



Crawford 1777



THE CURIO.

—A MONTHLY—
DEVOTED TO COLLECTORS.

VOL. I. BENSON, MINN., FEBRUARY, 1889. No. 1.

LARGEST STAMP COLLECTORS.

THE stamp collectors, in the United States, who have collections of 5000 specimens or over will probably number about one hundred. We shall be grateful for any corrections or additions.

John K. Tiffany and W. C. Vanderlip head the list with collections of about 20,000. Henry Clotz and Brock of Philadelphia follow with 12,000 each; Lieut Partello and Kendall of Emmetsburg, Ioa., come next with 11,000. A. Dujonge, the genial president of the Staten Island Society, W. C. Stowe, Lehman of Patterson, N. J., Worthington of Cleveland, Pierce, late of Chicago and now of Cincinnati, and Treasurer Seagrave own 10,000 each. Corwin and Gremmeit of N. Y., Bacon of West Newton, Mass., rejoice with 9,000. Woodward of Denver, Bickley of Minneapolis, H. E. Deats and W. Rasmus touch the 8,000 line and R. Westhoff comes very near it. 6,000 is claimed by Bruce of Hartford, Kingsbury of St. Cloud Minn., Rothpucks of Washington, McFarland of Trenton, R. Caccavajo and Gregory of Brook-

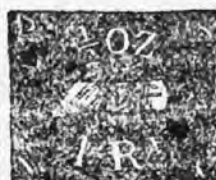
lyn; Carter of "Badger State" fame, G. H. Wood of Providence, E. T. Parker of Bethlehem and E. Doebelin of Alleghany City. P. H. Hill, E. R. Abtrich, G. Von Utassey, Read of Providence Cadet Crosby of West Point, Seefingberg of the National Society, each rejoicing in collections of 5,000.

The Pacific Navigation Co. J. T. L.

IN 1857 the Pacific Navigation Co., made a proposition to the Peruvian Government to supply stamps free, and carry the Peruvian foreign mail.

The offer was accepted, and on Dec. 1, 1857, furnished two values of stamps.

1 real blue;
2 real red brown
Both are on blue paper. The Company had prior to this, used the same designs on white wove paper. Subsequently, the 1 real was changed to carmine; and the 2 reals to blue. These stamps are also found printed in several different colors on white wove paper, being probably reprints although some claim ess.ys.



They have been extensively counterfeited. The genuine are engraved TAILLE-DOUCE. The S in upper right corner is joined to the S in the genuine, but not to the counterfeits.

On March 1, 1858, the Peruvian Government put their own stamps into use and although the company continued, they soon fell into disuse.

—:O:—
QUESTION BOX.

All queries are answered to the best of our ability—

R. V. The stamp sent by you is the most rankest kind of a forgery.

L. O. EMO. The coin is an old Spanish piece. No value other than face.

Diez is now the Mexican president, serving his fourth term.

—••••—
Cause of Smokiness in Quartz Crystals.

Mineralogists are well aware that in 1868 a large number of crystals of smoky quartz were found in Switzerland, which furnished specimens of great size and beauty to many cabinets throughout the world.

In the course of an investigation into the physical characteristics of these crystals, it was found, much to the surprise of

the Experimenter, that on heating they lost their smoky appearance, and became as limpid and colorless as the most beautiful Rock crystals; and this suggested the inquiry whether the color was due to the inclusion of organic substances which were destroyed by heating, or to some change of the molecular constitution of the crystal caused by heat.

To determine this question, Prof. Foster subjected a series of these crystals to a careful investigation and, as a result, came finally to the conclusion that the black color was not the result of any peculiar molecular condition, but that it was produced by the presence in the crystals of bodies containing organic Carbon and Hydrogen.

—••••—
A RELIGIOUS ROCK.

Near the mouth of the Little Cheyenne river, in Dakota, is a rock with curious indentations.

It is twelve feet long by seven or eight feet wide, and rises above the surface of the ground about eighteen inches. Its edges are angular, its surface flat and it shows

little effect of ice action. It appears to be magnesian limestone, and its whiteness makes it a conspicuous object. On the surface are several deep and perfect footprints as though made by the left moccasined foot of a woman or boy. It is known to the Indians as a religious rock, and they worship it. None of the present Indians know anything of the origin of the footprints.—Sci.

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BY THE
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Benson, Minn.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

U. S. and Canada per year.....	25c
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So. Africa and Australia.....	50c

—ADVERTISING RATES—

Per Inch.....	\$1.00
" Column.....	7.00
" Page.....	12.00

Special Contracts onstanding Advertisements.

It is the intention of the CURIO Co., to give the public a good representative paper, devoted to the general Collector. We start small in form, but if we meet with the expected support, we shall double or treble the size of our paper.

* * *

See our special offer on last page.

* * *

We have placed our advertising rates at what may seem exorbitant, but the thoughtful dealer will see that our paper, not being an advertising sheet will pay better than others.

* * *

The P. S. of A., election was held Jan. 15. We are informed the "Rock Island" ticket was elected.

* * *

Mr. Warren R. Moorhead is now at the Smithsonian Insti-

tute.

Mr. C. B. Hanna, late sec'y M.B.A.P.A is now located at Omaha.

NOTES.

Harper's Monthly for February contains an illustrated article upon "the Hotel Dronot," the great Parisian Curio and art Auction mart.

It is estimated that only ten per cent of the men of China can read, and only one per cent of the women.

The finest collection of old almanacs, is said to be owned by one of the Justices of the Supreme Court.

A quantity of Roman Coins were recently found in the province of Shausi, China.


Italian astronomers place the age of the world at 80,000,000 years.

For odd shapes in coins, China and Japan have the lead; in those of the greatest weight, Sweden excels; the smallest are those of Nuremburg and Nepaul. That which represents the greatest value, in a coin struck from dies, belongs to the United States. France exceeds in experimental pieces.

Eggs of the Florida Jay.
(A Floridana.)

Having lately received a set of these rare eggs, a description may be of interest to the readers of this paper; they are a little larger than those of the Blue Jay, which they resemble in color, although slightly more pointed than the latter. The markings also, resemble splashes rather than dots; the nest is rather neatly made—for a Jay. There is a sort of sub-structure of small twigs, interlaced in a very complicated manner; on this is placed very fine grass, fashioned into a nearly flat nest about four inches in diameter, and three-quarters of an inch deep.

A petrified fish, seventeen inches long was found recently in Oregon, over three thousand feet above the sea

 Always mention this paper when answering advertisements.

THE YANKEEFRA an 8 page Amateur Journal devoted to Amateur and Collector News. The Puzzle Department is conducted by an able puzzler, and offers prizes each month, 15 cents per year. R. BERLI, 1608 Madison Avenue, Covington, Ky.

Philatelic Society of America.

Is the name of a new NATIONAL Stamp Collecting Society just organized. Its intention is to bring together, most especially the younger collector, if has no age restriction. It starts with a membership of 80.

For particulars, address
H. C. BEARDSLEY
Box 616, St. Joseph, Mo.

Send for a free sample copy of

Badger State Philatelist!

PRICE LIST OF STAMPS 3c.

Member A. P. A. and N. E. CARTER, Delavan, Wis.
C. T. A.

By having your name in the

INDEX DIRECTORY

you will receive lots of mail—dead loads of it—for only ten cents, or if you wish to send 20c we will put your name in the directory, give you 100 songs, 10 notes and a rubber stamp with a name on, all for 20c. INDEX PUB. CO., Kankakee, ILL

Coms, Medals, Curios and Stamps
Sold, exchanged and bought.

Aifred Owre,

119 S. 2d St., Minneapolis,

Minn.

Being desirous of obtaining 500 subscribers at once, we make the following premium offers. For 8 cents we will send the CURIO for six months, and as a premium a Star fish.

10 cents, we will send the CURIO six months, and as a premium a fine arrow or a piece of sword fish sword.

25 cents, we will send CURIO six months to four different addresses and give sender of club a fine sea urchin.

This paper three months on trial and a file of Era's Monthly, —3 numbers—for only 5 cents. Send at once. CURIO Co.'

Benson, Minn.



THE CURIO.

—A MONTHLY—
DEVOTED TO COLLECTORS.

VOL. I.

BENSON, MINN., MARCH,

No. 2

THE P. S. OF A.

THIS is one in which Minnesota can well feel interested. Its originator, Mr. McNamara being a "Gopher State" man, and now its first president is likewise a North Star State man. This new society starts out with a membership of seventy or eighty, and among the list, some of America's leading collectors. Mr. Aldrich, the president; Mr. Mitchell (Wanderer) its treasurer; "Figaro" Voute, Deats of Flemington, Casey of New York, are not only well known in America, but also in the Old World, and this list might be greatly extended. for H. C. Beardsley, F. N. Massoth, Rob't Sheldon, W. K. Freeman and many others are on its list.

Its basis is entirely democratic. Every member has a voice. Its fundamental basis is: "If a collector joins and pays dues, he is the PEER OF ALL OTHER MEMBERS"

It is especially well represented on the Pacific slope, where its Vice-president, Mr. Samuels is well and favorably known.

The dues are only \$1 and the membership fee 25 cents.

J D L

THE SIVATHERIUM.

ONE of the most remarkable of Indian fossil, are those of the Sivatherium, found in the Sewalk Hills of Northern India.

The genus is extinct, and found only Miocene strata.

It possessed a large skull, nearly as long as that of an elephant, supported by a giraffe-like neck,

Its face was short and its nasal bones projected into a pointed arch above the nostrils, indicative of a trunk or proboscis.

It had four horns, two small diverging horns rising from the brow 'twixt the orbits and two larger ones further back. The remains of two species have been discovered.

—:x:—

Henry R. Schoolcraft.

Henry Rowe Schoolcraft, the celebrated geologist and ethnologist, was born in the state of New York in 1793.

In 1817-8 he visited the Mississippi mining regions, and formed a collection of geological specimens which he afterwards sent to Washington.

About this time, his first work "The Lead Mines of Missouri,"

was published. Four years later he was appointed Indian agent at Sault St. Marie, where a year later he was married to a Miss Johnson, who was of Indian descent.

In 1828 he was elected member of the Territorial legislature of Michigan, and continued so until 1832.

During this period, he founded the Historical Society of Michigan, and also the Algic Society of Detroit.

In 1832 he was at the head of an expedition exploring for the head waters of the Mississippi.

His greatest fame rests upon his works upon the North American Indians.

In 1848, he published his "Notes on the Iroquois." In 1847, the Government published his celebrated "Indian Tribes of America," in six quarto volumes, with over three hundred superb plates.

In 1847 he married the second time. His death took place in 1864.

Schoolcraft has done more toward preserving the history of the Red men of America, than all of his predecessors and successors combined.

READ our offer in another column of this paper, and take advantage of it!

SUBSCRIBE.

GREAT OFFERS!

Trial Subscription

We will send this paper on trial three months and any one of the following premiums, on receipt of 10 cents!

- | | |
|--|------|
| 2) 8 varieties Mexico, worth alone | .15c |
| 2) 500 foreign & U.S. stamps | .18c |
| 3) 2 Medicine stamps | .12c |
| 4) Phil. Annual & file of Era's Monthly. | .20c |
| 5) 7v. Store Cards | .15c |
| 6) 1 Cuba Insurgent bill | .10c |
| 7) A fine Crinoid | .10c |

As a further inducement, we will present to 1st subscriber a rare Confederate stamp.

19th a Faunce's Local stamp.

37th do

53rd a rare U. S. Medicine, worth \$1.

J. D. LYONS JR.,

BENSON, MINN.,

-Bargains in Stamps & Curios!

20 Store Cards, 35 cents.

40 Store Cards, reg'd 70 cents

Arrow head 5 cents

MINNESOTA

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Special Contracts on standing Advertisements.
 Entered at the Post-office at Benson, Minn.,
 as second-class matter.

We wish to exchange with all papers devoted to collectors.

We were disappointed in not receiving an illustrated article for this number. After waiting a week, we concluded to delay no longer

 We make some new trial offers with premiums this month. Avail yourself thereof.

We had the pleasure recently, of meeting Mr. G. W. Peck, of Glenwood. Mr. Peck is an enthusiastic collector of coins and curiosities.

 We offer an U. S. stamp valued at \$1.00 for best article on any philatelic subject; not less than 200, or more than 400 words, received by us, by April 30.

Minnesota has three collector's papers (and talk of a fourth)

and at least one amateur journal which occasionally prints collectors articles. Not a bad showing.

—:X:—

SPENCILLINGS

"DIXON H. H."

Mr. George Bailey is endeavoring to form an A. P. A. branch in Cleveland.

With Voute, the Denver boys and the Ericites kicking, it looks as though something was wrong in the A. P. A.

Tiffany's Library Companion, Part 1. U. S.— is at hand. This is a most exhaustive list, and just what might be expected of America's greatest philatelist. The only omission we have not, is the Philatelic Messenger, published in 1882, 2 nos published as far as H. H. has seen.

"Philately," is the name of a new monthly published by Wylie and Holmes, of N Y. It is first-class in every respect.

Mr. Pat Chalmers is out with another pamphlet. I fail to see any thing new in it.

In review'g Chalmers-Hill, Mr. Hooper scores a "home run" for Hill in the last Phil, Beacon,

About Some Coins.

It is said that the first purchase of metal to be used for U. S. coinage, consisted of six pounds of old copper.

A negro boy, near Camden, S. C., lost a silver dollar that belonged to his mother, and then cried himself to death over it. We are not told whether or not, the dollar bore the magic date, 1804.

An authentic silver dollar of the Confederacy is valued by coin collectors at \$1000. The supply of silver in the South during the war was very limited; hence the great scarcity of these coins.

The die of the Goddess of Liberty on our own coins was cut by Mr. Spencer, the inventor of the lathe bearing his name. The features were at first, those of Mrs. Washington, but at the suggestion of Gen. Washington they were changed, and the figure called the Goddess of Liberty.

Lillie Devereaux Blake, has shown that the female American eagle is a larger and nobler bird than the male. It is about time that the patriotic men of the country demanded something

masculine on one side or the other of the American silver dollar.—Chicago Tribune.

Connecticut issued cents from 1785 to 1788, notwithstanding Congress had forbidden State coinage after 1787. The reason of this was, that a large supply of metal was on hand, and the coinage was continued until this was used up.

GUY W. GREEN.

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We will send this paper on trial three months and any one of the following premiums, on receipt of 10 cents!

- | | |
|--|------|
| 2) 8 varieties Mexico, worth alone | .15c |
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VOL. I. BENSON, MINN., APRIL, 1889. No. 3

CONFEDERATE ENVELOPES.

J. D. L.

AMONG the many postal curiosities met with by the collector, none are more interesting than the surcharged U. S. Envelopes used by the Confederate Post-office department.

Of these, 7 varieties have been catalogued, two coming from the Chief Clerk of the P.O. Department, three from Chief of Contract Bureau, and one each from Finance and Appointment Bureaus.

All are rare and very interesting. There are quite a number of other “official” envelopes but the “officialness” gave them no franking power.

I mention such as have come under my observation. The list is very incomplete; Ordinance Department, Raleigh, N. C., Executive Department, Treasury Department, Conscript Office, Camp Holmes, N. C., Nitre and Mining Bureau, Quartermaster Department, War Department. These are letter size.

Official size I have only met with

in “War Department.”

Several of the states also used envelopes with inscription “official” and name of department.

—:x:—

The Confederate Half Dollar.

It has been believed and recorded as an historical fact that the Southern Confederacy had no metallic currency.

It has however proved that such is not the case. In April, 1861, four silver half dollars were struck at the New Orleans mint by order of the C. S. A.

This important discovery was made public by an article in the (Phil.) Record in 1879 headed “A craze for Coins,” giving prices paid for some rare coins.

This most interesting coinage has on the obverse the Goddess of Liberty with thirteen stars representing the States from which the Confederacy originated and the date 1861.

On the reverse, the liberty cap, beneath which is the American shield, the union of the latter containing seven stars representing the seven seceding states, the whole being surrounded, by a wreath of sugar cane and cot-

ton in bloom and the inscription "Confederate States of America" and "half dol."

In the month of April, 1861, orders were issued by Mr. Memminger, Secretary of the Treasury, to the effect that designs for half dollar coins should be submitted to him for approval.

The design for the above described coin was accepted and the dies were engraved by A. H. M. Peterson of New Orleans. They were prepared for the coining press by Conrad Schmidt, foreman of the coining room, (who is still living,) from which four pieces only were struck. One was sent to the government, one presented to Prof. Biddle, one sent to Dr. Ames of New Orleans, and retained by B. F. Taylor, Chief Coiner C. S. A.

N. B. W.

—:x:—
PENCILINGS.

