	25

The following are 4 cents each, NETT:

Gold Coast, 21, 4p., 6d.; Sierra Leone, 1½d., 3d., 6d.; Angola, 25 r. and 50 reis; Cape Verde, 25 r., 50 r., Portuguese; Indies, 1 tanga, 6 reis; Bulgaria, 15c. 15c. 25c. 25c.; Bosnia, 10 kr., 15 kr., 15 kr.; Austria, 50 kr.; Great Britain, 1d. 1 R.; Antigua, 4d.; Dominica, 4d.; St. Christopher, 4d.; Persia, 1 krani; Cyprus, 30 paras.

The following are 6 cents each, NETT:

2½d. stamps of Grenada, Antigua, Trinidad, St. Lucia, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Christopher, etc.; Great Britain, 1 R., 1d.; Transvaal, 1883, 3d., Montserrat, 4d.; West Australia, 1sh.

The above are but a few of the thousands of duplicates I have for sale.

Collectors can send list of wants, by any catalogue, and deduct twenty-five per cent. Pre-pay all letters fully, as I never take in unpaid letters, or post-cards.

The following are 8 cents each, NETT:

Samoa, 2d.; Mauritius, 50c., Portuguese Colonials, 100 reis, various; Perak, Selangore, Sungei Ujong, 2c.; Fiji Islands, 4d. and 2d (surcharged); Japan, 50 sens; Lagos, 1sh.; Sierra Leone, 1sh; Transvaal, 1d. (provisional); Persia, 5 krani.

The following are 12 cents each, NETT:

Ceylon, 2sh., Phillipines, 100 milreis.

The following are 16 cents each, NETT:

Persia, 50c. or 1 franc, Samoa, 6d., Mauritius, 5sh.; and others equally rare.

A fine lot of tri-angular CAPE OF GOOD HOPE



W. B. CLINTON,

27 Princes Crescent, Margate, England.



Our readers will oblige the publishers by mentioning this paper when answering advertisements.

STANLEY, GIBBONS & Co's.

PRICE CATALOGUE,

with over 2,000 illustrations, including all new issues to January, 1884. Post free, 36 cents.

The *Imperial Stamp Album*, 4th edition, 2 vols revised to 1881, post free, \$3.50

The *Philatelic Record*, a high class illustrated monthly magazine, \$1 per annum, post free.

The *Improved Stamp Album*, including all new issues up to date, post free, \$1.

Album Weeds, or how to detect forged stamps, by Rev. R. B. Earee, is now ready, post free, \$2.

NEW PACKETS.

Twelve varieties all *unused*, including Persia, Bosnia, and Herzegovina, Mauritius, Lubeck, Heligoland, Luxemburg, etc., post free, 13 cts.

Twenty varieties, all *unused*, including China, Nicaragua, Bhopal, Cyprus, etc., post free 25c.

Fifty varieties, all *unused*, including Don Carlos, Deccan, Portuguese Indies, Tuscany, Japan, etc. Post free 25 cts.

All the above post free, and securely packed to the United States and Canada.

Illustrated 12 page prospectus *gratis post free*. Wholesale list, largest published, *gratis and free*.

STANLEY, GIBBONS & CO.,
8 Gower Street,
LONDON, - - ENGLAND.

SHEETS on approval to any collector who will send us good reference, or cash deposit. We have a large and fine stock to chose from, and our stamps are as cheap as genuine stamps can be had at,

COLLINS & DOHME,
Dayton, Ohio.

C. L. STAKE,

223 S. Jefferson St., Dayton, O.

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UNITED STATES COPPER COINS !

MEDALS, FRACTIONAL CURRENCY, &C.

*** Rare Dates always in stock. ***

Catalogue of prices paid for U. S. Coins,	6c.
Pamphlet containing dates, with degree of rarity, of U. S. Coins, 1793 to 1857, post free,	20c.
Revised Monthly Coin List, one year,	15c.
All the above, post free,	35c.

(1f)

The "Philatelic Headlight."

