



PHILATELIC SECTION.



vol. 25.





Crawford 2473 (1-10)

— THE —

# UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

VOL. I.

MT. AYR, IOWA, NOV. 25, 1889.

No. 1.

For the U. C.

## THE PHILATELY OF THE UNITED STATES.

By J. C. B.

The Philately of the United States is quite an extensive subject to write on, as there have been a great many issues of stamps. The first issue was in 1842-46; they were provisionals issued for the cities of Baltimore, Brattleboro, Millbury, New Haven, New York, Providence and St. Louis. The denominations were 10, 20 and 35 cents. The 5c. one issued for New York, has the bust of Geo. Washington on it with "N" and "Y" in the two upper corners and "Post Office" on the circular disk above the bust and "5 cts." below. The Providence is an oblong stamp and in the center "Post Office" "Prov." "R. I." "Five Cents" with flowers in the corners. The Carrier stamps were issued in 1849-51 and were all one cent stamps. The 1851 stamps "Government" above and "City Despatch" below, a horse to the right with a man who holds a streamer with "One Cent" on it. The first general issue was begun in 1847. They were printed on bluish paper and had "U. S." "P. O." on them with heads of Washington and Franklin. The stamps issued in 1851 were similar to those of 1847. In 1847 the denominations were only 5 and 10 cents and in 1851 they were from 1 to 90 cents. There were a great many stamps issued in 1861-1868. Those of the latter had embossed backs. The postage stamps issued in 1869 were different from what had been issued before this. They were all square. The 2c. is brown and has on it a galloping horse.

The 3c. blue has a locomotive on it. The 10c. has an eagle. The 12c. an ocean steamers. The 24c. the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The issue of 1870 had embossed back. The stamps of 1872 had the heads to the left in oval. The issue of 1875 was the same design as 1861. Stamps were issued five times during this year. On the issue of this stamp the 7, 12 and 24 cent were withdrawn from circulation. In 1876 the stamps were printed on safty paper with horizontal lines on it. In 1882, -3, -7, & 8 there has not been much change in the stamps. From 1842 to 1889 there have been fourteen denominations of stamps, viz: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 12, 15, 20, 24, 30 and 90 cents; on the different stamps have been the busts of fifteen different men, viz: Washington, Franklin, Jefferson, Jackson, Lincoln, Taylor, Garfield, Stanton, Clay, Webster, Scott, Harrison, Hamilton, Perry and Grant. Special Delivery stamps were issued in 1885. They are oblong or rectangular, the color is blue, 10c., has running postman on it and this secures immediate delivery. Newspaper stamps were first issued in 1865. The stamps were put to singular use. Papers for subscribers out of the county in which published are made up in bulk in the place where they are published and weighed. The necessary postage is paid in stamps to the Postmaster, who gives the publisher a receipt for the amount, and to the duplicate of this receipt are affixed the stamps representing the postage, which are cancelled by punching a hole through them. Both are kept in the Post office as vouchers for the postage paid. The most singular feature of the whole transaction is that the stamps are not put on the newspapers themselves and never pass through the mails.

(Continued on fourth page.)

THE BENEFITS OF PHILATELIC JOURNALS,

How many collectors can remember the thrill of delight which they experienced when reading the first Philatelic paper that fell into their hands? The old and the young collector are surprised and pleased. The man, formerly a little ashamed of his hobby, is delighted to find that other men are as enthusiastic as himself. The boy is in the seventh Heaven of delight while showing the precious sheet to his companions, and rejoices in the thought of "1000 all rare foreign for 20 cents."

One of the benefits of Philatelic journalism, and one that is to often overlooked, is the bringing together, as it were, of collectors from all parts of the country. How many of the prominent collectors of to-day owe in a large measure their fine collections and extensive knowledge of Philatelic affairs to their exchange and correspondence with other collectors whose names they first saw in the stamp papers? I will venture to say that nearly all of the older collectors are in this way greatly indebted to the journals, and indeed many acknowledge that such is the case.

One gentleman of my acquaintance, who has been a collector for nearly twenty years, told me that he never saw a stamp paper until four or five years ago when he happened to obtain a copy of Jewett's *Philatelic Herald*. Since that time his collection has nearly doubled and he is now a well known dealer and publisher.

Specialism, or collecting the stamps of but one country or group of countries, has been steadily growing in favor during the past few years, and in no other branch of collecting are Philatelic papers more essential. The catalogues for the most part leave out varieties such as watermarks and varieties of paper and perforation, but these minor varieties are precisely what the specialist is desirous of obtaining. Here the stamp journals come to his aid. Articles are constantly appearing giving complete lists of all varieties of the different countries

as far as known, and also making the reader acquainted with many facts regarding the circumstances of their appearance and use.

Of course this is but one of many benefits for which the collector should thank the Philatelic press. But no other seems to me to be more important than this.

The notes and reviews lend interest to the reading and many of the longer articles are of great value, but none are more needed and appreciated by earnest collectors than carefully compiled lists and well written articles on the stamps themselves.

The greatest objection to most of the journals is the space occupied and the attention given to personal quarrels and ill-natured criticism of others.

Let us hope and trust however that a decided change for the better may quickly take place, and that Philatelic Journals may exert a better and even greater influence in the future than they have in the past.—F. W. PICKARD in *New York Philatelist*.

Exchange Column.

Free to subscribers. Others at the rate of 25 words for 10 cents.

285 tin tags to exchange. Make offers. S. H. Wood, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

Minerals, Curiosities and books to exchange for cabinet sized minerals or a microscope. J. C. Berkey, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

Will give advertising space in this paper for original articles on collecting. Editor.

This paper—we wish to exchange with all, 2 copies. S. H. Wood, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

Wanted—To exchange list of Approval Sheet Frauds with other dealers for mutual protection. A. B. Merrill, P. O. Box 638, Everett, Mass. A. P. A. 664.

Want to exchange rare foreign for U. S. stamps not in my collection. Will give 20 p. c. above Scott's prices for such. B. L. Drew, 122 Oxford St., Cambridge, Mass.

An imperfect arrow-head for every philatelic paper. C. F. Case, Weymouth, Ohio.

We desire to exchange 1-inch advertisement space with every paper devoted wholly or partly to our hobby—philately. Send on at once. The Yankee Philatelist, Box 4, Barre, Vt.

J. H. T. L. L.

THE UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

—( THE )—

# Universal Collector.

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO COLLECTING.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS.

U. S. and Canada, 15c.  
Other Countries in the Postal Union, 25c.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

1 inch, 25c. 1 page, \$3.00  
15 per ct. discount on standing "ads" of 3 months or over.

Manuscript of merit desired on any subject of collecting.

Exchange desired with all—two copies.

Address all communications to

**S. H. WOOD,**  
MT. AYR, IOWA.

## SALUTATION.

In appearing before the public we come not to "fill a long felt want" as every high place in our estimation is efficiently filled, but to contribute our mite to collecting in the way of a neat, readable sheet, trying always to be on time and permitting no *personal* disputes to hold space in our paper. We come unheralded, unknown, but we soon hope to get acquainted with all collectors. We solicit manuscripts of merit and at least a small share of your patronage.

Respectfully,  
THE EDITOR.

## EDITORIAL.

*Yankee Philatelist*, F. S. Goldsbury and B. R. Grant editors, appeared from Barre, Vt. last month.

The *Essex County Philatelist* is another new philatelic paper which deserves creditable mention.

The *Red Man* contains a great deal of information for a paper of its size.

A question—"have dealers any right to send sheets of stamps unsolicited?" One

thing is sure and that is it is very annoying to collectors.

We notice that some publishers place "sample copy" and "advertise" on the paper. Why not put it on the back of the cover?

*Common Sense* for October is fine, in fact every issue is.

It has often been asked who has the largest collection of stamps. The *Oceanic* answers this question stating that M. Ferrary, the Duke of Galliera, residing in Paris. He keeps a librarian and a secretary and has a large correspondence, as it is known he will buy any stamp he has not already obtained.

*New York Philatelist* for October is a fine sample of philatelic literature. It is filling the subscriptions of *Collector's Ledger* and *Collectors' Standard*.

In the next number will commence an article on "The Rocks, Fossils and Minerals of Iowa" by the well known F. R. Stearns of Elkador, Iowa.

## CLIPPINGS.

We learn that the Charleston Philatelic Society has been revived. We have not learned the particulars except that Mr. G. J. Luhn was unanimously elected President.—*Yankee Philatelist*.

The State Cabinet at Montpelier, Vt. has many very interesting relics of the former "lords of the soil" of the Green Mt. State.—*The Red Man*.

Mr. Wm. H. Paige, of Haverhill, Mass., has a fine collection of U. S. stamps. His collection comprises nearly all of the postage, unused, as well as the departments. It will be well for any collectors when in Haverhill to call on him.—*Essex Co. Phil.*

## DIRECTORY.

5c. for 2-line ad. Name and address 3c.  
"Subs" once free.

J. C. Berkey, stamp collector, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.  
F. S. Goldsbury, Box 4, Barre, Vt.  
W. E. Berkey, stamp collector, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.  
S. H. Wood, minerals, scientific papers and geological specimens, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.  
Philip Gammon, Plantsville Conn.



**The Philately of the U. S.**

(Continued from first page.)

When first issued the stamps were sold to publishers in quantities as they wanted them, but after 1882 the amount of postage due was paid in cash and stamps to the value put on as before. These stamps were large and rectangular. They had the busts of different persons on them. The denominations were from 1c. to 96c. and \$1 to \$60. There have been a good many official stamps issued. The first issue was in 1873. They were issued for the different departments. The Agricultural, Executive, Interior, etc. The denominations were about the same as the postage stamps. The issue of Telegraph stamps began in 1850. They were issued for the telegraph companies, the Postal Tel. Co., Northern Mutual, American Rapid, etc. There has been a great many Revenue stamps issued in the U. S., Express stamps, bank checks, certificates, inland and foreign exchange, etc. The denominations have been from 1c. to \$200. There has been 304 issues, besides the cigar, tobacco, match and patent medicine stamps. There is a good deal of value attached to some of the stamps I have spoken about. The stamps issued for the cities are quoted higher than the rest. Some are as high as \$150, but they are very rare. Others are as high as \$75, \$50, \$10 and \$5. Newspaper stamps are very high, often \$4, \$6 and \$10. Official stamps are high as there were but few issued. Most revenue stamps are very cheap. The value of a stamp not only depends upon age but on how large an issue there was. Philately, taken as a whole, as well as an amusement, is a very nice study.

50 People Forced to Leave Home

**YESTERDAY**

To-Buy Statements of WOOD & BERKEY,  
Box 160, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

Only 35c. per 100. Send stamp for sample. 200 and this paper one year for 75c. Send now.

**The Yankee Philatelist**

presents to its readers each month the History of a prominent Philatelist, etc. We want you to try it as an advertising medium, and as a starter we will insert a 1-inch "ad" 3 months for only 40 cents or a 1-page 6x9 "ad" one month for \$1.00. Give us a trial. Subscription rates 5 cents per year. Sample copy free. Address Yankee Philatelist, Box 4, Barre, Vt.

**HERE!**

WE WILL GIVE YOU A FEW SPECIAL OFFERS GOOD TILL DEC. 15TH.

1. A 1-inch "ad" and 1 year "sub" for a 30c. postal note.
2. A 4-inch "ad" and "sub" 75c. postal note.
3. A 2-inch "ad" in 3 Nos. of this paper, \$1.00
4. 1-page—trial—\$2.00 (money order.)

Make sure of at least one before it is too

**LATE.**

S. H. WOOD,

Collector of

*Minerals, Geological Specimens  
and Scientific Papers,*

MT. AYR,

IOWA.

**BEFORE**

Jan. 1 I will sell for highest cash bid the following stamps:

- 1c. blue, first issue, on original envelope.
- 2c. brown, 1869, two on original envelope.
- 3c. red, 1859, on original envelope.
- 3c. green, on original envelope.
- 10c. green, on original envelope.
- Penny Post (Blood's) on original envelope, (bronze on lilac).
- 3c. red, 1860, on original envelope.
- 3c. envelope, red, 1861, original envelope.
- 1c. blue, first issue, unused.
- 3c. red, 1860, unused.

Remember for highest cash bid before 1890. Address with bids

S. H. WOOD, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

**STAMPS**

**STAMPS**

\* RUBBER STAMPS \*

SOMETHING NEW IN THAT LINE.

Baby Pocket Stamp, with name, only 30 cts.

Former price, 50 cents.

Pen and Pencil Stamp only 25 cents, postpaid.

All orders receive prompt attention.

J. C. Berkey, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

— THE —  
UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

❁ CHRISTMAS ❁ NUMBER. ❁

VOL. I

MT. AYR, IOWA. DEC., 1889.

No. 2.

Written especially for the UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

Iowa—its Rocks, Minerals and  
Fossils.

BY F. R. STEARNS.

PART I.

The rocks of Iowa have always had a peculiar interest for me, and, during the time I have been engaged in the study of Geology, these rocks have received no small share of my attention. Living in a locality where some of the oldest rocks are exposed to view, I early attached much interest to them, and this interest has not abated to the present day. Therefore, when the publisher of the UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR called upon me to write an article on this subject, I at once responded, because the subject was one in which I was deeply interested.

In the first place, we find in Iowa rock representatives of nearly all those great ages or lapse of time through which the earth has passed. The oldest age in the history of the earth, the Azoic, is but poorly represented in Iowa. But one formation occurs on the surface, and this is the Sioux Quartzite, found in the north-western part of the state. This is the same formation that is found in south-western Minnesota, and in which the celebrated "pipestone" (Catlinite) occurs. The Sioux Quartzite is a very hard, brick-red rock of but little use for economic purposes.

Passing up through this formation and over into the north-eastern part of the state, we come to a soft sandstone of a dirty-yellowish color. This is a Lower Silurian

formation and is called the Potsdam sandstone. A good place to examine this formation is at McGregor, where it has the appearance of solid rock on the surface, but once inside this crust it is soft and crumbling. Occasionally it may be found of a pure white color. Other localities where the Potsdam sandstone may be seen are at Lansing and at the base of the bluffs along the Upper Iowa river for a distance of several miles from its mouth.