"DIXON H. H."

THE deep rumbling continues in the A. P. A., and an eruption will soon follow unless something is done to prevent.

Mr. Aldrich recently showed

H. H. the new P. S. of A. constitution. It is a grand foundation for a society's basis

Mr. Chalmers has favored us with more "proof"(!) in the shape of a letter from the librarian of Cornell University, acknowledging the receipt of one of his pamphlet.

Bro. Evans is again visiting America. The land of the free is an attractive philatelic country forsooth.

Bro. Corwin has voiced the sentiments of a large number of A. P. A'tes in his kick in the last Ph. G.

—••••—
FIGI TIMES EXPRESS.

—VEDA.—

ONE of the most interesting series of stamps which the collector has to do with, is a set issued by the Figi Times Express of Levaka, in 1870-1.

They are type set, and of the simplest character. The legend being "Figi-Times-Express-Penny" (pence or shilling as the case may be,) the words forming, as it were, a frame, value in figures in centre. There are five

[Continued on next page.]

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EDITORIALS

Mr. Lyons is offering the balance of his duplicates cheap. Read his ad.

A whole collection for a dollar is what Mr Bruce gives. See his ad. elsewhere.


We wish to exchange with all papers containing curiosity departments but, unless we receive copies in return, shall cease sending them.

Next month we shall publish an article on "Early Envelopes" by a well-known collector.

Thanks for fine free puff, Bros. of the Figaro. Mr. Aldrich "ENEMATE" the CURIO. We think Voute's glass house must be as tough glass as the typographical appearance of his semi-occasional publication.

Mr. W. F. Greny has favored us with his 5 Ed. catalogue containing many bargains.

We will send the CURIO three months on receipt of 250 cut envelope stamps, or 500 U. S. stamps (current issue) or 6 stamp papers with cover, or 10 without. This offer will hold good for 30 days only.

 values 1d, 3d, 6d, 9d and 1 shilling.

While all are on rose-colored paper, three varieties of paper may be found. Quadrille (used 1870), laid batoune (early part of 1871) and laid paper. Those on the later paper may possibly be proofs, although it is more probable that they were issued in the latter part of 1871.

In the latter part of 1876 a so-called reprint of these stamps took place, but it is evident from the design that they were newly set up and should properly be termed either counterfeits or is possible a re-issue. A bogus set on the brightest of pink paper were omitted by an eastern celebrity.

This issue has a near relation in the first issue of Samoa, and are I believe the only two "private" issues in the Oceanic colonies of Britain.

SUBSCRIBE FOR CURIO!

Classified Ads.

One cent per word.

WANTED—Plates illustrative of U. S. History.
E. R. ALDRICH, Benson, Minn.

\$1 FOR SIXTY CBNTS

My "Confed" packet contains catalogue value of Confederate Stamps. Price post-paid 60c.
J. B. ROBINS, Benson, Minn.

OUR MAY OFFERS.

THE CURIO 3 months and piece
Sword fish sword, 10c
5c Green Confederate stamp, 22c
(Scotts price 35c)

J. F. Henry, 1c black, 5c
8v. Mexico stamps 9c
Philatelic Annual, 7c

\$1 worth of stamps by Scotts
50 Ed. catalogue, 20c
We have only a limited supply of these premiums, so send at once. CURIO Co., Benson, Minn.

Circulars mailed for Dealers for 10 cents per hundred.

L. S. ELLIS, Logansville, Ohio.

STAMP PAPERS!

100 mixed Stamp and Curio papers \$1.00; 5 all different 5c; 9 all different 10c; Phil. Annual 6c.
CURIO Co., Benson, Minn.

Say! Are You awake for Bargains? Look here.

10 var good foreign coins.....25c
5 Southern State bills.....25c
3 War envelopes.....10c
Chinese Snake (novelty).....10c
Price lists with every order. Price lists for stamp.

MICHIGAN COIN CO.,

176 Cass St., Grand Rapids, Mich

FOSSILS!

A Crinoid and Spirifer only 5c.
BOX 13, Benson, Minn.

W. H. Bruce, P. O. Box 283, Hartford, Conn.,

Will send You

400

Varieties of fine selected stamps for

ONE DOLLAR.

Choice sheets on approval.

Granite State Philatelist!

A complete file, 3 vols., \$2.50

Foreign Stamp Collectors

New, (bound) Vol. 1 1.00

Collection 1,600 stamps \$20.00

E. R. ALDRICH,

Benson, Minn.

L. S. ELLIS, Printer, Logansville, Ohio.

Always mention this paper when answering advertisements.

Our 30 Day Offer!

WE will print and send post-paid circulars in thousand lots, at the following prices:

3 x 5	-	\$0.55	5 x 8	-	\$1.40
4 x 6	-	.75	6 x 9	-	1.60
5 x 7	-	1.25	8 x 12	-	2.80

Note Heads, Envelopes, Business cards & State-ments—40c per 100; \$1 per 300. ESTABLISHED 13 YEARS.

L. B. STULL, Printer, Mazeppa, Minn.

Publishers insert 3 times for same space in The amateur Review.

GREAT CÆSER

if alive, would snap these bargains up.

100 Foreign stamps, including used Confederate, Mexico, India, Argentine, etc, post-paid, 10cts.
250 Foreign, including 5c Confederate on original cover (Scott's price 35) post-paid, 25cts.
25 unused stamps 10cts.

JOHN D. LYONS' JR., Benson Minn.



“THE CURIO.”

—A MONTHLY—
DEVOTED TO COLLECTORS.

VOL. II. BENSON, MINN., MAY, 1889. No. I.

SIDNEY LETTER SHEET.

MUCH discussion has been indulged in relation to the date of issue of these earliest (excepting the DeValey and Sardinian Envelopes) pre-paying labels, but the date is at last fixed by the unearthing of the official notices which was published in the Government Gazette proving that Nov. 1, 1838, was the date of issue.

At first the price was oneshilling three pence perdozen, which was reduced in 1841 to one shilling.

The sheets were embossed WITHOUT COLOR, with a design consisting of the Royal Arms, Crest and Supporters with the motto “DIEN ET MON DROIT” under which was “Sidney;” all within a circle around which surrounded in turn by another circle, is T. General Post-office B. New South Wales in capitals. The whole design measures 29x29 min.

CORWIN AND THE A. P. A.

—
ERA
—

THERE is an old saying “that nothing cuts so deep as the

truth.” This is evident in the manner that Mr. Corwin’s critics reply to his expose of the internal workings of the A. P. A.

Mr. Sterling, supported by Mr. Calman on behalf of the ring element of the National Society, endeavors to “boulster up” Mr. Sterling’s obnoxious and dictatorial decisions. As all these decisions have been in favor of dealers, of course Mr. Calman is satisfied.

President Tiffany endeavors with sarcasm to crush Corwin and since Corwin wished to be one of the trustees (which by the way has not been proved) this of course excuses the inability or negligence of the secretary and the unfitness of the exchange superintendent, and the negligence of the official board in appointing other officers.

Meekel feebly re-echoes Tiffany’s “bell.” Wolsieffer endeavors to show that we can’t expect a very good man for secretary at \$150.00. Quite right, Bro. Wolsieffer, we did not expect it, and neither did we get it.

It only took six months to print the Constitution and By-laws, but it might have been worse; it might have taken six

years. Brothers, you might as well acknowledge that Corwin is right and not try to gloss over what is plain to the most casual observer.

NOTES ON REPRINTS.

(Clipped from The Philatelist of April 1869.)

By a reprint we suppose to mean a fresh impression from the original die of the stamp, the use of which has either been superseded by a fresh issue or has been altogether abandoned; and the re-impression is not made for the purpose of reinstating the stamp in use, in short a reprint is a fresh impression of an obsolete stamp not made for postal purposes.

We wish to establish this definition because in the number of THE PHILATELIST of Feb. 1868 it is stated that the 1850 issue of Bavaria had been reprinted. If our definition of a reprint be correct, this reprint must have been made subsequent to October 1862 when the color of existing series was changed. * * We were assured in the country that no such reprint had been made. Two editions of the 1850 stamps are distinguishable; the first on very crisp thin paper, while a subsequent edition is found on very much thicker paper and in color varying from the first, but all

values of this latter edition are found obliterated with the wheel obliterating of the first.

—(§)—

OUR

GREAT

OFFERS!

Our New Collection

Of Fossils and Petrefactions

consisting of

TEN

named species including Crinoid, Spirifers, Moss, etc., will be sent post-paid, together with a 3 mo. subscription for 15c. This collection never sold before for less than 25 cents.

Our Packet of 25v consisting used Confederate, U. S. Medicine Bergedorf, Locals, etc. (The dealer we get them of sold them for 25c.) with 3mo. sub. only 15c.

CURIO CO.,

BENSON,

MINN.

ALTA LORANA

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as second-class matter.

EDITORIALS

We have extended our competition offer until May 15. Our next no. will contain the prize article. We offer a collection of 250v for best article received by July 1st.

The P. S. of A. is slowly progressing.

The N. P. U. is to be a Western society exclusively. Hope the "wild and woolly west" will foster it with care.

The Staten Island Society celebrate their fifth anniversary on May 15.

We will send the CURIO 3mos. for 300 current issue stamps; or 200 cut envelope stamps or 100 revenue stamps.

Has the Minnesota Phil given

up the ghost.

A Philatelic exhibition is talked of at our next State Fair.

The season through which we have passed, has been the most successful philatelically speaking yet known.

Hereafter, Philately will occupy the bulk of space, but at the same time we shall occasionally publish other articles.

—(§)—

Pencilings.

DIXON'S H. H.

Minnesota's losses a gain—Mr. J. I. Wyer, Jr., late treasurer of the Minn. Br. has re-moved to Kan. Success to you, Bro. Wyer, in your new location.

If all Mr. Chalmers pamphlets are like the last, we fail to see how he has any supporters. Mr. Aldrich pointed out nearly a dozen misrepresentations in it to me the other day.

Bro. Massoth's Hoosier Phil. is rapidly forging ahead. May it continue to.

The Flour City Phil. is so "gossipy" that it is the most interesting reading philatelically that I see.

Bro. Aldrich showed me complete sheets of both plate 1 and 2 10c Confederate stamps. They were his latest addition to his already "over flowing" pages of regular issue Confederacy.



Classified Ads.

One cent per word.

A Microscope and Spy glass to exchange for curiosities. J. B. ROBINS, Benson, Minnesota.

\$1 FOR SIXTY CENTS

My "Confed" packet contains catalogue value of Confederate Stamps. Price post-paid 60c. J. B. ROBINS, Benson, Minn.

WANTED.—Plates illustrative of U. S. History. E. R. ALDRICH, Benson, Minn.

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A Crinoid and Spirifer only 5c. BOX 13, Benson, Minn.

GREAT CÆSAR

if alive, would snap these bargains up.

100 Foreign stamps, including used Confederate, Mexico, India, Argentine, etc., post-paid, 10cts. 250 Foreign, including 5c Confederate on original cover (Scott's price 35) post-paid, 25cts.

JOHN D. LYONS, JR., Benson Minn.

Collections for Sale!

One of 900 v.	\$8.50
" of 1800 v.	20.00

E. R. ALDRICH,
Benson, Minn.

Curiosity.

Star Fish and Sea Bean, 5c. BOX 13, Benson, Minn.

Our 30 Day Offer!

WE will print and send post-paid circulars in thousand lots, at the following prices:

3 x 5	\$0.55	5 x 8	\$1.40
4 x 6 . . . . .	.75	6 x 9	1.00
5 x 7	1.25	8 x 12	2.80

Note Heads, Envelopes, Business cards & Statements 40c per 100; \$1 per 300. ESTABLISHED 13 YEARS.

L. B. STULL, Printer,
Mazepa, Minn.

Publishers insert 3 times for same space in The amateur Review.

Say! Are You awake for Bargains? Look here.

10 var good foreign coins.....25c
5 Southern State bills.....25c
3 War envelopes.....10c
Chinese Snake (novelty).....10c
Price lists with every order. Price lists for stamp.

MICHIGAN COIN CO.,

176 Cass St., Grand Rapids, Mich

STAMP PAPERS!

100 mixed Stamp and Curio papers \$1.00; 5 all different 5c; 9 all different 10c; Phil. Annual 6c. CURIO Co., Benson, Minn.

W. H. Bruce, P. O. Box 283, Hartford, Conn.,

Will send You

400

Varieties of fine selected stamps for

ONE DOLLAR.

Choice sheets on approval.

Always mention this paper when answering advertisements.

300 Amateur Papers, 4-pages, size of page 6x9 inches, printed and sent by mail post-paid for only \$1.70 I. S. ELLIS, Logansville, Ohio.

L. S. ELLIS, Printer, Logansville, Ohio.



THE CURIO.

— A MONTHLY —
DEVOTED TO COLLECTORS.

VOL. II. BENSON, MINN., JUNE, 1889. No. II.

Pencilings.

—
"DIXON'S H. H."

Bro. Caseys 20th sale comes off June 24. One of the most magnificent collections of U. S. stamps ever offered at auction will be sold.

It is probable that an attempt will be made at St. Louis to amend the A. P. A. constitution so as to make all officers elective.

Again the summer season is upon us, and to all except the most enthusiastic collectors, base ball, tennis, aquatic sports and the thousand and one other means of entertainment furnished by this time of the year, lures the collector from his treasures and causing a temporary lull in all pertaining to the collector's art.

While it is the season of leisure with collectors, it is by no means so with the dealer who is busy laying in "stock" for the coming season and with the publisher, it is still busier, for while "hustling" the year round, he has to work now to even get "dust" enough to purchase his wooden toothpick and celluloid collar.

Noted Collectors.

C. W. KINGSBURY.

—
AMONG Minnesota Collectors the name of C. W. Kingsbury will ever stand prominent. Mr. Kingsbury is nearly fifty years old, and as a collector has just attained his majority, having collected for twenty-one years.

By birth a Michigander, he came to Minnesota some twenty years ago with a governmental surveying party, and has for eighteen years been connected with the JOURNAL-PRESS of St. Cloud.

His collection numbers slightly over six thousand varieties, the bulk of which was picked up in Europe several years ago.

—(††)—

A few words on Rare Stamps.

VEDA.

AMONG the rarest stamps of the South of Europe, are the inverted value Segnetesse stamps. These are found in 2c, 50c and 10 lire values.

The 50 and 100 lire segnetesse stamps, although eligible for use as due stamps, are mostly used for circulation in postal saving banks.

It is said that the Jamaica revenue stamps used postally passed through the post unnoticed, as they have no postal value.

THE "pine apple" watermarked Jamaica stamps are now seldom met with, and are of considerable rarity.

There are forty minor varieties of $\frac{1}{2}$ sen Japan, issue of March 1872.

AMONG early collections, that of Mr. Wyman who was a resident of New Jersey, was one of the finest. It was sold in 1869 for \$1,000.

AMONG British varieties are a set of stamps issued in 1868 by the London and South-Western Railway. There are nine varieties, ranging from $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 1s. All are lilac in color. They were used on packages of newspapers.

It is generally not known that the first issue of Russian stamps are watermarked, but such is the case.

OF considerable rarity are the stamps of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. These were issued by a company carrying letters

between Panama and St. Thomas.

ONE of the greatest rarities known, is a 1 shilling Western Australia, printed in the color of the 1 penny.

—(††)—
Canadian Lisps.

PRES't HECKLER of the C.P.A. intends to visit England after the C. P. A. convention. His visit will probably result in bringing the C. P. A. in closer connection with societies of the older world.

JOHN R. HOOPER is still on the aggressive on behalf of Hill. Sooner or late his efforts to propagate the truth will be acknowledged.

OUR 2c registration stamp is a thing of the past. Postage is now 3c per ounce, instead of per $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce as heretofore.

COLLECTORS of Canadian Revenues should see that their "assurance" sets are full as prices are rapidly advancing, in fact Canadian revenues are on the rise.

THE C. P. A. Convention will be held July 31st at Halifax. This is too early, and will cause a light attendance.

THE CURIO

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE
CURIO CO.,

Benson, Minn.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

U. S. and Canada per year..... 25c
Postal Union Countries..... 35c
So. Africa and Australia..... 50c

—ADVERTISING RATES—

Per Inch..... \$1.00
" Column..... 7 00
" Page..... 12.00

Special Contracts on standing Advertisements.
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as second-class matter.

EDITORIALS

McLean's Guide is out at last, and a fine production it is. Every collector needs it.

Meekel's American Catalogue is the first one with only American stamps catalogued.

Conversing with a couple of dealers, we found that a larger trade than ever was expected the coming season.

Bro. Aldrich has in preparation for us a clear, demonstrative summary of the Chalmers-Hill case.

