

Crawford 1772

# THE COLLECTOR'S GUIDE.

Vol. I.] NEWPORT, R. I., MAY 15, 1906. [No. 1,

## SALUTATORY.

With this number we begin our existence. Seldom has it happened that a paper of this class has made its salutatory under brighter promises for future wealth than the COLLECTOR'S GUIDE.

Our editorial corps contains an unusual array of talent and experience, and if we do not satisfy the most fastidious, it will be the fault of some one outside of its circle.

Our first number contains an article from the pen of an old and experienced Oologist, who will favor us during the Spring and first part of the Summer, with articles concerning his profession.

We have engaged the services of a Geologist, who will furnish us a series of papers beginning with our August number. An Ichthyologist and Herpetologist have kindly volunteered their services and we may expect articles from them during the Fall. Our Taxidermist will furnish us with full directions for the preservation of specimens to accompany each of the above articles. In fact nearly every department of Natural History will have its exponent in these pages.

Our stamp department is under the personal supervision of the senior editor, who has engaged the services of several prominent Stamp Merchants to furnish him with items each month.

This paper, as its name denotes, is strictly a Collector's Guide. We shall avoid as much as possible, long and prosy articles, and endeavor to present only such collections of facts as will be of real interest and importance to the Collector.

## American Oology.

To excite and cherish in minds to whom the study of creation is yet unfamiliar, (and especially in youthful minds) desires for an acquaintance with the works of God, and kindly dispositions towards the animated parts of His creation, are among the objects of these series of papers; though pains have not been spared to win the approbation of the

ardent and successful student of Natural Science. All birds are oviparous, that is they produce eggs which are hatched by incubation, and from which the young emerge in different degrees of development. Those of the Gallinaceous and Duck tribes being the most matured, and capable of running about and picking food in the course of a few hours. In no country has the Oologist so large a field for observation and success as in America: the birds are more numerous and in greater variety than in any other country on the face of the globe. In Spain, travelers assure us that the birds are so few, that the whole landscape seems dead. In France, matters are not much better, the bird-catchers have plied their trade so successfully, that legislation has been directed to the subject. Their wheat and other grain suffer terribly from the ravages of insects. In England, the birds are not so plentiful as formerly. In fact in America alone the birds abound, and America has been the gainer by it, and has many reasons not only to protect but to entice the birds to her shores. The white-headed or Bald Eagle, *Falco leucocephalus* is the most familiarly known of all the Eagles. As our national emblem it is recognized throughout the civilized world. This bird builds its nest on some projecting shelf of a high cliff in the heart of the Mountains. At one time it was met with quite often along the seaboard, but of late years it has (except in certain districts) been rarely seen; it lays two or three, and sometimes four eggs, of a dull greenish white. Along the border of the great rivers of the West, it builds its nest on the top of tall trees.

The Barred Owl, *Strix nebulosa*, is an inhabitant of this country, being most common, however, on the Atlantic Seaboard.

About the middle of March these Owls begin to lay their eggs, on the dust of decomposed wood in the hollow trees, or in the old nest of a Crow, or Red-tailed Hawk; the eggs are globular, pure white,

have smooth shells, and are from four to six in number.

The Red Owl, *Strix asio*, rears its young in New England; it lays from four to six eggs, similar to those of the *S. nebulosa*, in a hollow tree, with a lining to its nest of hay or leaves.

The King Bird, *Muscipa Tyrannis*, builds its nest about the first of May, on a horizontal branch of a tree; it lays from three to seven eggs, broadly ovate, reddish white or blueish color, irregularly spotted with brown.

The Bob-o-link, *Icterus agripennis*, builds its nest on the ground with little apparent choice of situation, but always among the grass, or in a field of barley; the eggs are four or five in number, white, strongly tinged with dull blue, and irregularly spotted with black.

Marsh Quail, or Meadow Lark, *Sturnus Ludovicianus*. Few birds who nest on the ground display such care and ingenuity as the Meadow Lark. Its nest is constructed of the blades of grass interwoven (so as to be water-proof) into sides and an arched roof; the whole presenting when finished, an exact model of an old fashioned brick oven. In this nest the female deposits from five to eight eggs, somewhat larger than those of the common Robin, of a dull white color, speckled and blotched with brown.

The Baltimore Oriole, *Icterus Baltimore*, is a well known and much admired bird. It builds a hanging nest on the small branches of an Elm or Willow tree. The female lays from four to six eggs, of a blueish white, spotted and lined with dark brown. These birds display great affection for their young, and have been known to inhabit the same nest for ten successive seasons.

### Postal Department.

The first mention we find in history of postal communications is the establishment of regular couriers by Cyrus, who erected post-houses throughout the kingdom of Persia.

Augustus was the first who introduced this custom among the Romans, and who employed post-chaises. This plan was initiated by Charlemagne about A. D. 800. Louis the Eleventh first established post-houses in France, A. D. 1470,

owing to his eagerness for news, and they were the first institution of this nature in Europe. In England, the plan commenced in the reign of Edward IV. A. D. 1481, when riders on post-horses went stages of the distance of twenty miles from each other, in order to procure the King the earliest intelligence of events that passed in the course of the war that had arisen with the Scots, Richard III. improved the system of couriers in 1843. Post communications between London and most of the towns of England, Scotland and Ireland, existed in 1635. The first chief Postmaster in England was Mr. Thomas Randolph, appointed by Queen Elizabeth, in 1581.

The first Post-office in the Colonies was established in 1710, by an act of Parliament for establishing a general post-office for all her Majesty's dominions. During the revolution this department was controlled by Congress, and the Constitution of the United States in 1789 provided for the continuance of this control—the Postmaster General being appointed by the President and Senate, as one of the cabinet.

The first Postmaster General appointed under the Constitution, was Samuel Osgood, of Massachusetts, Sept. 26th, 1789.

The first mention that we have been able to find of Postage Stamps being in general use was in 1840, when the system was introduced into England, and the one penny black stamp was issued. The first issue of postage stamps in the United States occurred in 1847, when the Franklin fives, the black tens, and the large black fives were issued. In the year ending June 30th, 1848, the clear profits of the Post Office Department amounted to \$44,227. In the year ending June 30th, 1861, the whole number of stamps and stamped envelopes issued was 237,815,818; In the year ending June 30, 1862, the whole number of postage stamps issued was 251,307,105, the whole number of stamped envelopes issued was 24,869,300, the whole number of stamped newspaper wrappers issued was 2,364,850. During the month of March, last, 102,926,630 stamps of all denominations were issued. To meet a demand so vast, the presses are sometimes run

light and day, and to avoid error in accounts, a daily balance of business is struck. The stamps are furnished to government at 12 cents per thousand.

The department has in circulation stamps and stamped envelopes of the following denominations:—1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 20, 24, 30, 40, and 90 cents. They are shortly to issue a 15 cent stamp bearing the portrait of Abraham Lincoln.

#### Table of Comparative Prices.

mark, 1864, unused. <i>J. Brenan. R. P. Gould.</i>		
sh. red.	10 cts.	9 cts.
" envelope, blue,	10	9
" envelope, red,	12	10
ance, Colonies.		
unused,	4	4
used,	4	3
used,	4	3
used,	3	3
key, 1863.		
paras. unused, yellow,	15	15
peas, unused, lilac,	20	18
55.		
p. unused, blue,	15	15
p. unused, yellow,	10	9
p. unused, lilac,	12	10

Our readers will do well to send to R. Gould, for a catalogue of his prices of stamps. He is a young man just started business, and under the motto of "quick sales and small profits," expects and will, reap a rich harvest. Mr. Gould is constantly receiving fresh supplies of stamps, from all parts of the world. His private collection numbers nearly two thousand kinds, and as he has been collecting nearly five years, he is altogether inexperienced. He has but genuine stamps for sale, so no one will be troubled with finding any New Brunswick railroad productions among their purchases.

We call the attention of our readers to an advertisement of Mr. James Brennan; will be seen he has changed his place of business to No. 78 Nassau street. We have had dealings with Mr. Brennan several years and never have we lost a single cent by him (would we could say much of every stamp dealer,) but all our letters have been promptly answered and the orders correctly filled.

Mr. E. H. Judkins advertises a lot of stamps for sale cheap, which will prove a safe investment for collectors.

The Parisian ladies are starting with fresh vigor the interesting pursuit of Seal collecting. We hope to be able in our next to notice this more fully than we have time or space to do at present. We shall prepare an article on this subject and hope to be able to insert it in our June number.

We have received the following articles for insertion in our June number: "Directions for collecting and preserving Zoological Specimens," "Skeleton Leaves," "Stamp Engraving," "Stamp Portraits," "American Coins."

Pen collecting has become very popular. We have an article ready on this subject, but are obliged for want of space to omit it in this number.

We are obliged to omit our list of newly issued stamps, on account of lack of space. We will give a long list of novelties next month.

## Clubs! Clubs!! Clubs!!!

### WE OFFER OUR PRIZE COLLECTION OF STAMPS OR EGGS,

AS THE PARTY MAY SELECT,

To the person sending us the largest club of subscribers.

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THE U. S. STAMP COMPANY,

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Sell the following named Stamps at only

### 4 CENTS EACH!

ALL UNUSED.

Badent, 1k. black. Bergedof, 1-2 blue. British Guiana, 1c. black. Brazil, 10 blue. Prussia, 2g. orange. Ceylon, 1-2 blue. Lubec, 1 2g. green. Mecklenburg, 1-4c. red. Russia, 1 kop. Thurn & Saxiz, 1-4 black.

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E. H. JUDKINS, AGENT,

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The Collector's Guide,

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTEREST  
OF COLLECTORS THROUGHOUT THE  
WORLD.

Published on the 15th of every month.

TERMS: 50 cents per annum, in advance.

RATES OF ADVERTISING: 10 cents per line.

This paper will be forwarded regularly every month, upon receipt of price of subscription postage stamps (mailed) of small values, current in the country whence the order is received.

GOULD &amp; CANFIELD,

Editors &amp; Proprietors

# THE COLLECTOR'S GUIDE.

[Vol. 1.]

NEWPORT, R. I., JUNE 15, 1866.

[No. 2.]

## EDITORIAL.

It is with great pleasure that we announce the unqualified success of "THE COLLECTOR'S GUIDE." We have met with congratulations and kind wishes from every side and shall soon be able to illustrate our articles with wood-cuts. A wrong impression seems to exist as to the object of our table of prices. We do not expect or intend to control the prices of stamps, some will of necessity be cheaper in one place than another. Our design is to show the Collectors where the cheap places are. We expect to receive violent opposition from those dealers who charge exorbitant prices for their goods. But we started as a *Collector's* guide and as such we intend to continue, and shall neither recommend cheats or advertise counterfeiters as honest men. Any of our readers who have been imposed upon by a person claiming to be a stamp dealer, will oblige not only us but also our subscribers by giving us the full particulars of the case. In making complaints of this nature the name of the complainant must be given in full, together with the full name and address of the offenders.

We intended to present to our readers a list of American birds together with the time of their nesting, place where their nests are to be found, and number, color, etc. of their eggs, but as we are obliged to go to press much earlier than we intended, we shall have to wait until next month before presenting it.

## Newly Issued Stamps.

U. S. Envelopes 6c. mauve; 9c. yellow; 12c. brown; 18c. red; 24c. blue; 30c.; green; 40c. rose.  
Fenian Stamps—Essays, 3c. green; 4c. green; 24c. mauve.  
Hamburg. Envelopes, 1-2 sch. black; 1-4 sch. mauve, 1 1-2 sch. pink; 2 sch. orange; 2 1-2 sch. light green; 3 sch. blue; 4 sch. green; 7 sch. magenta. Also a new adhesive 1 1-2 sch. pink.  
Turkey 3 1-2 paras.  
Finland, 10p. red and green on white.  
Cuba 5c. lilac; 10c. blue; 20c. green, 30c. rose—all dated 1866.

They are so far degenerating in this island as to issue stamps unperforated. Verily, old fogyism is not abolished yet.

Bermuda has issued a two-penny stamp, blue color, same design as the one-penny.

Victoria. 6d. blue on white, same design as the new 10d.

Sweden. 17 ore. lilac, 20 ore scarlet.

North Germany. 1-4 silb. gr. black.

Sandwich Islands, 13c.

Essays for Brazil, St. Kitts, and St. Bartholomew, have appeared.

## American Oology.

**RED-TAILED BUZZARD, HEN-HAWK.**  
*Falco borealis.*—In Louisiana this bird builds its nest in February, on the largest and tallest tree it can select in the forest, yet not remote from the farm-houses; but in the New England States it does not incubate until the second week in May. The nest is large, of flattened form, and located in the centre of a triply-forked branch, and contains four or five very hard and smooth eggs, of a dull white color, spotted with brown or black. Sometimes, though rarely, the nest is found upon an isolated tree.

**RED-SHOULDERED MARSH BLACKBIRD.**  
*Icterus phœniceus.*—This bird builds its nest in some sequestered swamp or damp meadow, upon an alder bush or thick tuft of weeds. Coarse dried weeds form the exterior, and fine grass and sometimes horse-hair the interior of the nest. The eggs are from four to six in number, of regular form, light blue, marked and blotched with dusky spots. The first brood comes fourth about the first of June, and the second the beginning of August.

**ORCHARD ORIOLE.** *Icterus spurius.*—This bird builds its nest in an apple or willow tree, near to some farm-house. The nest is hemispherical, and supported by the margin only, being 3 or 4 inches deep, open almost to the full extent of its largest diameter, and finished outside and in with long slender grass. The eggs are from four to six in number, of a blueish white tint, sprinkled with dark brown. These birds incubate about the middle of



May or the first of June, according to the locality.

**CROW BLACKBIRD.** *Quiscalus Major.* Most Naturalists state that "Inaccessible islands and other marshy spots are chosen for their breeding-places." This may be the case in some localities, but in Rhode-Island the Crow Blackbird always selects an orchard for its breeding-place; and there is hardly an orchard in this State which is not ornamented with the large rough formed nests of this bird. Their nests are composed of dry twigs, withered grass, and dead leaves, the lining of the nest is composed of horse-hair; here the female deposit from three to five eggs, which are 1 3-8 inches long, and seven-eighths of an inch broad. The eggs are of a blueish white, marked and blotched with dark brown.