Resting above the Potsdam sandstone we find the Lower Magnesian limestone. This is a rough looking rock of a light blue color. When broken it is found to have a very rough fracture, and this accounts for its being but little used for building purposes. At some places, however, as at McGregor, it is of better quality, and is used to a considerable extent for building. At this place the Catholics have built a fine church from this rock. It stands just in front of the quarry from which the workmen obtained their rock, and anyone seeing it cannot help but admire its grandeur, and the beauty of the rock composing it. The maximum thickness of the Lower Magnesian limestone is 250 feet, but in many places it is much less.

So far, as will be noticed, I have said nothing of the fossil remains found in these rocks. This is because none have yet been found of any importance in Iowa. It is true traces of crinoids have been discovered in the last-mentioned formation, and a certain geologist claims to have discovered a trilobite in the Potsdam sandstone, but none of those great numbers of fossil remains have been found which give to each period a distinctive character. We must

remember, however, that when these rocks were formed, the earth had but just cooled from its liquid state, and that it would be impossible for life of any but the very lowest type to exist in its seas. As we advance in the rock-making history of the earth, we will find that fossils will become more and more abundant in the rocks, as the waters of the earth became more suited for their subsistence.

### Postal Savings Banks.

STAR.

Nowhere in all the postal, political, or economic systems of the United Kingdom (Great Britain) can anything more useful and beneficial to the masses be found than the postal saving bank system.

It owes its origin to that "Grand Old Man" Gladstone, who in 1861 introduced and carried through Parliament a bill entitled "An Act affording additional facilities for depositing small savings at interest with the security of the government for the due repayment thereof." On the day of opening four hundred and thirty five deposits were made, in 1886 the number of depositors had increased to 3,731,429 and the amount of money deposited to over fifty million pounds sterling. The minimum deposit received is one shilling and the maximum thirty pounds. The interest paid is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. Should the amount on deposit reach two hundred pounds all interest paying ceases until the amount is reduced, the government offering other good securities to invest in.

Parents or other relatives can make deposits for minors and wives can carry accounts beyond control of their husbands. The cost of maintaining this saving system is very slight being less than five eighths of one per cent., thus paying the government a small compensation for their services.

### Historical Stamps.

The famous tax stamp of the Colonial

period, which was recently sold for \$20, has more than a passing philatelic interest. Aside from their great rarity they possess a historical value, as they helped to bring on the struggle for American Independence. Every schoolboy has learned of the famous "Stamp Act", but very few except the governm't agents of Colonial times and the indignant people upon whom the parliamentary edict fastened the stamps, ever saw a specimen, pretty good evidence, by the way, that the work of destroying these stamps was most effectual. Of the very few specimens known, one was offered at the sale of the "Suffolk" collection of postage and revenue stamps, and passed into the possession of Mr. Casey. The centre of the stamp is a crown. A sceptre and sword are crossed through it. The crown is surrounded by the garter, with the legend, "*Honi soit nul y pense.*" Below it is a scroll with the words "Half Penny", and at the top of the stamp the word "America". The color is yellow brown. Underneath each stamp is a different number in figures. The stamps were of different values, of course, but a list of all values is not known. The stamps of which the specimen described is one, were in the leaves of an old account book, the property of a noted preacher of the Society of the Friends, or Quakers, in New Jersey, dated 1769. The book was in quarto form, so that originally there was one stamp to each four pages, or 45 stamps. The number in the book when the stamp in question was removed was about 25, but very few of these were perfect. The book is at present in the possession of a descendant of the original owner, who resists all overtures to induce him to part with it.

### Directory.

5c. for 2 line ad. Name and address 3c.  
Subs. once free.

E. Cornell, Box 409 Marshalltown, Iowa.  
Box 504, Geneva, Nebraska.  
M. G. care of this paper, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.  
Yankee Philatelist, Box 4, Barre, Vt.  
Universal Collector, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

## THE UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

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15 per cent. discount on standing "ads" of 3 months or over.

Manuscript of merit desired on any subject of collecting.

Exchange desired with all—two copies.

Address all communications to

**S. H. WOOD,**

MT. AYR, IOWA.

The Holidays are coming.

Let us warm our hearts while we warm our fingers;

Peace and good-will holding gentle thrall;  
While the Angels' psalm on our memory lingers,

Let kindly words say Merry Christmas to all.

### Editor's Study.

Subscriptions come pouring in—well let them pour.

First stamp dealers and collectors arose in 1861. First hand-book in 1863, and first stamp paper in 1864.—*Museum*.

November number of *Rhode Island Philatelist* has a sketch of Adolph Lohmeyer, very good.

We wish to make our correspondence and query column the main branch of our paper. Send on your queries.

We want to make a fine January number so we may commence the year well. See our ad "We Want", also see F. R. Stearns' "Big Offer", it is no sham.

### Correspondence and Queries.

We intend to make this a main feature. Send on a description of your doubts, etc. to the editor marked for "C. & Q."

I have some stamps which I hope you may give me some information about. A three cent brown U. S. postage like the red of 1868. A 1c. brown proprietary same design as the one cent proprietary, red. I found the latter on an old receipt book with many other varieties.

Yours truly, N. C. H.

I have a mineral I cannot classify and if some one would help me out I would be thankful indeed. Granular, brownish red nearly opaque, am inclined to think it is a Crystalline rock of some sort occurring in granite.

Yours respectfully J. A. Mc.

It is probable that the above is Zircon. Does any one differ in opinion? Ed.

### Exchanges.

Cloth and paper bound books, and 400 green U. S. 3c. stamps to exchange for revenue or envelope stamps, cut or entire, any kind or quantity. E. Cornell, Box 409, Marshalltown, Iowa.

25 stamp papers for every 60c. worth of stamps at Scott's prices. 400 good stamps for a dime before 1870. Good books etc. to exchange for stamps. Dwo-rak & Co., Box 504, Geneva, Neb.

15 philatelic papers without covers for either of the following, *Exchangers Monthly*, Vol. 4 Nos. 6 or 7, Vol. 3 Nos. 1 or 12. Editor.

To exchange. A collection of stamps in album, minerals, curiosities, etc., for a type writer or printing press. J. C. Berkey, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

Covered stamp papers and also natural history papers for cash or exchange. S. Hamell Wood, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

## ALDRICH'S

New 1890 list are out. Send for one at once. If you want anything in the stamp line write

E. R. ALDRICH.

BENSON,

MINN.

**A BIG OFFER**—In order to test the advertising qualities of different amateur papers, we make the following offer:—To all who will send us 10 cents in stamps to pay postage, we will mail the following specimens: 1 horse shoe crab, 1 purple sea urchin, 1 fine star fish, 1 "17 year Locust" skin, 1 striped agate, 1 calcite xc and 3 other curios, worth in all at least 25c. This is no humbug, but the specimens are all fine ones, purchased in large quantities especially for this purpose, and we are confident will aid us in securing your future patronage. 12 pp. *illustrated catalogue* free with order. STEARNS' CURIO SHOP, Elkader, Iowa.

*This offer is not good unless you mention this paper.* Anyone accepting the above offer and sending us 15c. extra at the same time, will receive one of our test tubes filled with "Pictured Rocks" sand of different colors, the catalogue price of which is 25c.

## Harpers' Young People.

Numbers on hand put up with such papers as *Puck*, etc. for only 15c. per bundle and we guarantee 10 Nos. of *Harpers' Young People* and at least 5 Nos. of others in each package. Send at once to

Q. R. NOVELTY CO., Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

## ST. NICHOLAS.

*For Sale a number of volumes.*

Write, stating volumes wanted and prices will pay for same. All in fine condition, worth \$3 a volume when new.

Address

M. G.

Care of Universal Collector,  
Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

### WANTED.

The following are wanted by the editor. If you have them send list with lowest cash price taken for same, or if you wish to exchange, I have some fine papers on hand, 1. New York Philatelist, Vol. 1 Nos. 1, 4, 5. 2. Nebraska Philatelist, Vol. 1 Nos. 1, 2, 3. 3. Exchangers Monthly, (see Ex. column). 4. R. I. Phil., Vol. 1 Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 10. Natural history papers for sale.

## FORTY PER CENT.

Is the commission we allow agents who sell our stamps from approval sheets. Reference required. Apply at once and state about what priced stamps are desired.

SIXTEEN YEARS EXPERIENCE.

Canadian Revenue Stamp Catalogue 15c. and 30c. American Philatelic Directory reduced to 20c. Sample copy Philatelic Tribune FREE. A foreign postal card, entire, to every person who sends for sheets and mentions this paper.

F. J. STANTON,

Smyrna,

New York.

## Approval Sheets

sent to honest agents on application, at 40 per cent. commission. Valuable prizes given to agents every five months, selling from sheets.

B. R. GRANT, Hudson Mass.

Publishers inserting this and above will get same space in the *Vankee Philatelist*.

## We Want

A grand number for January and to induce advertisers to send ad- we will give them the benefit of our reduced rate for 30 days, 20c. per inch. And to the one who sends the best

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

we will give \$1.00 Cash. All articles must have "FOR PRIZE" on or they will not be inserted. All articles sent belong to this office and must be on philately.

## STATE- MEN- TS.

STATEMENTS.

100 35c.

250 85c.

Send stamp for sample and at the same time send 6c. for a fine *Pocket Postage*

Stamp Case.

Just the thing for duplicates.

WOOD & BERKEY, Box 160, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

# UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

VOL. I. MT. AYR, IOWA, JAN.-FEB., 1890. No. 3.

Written especially for the UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

## Iowa—Its Rocks, Minerals and Fossils.

BY F. R. STEARNS.

### PART II.

We now come to a remarkable formation which is of great interest, both to the scientific, and to the unscientific observer. This is the St. Peter sandstone, or perhaps better known as the Pictured Rocks sand. It is found at various places along the Mississippi river, but perhaps the best places to observe it are at McGregor and Clayton, both in Clayton county. The St. Peter sandstone belongs to the Lower Silurian age, as do also those formations which I described in my last paper, with the exception of the Sioux Quartzite. At McGregor, or rather two miles below, the St. Peter, or Pictured Rocks sand presents an appearance which can hardly be equalled in the state. Advancing up a narrow gorge, the curiosity seeker finds on either side of him a high, sloping wall, composed of sands of many different colors and shades. In some places will be found only in plain colors; in others they will be arranged in layers of different colors, beautifully variagated; while in some spots, the colors are blended together so as to form pictures of the highest style of art.

The occurrence of so many different colors of sand, which at first would seem hard to account for, is in fact very easily explained. They are simply caused by the decomposition of iron nodules that were formally contained in the sand.

This sand is of no special use for economic purposes, though the white variety makes a fine quality of glass; but as it is not found in sufficient quantities, this is of no practical benefit. In the line of artistic work, however, this sand, when in the hands of a skilled workman, will work wonders. In McGregor there is a man who can nowhere be equalled in his line of artistic work. Taking a glass jar and a quantity of sand of different colors, he will form therein trees, flowers, clouds, rivers, letters, a train of cars, flag, ship,—in fact anything, even to a correct likeness of a person. This is no mechanical process, mind you, but simply the result of his genius. He invented his art, and he has become the master of it. This man, Andrew Clemens by name, has lately completed what may be considered his masterpiece. It is a picture of Gen. Washington on horseback. He has far surpassed his copy. The coloring, shading, and form are all perfect, and all done with sand. In other parts of the jar are steamers running at full speed, Indians in camp, the stars and stripes, mountains, river, clouds and other scenery, as natural as life, and all wrought with sand in a glass jar. It is a marvel of skill and should have a place among the great art works of the world.

The St. Peter sandstone is about eighty feet thick and remarkably uniform. No fossils have thus far been found in it.

### Notes on stamps.

By J. A. W.

The earlier issues of stamps in many countries were emblematic to a great de-

gree, as for instance, the Mulready envelope, the design of which covered nearly the entire front of the envelope, representing Britannia sending angels to all parts of the world. The Cape of Good Hope used the figure of Hope reclining; Western Australia adopted the swan, for Swan river, Victoria adopted the Queen on her throne, the Virgin Island a virgin, some of the mountainous countries have mountains, though in later issues, most of them have given way to the portrait of the reigning King or President. In this way many of the sets, mark important historical events, as for instance, the green and red Centennial envelope stamp of this country, and even the art, progress, and taste of many nations can be distinctly traced from the successive issues of the stamps, beginning with rough wood engravings, crude in design, next lithographs, and finally fetching up with miniature engravings on steel, that are indeed things of beauty and attract thousands into the philatelic ranks to the hundreds of a few years back.

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### Post Cards.

BY "STUNNER."

Post cards are a part of every philatelist's collection, and should be so considered.

Some say they are too bulky and can not be mounted. This is all imagination, as there are a great many satisfactory ways of mounting them. The best I have yet seen, being in a book 10x14 inches I think, with three on a page, and leaving the side a place for notes. They were pasted on the pages, but I think a better way would be to slit the page, on the system of a Photograph album. In this way the card can be replaced by another, as all are of about the same size.

Some say that used post cards look dirty and look blurred etc. Now take a man, you see a dirty man, you will not say all men are dirty, but that *that* man is dirty. So with post cards, one is blurred and dirty and yet good specimens are to be found and easily too. Post card collecting is as much of philatelic interest, as revenues and envelopes, and in our estimation, a great deal more fascinating.

### Advancement and Progress.

SHOWN BY THE YEAR 1889.

BY J. L. PENDER.

Many changes have occurred during the past year. New papers have appeared and old ones died, and several deaths of prominent philatelists have occurred. The American Philatelic Association has grown to immense proportions and bids fair to rival the Dresden Society, which is much older. A new National Society has been formed called the Philatelic Society of America. The most sorrowful events were doubtless the accidental shooting of James Beebe Smith of Springfield, Mass. and the death of G. B. Mason of Lyndhurst, N. J. Philatelists will mourn the loss of two active members of the fraternity.

Important recognitions of our hobby, or science, are those of the *Santa Claus* and *Our Youth*, both papers devoted to the instruction and amusement of young people. I was very much surprised, when picking up a copy of *Our Youth* in the Y. M. C. A. rooms in this city, to find a collection of notes headed "Stamp Chat." The paper *Santa Claus* offers prizes for various objects, among them being the best collection of stamps. Another recognition is that of the *Golden Weekly*, a blood and thunder paper of New York. It offers as premiums, packets of stamps (50 var.), and has a story entitled "Bob Baxter, The Young Stamp Collector."