We have still a few of those fossil cabinets left. 3 mos. sub. and one only 15c.

We are using stamps made by Mr. Wise, and find them the finest we have met with.

We again repeat what we said last month. 250 cancelled current issue stamps will bring this paper three months.

It is rumored that Treasurer Seagrave of the A. P. A. has resigned. Seagrave was a good man for the place, and we are sorry if it be true.

Rejected Die.

for sale
on White size (3) 20 cents.
" " (5) 20 "
" Amber " (3) 50 "
" Buff " (3) \$4.00.

A. BECKMAN,

148 E. Chicago Ave.,

CHICAGO, ILL

t3]

RUBBER STAMPS!

LOWEST PRICES FOR

BEST STAMPS MADE

SEND FOR PRICES!

S. A. WISE,

Beaver Dam,

Wisconsin.

t2]

Chicago Items.

You ought to see "Gad" do the auction act. Immense is no name for it.

Wolsieffer says he meant what he said on the "Corwin" kick, and he thinks Chalmers is all right too.

The "grilled" 7c stamp were withdrawn at our last auction. The grilling being bogus. I understand \$12.00 had been offered for the 12 cent.

LAKESIDE.



Always mention this paper when answering advertisements.

FOR JULY AND AUGUST ONLY!

We will send the CURIO three months with any of the below premiums for only 5 cents.

- 4v. Mexican stamps;
- J. F. Henry 1c black;
- 3 unused Porto Rica;
- 2 v Cuba;
- 3 No. Philatelic Fortnightly;
- 3 " Granite State Philatelist,
- 4 good stamp papers;
- 1 Crinoid;
- 1 Star fish.

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Quincy Street, N. Adams, Mass.

P. S. Deduct 2c for postage.

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3 x 5	- - - \$0.55	5 x 8	- - - \$1.40
4 x 6	- - - .75	6 x 9	- - - 1.00
5 x 7	- - - 1.25	8 x 12	- - - 2.80

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“THE CURIO.”

— A MONTHLY —
DEVOTED TO COLLECTORS.

VOL. II. BENSON, MINN., JULY, 1889. No. III.

A Few Hints.

WHILE it is a good plan to keep your accounts so you can trace where you obtain every stamp, yet I think if you would place the data of when, from whom and cost on the hinge of the stamp, considerable time would be saved in finding out about the stamps should it prove to be a forgery. Just try this for a short time, and see if you don't keep it up.

GET some paper fasteners, such as you can find at any stationer's store, and keep your files of papers together this way until you are ready to get them bound. No one who has not tried it, knows how convenient this plan is.

ALWAYS carry a small book for duplicates in your pocket. After you have lost several pieces out of your pocket, or (just as bad) soiled and gummed them until they are worthless, you will conclude this a good scheme.

—ix—

Pencilings.

DIXON'S H. H.

THE indications now are that

a stormy session may be expected at St. Louis, but let us hope that the “clouds roll by.”

Vice-Pres't Van Derlip is to be complimented on the stand he has taken in behalf of Collectors against the dealers ring in the A. P. A. Let us make it President Van Derlip in '90.

IN the resignation of Treasurer Seagrave, the Ass'n. loses a good and able officer.

BRO. ALDRICH must be “clear gone” on whole sheets of Confederates. He showed me whole plates of the two cent and of the five cent, both original and reprint. He also showed me some fine essays obtained at Casey's 20th sale, and a set of periodicals as his latest addition.

C. P. A. members see their ballots read A. J. Craig for President, and E. Y. Parker Vice. Don't forget, boys!

THE P. S. OF A- will soon appoint their Librarian, Exchange Superintendent and Purchasing Agent. I understand Mr. C. D. Reimers has a “snitch” on the X department.

Press Directory.

IN response to a number of requests we publish the following list of Philatelic papers:

American Philatelist, Phila., Pa.
Badger State Phil. Delaven, Wis.
Buffalo Philatelist, 241 Prospect Avenue, Buffalo, N. Y.

Collectors & Exchange, 115 10th Street, Buffalo, N. Y.

Collectors Exchange, Eakhorn, Wis.

Collectors' Ledger, Bloomfield, N. J.

Curiosity Collector, S. Amboy, N. J.

Dominion Phil., Belleville, Ont.

Eastern Philatelist, Fitchburg, Mass.

Eastern Press, Wilmington, Del.

Eureka Phil., 1613 Bust Street, San Francisco, Cal.

Fitchburg Phil. Fitchburg, Mass.

Flour City phil Rochester Bl'k, Minneapolis, Minn.

Halifax Phil, Halifax, N. S.

Hoosier Philatelist, Hanover Centre, Ind.

International Collector, 2219 Post St., San Francisco, Cal.

National Philatelist, 319 C St., N. W. Washington, D. C.

Ohio Philatelist, Lancaster, O.

One Dime, Kossuth, Ind.

Philatelic Beacon Newtonville, Mass.

Philatelic Gazette, Chicago, Ill,

Philatelic Journal of America, St. Louis, Mo.

Philatelic Midget, La Hoyt, Iowa

Phil Monthly, Philadelphia, Pa.

Philatelic Tribune, Smyrna, NY.

Philatelic World, New York, NY.

Philately, 176 E 125 Street, New York, N. Y.

Post Card, Roselle, N. J.

Plain Talk, 5 Beekman Street, New York, N. Y.

Quaker City Philatelist, box 1153 Philadelphia, Pa.

Rhode Island Philatelist, box 202 Newport, R. I.

Stamp, Denver, Col.

Stamp Advertiser, Hudson, Mass

Stamp World, Lake Village, N. H.

—†x†—

FOR JULY AND AUGUST ONLY!

WE will send the CURIO three months with any of the following premiums for only 5 cents:

- 4v. Mexican Stamps;
- J. F. Henry, 1c black;
- 3 unused Porto Rica;
- 2v Cuba;
- 4 nos. Philatelic Fortnightly;
- 3 " Granite State Philatelist;
- 4 good Stamp papers;
- 1 Crinoid;
- 1 Star Fish.

No. 1 of the New York Philatelist is with us. It is a good 8 page paper; somewhat after the Int. Phil. Advertiser style.

AAAAAARRRRR

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AAAAAARRRRR

THE Dresden now has nearly 1400 members. We hope to see it increase yet seven fold. It is the one great society of the world, numbering its members in every clime.

As most of this number was put together after the "Glorious Fourth," we hope our brethren of the Stamp will not expose our "carmming" again.

The Stamp Advertiser, of Hudson, Mass., is one of the best folio ex's we have.

The Stamp World has seemingly come over to the right and is "red hot" for Hill. Keep right on, Bro. Hubbard.

corwin is still "jumping upon" certain of the A. P. A. officials. If some of the charges he makes are true, it is time the Association had some new members.

Prize Puzzles!

Knowing that this is the time of the year that Collectors are apt to not either labor on their collections, or to read heavy articles, we have decided to insert the following transpositions. The answers are all inscriptions on stamps. In order to stimulate interest, we have decided to give three prizes to persons sending the correct ans. In case of more correct answers than prizes, the winner will be decided by a drawing. Contestant must enclose 5 cents for three months subscription

The prizes will be:

- 1, Set W. U Telegraph stamps from 1886 to 1889, unused, worth \$2.
- 2, A collection of 250 varieties worth over \$1.25
- 3, 2y used Confederate stamps worth 70c.
- 4, A collection of Philatelic literature embracing 25 pieces.

1. HAEIEKLNNNNOBPSSUTV.
2. KISS ME GEORGE BILL HUNT ZACHARIAH W BUN LIMP.
3. AAAABCCCCCDEEEEEHLLMNNNOOOOOORRSSSSSTUTV.
4. TTSSRPONMLRGFEC.
5. LCML.
6. T&TMMOOOBNIAUC.
7. O&OYBRADCCENNT.
8. TTWWEONS.
9. PSTRF
10. AADEKLMNOOPPRSTT

Always mention this paper when answering advertisements.

Rejected Die.

for sale
 on White size (3) 20 cents.
 " " (5) 20 "
 " Amber (3) 50 "
 " Buff (3) \$1.00

A. BECKMAN,
 148 E. Chicago Ave.,
 CHICAGO, ILL

RUBBER STAMPS!

LOWEST PRICES FOR

FINEST STAMPS MADE

SEND FOR PRICES!

S. A. WISE,
 Beaver Dam,
 Wisconsin.

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FOSSILS.

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Box 13, Benson, Minn.

Where, Oh where is the M. B. A. P. A. There are only five A. P. A'tes left in Minnesota, less than in the P. S. of A.



THE CURIO.

—A MONTHLY—
DEVOTED TO COLLECTORS.

VOL. III. BENSON, MINN., AUGUST, 1889. No. I.

Chalmers' Last Circular.

—E. R. ALDRICH.—

MR. CHALMERS is out with another circular, the only substantial part of which is an extract from the Arbroath Herald of Oct., 11, 1839, which definitely proves that TWO YEARS AFTER Rowland Hill proposed an adhesive stamp, Mr. Chalmers had an idea of one also. The claim of Dec. 1837 is also set forth by Mr. Pat Chalmer as the date of his father's idea. No where is the date of 1834 put forth. Mr. Chalmers had evidently concluded that his "living evidence" has no force and only injures his case.

The balance of the circular is taken up with the same old plaintive cry that Mr. Pearson Hill won't let him have correspondence and papers which would shed light on the subject.

We have no proof that Mr. Hill is with holding anything, and certainly after the mutilations and false deductions made by the 'Chalmersites,' he can not be blamed if he did refuse.

On the whole, this last circular is wholly irrelevant, and contains no testimony bearing on the subject at issue; in fact, the only noticeable thing is the im-

plied withdrawal of the 1834-claim.

This circular will only cause those who have as yet been undecided, to incline more to Hill's side.

§ NOTES.

—SAMOA.—

THE following is the inscription on a letter, said to have passed through the Louisville Post-office, during the war:

"Feds and Confeds, let this go free
Down to Nashville Tennessee
This three cents, will pay the cost
Until you find Sophie Yost
Post-masters North or even South
May open and find out the truth
I merely say my wife's got well
And got a baby cross as —"

The collection of Russian Locals does not seem to meet with much encouragement in this country. Outside of three or four Philadelphia collectors, I doubt if a series of fifty varieties can be found in this country.

While the U. S. stamps are steadily climbing sky-ward in price, there is probably no class of stamps which have advanced in price as rapidly as the Assurance stamps of Canada. A set is not cheap at fifty dollars. I doubt if a full set is held in the United States.

West Indies-Venezuela Cable.

Under date of Feb. 15, 1889, Consul Reimer, of Santiago de Cuba writes:

"Under date of Feb. 1, I received a communication from J. Frayssinier, Esq., the manager of the new French cable between Hayti, (St. Nicholas Mole) Santo Domingo, (Puerto Plata and San Domingo City) Curacao and Venezuela, (Curacas) stating that under Spanish decree of the 27 ult. this cable is open to the Public and International Service. This ends the long controversy between the French and English companies and will be an immense advantage to the commercial world.

"The line from St. Nicholas Mole to Port-au-Prince, Hayti, will be completed as soon as the present difficulties and revolutions there are settled."

§
Press Directory.

Two of our list given last month are no more—National Philatelist and Collectors' Ledger.

For new arrivals we have:

N. Y. Philatelist, 325 E 21st St., N. Y.

Philatelic Express, Portland, Maine.

Always mention this paper when answering advertisements.

300 Amateur Papers, 4-pages, size of page 6x9 inches, printed and sent by mail post-paid for only \$1.70 L. S. ELLIS, Logansville, Ohio.

L. S. ELLIS, Printer Logansville, Ohio.

RUBBER STAMPS!

LOWEST PRICES FOR

PINEST STAMPS MADE

SEND FOR PRICES!

S. A. WISE,

Beaver Dam,

Wisconsin.

2]

Rejected: Die.

for sale

on White	size (3)	20 cents
" "	" (5)	20 "
" Amber	" (3)	50 "
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t3]

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We predict a lively season philatelicly for the coming fall.

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EDITORIALS

Still in the field.

Have all our Minnesota contemporaries succumbed to the hot weather?

The Stamp Collector has been missing these many moons. Too Chalmers brothers?

Mr. Pearson Hill's article in the Stamp World should be read by all.

When the "Robins" nest bargain bargains will cease. See his ad. for 'Confederate Packets' in another column.

The Collector's Ledger is a thing of the past. The loss is hardly made good by its successor, the N. Y. Phil., but we hope that age will make worthy its predecessor.

BACK NUMBERS.—We can furnish back Numbers, except Vol. 1 No. 1 at 5 cents each.
Vol. I, 3 nos. complete, .15c
Vol. II, complete, .10c

Philatelic Annual and the Curio three months, only 8c.

Another "shining light" shined not. Kinzer, the P. J. of O. man has been "bounced" by the C. P. A. for dishonesty.

GREAT CÆSAR IF alive. these bargains up. would snap
100 FOREIGN STAMPS, including used Confederate, Mexico, India, Argentine, etc., post-paid, 10cts. 250 Foreign, including 5c Confederate on original cover (Scott's price 35) post-paid, 25cts. JOHN B. LYONS, JR., Benson, Minn

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A Microscope and Spy glass to exchange for curiosities.
J. B. ROBINS, Benson, Minnesota.

1884.

1889.

FIFTH SEASON!

I propose to do more BUSINESS than ever and to do this put prices at Rock Bottom!

Literature Department. Album Department.

History of the Mulready, an imported work by T. Martin Wears, 64 pages and cover .15c
 Study of Philately also imported, being a treatise on the U. S. 1869 issue. .15
 Philatelic Frauds, published in 1883, .10
 Philatelic Annual (1887) half price .05
 Granite State Philatelist, complete file, 2.50
 Philatelic Fortnightly, only two files left, 1.75
 U. S. Philatelist Vol. I, .15

If you want an album write me and see if I can not beat competitors.

Confederate Stamp Department.

1861 5 blue on Envelop, .23
 5 green " .20
 10 blue " .45
 1863 5 cent Richmond print " .05
 5 London " " .08

All varieties of regular issue on hand at prices below catalogue rates.

Have a large line in this department at prices which can not be duplicated.

U. S. DEPARTMENT.

Envelopes.

Meekels No. 5 Ladies Note 53 .50
 6 " " 3.50
 10 Letter, straight die white 3.50
 11 " " buff 1.75
 13 K die " 4.00
 14 " " " 1.15
 15 " " " .06
 21 " " " .80
 22 " " " .30
 * 256 2c die B, white .40
 * 257 Amber .65
 * 497 1c 1874 blue .75
 * 498 fawn .75

Adhesives.

* Western Union Telegraph, 1887 .40
 1888 .25
 pen-marked 1889 .75
 1c unused, but gum washed off .13
 3c same condition .06
 Interior set. 1.00
 J. F. Henry, 1c black .03
 silk .07

While of course, both in adhesives and envelopes it is impossible to keep a full line at all times, I can furnish most any specimen in a short time.

FOREIGN STAMP DEPARTMENT.

I have a large stock, and sell either from my catalogue or furnish sheets upon receipt of good reference.

PACKET DEPT.

1000 Continentals .15
 500 U. S. & Foreign .20
 250 U. S. & Foreign, some unused .20
 50v. including Porto Rico, Mexico etc. .10
 25v. including used Confederate, U. S. etc. .20

10v West India, .10
 10v U. S. cut Env. .10
 Our celebrated ZZZ Packet, 500 U. S. & foreign including Medicine, Confed. Mexico, .44
 Beginners, including album & 500 good stamps .35

CATALOGUE ONLY 10 CENTS.

E. R. ALDRICH,

BENSON, MINN.



"THE CURIO."

A MONTHLY
DEVOTED TO COLLECTORS.

VOL. III. BENSON, MINN. SEPTEMBER, 1889. No. II.

Pencillings.

DIXON'S H. H.

THE London Philatelic Society's membership is 93. America is represented in its ranks by C. B. Corwin and J. R. Tiffany.

A. P. A. Vice-President Van Derlip, is a trustee of the Boston Lodge of Elks.

Talking of "elks" it may not be generally known that Wm. v d Wettren, the wholesale dealer has one of the finest collections of deer horns in the country, but it is so.

The Scott Stamp & Coin Co., were badly left in their endeavor to 'squench' the J. W. Scott Stamp Co. The New York Supreme Court decided that Mr. Scott had a perfect right to do business under his own name.

The P. S. of A. are surely but slowly gaining. That it has been fortunate in its appointments, no one can doubt. Mr. H. E. Deats for international Secretary and Mr. C. D. Reimers for X superintendent.

There seems little doubt that Mr. Craig will hereafter sign as Pres't C. P. A., and that Ed. Parker will be head assistant. Both good men for the place too.