A high-class monthly, devoted to stamps. Just the paper for dealers and collectors. Advertising rates reduced to 50 cents per inch, 30 per half inch. Subscription, 25 cents per year. Send for a sample copy! (N. B. —Discount on large and standing advertisements.) Address,

VON GLAHN & BUSSE, Publishers,

547 North Clark St., Chicago, Ill.

Stamps Bought, Sold and Exchanged.

New Monograph on the Stamps of Sydney.

READY APRIL 1, 1884,

A New Monograph on the First Series of the Stamps of New South Wales,

ENTITLED

"THE SYDNEY VIEWS,"

BY T. MARTIN WEARS,

(Author of "The Stamps of Great Britain,"

"Philatelic Notes," &c.; Correspondent to

"THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST.")

The above work contains a concise history, in four parts, of these interesting colonial-made adhesives. The first treats of their mode of engraving and chief peculiarities; the second consists of a general description of the allegorical design; the third includes all forgeries, essays and proofs, while the fourth is devoted to a valuable reference list embracing over sixty varieties of the three values.

It is intended to issue the work in the form of a brochure, embellished with a frontispiece of the views, showing the chief varieties of type.

The issue will be limited to 500 copies, each numbered and signed by the Author; and the printing will be executed in the best style on antique rough-edged paper.

Copies will be had at 13 cents each, post free, and it is requested that orders be sent in as early as possible, as the right to raise the price is reserved.

In order to lessen the increased expenditure which this form of production will involve, advertisements, inserted in the order sent in, will be received up to the 5th of March, at the low charge of \$2.50 per page, \$1.50 per half page. In all cases net cash in advance, per check, money order or postal note.

All applications for advertising space and for copies at wholesale and retail rates in America should be addressed to

COLLINS & DOHME,

SOLE AGENTS FOR AMERICA,

DAYTON, OHIO.

The American Philatelist.

America's Representative.

VOL. I. DAYTON, O., MARCH, 1884.

No. 3.

PHILATELIC NOTES FROM GREAT BRITAIN.

THIRD SERIES: SPECIALLY CONTRIBUTED BY T. MARTIN WEARS.

"A child's among you takin' notes,
An' faith, he'll prent them."—Burns.

Lawyers, as is well known, are a class of people who do not generally care about performing much work without being paid for it, and handsomely paid too. They are also a class of people proof against crazes or manias, such as that of stamp collecting. In spite of this it is astonishing to find that most of the known collectors are lawyers, who have both expended large sums in forming collections, and contributed no small share to the literature of philately a recreation remunerative to none concerned. Mr. Craig, who conducted the *Stamp Arqus* and the *Postman's Knock*, was an American attorney; so is Mr. Tiffany, a name pre eminent in American stamp collecting circles; Mr. Burnett, editor of the *Record* and Secretary to the Philatelic Society is a London Barrister; so is Mr. Philbrick; and so, we learn, is his coadjutor Mr. Westoby; the senior partner of our publishers is at present studying law at Harvard, and so is the British Correspondent of THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST at the renowned University of Edinburgh, which celebrates its tercentenary next month.

One of these lawyers—Mr. Westoby—has just had the honour, in common with Pember-ton, Philbrick, Viner, and Ysasi, of having his photograph presented to the subscribers of the London Society's magazine, to be bound up as a frontispiece to their fifth volume. In appearance Mr. Westoby is a patriarchal rather pleasant-looking gentleman, with a gray mustache and shaved chin. In years he has about reached the allotted span, having taken his degree at Cambridge and been called to the bar more than forty years ago. Like Dr. Legrand, he

was first drawn to the hobby through the combined efforts of a juvenile member of his family and himself, to form a collection, in 1861. Mr. Westoby's writings are not numerous, but they are clever and reliable, meriting full study from his younger fellow-collectors. They will be found in the *Philatelist* and the *Stamp Collectors Magazine*, in the latter under the pen-name of "A Parisian Collector."