There have been more auction sales during the year, than in any other previous year. The most important being Bogert's, Scott's, Casey's, and Stanton's Literature Auction Sales. Also the Chalmers' bubble has burst, and a committee appointed by the A. P. A. convention, to reconsider the matter, and call a vote on it.

Altogether the year 1889 has been a most prosperous one for Philatelists. May they have many more like it.

## The Collecting of Autographs.

ROBERT E. WARD.

Of all the "crazes" or "fevers" as some have termed them, probably not one is as interesting, instructive, or productive of as much value as that of autograph collecting. Its followers, whose number is legion, are some of them the most popular men and women of the day. And yet, in spite of the prestige given the furore by its noted patrons, it is much dirided and disliked.

Autograph collectors are maligned as a class, by society, and the press, but it is my opinion that these adverse opinions are occasioned by the actions of a few unfortunate devotees who in their excitement and desire to add to their collections, so far forgot themselves as to transgress the bounds of politeness and thus cause annoyance,

But we have all learned that every band however noble its purpose, or great its mission, is infested with alien elements, which tend to lower it in the estimation of the people,

Gen. Sherman's army was surrounded by hordes of robbers and tramps who lived on it, and the country through which it passed. Efforts to dislodge them were futile, and yet, are we to consider the March to the Sea, or the brilliant military operations, any the less grand because of their constant accompanying pillaging and crime by those who were in no sympathy with the chief actors?

In cases of this kind, the value of the affair is represented by the acts of the majority, so Sherman's march lives as a triumphant passage, and not a freebooter's invasion.

In considering the opposition to autograph collectors, let some such reasoning guide us, and let us not be led into condemning it because of the impudent behavior of a few enthusiasts, who are loudly denounced by the whole class of autograph collectors as well as by the world at large.

Autograph hunting is as meritorious as Philately and Numismatics, and yet, these studies (as Mr. Berkey calls them) rank above it in public opinion merely because of the unrestrained impetuosity of some few of its adherents.

Philately has its sharpeners an unscrupulous disciples, but it supersedes autograph collecting because the tales of their conduct never reach the public press.

So the world denounces "autograph fiends" and refined and worthy collectors are even compelled to explain and apologize for the impertinence of some of their brethren, in order to justify themselves before society, which has been led by the newspapers to hasty and disparaging impressions of the whole class of autograph collectors.

---

## An Association.

BY "STUNNER."

Mineral collectors have long felt the need of an association; not an association like the A. P. A., but an exchange association through which mineral and fossil collectors can exchange their duplicate specimens. It would be of benefit to all. It will come sooner or later, but why not now? There are plenty of collectors, and plenty of duplicate specimens. From whence comes the delay? If all those who have anything to say, either good or bad, will write, it will soon be decided, whether an association will be formed, or not. Let us hear from all. Who will be the first to speak?

---

There are several persons who owe us for advertising and have not yet settled up with us. Their game is too old, and it settlement is not made before the going to press of our next number, we will advertise them freely.



—( THE )—

REVIEWS.

# Universal Collector.

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO COLLECTING.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS.

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Other Countries in the Postal Union, . . . . . 25c.

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Exchange desired with all—two copies.

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**S. H. WOOD,**

MT. AYR, IOWA.

## A Few Words to Our Readers.

We appear, this issue, in an eight-page form, this is owing to the patronage of our many friends. This number combines the issues of January and February or Nos. 3 and 4 into one number, No. 3, but subscribers will get their full 12 numbers.

We have secured as contributors for the coming year:— Philately, Messrs Goldsbury, Hooper and Berkey and are looking for a fourth; Autograph, Mr. Robt. E. Ward, of Chicago; Geology, Mr. F. R. Stearns and occasionally we will be favored by short article from Mr. J. C. Berkey and others as the occasion demands.

We will probably keep an eight-page form through the remainder of volume one but hope to add a cover during Vol. 2. To do this we need the patronage of advertisers as well as subscribers, and here take the pleasure in stating to dealers that our paper is excelled by none of its class and size. We leave our low rates as they are, for the present, but will raise them in the near future so make your contracts now.

*American Stamp Journal* of Portsmouth, N. H. copies one of our editorials in No. 1 and in criticism it uses the very elegant expression "Kats." We resume.

*Tribune and Advertiser* of Smyrna, N. Y. is one of our best exchanges and we recommend it to all as a first class advertising medium.

January number of the *Philatelic Gazette* at hand, in which, under the head of "Correspondence" appears a letter from Mr. Patrick Chalmers in which he says, "As not even the warmest friends of Mr. Pearson Hill, either in or out of the press, now pretend that Sir Rowland Hill ever did invent this stamp, little difficulty promises to be found in arriving at a conclusion confirmatory to the Chicago resolutions of 1887." Again we resume.

The *Post Card* has completed its first volume and in a little less than 12 months issued 30 numbers.

*Yankee Philatelist* of Box 4, Barre, Vt. has increased its size and bettered its appearance wonderfully since last it visited our sanctum

## Take Notice.

In our first number, under the head of "Clippings" we printed from the *Yankee Philatelist* in regard to the Charleston Philatelic Society that "Mr. J. G. Luhn was unanimously elected president." We beg to call attention to our subscribers that Mr. I. B. Cohen, A. P. A., No. 359, is the President of that society according to the January number of the *Southern Philatelist*.

Respectfully,  
THE EDITOR.

Philatelic Pointers.

BY CANADENSIS.

With the return of the cold weather, the stamp fiend also gets in his work. This time it is Augustus C. Bass, of New York City, who has been carrying on swindling operations through the U. S. mails. He gives two addresses 335 Hudson St., and 18 Clark St., N. Y. City. Look out for him.

The Chalmer's ghost has been nearly "downed" at last. The January and February *Philatelic Beacon* has the opinions of all the leading U. S. philatelists on the question. This is a great stroke, and will no doubt strike terror in the camp of the Philistines *alias* the Chalmerites.

In a theatre in Baden, there is a scene entirely composed of postage stamps. It contains 800,000 postage stamps of all countries, the colors of which are nicely harmonized.

There has been some trouble over the recent International Exposition of Postage Stamps held at Munich. There appears to be a universal impression that the judges were not competent. Mr. Moens and other well-known exhibitors have returned their medals to the society.

The European stamp papers are pitching into the Senf Bros. of Liepzig, for producing monthly, the last two years, fac-similes of different rare stamps. They are generally well executed, and closely approach the originals and that is the reason of the fuss. Senf Bros. generally put the word "*fac-simile*" or "*falsch*" in very minute letters somewhere on the stamp and thus they have no evil intentions.

On the fac-simile U. S. newspaper stamps the word "*falsch*" appears on the base of the figure, and at first sight might be thought to be the engraver's name. It is therefore a very easy matter to obliterate these pretentious words and victimize the younger collectors.

Speaking of erasing words on stamps reminds me that a certain stamp dealer of some pretensions once sent me an Executive stamp cancelled rather heavily. My doubts arising over the peculiarity of the cancelling mark, I submitted it before a powerful light, when lo, and behold, the word "*specimen*" shone forth. It was a bold attempt to defraud.

One of the great things to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the introduction of the adhesive postage as invented by Sir Rowland Hill, is to be a World's society bearing the founder's name. There are to be no dues, nor fees of any kind. Those who wish to join, should send their name on a postal card to Jno. R. Hooper, 559 King St., Ottawa, Canada.

The next great International Stamp Exposition will be held at Madgebourg, Germany, in June, 1890.

The C. P. A. is booming as the result of harmony, peace, and concord. I have had as high as 80 per cent. of stamps sold off sheets sent into Exchange Department.

*Curiosity Collector* and UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR till 1891 for 25 cents. The earlier sent the more numbers you get.

Correspondence and Queries.

We intend to make this a special feature. It is open to all, and we would like it to be patronized.

Editor,

Dear Sir:—I saw in your paper, (No. 2) in this column, an inquiry signed, N. C. H. Now I do not wish to infer that this gentleman is a fraud, but I recently saw in a philatelic paper, an editorial, stating that the editor had received stamps, as specimens, from a correspondent, on which the effect of acids had been tried, leaving the stamps a brown color, the same color of the stamps mentioned, and I would suggest that there might be a possibility of the red (3c.) of 1868 being so changed as to color it brown.

Yours in Philately,  
Collector.

Exchanges.

10c. per 25 words. Subscribers free. No limit.

A large collection of finely mounted postmarks, rare stamps or revenue stamps, for "Sweet Caporal" cigarette pictures. F. H. Green, 400 High St., Burlington, Ia.

50 foreign stamps for every stamp paper sent me. Cloth bound books wanted in exchange for stamp papers in good condition. Philatelic papers for same. Geo. H. Young, 18 Richards Ave., Portsmouth, N. H.

3 var. fine fossil corals from the Niagra Pel. of this locality, for 3 perfect named fossils of any other locality, or for any rare mineral 3x3 or nearly. F. R. Stearns, Box 567, Fayette, Iowa.

I will trade revenue stamps, or cloth and paper bound books, for a bicycle (bell) lantern, or cyclometer. E. Cornell, Box 409, Marshalltown, Iowa.

I will send from six to twelve fine stamp magazines for each one of the following in good condition: Philatelic Journal of America Nos. 4, 18, 21, 22, 50, 54, 56, 57, American Journal of Philately (new series) Vol. 1, Nos. 4 to 8, American Philatelist Vol. 1, Nos. 1, 2, 3, Vol. II, Nos. 1, 4, 6, 8, Vol. III, Nos. 7, 8, 9, 11, Vol. IV, Nos. 1 and 3. Rare stamps given with each paper. Now is the time. Papers to exchange for others. Jno. R. Hooper, 559 King St., Ottawa, Canada.

A 2x3 printing press with type, in good condition, to exchange for best offer of minerals or fossils, or to sell for cash. Write immediately to me and send best offer. Worth 1/2 as much as when new. S. H. Wood, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

A year's subscription to this paper for any five numbers of Exchangers Monthly, or Curiosity Collector. A one inch ad 10c ten of above. Universal Collector, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

Geological, and Natural History papers wanted, also Curiosity papers, in exchange for which, I have Philatelic papers, a few paper bound books, and Harper's Young People, Youth's Companion, and amateur papers. Also anything on my bargain circular, which will soon be out. S. H. Wood, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

Curiosity Collector and UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR till 1891 for 25 cents. The earlier sent the more numbers you get.

I am prepared to send a fine African Sea Shell or Japanese Fire Works and Napkins, either lot for only 8c. or both for 15c. for the next few weeks. Send at once as you will easily see that the two lots are worth 25c.  
S. H. WOOD, Mt. Ayr, Ia.

W. W. BOYLES, Sheffield, Ala.  
Would like to receive stamps on approval also sample copies of philatelic papers.

**EXCHANGE.**

Send for my list of Minerals and Curiosities to exchange for same or for books on mineralogy.

**J. C. BERKEY,**

**Mt. AYR, IOWA.**

**GOLD DOLLARS.**

At 25 cents each would be a bargain indeed, but NO GREATER than is the one offered you now.

**BABY POCKET STAMP**

with name, only 25c. Send quick.

**J. C. BERKEY, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.**

**Yankee Philatelist**

Only philatelic paper published in the old Green Mountain state and best yet. Come off the dump and send 50c. for a 3in. adv. in 3 Nos. 8 pages Yankee Phil., Box 4, Barre, Vt.

**U. S. STAMPS.**

1868 10c. green, unused, grilled, \$ .40  
 1868 15c. black, " " .35  
 1868 24c. lilac, " " 1.75

Unsevered pairs, triplets and blocks of four, prices made known on application.

Match and medicine stamps always on hand. Stamps sent on approval at 33 1/3 per ct. Com. Purchaser of \$1.00 at once receives 1 year's subscription to the CURIOSITY COLLECTOR.

**CURIOSITIES.**

Horse-shoe crab, postpaid, 1 doz. 16c.  
 Razor Shells, " " 20c.  
 Black sand from which pig iron is made, 10c. per oz.  
 Address **BARTLETT BROS.,**

**SO. AMBOY, N. J.**

**J. C. Berkey, MT. AYR, IOWA,**

Is ready to supply all collectors with a fine STAMP CASE for only 6 cents, postpaid.

**Pocket Postage Stamp Case.**

Hundreds of testimonials from some of the most prominent collectors. Only 6c. postpaid. Stock limited. Send immediately. **J. C. BERKEY, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.**

**British Guiana**

**PROVISIONALS.**

I have been selling the 1st type 2c. mauve and black, 1889, provisional for \$1.75, now the price is \$3.00 each, and if any one wants one that is the price. As they were only in use 48 hours, and I got a "corner" on a few, you can imagine they may go up to \$10 apiece and I hope to \$20. But don't forget you had a chance to get them.

*Jno. R. Hooper,*

559 Kings St., Ottawa, Canada.

**\* STAMPS \***

100 varieties of foreign stamps, many worth 2 and 3c. each, only 10c. postpaid. **J. D. BARTLETT,**  
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**American Stamp Journal**

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**American Publishing Co.,**

Box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.

**SCARF PINS.**

A sample of our new mineralogical scarf pins will be mailed upon receipt of only 25 cents. They are Beauties. Our tubes of

—:: PICTURED :: ROCKS ::—

sand make a handsome ornament for the collector's cabinet. From 10 to 15 colors of this celebrated sand are in each tube. Mailed, postpaid, upon receipt of 25 cts.

**F. R. STEARNS,**

Box 567, FAYETTE, IOWA.

Adv. and Sub. Agent for

THE :: UNIVERSAL :: COLLECTOR.

**Your Opportunity & My Necessity.**

I wish to dispose of my whole stock of Stamp Papers and make the following fine bargains.

100 very fine Philatelic papers,	\$1.40
200 " " " "	2.50
10 different, " "	.18
25 " " "	.20
15 " with covers,	.25

**GEO. H. YOUNG, 18 Richards Av., Portsmouth, N. H.**

I will receive scientific papers for 30 days at the following rates, to wit: 1 subscription for 8 numbers covered; 1 subscription for 12 numbers uncovered; 1 inch ad for 25 numbers covered; 1 inch ad 40 numbers uncovered; 1 page ad for 200 numbers mixed. **S. H. Wood.**

# Collectors! Attention!

We offer you here something in the Rubber Stamp line that every collector should have. Many printer's bills have been saved and rubber stamps are becoming universal.