The **CLIFF SWALLOWS**, *Hirundo Fulva*, builds its nest on the sides of high cliffs by the sea-shore. The nest is composed of mud and clay, and is lined with white feathers. Why these birds always prefer white feathers as a lining for their nursery is a question still open for discussion. The Cliff Swallow lays five or six eggs, white spotted with light brown. The difference between the eggs of the cliff, barn, house and chimney swallow is very slight, it can only be known after they have been compared together.

**KILDEER PLOVER**, *Charadrius vociferus*.—This bird breeds on the downs back of a beach; it digs a round hole in the sand and then lines it with dead grass; in this nest the female deposits four pyriform eggs, 1 1-6 inches in length, and 3 inches in diameter at the large end. The eggs are laid with the small ends in the centre, and are so near the color of the dead grass around them as to be hardly distinguishable, except by an experienced egger. The eggs are of a light olive color, blotched with dark brown.

**THE WHIP-POOR-WILL**, *Caprimulgus vociferus*, makes a hollow in the ground, in a secluded part of the woods, and in this deposits two blueish white eggs, blotched with dark olive.

The **GREAT BLUE HERON**, *Ardea herodias*, breeds in different places, in different localities. Some nests are placed in tall trees, some in bushes, and others on the

ground. It lays three eggs, of a blueish white color, somewhat larger than those of a hen.

The **AMERICAN BITTERN**, *Ardea minor*, build their nests in swamps among the coarse grass; the eggs are four in number, of a green color.

**BELTED KINGFISHER**, *Alcedo alcyon*.—This bird makes an excavation in the sides of a bank over hanging a stream or pond, extending several feet in length, at the end of which it forms a large chamber for the reception of its nest. It lays from five to nine eggs, pure white in color.

The **RED-HEADED WOODPECKER**, *Picus erythrocephalus*, make their holes in decaying trees, where it deposits about seven glossy white eggs. These birds show considerable local attachment, and for years in succession resort to the same tree.

We clip the following from the April number of the *Stamp Collector's Magazine*:

"Our own method of affixing stamps in Albums we think in most respects superior to any other we know of. We make two folds in a small strip of the adhesive paper enfaming a sheet of Postage stamps, sticking the part where the two ends meet to the reverse of the stamp, the back of the slip can then be easily and conveniently fastened to the page destined for its reception. The grand advantage of this contrivance is that one stamp can be readily extracted to make way for a better or for any other reason, without in the slightest degree either being injured itself or defacing the Album. An unused specimen could evidently be managed in like manner through its own gluten; but in that case, there it is, and there it must remain, at the risk of utter destruction.

Our article on pens will have to be deferred until next month, in the mean time all stationers and dealers are requested to send samples of their pens with the prices annexed, to Gould & Canfield, Newport, R. I.

The article on American Coins has been lost by the senior editor; however, we shall try to find it in time for our next issue, and we may be able at that time to present illustrations of our subjects.

It is a matter of notoriety, furnishing fruitful subject for reflection and comment, that the great majority of complaints reaching the Post Office authorities take their rise with *clergymen*. As offering a curious commentary on the divine injunction to be merciful, and to forgive "seventy times seven."—*English Paper*.

[The above may be true in the old country, but in America *clergymen* are not an exception to people generally, as regards the indulgence of this illiberal habit.]

Of all the exchanges which we have received thus far, the "Postman's Knock," pleases us the most. The editorials are remarkably well written, both modest and concise, yet sharp and biting where necessary—in fact just such editorials as stamp collectors like and stamp papers need. The "Knock," is issued in the first of each month, and will be sent free to any person sending his address in a pre-paid envelope to the editor, Box 145, St. John, N. B.

The new five cent coin is here described:

**OBVERSE**—The Union Shield resting on tied arrows, denoting peace; a wreath of laurel crowning the shield, and above in circular form, the motto "In God we Trust." Reverse, a figure five in the centre, encircled in thirteen stars set in rays, with the words "United States of America" above, and the word "cents" below.

This is the coin which, it is prophesied, will create such a change in our currency. We hope the good work will not be abandoned with this coin alone, but that we shall ere long be called upon to record the advent of a six and ten cent piece.

**R. W. McLACHLAN,**

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BOX 86 1-2 P. O. Montreal, Canada.  
Wanted to purchase, *Rare Coins, Shells, Minerals, Fossils, and Curiosities of all kinds.*

R. W. McLACHLAN.

### Table of Comparative Prices.

	Boles & Co.		Gould.		Brennan.		Judkins.		Pike.		Sherman.		Kline.	
<i>Antigua</i>														
d. red.	10	5	10	5	10	6	10	5	5	3	14	8	10	5
d. green.	15		15		20			15	15		25			15
<i>U. G. Hope,</i>														
d. red.	8		8		8			6	5		14			12
d. blue.	8		10		12			8	10		14			12
d. lilac.	10		10		15			10	10		20			20
s. green.	10		12		20			12	10		25			15
<i>Jamaica.</i>														
d. blue.	5		5		5			5	6		7			4
d. rose.	5		5		5			5	8		7			6
d. orange.	5		5		5			4	8		7			5
d. lilac.	5		5		8			8	6		10			6
<i>Prince Edw's</i>														
<i>Island.</i>														
d. orange.	5		5		5			4	5		8			5
d. rose.	5		5		8			5	5		8			6
d. blue.	5		5		8			5			8			6
d. green.	5		5		8			5						6
d. lilac.	15		15		20			15						10

NOTE.—Two columns are given to each name. The first column denotes the price of unused stamps, the second column denotes the price of the used stamps. Stamp Dealers are requested to send us their price lists.

### Clubs! Clubs!! Clubs!!!

We offer our prize collection of

## POSTAGE STAMPS,

Consisting of

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Or our prize collection of

## Birds' Eggs,

Numbering over 100 kinds,

As the party may select, to the person sending us the largest club of subscribers for the "Collector's Guide."

Where one hundred subscribers club together we will give with each copy of the "Guide," a used foreign postage stamp and where two hundred subscribers club together we will give with each copy of the "Guide" a newly issued unused stamp.

To any person sending us a club of thirty or more subscribers for the "Guide" we will give as a premium one copy of the "Stamp Collector's Magazine for one year.

GOULD & CANFIELD,  
Editors & Proprietors.

Rhode-Island Postage Stamp Emporium.

**RICHARD P. GOULD,**

General Dealer in

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ALL STAMPS WARRANTED GENUINE.

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BOSTON, MASS.

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Boys wanted to collect Eggs.

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ALL UNUSED.

Baden, 1k. black. Bergedorf, 1-2 blue. British Guiana, 1c. black. Brazil, 10 blue. Prussia, 2g. orange. Ceylon, 1-2 lilac. Lubec, 1 2g. green. Mecklenburg, 1-4c. red. Russia, 1 kop. Thurn & Taxis, 1-4 black.

PRICE LIST 5 CENTS.

Address

E. H. JUDKINS, AGENT.

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Editors & Proprietors.

# THE COLLECTOR'S GUIDE.

[Vol. 1.]

NEWPORT, R. I., JULY 15, 1866.

[No. 3.]

## Editorial.

The pride or the pleasure of making collections, if restrained by prudence and morality, is productive of the most beneficial results. It produces a pleasing emission after more laborious studies; furnishes an amusement for that part of life, the greater part of many lives, which would otherwise be lost in idleness or a sure accompaniment, mischief and pain. It disciplines the mind by teaching to think, and thereby brings into notice many beauties of nature which would otherwise be passed by in utter ignorance. It adds fresh interest to those studies which, when learned from the book alone are uninteresting and laborious. Who ever found Botany hard to comprehend when illustrated by a collection of wild flowers gathered and analyzed by himself?

The collection of specimens from nature necessitates out-door exercise, which is productive of bodily health, and in connection with proper study is conducive of a healthy state of the mind. Then, too, it increases our love of the beautiful, refines our sensibilities, brings us nearer to our Maker, and better fits us for the various duties of life. It is a notable fact that in no instance has a naturalist been otherwise than an earnest believer in a beneficent Creator of all things.

A very talented writer referring to the neglect of the study of Natural History, says: "The enclosed rear-yard of every lot conceals a grand menagerie of rare animals, just as rare and as little known as if they only bred in Africa, whose metamorphoses are well worth watching. One slug known from the egg at the end, one moth personally observed from the hatching of the larva to the path of the imago, makes a memorable chapter in one's education.

The moral effects of such studies are every hand recognized and welcomed. They are no less wholesome physically—drawing irresistibly old and young into the open air, to the fields, the woods, the beach. When they become fashionable,

gymnasiums will fall into decay, and we shall hear less lay-preaching about the necessity of exercise for sedentary folks."

## Directions for Collecting and Preserving Oological Specimens.

The first point to be remembered by the amateur oologist is, that the sharpest eyes and most continued perseverance is necessary in order to insure success.—Every tree, bush and tuft of grass must be carefully examined. Thoroughness and perseverance is above all things necessary.

All the paraphernalia an oologist needs is a cigar box filled with bran or shorts, a few needles, and a note book and lead pencil.

On discovering a nest first take the note book and write a brief description of the bird to whom it belongs, then state the position where the nest is found, a description of the nest, size, etc., and the number, color and size of the eggs.

A note book kept in this manner for a season will prove to be very interesting and instructive, besides being of the greatest aid in collecting during the next year.

To extract the contents of the egg perforate it at both ends and by applying the mouth blow the contents from the other hole; some prefer to suck the contents from the egg, which is a much quicker, but not quite so pleasant an operation. Next immerse the egg in water until it is full, then blow the fluid from it and put it in the sun to dry, when dry, glue a piece of oiled paper over both apertures and the egg is ready to be varnished.

Gum mastic dissolved in alcohol makes a good varnish; some prefer a solution of gum arabic, either will do, apply with a camel hair brush.

Where the embryo is very far advanced make a large hole on the side of the egg; extract the young bird by means of a needle and cover the hole as above described.

Great care is necessary in handling specimens, as the most of them are very frail.

**Industria & Co.**  
Preston, England.

We noticed an article in the "Stamp Collector's Record" for June, stating that the above firm are swindlers; about the same time we received a communication from a prominent American stamp dealer, saying that the assertion was false and wholly unwarranted. The gentleman stated that he had sent a large number of stamps on approval which had been accepted, and that he had sent a draft for one of their largest packets which had been received in good order, the same as advertised.

If we had noticed the article in any other paper than the "Record" we should have thought there was really something the matter, but as it is well supposed the very just criticism which appeared in the "Stamp Circular" published by the above firm, rather soured the otherwise sweet temper of our *honest Taylor*.

We advise our readers to give I. & Co. a fair trial, and in so doing be able to judge for themselves as to the honesty or dishonesty of English dealers. We have no hesitation in saying that perfect satisfaction will be given. In writing a letter requiring an answer, it is customary for gentlemen to inclose a stamp for return postage. Where the order is small this is strictly necessary. Persons writing to foreign countries sometimes forget this.

**American Oology.**

Local Name.	Ornithological Name.	Date of Incubation.	Place Where Nesting.	Eggs.	Color of Eggs.
American Eagle,	Falco leucocephalus,	March and April,	High cliffs,	2 to 4	Dull greenish white.
Red-tailed Hawk,	" borealis,	April " May,	Forest trees,	4	Dull white.
Barn Owl,	Strix Americana,	May,	Hollow trees,	4	White.
Cat Owl,	" Virginiana,	May,	High trees,	3 to 6	Dull white.
Barraso Owl,	" nebulosa,	March,	Hollow trees,	4 to 6	Pure white.
Whip Poor-Will,	Caprimulgus vociferus,	May,	Ground,	2	White blotched with dark olive.
Cliff Swallow,	Hirundo fulva,	May and June,	On the side of cliffs,	3 to 6	White spotted with brown.
Belted Kingfisher,	Alcedo alaceron,	" "	Excavations in a bank.	5 to 9	Pure white.
King Bird,	Muscicapa tyrannis,	" "	Trees,	3 to 7	White spotted with brown.
American Robin,	Turdus migratorius,	" "	Tree, bushes and ground,	3 to 7	Bluish green.
Cat Bird,	" felixox,	" "	High trees,	8 to 5	Dark bluish green.
Mocking Bird,	" polyglottus,	June,	High trees,	3 or 4	Bluish, spotted with brown.
Red Thrush,	" rufus,	June,	Trees and bushes,	4	Dusky thickly speckled with dark brown.
Meadow Lark,	Sturnus ludovicianus,	May and June,	Ground,	4 to 7	White, blotched with brown.
Crow Blackbird,	Quiscalus versicolor,	May and June,	Orchard trees,	4 to 6	Pale green, spotted with olive.
Baltimore Oriole,	Icterus Baltimore,	May and June,	High trees,	4 to 6	Bluish white speckled and lined with dark brown.
Orchard Oriole,	" spurius,	May,	Apple trees,	4	Bluish white, sprinkled with brown.
Red winged Starling,	" phoeniceus,	May and June,	Swamps,	4 or 5	Light blue, spotted with brown.
Bob-O Link,	" agripennis,	May and June,	Ground,	4 or 5	Light blue, lined with amber.
American Crow,	Corvus Americanus,	April,	High trees,	4	Pale green, spotted with amber.
Blue Jay,	" cristatus,	May and June,	Orchards,	4	Dull olive, spotted with brown.
Red-bellied Woodpecker,	Picus erythrocephalus,	May and June,	Hollow trees,	5 to 9	Glossy white.
Great Blue Heron,	Ardea herodias,	May and June,	Trees, bushes and ground,	3	Bluish white.
American Bittern,	" minor,	May and June,	Swamps,	4	Green.
Summer or Wood Duck,	Anas sponsa,	April and May,	Hollow trees,	13	Greenish white.
Noddy,	Sterna stolidia,	May,	Bushes,	8	Reddish yellow, spotted with dull red & faint purple.

**SPECIAL NOTICE.**—Owing to the increased number of his engagements, Mr. Canfield is obliged to resign his position as assistant editor of the *Guide*. We shall, therefore, continue its publication under the leadership of the Senior Editor, Mr. S. Gould, to whom all orders should be addressed.

The "Stamp Circular" referred to as published by Industria & Co. is really a very meritorious production and deserves the encouragement of the American Timbrophilists. It is published monthly and contains illustrated accounts of newly issued stamps, numerous advertisements, etc. Terms 50 cents per annum (in gold).

## Look at the Prices!

THE U. S. STAMP COMPANY,  
OF LOWELL, MASS.,

Sell the following named Stamps at only

**4 CENTS EACH!**

ALL UNUSED.