Mr. Grenny is to be congratulated on the quickness with which the substitute was found.

I understand the Literary Exchange of the A. P. A. doesn't take very much. With such a man as Beardsley at its head, it ought to be a success.



U. S. Cigar Stamps.

(While in America, these stamps are little or not at all collected, owing to the stringency of the laws requiring them to be destroyed, yet certainly no list of U. S. Revenue stamps can be complete without them. There has not to the best of our knowledge been a list published in this country. — Eds.)

INSPECTOR STAMPS.

1864 Bands 368x43 mm. Inscription: "United States Internal Revenue Cigar Stamp" (value, per thousand.

3	dollars	per M	Black
8	"	"	"
15	"	"	"
25	"	"	"
25	"	"	Yellow
40	"	"	"

1864 Bands 390 x 26 mm.
3 dollars per M, black
8 " " green



8 dollars per M red
 15 " " black
 25 " " orange
 40 " " carmine

1865. Values surcharged in bl'k.

10 dollars on 8 doll's yel'ow

15 " " 3 " blue

1865 Bands with U. S. in circle surrounded by Inter. Revenue-Inspector's Stamp. Two heads of Lincoln.

25 cigars Black,

50 " "

100 " "

250 " "

500 " Green

1866. Same. Series of 1866.

Entire series same color as 1865

1866. Bands. Engine turned work forming three circles, value in centre. Two heads of Washington except in 25x50 value.

25 cigars Green

50 Blue

100 Light brown

100 Dark brown

250 Black

500 "

1868. Band with five circles in engine turned work. each different design.

25c Red, portrait Washington.

50c Green, Ship.

100c Black, Sailor

250c Blue, Soldier

500c Orange, Farm'

1869. Same color and design with "Tax Paid" omitted.

1870. Same design.

25 Cigars orange

50 " green

100 " black

250 " blue

500 " orange

1870. 50 " black Sherman

100 " black Grant

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

P. S. of A. Notes.

Mr. H. E. Deats, of Flemington, N. J., has been appointed International Secretary. A good choice.

The Western Philatelist, of St. Joseph, Mo., and Rock Island, Ill., offer a year's subscription to all persons joining before September 1.

A. P. NOTES.

Chas. Gregory of the Brooklyn Society, has been elected Mr. Seagrave's successor in the Treasurership.

Mr. Corwin is out with a new plan for running the X department. He will be at St. Louis to champion it.

Mr. Mitchell will probably be at St. Louis. Send your proxies to him if you wish to be honestly represented.

C. B. Corwin received the third highest vote of Treasurers.



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BY THE
CURIO CO.,

Benson, Minn.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

U. S. and Canada per year.....25c
Postal Union Countries.....35c
So. Africa and Australia.....50c

—ADVERTISING RATES—

Per Inch.....\$1.00
" Column.....7.00
" Page.....12.00

Special Contracts on standing Advertisements.
Entered at the Post-office at Benson, Minn.,
as second-class matter.



Answers to our Transpositions
in next number.

Four unused stamps and CURIO
3 mo. only FIVE cents.

We understand the Flour City
Philatelist is of the past.

The Stamp Advertiser has ad-
ded a cover, and the Beacon dis-
carded its.

The American Philatelist is
still improving if improvement
is possible.

Pat Chalmers is out with an a-
pology to Mr. Hill, for saying he
was suppressing letters.

The P. J. of A., ranks second
to none. We predict Evan's list
will ultimately succeed Horners
in popularity.

The dull period is now nearly
past, and soon it will be "stamp"

time again. Dealers, we will in-
sert a 1 inch ad. for only 25cts,
only 1/4 of our regular rates.

Press Directory.

New arrivals:
Western Philatelist, St. Joseph
Mo.
Nebraska Philatelist, Geneva,
Nebr.



Our 30 Day Offer!

WE will print and send post-paid circulars in
thousand lots, at the following prices:

3 x 5	-	-	\$0.55	|	x 8	-	-	\$1.40
4 x 6	-	-	.75	|	6 x 9	-	-	1.60
5 x 7	-	-	1.25	|	8 x 12	-	-	2.80

Note Heads, Envelopes, Business cards & State-
ments 40c per 100; \$1 per 300. ESTABLISHED 13
YEARS.

L. B. STULL, Printer,
Mazepa, Minn.

Publishers insert 3 times for same space in
The amateur Review.

\$1 FOR SIXTY CENTS

My "Confed" packet contains catalogue value of
Confederate Stamps. Price post-paid 60c.
J. B. ROBINS, Benson, Minn.

ATTENTION

THE COMET subscription list is limited to 10,
000. Every tenth subscriber will have his money
returned. The COMET is a four page, sixteen col-
umn monthly. 20c per year post-paid. Write

now! Don't wait!
THE COMET,

Quincy Street, N Adams, Mass.

P. S. Deduct 2c for postage.

Back Numbers! We can furnish back Numbers,
except Vol I No 1 at 5 cents each.
Vol. I, 3 numbers complete.....15
Vol. II, complete.....40
Philatelic Annual and THE CURIO 3 months,
only 8c.

U. S. STAMPS!

~ All previous Lists Cancelled. ~

1847.

unused used 1869

unused used

5 brown
10 black,

1.50
8.50

.25
1.20

1851-6.

1c blue.
3c red.
5c brown,
10c green,
12c black,
24c lilac,

.25
.15
1.00
1.30
30.00

.08
2.60
30
.70
75.00

1c buff.
2c brown,
3c blue,
6c blue,
10c yellow,
01 12c green,
30 15 blue & brown,
15 with diamond,
24 green & black
30 blue & red,
90 black & red,

15
15
10
50
50
75
1.50
1.00
2.00
2.00
6.00

10
05
02
17
25
20
1.50
50
1.50
1.50
5.00

1857.

Same colors as 1851.

1 \$
3
5
5 projections,
10
12
24
30 yellow,
90 blue,

.08
.04
.75
.40
.50
.75
1.00
3.00

.95
.01
.75
2.50
.08
.30
.75
.90

1871-88.

1 blue.
3 red.
5 brown,
5 yellow,
10 green,
12 black,
24 lilac,
30 yellow,
90 blue,

.10
.50
.15
.20
.30
.60
1.00
2.50

.02
.50
.15
3.75
.05
.09
.13
.35
1.00



1c blue,
2c brown, vermillion,
2c green, claret,
3c green,
3c carmine,
4c green, carmine,
5c blue,
5c chocolate,
5c (1888),
7c vermillion,
10c brown,
12c purple,
24 purple,
30 black,
30 chestnut,
90 carmine,
90 purple,

03
01
01
01
05
05
05
10
10
07
01
75
75
4.00
60
35
1.50
1.00

01
01
01
02
01
02
01
01
25
01
25
40
04
05
08
10

— 1861.

On the 1868 and 1870 issues, grilled and 1869 plain back issues, and periodicals. Prices will be quoted on application.

 Postage extra on all orders under 50 cents. 

E. R. ALDRICH,

BENSON, MINN.


Rejected Die.

for sale
on White size (3) 20 cents.
" " (5) 20 "
" Amber " (3) 50 "
" Buff " (3) \$1.00

A. BECKMAN,
148 E. Chicago Ave.,
CHICAGO, ILL

t3]

A Microscope and Spy glass to exchange for curiosities. J. B. ROBINSON, Benson, Minnesota.

 Always mention this paper when answering advertisements.

300 Amateur Papers, 4-pages, size of page 6x9 inches, printed and sent by mail post-paid for only \$1.70 L. S. ELLIS, Logansville, Ohio.

WANTED.—Plates illustrative of U. S. History. E. R. ALDRICH, Benson, Minn.

STAMP PAPERS!

100 mixed Stamp and Curio papers \$1.00; 5 all different 5c; 9 all different 10c; Phil. Annual 6c. CURIO CO., Benson, Minn.

L. S. ELLIS, Printer, Logansville, Ohio.



"THE CURIO."

—A MONTHLY—
DEVOTED TO COLLECTORS.

VOL. III. BENSON, MINN., OCTOBER, 1889. No. III.

SPECIALISM.

—J. D. L.—

THE day is gone and past when the collector who intends to make a study of Philately, can afford (either in money, time, or wear and tear of brain tissue) to collect all countries, whether he confines himself to postage stamps or enters the wider field embracing envelopes, postals or revenues. On this side of the Atlantic there are two groups which receive especial attention—United States and British North America.

To the majority of U. S. Collectors, nothing is more fascinating than the adhesives of their country. When the minute varieties are considered, a collection of five hundred varieties can be very easily collected.

In British North America, the field is even more interesting, owing to the variety of paper employed in the early issue—laid—wove—and water-marked—being found besides paper tinted by the negligence in wiping plates. The provisional of Nova Scotia opens up another interesting but rarely cultivated field. The revenue field of Cana-

da and the U. S. furnish extensive fields, and the U. S. envelopes are a lifetime study in themselves.

U. S. Cigar Stamps.

(CONTINUED FROM SEPTEMBER NO.)

1871. Same design as 1870 issue (the 50 and 100 second design of '70, in black on a brownish silk paper; also, on violet and rose tinted silk paper, making three complete series of five varieties each.

1871. Series with number of cigars, also value in cents, each with different portrait.
Violet Silk paper. Perf.
25 cigars 12½c. Delano.
50 " 25 " Fessenden
100 " 50 " Hancock.
250 " 1.25 " Jno. Adam
500 " 2.50 " Chase.

1873(?) The same values and designs on rose-colored silk paper. Perforate.

1874. The same values and designs on greenish silk paper. Perf.

1875. (February?). The same design with portrait of Waite. Greenish silk paper. Perf.

25 cigars black.
50 " " "



- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>100 cigars black.
1875(March) Provisionals. Surcharged in colors given; "Issued under act of March 3, 1875.
Issue of '68. 250 cigars. red.
500 " "
Issue of '71. 250 " "
500 " "
Issue of 1873 all values surcharged in red except 250 cigars which has blue surcharge.
Issue of 1874, all values red surcharge.
Issue of 1875 with red surcharge. (There are twenty-three varieties of these Provisionals).
1875. (October?) Series similar to February set. Head of Fessenden on all values. Greenish silk paper. Perf.
25 cigars 15 cents, bl'k
50 " 30 " "
100 " 60 " "
250 "\$1.50 " "
500 " 3.00 " "
1877(?). Same values and designs; rouletted.
1878. Bands similar to preceding. Portrait of Clay. Black, on various colored paper.
25 cigars yellow-green, violet, rose and white.
50 " yellow-green, white, blue-green, rose, violet.</p> | <p>100 cigars yellow-green, violet, blue-green.
250 " violet, yellow-green, blue-green,
500 " violet, yellow-green, blue-green.
1878. Same, all values, black on greenish paper.
1879(March). Similar. Series of 1879. 25 cigar black on greenish.
1881. Similar, all values. Series of 1881. Also a new edition; 200 cigars, black on greenish.
1883. Similar; full set Series of 1883.
[The editors will be pleased to receive any additions or corrections to this list.]</p> <p style="text-align: center;">—x—
Pencilings.c
—x—
DIXON'S H. H.
—x—</p> <p>The Chicago Society have organized an Exchange Department. It is designed to circulate such sheets to sixteen passive members. F. F. Gilbert is Exchange Superintendent.
* —x—
The proxy gatherers were legion in number, prior to the A. P. A. Convention. H. H. receiving no less than fourteen applications for his power of attorneyship.
—x—</p> <p>THE struggle for supremacy</p> |
|---|---|

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EDITORIALS

C. H. Meekel will return from his European trip in time for the St. Louis Convention.

For archæologists, the new Curio Informant, of Nashville, Tenn., will prove interesting.

THE Minnesota Philatelist is about to be resurrected by a stock company. G. W. Achard will indite the editorials.

During this month ONLY we will accept 40c worth of good stamps from sheets as payment for a one inch advertisement.

By arrangements with the Eastern collector, we will send that paper one year; the CURIO one year and a Faunce's Local for only twenty-five cents.

Alvah Davison's "Notes on Philatelic Subjects," in Plain

Talk are always interesting and instructive.

President-elect Craig, C. P.A. is now acting President during Mr. Hechler's European trip.

The Halifax Philatelist has suspended. The Dominion Philatelist assumes subscriptions and ads. The H. P. was the best paper in Canada, and is a loss not soon to be filled.

(Continued from second page.)

in the National Society still goes merrily on. At the end of the last innings the Corwinites were ahead, with the "ring" appealing from the umpire.

—X—

"Mack" Seeback can hardly feel happy with the way the Philatelic Societies are scoring him and his Salvador stamps; but he has had a dealer's experience and probably knows advertising pays.

—:—X—:—

It is probable no less than four different schemes for management of the X dep't Apa will be proposed.

The Q, C, Philatelist is out with a plea for the appointment of a committee to investigate the Hill-Chalmers affair. Why, bless your heart, Henderson! everybody except Chicago has left Chalmers.



- | | |
|---|---|
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ALBUM FREE!

Besides allowing a Good Commission I propose to give away an **ALBUM** every month

TO THE AGENT

REMITTING THE LARGEST AMOUNT.

E. R. ALDRICH,
BENSON, MINN.

AUCTION!

The following Papers will be sold to highest bidder on Oct. 25. Address all bids to Curio Co.

- 1 Curio, Vol. I;
- 2 " " II;
- 3 " " III;
- 4 Era's Monthly, file;
- 5 Youth's Ledger, No 10-28;
- 6 Philatelic Annual;
- 7 Useful Instructor, No 1;
- 8 National Cap Phil. No 2
- 9 Collector's Star, No. 1;
- 10 Keystone State Phil. No 6,
- 11 Study of Philately;
- 12 International Philatelic Advertiser, No 3 & 4;
- 13 Collector's Friend, 2, 4;
- 14 Am. Mart & Exchange, 10 nos.;
- 15 Cal. Phil. No 28;
- 16 Granite State, 5 nos.;
- 17 Capitol City, 5 "
- 18 Philatelic Fortnightly, 15 copies;
- 19 Price lists, etc. 25 "
- 20 English Stamp paper, 8 "

Curiosities,

Fossils,

Minerals,

Bird Eggs.

Send for lists

F. M. Kinne, Knoxville, Iowa.

Back Numbers! We can furnish back Numbers except Vol I No 1 at 5 cents each. Vol. I, 3 numbers complete.....15
Vol. II, complete.....10

Philatelic Annual and **THE CURIO** 3 months, only 5c.

L. S. ELLIS, Printer, Logansville, Ohio.

CURIOSITIES.

Pentremites fine .05
Elegant .10
Ass't doz. .40
Petrified Moss 5-25
Dozen 15-3.00
Arrow Head 5-40
Doz, Ass't 40-3.00

BOX 13,

Benson, Minn.

300 Amateur Papers, 4-pages, size of page 6x9 inches, printed and sent by mail post-paid for only \$1.70. 500 for \$2.70. Send 2c stamp for samples. L. S. Ellis, Logansville, Ohio.

Always mention this paper when answering advertisements.

The Philatelic Society of America is organized on a popular basis. No suppression of votes or opinions of any member. DUES only \$1 per year. For particulars address the Secretary.

H. C. BEARLSLEY,

St. Joseph, Mo.

\$1 FOR SIXTY CENTS

My "Confed" packet contains catalogue value of Confederate Stamps. Price post-paid 60c.

J. B. ROBERTS, Benson, Minn.



“THE CURIO.”

—A MONTHLY—
DEVOTED TO COLLECTORS.

VOL. IV. BENSON, MINN., NOVEMBER, 1889. No. I.

Pencilings.

DIXON'S H. H.

AN enthusiastic collector of the anti-Sterling school, wanted H. H. to support his ticket in 1890. Its heads were Van Derlip for President and Bradt for Vice-President.

Bye-the-bye, this makes me think that Sterling came out the top of the heap at St. Louis. While he has made some bad rulings yet, his management has been good. If he could let the dealers slide, who could want a better man.

Stanton and Hooper's Canada Rev. Catalogue is good so far as it goes; but why did not you give us the tobacco stamps, boys?

Bro. Davison wants an Ex. column in the American Philatelist. We suppose he will want a chance to offer notices of books to exchange in the Century and Harpers.

H. H. can't see why the National is the only society that is always in a state of interna! war,

when all the others enjoy harmony.

The "auction season" is again around. Sales will be held in New York, under at least five different managements. The first of the season was Oct. 21st under J. W. Scotts management; the second, a week later under R. R. Bogarts and the third, Nov 6 and 7, under Elliot Woodward's supervision, As yet, Bro. Carey has not been heard from. The Calmans will also probably hold sales during the fall.

BLACKLISTED.

BEGINNERS are often puzzled at the word "black listed." What does it mean?