These are all standard and are *not made by amateurs.*

## Midget Self-Inker, No. 1.

This is the best yet, ink of superior quality, with any card on wished, as following samples:—

RETURN AFTER TEN DAYS TO  
F. VAN CAMP & CO.,  
HARDWARE, ETC.  
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BARRISTERS, ETC.,  
Belleville, - - Ont.

To the tenth and twentieth person answering this and enclose \$1.00 we will send free of charge the following unique design of and will give a year's subscription to the UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR to *every person* answering. The above rubber stamp is sold for 50c.



Watch this each month as we will present unequalled bargains in the Rubber Stamp line, as we have made arrangements with the editor we can afford to

GIVE AWAY A GOOD PAPER FOR A WHOLE YEAR.

Address

## Q. R. NOVELTY CO.,

MT. AYR, IOWA.

# —THE— UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

VOL. I.

MT. AYR, IOWA, MARCH, 1890.

No. 4.

## AFRICAN EXPLORATION.

S. H. Wood.

### PART I.

Nearly twenty years have gone since Henry Morton Stanley was given the storied but significant order, "Find Livingston," by James G. Bennett, then, as now, proprietor of the *New York Herald*. At the time the order was given Stanley was but a newspaper reporter and sent upon his eventful journey entirely ignorant of African travel, and acted under this exceedingly indefinite order.



H. M. STANLEY.

This journey gave Stanley a passion for adventure, and in company with Livingston he remained at Ujiji, sometimes indulging in a little experimental exploring near that place. About four years after this meeting Stanley could be seen on the way to Zanzibar, with the sole intention of clearing away the mystery, in part, which hung over the "Dark Continent."

Science is now busy in the endeavor to count up the geographical and natural and ethnical and marketable treasures discovered by Stanley. The most prominent of his discoveries is Lake

Victoria Nyanza. The size and outline of that great body of water is now determined beyond dispute. It is one of the great lakes of the world, measuring 21,500 square miles in extent and from 330 to 580 feet in depth.

About two years and nine months after the journey was commenced, the great dark blank called Africa, brightened up very much to our eyes with lakes and rivers, with exactness of courses and boundaries to locate their places in a general way and to open the field for further and more thorough investigation. Stanley has proved that the Congo, the largest and greatest river in Africa, pours into the Atlantic 1,800,000 cubic feet of water a second, or 100,800,000 cubic feet a minute.

Two years later Stanley, for the third time, journeyed to Africa, and while assisting in founding the Congo Free State, he continued to fill up the blanks still left on this continent. This in brief is what Stanley did for science before going on his great expedition from Boma. As is well known, Stanley's purpose in this expedition was the relief, if possible, of Emin Pasha, Governor of the Egyptian Soudan, a region which lay on both sides of the Nile branch that issues from the Albert Nyanza. It was thought that Emin and his entire colony were at the end of their supplies, and for this reason Stanley marched in that direction, as Emin at that time was besieged on all sides.

In the ensuing chapters we will publish an account of all that Stanley saw, the curiosities of this vast country, and the habits, dress and customs of the people. The next chapter will deal with the oddities of their weapons and war dress.

## THE UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

### Mounting Autographs.

ROBERT E. WARD.

Having been asked to give a convenient method of mounting autographs, I append the following which I used myself. As most of the modern autographs come as simply names on cards or at best manuscript in the form of letters or notes, you must procure an extra large and strong scrap book whose leaves are of heavy paper. In order to insert the cards on the pages without the use of mucilage, take a sharp penknife and cut four diagonal slits about five-eighths of an inch long on that part of the page in which you want to insert the card and press the corners of the card into the slits and it is held there.

In inserting letters, if the manuscript is all on the first page, proceed as with card, but in case the manuscript extends to the third page, place the two outside corners of the third page in slits as before described and with a small dip of sealing wax fasten the fourth page of the manuscript to the book page. When the book is full, make an index on a slip of paper and let it lie loosely between the fly-leaf and the first page. Always let the book lie flat and don't stand it up on edge even in a book case, as the weight of the cards and manuscript will cause it to warp.

Unless one has a large glass case in which to preserve his specimens, I think this is the best way as it keeps them from fading and tearing and they are not disfigured with mucilage.

### STAMPS.

20 varieties of foreign stamps, many worth 2 and 3 each, only 10c post-paid. J. D. BARTLETT,  
A. P. O. 812, So. Amboy, N. J.

Written especially for the UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

### IOWA—ITS ROCKS, MINERALS AND FOSSILS.

By F. R. STEARNS.

### PART III.

The next formation, in geological order, is the Trenton limestone. This is a rock of much local importance and one much used for building purposes and in the manufacture of lime. Composed, as it is in some places, of innumerable fossils, both in perfect conditions and broken and ground up, it makes one of the finest lime rocks in the world, and the greater part of all the lime used in the northeastern part of the state is made from this rock. Its general color is white, or nearly so, but in the lower part the strata are of a bluish color. Specimens taken from these lower strata, which are usually well filled with fossils, make handsome ornaments when polished.

The Trenton limestone may be found exposed on the surface at the following places: Guttenberg, Wuakon, Decorah and Elkader; also in the valley sides of the Turkey and Upper Iowa rivers at numerous places along their courses. This is the formation down through which the Turkey river has cut its way in many places to a depth of many feet.

I must not pass over a formation so rich in fossil remains without some mention of them. Along the rivers which I have mentioned and the creeks emptying into them are found hundreds of different kinds of fossils washed from this limestone. Among gasteropods the most common are *Rafinesquina lenticularis*, *Machurea magna*, and *Murchisonia bellicincta*. Among brachiopods *Rhynchonella capax*, *R. den-*

vald, *Orthis testudinaria*, and many other varieties. Among cephalopods *Orthoceras junceum*, *Orthoceras vertebrate*, and many other straight shelled species, as well as a number of the curved. At Elgin and some other places trilobites are plentiful, one of the commonest being *Calymene senaria*. Corals are very common in the Trenton rocks, the cyathophylloids and favosites being especially numerous.

One of the rarest finds which I ever made in these rocks was at Elkader. It was the fossil called *Eurypterus remipes*, related to the trilobite. This fossil is stated by Le Conte and other authorities as having its dawn of life in the Upper Silurian age and here I found it way down in the Trenton rocks in the Lower Silurian age. As this is the only one of this species which to my knowledge, has been found in these rocks, I regard it as quite a relic, and as having probably lived a good many hundreds or even thousands of years before the majority his fellows.

The animal attaining the greatest size in the Trenton seas was the giant *Orthoceras*. To this voracious shark all other fishes gave way and he was the undisputed master. The shells of some of these cephalopods are found twelve or fifteen feet long and of a corresponding thickness. Often they are finely crystalized within.

I have given but a small and imperfect list of the many fossil forms found in the Trenton limestone of Iowa, but it will serve to give the readers some idea of the fossil contents of these rocks.

M. W. BOYLER, Sheffield, Ala.

Would like to receive stamps on approval, also sample copies of philatelic paper.

## NOTES.

It is an interesting fact that the portrait of Queen Victoria in widow's weeds is still used on the 3-cent and 6-cent stamps of Newfoundland. The 1-cent stamp of the same country shows the prince of Wales' portrait as a boy. A stamp of the colony of Victoria bears a representation of the queen sitting on her throne.

An autograph lately sold in London was a letter addressed by Landor to Rosina, Lady Lytton, and indorsed by her: "Old Landor's Twaddle."

In the next number will start a serial philatelic story by Mr. Pender, occupying a page in ten successive numbers, entitled "The Experiences of Fred Bunce; or, From Obscurity into Prominence." It will be a treat to stamp collectors. If you have not seen in your subscription you should do so at once.

Some interesting autograph letters from Dickens, Thackeray, Keats, and others were sold recently in London one from Dickens to Mrs. Macready £6 15s. A letter from Hood to Samson's Lover, referring to Thackeray's visit to America, contained the familiar anecdote of Thackeray and the Bowers boy. An autograph manuscript poem in four verses, entitled "As I See with Mine Own Eyes," beginning

"They call thee false as thou art fair;  
They call thee fair and free—  
A creature pliant as the air  
And changeful as the sea,"

was signed "W. M. Thackeray," and brought £3 12s 6d. Ten lines of poetry in the handwriting of Keats, on a small half-sheet of paper, included the familiar line—

"And Joy whose hand is ever at his lips  
Bidding adieu,"

which the newspapers speak of as "unpublished!" It went for £3.



## THE UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

—(THE)—

# Universal Collector.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL

Devoted to the Sciences in General and  
Philately.

S. H. WOOD, - - - Editor.

### ADVERTISEMENTS.

$\frac{1}{2}$  inch,.....20 cts. |  $\frac{1}{2}$  column,.....\$1.00  
1 inch,.....35 cts. | 1 column,..... 1.85  
2 inches,.....60 cts. | 1 page, ..... 3.50

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Exchange with all—two copies.

Advertisements can be changed each month.

Subscription one year, 20 cents; six months, 10 cents.

Address all communications to

UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR,

Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

### EDITORIAL.

**ILLUSTRATED.**—We are now a 20 cent paper, and for one of the branches we treat of we are as large a 20 cent paper as there is.

*The Progressive Philatelist* is a paper which bids fair to rival even the best out yet.

*Curiosity Collector* is fine.

We notice lately that the "Review Column" is just a list to X advertisements. We don't like to see this, so after this we will change the meaning of "reviews" to our subscribers by publishing such *articles* in papers that are useful for reference, mentioning only such papers as contain articles of real worth.

Rates are slightly raised, but are still very low.

**WANTED.**—A Natural History correspondent for this paper. Send for rates.

We would like to have Indian relic collectors represented, but as yet we can find no space, or no person who can efficiently run it.

Publishers finding any X adv'ts in this marked, will favor by inserting one of ours marked "Take notice."

I received the \$1.00 prize all right. Thanks. I did not hardly expect I would get it. Respectfully,

J. L. PENDER.

### ERRATA.

The following was omitted by mistake from No. 3:

"From the Post Card we acknowledge the receipt of Vol. 1, bound, for which please accept our thanks."

Please excuse us for omitting this.

### HILL VS. CHALMERS CONTROVERSY.

Considering the intense excitement over this question, we have written to and received answers from the following papers, and in No. 5 will publish more. Publishers please send views—

*American Stamp Journal*—Hill.

*Post Card*—neutral.

*Philatelic Beacon*—Hill.

*Essex Co. Philatelist*—Chalmers.

*Quaker City Philatelist*—Hill.

*Southern Philatelist*—Chalmers.

*Fitchburg Philatelist*—Chalmers.

*Yankee Philatelist*—Hill.

*Curiosity Collector*—neutral.

*Universal Collector*—Hill.

Hill 5, Chalmers 3, neutral 2.

## THE UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

Written expressly for the *UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR*.

### Why do we Collect Stamps?

BY J. L. PENDER.

To an outsider and one who has never collected anything, the feelings of a stamp collector are a mystery.

Why is he so anxious to obtain that little colored bit of paper, and then you hear frequently said: "He must be crazy to pay such a price as that for only a stamp." Some writers attempt to apologize for collecting, saying that it teaches history and geography.

Well so it does, but would you collect stamps for that alone. I think not. These "bits of paper" possess an interest peculiar to themselves and is not held by anything else in the universe.

I have been asked many times, "Will collecting stamps ever do you any good?" "Do you make any money out of it?" To this class I reply that I do not collect for the purpose of making money but as a pastime and that I consider the time spent on my collection as well spent. It cultivates the eye to sort and arrange the different shades and varieties, and in arranging a large collection in a blank album a good deal of taste is shown.

One of the good things resulting from collecting is that it keeps the boys home in the evening. A boy between the age of 15 and 21 is more liable to temptation than any one else. He takes a walk in the evening, meets a few friends, is invited into a pool room. He does not like to refuse and goes in "just to look on," but getting excited is induced to play. The pool room is connected with a bar and he is asked to drink. Not liking to be laughed at he takes one glass. But you all know the rest and I will not relate it.

Give a boy a stamp album and start him collecting and all this may be avoided. He will stay at home in the evening to arrange his collection and invites a friend in to help and in this way the evening passes very pleasantly. So in this way there are many advantages resulting from the use of stamps.

It also brings you in contact with other collectors in various parts of the country and if you should have occasion to visit a place where a collector of your acquaintance resided, it would make you feel as if you were not a total stranger.

There are many more things to tell about why we collect, but as I have written more than I intended to, I will close.

### EXCHANGES.

10 Cts. per 25 words. Subscribers' exchanges free. No limit is exacted.

Stamps, Shells, Coins, Printing Press and outfit, and a few curiosities, for cash, other coins, or large specimens of minerals. Walter E. Berkey, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

50 foreign stamps for every stamp paper sent me. Cloth bound books wanted in exchange for stamp papers. Stamp papers in exchange for same. Geo. H. Young, No. 18 Richards Ave., Portsmouth, N. H.

Fractional Currency, Nickles without cents, and books, for U. S. Revenues. E. Cornell, Box 409, Marshalltown, Iowa.

Covered stamp papers, foreign postal cards, Durbin's Catalogue of Postals, for Natural History papers, foreign postals not in my collection, and Confederate envelopes entire. Miss Harriet J. Perkins, Baldwinsville, New York.

## THE UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

### ASSOCIATION ACTIONS.

We have received the following names and articles from those willing to join an association for the benefit of exchangers of geological specimens:

(1) F. R. Stearns, Fayette, Iowa; (2) J. C. Berkey, Mt. Ayr, Iowa; (3) W. E. Berkey, Mt. Ayr, Iowa; (4) S. H. Wood, Mt. Ayr, Iowa; (5) F. L. Hodges, Elkhader, Iowa.