Baden, 1k. black. Bergedorf, 1-2 blue. British Guiana, 1c. black. Brazil, 10 blue. Prussia, 2 g. orange. Ceylon, 1-2 lilac. Lubec, 1 2g. green. Mecklenburg, 1-4c. red. Russia, 1 kop. Thurn & Taxis, 1-4 black.

PRICE LIST 5 CENTS.

\* Address

E. H. JUDKINS, AGENT,

**G. W. BOLES & Co.**

P. O. BOX 889 BOSTON,  
Mass.,

Dealers in  
AMERICAN AND FOREIGN

**POSTAGE STAMPS,**

AND

**BIRDS' EGGS.**

Price Lists free.

Good prices given for Wild Birds' Eggs.

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WANTED, TURTLE AND SNAKES' EGGS.

JOHN M. FLETCHER,

DEALER IN

**FOREIGN STAMPS,**

WESTFORD, MASS.

Price list sent on receipt of stamp.

## Rally Round the Flag.

THE EXCELSIOR

## STAMP ASSOCIATION,

Are issuing a beautiful new

## PRICE LIST

Of sixteen pages,

Containing a comprehensive description of over 2000 varieties of Stamps. It will be mailed with one unused stamp to any address on receipt of 15 cents, or without the stamp on receipt of 10 cents. Address prepaid, "The Excelsior Stamp Association, P. O. Box 145, St. John, New Brunswick."

## Rare Stamps and Essays,

Bought, Sold and Exchanged.

GUSTAVE LEGLISE,

DUNKERQUE, FRANCE.

## Clubs! Clubs!! Clubs!!!

We offer our prize collection of

## POSTAGE STAMPS,

Consisting of

## Over 500 Varieties!

Or our prize collection of

## Birds' Eggs,

Numbering over 100 kinds,

As the party may select, to the person sending us the largest club of subscribers for the "Collector's Guide."

Where one hundred subscribers club together we will give with each copy of the "Guide," a used foreign postage stamp, and where two hundred subscribers club together we will give with each copy of the "Guide" a newly issued unused stamp.

To any person sending us a club of thirty or more subscribers for the "Guide" we will give as a premium one copy of the "Stamp Collector's Magazine for one year.

STEPHEN GOULD,  
Editor & Proprietor.

Our "Table of Comparative Prices" is in type, but has been unavoidably crowded out of this number by advertisements. It shall appear in our next.

Rhode-Island Postage Stamp Emporium.

**RICHARD P. GOULD,**

General Dealer in

**BRITISH, AMERICAN, FOREIGN AND COLONIAL  
POSTAGE STAMPS.**

All Stamps WARRANTED GENUINE and Satisfaction Guaranteed.

Dealers are requested to exchange price lists.

PRICE CATALOGUE, containing a foreign stamp sent free on receipt of 10 cts.

Address **P. O. Box 143,  
NEWPORT, R. I.**

N. B. All Stamps warranted genuine.

C. M. SELTZ, P. O. BOX 3007, BOSTON,

Importer, Wholesale and Retail Dealer in Foreign and American Postage Stamps, Trial and Proof Stamps. Dealers supplied with cheap and rare stamps at the lowest rates.— One trial solicited. Collectors and Dealers send 2 cent stamp for my new and enlarged price list. The following are a few of the great bargains to be had of C. M. S.

All Unused.—Belgium 1 cent, 3 cents.—Greece 1l. 4 cents. do. 5l. 6 cents. do. 10l. 8c. Hanover 1-2 gr. 3 cents. Luxemburg 1 cent, 4 cents. Meck. Strelitz 1-4 gr. 5 cents. Moldo Wallachia 2 p. head. 8 cents. 5 p. do. 10 cents. Egypt 5 p. 8c. 10p. do. 12 cts. 20p. do. 15 cts. Set 8, 30c. Turkey new green 10 cts. yellow 10c. brown 12c. Russia 1 kop. 5 cts.—Prussia 3pf. 3 cts. Russo-Egyptian (new) 10p. 12 cts. Bermuda 1d. 10 cts. Canada 2c 4c's. Ceylon 1-2d. 6 cts., do. 1d. 10 cts. Mauritius 1d. 10 cts. Natal 1d. 7 cts. New Foundland 2c. green 5 cts. Nova Scotia 2c. 5 cts. Pr. Edw. Is. 1d. 5 cts. St. Lucia, black, 10 cts.—New Granada 1c. rose 8 cts. St. Thomas 1c. red 6 cts. Bremen envelope (just out) 1-2 sch. 8 cts. Germany 1-4 black 6 cts. Rome 1 2 baj. dark green 5 cts. Saxony 3pf. 8 cts.—Moldo Wallachia 20p. red (rare) 20 cts. Sandwich Is. 1c. blue or black, 5 cts. 2c. do. 8 cts. Packets very cheap.

**JAMES BRENNAN,**

DEALER IN

FOREIGN AND AMERICAN

**POSTAGE STAMPS,**

ALL STAMPS WARRANTED GENUINE.

Price List sent free on receipt of five cents.

ADDRESS 78 NASSAU-STREET, NEW-YORK.

PRICE 10 CENTS

**Second Edition  
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**Andrew D. Robertson's**Mammoth Descriptive Price Catalogue of  
Foreign and Colonial**POSTAGE STAMPS.**

A splendid work of art.—beautifully printed on the finest quality of paper; gives description, color, shape and price of between two and three thousand varieties of Stamps; also a list of his unrivalled Packets, the cheapest on this Continent. All Stamps warranted genuine and satisfaction guaranteed. Old issue of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, New Foundland and Canada, always on hand. Catalogues bought, sold, and taken in exchange.

Address **A. D. ROBERTSON,  
Box 23, P. O., St. John N. B.****The Collector's Guide,**A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS  
OF COLLECTORS THROUGHOUT THE  
WORLD.

Published on the 15th of every month.

TERMS: 50 cents per annum, in advance.

RATES OF ADVERTISING: 10 cents per line.

This paper will be forwarded regularly every month, upon receipt of price of subscription in postage stamps (unused) of small values, current in the country whence the order is received.

**STEPHEN GOULD,**

Editor &amp; Proprietor.

# THE COLLECTOR'S GUIDE.

Vol. 1.]

NEWPORT, R. I., AUGUST 15, 1866.

[No. 4.]

## STEEL PENS.

Our long expected and often promised article on pens has at length a space allotted to it and without further comment we present it to our readers. [Ed.]

Probably no invention has been more favorably received by the public than the invention of steel pens.

Introduced in 1820 in the form of the "Perry's Patent" three nibbed pen at the price of \$35.50 per gross at wholesale, accessible only to the wealthy, they have become common in every household at from 75 cts. to 1.50 per gross, at retail, while the common kinds can be obtained at the rate of two for a cent; at once placing them in the reach of both rich and poor. This is undoubtedly owing to the superior condition of the common classes at the present day to what it was formerly and to the liberal views of our government in its postal arrangements.

The manufacture of steel pens is thus described: The best metal made from Dannemora or hoop iron is selected and laminated into slips about 3ft. long and 4 inches broad, of a thickness corresponding to the desired flexibility of the pens. These slips are subjected to the action of the stamping press, somewhat similar to those used in making buttons, the point destined for the nib is next introduced into an appropriately gauged hole of a little machine and pressed into a semicircular shape; this being done, the pen is, by another movement of the machine, pierced with the middle and lateral slits. The pens are now cleansed by being revolved in a tin cylinder about three feet long and nine inches in diameter.

In the course of four hours four thousand pens may be finished by this machine.

Our thanks are due to Mr. E. H. Judkins, of Lowell, Mass., for the specimens which he sent us, and which we will describe in our next article. Dealers are respectfully requested to send samples of their pens to "Editor of Collector's Guide, Newport, R. I."

## Aquaria.

Before the aquarium was invented we had no means of accurately studying the habits of the finny tribes. Now all is laid open to our view, and it is because of negligence, if every one is not perfectly familiar with at least some of the wonders of the deep.

If you are making Ichthyology your study, the best way to stock your tank is to raise your own fish from the spawn. Prof. Agassiz states that he has had no trouble in hatching the spawn of different fish, and employs a common wash-bowl for that purpose, changing the water every two or three days, drawing it off by means of a syphon.

As soon as the young are hatched, place them in the tank, which must be previously stocked with fresh water plants, (those having the finest leaves are the most useful.)

Trout, Salmon and Perch make a very pretty stock for the aquarian of the disciples of Walton, but the ladies wish for more variegated pets. The gold carp, silver fish, sucker, cat fish, and minnow are very appropriate to stock a fancy tank; a few small eels and two young turtles will add greatly to the general appearance. Where turtles are introduced it will be necessary to have the rock work extend above the water so that they can sun themselves occasionally. The tank should be placed near a window so that the sun can shine directly on it for several hours each day.

The finest Aquarium in the world will be that at the Paris Universal Exhibition, and is to be 100 feet long and 66 feet in height. It is intended, as in the Aquarium of the Acclimatization Society, to bring together as complete a collection as possible, of the most curious specimens of the submarine world. The size of the Aquarium will cause spectators to fancy that they are under the water. On looking upwards, the rare opportunity of seeing sharks, tunny fish, cod and porpoises disporting in their own element will be given; and it is expected



that this will form not the least of the many interesting features of the forthcoming exhibition.

### Newly Issued Stamps.

In our June number we noticed the Fenian Essays as stamps, we wish to correct that notice and state that they are unwarrantable forgeries. No person having authority, has given permission even, for the issue of any Fenian stamps. When the real stamps are issued we will inform our readers.

VICTORIA.—The color of the 3d blue has been changed to rose.

MEXICO has changed the color of the 1-2 reals to very pale brown.

SANDWICH ISLANDS.—Le Timbrophile for June states that the American Bank Note Company has engraved a beautiful five cent stamp for this country, to take the place of the ungainly stamp of the present series. We hope the good work will not be abandoned.

We have received one of the new 13 cts. stamps of this country. It is the same style as the 1ct. stamp. At the top is the inscription "Uku Leta" on both sides "Hawaiian Postage" at the bottom "13 cents" in centre a large figure "13." It is printed with blue ink on light blue paper unwatermarked and unperforated.

BREMEN, has changed the color of the 5sgr. stamp to a bright yellow-green.

SPAIN, never with a stamp for more than a year has made a change this time in the color of its 2c 4c and 12c. which are respectively bright rose bright blue, and yellow.

ITALY has issued a 20c. stamp its 40c. has changed its hue to a violet-rose.

PORTUGAL has issued a new series of stamps, values, 5 reis. black, 10, 80, and 120 reis blue.

BELGIUM introduces a 1c.

NEW ZELAND changes the color of its 4 p. to a vivid yellow.

STAMP COLLECTORS, send your addresses to M. A. Oliver, Sing Sing, N. Y. and you will hear something to your advantage.

The *Blue* 10cts. United States; 5c. New Brunswick; 12 1-2 cts. Canada, etc.

These stamps are green ones changed by chemicals.

It is a little remarkable that stamp journals in all their talks on this subject have never mentioned the *modus operandi* of changing green to blue, and it remains for the "Collector's Guide" to first show up to the public the manner in which philatelists have been defrauded.

A clear specimen is selected, it makes no difference about the post mark, and immersed in a strong solution of Carbonate of Soda in water; it is then dipped, several times, into a solution of Oxalic Acid in Alcohol. A skillful operator can thus change the color of green stamps so that it is impossible for them to be detected, but amateurs are apt to let the stamps remain too long in the solutions and thus cause the colors to blend.

We shall have more to say on this subject in a future number.

### Editor's Table.

THE STAMP COLLECTOR'S GAZETTE, is a monthly paper, 12 pages in length, devoted entirely to the interests of the Timbrophilic public.

We congratulate its talented editor on the successful manner in which he has brought his paper to be the chief of American timbrophilic monthlies. If there are any of our readers, either dealers or collectors of stamps, who do not now take the S. C. G., we advise them to subscribe forthwith as no one without it can be fully posted in timbrophilily.

### Intelligencer.

We have received the July number of the Intelligencer. Those of our readers who really wish to enjoy themselves this warm weather had better send twenty cents for a year's subscription to EDWIN FERNALD, ROCHESTER, N. H.

### Errata.

In our July number, first page, first column, 8 lines from the bottom, for *image* read *imago*.

In our table of American Oology, first column, fifth line from the top for *Barredo* read *Barred*. Same table second column eighth line from the top, second word, for *aleeron* read *alcyon*.

List of Comparative Prices.

	Boles & Co.	R. P. Gould.	C. M. Seltz.	Judkins.	Pike.	Sherman.	Kline.	Winterburn.	Brennan.
<i>Brazil.</i>									
10 reis,	5	8	12	8	5	5	9 40	75	8 6
30 reis,	5	9	8	10	5	5	9 15	8 15	6 6
90 reis,	5	9				10	9 25	10 30	8 8
180 reis,	10	15					35	15 45	15 15
300 reis,	10	15						20 75	15 15
600 reis,	10	15						25 1 25	15 15
<i>Bremen.</i>									
2 gr.	10	8	12	8	5	5	15 8	4 5	10 10
3 gr.	10	8	12	12	7	5	15 12	6 10	12 12
5 gr.	10	8	12	12		6	15 16	6 15	10 10
7 gr.	10	8	12			10	15 20	10 20	12 12
10 gr.	10	8	12			10	16 30	10 30	10 10
<i>Costa Rica.</i>									
1-2 real,	15	20	20		20		25 10	30 30	20 20
2 reals,	15	20			15		50 10	75 75	15 15
<i>Grenada.</i>									
1d.	10	12	8	10	10	5	10 5	10 10	10 10
6d.	12	16	12			13	30 15		20 20
<i>Malta.</i>									
1 2d.	6	8	6	6	5	8	8	5	8 8
<i>Barbados.</i>									
Blue,	8	10	4	3	4	5	4 10	15	3 3
Green,	3	6	5	5	5	5	10 7	8 10	8 5
G. l. red.	5	10		8	5	5	14 20	40	10 10

We have received a first class semi-monthly paper entitled the "Chit-Chat." It is eight pages in length, and is devoted to stories, natural history, travels, etc. Scribner & Co. P. O. Box 2437 New York, are the publishers. Terms—\$1,00 per year.