Let us, hope they fail to find out by experience. To be black listed, is to be placarded in the press as a dishonest collector, and a reputation once smirched, is hard to be redeemed.

Dealers are exceedingly 'shy' in sending them stamps on approval.

Even stamp paper publishers will refuse to sample them.

Then again, certain dealers



will offer them bargains, and after getting their cash will send nothing, but will—should any remonstrance be made—point to their past record, and ask them who will believe them.

My advice is, always be honest.

(The ABOVE is from the pen of a nine-year-old collector.—Eds.)

U. S. CIGAR STAMPS.

(As supplementary to lists given in our two last numbers, we this month publish a list of the "imported" stamps. Again we request any correction or addition our readers may be able to make.—Eds.)

Stamps for imported cigars.

1886. Band. Design, a vignette of the Treasury building within an oval. United States Internal Revenue—Imported Cigars. Color on white—no value. Two varieties; one brown and the other green.

1867. Band. Design, portraits of Washington in oval—United States Customs Imported. Color on white. No value. Two varieties; one red, the other vermilion.

1873. Band. Design, portrait of Grant in oval—United

States Customs. Color on white.

25 (cigars)	black and vermilion
50	" " and carmine
100	" " and light green
250	" " and red-brown
500	" " and orange

(Counterfeits, or rather imitations of this set exist. Customs reading "customers.")

1875. Similar to proceeding, but with different portrait.

25 (cigars)	black and yellow
50	" " " carmine
100	" " " yellow-green
100	" " " blue-green
250	" " " red-brown
500	" " " orange

1879. Design, Steamship under full sail; values in oval of lathe work at each end—United States Customs Imported Cigar. Color on white.

25	cigars brown
50	" green
100	" blue.

(The 250 and 500 are said to have been issued, but I have never met with them).

The Philanthropic Society of America is organized on a popular basis. No suppression of votes or opinions of any member. DUES only \$1 per year. For particulars address the Secretary.

H. C. BEARDSLEY,
St. Joseph, Mo.

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U. S. and Canada per year.....	25c
Postal Union Countries.....	35c
So. Africa and Australia.....	50c

—ADVERTISING RATES—

Per inch.....	\$1.00
" Column.....	7.00
" Page.....	12.00

Special Contracts on standing Advertisements.
Entered at the Post-office at Benson, Minn.
as second-class matter.

EDITORIALS

THE Southern Philatelist is a new one from Charleston, S. C. Gustave Lahn at the helm. A new adage might well be "once a Philatelic paper man, always one."

WE will send the CURIO three months for either following:

150 cut envelope stamps; 2 special delivery; 12 department or two 90c stamps.

Evans list of U. S. Envelopes is bound to succeed Horner's. When Evans gets out a catalog, something fine can be expected.

THE "rejected die envelope" is getting scarce. Get one while you can at a reasonable price. See Mr. Beckman's ad.

THE Alabama Philatelist is to be resurrected.

THE International Collector has suspended.

A. P. A.

So many of our contemporaries having given complete reports of the Convention, that we briefly Summarize the most important actions.

Chalmers Hill controversy referred to Committee to report next year.... Incorporation referred to Committee.... Individual circuit plan endorsed.... Age limit removed..... Next convention will meet at New York in the early part of August, 1890.

P. S. OF A.

THE suspension of the Int. Collector, the official organ will probably retard the progress of the new Society..... Another ballot for Purchasing Agent and Librarian has been taken, but the result has not yet been made public.

SPECIAL BARGAINS!

U. S. 1861, 24c	.13
1870, 90c	.08
1869, 12c	.22
Interior Set.	\$1.00
Confederate 10c	.05
	5c (London) .08
	(Richmond) .05
	2c .20
* J. F. Henry, 1c silk	.10
1000 Stamps, including Porto Rico, Mexico, etc	.25
Full line of Foreign Stamps.	

E. R. Aldrich,
Benson, Minn.

CURIOSITIES

Pentramites fine	.65
Elegant	.10
Ass't doz.	.40
Petrified Moss 5-25	
Dozen	15-6.00
Arrow Head 5-40	
Doz, Ass't 10-1.00	
BOX 13,	
Benson, Minn.	

SPECIAL

OFFERS!

GOOD FOR NOVEMBER ONLY!

IN order that Collectors may be able to inspect the CURIO, we will send THREE numbers and any of the premiums below, for prices given:

Pentremite	-	-	.05
Bunch Sea Moss	-	-	.04
Phil. Annual. 87 (regular price 10c)	-	-	.05
File Era's Monthly	-	-	.03
Cuba Republic, 50c bill	-	-	.10
Razor Shell	-	-	.04
2v. Husseys	-	-	.04
2v. Cuba (new issue)	-	-	.03
4 * Porto Rico	-	-	.04
Confed. on original env.	-	-	.06
4v. Mexico	-	-	.04
* U. S. 1c 1851 (cat 10c)	-	-	.08
* 1c War	-	-	.03
* Faunce's Local	-	-	.25
250 Stamps	-	-	.06
6 Reprints	-	-	.04
J. F. Henry, 1c black	-	-	.04

THE CURIO CO.,

BENSON, MINN.

Curiosities,
Fossils,
Minerals,
Bird Eggs.
Send for lists.
F. M. Kinne,
knoxville, Iowa.

STAMP PAPERS!

100 mixed Stamp and Curio papers \$1.00; 5 all different 5c; 9 all different 10c; Phil. Annual 6c.
CURIO Co., Benson, Minn.

WANTED.—Plates illustrative of U. S. History.
E. R. ALDRICH, Benson, Minn.

Rejected Die.


for sale
on White size (3) 20 cents.
" " (5) 20 "
" Amber " (3) 50 "
" Buff " (3) \$4.00.

A. BECKMAN,

148 E. Chicago Ave.,

[3] CHICAGO, ILL.

300 Amateur Papers, 4-pages, size of page 6x9 inches, printed and sent by mail post-paid for only \$1.70. 500 for \$2.70. Send 2c stamp for samples. L. S. Ellis, Logansville, Ohio.

 Always mention this paper when answering advertisements.

SECOND AUCTION SALE!

November 21, 1889.

Bids by LOT.

- 1 Curio, Vol. I
- 2 " " I
- 3 " " III
- 4 Am. Philatelist, 3 nos;
- 5 Nunn's Phil. Annual
- 6 Museum Bulletin, 3 nos;
- 7 Phil. Fortnightly, 7 nos;
- 8 Phil. Monthly, 5 nos;
- 9 Era's Monthly, 20 pieces;
- 10 Phil. Annual, 6 copies;
- 11 Mohawk Standard, 6 copies;
- 12 Post Card, 6 nos;
- 13 Granite State Phil., Vol I;
- 14 25 Mixed Papers.

Address. Curio Co., Benson, Minn.

Back Numbers! We can furnish back Numbers, except Vol I No 1 at 5 cents each.
Vol. I, 3 numbers complete..... 15
Vol. II, complete..... 10
Vol. III, complete..... 15

Philatelic Annual and THE CURIO 3 months, only 8 cents.

L. S. ELLIS, Printer, Logansville, Ohio.



THE CURIO.

A MONTHLY
DEVOTED TO COLLECTORS.

VOL. IV. BENSON, MINN., DECEMBER, 1889. No. II.

PENCILINGS.

DIXON'S H. H.

H. H. is happy to see that all discord seems to have ceased among the A. P. A. members.

Now we may expect to see the Chalmersites and Hillites bring forth all their evidence; and possibly less blackguardism may be indulged in between the champions on both sides.

Bradford, late Sec'y of the A. P. A., tries to throw the blame of the mismanagement of his office upon the late Treasurer. Was that what made his report at St. Louis late?

The finances of the A. P. A., appear to be in bad shape. Practically, the association is bankrupt. To remedy this the dues have been raised, the Exchange department and American Philatelist made as near self-supporting as possible.

The Woodward sale which took place Nov. 6-7, contained many fine rarities, among which two St. Louis 5c and one 10c

were conspicuous. An elegant lot of early English Revenues were also sold.

The Casey 21st sale was held on Nov. 16. H. H. has not heard from it, but some bargains must have been realized by the lucky bidders. Prominent in this sale was a magnificent collection of 178 "star water-mark" envelopes; a set of 123 "82" envelopes and a large lot of albinos, re-strikes, etc.

A FEW COUNTERFEITS.

VEDA.

SO many counterfeits are floating among U. S. locals, that few collectors are inclined to touch them. Then again, re-prints are legion in number but of these I have nothing to say.

The "Bee Hive" Chicago Penny Post is extensively counterfeited. A sure test is in the size of the first N in penny, which is larger than the second in the counterfeit.

The black on bronze "Blood's Post-Office Dispatch" has been counterfeited. In the genuine,

the dash under Post-Office reaches Cashmere and curious Indian to f, while in the bogus it extends States stamps. to i.

Of Blood's One Cent Dispatch, black on bronze, three different counterfeits exist. One is evidently a first attempt, for it is very different from the original and the letters are larger; the second is also a crude affair, in this one the L looks like an inverted T. The third is dangerously well executed. It may be detected by the flourish over the N of one. In the genuine it is directly over the N. In the counterfeit it extends from o to e of cents.

A FINE DISPLAY.

At the Swift Co., Fair at Benson, Minn., one corner of the Art Hall was taken up by a display made by Messrs Aldrich, Robins and Stone. Messrs Stone and Robins displayed a fine lot of Indian Implements, Fossils, Minerals and Curiosities; while Mr. Aldrich displayed a collection of autograph and Confederate currency. Upon the wall in frames was displayed a collection of 225 stamps, each from a different country. Most attractive to the collector's eye were the Gualdajara, Newspaper \$60.00, Wood block Cape, round

Much attention was attracted by this novel display.

—:††:—

Philatelic Notes.

J. R. CRAIGUE.

Now that collectors' have abolished the re-prints, they should begin the crusade against the proofs. Are they different from re-prints? One was printed before the genuine original stamp, the other after. Both should go. . . . The gum used at present on envelopes is simply awful. After being moistened the envelope has to be held together until dry, or it will curl up. . . . On the 1885 and 1886 issues of Ecuador revenue stamps used postally, the dates are surcharged in black on tablet on bottom of stamp, while in the 1887 issue it is printed with the rest of the stamp. . . . Most of the stamps of Guatalajara are printed upon "quadrille" paper. . . . Up to the present time the writer has been on the fence regarding the Chalmers-Hill controversy, and as the "crowd" favors Hill, we "follow the crowd" and think(?) Hill is the inventor. . . . Some Philatelic paper should publish the portrait &c., of S. Allow Taylor. He certainly is "prominent" enough. . . . Bolivia entered the postal union April

ADDITIONALS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE
CURIO CO.,

Benson, Minn.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

U. S. and Canada per year.....	25c
Postal Union Countries.....	35c
So. Africa and Australia.....	50c

—ADVERTISING RATES—

Per Inch.....	\$1.00
" Column.....	7.00
" Page.....	12.00

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Entered at the Post-office at Benson, Minn.
as second-class matter.

1st 1886, thus reducing her postage rates from twenty-seven cent to five cents . . . The Berge-dorf stamps were in use but six years Letter boxes on lamp posts were established in this country in 1860.....The first post-office in the United States was started in Boston. by Richard Fairbanks in 1639.

: [x] :

ADDITIONALS

Read catalogue of Aldrich's Ninth Sale else where. While no rarities are offered, this is a chance to fill up your sets in good shape. The balance of the collection, including several rarities will be offered later.

Jewetts Guide is in press and will soon be issued. Mr. Aldrich has showed us the advance leaves and it promises to be a fine little work.

Three sample numbers of the CURIO for any U. S. stamp catalogued at 5c.

The "Stamp" has been gathered to its fathers. Verily the way of a stamp paper is hard!

The "Philatelic Monthly," old veteran as it is, shows improvement under Bro. Hanes management.

P. S. OF A.

THE society is now figuring on issuing a monthly bulletin of its own. Whether such a course would be wise or not, is debatable.

The Figaro, (late Hoosier State Phil.) and the Western Philatelist also desire the official organ-ship.

Mr. Sheldon has offered the Alabama Philatelist as organ, free.

GREAT BARGAINS in U.S. Postage, Match, Medicine, Document

Beer and Rev. stamps for the next 30 days. Send a good reference and receive stamps on approval. Reliable Agents wanted

S. M. MYERS,

Hanover Centre.

A. P. A., No. 777, Indiana.

9TH SALE,

TO BE HELD MONDAY EVENING, DEC. 21.

Bids to be made by the piece, not by the lot; that is if you will give 40c for a lot and it contains 4 pieces, make your bid 10c. Bids may be sent to J. B. Robins, F. L. Stone or direct to

E. R. ALDRICH,
BENSON, MINN.

- | | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|----|
| 1 | Providence 5c unused, | 1 |
| 2 | U. S. 1847 5, 10, | 2 |
| 3 | Do. 5c unsevered pair | 2 |
| 4 | State Dep't | 11 |
| 5 | War Dep't, unused, | 11 |
| 6 | Agriculture 1 to 12 | 6 |
| 7 | Faunce's local, | 1 |
| 8 | Alsace & Lorraine 1 used, | 8 |
| 9 | Angola Antigua Argentine, | 15 |
| 10 | Austria, | 33 |
| 11 | Lombardy, Azores, | 17 |
| 12 | Baden, | 18 |
| 13 | Bahamas, Barbadoes, | 1 |
| 14 | Bavaria, Portugal, | 50 |
| 15 | Belgium, Bergedorf, Russia, | 40 |
| 16 | Bolivia, Brazil, Bermuda, | 27 |
| 17 | Bosnia, Bulgaria, Spain, | 5 |
| 18 | Canada, | 22 |
| 19 | Do. Bill, | 8 |
| 20 | Brunswick, Cape Verde, Sweden, | 37 |
| 21 | Cape of Good Hope 1d red triangular, | 1 |
| 22 | Do. 5 surcharges, | 13 |
| 23 | Chili very fine set, | 18 |
| 24 | Corea, China, India, | 36 |
| 25 | Cuba, Porto Rica, | 13 |
| 26 | Costa Rica, Guanacasta, | 13 |
| 27 | Denmark, (a few locals), | 43 |
| 28 | Dutch & Danish Colonies, | 16 |
| 29 | Ecuador, Egypt, | 24 |
| 30 | F. Roumella, Finland, | 20 |
| 31 | France & colonies, | 60 |
| 32 | Germany. (few locals) | 51 |
| 33 | Hamburg, Turkey, | 28 |
| 34 | Great Britain, | 34 |
| 35 | Hellogolan? Hong Kong, | 19 |
| 36 | Holland, Hungary, | 47 |
| 37 | Italy, Orange Free State, | 36 |
| 38 | Jamaica, Japan, Natal, | 22 |
| 39 | Luxenberg, Monaco, | 14 |
| 40 | Mauritius, Malta, | 8 |
| 41 | Mexico, New South Wales, | 22 |
| 42 | Montenegro, Servia, | 15 |
| 43 | Norway, | 34 |
| 44 | New Foundland, | 8 |
| 45 | N. Zealand, Persia, Peru, | 29 |
| 46 | Prussia, very fine, | 18 |
| 47 | Roumania, | 22 |
| 48 | Salvador, Sandwich Islands, | 14 |
| 49 | Siam, Saxony, | 13 |
| 50 | Swedon, | 31 |
| 51 | Switzerland, | 31 |
| 52 | Victoria, Wurttemberg, | 28 |

No lots contain duplicates.

Back Numbers! We can furnish back Numbers, except Vol 1 No 1 at 5 cents each.
Vol. I. 3 numbers complete.....15
Vol. II. complete.....10
Vol. III. complete.....15

Philatelic Annual and THE CURIO 3 months, only 8 cents.

WANTED.—Plates illustrative of U. S. History.
E. R. ALDRICH, Benson, Minn.

Wanted

A fine cloth bound copy of either "She," "King Solomon's Mines," or "Allen Quaterman" only 45c post-paid. All three \$1.10.

J. B. Robins & Co.,
Benson, Minn.

10 var. of good foreign stamps catalogued by Scott at 2 & 3 cents each, sent post-free for only 10 cents. A bargain!

J. R. CRAIGUE,
Jackson, Minn.

CURIOSITIES.

Pentremites, fine .05
Elegant .10
Ass't doz., .40
Petrified Moss 5—25
Dozen 15—5.00
Arrow Head 5—40
Doz. Ass't 40—3.00
BOX 13,
Benson, Minn.

ROBERT ELSMERE!

A copy of this famous book, neatly bound in cloth post-paid 45 cents.

J. B. Robins & Co.,
Benson, Minn.

STAMP PAPERS!