The following was received from Mr. J. C. Berkey. He considers it a great boon to collectors if such an association is formed, and in him the association will find a true helper:

*To the Editor:*

In answer to an article in the last number of this paper, I would say, let us have an association. Surely there are enough mineral and fossil collectors in this country to support one. Philatelic societies are becoming numerous. Was not this earth of ours filled with the beauties that adorn the collector's cabinet before philately was ever thought of? Certainly it was. Well, why be behind the times then? Let those who are interested in it push it to the front. Through this medium collectors can exchange their duplicates to advantage. So why not have an association. "Union is strength" in all things. Resp'y, J. C. BERKEY.

Mr. Stearns writes an encouraging letter which space does not permit us to publish. We think the association will be a good thing, and advise all to send their names at once. We think that a skeleton of a constitution would better be drawn up by a committee than by entire vote, so we nominate Messrs. Stearns, Hodges, and J. C. Berkey for this committee, to publish in next number the skeleton. Let our motto be, "Union is strength," as Mr. Berkey states.

### SCIENTIFIC.

The rapid decrease in the number of kangaroos is beginning to attract the attention of scientific societies in Australia. From the collective reports of the various stock inspectors it was estimated that in 1887 there were 1,881,510 kangaroos. In 1888 the number fell to 1,170,380, a decrease of 711,130. The chief obstacle to the adoption of measures for the effectual protection of the kangaroo is his vigorous appetite. One full-grown kangaroo eats as much grass as six sheep; and graziers—who as a class are not readily accessible to the influence of sentiment—find that the food eaten by this interesting animal might be more profitably utilized otherwise.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

MENTOSE, IUD.  
What was the rate of postage when postage stamps were first used in this country?

READER.

*Answer:*—The postal system of America dates from colonial times. It was during the reign of the good Queen Anne that we have the earliest evidence of what became a system in later years. About the year 1692 there was a postal plan considered, but it was not until eighteen years subsequent that it took anything like the form of a system. Benjamin Franklin in 1753 was placed in charge of the postoffice department of the colonies, and did much to further bring the postal business to the order and arrangement reached at the breaking out of the Revolution. Of Franklin it was said that he started the colonies in 1760 with the proposition to run a stage wagon from Philadelphia to Boston once a week.

Advertising space in trade for printing an 8 page 3x5 price list. UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

## THE UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

### DEVIL'S MILL HOPPER.

One of the Most Remarkable Natural Curiosities in the Country.

About five miles northwest of Gainesville, Fla., is situated that remarkable natural curiosity, the Devil's Mill Hopper. It is a physical phenomenon somewhat like the "sinks," but more wonderful. It is formed like a wash-bowl, and is several hundred feet in depth, and is at all times filled with water up to a certain height, which spreads out at the basin of the hopper in the form of a lake which neither rises nor falls, notwithstanding the fact that some twenty streams are pouring their contents into it continuously. These streams pour out of the sides of the hopper at various heights above the level of the water in the lake below, coming from no one knows where, as there are no signs of streams anywhere upon the surface for miles around. A remarkable feature of this wonderful sink consists in the fact that while for miles around the growth of the timber is all pine, inside the hopper the growth is composed of trees of all kinds and sizes, from stunted hickory saplings to towering magnolias of colossal proportions. Beautiful flowers and magnificent ferns grow in luxuriant profusion, and when the sun is shining brightly the reflection in the miniature lake of the surrounding fringe of trees is grand beyond all description. The Devil's Mill Hopper and the natural cave, which is another wonder in the same vicinity, are favorite resorts of picnic parties and Northern visitors to the sunny South. The drive from Gainesville to these remarkable natural wonders of Alachua County is a pleasant one over a good road.

The Northern stranger sojourning in the South misses one of the grandest sights in the world if he or she fails to pay a visit to the Devil's Mill Hopper and the Natural Cave.—St. Louis Republic.

**WISDOM**, a Monthly Magazine devoted to Stamps, Coins, &c., one year and 300 MIXED Stamps for 10 cents.

**ADVERTISING RATES**  $\frac{1}{2}$ c a word for first time,  $\frac{1}{4}$ c per two words each additional insertion.

G. P. JACOBSON, Pub., Box 217, Calmar, Iowa.

### BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Three lines 1 year, 75 cents; 6 months, 40 cents. (Regular advertisers gratis for twice.)

**BERKEY J. C.**, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.—Rubber Stamp Novelties of all kinds at lowest cash price.

**PENDER J. L.**, box 954, Portsmouth, N. H.—Dealer in U. S. and foreign stamps. Approval sheets a specialty.

**STEARNS F. R.**, box 567, Fayette, Iowa.—Curiosities, Minerals, etc., a specialty. (Note advertisement this month.)

**UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR**, Mt. Ayr, Iowa, 20 cents per year. 1 in. adv. 35 cents;  $\frac{1}{2}$  col. \$1.00; 1 col. \$1.85; 1 page \$3.50.

**WOOD S. H.**, Mt. Ayr, Iowa.—Curiosities, Scientific Literature, Lists for Stamp, Japanese Napkins free with 25 cent order.

### BOYS!

A 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ x4 inch PRINTING PRESS Given Away FREE with 2 Fonts of Type, 2 rollers, ink, 50 cards and furniture. Send for terms and particulars, and be sure to mention this paper. See *Corona News-Letter*.

Enterprise Stamp Co.,

THREE RIVERS, MASS.

Editor: inserting this and the above three times, can have pay in rubber stamps, not to exceed two dollars or less than one dollar.

### COLLECTORS

For any quantity of well-assorted stamps, revenues, bills, locals, telegraphs, cards, wrappers, envelopes, cut and entire, of North, South, and Central America, I will send you with return mail the same number of well assorted Russian and Bulgarian stamps, etc.

Polen, Russia error, and 1858, all Russian cards and envelopes, rare European stamps in exchange for good United States stamps.

Send me sheets at low prices on approval, cash with returned mail.

Send lists of what you want of European stamps to

**OSCAR SCHNEIDER**, Riga, Russia, (Livonia) Todleben Boulevard No. 2.

**STAMP COLLECTOR'S JOURNAL.**

LAKE VILLAGE, - NEW HAMPSHIRE.

ORIGINAL throughout. Only 10 cents per year. 12 numbers guaranteed or money refunded. Sample free.

Advertisements, 25 cents an inch.

**Dealers & Exchangers.**

I have a large quantity of fine Skate's eggs which I will send post-paid for only 25 cents per dozen, or two for 50 cents.

**A BARGAIN!**

F. R. STEARNS, Box 567, FAYETTE, IOWA.

**Young's Phil. Hand Book**

Will appear April, 1890. All collectors receiving the silver will have name inserted free.

Advertising rates 60c per inch; 2 inches \$1.00; larger rates upon application.

It will have as contributors, some of the best informed and oldest philatelic writers in the United States.

Address all communications to the publisher,

**G. H. YOUNG,**

No. 18 Richards Ave. Portsmouth, N. H.

**Phil. Literature Wanted.** Those having any to dispose of will find it to their advantage to correspond with me.

100 very fine stamp papers,	:	:	:	\$1 40
250 " " " " " " " "	:	:	:	2 50
10 different " " " " " "	:	:	:	.18
25 " " better quality " " " "	:	:	:	.35
15 " " with covers " " " "	:	:	:	.50

I will give a copy of my Hand Book to all who purchase over 20c worth of papers from the above list.

**GEO. H. YOUNG,**

No. 18 Richards Ave. Portsmouth, N. H.

**COLLECTORS!**

SEND 5 cents and have your name inserted twice in a classified collector's directory, in the Collector's and Agents Directory, samples free. Agent's names the same price.

An Exchange or Bargain of 30 words 5 cents; 3 insertions 10 cents. A three line card in Dealer's Directory three times for 10 cents.

**PRINTING.**

100 white or colored envelopes, size 6, 15 cents post-paid. Linen note heads same price. 100 white or tinted business cards, 35 cents post-paid.

300 white or assorted colored envelopes and 300 note heads, \$2.00.

Send for prices of printing.

HOWARD H. BROWN, OLD BRIDGE, N. J.

**STAMPS** Sent on approval at 25%

per cent discount. Reference or deposit required except in case of A. P. A. and C. P. A. members.

**J. L. PENDER,**

Box 351. Portsmouth, N. H.

**JUST RECEIVED!**

We have just received a choice lot of

**JAPANESE DISHES**

which we will sell for a short time at the following low rates:

One dish, 10 cents; 1 dish, finer, 15; 1 pair dishes, fan shape, 30 cents; 1 pair dishes, oddly matched, 25 cents.

These dishes are all genuine and are hand-painted. No two exactly alike.

**S. H. WOOD,**

Mt. Air, Iowa

**WE HAVE TO OFFER SOME RARE BARGAINS!**

COLLECTORS should mention this paper, and send for one of our fine sheets of stamps on approval

**AT 40 PER CENT COMMISSION.**

Our sheets always contain fine stamps, and are neatly put up.

**PACKETS:**

50 varieties, inc. Mexico, Bosnia, &c.,	:	:	.08
100 " " " " " " " "	:	:	.15
500 fine mixed inc. India, Ceylon, &c.,	:	:	.15

**DWORAK & CO.,**

Box 501. Geneva, Nebr.

# —THE— UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

VOL. I.

MT. AYR, IOWA, APRIL, 1890.

No. 5.

## AFRICAN EXPLORATION.

S. H. Wood.

### PART II.

The weapons of the Africans are numerous in numbers and very different in sizes, and yet there is a certain similarity about them noticed by all, owing to the narrowness of their minds or intellect and want of proper materials and tools.

Through the effects of civilization, these defects may be overcome, and as the different governments, especially England, are making rapid strides in that country in the work of civilizing the different tribes, it can be supposed that soon all the different modes of warfare to which the natives are now accustomed will vanish and be superseded by the more modern methods, or let us hope by universal peace.

For beheading in Africa, a long narrow bladed sword is used. Persons are beheaded for theft and occasionally for murder, but generally for the latter offense are only forced to pay a fine of from forty to seventy-five goats, according to the position of the murdered while alive.

For war, short spears are used and to a great extent short swords also, by those of higher rank, though often swords may be found in the possession of the ordinary native, obtained by plunder.

One of these swords in my possession has a blade of hammered iron, thirteen inches in length and the hilt (of wood covered partially with brass wirings) measuring 6 inches with a slight projection on each side 1 inch in diameter and in length occurring 3½ inches from the end. The blade is fastened to the hilt by sliding the hilt up to the projections and placing in the slit two inches of the blade, wrapping the whole with brass wire, thus making the entire blade 15 inches. The scabbard is 13½ inches long and 3 inches across at the top. It is made of two

thin slabs of dark brown wood, probably walnut and covered with a lizard skin. In war, short handled axes are also used to be thrown as tomahawks.

Poisoned arrows are used for hunting invariably, and in hunting an elephant the natives keep out of his way and pierce him continually with spears and arrows—generally poisoned—until he falls.

*(To be continued.)*

FOR THE UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

## IOWA--ITS ROCKS, MINERALS AND FOSSILS.

BY F. R. STEARNS.

### PART IV.

Resting upon the Trenton limestone of which I spoke in my last paper, we find the galena limestone. It is nearly a pure dolomite with a small percent of siliceous matter mixed with it, and in appearance is much like the Lower Magnesian limestone, though a somewhat lighter color. It may be seen at Dubuque, Elkader and Clermont, also in the bluffs along the Turkey river at several places. It can readily be distinguished from the Trenton limestone by its color.

The Galena limestone takes its name from the Galena ore or lead sulphide which is found in it and of this I will speak later. Fossils are rarely found in this formation, why, I do not know. A few are sometimes found, but they are not plentiful, and in most cases are identical to those found in the Trenton. As a building stone the Galena limestone is very poor, except near the top. The top strata are very thick, firm rocks, and make first-class building material. The new stone arch bridge across the Turkey and Elkader is built from this rock. It is a magnificent structure, costing about \$18,000 and requiring over a year to build. The quarry from which they took the

rock to build this mighty structure is situated about half a mile up the river from the bridge, and the taking out of so much rock has opened it up and left it in a condition to supply the people thereabouts with good building stone for all time to come.

Above this limestone are the Maquoketa shales. They are found freely exposed in the valley of the Little Maquoketa river from which they take their name. This formation consists of brownish and bluish shales, sometimes slightly arenaceous and sometimes calcareous, which forms a tenaceous clay when exposed to the weather. It is not used to any extent for building, being so soft and crumbling.

Many fossils are found in the Maquoketa shales. The valley of the Little Maquoketa, about twelve miles west of Dubuque is the best locality. This formation, as well as the Galena limestone, is included in the Lower Silurian age. The next formation of which I will speak, the Niagara limestone, takes us into an advanced age of geological time, the Upper Silurian. Only one formation of this age comes to the surface in Iowa, and this is a magnesian limestone with much flinty material mixed with it. The Niagara limestone in Iowa is a continuance of the same strata over which the waters flow at Niagara Falls. It may be seen in the bluffs of the Mississippi between LeClaire and Bellevue, and in most of the valley sides of the streams in the following counties: Jones, Clinton, Jackson, Delaware, and a part of Dubuque, Scott, Howard, Cedar, Buchanan, Clayton and Fayette. When it is evenly bedded, as at LeClaire and Anamosa, it makes a fine building rock, but the greater part of it is rough and unfit for use. In some places the Niagara limestone contains large numbers of cavities, sometimes entirely empty and sometimes partly filled with a fine yellow dust. These cavities are supposed to have contained fossils at some remote period, which, through some unknown cause, have disappeared.

If your paper does not come to you, first speak to your post master and then drop us a line. We mail to all each month, and if not delivered, it is the fault of the postal service—not us.

THE DISCOVERY OF THE 1804 DOLLAR.

ROBERT E. WARD.

About two months ago, the St. Paul *Pioneer Press* spread the news over the country in a hastily prepared and hence faulty article that the missing 1804 dollar had been found. In a short correspondence with the finder, Dr. Edward Walther of 203, 8th street, St. Paul, Minn., I have ascertained some of the true facts of the discovery which I herewith present:

Shortly after the first of January, a gentleman consulting Dr. Walther, professionally tendered the price in payment, but on the doctor calling attention to its age (although he knew nothing of its great value), the gentleman took the piece back, exchanging it for another. In about a month the gentleman called again, and the doctor then being cognizant of the value of the coin, offered to purchase it. After some effort he succeeded in doing so, and the sum paid was \$155.00 in cash. The doctor's patient received the coin from a young Scandinavian, who had recently lived in Southern Minnesota, and who had owned it for nine years, having received it from his father who secured it in 1827, and has kept it as a curiosity and a memorial because it was coined the year that he was born.