*Le Timbrophile*, a Journal eight pages in length, illustrated, devoted to the interests of timbrophilists, published monthly, by Mons. Pierre Mahé, Paris, France. Terms \$1,00, per year.

NOTE—Two columns are given to each name. The first column denotes the price of used stamps, the second column denotes the price of used stamps.

Stamp Dealers are requested to send us their price lists.

Look at the Prices!

THE U. S. STAMP COMPANY,  
OF LOWELL, MASS.,

all the following named Stamps at only  
**4 CENTS EACH!**  
ALL UNUSED.

Baden, 1k. black. Berge-dorf, 1 2 blue. British Guiana 1c. black. Brazil, 10 blue. Prussia, 2 g. orange. Ceylon, 1-2 lilac. Lubec, 2g. green. Mecklenburg, 1-4c. red. Russia, kop. Thurn & Taxis, 1-4 black.

PRICE LIST 5 CENTS.

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E. H. JUDKINS, AGENT.

JOHN M. FLETCHER,

DEALER IN

**FOREIGN STAMPS,**

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Price list sent on receipt of stamp.

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### G. W. BOLES & CO.,

9 Causeway-street,

BOSTON, MASS.

Dealers in

## American and Foreign STAMPS & EGGS.

Boys wanted to collect Eggs.

Send for U.S. Stamp Co.'s  
List of Foreign Stamps.

PRICE 5 CENTS.

E. H. JUDKINS, AGENT,

LOWELL, Mass

PRICE 10 CENTS

Second Edition

JUST OUT.

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18 PAGES.

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CHEAPEST EVER ISSUED IN AMERICA.

Andrew D. Robertson's

Mammoth Descriptive Price Catalogue of  
Foreign and Colonial

## POSTAGE STAMPS.

A splendid work of art,—beautifully printed on the finest quality of paper; gives description, color, shape and price of between two and three thousand varieties of Stamps; also a list of his unrivalled Packets, the cheapest on this Continent. All Stamps warranted genuine and satisfaction guaranteed. Old issue of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Canada, always on hand. Colonials bought, sold, and taken in exchange

Address

A. D. ROBERTSON,

Box 23, P. O., St. John, N. B.

### The Collector's Guide,

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS  
OF COLLECTORS THROUGHOUT THE  
WORLD.

Published on the 15th of every month.

TERMS: 50 cents per annum, in advance.

RATES OF ADVERTISING: 10 cents per line.

This paper will be forwarded regularly ever month, upon receipt of price of subscription postage stamps (unused) of small values, on receipt in the country whence the order is received.

STEPHEN GOULD,

Editor & Proprietor

# THE COLLECTOR'S GUIDE.

Vol. 1.]

NEWPORT, R. I., SEPT. 15, 1866.

[No. 5.]

## EDITORIAL.

When we originated the Collector's Guide we intended to enlarge it the first opportunity which presented; the time has now arrived, only a few more subscribers are necessary to make it remunerative. We therefore propose that as soon as six hundred additional subscribers have been obtained, to not only enlarge but also illustrate our paper: introducing among other articles a series of papers on Geology, the first of the series to be entitled "The Inhabitants of the Pre-Adamite World," giving illustrations of the mammals and reptiles of the first known, inhabitable era of the world. We have also several other very interesting articles ready on different topics which we are obliged to exclude on account of the present size of our paper. As an additional inducement we promise that if the additional six hundred subscribers are obtained before the first of December, we will give with each copy of the Guide, each month, a newly issued, unused, postage stamp.

The advantage to our readers of the Guide's being enlarged can be seen at a glance; for the same amount of money they will receive thriffler the reading matter; many more advertisements; and a newly issued, unused, postage stamp. These are inducements enough for any one, but we are determined to stand first, or nowhere, and have in preparation a complete Directory of all the stamp dealers in America, which we shall publish in the Guide as soon as the enlargement is made.

Our enlargement is a matter in which each and every one of our readers are especially interested. You have subscribed for the Guide; now the question is, what shall you receive for it; and it is a question which you must answer for yourselves; for by a little exertion you can get up clubs of subscribers which will cost you nothing, but will insure your having a larger and better paper, besides the regular premiums.

Now is the time for action. We put the question fairly and squarely to you. Do you wish to pay fifty cents for a paper four pages in length with no illustrations, or do you wish to receive for the same money a paper twelve or sixteen pages in length illustrated, and each number accompanied by a newly issued, unused, postage stamp?

The point is just here, do you wish to double or thriffler your money or no? Let your deeds answer.

We have received the new price list of A. D. Robertson, Esq. It is very well got up. No collector should be without it.

## Newly Issued or Inherited Stamps.

**BRAZIL.**—Since our last number was printed a complete set of stamps for this country have appeared. They are the production of the American Bank Note Company of New York, and are, in our estimation, a great improvement on the former crude design of the old stamps.

**MESSRS. G. W. BOLES & Co.,** Box 889, BOSTON, MASS., have received a large assortment of the late issue of Brazilian stamps (unused) which they offer to collectors at a very cheap rate. These stamps are of an upright, rectangular form, printed in color on white paper, perforated, but unwatermarked, and are of the following values.

- |     |      |             |                                     |
|-----|------|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| 10  | reis | vermillion, | portrait of Emperor to the right,   |
| 20  | reis | lilac,      | portrait of Postmaster to the left. |
| 50  | "    | blue        | " " " " " "                         |
| 80  | "    | mauve       | " " Emperor to the right.           |
| 100 | "    | green       | " " " " " "                         |
| 200 | "    | black,      | " " " " " "                         |
| 500 | "    | orange,     | " " " " " "                         |

**PERU.**—This country sends us a new five centavos stamp. It is of an upright rectangular form, printed in bright green on plain paper, perforated, but like the Brazilian series unwatermarked. The American Bank Note Company engraved them.

**URUGUAY.**—It is said that the issue of stamped envelopes is contemplated by

this republic, the design to be similar to the set of adhesives now in use.

**PORTUGAL.**—The 50 reis greenish blue has been changed to greenish yellow.

**PERSIA** will issue a complete set of stamps in a few days.

**BANK OF NORTH AMERICA.**—Some ten or more years before the era of *les timbe postes* the managers of the above institution seeing the inconvenience of paying for each letter as it was posted, produced a press with which they marked their letters at the bank; an account being kept at the post office of the number of the letters marked. Impressions of this are exceedingly rare, and sell at a very good price. The stamp is an oval affair printed in brick colored ink, and has the following words on it: "Paid at the Bank of N. America." With the exception of a very modest scroll under the words "at the" it is unornamented. We offer one of the above stamps to the person sending us the largest club of subscribers before the 10th of October next.

### Adhesive Matter for Mounting Stamps.

We notice in a contemporary the mention of liquid India Rubber or as it is sometimes called India Rubber Cement, as an adhesive for stamp collectors. The manner of using it is thus described: "A small quantity (about the size of a pin's head) at each corner of the stamp will suffice."

"When the stamp is to be removed, insert the point of a pen knife beneath each corner."

India Rubber is recommended on the following grounds:

First.—For its cleanliness, it leaves no stain either on the album or on the stamp.

Second.—For its adhesiveness.

Third.—Because of the easy manner in which the stamp, so treated, can be removed.

Fourth.—For its cheapness; fifty cents worth will last over a year and where one does not use it on his duplicates, it will be enough to last two and perhaps three years.

**SPECIAL NOTICE.**—We call attention of our numerous readers to the advertisement of Mr. A. D. Robertson.

Mr. Robertson's facilities for the stamp trade are superior to any in the country. He is in constant correspondence with dealers in all parts of the world, and thus keeps himself constantly supplied with all the newly issued and rare stamps. The *Great Prize Distribution* is worthy of the special patronage of every American Collector and dealer. Don't fail to

secure your Tickets in time. Our word for it you will never repent money invested in **ROBERTSON'S GRAND POSTAGE STAMP DISTRIBUTION.**

No one should travel in England without visiting the place of Lady Rolle in Devonshire.

Her park contains no less than three thousand varieties of trees and shrubs. Among them are two hundred varieties of the *pine*, three hundred kinds of the *willow*, and nearly two hundred of the *oak*. In one part there is an artificial lake deep enough to float the Great Eastern, its surface is covered with aquatic birds of every form and plumage.

But the greatest curiosity on the grounds is a Swiss cottage, which is made of the trunks, branches and leaf stems of hundreds of various trees. The floor is a rare piece of mosaic work. It looks like ivory; yet it is really paved with the *knee bones of sheep*, with the half joints uppermost.

They are fitted together so compactly that four hundred of them only make a square foot.

The floor is so broad that it required *seventy six thousand* sheep shanks to pave it with these fluted joints of ovine ivory.

At the request of several of our subscribers we shall defer the publication of our second article on "Steel Pens" until after our enlargement.

### Editor's Table.

The other day a friend called our attention to the fact that a certain *young* stamp dealer doing business in New York State having no catalogue of his own is in the habit of taking other dealers' lists and pasting his name over that of the real proprietors' and then distributing the mutilated lists as his own.

We give this young gent, fair warning that unless he changes his tactics, in short order, we shall publish his full name together with all the circumstances connected with the case.

We clip the following from a contemporary.

**GOOD NEWS FOR LETTER WRITERS.**—If all the laws that were made were as good as the new Postal regulation, we would be a contented people. It is now arranged that any person, who mails a letter may write on the envelope a request to the postmaster to return it to him (giving his name and address) if it shall not have been called for after a certain number of days, and the number he may specify also. So John who writes a love letter to Polly may give her just so long a time to call for his confession of affection, and if she has another bean on a string and forgets to go to the P. O.—the letter instead of going to the dead letter office, to be opened and become the sport of the jolly young clerks before being destroyed, will

be returned to John, its virgin seal untarnished, and his precious nonsense still unrevealed to any but his own, (now, perhaps,) sobered head. Let John bless Uncle Sam for this much therefore.

It gives us great pleasure to note the prosperity of the Postman's Knock

It is now double its former size and is as faithful a chronicler of timbrophily as we have seen. Long may it continue to encourage and assist the collectors of *les timbre postes* throughout the world.

The *Stamp Collector's Review*. We have received the introductory of a monthly paper which is to bear the above name; and we must say in truth, that it *promises* to be a truly meritorious publication. The introductory is remarkably well written, considering the age of the editor, and if the monthly itself is as pleasing it will be of great assistance to the collecting fraternity.

We welcome Master King to the editorial chair and wish him every success in his literary field of labor.

Terms.—Simple subscription for paper alone, 50 cents per annum. Compound sub., paper and unused stamp, \$1, per annum.

Address Fred. H. King, 24 Somerset street, Boston, Mass.

### Answers to Correspondents.

A. D. R. Many thanks for your kind and valuable remarks. We shall endeavor to follow them.

C. J. S. Papers sent Aug. 27th. We hope you will be successful in your undertaking.

C. N. G. Article received. Many thanks for your kindness. We shall endeavor to insert it next month.

L. W. B. Subscription received. We hope for a long and useful life.

A. W. C. Papers sent Aug. 28. We shall endeavor to merit your support and will be happy to receive any contributions you may send.

C. W. C. Papers sent August 30.

B. S. L. We shall give our second article in the *Aquaria*, next month, when your question will be answered much better than we have time to do at present. We shall also publish all directions for stuffing and preserving fish; which will undoubtedly be of interest to you.

H. D. We have received some of the Rigi Kaltbad stamps, they are not for sale, but will be given as prizes to getters up of clubs for the Guide. This stamp was issued by the proprietor of the hotel, situated on the summit of

the Rigi Kaltbad mountain in Switzerland partly as a penny postal arrangement and partly as an advertisement of his hotel.

We would call the attention of our readers to the fact that the *INTELLIGENCER* is the *cheapest and best* paper of its kind in America. Terms only 20 cents per annum. Address EDWIN FARNOLD, ROCHESTER, N. H.

The heartiest laugh we ever enjoyed was caused by reading the *Jersey Joker*. It is the best medicine for the blues which we have ever tried. Price fifteen cents for from August to December. Van Martin and Early, Hightown, N. J. are the publishers.

### PRIZES! PRIZES!! PRIZES!!!

#### Attention Company.

We offer the following prizes to the getters up of clubs of subscribers for the *Collector's Guide*.

For the largest club of subscribers sent us before the 10th of October, we will give a "Bank of North America," stamp.

For the next largest club of subscribers sent us before the 10th of October, we will give an unused Swiss Rigi Kaltbad stamp.

For the third largest club of subscribers sent us before the 10th of October, we will give an unused 1c. Belgian stamp.

For the fourth largest club of subscribers sent us before the 10th of October, we will give an unused 5 paras Egyptian stamp.

N. B. All the above stamps are unused AND WARRANTED GENUINE.

A. L. G.—The celebrated gluten used on the backs of Postage stamps is nothing more than a paste composed of potato starch. This mixture has heretofore been a close secret, but some enterprising genius discovered it and has made it public.

S. I. The method we pursue in preparing Autumn leaves is as follows: Select only the best and brightest specimens, lay them between two newspapers and press them with a hot flat-iron. This is at once simple and sufficient. The leaves are now ready for mounting. After which give them a coat of shell lac varnish. Autumn leaves prepared in this manner will last for years and will retain their original brilliancy.

E. A. Fry, Conn. We will let you have a page advertisement for \$10. If you advertise for six months or by the year it will be much cheaper.

Look out for the October number of the *Collector's Guide*. We offer as an additional inducement the new Hamburg Envelope 1-2 sch. to the person sending us the first club of ten subscribers.

**POSTAGE STAMP COLLECTORS AND DEALERS  
NOW IS YOUR CHANCE.**

**DON'T FAIL TO SECURE YOUR TICKETS**

FOR ANDREW J. ROBINSON'S

**GRAND POSTAGE STAMP DISTRIBUTION.**

*Prizes valued at One Hundred and Seventy-five Dollars.*

THE Subscriber intends distributing PRIZES to the above value (in collections of, unused sets of, and Old Colonial Postage Stamps) among holders of Tickets for his GRAND DISTRIBUTION, which is to take place

**ON OR ABOUT THE 1st DAY OF OCTOBER,**

or sooner, if the Tickets be all sold.

It will be in the hands of parties who have no interest in the distribution whatever, and will take place in the presence of Ticket-holders.