* * *

A little over a year ago there was issued a new kind of stamp or rather surcharge for Great Britain, consisting of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. 1d. and 6d. with the letters "I. R. Official" overprinted, indicating this sort to be specially reserved for the official correspondence of the department of Inland Revenue. It has puzzled collectors and dealers alike to procure anything like an adequate supply of these, as, of course, they are not for sale to the public, and when they do come into their hands it is after they have franked some document sent by the department. These dealers have doubtless been bothering the Inland Revenue to this effect, and a general order directed against them is the result. "The attention of the Board;" this recites, "having been called to the fact that application has been made to officers of this department by certain stamp collectors and dealers in old stamps for the sale to them of used Official I. R. Postage Stamps, which have passed through the post, all officers are cautioned against complying with any such request, or having transactions with unlicensed dealers in stamps."

* * *

It is a particularly hard thing for us that dealers when retiring from publishing seldom or never do so honestly, e. g., the publishers of the *New Jersey Philatelist* owe me vol. III of their paper, and improperly retain certain unpublished MSS. of mine, as also does Mr. Crouter,

who is due me a file of the *Empire City Philatelist*. The following also owe me subscription: Mr. Illing, Mr. Rasmussen, and Mr. Smith, now Manager of the *National Philatelist* for the *Collector's Library Table*. I am sure it would ease both their and my mind were they to fulfil their obligations before parting company, perhaps for ever!

* * *

The extraordinary increase year by year in the number of postage stamps can best be judged by noticing the gradual extension in size of Stanley, Gibbons & Co's. descriptive catalogue. In 1881 this firm published an edition of 62 pp. of letterpress, accompanied with 1541 illustrations. The following years* there was a decided addition to both catalogue and appendix, and now there has just appeared the fourth edition for 1884 running to 82 quarto pages with 2175 illustrations. These latter are absolutely necessary to the identification of the little-known stamps, the oriental values, and the many surcharged stamps, which have of late become so numerous. All are well executed, and the *tout ensemble* presents a fine appearance the only eyesore, in my opinion, being the dozen pages devoted to the Russian locals. Four addenda to the fourth edition will be issued in May and September current, and January and May of next year. When these are exhausted it is the intention of the publishers to issue a fifth edition at a considerably advanced price, 1 sh. being added to catalogue and appendix. They find it necessary to take this step owing to the greatly increased expense of the work since its first publication, the cost of the current edition, in material alone, being nearly double the price it is sold at.

BLACK LIST.

When our journal was first published we had determined to publish no *Black List*, but as the necessity of having one is now apparent we wish to warn all parties who owe us to settle up by the *tenth* of next April, as we will then publish their names and addresses.

BRITAIN: ITS STAMPS.*

A COMPLETE AND RELIABLE ACCOUNT.

BY T. MARTIN WEARS.

Part I.—Introduction of the Penny Post, with a retrospect of the old system.

(Continued from last Month.)

Murray and Dockwra's venture has all along been looked on as the first penny post, but still the idea does not seem to have originally come from them, for proof is to be had that the suggestion was made before theirs, at least before it took practical shape. In the library of the British Museum is a small work entitled *A PENNY POST; or, a Vindication of the Liberty and Birthright of every Englishman, in carrying Merchants, and other men's Letters, against any restraint of Farmers of such Employments.* By John Hill. London: printed in the year 1659. MS. from the library of the late W. F. Newman Esq., the late solicitor to the city of London; purchased at the sale of his books by Southgate & Co., July 19, 1835. One thing at least that forcibly strikes the reader of this curious coincidence of the suggestion being made by a namesake of Rowland Hill's.

The local penny post thus commenced in 1683 may be said to have existed until the date when the principle was adopted for the whole country. About the beginning of the present century the rate was doubled, and as an Act of the Parliament was passed in 1765 for the formation of other local posts the number swelled so until there were nearly a thousand altogether. In connection with the foundation of one of these in Scotland the name of Peter Williamson, a native of Aberdeen, is to be remembered. He started the first in the capital, subsequently assigned over to the Post Office, for the goodwill of which he was granted a pension.

Up to the end of the last century the mails were carried by post-boys riding on horseback. The number of letters thereby conveyed could

*Copyright applied for.

not have been numerous for we have an advertisement appearing in February 1779 offering a reward for the apprehension of two foot-pads, with crape over their faces, who had waylaid the post-boy who carried the letter bags for Liverpool, Wigan, Chester and thirty other towns, together with the whole Irish mail. This state of matters was not allowed to exist long, for in 1784, though the enterprise of John Palmer, theatrical manager, a mail coach, was started between London and Bath, performing the journey in fourteen hours. These coaches had the effect of surperced the post-boys, but the extra charge entailed had the effect of adding to the postal rates, already needlessly high. For more than twenty years, extending from the time of their introduction until the commencement of the new system, a letter consisting of a single sheet without envelope, and weighing less than an ounce was charged 4d. under fifteen miles, and no less than a shilling for three hundred miles.