The dollar is a genuine one, and not a restrike or an alteration, and bears all the letters, figures, arrows, vignettes, etc., also evidences of wear in that it has lost a little over a grain in weight, it now weighing about 415 $\frac{1}{2}$ . There were 19,570 of these dollars coined of which all were recovered by the mint save four, (some statistics give eight). This is the last of the missing ones to be regained. Dr. Walther is still in possession of the piece and is acquiring knowledge concerning it daily. It is not his intention to part with it although it is held by numismatists et al. at values varying from \$800 to \$1,000.

PHILATELISTS.

Being out of philatelic MS. we have but little in this issue, but will give \$2.00 worth of advertising space to the person writing the best article before April 25th, of over 600 words. *A fine chance!*

CORRESPONDENCE.

Questions answered by competent authorities.)

I have a mineral I cannot classify and would be thankful for aid in placing it: Composed of a black and very hard substance, with green veins running through it, which are equally as hard. I think it is *malachite*, but would like to know for sure before placing it.  
F. H. G.

NOTICE:—Questions and answers must be written separate from letters and must be on one side of the paper only, or they will not be inserted.

VAST MINERAL PROPERTY.

The following interesting facts are obtained from the New York Daily Tribune. They are as follows:

The fast rising of shares in the Tennessee coal, iron and railroad company, has excited the attention of the public and the following statistics were shown of the mineral resources of these mines:

COAL.

	Tons Yearly.
Nine coal mines at Pratt, 4,250 tons daily.....	1,275,000
Four coal mines at Tracy City, 1,300 tons daily.....	390,000
Two coal mines at Whitwell, 800 tons daily.....	240,000
Total.....	1,905,000

COKE.

Two hundred and fifty-one coke ovens at Alice, 280 tons daily.

Eight hundred and six coke ovens at Pratt, 800 tons daily.

One hundred and seventy coke ovens at Whitwell, 203 tons daily.

Five hundred and thirty-four coke ovens at Tracy City, 550 tons daily.

Total, 1,761 coke ovens, 1,830 tons daily, or 549,000 tons per year.

IRON ORES.

Four mines at Red Mountains, 2,400 tons per day.

Two mines at Inman, 700 tons per day.

Total, six mines, 3,100 tons daily, or 930,000 tons per year.

PIG IRON.

Ten blast furnaces, with complete plants, 328,000 tons annually.

The publication of these enormous figures has brought stock up further, even, than before.

REVIEWS.

(This column makes mention of but few papers as it is intended more for reference as a "library companion" for those papers worthy to preserve.)

"Justice Triumphant" "designs for new postage stamps," and "new postal cards.—In Vol. 2, No. 6, of *Philatelic Beacon*," (March number.)

*Philatelic Fraud Reporter* is out. All should have it as a safeguard against frauds. As a specialist it cannot be bettered. Fifteen cents; four pages. Green & Steele, Crete, Nebraska.

*Colorado Exchange Journal*: March—"Mines and Miners."—Lively Leaville, (Vol. 3, No. 2)

"Increase in price of U. S. Stamps," in Vol. 1, No. 6, of *No. Philatelic*. Also "Facts concerning present and past issues of U. S. stamps."

*Figaro*, Vol. 4, No. 22: "Etymology of the names of stamp-issuing countries on the globe," and Mr. Voute's "Associate Editor's Scrap Book.

"Shun Surcharged Stamps" in Vol. 1, No. 8, of *Nebraska Philatelist*, and "Foreign Postal Notes," by Pr. Heinsberger.

*Empire State Exchange*, Vol. 1, No. 5: "Precious Stones," "Beautiful Minerals of Penna.," and "Rare Old Coins." It is a good journal but does not devote enough space to geology.

*Yankee Philatelist*, No. 5: *Paddock's U. S. Bill*, No. 4, was poorly printed, but No. 5, is back again to the old printer. Much the better.

*Le Bonde*, No. 5: "A Band of Philatelic Boodlers" (a Dutchman's romance).

*Eureka Philatelist* is no more. We are sorry to lose it from among us.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY.

Three lines 1 year, 75 cents; 6 months, 40 cents. Regular advertisers gratis for twice.)

BERKEY J. C., Mt. Ayr, Iowa.—Rubber Stamps, Novelties of all kinds at lowest cash price.

PENDER J. L., box 954, Portsmouth, N. H. Dealer in U. S. and foreign stamps. Approval sheets a specialty.

STEARNS F. R., box 567, Fayette, Iowa.—Curiosities, Minerals, etc., a specialty. (Note advertisements this month.)

WOOD S. B., Mt. Ayr, Iowa.—Curiosities, Scientific Literature, Lists for Stamp, Japanese Napkins free with 25 cent order.



—(THE)—

# Universal :: Collector.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL.

Devoted to the Sciences in General and Philately.

S. H. WOOD, - - - Editor.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

1/4 inch,.....20 cts.	1/2 column,.....\$1.00
1 inch,.....35 cts.	1 column,..... 1.85
2 inches,.....60 cts.	1 page,..... 3.50
15 per cent. discount on 3 months' advertisements or over.	

Exchange with all—two copies.

Advertisements can be changed each month.

Subscription one year, 20 cents; six months, 10 cents.

Address all communications to  
UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR,  
Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

## HILL VS. CHALMERS.

(Publishers please send views.)

*Nebraska Philatelist*.—Neutral. *The Hoodle*.—Hill. *Philatelic Monthly*.—Hill.

Totals: Hill, 7; Chalmers, 3; Neutral, 3. Grand total 13. Let us hear from more.

## NEW MEXICO AS A MINERAL CENTRE.

(Extracts from the *Mining and Scientific Review*.)

New Mexico is a wonderful land and needs but the application of capital producers of this country. We find there: 1, silver; 2, gold; 3, lead; 4, zinc; 5, iron; 6, tin; 7, cobalt; 8, copper; 9, bismuth; 10, lignite; 11-14, bituminous and anthracite coal and their varieties; 15, sulphate of lime; 16, phosphate of lime; 17, borax; 18, vitrious earths; 19, fire clay; 20, potter's clay; 21, kaolin; 22, building stones of many shades and character. What may not the coming centuries yield!

## EARLY POSTAGE.

Previous to the year 1816, the rates of postage were:—

For one letter, under 40 miles distance, 8c.; same under 99 miles, 10c.; same, under 150 miles, 12½c.; same, under 309 miles, 17c.; same under 500 miles, 20c.; same, over 500 miles, 25c.

During that year the following changes were made:—

One letter, not over 30 miles distance, 6½c.; same, under 80 miles, 10c.; same, under 150 miles, 12½c.; same, under 400 miles, 18½c.; same, over 400 miles, 25c.

In 1851, another difference was made. Single letter, under 3,000 miles in distance and less one ounce, 3 cents; or 5 cents if not prepaid. Over 3,000 miles, 6 cents; if not prepaid 12 cents. To foreign countries, less 2500 miles, 10 cents; over 2500 miles, 20 cents.

In 1852, another modification was made and remained at those rates till 1863, when the uniform rate of 3 cents was enacted. The other change to 2 cents, is too well known to require even mention.

## EXCHANGES.

10 Cts. per 25 words. Subscribers' exchanges free. No limit is exacted.

I have a pair of "Richmond" clamp club roller skates, full nickel-plated, and with all the latest improvements for \$1.75, or curiosities valued at \$1.75. Cost \$5.50. Fred. Green, 400 High street, Burlington, Iowa.

A collection of over 1100 varieties of foreign and U. S. stamps for books or cash. Also 2000 stamps to exchange from sheets. All letters answered. W. W. Boyles, box 48, Sheffield, Ala.

A polygraph, also a number of *Youths' Companions* containing "Bidding His Time"—7 chapters; "Kuga"—3 chapters; "A Paek Peddler's Adventures"—3 chapters; "An Inconsiderate Act"—2 chapters, and many others. Will exchange for curiosities and will give a base-ball curver to the one making best offer, free. F. H. Green, 400 High street, Burlington, Iowa.

NOTICE:—Please write your exchanges on a separate piece of paper and only on one side. Otherwise it will not be inserted.

## WANTS.—NOTICES.

1c. per word each insertion; no display. Address counted.

WANTED!—Autographs and coins for which I am ready to pay cash. Dealers send lists and collectors write me in regard to your duplicates. H. E. LESAN, Grant City, Mo.

W. W. Boyles, Sheffield, Ala., desires samples of all papers and sheets of stamps on approval.

## NATURAL HISTORY.

A. W. LEWIS, - - - - - Manager.

## THE ATLANTIC OCEAN BED.

In 1853, Lieutenant Brooker, sounded between Newfoundland and the Azores, and brought up some of the deep sea mud by the aid of a special sounding apparatus. Microscopists found this mud to be composed almost entirely of *Globigerina*, and very similar to those occurring in chalk.

Again when the enterprise of laying a cable between Ireland and the U. S. was first undertaken, it became a matter of immense importance to know not only the depth of the sea, through the whole line along which the cable was to be laid, but the exact nature of the bottom, to guard against the chances of cutting and fraying the strands of that costly rope. The ocean, for the whole length along which the cable was to be laid, was sounded and specimens brought up from the bottom and examined.

As a result of these operations, we know the contours and the nature of the surface soil covered by the North Atlantic for a distance of 1700 miles from east to west as well as we know any part of the dry land. It is a prodigious plain, one of the widest and most even in the world, a very fortunate thing for the cable.

If the sea was drained off, a wagon might be driven all along the way from Valentia to Trinity Bay, Newfoundland and except upon one sharp incline of 200 miles from Valentia, it would not be even necessary to put the skids so gentle are the inclines.

From Valentia, the road would descend for 200 miles. Then would come the central plain, 1,000 miles wide, the inequalities of which would hardly be seen, although the depth varies from 10,000 to 15,000 feet, and there are places in which Mont Blanc might be sunk without showing its peak above water.

Beyond this the ascent on the American side commences and gradually rises to the Newfoundland shore. Almost the whole of the bottom of the central plain, which extends many hundreds of miles north and south, is covered by a fine mud, which, when brought to the surface, dries into a

grayish-white, friable powder, very much like soft, grayish chalk, and examined chemically, it is composed almost wholly of carbonate of lime.

Examined under the microscope, we find it to consist, in great measure of *Globigerina* shells. So that the deep sea mud is really chalk.

These *Globigerina* have been the shells of a very low organism. The animal is, in fact, a mere particle of living jelly, without defined parts of any kind, without mouth, nerves, muscles, or distinct organs. Yet this formless particle is capable of feeding, growing and multiplying, and of separating the carbonate of lime which is dissolved in sea-water. Therefore *Globigerina* are exclusively marine animals, and there is no doubt that the *Globigerina* of the chalk lived under the same conditions they do now. Thus in all probability, chalk is the ancient mud of a deep sea. Here and there this hardened mud reveals the remains of higher animals, which have lived and died and left their hard parts in the mud, just as oysters die and leave their shells behind them in the mud of the present seas. We find in the chalk remains of shell fish, sea urchins and star fishes. More than 3,000 different species of aquatic animals have been found in the chalk, some very rare, others very common.

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It will contain the names, colors, composition, &c., of nearly all known minerals, together with a place for indicating those specimens in the owner's collection, and spaces for marking the localities. It will also contain two or more chapters on crystals, precious stones, or other interesting subjects, thus forming a useful as well as instructive little mineralogy. It will be printed on fine book paper, each page 6x9 inches, and bound in strong, flexible covers.

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Or, F. R. STEARNS, Fayette, Iowa.

—THE—  
UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

VOL. I.

MT. AYR, IOWA, MAY, 1890.

No. 6.

FOR THE UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

IOWA--ITS ROCKS, MINERALS, AND FOSSILS.

BY F. R. STEARNS.

PART V.

In my last article I omitted speaking of the fossils found in the Niagara limestone. The principal variety is corals. Being in Fayette and expecting to remain here, I am improving my spare time by making a good sized collection of these fossils. A good many species are to be found, but as space forbids my giving a list, and it would probably not be interesting to the reader, I will pass on to the next geological formation,—the Hamilton limestone. It is the only representative of the Devonian age found in Iowa. A considerable quantity of the limestone is shaly, and therefore is of no great economic importance, but at some places it makes a fair building stone, and is often valuable as a lime rock. At Waverly a very good grade of hydraulic lime is made from it. At some places the shales assume the character of a marly clay which is exceedingly fossiliferous. A notable locality for this is at Rockford, in Floyd county. The most conspicuous fossils occurring in the Hamilton limestone are brachiopod mollusks and corals. They belong chiefly to the following named species: *Spirifer penatus*, *S. parryanus*, *Strophodonta demissa*, *Atrypa reticularis*, *A. aspera*, *Orthis Iowensis*, and *Acerularia Davidsoni*. Other species are abundant in some places, but those named have a range throughout the entire formation in Iowa. At Rockford, as before mentioned, the formation occurs as a sort of marly clay, very fossiliferous, and here the fossils mentioned are found in great numbers together with several other species. Near Iowa City the coral *Acerularia*

*Davidsoni*, more commonly called "Iowa City marble," or "Bird's Eye marble," is found in abundance. It takes a fine polish and makes handsome specimens for the cabinet.

We now come to an age the product of which has played a very important part in the history of our world, since it has furnished us with fuel during many of the long winter months. This is the Carboniferous age, the age in which the great coal fields of the world were deposited. It is not to be supposed, however, that the only formation of this age is coal. Before the coal beds were laid down, there was a time, probably many thousand years in duration, in which strata of limestone, clay, and sandstone were deposited, one upon another, several hundred feet in thickness. This is called the Sub-Carboniferous age, and I will now describe the different formations of this period which were laid down in Iowa. The first of these is called the Kinderhook Beds. These consist of several different kinds of rock constituting different beds. At Burlington they consist of fine-grained sandstone with some clay. There is also one bed of oolite limestone at this place. At LeGrande, in Marshall county, the stone is drab colored, some of it magnesian. At Iowa Falls it is a gray limestone below and a rough magnesian limestone above. At Orford, Tama county, it is oolitic, and in Humboldt county both the oolitic and magnesian are found, the latter making a good building rock.