100 mixed Stamp and Curio papers \$1.00; 5 all different 5c; 9 all different 10c; Phil. Annual 5c.
CURIO Co., Benson, Minn.

300 Amateur Papers, 4-pages, size of page 6 x 9 inches, printed and sent by mail post-paid for only \$1.70. 500 for \$2.70. Send 2c stamp for Samples. L. S. Ellis, Lagansville, Ohio.

Philatelic Society of America.

Is organized on a popular basis. No suppression of votes or opinions of any member. DUES only \$1.00 per year. For particulars address the Secretary,

H. C. BEARDSLEY,
St. Joseph, Mo.

Always mention this paper when answering advertisements.

S U P P L E M E N T .

CURIO. VOL. IV. NO. II.

OFFICIAL.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA.

E. R. Aldrich, Benson, Minn., President; M. V. Samuels, San Francisco, Cal., Vice President; H. C. Beardsley, St. Joseph, Mo. Sec'y; T. J. Mitchell, Chicago, Ill., Treasurer; H. E. Deats, Flemington, N. J., Int'l Sec'y; C. D. Reimers, Rock Island, Ill., Exchange Super't; Purchasing Agent, (Treasurer acting); R. A. Sheldon, Mobile, Ala., Librarian.

* *

While the official board were congratulating themselves that at last all appointments were made, and at last the society was in readiness to be put in motion, comes the suspension of the official organ; but, probably ere this shall be in the hands of members, another organ will be chosen.

Of course, the most important factor in a society is the Exchange business. I understand that Mr. Reimers is ready and anxious for the opening of his department.

In conclusion, I wish to say one word on behalf of the library. This is and can be, at present, only what the members

make it. Contributions however small will help, so let every one of us do what we can; hunt around and send Mr. Sheldon whatever stray philatelic papers we may be able to spare.

E. R. ALDRICH,
Benson,
Minn.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

SINCE my last report, July 10, 1889, the following have become members:

76. E. D. Ibbottson, Richfield Springs, N. Y.
77. W. L. Brower, Orange, N. J.
78. C. E. Curtiss, Sawens, NY
79. Geo. B. Ward, L. B. 170, Grand Rapids, Mich.
80. C. H. Pratt, Box 142, Cambridge, New York.

And the following have applied for membership and if no objections are received against them before thirty days (Dec. 10th) they can become members by remitting the half-yearly dues, 50 cents.

W. L. R. Tilton, Prairie Depot, O.
J. E. White, Castalia, O.

R. A. Sheldon, Mobile, Ala., has been appointed Librarian and Mr. Mitchell, Treasurer will act as Purchasing Agent until we have more members.

As probably you all know, the official organ has suspended and the ALABAMA PHILATELIST will probably succeed as official paper.

The Constitution has been delayed again, owing to a misunderstanding between Secretary and the printer.

All members who have not paid their dues should do so at once. Communications should be addressed to

H. C. BEARDSLEY,
Secretary,
Box 616,

November 10, 1889. St. Joseph, Mo.

L. S. ELLIS, Printer, Logansville, Ohio,

STUPID MENT

OFFICIAL

STUPID SOCIETY

MEMBER

It is with pleasure that we are able to inform you that you have been elected a member of the Stupid Society. The members of this society are those who are distinguished by their stupidity. It is a society of honor and distinction. We are glad to have you as a member and we hope that you will contribute to the welfare of the society.

The Stupid Society was organized in 1870 and has since that time been a leading organization in the world. It has a membership of over 100,000 members in all parts of the world. The society is devoted to the study and promotion of stupidity. It is a society of honor and distinction. We are glad to have you as a member and we hope that you will contribute to the welfare of the society.

The society is organized into chapters in all parts of the world. Each chapter is headed by a president and a vice-president. The members of the society are divided into three classes: ordinary members, life members, and honorary members. The ordinary members pay a fee of \$1.00 per year. Life members pay a fee of \$100.00. Honorary members are those who are elected to the society by the members.

The society is devoted to the study and promotion of stupidity. It is a society of honor and distinction. We are glad to have you as a member and we hope that you will contribute to the welfare of the society. The society is organized into chapters in all parts of the world. Each chapter is headed by a president and a vice-president. The members of the society are divided into three classes: ordinary members, life members, and honorary members.

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“THE CURIO.”

—A MONTHLY—
DEVOTED TO COLLECTORS.

VOL. IV.

CHRISTMAS, 1889.

No. III.

“Peace on Earth, Good will to Men.”

A Philatelist's Christmas.

—H. L. F.—

Of all the lads of Broncton none were more popular than sturdy Phil Grenton.

It was not mercenary motives that made Phil's companions admire him, for Phil was a poor widow's son, but his manly courageous bearing, his kindness to all whom he could in any wise aside, in short, as Burt Williams, his chum called it, “his good fellowness.”

Phil had been an earnest stamp collector for several years yet his collection was by no means what many of the other boys, who were better supplied with pocket money could boast of and yet, he was better posted on his small collection than Frank Jansen was on his twenty-five hundred collection.

It now lacked but two weeks of Christmas, and at the Broncton School interest was running high in a contest for a prize offered by Prof. Hantz at the beginning of the term and much speculation was indulged in as to what the prize would consist of, more especially as the teacher had said he would announce this morning what the prize would be.

So immediately after the bell rung, an hundred pair of anxious eyes were turned on the Professor.

“Well, boys and girls, you are I see sitting as our gran'dams used to say ‘on needles and pins,’ so I will partially relieve you. The girls' prize I have not yet been able to fully determine upon, but that of the boys I have. The other evening, after you were all dismissed I happened to pick up a pamphlet on Frank Jansen's desk, it was a copy of a stamp magazine, and on the last page I chanced upon the advertisement of a western dealer in stamps who offered for sale, packets containing a thousand varieties of stamps; now knowing most of you boys were very enthusiastic in stamp matters. I propose to give one of these packets as the boy's prize. Now to your studies, and think of them or you will fail in getting the prize.”

That night when school was closed, the boys went off in little groups discussing who would get the prize.

“I tell you, boys,” cried Burt Williams, “Phil is going to get it, why he's way ahead of Frank

Jansen in Algebra and Latin too for that!"

"Pooh!" cried one of Frank's adherents, "you'll find Frank will come out all right; he'll stay in the ring just as long as Phil Grentor will, and'll knock him out too."

Phil was quite unconscious of these remarks, having hurried away toward home.

His way home lay by a pond, and he noticed that Esquire Lewis' little girl was skating all alone on it.

Just as Phil was passing by, the thin treacherous ice gave way and precipitated the girl into the water.

Phil at once ran to the rescue, and just as he pulled out the little girl, found the ice breaking beneath his own feet.

He hastily gave her a shove out of danger's way just as he himself disappeared through the ice.

Although Clara at once ran for aid, Phil was insensible when removed from his icy bath.

Next day, he was tossing with a violent fever, and the burden of his delirious calling was lamentations of the loss of the thousand stamps.

At length the closing day of school came and Prof. Huntz, packet in hand, arose.

"In awarding this prize, I will recall your attention to the terms of contest, which, as you all know, were proficiency in lessons, perfect deportment and punctual attendance. In excellence of lesson and in deportment one scholar easily outstripped all the rest of the boys; but owing to a brave and worthy action he has been compelled to remain absent, nay, he even now lies sick, although rapidly improving, as the result of the exposure incurred while rescuing little Clara Lewis. Although Phil Grenton is really at the head of our school, yet the prize must go elsewhere; so to Frank Jansen I award the prize. The girls' prize is awarded to Gracie Egan who is ten points ahead of any competitor."

* * * *

Christmas day with the bells ringing merry chimes and "peace good-will" reigning among all has come.

Phil had just risen for the first time since his illness, and was sitting pale and haggard by the window with his beloved "International" lying in his lap.

He had hardly risen when his mother entered with a package.

"Charlie Jansen brought this, and said tell you Frank sent it."

Phil opened the package and on top of a fat envelope lay a note.

THE CURIO

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE
CURIO CO.,

Benson, Minn.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

U. S. and Canada per year.....	25c
Postal Union Countries.....	35c
So. Africa and Australia.....	50c

—ADVERTISING RATES—

Per Inch.....	\$1.00
“ Column.....	7.00
“ Page.....	12.00

Special Contracts on standing Advertisements.

Entered at the Post-office at Benson, Minn. as second-class matter.

Phil opened the note and read:

“PHIL:—As you really won the packet, and only lost it in saving my little cousin's life kindly accept it. The 'Providence' did not belong in it but, as I had two I sent you one.

“F. J.”

Phil broke out into enthusiastic praises:

“Why, mother, Frank sent me the prize and says I ought to have it, and this (holding up a stamp) is a genuine Providence local used before our government issued stamps, ain't it a beauty?”

Phil had hardly got the words out when there was a knock heard at the door and going to it, Mrs. Grenton found 'Squire Lewis who came in and laid a bulky package on the table.

After thanking Phil for saving the little girl, he said:

“Well, Phil, my daughter Ida says you are wild on stamps, and says you can tell all about them so I got you a little present in that line.”

He reached Phil the package, who opening it found 'a handsome Staten Island Album, and lying with the leaves a complete set of departmental stamps.

If Phil was enthusiastic before, he now fairly boiled over with enthusiasm. Why his collection was superior to Frank Jansen's now, nor was his pleasure any the less when Frank called in the afternoon and told him that the 'Squire had given him a Staten Island Album also.

And so in the gloaming of that pleasant Christmas afternoon we will leave the two boys together, deeply buried in the pleasures of that most pleasant of all pleasant hobbies—PHILATELY.

EDITORIALS

Merry Christmas to all!

While the year is drawing to a close, we can not but feel deeply grateful to our friends for the support given us in the past, and to hope to receive even more in the future. We call your attention to what we propose to do.

Commencing with our next number "Dixon's H. H.," whose notes in the past have been the most readable portion of our little sheet, will indite our editorials. A new department "Our Neighbors," giving current happenings of importance abroad, will be conducted by a prominent A. P. A'ite.

Our list of Contributors will be the best of any 4-page paper. Nay more, they will rank with the best of larger papers.

Our Jan. number in addition to the department will contain a poem by Guy W. Green, the postscripture and a criticism on Wanamaker's report by E. R. Aldrich.

Three months trial sub. for two 2 cent stamps.

Meekels Pocket Album and 3 month trial sub. 22c.

Stanton's Canadian Revenue Catalog and 3 mo. trial subscription to the CURIO 16 cents.

THE CURIO.

Having purchased all the files of the CURIO, I offer for a short time, post-paid.

Vol. I.....	25
Vol. II.....	15
Vol. III.....	15
Vol. IV.....	10
4 volumes complete	.50

E. R. ALDRICH,
Benson, Minn.

Back Numbers! We have disposed of all files to Mr. E. R. Aldrich, but have a few of the numbers mentioned below, and will send on receipt of price:

Vol. I, No 2	.63
" 4, No 1	.02

CURIO CO.,
Benson, Minn.

Philatelic Annual and THE CURIO 3 months, only 8 cents.

WANTED.—Plates illustrative of U. S. History. E. R. ALDRICH, Benson, Minn.

L. S. ELLIS, Printer, Logansville, O'ho.

ALDRICH

Wishes you all a

MERRY CHRISTMAS

and hopes you will send for his new 1890 lists (now in press.) and will give an unused stamp free to all persons sending and naming the CURIO.

E. R. ALDRICH,
Benson,
Minn.

GREAT BARGAINS in U.S. Postage, Match, Medicine, Document

Beer and Rev. stamps for the next 30 days. Send a good reference. Reliable agents wanted

S. M. MYERS,
Hanover Centre,

A. P. A., 777. Indiana.

Always mention this paper when answering advertisements.

RIDER BAGGARD

A fine cloth bound copy of either "She," "King Solomon's Mines," or "Allen Quaterman" only 45c post-paid. All three \$1.10.

J. B. Robins & Co.,
Benson, Minn.

10 var. of good foreign stamps catalogued by Scott at 2 & 3 cents each, sent post-free for only 10 cents. A bargain!

J. R. CRAIGUE,
Jackson, Minn.

CURIOSITIES.

Pentremites, fine .05
Elegant .10
Ass't doz.. .40
Petrified Moss 5-25
Dozen 15-6.00
Arrow Head 5-40
Doz. Ass't 40-3.00

BOX 13,
Benson, Minn.

ROBERT ELSMERE!

A copy of this famous book, neatly bound in cloth post-paid 45 cents

J. B. Robins & Co.,
Benson, Minn.

STAMP PAPERS!

100 mixed Stamp and Curio papers \$1.00; 5 all different 5c; 9 all different 10c; Phil. Annual 6c.
CURIO CO., Benson, Minn.

Philatelic Society of America.

Is organized on a popular basis. No suppression of votes or opinions of any member. DUES only \$1.00 per year. For particulars address the Secretary.

H. C. BEARDSLEY,
St. Joseph, Mo.

300 Amateur Papers, 4-pages, size of page 6 x 9 inches, printed and sent by mail post-paid for only \$1.70. 500 for \$2.70. Send 2c stamp for Samples. L. S. Ellis, Logansville, Ohio.

"THE CURIO."

—A MONTHLY—
DEVOTED TO COLLECTORS.

VOL. V. BENSON, MINN., JANUARY, 1890. No. I.

A Philatelic Jingle.

—
BY GUY W. GREEN.
—

SING a song of sixpence,
Season dull is passed,
Four and twenty dealers
With full stores at last.
When the fall trade opens
Then they blithely sing,
Then they all are joyful
And the shekels ring.

Customers are many,
Anxious all to buy;
"Price-lists" is the watch-word,
"Send for sheets" the cry.
Specialists, beginners,
All are in the field;
New recruits are added,
Mammoth is the yield.

Envelopes are selling,
Cards are in demand,
And stamp publications
Come from ev'ry hand;
Now our hobby's booming,
We are of good cheer,
For, success before us,
There is naught to fear.

Wannamaker's First Report.

—
==||ERA.||=
—

THAT a business man like Mr. Wannamaker should see many places for improvement in the administration of the Postal department, is not surprising.

When we consider that the Postmaster General is the nominal head of a system which has over 60,000 offices and over 150,000 employees; it is hardly to be wondered at that a recommendation for the appointment of a general manager to occupy office for ten years is made. It can

not be expected that a head every four years (and frequently oftener) can keep track of the immense system. In fact, he has hardly "mastered the situation" when his term expires.

Another recommendation is the appointment of a fourth assistant Postmaster General, who shall have charge of the railway mail service, foreign mail service, registry and supply depots (the money order system and the dead letter office.

The Postmaster General further recommends the division of the country into 26 inspector districts and a marked grading of all Postmasters by these inspectors.

Mr. Wannamaker also wants new quarters for the department, the present ones being wholly inadequate to accommodate the clerical force necessary.

A review of the controversy with the Western Union Co., is given, which shows the Telegraph Co., demands and receives pay from the government for the address and signature of the message, something they do not require from any one else.

Publishers Notes.

OUR next number will contain an article by "J. D. L.," on "Philatelic Journalism" in Minnesota.

Meekel's Address Book is out, and a fine thing it is, consisting of 224 pages. Its list of foreign collectors, especially in Spanish America is especially fine. Price \$1. It can be had of Aldrich of Benson.

As this is the beginning of the year when we overhaul our books, we intend to make up our ex. list new. Bro. Journals can we "x" with you, if so, send two copies.

Three months trial sub. for two 2 cent stamps.

Meekel's Pocket Album and 3 month trial sub. 22c.

Stanton's Canadian Revenue Catalog and 3 mo. trial subscription to the CURIO 16 cents.

Our Neighbors.

IN starting this new department, a few words are not out of place regarding its objects. We shall endeavor to give the important changes in political events if they are of sufficient importance.

Later dispatches seem to indicate that the revolution was not so peaceably brought about as the first report indicated, as fighting has been reported in several of the provinces. Under the date of Dec. 21, it is reported that Da Fonseca the provisional president is dying.

In Samoa the selection of Matafao as head King by Great Britain, Germany and the U. S. was ratified by the people.

From Rome it is reported that the Pope is enjoying very poor health.

The Frankfort Zeitung says that King Leopold, of Belgium, must be extremely cautious if he desires to retain his throne.

Serious trouble is reported from South Africa. Serpa Pinta having deceived the British and proceeding into Makololo land, slaughtered a large number of the natives and captured two British flags.

M. S. MOLLOY & CO.,

beg to inform their friends and Patrons, that as they are leaving Halifax, they have appointed "Henry Knight" as their representative there, and to whom all orders should be addressed. Send for our Price List. Special attention paid to approval sheet department. Everything marked low, and 33 1/3 discount. In answering mention this paper.