Reform was sorely needed, and a reformer in the person of Rowland Hill, a schoolmaster, was at hand. In his first pamphlet "Post Office Reform: its Importance and Practicability" of 1837 he demonstrated very clearly that the public was suffering a kind of pillage, carried on by the government in the conveyance of letters. They first created a monopoly and then charged sixpence or a shilling for what should have been a penny; indeed the whole system stood much in need of thorough reformation. How to accomplish this satisfactorily Rowland Hill set himself to work, and not only pointed out the fallacies of the old system, but briefly foreshowed the working of that which was to supersede it, forming the model plan destined to be emulated by every country on the face of the earth. The expenses of carrying your mails, he pointed out, are as nothing compared with that of collecting the postage; now to avoid the heaviest item of expenditure I propose to fix an uniform rate of one penny, by which much expense and trouble will be saved to the post office, as well as an unjust method of taxation done away with. Now, in one sentence, we have

the simple elements of a great proposal without entering into any of its minor details we will pause to consider what elements in common it had with previous posts, and whether the existence of such are to be held as detracting from his right to be regarded as the inventor of one of the most successful enterprises of its kind in the world's history.

(To be continued.)

PHILATELIC AUTHORITIES.

We are, from time to time, surprised to see articles on postal matters in the ordinary papers. They are usually written by persons who know nothing of the science of philately, but whose ignorance of the subject does not prevent their pretending to speak *ex cathedra*. The result is that most of their utterances are erroneous and misleading. This would be amusing if it were not calculated to do harm. The daily, weekly and monthly papers, and magazines obtain large circulations and their readers are accustomed to believe what they see in them. Young philatelists are thus apt to imbibe false impressions as to rare stamps and their values, and are liable to be imposed upon by unscrupulous dealers. The only way to get correct information on these matters is from the columns of respectable philatelic journals. The editors of such papers it is to be presumed, are thoroughly posted on such matters and will always be happy to answer any questions, or to solve any doubts that may arise if they are asked to do so. —[*The Philatelic Courier*.

OUR REVIEW TABLE.

The *Philatelic Monthly* arrived with its fine list of new issues and its copious notes. Altogether it makes a fine appearance, but Brother Durbin would it not look better if you would change your electro-typed pages once in a while?

The *Old Curiosity Shop*, Vol. III Nos. 2 and 3 received. This journal is now in the second year of its existence, and shows steady improvement with each number.

The American Philatelist.

VOL. I. MARCH, 1884. No. 3.

Published on the 15th day of every month.

JOHN DOHME, - - - - - EDITOR.
GLINTON COLLINS, } - - - ASSOCIATE EDITORS.
I. NASU, }

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2 inch.....75c.	1 page.....5 00

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Special rates on all standing advertisements.

Twenty-five cents entitles you to a year's subscription to this paper.

Send fifteen cents in stamps for this paper for six months on trial.

Address all communications to:

COLLINS & DOHME,
DAYTON, O.

PREMIUMS.

To every person sending us his subscription before April 20, 1884, we will give as a premium, either **125 Foreign Postage Stamps** or **The Stamp Collector's Companion**, a fine *Philatelic* book, devoted entirely to stamp collectors.

EDITORIAL.