**TICKETS ONLY 25 CENTS.**

**PRIZES FIRST CLASS.**

*Number of Tickets Limited, Send in your Orders at once, and you will receive your Tickets per return of mail, certain.*

**LIST OF PRIZES:**

**1ST PRIZE**—One Collection of Postage Stamps, mounted in a Lallier (second edition) Album, containing 1000 varieties, including full sets Old Issue New Brunswick and Nova Scotia; full sets old and present issues unused Newfoundland, and present unused N. B., N. S., Canada and P. E. Island; full sets Pacific Steam Navigation Company, Old Mexican, &c. Value \$60.00.

**2ND PRIZE**—One collection of Postage Stamps, mounted in a similar Album, containing 750 varieties, including Old Colonials, South America, &c. Value \$40.

**3RD PRIZE**—One collection of Postage Stamps, mounted in a neat book, containing 500 varieties; many rare, unused, &c. Value \$25.

**4TH PRIZE**—One collection of 350 varieties, unmounted, including old N. B., and N. S., many rare, &c. Value \$15.

**5TH PRIZE**—Full sets old and present issue unused Newfoundland; full set old and present issue unused United States; present unused New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Canada; 25 unused Stamps, all different; 3d and 6d N. S. obsolete.

**6TH PRIZE**—Full set Nova Scotia (1d, 3d, 6d, and 1s.) obsolete issue, used; full set present, unused.

**7TH PRIZE**—Full sets old and present issue unused United States; one full set Hamburg Boten, 116 Stamps, (Envelopes, &c.) 30 unused Stamps, all different; 25 obsolete Stamps.

**8TH PRIZE**—One of A. D. Robertson's Five Dollar Packets.

**9TH PRIZE**—1d, 3d, 6d N. S.; 3d, 6d N. B.; one \$1 Packet.

**10TH PRIZE**—One \$2 Packet

11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th—each one of Robertson's unequalled \$1.00 Packets.

The above collections contain many very old, rare and unused specimens. They were purchased at a bargain, and the Subscriber does not intend issuing Tickets to the full value of the Prizes.

To avoid mistakes, get your Tickets direct from me, as I have no connection with any other Dealer, Firm or Company of any kind.

TICKETS, 25 cents N. B. Currency; 5 for \$1. 40 cts. U. S. cy.; 3 for \$1. Remember the Address,

**ANDREW D. ROBERTSON, Box 23, P. O., St. John, New Brunswick.**

Rhode-Island Postage Stamp Emporium.

**RICHARD P. GOULD,**

General Dealer in

**BRITISH, AMERICAN, FOREIGN AND COLONIAL  
POSTAGE STAMPS.**

All Stamps WARRANTED GENUINE and Satisfaction Guaranteed.

Dealers are requested to exchange price lists.

☛ PRICE CATALOGUE, sent free on receipt of stamp.

**Address P.O. Box 148,  
NEWPORT, D. I.**

**G. W. BOLES & Co.**

P. O. BOX 889 BOSTON,  
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**BIRDS' EGGS.**

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Good prices given for Wild Birds' Eggs.

*Collections bought and sold.*

WANTED, TURTLE and SNAKES' EGGS.

**Rare Stamps and Essays,**

**Bought, Sold and Exchanged.**

GUSTAVE LEGLISE,

DUNKERQUE, FRANCE.

JOHN M. FLETCHER,

DEALER IN

**FOREIGN STAMPS,**

WESTFORD, MASS.

Price list sent on receipt of stamp.

**Rally Round the Flag.**

THE EXCELSIOR

**STAMP ASSOCIATION,**

Are issuing a beautiful new

**PRICE LIST**

Of sixteen pages,

Containing a comprehensive description of over 2000 varieties of Stamps. It will be mailed with one *unused* stamp to any address on receipt of 15 cents, or without the stamp on receipt of 10 cents. Address prepaid, "The Excelsior Stamp Association, P. O. Box 145, St. John, New Brunswick."

**The Collector's Guide,**

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS  
OF COLLECTORS THROUGHOUT THE  
WORLD.

Published on the 15th of every month.

TERMS: 50 cents per annum, in advance.

RATES OF ADVERTISING: 10 cents per line.

This paper will be forwarded regularly every month, upon receipt of price of subscription in postage stamps (unused) of small values, current in the country whence the order is received.

STEPHEN GOULD,  
Editor & Proprietor.



Rhode-Island Postage Stamp Emporium.

RICHARD P. GOULD,

General Dealer in

BRITISH, AMERICAN, FOREIGN AND COLONIAL

POSTAGE STAMPS.

All Stamps WARRANTED GENUINE and Satisfaction Guaranteed.

Orders are forwarded to a reliable post office.

IV. PRICE CATALOGUE sent free on receipt of stamp.

Address P. O. BOX 128,

NEWPORT, R. I.

Rally Round the Flag.

THE EXCELSON

STAMP ASSOCIATION,

Price list and useful new

PRICE LIST

on a new page.

Contains a complete description of 2000 varieties of stamps. It will be mailed with one unused stamp to members on receipt of 25 cents, or without stamp on receipt of 50 cents. Address: P. O. Box 128, Newport, R. I.

The Collector's Guide

is a book designed for the interests of the collector.

It offers a complete list of every month.

It is a book of reference for the collector.

It is a book of reference for the collector.

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Bound in gold and leather.

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Address: P. O. Box 128,

Newport, R. I.

FOREIGN STAMPS

and

BRANDY, WHISKY,

Price list sent on receipt of stamp.

# The Collector's Guide.

Vol. I.]

CAMBRIDGE, MASS., OCT. 25, 1866.

[No. 6.

## AQUARIA.

For a beginner we recommend the fresh water aquarium as offering of itself a vast field for investigation, and we shall endeavor to offer such suggestions as shall appear to us necessary or useful to the novice, referring such as wish more elaborate accounts to the standard authorities on the subject.

The practice of keeping fish in globes is a most barbarous one, and sooner or later surely results in the death of the innocent victims. But introduce a fresh water plant into the globe or jar, or what is better than either an oblong tank, and the water will retain its freshness for a long time. The reason of this is that fish inhale oxygen and exhale carbonic acid gas, a most deadly poison so frequently found in wells and mines. Now, plants absorb the carbon of the carbonic acid gas, which is composed of one part carbon to two parts oxygen, and gives off the oxygen to the water where it goes through the process of being again inhaled by the fishes. Thus, a complete changing of gasses and substances is promoted, and the water remains pure for a long time; but even now it will be noticed that the water becomes discolored, and the fishes move about languidly, and finally become sick and die, even changing the water will not effect a cure. The trouble is here, the plants have become foul, and the presence of a scavenger is necessary to purify the water. The best scavenger we know of is the common fresh water snail, a half dozen of them will purify the water so that the tank need not be cleansed oftener than once a year.

Another cause of lack of success is the cement. Great care is necessary in order that no lime or Roman or Portland cement be introduced into the tank. White lead is often used but invariably proves

detrimental if not fatal to the stock.

As the best adhesive as well as the least injurious in its character, we would recommend a cement composed of one part of rough gutta percha and two parts common pitch. This cement is especially valuable in fastening the rock work, it holds fast to stones and does not foul the water, besides it is to a certain extent flexible in its nature, thus not being liable to break on receiving a sudden jar.

No plant or piece of rock work should ever be introduced into the tank before having undergone a thorough cleansing in pure water. Plants should be introduced into the aquarium with great care; they ought to be transplanted with the same precautions which are used in the garden, the roots carefully imbedded in the soil at the bottom of the tank, and should remain quiet for several days before the stock are introduced. The best way of filling the tank with water is to pour it in through the nose of a watering pot; this causes the water to fall as a gentle rain, and does not injure the rock work or plants. About the rock work we will only say at present that each person must be governed by his own taste and the size of his tank. However, we would recommend wherever practicable that an arch be constructed of different colored stones so that the fishes may have a little bower like to sport in. Some little device of this nature adds greatly to the general appearance of the aquarium, and serves to render the inmates more contented with their new homes.

It will generally be found useful to cover the rich earth at the bottom of the tank with well washed river sand to the depth of about half an inch.

The best aerator as well as the most useful of all the aquatic plants for the aquarium is the *Valisneria spiralis*. This

plant is named in honor of Valisneri, the Italian naturalist. It resembles a grass, having long fronds starting from a deep set root in the soil at the bottom, and growing upwards in the water towards the surface, often falling over in graceful curves, forming "groves sequestered" through which the fish delight to sport. The *Valisneria* is propagated from offshoots and requires a deep rich soil covered with river sand. This is one of the plants in which the circulation of the sap may be observed under the microscope.

The introduction of water-lilies we do not recommend. The sweet-scented white water-lily *Nymphaea odorata*, is the best of the three common varieties, but although very ornamental when in bloom at other times only fill up the tank; and, besides, requires to be very deeply rooted. They also die down in winter, and therefore are objectionable at that season of the year.

#### NEWLY-ISSUED OR INEDITED STAMPS.

It was our purpose to give cuts of several novelties this month, but we shall be obliged to leave them out of this number on account of the crowded state of our columns. Next month, however, we shall endeavor to make up for it by giving an unusual number of cuts, describing all the lately-issued stamps.

URUGUAY has sent her stamped envelope at last, and we must say has produced a much better stamp than we had any reason to expect. It is a circular affair, containing the same armorial bearing as the label; and in the specimen before us a large figure five ornaments the face of the stamp, the armorial bearings being within its embrace, while the word *centesimo* is upon it, and the sun (relic of their ancient religion) is peeping over the circle of the five, dispensing its glorious rays in prodigal profusion. The colors are bright, and the design is in excellent relief—the small figures in the compartments of the armorial shield showing out very clearly. The tongue of the envelope is embellished with a circular stamp, representing the sun rising over the sea. This little ornamentation is printed in relief, and is of the same color as the stamp. Two values of stamped envelopes have appeared—the five-cent blue, and the ten-cent green.

ST. VINCENT has issued a fourpenny blue, and a shilling purple black. The device of both is identical with that of the earlier pair, and both are printed on unwatermarked, perforated, white paper.

NEW GRENADA.—The one-peso is no longer carmine, but appears as vermilion.

RUSSIA seems to have imbibed a love for republics and republican changes, and obediently follows suit, and the hitherto pink 30-kop. envelope is now bright red.

BELGIUM has only to issue the 2c., and her set will be complete—the 5c. having appeared about four weeks ago. The stamps are about the same in device, a few slight differences only being perceivable.

MOLDO-WALLACHIA.—Three stamps for this country, value the same as their predecessors, viz., 2, 5, and 20 parale. The colors, also, are nearly identical; but instead of being on white, the stamps are black on colored paper. They are unwatermarked.

CASHMERE makes its obeisance to the timbrophilic world, and presents three specimens of *les timbres postes* for our approval. A cotemporary thus describes one of them:—"The centre is occupied with a round blot, with a couple of white patches in it. This blot is surrounded by white rays, which encroach on a circular, black disc, containing a number of Hindostani characters. The whole is enclosed by a double linear circle, and printed on thin, yellowish gummed paper. They are also printed in blue and in red."

MEXICO.—Max. seems determined to keep up appearances, at least. Perhaps he thinks that by issuing a series of postage stamps he thereby perpetuates the history of the Mexican Empire. If these are his views, we heartily agree with them; for there is nothing which brings a man so prominently before all classes of people throughout the civilized world as the placing of his phiz on a postage stamp. Thus far we have heard of but three values being emitted: more will probably appear in a few weeks. They are printed on white paper, unperforated and unwatermarked, rectangular in form having the "Emperor's" head in profile surrounded by an oval frame, inscribed *Imperio Mexicano* above, *correos* below and the value on each side, viz.: 7c. dark brown, 13c. blue, and 25c. orange.

ECUADOR presents us with a miserable apology for a stamp, coarsely engraved of a pale red color, and valued at 4 reales. The centre contains an oval, with the

eagle and arms of the country in it. A band at the top has *Correos Ecuador*, value below in words, rectangular-turned corners, unperforated and gummed.

**EAST INDIA.**—A 6-anna postage stamp for this country has been made by cutting a 6-anna Revenue Stamp to the size of a postage stamp, and the word *postage* printed on it in green ink.

**SPECIAL NOTICE.**—We have been obliged to change the date of issuing our paper from the fifteenth to the twenty-fifth of each month. We have also changed our place of publishing the *Guide* from Newport, R. L., to Cambridge, Mass. We have greatly increased our facilities for stamp news, as our columns for this month show, and by introducing cuts of new and rare stamps, shall strive to make the **COLLECTOR'S GUIDE** the paper of its kind in America. Our expenses have been very much increased, and it is necessary that we should receive more subscribers in order to carry out our plans. We therefore offer the following prizes for subscribers:

**PRIZES! PRIZES! PRIZES!**

### Attention, Timbrophilists.

For every club of five subscribers sent us before the 20th of November, we will give an extra copy of the *Guide* and a ticket in the GREAT AMERICAN STAMP SCHEME.

To every single new subscriber we will give a *newly issued, unused, foreign stamp*, worth not less than ten cents.

The above prizes will be sent with the papers, to all subscribing before the 20th of November. Subscribe immediately so as to secure the prizes. Persons receiving the *Guide* this month for the first time will consider it an invitation to subscribe without further notice.

### EDITOR'S TABLE.

This is an age of novelties, new inventions, and new devices for amusement and profit everywhere abound. About the latest novelties, however, are the Postage Stamp Lotteries, which are now becoming very popular among timbrophilists. Where these are gotten up by honorable dealers they are invaluable assistants to the practical collector. Of this class we notice the GREAT AMERICAN STAMP SCHEME. This is no humbug, but a *bona-fide* transaction. The prizes, twenty-five in number, are well selected, and, unlike the packets of a certain Boston dealer, contain *only genuine stamps*. We have personally examined the prizes, and wish to impress the fact on our readers' minds, that everything will be conducted upon strictly honorable principles.

This is no paid puff, but a simple, disinterested act of justice.

A single glance at the "List of Prizes" will suffice to prove the character of the "Scheme":

**1st Prize**—One magnificent collection of Postage Stamps, mounted in an elegant Turkey-Morocco-bound album, with embossed leaves for rare sets of stamps—the only one of the kind in the United States. The collection contains many rare and unused stamps. The list comprises American, English, Newfoundland, Mexican, Grecian, Sicilian, and stamps of Portugal, St. Helena, Costa

Rica, Russia, Tasmania, Van-Dieman's Land, and all of the Island stamps, besides many rare and obsolete stamps too numerous to be given in an article of this kind.