Address,

HENRY KNIGHT,

Representing M. S. Molloy & Co.,
P O Box 330, Halifax, N S.

L. S. ELLIS, Printer, Logansville, Ohio.

THE CURIO

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE
CURIO CO.,

Benson, Minn.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

U. S. and Canada per year.....	25c
Postal Union Countries.....	35c
So. Africa and Australia.....	50c

—ADVERTISING RATES—

Per Inch.....	\$1.00
" Column.....	7.00
" Page.....	12.00

Special Contracts on standing Advertisements.

Entered at the Post-office at Benson, Minn.,
as second-class matter.

EDITORIALS

Happy New Year!

Nothing could express H. H.'s surprise when the late editor of the CURIO asked us to take charge of the Editorial Department, but we acquiesced. Here we are.

Another, whose face is familiar to Philatelists has been gathered in by the reaper whose name is Death. Jefferson Davis has passed over to the silent majority. However much we may differ with him in principles, yet we can but admire his steadfast consistency in what he believed.

For promptness of returns the Exchange Department of Canada Phil. Association is way ahead of any of her sister Societies. H. H. has seen sheets which have been circulated, had nearly 20% of the stamps taken and returned

to the owner in less than four months. Who ever heard of any thing like this in the A.P.A.?

Talking of "X" departments, reminds me that two of the leading local societies—the Chicago and National—are now making this a special feature.

Revenue Notes

The Bulgarian 25c brown revenue has been surcharged 10st. The 80c violet surcharged 20 st.

From Mexico two new "Renta interior" stamps reported. $\frac{1}{2}$ c indig, $\frac{1}{2}$ c red.

A new series hails from Sweden. Evidently their use is on clearance papers. All are green and black on white

Perforate $11\frac{1}{2}$; the values are 50 and 75 "ore"; 1, 1.50, 2, 4 and 5 krone.

WATSON'S

POST CARD & LETTER CARD CATALOGUE.

PART I., now ready, contains CARDS OF EUROPE to October, 1889

Price One Dollar.

The most complete List ever issued

Address,

GEORGE H. WATSON,

(Box 85) Roselle,


Union County, N J.

SAVE MONEY

BY
Taking advantage of this offer. The Curio one year together with a year's subscription to either the Fitchburg Philatelist or Amateur Press, only

20 CENTS.

Advertisements.

 Always mention this paper when answering advertisements.

WANTED.—Plates illustrative of U. S. History.
E. R. ALDRICH, Benson, Minn.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

— is the greeting from —

ALDRICH

this month, and that you May find it still more happy, he invites YOU to send for his 16 page Vest Pocket Bargain List which he has just issued.

Don't forget to send.

E. R. ALDRICH,
Benson,
Minn.

Philatelic Annual and **THE CURIO** 3 months, only 8 cents.

Back Numbers! We have disposed of all files to Mr. E. R. Aldrich, but have a of the numbers mentioned below, and will send on receipt of price:

Vol. 1. No 2 .08
.. 4. No 1 .02

CURIO CO.,
Benson, Minn.

3d Sale.

All bids must be by lot and sent to The CURIO Co.

1. 2 nos, Am. Phil;
2. 2nos, P. J. of A.
3. 2 nos, A. J. of A.
4. 3 nos, Stamps
5. 3 nos, Curio,
6. History of the Mulready Envelope,
7. 1 doz mixed papers
8. Same
9. Same, but finer
10. 12 Arrow Heads

Coins, Stamps, Curios.

Large Stock. Low Prices.

4 page catalogue for Stamp.

W. F. GREANY,

827 Brannan St., San Francisco, Cal.

3t

Mention THE CURIO

THE CURIO.

Having purchased all the files of the CURIO, I offer for a short time, post-paid,

Vol. I.....	25
Vol. II.....	15
Vol. III.....	15
Vol. IV.....	10
Set, 4 volumes complete	60

E. R. ALDRICH,
Benson, Minn.

10 var. of good foreign stamps catalogued by Scott at 2 & 3 cents each, sent post-free for only 10 cents. A bargain!

J. R. CRAIGUE,
Jackson, Minn.

CURIOSITIES.

Pentremites, fine .05
Elegant .10
Ass't doz., .40
Petrified Moss 5—25
Dozen 15—6.00
Arrow Head 5—40
Doz. Ass't 40—3.00

BOX 13,
Benson, Minn.

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100 mixed Stamp and Curio papers \$1.00; full different 5c; 9 all different 10c; Phil. Annual 6c.
CURIO CO., Benson, Minn.

Philatelic Society of America.

Is organized on a popular basis. No suppression of votes or opinions of any member. DUES only \$1.00 per year. For particulars address the Secretary,

H. C. BEARDSLEY,
St. Joseph, Mo.

GREAT BARGAINS in U.S. Postage, Match, Medicine, Document Beer and Rev. stamps for the next 30 days. Send a good reference. Reliable agents wanted.

S. M. MYERS,
Hanover Centre,

A. P. A., 777. Indiana.

300 Amateur Papers, 4-pages, size of page 6 x 9 inches, printed and sent by mail post-paid for only \$1.70. 500 for \$2.70. Send 2c stamp for Samples. **L. S. Ellis, Logansville, Ohio.**

"THE CURIO."

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO COLLECTORS.

Vol. V.

BENSON, MINN., FEBRUARY, 1890.

No. 2.

1884.

ESTABLISHED SIX YEARS.

1890.

E. R. ALDRICH,

BENSON, - - MINNESOTA.

The Leading Dealer of the Northwest offers the Following Bargains:

SETS.

CONFED-USED.

*8 varieties, Samoa.....	. \$ 22	1861, 2c green.....	\$2 75
7 " Sedang.....	25	" 5c dark green.....	30
*3 high value Corea.....	21	" " light ".....	30
*6 varieties, West Indies.....	05	" " sage.....	00
*2 " Hussey, reprints.....	03	" " dark blue.....	30
12 " British Colonies.....	10	" " light ".....	30
*5 " Mexico, 1872.....	95	" " ultramine.....	50
*5 " W. Union.....	1 00	" 10c blue.....	40
*4 " Bhopel, 1889.....	18	" " rose.....	1 80
*6 " Bavaria, ret.....	04	1862, 5c (London).....	10
*21 " Hellgoland.....	35	" " (Richmond).....	05
*7 " Hamburg, envelope, rep.....	08	1863, 10c, varieties from 10.....	3 00

No. 3—"Our Leader."—\$2 00 worth of U. S. stamps, including fine stamps like 1857 envelopes, 1861 issues, etc., only 90c.

No. 4—"United in Peace"—6 varieties U. S. and Confederate stamps, worth three times what I ask 20c.

No. 5—"Bonanza"—100 fine varieties of Foreign, including unused Cuba, Porto Rico, Greece, Mexico, etc. 27c.

No. 41—25 varieties, including new issue Italy, Mexico, etc. 10c.

No. 42—\$1.00 worth of fine stamps, just as they come from a 1600 collection, only 30c.

Send 2c stamp for fine unused stamp or a medicine stamp and how to get a \$5 or a \$1 stamp free, and our 16 page bargain list,

E. R. ALDRICH

THE CURIO.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY
BY THE
CURIO CO.,

BENSON, - - - MINN.

-SUBSCRIPTION RATES-

U. S. and Canada per year 15c.
Postal Union Countries 25c.
So. Africa and Australia 35c.

-ADVERTISING RATES-

Per Inch \$ 20
" Column 1 00
" Page 1 80

Special contracts on standing advertisements.

If this is marked, your subscription has expired. Please renew.

We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT BENSON,
MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

AUTHORS!

We will give a selection of U. S. stamps worth \$1.00 for the best article received each month,
CURIO CO.,

Benson, - - - Minn.

Subscribe for and Advertise in

THE FARRAGO.

A monthly literary magazine for boys and girls. It has 12 pages and cover, overflowing with short and serial stories, sketches, poems, puzzles, &c.

Subscription 35 cents a year. Advertising 45 cents per inch. Circulation 1000 to 3000. Sample copy free.

AGENTS WANTED.

WILL H. FREEMAN & CO., PUBS.,
Mt. Juliet, Tenn.

3 CENTS

for 100 assorted U. S. and Foreign stamps.
Address, J. T. HANFORD,
Lincoln Park, N. J.

AUCTION SALES.

The success attending our former sales has led us to undertake to hold a sale each month. Our charges on invoices intrusted to us is 10 per cent. Reserve price may be placed on goods and if no sales are made no charge made except postage.

CURIO CO., Benson, Minn.

FREE!

To everyone sending for one of my fine approval sheets I will give free a stamp worth from 5 to 10c. Mention CURIO.

F. L. STONE,

BENSON, - - - MINN.

THE CURIO.

Having purchased all the files of THE CURIO, I offer for a short time, postpaid,

Vol. I. 25c.
" II. 15c.
" III. 15c.
" IV. 10c.
4 volumes complete..... 50c.

E. R. ALDRICH,
Benson, Minn.

Have you seen Ye Boodle Philatelist? If not send a two cent stamp for a copy or

15 CENTS FOR IT 12 MONTHS.

It contains 8 pages and cover. March number will contain 12 pages and cover. Exchange column open to everybody.

THE B. P. PUB. CO.,

628 Hudson St., New York.

CURIOSITIES.

Pentremites, fine, .05
Elegant, .10
Ass't doz., .40
Petrified Moss, 5-25
Dozen, 15-6.00
Arrow Head, 5-40
Dozen, Ass't, 40-3.00

BOX 13, Benson, Minn.

PHILATELIC JOURNALISM IN MINNESOTA.

BY J. D. L.

Philatelic journalism, while everywhere is of a very fluctuating character, has been much more so in Minnesota.

The first attempt to publish a stamp paper within the boundaries of the North Star state was made in 1874, when one F. C. Lawrence, of Minneapolis, issued the first and only number of the Stamp Collectors' Review.

After an elapse of ten years another little paper appeared at Minneapolis called The North Star Philatelist. I have never seen a copy of the earlier numbers of this paper and cannot say positively whether Geo. Achard, who appears as editor and publisher during its later years, was its original parent or not, but I have heard it said that he was not. At any rate with Vol. II we find Achard as editor and Geo. A. Bickley as associate. The North Star enjoyed a somewhat checkered career until 1888 when it was merged into the Minnesota (2nd of that name), Philatelist.

The only attempt made to publish a stamp paper in St. Paul was in 1886, when Fred Stahl published two numbers of his

quarterly Minnesota Philatelist. Stahl afterward figured as principal in a suit instituted by Meekel, Peeke and other prominent dealers, resulting from the "Horace C. Jones" swindle. Stahl was acquitted, but soon faded from the Philatelic horizon.

The next Minnesota stamp paper came from Benson, Minnesota, with E. R. Aldrich as publisher. It was the first paper published twice a month and was called the Philatelic Fortnightly. After the seventh number the paper appeared from Ohio, although Mr. Aldrich remained the virtual proprietor.

After the appearance of the January number, 1888, of the North Star Philatelist, (No. 17,) and the Fortnightly, (No. 15,) Messrs. Achard and Aldrich consolidated their paper and as the Minnesota Phil. Pub. Co., (Mr. A. V. Chamberlain, of Minneapolis, formerly associate editor of the North Star Philatelist, acted as business manager,) issued three numbers of the Minnesota Philatelist.

In the latter part of 1888 Mr. Aldrich issued three numbers of an advertising sheet entitled Era's Monthly.

In 1889 Minneapolis' latest venture appeared and was, while it lasted, one of the leading journals

of the country, but after three numbers the Flour City Philatelist suspended. Mr. Geo. C. Bickley was the promoter of this "issue."

In February 1889, The Curio was started and is now the only paper for collectors in the state.

Up to January 1890, there had been eight papers published, of which fifty-six different numbers were published.

AMADENS OF SPAIN.

Again death has removed another whose face is familiar to the Philatelist, Amadeo, whose portrait appears on the 1872, passed away on January 18th.

[Amadeo Ferdinando Maria, Duke of Aosta, was the second son of Victor Emmanuel, the first King of Italy, was born May 30, 1845. Entering the army he became Captain of a brigade of infantry at Aosta, then Lieutenant-General and chief of a brigade of cavalry. Marshal Prim, after the revolution of 1868, offered him the Spanish crown, and October 19, 1870, he formally announced his candidature. The 16th of the following month the Cortes elected him King of Spain by 191 votes against 120. He formally accepted the crown December 4, 1870. The young King landed at Cartagena December 30, the very day Marshal

Prim expired from the wounds received at the hands of an assassin a few hours previously. His reign was a brief and troublous one. He was unpopular with the Spanish people, and his position, which had never been secure, became extremely dangerous in the summer of 1872, when a Carlist rising took place in the northern provinces. The 19th of July in that year an unsuccessful attempt to assassinate the King and Queen was made. At length Amadeo prudently resolved to abdicate. February 11, 1873, he addressed to the Cortes a message, in which he stated that in consequence of the incessant struggles of contending parties his efforts to give peace and prosperity to the country must prove futile, and therefore he had determined to depose the crown. The very next day the Duke and his consort left Madrid. He arrived in Florence the 16th. Immediately on his return he resumed the status of an Italian citizen. March 14, 1873, his Royal Highness was again enrolled in the list of Senators. At this period, also, King Victor Emmanuel conferred on him the rank of Lieutenant-General. The Duke married, May 30, 1867, the Princess Charles Emmanuel dal Pozzo della Cisterna, and had three sons.]

MEXICAN REVENUES.

A REFERENCE LIST.

PAPER I.

The revenue stamps of the U. S. have long been favorites with collectors, and lately, since catalogues have been issued, so they can be more easily understood, Canadian revenues have come slowly but steadily into favor.

The revenues of Mexico are every bit as handsome, interesting and collectable, and if this list shall make a single collector appreciate them then the labor expended in preparing this list will not have been wasted in vain.

Contribucion Federal Stamps.

1847-issue, portrait of Moreles to right.

1. 1 centavo, red-violet.
2. 5 " black.
3. 25 " brown.
4. 1 peso, green.
5. 5 " blue.

1876, face of Moreles in a circle, shape oblong.

6. 1c blue on yellow.
7. 5c violet on white.
8. 25c red on white.
9. 1p brown.
10. 5p green.

1877, face of Moreles.

11. 1c blue on l't blue.
12. 5c lilac on greenish.
13. 25c red on white.

14. 1p ochre on greenish.

15. 5p green on white.

1877, July, colors changed.

16. 1c red.

17. 5c mauve.

18. 25c violet.

19. 1p lilac.

20. 5p yellowish green.

1878, portrait of Miguel Hidalgo y Castilla.

21. 1c orange.

22. 5c brown.

23. 25c green.

24. 1p blue.

25. 5p carmine.

1879, portrait of Diez.

26. 1c green.

27. 5c orange.

28. 25c lilac.

29. 1p vermilion.

30. 5p purple.

PENCILLINGS.

DIXON H. H.

Has the Calman Co. fired the New York societies or have the New York societies fired the A. J. of P? Which is it brothers.

At any rate the A. J. of P. is no longer official organ of the S. I. P. S., B. P. C. and N. P. S., but the three societies together publish an official organ.

G. A. Achard, late of the North Star Philatelist has left the ranks. His collection has been bought in by Mr. E. R. Aldrich.

PUBLISHER'S NOTES.

We don't like to blow our own horn, but haven't we fulfilled all the promises we have made.

We invite special attention to the two auction sales advertised in this number. The first consists exclusively of papers in lots suitable for dealers. The other comprises the rarities of a 1600 collection, which passed through our hands lately.

Our next number will contain an article entitled "The words of Washington," showing the interest the "Father of his country" took in our mail service.

U. S. CIGAR STAMPS.

We are indebted to an enthusiastic revenue stamp collector for the following additions to our list of U. S. Cigar stamps:

For immediate exportation.

1875, no value, black on rose, silk paper.

1878, similar.

1879, similar.

The collecting of postage stamps is one of the most popular and fascinating pursuits of the present day and combines instruction with amusement, as it teaches us geography, history, and the currency of other nations, besides elevating our artistic taste by the comparison of all grades of skill, from wood cuts to the finest steel engraving.—*California Philatelist.*

5TH SALE.

March 8th.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----|
| 1. Capital City Philatelist, | 13 |
| 2. Halifax Philatelist, | 11 |
| 3. Granite State Philatelist, | 7 |
| 6. Stamp papers, mix'd lot 34 pieces | 1 |
| 7. do do 27 do | 1 |
| 8. do better lot 13 do | 1 |
| 9. Curios, 33 pieces, | 1 |
| 10. Era's Monthly, 111 pieces, | 1 |

Bids by the piece, not by the lot.

CURIO CO.,

BENSON, - - MINN.

6TH SALE.

March 24th. Bids by the piece, not by the lot.