WHY are philatelic journals published? Doubtless many reasons can be given, but we are assured that the majority of the small, and several of the large ones are published so as to get the other philatelic journals free. A boy becomes interested in Philately, and seeing a stamp-journal he is possessed of the idea that it would be a fine thing to be an editor, and how envious his friends would be; so led on by these thoughts he goes to work and his first number is out. In the average it contains a salutatory, very badly written, a few local items, of no interest to collectors, and clipped matter to fill up with. It is sent to the addressee of all the

stamp journals, he can find, and to many amateur papers also; while the rest are distributed amongst his school-companions and his friends at home. The latter, before his face, pronounce it "splendid" or "superb," but behind his back, no doubt speak differently. By the next issue the editor enlarges his exchange list, and among the contents of this number is to be found a column or two of *amateur* reviews. Gradually the philatelists who have subscribed, become disgusted with the paper, as it is of no use to them, and when their subscriptions expire, neglect to renew, and when urged to do so refuse. and then—flop! Mr. Editor comes down from his high estate, grumbling about "lack of *philatelic* support."

It seems strange to us but still it is true, that among the large number of stamp-journals published at the present time, we find so few that can truthfully be called *philatelic* journals.

The majority of these journals devote almost their entire space to the discussion of coin and curiosity-collecting thus leaving Philately in the lurch. Yet still the publishers of these journals complain that stamp-collectors do not give them sufficient support. Why should they? When a stamp-collector subscribes to any stamp journal does he not desire a purely *philatelic* journal, and none of those *namby-pamby* sheets, which are nowadays called *philatelic* journals? Are these journals, for which he expects to expend his money really *philatelic* as they claim to be? (Devoted solely to the interests of stamp-collectors is what they advertise.) Every sensible collector knows that "Coins and Curiosities" are not going to aid him in gaining any knowledge whatsoever of stamp-collecting, therefore why should he subscribe? Now if these journals should devote their *entire* space to PHILATELY would they not be remunerated? We leave this for them to say!

In order to encourage philatelic writers we offer a prize of \$2.50 in gold, for the best essay or article on *stamp-collecting* received by June 1, 1884. All essays and articles sent are to be our property.

NEW ISSUES.

AS GLEANED FROM OUR CORRESPONDENCE.

STAMPS THAT HAVE APPEARED AND ARE ABOUT TO APPEAR.

Owing to the fact that our illustrations have not arrived in time for insertion in this number, we have to go to press without them.

BANGKOK.—The *Straits Settlements* 2 cent, rose; 4 cent, brown; 12 cents, purple; are used in this city provisionally surcharged with a B to prepay foreign mail matter, while the stamps chronicled for *Siam* last month are only used internally.

BAVARIA.—The inscription on the 3pf. and 3 x 3 pf. post cards now reads: Gilt nur im Inland und in zugehörigen Landbezirken.

BORNEO.—A new value has come into use, of the same design as the two cent, which appeared some time ago: 8 cents, green. Two new stamps are said to be in use: 50 cents, purple; \$1.00, carmine.

DENMARK.—The *Copenhagen Local Post* has put into use the following new stamps: *Adhesives*: 2 ore, blue; 9 ore, purple; 10 ore, blue; *Envelope*: 10 ore, blue; *Post Card*: 10 ore, blue.

EGYPT.—The 5 piastre stamp of the current set will be surcharged "20 paras."

A set of unpaid letter stamps is in use: 20 paras, 1, 2, and 5 piastres.

JAPAN.—A new wrapper has been in use for three months:

1 sen, blue or rice paper.

PORTO RICO.—The 3 es. de peso, yellow, has been changed in color to brown.

TURKEY.—Two new stamps with the heavy oval surcharge have been issued:

5 piastres, blue,

25 piastres, lilac.

OUR EXCHANGES.

The *Bayonne Philatelist* for February also to hand. This bright and newsy little sheet hails from Bergen Point, New Jersey, and is one of our most welcome exchanges. We hope to see an enlarged copy before long.

The *Stamp World* has not been received for two months. What is the matter, friend Mills? Has the recent flood delayed you or has your journal been suspended.

The *Granite State Philatelist* for February has been received. This journal instead of improving, has been stationary for some time. We would like to see more philatelic matter in the future, friend Hubbard.

The following journals received with thanks: The *Gem*, the *High-School Times*, and the *Philatelic World*.

(Exchanges will please send two copies.)

DEALERS' DIRECTORY.

We will insert your card like the following in this Directory at \$1.00 per year, including a year's subscription to THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST.

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CLINTON, W. B., 27 Princes Orescent, Margate, ENG.

COLLINS & DOHME, DAYTON, OHIO. U. S. A.