**2d Prize**—Another collection of Postage Stamps containing many obsolete varieties.

**3d Prize**—A collection of 300 varieties, including old New-Brunswick and Nova-Scotia stamps.

**4th and 5th Prizes**—Both elegant Stamp Albums.

**6th Prize**—One set of American Postal Currency, each side printed on a sheet by itself in their original colors, also in carmine, prepared expressly for collectors by Mr. Spinner.

**7th and 8th Prizes**—Each one American packet of new and unused stamps.

**9th and 10th Prizes**—Each one Newfoundland packet of new and unused stamps.

**11th, 12th, 13th and 14th Prizes**—Each a packet of British Colonial and Foreign Stamps, 60 varieties.

**15th, 16th, 17th and 18th Prizes**—Each a packet of Local Dispatch Stamps, 120 kinds.

**19th, 20th, 21st and 22d Prizes**—Each a packet of 15 unused stamps, containing Russian, Malta, Portugal, etc.

**23d, 24th and 25th Prizes**—Each a packet of 40 varieties of unused stamps, consisting of the stamps of Turkey, East and West Indies, etc.

The prizes will be delivered on the day of the drawing. Agents wanted in every city in America. Tickets only 30 cents each. Drawing takes place on Tuesday, Nov. 20, 1886. Address,

G. W. BOLES, Agent, Box 889, Boston, Mass.

### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

M. L., New York.—We will procure the papers you desire provided you will get up a club of subscribers consisting of not less than five persons for each paper. The price of *Le Timbrophile* is \$1.75 per annum. The Stamp Dealers' Advertiser we will furnish at fifty cents per annum. We are also prepared to furnish the Stamp Collectors Magazine at \$1.75 per annum. The Mercury was advertised to appear last May, we have never seen a copy of the paper. Messrs. Hays of Athens were the reputed editors. If you will procure a club of eight members at \$2.00 each, we will get it for you, if it is in existence or in case of its being defunct we will refund the money. In fact any foreign journal devoted to the interests of collectors can be procured through us at the cheapest rates. Owing to the delay and trouble incident to sending subscriptions to Europe, it will be necessary for you to pay the amount of the bill when the orders are sent. We are in all cases responsible for the receipt of the periodical ordered. About the firm in question we are not able to state positively, but shall be happy to learn the result of your order.

J. B., New York.—Papers sent Oct. 15th. Can you not form a club of subscribers for the *Guide* among your friends. If you are acquainted with any young naturalists, you might interest them in our paper. During the Spring we shall resume our articles on Oology, and shall each month give such items concerning Natural History as will be likely to please general readers. To the timbrophilist we intend to continue, as we are now, an invaluable assistant and guide.

Chas. M. G., N. H.—We forwarded the papers as you desired. It is not too late to subscribe, in fact it is just the right time to do so, as by so doing you secure the first numbers of the *Guide* which are nearly out of print and soon will be very rare. Notice our prizes for November.

F. N., Washington, D. C.—Letter with enclosed received. The list you mention has not been received, however you can have your question answered by referring to our advertising columns.

S. S., Indiana.—Papers sent Oct 2d. We shall be happy to hear from you at any time.

We have a large number of new exchanges which we will notice in full next month.

**RHODE-ISLAND POSTAGE-STAMP EMPORIUM****RICHARD P. GOULD,**

GENERAL DEALER IN

**BRITISH, AMERICAN, FOREIGN AND COLONIAL****POSTAGE STAMPS.****All Stamps WARRANTED GENUINE, and Satisfaction Guaranteed.**Dealers are requested to exchange Price Lists. **PRICE CATALOGUE** sent free on receipt of stamp.

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OF SIXTEEN PAGES,

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**THE LARGEST, CHEAPEST, BEST, AND ONLY** Illustrated Stamp Magazine published in America, issued on the first day of every month. Terms, invariably in advance, 50 cents, New-Brunswick currency, per annum; 75 cents, U.S. currency, per annum; for Club rates, see *Gazette* for March. Rates of advertising, 5 cents per line, gold or equivalent. A magnificent original tale, entitled "LOST," was commenced in the April number: every collector should read it. Back numbers supplied. Address, prepaid,

GEORGE STEWART, JR.,  
Box 67, P.O. St. John, N.B.

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**STAMPS AND ESSAYS****Bought, Sold, and Exchanged.****GUSTAVE LEGLISE,**

DUNKERQUE, FRANCE

**PHUN! PHUN! PHUN!****MERRY AND WISE.**

**A COMIC LITTLE MONTHLY, CONTAINS** the Funniest Reading out, all for 15 cents a year. Subscribe now. No specimens. Address

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**The Jersey Joker**

**DEVOTED TO WIT AND HUMOR, AND** the interests of Funny People generally, published on the first of every month. Send 10 cents, and get it from August to December.

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**VAN MARTIN & EARLY,**

Hightown, N.J.

**The Collector's Guide:**

**A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTEREST** OF COLLECTORS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

*Published on the 25th of Every Month.*

TERMS, 50 cents per annum, in advance.

RATES OF ADVERTISING, 10 cents per line.

This paper will be forwarded regularly every month, upon receipt of price of subscription postage stamps (unused) of small values, current in the country whence the order is received.

**STEPHEN GOULD.**

Editor and Proprietor

All communications should be addressed to

**STEPHEN GOULD, Cambridge, Ma**

# The Collector's Guide.

Vol. I.]

CAMBRIDGE, MASS., NOV. 25, 1866.

[No. 7.]

## WHO WOULD NOT BE AN INSECT ?

Insects must generally lead a jovial life. Think what it must be to lodge in a lily ! Imagine a palace of ivory or pearls, with pillars of silver and capitals of gold, all exhaling such a perfume as never arose from human censers ! Fancy, again, the fun of tucking yourself up for the night in the folds of a rose, rocked to sleep by the gentle sighs of summer air, and nothing to do when you wake but to wash yourself in a dew drop, and fall to and eat your own bed clothes. And, the writer might have added, be crushed and eaten by a great winged monster, who, with loud but musical screams announces his victory over a hapless rose-bug.

## CHINESE BANK BILLS AND COINS.

Bank notes are issued by private bankers, at Fuhchau, China, representing copper cash, or dollars, or taels of silver. A dollar is worth about one thousand cash, and a tael about a dollar and one-third. The cash is the only coin issued by the Chinese government. The value of the precious metal is estimated by weight. Bills range from four hundred to several hundred thousand cash ; or from one to several thousand taels. Bankers, after redeeming their notes, sometimes cancel them by a large circular stroke on the face, over the denomination, made two or three inches from the bottom and near the right hand margin. The face has several stamps in blue or red ink, and a printed sentence outside the right hand margin, cut through lengthwise — all to make counterfeiting difficult, and to aid in detecting counterfeits. The part of the sentence cut off is kept in the bank for reference, if needed.

Ancient coins, from one thousand to eighteen or nineteen hundred years old, are highly valued as curiosities in China. Cash, ancient and modern, have a square hole in the centre. Coins of the present Manchu dynasty have on the obverse the title of the Emperor who issued them,

and two characters which imply that they are current everywhere, and on the reverse the name of the mint where coined, in the Chinese and the Manchu languages. Cash issued before the present dynasty, usually have the reverse plain. Several kinds of ancient cash are often used as charms against evil spirits or influences. — *Social Life of the Chinese.*

## NEWLY-ISSUED OR INEDITED STAMPS.

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA.**—The obsolete nine-penny of this colony has just been provisionally re-issued ; color, orange red, on white paper, without perforation or water-mark. The original value is cancelled by the word **TENPEN** printed in Roman capitals in deep blue ink. The cancelling of the values of old issues and re-issuing them is becoming common.

**URUGUAY.**—The values of the 1864 series of stamps have been provisionally altered. The old values being obliterated by hand-printed numerals. The following are the result :—

The 12c. blue	are changed into	5c.
“ 8c. green	“ “	“ 10c.
“ 10c. yellow	“ “	“ 15c.
“ 6c. pink	“ “	“ 20c.

The following reasons for this change are given by the *Stamp Collectors' Magazine* :—

“ The explanation, however, probably lies in the fact that the new values by that means appeared in the colors in which it was decreed that they should be printed. The new type was not ready by the proper time, the first day of the present year ; but stamps of the new value, viz., 5c., 10c., 15c. and 20c., on that day were, by this device, issued in the appointed colors — blue, green, yellow and rose. Eight days is said to have been the period of circulation of this issue ; the individuals comprising it will, therefore, doubtless be always rare.”

**BANK OF NORTH AMERICA.**—In 1840 the above institution, situated in the city of Providence, Rhode Island, adopted for its own convenience the method of franking its letters with the annexed stamp.



A record of letters so stamped was kept at the Post-office, the postage being paid quarterly. These stamps have now become very rare, and great value is set upon them when found. We have tried repeatedly to purchase one of them, but have hitherto failed in our attempt. Mr. Cornell, of Newport, R. I., found one, in looking over some old letters, and kindly lent it to us to have our cut engraved from. Besides this one, we have never seen any of the kind. Perhaps some impressions might be obtained from the Bank itself. Will some of our readers write us the result of their investigations on the subject?

**MECKLENBURG-SCHWERIN.**—This diminutive duchy appears before us a candidate for still further timbrophilic honors, it having issued an adhesive and an envelope valued 2 schg. lilac. Rumor says these new comers will, in a great measure, supersede the well-known 4-4 schg. The design of these stamps is identical with that of the 2 and the 5 schg. of the present series.

**THURN AND TAXIS, NORTH.**—The  $\frac{1}{2}$  silver groschen envelopes are now reddish yellow.

**VENETIA** has issued a 2s. yellow, 3s. green, and 15s. blue. The type is the same as that of the issue of 1861.

**FRANCE** is about to issue a 30c. brown and a 5fr. violet. New-Year's day is the time set for the appearance of these timbrophilic favors.

### The Great American Stamp Scheme.

This enterprise, as our readers have been informed, has been discontinued on account of the petty persecutions of S. Allen Taylor, who has displayed more meanness in this affair than we gave him the credit for.

Taylor first complained to the detective force; they refused to have anything to do in the matter, telling the proprietors of the scheme that there was nothing wrong about it. He then, enraged at being baffled in his first attempt, complained to the Internal Revenue Collector, who said he did not wish to be concerned in so small an affair, and advised the originators to abandon the whole undertaking, and nothing would be done about it.

Now we naturally look to the virtuous individual who was so alarmed because he was afraid some one would be cheated, to see if he in his own business is so pure and without reproach. As we have already received two letters charging S. Allen Taylor with selling counterfeit stamps (one gentleman sending several specimens), we think our honest friend has rather put himself in a perplexing predicament.

However, as our purpose is to get at the real truth of the matter, we request all who may read this article, and who may have had dealings with Mr. Taylor, to write us the result of their investigations.

### EDITOR'S TABLE.

**THE COMMERCIAL PRESS.**—We are pleased to place on our exchange list this interesting little monthly repository. As a curiosity, we advise every one to subscribe for it. We should judge that the local reporter was a man of indomitable energy, from the manner in which he fulfills his trust. For instance, by reference we find that "Frank Lakey, of Palmyra, was in town July 3;" that "Chas. G. Richards and wife are now absent on a visit to Ogdensburg and vicinity;" that "Mrs. Persons and Mrs. Tozer, of Canandaigua, have been spending a few days in town, visiting with their friends;" that in fact every one who has ever visited, or intends to visit Pultneyville, are watched by the *Commercial Press* detective force, and that their names will be reported in a future number. Look out for startling news. If any of our readers wish to see their names in print, the best way for them to do, outside of being connected with a bank robbery, a murder case, or the Southern Loyalist Convention, is to visit Pultneyville, New York.

**MERRY AND WISE.**—We have received a darling little exchange bearing the above title, its contents being the very offspring of its name. Poetry, jokes, sage sayings, and advertisements, serving to render its readers the happiest of mortals.

**THE BANNER.**—No one can say they ever put down this little gem of semi-monthlies after reading it without having learned something new. It is indeed, as its motto states, *Multum in Parvo*.

**HENRY C. KELLY**, South Boston, Mass., is the editor.

LOOK OUT

FOR THE

CHRISTMAS NUMBER

OF THE

**Collector's Guide.**

We are making every preparation for the holidays, so that the readers of the *Guide* may not only be instructed, but amused.

In our next we propose to commence the side-splitting

ADVENTURES

OF

**SUT LOVENGOOD.**

No one can read the adventures of this public-spirited gentleman and then complain of the dyspepsia.

We particularly invite the attention of the advertising community to our terms:

*For less than a page five cents per line.* FOR ONE PAGE, \$5.

Over three thousand copies of the Christmas number of the *Guide* are to be gratuitously distributed on the morning of the 25th of December.

For Stamp Merchants this is an opportunity never before equalled.

Each new subscriber will receive a newly issued unused postage stamp, and each subscriber, both new and old, will receive a valuable foreign postage stamp, gratis, as a Christmas gift from the *Guide*.

Let every dealer advertise his goods fully, at least once a year. Christmas is the best time to do this, as every one is now willing to purchase at that season than any other.

All advertisements must be sent in before Dec. 20, in order to insure admission in the Christmas number.

**NOTICE.****MUTILATED**

**NATIONAL BILLS,  
GREENBACKS & CURRENCY**

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THE

**Stamp-Collector's Monthly Gazette:**

**T**HE LARGEST, CHEAPEST, BEST, AND only Illustrated Stamp Magazine published in America, issued on the first day of every month. Terms, invariably in advance, 50 cents, New-Brunswick currency, per annum; 75 cents, U.S. currency, per annum: for Club rates, see *Gazette* for March. Rates of advertising, 5 cents per line, gold or equivalent. A magnificent original tale, entitled "LOST," was commenced in the April number: every collector should read it. Back numbers supplied. Address, prepaid.

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MERRY AND WISE.

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*Published on the 25th of Every Month.*

TERMS, 50 cents per annum, in advance.

RATES OF ADVERTISING, 10 cents per line.

This paper will be forwarded regularly every month, upon receipt of price of subscription in postage stamps (unused) of small values, current in the country whence the order is received.

STEPHEN GOULD.

Editor and Proprietor.

All communications should be addressed to

**STEPHEN GOULD, Cambridge, Mass.**

# The Collector's Guide.

Vol. I.]

CAMBRIDGE, MASS., DEC. 25, 1866.

[No. 8.