The next formation above the Kinderhook beds is the Burlington limestone, a formation noted both in our own and in foreign countries for the great variety of fossil Crinoids found in it. A good locality for the fossils is at Burlington, where the formation crops out of the bluffs of the Mississippi. It may also be seen in the bluffs from near the mouth of Iowa River to the mouth of Skunk River, and at many other places in Louisa, Des Moines, and Washington counties.

## NATURAL HISTORY.

A. W. LEWIS, - - - - - Manager.

## FORMATION OF CONTINENTS.

The hardest thing about geology, is the time between the different geological epochs. An approximation is made as to the number of years required for each and the result is, that the geological estimate embraces an inconceivably lengthened and bewildering series. How long the earth existed before being brought into a habitable state, geology has no means of determining. The primary "crystalline" beds are the oldest rocks of which we have any knowledge.

The "fossiliferous" strata were formed under different circumstances and in different conditions. The oldest of the "Fossiliferous" deposits is the Silurian. It likewise constitutes one of the greatest in depth, as well as extent, on the surface of the globe.

The position of the "Silurian" beds is along the line of the great mountain chains, except in Russia, where they spread over the interior and then out into smaller dimensions, and where, from the absence of the intrusive rocks, they are only semi-indurated.

The first shaping out, if we may so speak, of the earth's surface, in the elevation and corresponding depressions of the sea-bottom, bears all the marks of a single contemporaneous act, not completed in a moment, indeed, but continued through a period of unparalleled spasmodic agency.

The old "red-sandstone" series is likewise of vast extent, both in depth and area. The scale of its mass corresponds with the scale of the forces which produced it—the magnificent operations amidst which it was accumulated. This was a period of great and frequent trappean eruption.

The "carboniferous" class of rocks

have all the marks of a very peculiar formation, constructed for a special purpose and elaborated amidst an extraordinary state of beings. Here we meet with vast accumulations of "vegetable, calcareous and metallic" substances for which we detect no anterior preparations. This was succeeded by a period of great violence and disturbance in the solid crust of the earth. Hence the broken inclined position of the coal strata and injection of so much igneous matter, forming often ridges and hills of considerable elevation.

The "new red-sandstone" would share in all the activity of the time. A celerity of increase, on a scale of more rapid accumulation than existing causes could produce, must consequently fall to be added to the rocks of this family; so much indeed, was the plutonic agency then in force, that the rock-salt and gypseous beds are ascribed to its influence.

From this period downward, the formations are all of more contracted dimensions, the basins narrowing in area to the upper tertiaries, which partake of the character of local, rather than universal deposits; while the evidences here are innumerable that, until the globe settled into its present form and assumed its present arrangement of seas, continents and mountains, the land and water were continually changing places, the crust and fragments, subject to constant upheaval. The Cordilleras and Himalaya, constituted in those days, the bed of the ocean. What law of nature, was not violent activity ere they attained their sublime altitudes? How many rivers changed their courses? How many mountains were washed to their summits? How many hills melted like wax at the voice of their Creator, amidst convulsions which swept the earth so repeatedly of its living tribes, and bared as often the brow of the deep. I have given but a rough and imperfect sketch of the formation of the earth, but as time and space are short, I leave it here, trusting it will be of benefit to some one.

## EARLY PHILATELY.

BY ROBERT E. WARD.

It is quite interesting and amusing to read of the birth and early life of our modern science of Philately as it is told by the chroniclers of the times in the various journal and magazine articles. Although the issuance of postage stamps and the establishment of an extended postal system occurred as early as 1840 in England, I have not been able to find any account of any collectors of the used stamps until about 1858. Here, however, is evidently the dawn of our study as heralded by an author in "Leisure Hours," who writes of the waste of time many people make in collecting quantities of old used postage stamps with which they line work boxes, trunks, closets, and cabinets, the more ambitious, or rather persevering ones even aspiring to paper the walls of a room. He also speaks of the utter foolishness of the craze, and places its followers on a par with old iron and rag collectors.

We enlightened beings do probably agree with him in his statement, as we do most heartily endorse the sentiments of a later writer (1863) in the same magazine, who, speaking of our study, says: "It may even become an attractive help to education and afford the opportunity for varied lessons in art, geography and history." He says the craze was then called the "stamp mania," and swept like wild-fire over England, penetrated France, sprang up in Holland, and would eventually reach every land which used postage stamps at all. "Postage stamp exchanges," for the convenience of collectors, to aid them in disposing of their duplicates and to enable them to purchase new varieties, arose in the principal cities. In London, on Lombard street, there was a store which was packed to suffocation on Saturday afternoons, while various places in Paris in the Gardens of the Tuilleries and Luxemburg, were the scenes of much excitement, especially on Thursday afternoons.

Besides the common wants for the

English, alien and colonial stamps, there was a great demand for *essais*, or proof stamps, among the richer and more curious. *Essai* were the first proofs from a plate of stamps, and were always made in a different color from that in which the stamps were to be printed. They were, of course, extremely rare and, there being a great demand for them, prices rose very high.

As early as this the counterfeit and specimen fiend had begun his nefarious trade, and the author warns all collectors, especially young ones, to watch their stamps and to refer every stamp to be purchased to its fac-simile and description in the catalogue. His caution would not be entirely lost on some latter-day collectors whose zeal outstrips their discretion and thus enable counterfeits to creep in and mar their collections. The catalogue he mentions was undoubtedly that compiled by Dr. J. E. Gray and published in London the year before. This was quite like modern catalogues in its classification, but the fore part of the book was devoted to a short treatise of the postal system. In one chapter he treats of "the origin of the penny postage stamp system by Sir Rowland Hill in 1840" in such a way as to delight the upholders of that gentleman's claim to the invention.

In all these magazines I find our hobby called the "stamp mania," and the writers nearly all seemed of the opinion that it would soon die out like the "orchid" and other crazes. But how mistaken they were! It is anything but dead now. It is probably the most popular hobby existent among the youth of America, and deservedly so.

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With this issue we finish the first half of our first volume, satisfactorily to ourselves and to many of our subscribers and advertisers, who have been well pleased with our progress. We would like to enroll our 800th subscriber before Vol. II, and to do this we make the Great Offer seen in another place. We say to advertisers again as we did in No. 3, that our paper is a first-class medium and improves with every issue and to get from you a trial, we will give you highly reduced rates, knowing "once an advertiser always an advertiser." We therefore request your immediate perusal of our reduced rates seen in another column and trust you will act accordingly. Thanking you for past favors and trusting for at least a share of your future patronage, we are,

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## "THE BRITISH MUSEUM."

BY E. P. NEWCOMER.

The British museum is a national depository of art, science and literature, which owes its origin to Sir Hans Sloane, who bequathed to the nation his collections of coins and medals, cameos, seals, antiquities, pictures and drawings and his library, which contained 50,000 volumes and manuscripts on, the condition of the payment of £20,000 to his heirs, which was less than half its cost.

In June, 1753, Parliament passed an act accepting this condition and directed the Cottonian library, which had been acquired by government in the reign of Queen Anne, should be added to the Sloane collection. For founding the museum, Parliament passed an act authorizing a lottery of £100,000, out of which £40,250 was expended for the Montague house with seven and one half acres; £12,873 were laid out for repairs, and £30,000 were set apart for the payment of salaries.

The collections have since been largely increased by successive Parliaments, copyrights, gifts and bequests until it makes a national institution unequalled in extent and variety by any other in the world.

The British museum is situated on Great Russell Street, Bloomsburg, London.

The collections increased so rapidly that a larger building became necessary. Sir Robert Smirke designed the present edifice, which was completed in 1847. The buildings, alone since 1823, when they were commenced, have cost nearly £700,000. The public expenditure for the support of the institution from 1755 to 1858, was more than £1,500,000.

The museum contains seven departments; botany, geology and mineralogy, zoology, antiquities, manuscripts, printed books, and prints and draw-

ings, to which should be added the reading room. These departments are all under separate keepers.

The library at present fills 25 spacious departments and galleries, one of which is 300 feet in length. The library contained in July, 1838, 235,000 printed books, and as they increase at about the rate of 20,000 yearly, the number must now considerably exceed 1,100,000, not counting separate parts and pamphlets. Twice as many books relating to American history can be found in this museum than in any library in the U. S. It contains the largest collection of Hebrew books in the world. The National Library at Paris is the only library in the world superior to the library in the British Museum.

The manuscript collections which are the most numerous, and in many respects the finest in the world, are deposited in four rooms.

The collection of antiquities is one of the finest in the world and which contains the Elgin marbles, purchased for £35,000; Sir W. Hamilton's collection of Vases, among which is the celebrated Portland vase, which was broken to pieces by a lunatic in 1845, but has been restored, and many other famous collections too numerous to mention. The most recent contributions to the department of antiquities are the collections from the ruins of Babylon and Nineveh, by Mr. Layard, Mr. Rassam, Col. Rawlinson and Mr. Loftus.

The collection of natural history is inferior only to the museum in Paris. Among the most important curiosities in this department is the stuffed skin and skeleton of a gorilla, nearly six feet high, which was shot in Africa. A fine collection of meteoric stones, one of which weighs 270 pounds is to be found in the mineralogical department.

The botanical collection is immense. In 1860, the herbarium of Prof. Aut-tall, was added to this department.

The government of the museum is vested in a board of 48 trustees. The catalogue, which is not yet completed, will probably extend to 1,500 or 2,000 volumes. By written application to the keeper of the library, access to the reading room can be obtained.

All the buildings of the museum are closed on fast days, holidays, Sundays,

and also between the first and seventh day of January; the first and seventh day of May, and the first and seventh day of September. Visitors may be allowed to enter on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 till 4, during November, December, January and February; from 10 till 5 during March, April, September and October; and from 10 till 6, during May, June, July and August.

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50 varieties, inc. Mexico, Bosnia, &c., ..... 08  
 100 " " " " " " ..... 15  
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**H. D. HILL**, Morris, Ill., dealer in Marine and retail. Sample by mail, 25 cents. Fine specimen polished Mexican Ricolite, something new, by mail, from 50 cents to \$2.00 Polished Brazilian Agates, 25 cents to \$1.50. Trilobites, 25 cents to 50 cents. Geodes, 10 cents to \$1.00. Arrow and Spear Points, 5 c. to 50 c. Celts and Aes, 40 c. to \$1.00. Other papers, with circulation of 1,000, copy three times and send bill for anything we advertise.

## FOR SALE!

Sea Curiosities, shell and moss baskets and crosses, painted sea clam shells, and Irish moss for blanc mange. The value of \$1.50 given on every \$10 order. Send stamp for information. Box 63, Squibnocket, Dukes Co., Mass.

A vial containing 8 or 10 colors "Pictured Rocks" sand, very pretty, only 10c. Send me 23c for a year's sub. to the UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR, and receive the above free as a premium.

F. R. STEARNS,  
Fayette, Iowa.

Box 567.

5c. pays for the insertion of your name in Agents' Directory and you will receive all kinds of circulars, newspapers, catalogues, etc. I mean business; so send right along. R. A. STEPHENSON,  
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Playing Cards, 25c to \$1, and Lilliputian Playing Cards 50c a game, American and Deutsch style. Magical Trick Toys, Jugglery, 50c to \$10. Musical Boxes, \$1 to \$100. Sporting articles procured. "Volapuk" and short-hand, and the standard publications, directories, addresses, insurance tickets, passport patents, type writing machines, stationery, European government "premium bonds" (Drawings) sold in accordance with the U. S. law, price \$25 to \$100 each.

Advertising, Mercantile Bureau, Merchandise of any kind, retail and wholesale buyer and shipper. Foreign used Postage and Revenue Stamps, Postal Cards. Importer, wholesale and retail, "Approval sheets" of foreign stamps made against \$1 deposit or reference. All foreign stamps sold "far under" catalogue price. Single foreign stamps at a sacrifice. 100 Varieties foreign postage stamps at 12, 25, 50, and 75 cents. 100 assorted or different postage stamps of South and Central America and West India Islands, \$1 to \$2; 100 assorted or different stamps of Asia, Africa and Australia, \$2 to \$3; 1,000 good assorted postage stamps of "all countries" in Europe, \$1; 50 varieties foreign Revenue Stamps, \$1; descriptive price catalogue of Foreign Revenue Stamps (German edition 225 pages), \$2. Price catalogue of U. S. copper, silver, gold "coins," 50 cents and \$1. Foreign stamps or other publications imported (retail or wholesale). Rubber stamps of any kind.

Send your list of wants, but enclose stamp for reply (compulsory). Correspondence in English, Deutsch, Francais, Hollandsch, Espanol.

No postal cards answered.

Agent for and depot of THE UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

# ADELBERT M. BARDEN,

DEALER IN

## Postage \* Stamps \* for \* Collectors.

I desire to close out at once my entire stock of stamps to make room for a large importation. In order to make a clean and lively sweep, I shall sell the whole lot, including the rare varieties, in packets, at the following prices:

200 Foreign.....	50c	1,000 Extra fine.....	30c
100 All different.....	25c	500 " ".....	18c
50 " ".....	15c	200 " ".....	12c
25 " ".....	10c	100 " ".....	07c

REMEMBER—These include many RARE stamps. No packets will be broken.

## SPECIAL.

*PAPAL STATES--14 Varieties  
Unused, 27c. Only a few sets.  
Speak quick!*

I have a few thousand stamp hinges left, "the best in the market," which I shall close out at 10 cents per 1,000.

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### **A Fine Collection of Stamps for a Very Small Amount!**

Try a packet, and you will be pleased. Please remit by postal note, bills, or silver.

## ADELBERT M. BARDEN,

NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH, MASS.

# —THE— UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

VOL. I.

MT. AYR, IOWA, JUNE, 1890.

No. 7.

## WE ARE THE PEOPLE.

### A. P. A. TICKET.

Pres.—John K. Tiffany.

V. Pres.—C. B. Corwin.

Sec.—S. B. Bradt.

Treas.—Chas. Gregory.

Inter. Sec.—Joseph Rechert.