DURBIN, L. W., Cor. 5th. & Library, Philadelphia, PA.

EMORY, W. L., Fitchburg, MASS.

GREANY, W. F., 827 Brannon St., San Francisco, CAL.

HART, HENRY S., Sorel, CANADA.

MAC CALLA, W. A., P. O. Box 1593, Philadelphia, PA.

MILLS, FRANK, 124 Walnut St., Cincinnati, OHIO.

SARPY & CO., J. E., Peckham London, S. E., ENG.

STANLEY, GIBBONS, & CO., 8 Gower St., London,

W. C. ENG.

VON GLAHN & BUSSE, 547 Clark St., Chicago, ILL.

COIN DEALERS.

GREANY, W. F., 827 Brannon St., San Francisco, CAL.

STAKE, C. L., 223 S. Jefferson St., Dayton, OHIO.

STAMP JOURNALS.

The AMERICAN PHILATELIST, DAYTON, OHIO.

The Bayonne Philatelist, Box 96, Bergen Point, N. J.

The Old Curiosity Shop, Station A, Cleveland, OHIO.

The Philatelic Headlight, 547 N. Clark St., Chicago, ILL.

The Philatelic Monthly, Cor. 5th. & Library, Phila., PA.

The Philatelic News, W. L. EMORY, Fitchburg, MASS.

The Philatelic Record, 8 Gower St., London, ENG.

The STAMP WORLD, 124 Walnut, Cincinnati, O

THE PHILATELIC NEWS.

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Our readers will oblige the publishers by mentioning this paper when answering advertisements.

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The *Philatelic Record*, a high class illustrated monthly magazine, \$1 per annum, post free.

The *Improved Stamp Album*, including all new issues up to date, post free, \$1.

Album Weeds, or how to detect forged stamps, by Rev. R. B. Earee, is now ready, post free, \$2.

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Bergen Point, N. J.

NOTICE! We would like to inform the philatelic public that we are prepared to send sheets on approval to any collector who will send us good reference, or cash deposits.

COLLINS & DOHME,

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Our readers will oblige the publishers by mentioning this paper when answering advertisements.

New Monograph on the Stamps of Sydney

READY APRIL 1, 1884,

A New Monograph on the First Series of the Stamps of New South Wales,

ENTITLED

"THE SYDNEY VIEWS,"

BY T. MARTIN WEARS,

(Author of "The Stamps of Great Britain," "Philatelic Notes," &c.; Correspondent to "THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST.")

The above work contains a concise history, in four parts, of these interesting colonial-made adhesives. The first treats of their mode of engraving and chief peculiarities; the second consists of a general description of the allegorical design; the third includes all forgeries, essays and proofs, while the fourth is devoted to a valuable reference list embracing over sixty varieties of the three values.

It is intended to issue the work in the form of a brochure, embellished with a frontispiece of the views, showing the chief varieties of type.

The issue will be limited to 500 copies, each numbered and signed by the Author; and the printing will be executed in the best style on antique rough-edged paper.

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All applications for advertising space and for copies at wholesale and retail rates in America should be addressed to

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1883. HOLIDAY PACKET, 1884.

Contains 50 varieties Foreign Stamps (some unused); price, 10 cents. Address,

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Blue " " "	4 00
Great Britain, 10 sh., postage, gray.....	0 25
" " 20 sh., "	0 50
" " 1 £ "	4 00
Tasmania, fiscals, 1d. black.....	0 25
" " 6d. lilac	0 35
New Zealand, 2sh. blue.....	0 35
" " 3sh. violet.....	0 75
" " 5sh. green.....	0 50
" " 10sh. brown.....	2 00

I have also 2sh. 6d., 4sh., 6sh., 7sh., 8sh., 20sh., used *postally*, but only *one or two* specimens of each.
 Bulgaria, set of 10, price.....25c
 Angola, " 6, "20c

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The following are 6 cents each, NETT:

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Great Britain, I. R., ½d., 1d., 6d., the set.....	\$0 40
" " Gov't Parcels 9d. and 1sh. the pair..	0 60
" " 2sh., brown, price.....	1 50
Hong Kong, \$2 or \$3, each.....	16
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