## ADVENTURES OF SUT LOVENGOOD.

Kernel, I hev no spread-eagle, inordinate, or toplifical desire for to be perfane, but, Kernel, the devil's to pay and no pitch hot.

(Sut was excited. It struck me that possibly he had compromised himself with a whiskey demijohn or a cotton-stealing operation. As both matters are susceptible of being "harmonized" and adjusted, I was very loquacious in my efforts to calm him).

Rein up, Kernel—hole yer hosses—don't git inter a hogset ef a barril will hole ye, and let me talk!

'Member that gal with the chip hat an' ribbons an' things, an' the white jacket an' brass buttons, yer seed me with at the lake, an' you sed how, "aint you shamed, Sut?"

Well, Kernel, hole yer breath, an' keep a tight puckerin' string, an' be durned respectable in yer langwidge, fer that female is my wife—I said my wife!

Gollyophilus, what a mouthful!

Yes, sir, that woman diddled me inter marryin' her.

'Member I told you 'bout a sanctified white-choker Yankee chaplain cuss what had a gopher contract? Well, he found a hundred bales of Confederick cotton onderneath a rose-bush in somebody's garden, an' was to give me half ef I could "work it through," as Carondelet Street says.

Well, I found a feller that's as good as physic workin' things. He interjuced me to all the big-bugs an' bed-bugs as was sed to be good at workin' things.

Uvry one he interjuced me to hed, aparently, cash—cash with a looseness.

I communed with myself (got that from Newman). I communed with myself, an' was amazed at the flushness of the chamelos what didn't do nothink an' prospered.

I seek-ed my friend, and axed was thar a showin' fer getting inter political ring. He said how the ring were not a hugeiferous ring now—hits circle were contracted and numbered only the faithful few in Louisiana, an' the prospeck was hit would pay bime by.

I interrogated what was they faithful to, an' was hit 'ligion and Newman's meetins; not muchly, ef my friend was aware of it. Hit was the nigger an' the

almighty dollar in the extremity of the extreme notions generally knowd (an' my friend coughed an' sorter looked 'tother way when he said it)—generally known ez radical views.

Hit was a big swaller, Kernel, but I come to Orleans to make money. Thar's more patriots en me has floated to Orleans on a likewise platform, but most of em dun tuk a back seat mongst the conservatives, an' don't talk out in meetin' ez loud ez they did when Ben was here.

Well, thar wa'nt many of us, an' 'twas sed the tricks was fixed, the State war our'n, an' bein' short division, hit was a good sig.

Thar was the gov'ner, a inordinate eagle, pantin' after that sage of fame some calls infamy. Thar was a bobtail major-gineral, that don't know much more'n grape from canister. What he was arter, he don't know hisself. Thar was lawyers wantin' fat places, an' politicians hankerin' after the blessed times of '33 an' '64.

Thar was a lineal descendant of Ticonderoga here, and another of Pocahontas's husband by a private marriage, both from the rural, an' me from the city, with a sprinklin' of ditchers, contractors, and a delegation from the lunatic asylums; an' we all had axes for to grind.

Our convention revival was as promisin' a spekilation ez Newman's church pilgrimage to Washington, or the fishy administration of the True Delta.

I weep to fine its success ez easy ez makin' Butler honest, Banks virtuous, Newman religious, or Wells and Cutler politicians.

Fer, oh Kernel, the perlice uv Orleans don't skeer wuth a red cent. Our friends didn't stand up to us. Andy Johnson is a traitor; Thad Stevens "couldn't see it," an' flew the track, sum uv em lied 'bout the niggers bein' organized to defend us, an' our speck is furdur up a spout than a brass watch at yer "uncle's."

In the struggle we gallantly made, Mike Hahn, the royal Cutler Sut, an' another nigger, hid themselves onderneath a tabil. The tabil's to be seen yet, an' ez proud ez a tabil kin be, of hev'in' hid hits legs around us.

Cutler he adjourned to a chimbly, and tuk quarters in the fust flue, an' was smoked out by the ordacious perlice, an' his white close never wont get clean no

more. Two of our noblest sperrits is in one of the comin' kingdoms, and one's gone to Washington to find a balm for his wounds. Another hez led trumps by renouncin' politics; another hez sold out his law shop, an' fled to the bosom of Thaddeus an' the shadder of the wings of Sumner. Ticonderoga dodged the perlice and quit the town 'twixt two days, and Pocahontas' grandchild is missin'.

We is scattered an' humbled, and blessed is the small fry, like me an' Newman, what didn't show ourselves in any danger. Outen the whole crowd, Kernel, thar's only three of us ez has got a comfortin' thought to scratch hisselt with. Fish aint got his face damaged, somebody's sent Molly O'Connor a goat, an' I've got a wife!

Tell you hit come about:

My friend, he said, how I orter to be married; that it was a good thing, an' highly respectibul in hits influence, an' helped a feller amazingly to work things, socially, morally, physically and politicaly. He hed tried it to a considerable extent, an' knew.

He would help me to a wife ef I sed the word, an' one he knew was a good one in all respects.

Well, he tuk me to meet her at Brother Newman's prayer-meetin', whar the small fry of the radicals most do congregate. She war thar.

Her face seemed distressingly familiar.

She tuk my elbow, an' the street we shot down for to get to her roost were also not unbeknownst to me. I hed performed in some private theatricals in that street onst, in an interestin' little drayma.

She looked bewitchingly like somebody ez hed tuk a part with me in the play.

I was evidently radically mistaken.

She were a trainer of the youthful mind bound in morocco. For pure luv of the "down-trodden" (and seventy dollars a month) she taught the infant Afrikins thar equality with white people.

Her breath smelt of gin ez I saluted her ruby lips on partin', but she said it war the juniper-berry, which maidens of her sex an' occupation in Massachusetts used ez a tonic.

She's an attachy of the freedmen's bureau—she must be one of the drawers of the bureau, I jedge, from the way she drewed me in—an' hits an *orful* thing she drewed me into ef you 'bleeve Sut!

She got me inter the ring, an' I aint out yit, and no prospect so far as heerd from.

On the jolly night of my union with Dorothy, bein' overcome with the liquory

congratulations of my friends, an' in order to soothe my feelins, an' quietly contemplate the joys and blisses of wedded life jest placed in my grasp by that heavenly-minded editorial pastor of our party, I retired to "our" apartment.

I possumed to a gentle snooze, as I heerd her approach with her attendant maidens (also of the freedmen's bureau). They, bein' of that uncertain age marked by gin toddies and eccentric modesty, did not remain any length of time in the apartment after diskiverin' me, but hastily fled with gentle screams of horror.

I continued to snooze.

The gentle Dorothy Ann approached me an' feelin'ly and tenderly remarked, "Drat the cuss, he's drunk."

Hit was a spontaneous outbreak of affection which nighly brought tears to my sleepin' eyes.

I went one eye on the disrobing of my unsuspecting matrimonial prize—my bride! my own Dorothy Ann!

From the precincts which enshrine my Dorothy's heart she drew forth a pair of canary-bird's nests.

Oh! how hev I seen them thar nests heave and palpitate.

I snoozed and dreamed; the dream I hed dreamed of a piller for my akin' head and fevered brow.

Her lips parted—her ruby lips! Lips which, though fragrant of the juniper-berry tonic, still hed kissed mine with an acquired and experienced juiciness.

She inserted her finger 'twixt them lips, an'—out drapped the mouth furniture: those pearly teeth which she onst told me never aked.

I b'leeve her; they didn't!

I saw my Dorothy cross a muddy street one day, an' her tilter showed me a well-filled stockin'.

I opened both my eyes when I saw the stockings come off, an' half the fillin' with 'em.

With considerable effort and mental cussin', I continered to slumber.

(To be concluded in our next).

### SPECIAL NOTICE.

Owing to the great demand for our January number, we cannot sell any single copies of that issue. Those wishing to obtain the whole of this unequalled story, can do so by subscribing for the *Guide*. Terms, 50 cents per annum.

## NEWLY-ISSUED AND INEDITED STAMPS.

**VICTORIA.**—This colony, never ending still beginning in its types of postage stamps, has again brought forward a stamp of a design very closely resembling the tenpence recently issued. In an upright, rectangular frame, an oval band surrounds the head of Queen Victoria, turned to the left, crowned with a wreath of bays. In the oval band is inscribed: above VICTORIA, below THREEPENCE. A little crown flanks the centre of the head, on either side, in the band, and divides the upper from the lower legend. The angles are filled with a plaid groundwork, and in each corner is a small square containing the figure 3. The color is a dull pinkish lilac. The paper is white wove, watermarked with the figure 8, formed by single lines, and the stamp is perforated.

**MOLDO-WALLACHIA.**—The late war in Europe is not without its effect on the timbrophilic productions of the lesser States, and Prince Charles, anxious to establish his power among the nations, has issued stamps bearing his own rather good-looking and stern phiz. The series contain three members, viz., 2, 5, and 20 paras. The colors, also, are nearly identical; but instead of being on white, the stamps are black, on colored paper, the lowest value being yellow. They are unwatermarked and un gummed.

**SERVIA.**—The Prince of Servia, Michael Obrenowitz III., following the example of his cousin of Moldo-Wallachia, has authorized the emission of a series of postage stamps of an elegant device, which includes a portrait of himself. This issue makes its appearance well designed, well printed, and perforated. The colors and values are as follows:—1 para, green; 2 paras, brown; 10 paras, yellow; 20 paras, rose; 40 paras, blue. All the values are printed in color, on white paper.

**CASHMERE.**—In our October number we described a circular stamp, said to belong to this country, and we have now received a rectangular one, which we believe should be ascribed to the same source. This stamp is superior in execution to the round one, though, like it, presenting undoubted proof of its Eastern origin. The only specimen we have seen is printed in black, in which color the cabalistic characters lose none of their mysterious appearance. The paper is thin, and of a yellowish tinge, unwatermarked, of course, and the post-mark is light red and circular. The establishment of a postal system in such an out-of-the-way place as Cashmere is a surprising evidence of the quickness with which the knowledge of useful inventions spreads in the present day, and of the progressive spirit of the ruler of a half-civilized country.

**PORTUGAL.**—The new series is augmented by the emission of a black 5 reis of the same type as the 120 reis blue.

**DANUBIAN STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.**—This, one of the oldest and most influential of European steam navigation companies, has just emitted a stamp similar in its use to the "Too Late" of Victoria. Our information is incomplete as to the

degree in which this company is connected with Austrian postal service; but it would seem that it conveys letters up the Danube, and is permitted to charge for its own benefit an extra fee of 17 soldi upon all letters posted on board of one of its vessels after time. The new emission is printed in rose upon white paper, denticulated, but without watermark. This company has also emitted a 10-soldi lilac on white, in addition to the above.

**DRESDEN EXPRESS COMPANY** has issued a complete set of stamps of a very unique design. These stamps are intended to frank packets destined for the interior of the Saxon kingdom, which is termed RAYOU I. The series consist of six values— $\frac{1}{2}$  neu groschen, yellow; 1 do., rose; 2 do., lilac; 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  do., pink; 3 do., salmon; 5 do., green. They are all printed on colored paper, except the one neu groschen, which is on white. The prices represented by these stamps are far below those charged by the royal post office for the same service, whilst the security afforded by the company is equal. We presume the packets intended to conveyed are equivalent to our book-post parcels; the stamps will not, therefore, be inadmissible, and indeed their peculiar style of device, reminding one in its effect of a church window, will render them pleasing additions.—*Stamp Collector's Magazine.*

**THE INDIAN POSTAL SERVICE.**—The post office in India is progressing favorably, but it is supposed, "and not without reason," says the director-general, that an unpaid letter is more secure and more speedily delivered than one which is paid. The postal regulation appears to be that unpaid letters must be delivered or brought back to the post office, as the postage must be accounted for by the postman; but with regard to stamped letters, even if a complaint should be made of their non-delivery, the posting, transit, and receipt of the same can never be traced. Being thus driven to defend themselves from a system which taxes them with double postage, the people of India have resorted to an expedient well known in England in the days of dear postage. They send their letters unpaid, and put *outside* some recognizable marks conveying the required intelligence; the receiver of the letter sees at a glance all he wishes to know, and declines to accept the letter. 200,000 were thus refused in 1860-61, and could not be disposed of by a return to the sender.

**THE SAVAGES CATCHING SALMON.**

Mr. Lord went to British Columbia as scientific member of the commission appointed to mark the boundary line between British and United States territory from the Pacific coast to the eastern edge of the Rocky Mountains. After mention of his voyage out, Mr. Lord devotes a chapter and a half to the Salmon, describing all the different varieties that he came across, and the immense importance of this fish to the natives of the country :

"About three weeks preceding the arrival of the salmon, the Indians begin to assemble from all directions. Cavalcades may be seen, day after day, winding their way down the plain; and as the savage when he travels takes with him all his worldly wealth—wives, children, dogs, horses, lodges, weapons, and skins—the turn-out is rather novel. The smaller children are packed with the baggage on the backs of horses, which are driven by the squaws, who always ride astride like the men. The elder girls and boys, three or four on a horse, ride with their mothers, whilst the men and stouter youths drive the bands of horses that run loose ahead of the procession. A pack of prick-eared curs, simply tamed prairie-wolves, are always in attendance. A level piece of ground overlooking the falls (the descent from which to the rocks is by a zigzag path, down a nearly vertical cliff) is rapidly covered with lodges of all shapes and sizes. The squaws do the work appertaining to camping, and are literally 'hewers of wood and drawers of water.' The men, who are all, when at the fishery, under one chief, whom they designate the 'Salmon Chief,' at once commence work—some in repairing the drying-sheds, which are placed on the rocks (as are also numbers of lodges) at the foot of the zigzag; others are busy making or mending immense wicker hampers, about thirty feet in circumference, and twelve feet in depth. Little groups are dragging down large trees lopped clear of their branches—rolling,

twisting, and tumbling them over the rocks, to be fixed at last by massive boulders, the ends hanging over the foaming water not unlike so many gibbets. These trees being secure and in their places, the next work is to hang the wicker baskets to them, which is a risky and most difficult job; but many willing hands and long experience work wonders; with strong ropes of twisted bark, the baskets are at last securely suspended. By this time the river begins to flood rapidly, and soon washes over the rocks where the trees are fastened, and into the basket, which is soon in the midst of the waterfall, being so contrived as to be easily accessible from the rocks not over-washed by the flood. Whilst awaiting the coming salmon, the scene is one great revel; horse-racing, gambling, love-making, dancing, and diversions of all sorts, occupy the singular assembly; for at these annual gatherings, when all jointly labor in catching and curing the winter supply of salmon, feuds and dislikes are for the time laid by, or, as they figuratively express it, 'the hatchet is buried.' The medicine-men (doctors and conjurers) of the different tribes busily work their charms and incantations to ensure an abundant supply of fish. The watchers announce the welcome tidings of the salmon arrival, and the business begins. The baskets are hung in places where past experience has taught the Indians salmon generally leap, in their attempts to clear the falls. The first that arrive are frequently speared from the rocks. They are in such vast numbers during the height of the 'run,' that one could not well throw a stone into the water at the base of the falls without hitting a fish: fifty or more may be seen in the air at a time, leaping over the wicker traps, but, failing to clear the 'salmon leap,' fall back, and are caged. In each basket two naked Indians are stationed all day long; and as they are under a heavy fall of water, frequent relays are necessary."