Pres. John K. Tiffany.—As president of the association Mr. Tiffany has ever been faithful to the interest of collectors, and although believing, to some extent, the theory of "Rotation in Office," yet, we, in this case, take exceptions as we feel confident that no other man in the association would do what Mr. Tiffany has done.

V. Pres. C. B. Corwin.—Mr. Corwin, we have no doubt, will do all in his power to further the interests of the association in any way he is able to serve it, and we heartily recommend him for this office.

Sec. S. B. Bradt.—In regard to the good which we feel confident Mr. Bradt can accomplish in this office, we will only say that, being as he is in a central part of the country, and having a long standing and prosperous business with collectors, we believe he is able to serve the association's interests to a greater extent than the gentleman now in office, and although we have great esteem for Mr. Walton, we are convinced that Mr. Bradt is the man for the place.

Treas. Chas. Gregory.—Nothing need be said of Mr. Gregory, more than has already been said, save that, for the prosperous carrying on of the association, good and efficient officers should

be chosen, and next to the president we value the office of treasurer, and we are sure no better person could be put forward on a ticket for the office.

Inter. Sec. J. Rechert.—For this position a gentleman like Mr. Rechert is the one to be chosen.

## THE MONETARY VALUE OF AUTOGRAPHS.

BY ROBERT E. WARD.

Although the appearance of a collection of autographs may be very fine, it may have little or no value in the market, for there is just as surely a market for autographs, with ever varying prices, as there is for any commodity. The amount they will bring at a regular sale depends more or less upon these three conditions, viz.: rarity, the nature of the document, and the celebrity of the writer. Since only six autographs of Shakspeare are extant the price would necessarily be high if they were exposed for sale. So, also, a page letter and signature would be more valuable than a signature alone, and George Washington's letters would bring more than Chief Justice John Jay's.

The sources from which manuscripts at public sales come, are mostly private collections of personal friends or relatives of the authors of the writings, though there are some men who make a business of securing autographs personally from present celebrities for the purpose of placing them on the market. Forgeries are seldom exposed for sale, as collectors are very sharp in these matters, and forgers are com-

polled to overcome such great difficulties in making even passable copies that there is little temptation to repeat the offense even once committed. Buyers always demand the history of the document they are purchasing, and if it is a very valuable one they are inclined to investigate very closely.

Of course the autographs of contemporaneous people are of less value than those of people of preceding times, and so are the autographs of a prolific writer of today, like Mr. Lew Wallace, of less value than those of a writer who is somewhat restrictive in his favors, like Mr. George Bancroft.

As a sort of index to the approximate present value of autographs I submit the following table of values attached to letters of one or two pages:

- George Bancroft, \$1 25.
- William Cullen Bryant, \$1 75.
- Thomas Carlyle, \$4.50.
- W. E. Channing, \$2.00.
- James F. Cooper, \$7.50.
- Alexander Dumas, \$1.50.
- Horace Greeley, \$1.50.
- P. F. G. Guizot, \$1.75.
- Fitz Greene Halleck, \$1.75.
- John G. Holland, 75c.
- Victor Hugo, \$2.50.
- Walter Savage Landor, \$1.75.
- Henry W. Longfellow, \$6.00.
- Edgar Allen Poe, \$20.00.
- Sir Walter Scott, \$18.00.
- Harriett-Beecher Stowe, \$1.50.

## BOYS!

A 2½x4 inch PRINTING PRESS given away FREE with 2 Fonts of type, 2 rollers, ink, 50 cards and furniture. Send for terms and particulars, and be sure to mention this paper. See *Corona News-Letter*.

ENTERPRISE STAMP Co.,  
Three Rivers, Mass.

For the UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

## ELECTRICITY.

By E. PAYSON.

God made electricity and he governs it perfectly. Man has learned only in recent years how to utilize it. But with all that is wonderful in his present use of it, man's knowledge seems to be in its infancy. He handles but little rivulets of it, not its great ocean. He conveys little currents of it along thread-like ways, he does not grasp the firmament of it. He lights narrow streets with it, not the whole sky. He sometimes has to run away from the apparatus with which he uses it, when the surcharged atmosphere pours great currents of electricity over his wires. Yet man has control of this most subtle of agents which has remodeled both the relations of nations and the social condition of the world.

No nation can start a fleet for a foreign war as a surprise, for it has barely cleared its anchorage, when its movements are spoken to the whole civilized world. The markets of the world are known simultaneously by the world. Public and private events which formerly traveled months by water and by land, are known in New York from Europe, Asia and Africa in a few minutes, and in as short a time heralded in every city and town of these United States. The bridled lightning catches the murderer and the embezzler who has undertaken to run away by steam cars as he steps from the train. Horse cars are very stupid and the fleet grip car is somewhat at a discount when electricity drives the street cars and dances in beautiful flashes of light about the car wheels.

The tallow candle was superceded by the sperm and that by gas and gaslight blushes a dirty yellow in the presence of electric light.

Editors inserting this and the above three times, can have pay in rubber stamps, not to exceed two dollars or less than one dollar.

The introduction of telegraph wires on poles in the U. S. to convey messages was the work of Sidney B. Morse of New York. His trials were many and severe before he could induce congress to patronize his invention to pass and record messages. We see the grand result of his perseverance and the final though slow action of congress. Prof. Morse gained a worthy celebrity by his invention and must always be looked upon as one of the great benefactors of his race. Telegraphy is one of the common necessities of life. One would just as soon think of withdrawing the mail facilities of the U. S. as of cutting the telegraph lines.

While every praise must be given to Prof. Morse for making electricity thus practically useful, it is frequently true if not quite always so that the applier of a principle has utilized what has been itself discovered by some one else and its practical use tested and the result thrown over to the world to be put into practice. Thus there are these two classes of men, scientists, whose field is discovery, and practical appliers of discovery to every day life.

Edison is one of the exceptions to this rule, for he applies his own discoveries. But there were two master minds behind Prof. Morse. They were Prof. Joseph Henry, who had come to Princeton, N. J., from Albany, N. Y., and Prof. Stephen Alexander, also of Princeton College. They had discovered that messages could be passed along a wire by means of electricity and had a mile of wire in actual use stretched among the trees on the College campus. And Prof. Morse came there as simple Mr. Morse to obtain all the knowledge to be had of them about electricity and their application of it as the foundation of his subsequent work. Prof. Joseph Henry was afterwards transferred to the Smith-

sonian Institution at Washington, D. C., where he spent the rest of his life in scientific experiments for the advantage of his native land and of all lands. He said in my hearing, in a lecture on electricity, that as a scientist he had not time to stop to do what Prof. Morse did. His business was to discover what could be done and then work in some new line to see what other thing could be done.

But back of all this, it was the philosopher Benjamin Franklin, of Philadelphia, who first discovered by means of a key hanging on a kite string that the electricity of the clouds and that which is generated by an electrical machine are the same.

Once at an immense meeting in the interests of electricity in Philadelphia, suddenly, toward the close, a man advanced to the front of the speaker's platform and asked in a thrilling voice: "Where is the grave of Benjamin Franklin?" The audience was startled. For many did not know where it was. But I had seen it and knew, as some others did, that it was an obscure grave, with a simple horizontal slab a few inches above the ground in a cemetery in the heart of the city, surrounded by a high brick wall and not to be seen except by some favored person who happened to be near when the gate was opened. The result of that very short speech was that a section of that wall near the grave was cut out and an iron railing inserted so that all passers by may see the grave of Benjamin Franklin.

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—(THE)—

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Devoted to the Sciences in General and Philately.

S. H. WOOD, - - Editor.

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Mt. Ayr, Iowa.

## TO OUR MANY PATRONS AND FRIENDS.

Owing to the death of the Rev. E. P. Wood, father of the editor of this slip, and the subsequent removal of the family from Mt. Ayr, we will be obliged to give up the publishing of this paper. Though having been before the public but a short time, in this time we have made many friends and to our great relief, no enemies.

Herewith we disappear from the field of amateur journalism leaving but a slight ripple as we go down. Our career has been a pleasant one to us and we trust to our patrons. We return all funds from subscriptions and advertisements not filled out, as we were unable to find a journal which would fill to our satisfaction the place we leave.

The editor as he is moving away from his old home, we trust, takes with him the kind wishes of you all. To our exchanges, we wish to say that we have enjoyed your coming and watched for you each month and we congratulate ourselves we have been able to finish our business without a harsh word

to or from any of you. We now take entire leave of the collecting public for the outer world but will still keep you in kind remembrance and of the many pleasant days we have spent among you.

Thanking you for your many favors and kind wishes, we remain,

Your grateful servants,  
THE UNIVERSAL PUB. CO.

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10 Cts. per 25 words. Subscribers' exchanges free. No limit is exacted.

I wish to exchange stamps with collectors having 300 or 400 stamps or less. Correspondence solicited. A. W. Lewis 16 Villa Pl., Lynn, Mass.

WANTED.—Any kind of U. S. Revenues, match, medicine, department, and old issue stamps in exchange for foreign postage and foreign revenue stamps. Ph. Heinsberger, 9-1st Ave., New York.

Will exchange 10 good stamp papers for 30 cents worth of stamps from sheets at Scott's prices. Central Am. preferred. Send sheets to E. D. Smith, Danube, N. Y.

Mason Creek Fossils in Iron Stone, Nodules, Ferns and Plants, for Marine Shells, Star-fish and curios. Wishes fine Indian Relics, Minerals and Fossils in quantity. Also wishes to correspond with parties who have large collections for sale or exchange. I wish large, showy specimens for my exhibit at the coming World's Fair at Chicago.

H. D. HILL, Morris, Ill.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.—A pair of nickle plated roller skates, a miniature sail boat, all kinds of reading matter, and all manner of things useful to boys. Send me your lists, and I will send mine. F. H. GREEN, 400 High St., Burlington, Iowa.

## THE UNIVERSAL COLLECTOR.

### NATURAL HISTORY.

A. W. LEWIS, - - - - - Manager.

#### BEDS OF SEAS.

I will first describe the Mediterranean and Black seas.

These seas are comparatively shallow, there being no place of more than 12,000 feet in depth. Near Gibraltar it is about 1200 feet; southeast of Malaga its depth rapidly increases until it gets to be about 12,000 feet which is the next to deepest in the two seas. All around Sardinia and Corsica the depth is slight. The basin formed by the Tyrranean Sea has nothing to boast of but two straight ravines, one going from west to east around the Sipari Isles; the other from northeast to southeast along the Neapolitan coasts. The deepest spot in the Mediterranean is near Malta, it being about 14,000 feet or nearly two and one-half miles. The eastern part of the Mediterranean is deepest in front of the Nile, where it reaches about 10,000 feet. The Black Sea is of little depth, the Russian Steppes extend under the sea and the rivers also wash down large quantities of debris which helps to fill the sea up.

The Baltic Sea, like the Black Sea, is of little depth. Its northeast part is slowly but steadily rising, in-so-much that the Gulf of Bothnia diminishes in extent and depth at a certain constant rate. At the same time the southern part is sinking and the sea is slowly taking possession of the lower plains of Mecklenberg and Pomerania. The Skager Rack is likewise of a slight depth. Except a long narrow trough-like place which follows the coast of Norway, the bed of the North Sea may be described as an undulating plain never more than 600 feet deep. Some of the larger banks almost reach the surface of the water, others are not more than 100 feet beneath the surface. In this sea, various kinds of fishes are abundantly nourished by marine worms. Numerous places covered with algae provide them with an agree-

able retreat and the water constantly beaten by the winds affords plenty of air for its residents.

The whole of France, the English Channel, the British Isles and the North Sea form one great plateau which is terminated by a steep declivity. I may remark here, that contrary to the general opinion, the aspect of the coast often suggests a false idea of the seabottom. When a steep mountain descends into the water, we fancy the sea must be very deep, but on the contrary it is more likely to be shallow. Contrary, a sandbank suggests a shore beyond, but it is very much more likely to be deep. As a proof of this assertion, the steep shores of the English Channel are followed by a stretch of shallow water. Also in the Strait of Dover, where the cliffs of England and France are very steep the water in the Strait of Dover is not more than 200 feet deep. There is every proof that this American continent was once in the far past, the bed of a sea, which was inhabited by strange and enormous animals. Where this water and every thing else went to is a matter of conjecture.

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A packet of stamps free to all sending for my fine approval sheets at 33 1/3 percent commission. A fine packet of used and unused, 10c. Mention this paper. W. A. Duncan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

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Rare Bargains!

Wild Turkey, 60c; Laughing Gull, 12c; Brand's Cormorant, 81c; Black Skimmer, 15c; White-crowned night heron, 31c; 500 other eggs equally as low. Postage extra.

Send 3 1-cent stamps for our 30 page illustrated catalogue of Bird's Eggs, Indian Relics, Curios, Naturalist's Supplies, Glass Eyes, &c. **PRICES WAY DOWN.**

Read.—Data blanks for egg collectors, 10c to 20c per hd. Mineralogical data blanks, 18c per hd. Egg drills, blow pipes, etc., in fact, every thing required for Naturalists. Send 1-cent stamp for copy Library Companion, The Collectors paper, only 20c per year, circulation 1200.

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## FREE!

1. 2 coffee tree beans from Brazil, collected by a well known collector, value 5 cents.
2. 8 shells from the Atlantic, all good, 5c.
3. 2 Japanese napkins, fine, value 5 cents.
4. 3 agates from this state, value, 5 cents.

**Here is 40 cents prepaid for 23 cents.**

Send at once, as supply is limited. UNIVERSAL PUB. CO.,

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## MINERALOGISTS!

Send for prospectus of a new mineralogical book now being compiled by F. R. Stearns and S. H. Wood. No pains being spared to make it fine.

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Portsmouth, N. H.

Box 954.

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500 fine mixed inc. India, Ceylon, &c.,	15

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Playing Cards, 25c to \$1, and Lilliputian Playing Cards 50c a game, American and Deutsch style. Magical Trick Toys, Jugglery, 50c to \$10. Musical Boxes, \$1 to \$100. Sporting articles procured. "Volapuk" and short-hand, and the standard publications, directories, addresses, insurance tickets, passport patents, type writing machines, stationery, European government "premium bonds" (Drawings) sold in accordance with the U. S. law, price \$25 to \$100 each.

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DEALER IN

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