**POSTAL COMMUNICATION IN JAPAN.**

Postal communication is all conducted by runners. Government couriers run between the ports at stated periods, doing the distance between Yeddo and the extreme north or south, Hakodadi or Nagasaki, in about twenty-five days, the distance being 290 Re to Hakodadi (say 650 miles), and 350 Re to Nagasaki (say 875 miles). By express, paid at the rate of eighty itziboos or six pounds sterling, letters can be conveyed in nine or ten days. Thus, with some of the best roads in the world, the Japanese are three centuries behind the rest of the civilized world in all that concerns speed and means of communication. And even this very primitive post has no reference to the wants of the people, but serves merely to keep up the communication between the government and its officers. The merchants combine among themselves to send couriers express from one trading city to another, but, so far as I could learn, at no regular periods or in any permanent form. The Chinese even seem in advance of them here, for in most of the large cities of the north there are regular posts established by the people or certain guilds of merchants for them.

—*Capital of the Tycoon.*

**JEAN INGELOW.**

Coming at last to a quiet street, where all the houses were gay with window-boxes full of flowers, we reached Miss Ingelow's. In the drawing-room we found the mother of the poetess, a truly beautiful old lady, in widow's cap and gown, with the sweetest, serenest face I ever saw. Two daughters sat with her, both older than I had fancied them to be, but both very attractive women. Eliza looked as if she wrote poetry, Jean the prose; for the former wore curls, had a delicate face, fine eyes, and that indescribable something which suggests genius; the latter was plain, rather stout, hair touched with gray, shy yet cordial

manners, and a clear, straightforward glance, which I liked so much that I forgave her on the spot for writing those dull stories. Gerald Massey was with them, a dapper little man, with a large, fine head, and very un-English manners. Being oppressed with "the mountainous me," he rather bored the company with "my poems, my plans, and my publishers," till Miss Eliza politely devoted herself to him, leaving my friend to chat with the lovely old lady, and myself with Jean. Both being bashful, and both laboring under the delusion that it was proper to allude to each other's works, we tried to exchange compliments, blushed and hesitated, laughed, and wisely took refuge in a safer subject. Jean had been abroad; so we pleasantly compared notes, and I enjoyed the sound of her peculiar musical voice, in which I seemed to hear the breezy rhytmh of some of her charming songs. The ice which surrounds every English man and woman was beginning to melt, when Massey disturbed me to ask what was thought of his books in America. As I really had not the remotest idea, I said so; whereat he looked blank, and fell upon Longfellow, who seems to be the only one of our poets whom the English know or care much about. The conversation became general, and soon after it was necessary to leave, lest the safety of the nation should be endangered by overstepping the fixed limits of a morning call. Later I learned that Miss Ingelow was extremely conservative, and was very indignant when a petition for woman's right to vote was offered for her signature. A rampant radical told me this, and shook her handsome head pathetically over Jean's narrowness; but when I heard that once a week several poor souls dined comfortably in the pleasant home of the poetess, I forgave her conservatism, and regretted that an unconquerable aversion to dinner-parties made me decline her invitation.

—*Miss L. M. Alcott.*

### THE BATON-ROUGE STAMP.

Most of our readers remember seeing a few months ago, a small, neat, unpretending stamp, nearly square, with a pink border running round, in the inside of which were the words *P. O.* at the top, *J. McCormick* below, and *Baton Rouge* and *5* in the centre, the whole resting upon a ground formed by green spots. The origin of this label or card is as follows:—In the year 1862, that portion of the inhabitants of the “sunny south” whose lot it was to reside in the city of Baton Rouge, became suddenly short of that very needful article—small change. Mr. McCormick, who was postmaster at this time, conceived the notion that he might remedy this nuisance; this he tried to do in the shape of the stamp we are now describing. It was used, *not* for postage, but for the sole purpose of making change. Every merchant in the city had them by him, and no doubt they were in reality a great convenience. But alas! one fine day, the Union forces entered the town, and immediately on their arrival “did away” with the stamps, not in a manner altogether relished by timbrophilists, and now these labels may be regarded as things of the past. It is exceedingly difficult to procure the genuine, even in Baton Rouge itself. Mr. McCormick still lives in the town, but is no longer postmaster.—*Stamp-Collectors' Monthly Gazette.*

### A GLANCE AT BOMBA.

I can scarcely hear myself speak. Stop! An additional bustle behind and a subdued murmur indicates the approach of the King—out on one of his morning drives—the excellent King Bomba, whom we have read of in Gladstone, and in the *Times*. See how he whisks past in his mail phaeton, driving a pair of blood horses, which I should say were of English breed. On either side of him ride his aides-de-camp—young men of noble family, conspicuous by their blue uniforms and cocked hats. As far as one can judge

of the King himself, in his sitting posture, he appears to be a man above the average height, and with something more than an inclination to corpulency. His countenance is of that swarthy hue common to the inhabitants of a warm clime; and if it be not blasphemous to speak in such light terms of an anointed monarch, I should say that his nose was of the order “snub.” Do not those features bear the impress of weakness rather than cruelty? They convey to my mind the idea of a Louis the thirteenth, rather than that of a Harry the eighth. Never mind; be he good, bad, or indifferent, one has seen a King; and that consideration is generally sufficient to cheer the spirits of a Briton.—*Household Words.*

The Report of the Postmaster-General states that “since July, 1861, in the expenditure of \$1,083,000,000, disbursed by this department in minute sums, and surrounded by difficulties and hazards, the total cost to the government, in expenses and losses of every character, can not in the worst possible event exceed three-fourths of one per cent.; and in this estimate I include the large loss of paymasters' deposits by the fraudulent bankruptcy of a national bank in this city.”

### OUR BOSTON DEALER.

We have been rather amused at the puerile attempts of S. Allan Taylor to injure the reputation of several stamp-dealers in different parts of the country; thus far, owing either to his ignorance or willful distortion of the facts, he has made a most foolish botch of the whole affair, and has added not a little to the aforesaid gentlemen's business. We entertain no hard feelings towards the irascible Taylor, nor do we intend to dirty our paper with a petty quarrel with anyone. We simply design to continue our publication, as we began, the *Collector's Guide*, and to do this it is necessary for us to expose swindlers of every kind. We have written to several persons who we know have had dealings with the person charged with the offence, and we hereby earnestly solicit letters from every one who has had dealings of any kind with Mr. Taylor. We shall publish all letters received concerning S.A.T. carefully abstaining from expressing our own likes or dislikes on the subject, letting those persons

who have had experience in the matter speak for themselves. This we believe to be the surest and safest mode of obtaining and promulgating the truth. If our mode of obtaining evidence is not a good one, will some of our readers suggest a better: we are open to correction, and shall be happy to receive criticisms or advice from any or all of our readers. We will here state that we do not hold ourselves liable for any of the statements made by our correspondents; we publish whatever we receive, either for or against Mr. Taylor.

In answer to a note, we received the following:

NEWPORT, R.I., Nov. 7, 1866.

FRIEND GOULD,—I have received counterfeit "city express" stamps; but have never had any dealings with him in foreign stamps. \* \* \* \*

Yours, &c., MARK CORNELL.

We also received this note from a celebrated stamp-merchant:

LOWELL, Mass., Nov. 8, 1866.

Mr. S. GOULD, Editor of *Collectors' Guide*:

SIR,—Your letter in regard to the chicanery of S. A. Taylor is received. The best proof that I can get is the enclosed counterfeit stamps. I bought them of him. I know of several other counterfeit stamps, viz.: Turkish, Baldwin R.R. Ex., Spanish Official, &c., &c. \* \* \* \*

Yours, &c., E. H. JUDKINS.

Enclosed in the letter were an Ecuador *dos reales*, green; an E.U. de Columbia 16-cent, black; a Tuscany 10-centes, brown; a Confederate States 1-cent, yellow; and a Charleston P.O. 10-centes, blue.

The following letter we received unsolicited:

BURLINGTON, Vt., Nov. 22, 1866.

Mr. STEPHEN GOULD, Boston:

DEAR SIR,—Enclosed please find 50 cents, for one subscription of the *Collectors' Guide*, for one year commencing Nov. 25, 1866.

I saw mentioned in your Editor's Table of October a sentence concerning a certain Boston dealer in stamps. Now, I know well whom you mean without being told, and do not hesitate in saying that there is not a meaner stamp swindler in the U.S. than S. Allan Taylor. I have always lived in Lowell, Mass., until lately, and have very often had occasion to be in Boston, when I would give him a call. I once asked him if he warranted his stamps as he represented them? To which he replied, "Any man who will warrant all his stamps genuine must be a bigger fool than I am." What if that was the reply of all business men? Why, if we bought anything we should all be fools; but, unlucky for Allan Taylor, we are not. \* \* \* \*

Yours,

I. W. NORCROSS, JR.

In presenting these letters, we wish particularly to state that our object is simply to obtain all the evidence possible in regard to this matter; if, therefore, any of our readers have had dealings with S. Allan Taylor, they will confer a great favor upon the timbrophilic public in general if they will write us the result of their orders.

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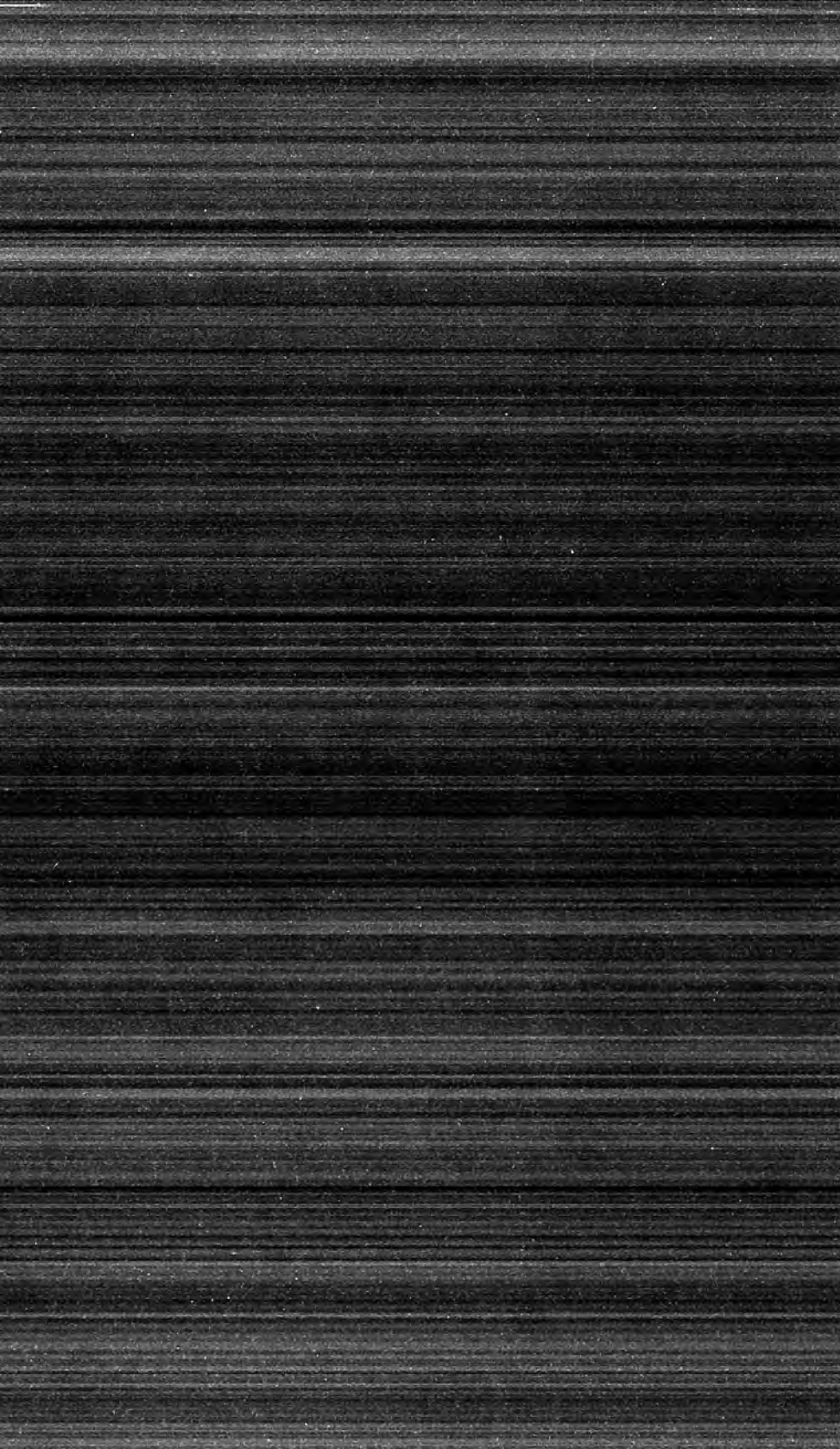
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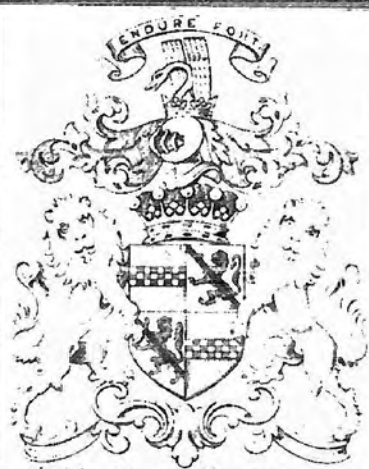
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