- | | |
|--|----|
| 1. Spain, a fine set, | 60 |
| 2. Interior department, complete, | 10 |
| 3. U. S. env. 1853, K die on buff, | 1 |
| 4. Mexico 1872, 50 blue imperf., rare error, | 1 |
| 5. Mexico 1882, 10c brown, error, Scott's price \$5, | 1 |
| 6. Mexico 1872, set unused, | 5 |
| 7. Mobile 5c blue on original envelope. very rare, | 1 |
| 8. Confederate 2c rose, used, rare in this condition, | 1 |
| 9. Confederate 20c on original envelope, not fine, but rare, used, | 1 |
| 10. Confederate 10c varieties, | 6 |
| 11. " 10c rose on original envelope, | 1 |
| 12. U. S. 1847, complete, | 2 |
| 13. " 1851, 24c, imperf. fine, | 1 |
| 14. Sydney view 2 pence, | 1 |
| 15. Revenue stamps in cloth and leather album, about 50 stamps, | 1 |

Messrs. J. B. Robins and F. L. Stone will execute bids free.

CURIO CO.,

Benson, Minn.

BARGAINS!

See my monthly list of bargains in the Philatelic Tribune (now in its 8th volume). Sample copy FREE.

AGENTS WANTED

to sell stamps for me from my approval sheets at

40 PER CENT. COMMISSION.

Send reference and state about what priced stamps are desired. Packets 10c to \$10.00. Hinge paper, 6c sheet, 5 for 25c, best in the market. Best large, cheap collectors' directory reduced to 20c. Canadian Revenue stamp catalogue 15c paper, 30c cloth. Circulars and 25 varieties of stamps free for 2c stamp.

F. J. STANTON,
Smyrna, N. Y.

BACK NUMBERS! We have disposed of all files to Mr. E. R. Aldrich, but have a few of the numbers mentioned below, and will send on receipt of price:

Vol. 1, No. 2.....03
" 4. " 1.....02
CURIO CO., Benson, Minn.

Stamp Collectors' Journal,**LAKE VILLAGE, N. H.**

Original throughout! Only TEN cents per year. 12 numbers guaranteed or money refunded. Sample FREE. Advertisements 20 cents per inch.

WANTED—Plates illustrative of U. S. History. E. R. ALDRICH, Benson, Minn.

**Picture Advertising
CARDS.**

Send me 25 different ones and I will send you 250 fine stamps, or two elegant curios or 6 months subscription to CURIO.

BOX 13, Benson, Minn.

COLLECTORS!

I have some good Foreign stamps that I wish to exchange for good U. S. or Foreign stamps that are not in my collection.

W. K. MACKEY,
Pawnee City, Neb.

"ONE DIME,"


Is an 8 page and cover Philatelic paper published monthly, for only 10c a year, and if you send a 2c stamp extra I will send you a gypsum crystal, or 1 arrow head, or 1 piece of petrified moss, or 4 unused stamps, your name in Directory 1 time free. Exchange column free to subscribers. Advertising rates 35c per inch. The first five answering this and mention this paper will receive a nice present free. Send for a sheet of stamps on approval at 50 per cent. discount to beginners, promise to return in ten days and address

CHARLES W. PEUGH,
KOSSUTH, - - - INDIANA.

PHILATELIC PRINTER.

I am prepared to do all kinds of Philatelic printing. Send stamp for estimates on any printing that you may want.

W. K. MACKEY,
Pawnee City, Neb.

 This paper is a specimen of my work.

PHILATELIC ANNUAL and **THE CURIO** 3 months, only 8 cents.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA.

Organized on a Popular Basis.

**NO SUPPRESSION OF VOTES OR
OPINIONS.**

Dues only \$1.00 per year.

**ALL DEPARTMENTS NOW
IN OPERATION.**

Full particulars may be obtained of the Secretary,

H. C. BEARDSLEY,
St. Joseph, Mo.

Please mention **THE CURIO** when answering advertisements.

T. J. MITCHELL,

348 FULTON STREET, CHICAGO.

U. S. and Foreign Postage and
Revenue Stamps of all kinds.

BLANK APPROVAL SHEETS

Fine linen paper, printed heading, ruled to hold 48 stamps, per 50, 30c; 100, 50c, postpaid. Used by a large number of dealers.

New Foundland, 5c 1876, used.....	\$ 04
Ecuador, 1r yellow 1865, ".....	07
" 1/2 blue " ".....	02
Cape of Good Hope, 4d blue 1853, used.....	12
" " " " 1d red " ".....	25
U. S. 3c 1870 grilled, used.....	04
" 2c " " ".....	08
" 1c " " ".....	12
" 1c " orange paper, used.....	08
" 1c " manilla " ".....	08
" 3c 1874 white " 'A'.....	08
" 3c " amber " ".....	12
" 2c 1875 red on cream, 'C'.....	08
" 2c 1873 P. O., lemon.....	08
" 6c " " ".....	08
" 3c 1853 white, die 1.....	40
" 3c " buff " 1.....	40
" 10c 1871 proprietary.....	25
40 var. U. S. postage official and due.....	25
35 " " document and match.....	25
30 " " entire envelopes.....	40
5 " " " postal cards.....	01
8 " " " stamped bank checks.....	10
3 " " " unused letter sheets.....	15
100 varieties of stamps, including Java, Hawaii, Australia, Mexico.....	15
110 varieties, including stamps from Canada, (Beaver), Turkey, Venezuela, Honduras, Porto Rico.....	20
115 varieties, including stamps from Nicaragua, Brazil, Egypt, Mexico official.....	25
1000 mixed stamps, postpaid.....	20
1000 U. S. stamps from 25 to 35 varieties.....	80

33 1-3 PER CENT. DISCOUNT

from my Foreign Approval Sheets and Books; 25 per cent. from my U. S. Sheets; reference required from those not members of Philatelic Societies—only the No. of the latter is necessary.

U. S. STAMPS.

1868, 15c black, unused, grilled, \$ 35
" 24c lilac. " " 1 75
Pairs, triplets and blocks of four on hand.
Foreign stamps sent on approval at 33 1/2 per cent. discount. Send for sheet.

BARTLETT BROS.,

South Amboy, - New Jersey.

I offer 100 different numbers of stamp, coin and curiosity papers of all kinds for only one dollar. Papers devoted entirely to collecting, are in good condition and sent postpaid on receipt of price. More than one-fourth are covered and dated every year since 1884. Address

J. R. CRAIGUE,

Jackson, - Minn.

The Star Pocket Printer.

The outfit consists of a 3 A font of type, neatly arranged in a box, with directions for use, a pair of tweezers, a type holder, an ink pad, and a bottle of ink. Price, complete, 25c.

We also put these up with a set of figures for 35c. Address

J. T. HANFORD, Lincoln Park, N. J.

TO COLLECTORS!

Send for sample copy of the **Stamp Advertiser**, or 10c for a years subscription. A first class journal for collectors.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE.

50 varieties stamp papers with covers \$1 00
50 varieties without covers 75

Send at once to H. G. PARKS, Rock Bottom, Mass.

25 varieties rare stamps, catalogued by Scott at over \$1.25, only

27 CENTS.

No trash, but good desirable stamps. Remit by postal note. Agents wanted for sheets at 33 1/2 per cent. commission.

OREGON STAMP CO.,

Augusta, Me.

BOYS!

A 2 1/2 x 4 inch PRINTING PRESS given away FREE with 2 fonts of type, 2 rollers, ink, 50 cards and furniture. Send for terms and particulars, and be sure to mention this paper. See CORONA NEWS-LETTER.

Enterprise Stamp Co.,

THREE RIVERS, MASS.

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

"THE CURIO."

A MONTHLY DEVOTED TO COLLECTORS.

Vol. V.

BENSON, MINN., MARCH, 1890.

No. 3.

1884.

ESTABLISHED SIX YEARS.

1890.

E. R. ALDRICH,

BENSON, - - MINNESOTA.

The Leading Dealer of the Northwest offers the Following Bargains:

SETS.

CONFED-USED.

*8 varieties, Samoa.....	\$ 22	1861, 2c green.....	\$2 75
7 " Sedang.....	25	" 5c dark green.....	30
*3 high value Corea.....	21	" " light ".....	30
*6 varieties, West Indies.....	05	" " sage ".....	60
*2 " Hussey, reprints.....	03	" " dark blue.....	30
12 " British Colonies.....	10	" " light ".....	30
*5 " Mexico, 1872.....	95	" " ultramine.....	50
*5 " W. Union.....	1 00	" 10c blue.....	40
*4 " Bhopel, 1880.....	18	" " rose.....	1 80
*6 " Bavaria, ret.....	04	1862, 5c (London).....	10
*21 " Hellgoland.....	35	" " (Richmond).....	05
*7 " Hamburg, envelope, rep....	08	1863, 10c, varieties from 10.....	3 00

- No. 3—"Our Leader."—\$2 00 worth of U. S. stamps, including fine stamps like 1857 envelopes, 1861 issues, etc., only 90c.
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Send 2c stamp for fine unused stamp or a medicine stamp and how to get a \$5 or a \$1 stamp free, and our 16 page bargain list,

E. R. ALDRICH.

THE CURIO.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

CURIO CO.,

BENSON, — — — MINN.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

U. S. and Canada per year	15c.
Postal Union Countries	25c.
So. Africa and Australia	35c.

—ADVERTISING RATES—

Per Inch	\$ 20
" Column	1 00
" Page	1 80

Special contracts on standing advertisements.

If this is marked, your subscription has expired. Please renew.

We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

AUTHORS!

We will give a selection of U. S. stamps worth \$1.00 for the best article received each month,

CURIO CO.,

Benson, — — — Minn.

Subscribe for and Advertise in

THE FARRAGO.

A monthly literary magazine for boys and girls. It has 12 pages and cover, overflowing with short and serial stories, sketches, poems, puzzles, &c.

Subscription 35 cents a year. Advertising 45 cents per inch. Circulation 1000 to 3000. Sample copy free.

AGENTS WANTED.

WILL H. FREEMAN & CO., PUBS.,
Mt. Juliet, Tenn.

3 CENTS

for 100 assorted U. S. and Foreign stamps.
Address, J. T. HANFORD,
Lincoln Park, N. J.

AUCTION SALES.

The success attending our former sales has led us to undertake to hold a sale each month. Our charges on invoices intrusted to us is 10 per cent. Reserve price may be placed on goods and if no sales are made no charge is made except postage.

CURIO CO., Benson, Minn.

FREE!

To everyone sending for one of my fine approval sheets I will give free a stamp worth from 5 to 10c. Mention CURIO.

F. L. STONE,

BENSON, — — — MINN.

THE CURIO.

Having purchased all the files of THE CURIO, I offer for a short time, postpaid,

Vol. I.	25c.
" II.	15c.
" III.	15c.
" IV.	10c.
4 volumes complete.	50c.

E. R. ALDRICH,

Benson, Minn.

Have you seen Ye Boodle Philatelist? If not send a two cent stamp for a copy or

15 CENTS FOR IT 12 MONTHS.

It contains 8 pages and cover. March number will contain 12 pages and cover. Exchange column open to everybody.

THE B. P. PUB. CO.,

628 Hudson St.,

New York.

CURIOSITIES.

Pentremites, fine, .05

Elegant, .10

Ass't doz., .40

Petrified Moss, 5-25

Dozen, 15-6.00

Arrow Head, 5-40

Dozen, Ass't, 40-3.00

BOX 13, Benson, Minn.

A. P. A. TICKET.

President—Willard C. Van Derlip,
Boston.

Vice-President—S. B. Bradt, Chicago.

Secretary—M. F. Walton, Philadelphia.

Treasurer—C. H. Meekel, St. Louis.

International Sec'y—Henry Clotz,
New York.

In offering the above ticket we may be taking old Father Time by the forelocks a trifle, but yet it cannot but be the best for the association to have the matters thoroughly discussed and thus let every member be posted thoroughly as to who is the best man.

Our nominee for President is a collector and not a DEALER in any sense of the world.

As Vice President of our organization, he has always sympathised with, and taken the part of the collector against the dealer's element. The Presidency having always been given to the WEST, it is time that the EAST should for a time enjoy the privilege.

The name of S. B. Bradt, and his labors for the success of our association from the very start are too well known to need eulogizing.

Mr. Meekel, our nominee for Treasurer is one of the very few who have attended every meeting of our association. Mr. Gregory has made a good officer, but the west must have some of the offices.

Of our candidate for the International Secretary, we feel assured that the office would receive full and proper care at his hands.

Now, brother A. P. Aites could a better ticket be set forth. Could both sections, both east and west, be fairly represented and now, but representa-

tive names are on the list.

DIXON'S H. H.

DEFACING THE U. S. PLATES

In accordance with a resolution offered at the A. P. A. convention at St. Louis last year President Tiffany has appointed a committee to petition Congress to deface the plates of the U. S. stamps when they are no longer in use. Now this at the first glance would seem to be all right and proper, and when looking over the matters carefully and taking other things into consideration, we don't like it and give our reasons.

The stamp dealers who were at the convention never raised any objection to the resolution. Although one gentleman present, stated in Chicago convention in 1887, that his house considered a reprint from the original plate as genuine as an original. This being the case, and a defence being made of the Seebeck-Salvador contract for reprinting we would naturally suppose the same clique would rally to the support of the U. S. reprint or object to defacing the plates, but no, all was satisfactory. Why this silence?

In 1876 there was a large number of reprints made and sold to dealers and collectors. To-day the prices of the reprints are nearly as much as the original. Is it any wonder the dealers remained quiet? If the plates were defaced, a few people would be able to send the prices up to such an extent that the ordinary collector would not be able to buy any of the higher denominations of U. S. stamps. As long as the plates remain intact, so long will the prices remain at a more reasonable figure. As certain parties will never be able to control the market, for if

stamps were put up to an exorbitant price public sentiment would demand the reprinting of the stamps, which would make prices fall, and a 1900 reprint would be just as worthy of consideration as an 1876 reprint and command as great a price. Then it is not so much to be wondered at that certain members would remain silent on the resolution that would make them masters of the market and leave the collector at their mercy. But some will claim that it will advance the value of our collections! How much? I would ask. If you do not collect reprints it will lower the price of originals in the pro ratio that it advances the price of the reprint. If you collect reprints and originals you will have a good time in filling up your sets. But if money is no object to you why yes, it would make it possible for you to obtain a very fine collection, which you could show to your favorite collecting friends and they could console themselves with the reflection that when they got rich they could get a collection of U. S. stamps

Had they never have been any U. S. stamps reprinted, then there would have been more in favor of defacing the dies.

Now, the gentleman who introduced the resolution must not think I am casting any reflections upon him, as I know he has no great stock of U. S. laid away to make money on. In fact, I have heard him say he was in favor of heroic measures to stamp out the reprints and I give him credit for his honest convictions. But I would have given him more credit and in my opinion he would have had done more for Philately if he had offered a resolution that the P. O. authorities be petitioned to supply periodical stamps at

face to collectors which would have done away with the heavy premiums on these current stamps.

T. J. MITCHELL.

POSTAL DECREES.

The following have been promulgated:

OFFICE OF FOREIGN MAILS,
WASHINGTON, D. C., January, 24, 1890.

This department has been officially advised that recent legislation in Denmark prohibits the manufacture, importation, and circulation, in Denmark and the Faroe Islands, of articles resembling postage stamps or other forms of prepayment and that when found, such articles will be confiscated and the violators of the law punished by fine.

United States post masters should therefore refuse to receive for mailing packets addressed for delivery in Denmark or the Faroe Islands, which contain the above described articles; and, if found in the mails, such packets should be treated as unmailable matter. By direction of Postmaster General, N. M. BROOKS,

Acting Superintendent of Foreign Mails.

Decrees to the following effect have also been issued:

Offering a reward of \$1000 for arrest and conviction of persons making an armed attempt on any stage-coach or mail car having mail in transit, also,

One allowing queen bees to be sent to Houdars and Norway, also,

Relative to closing of the British postoffice at Philippopolis, Bulgaria.

PUBLISHERS' NOTES.

The article on the "Words of Washington," intended for this number was, crowded out, but will appear next month.

The Western Phil. Pub. Co., of Chicago, have our thanks for a copy of the Addenda to Tiffany's Library Companion.

Our 7th sale contains quite a fine lot of rarities. Don't forget to send in your bids.

CASEY'S 23RD SALE.

Probably the most notable sale of British North American stamps on record will be the sale of the Donald A. King collection by Casey on the 4 and 5 prox. The collection is arranged on the best scientific mode, perforations, watermarks and all minor varieties being retained. Some of the specimens are unique. We bespeak good prices for all the lots. By the way Bro. Casey now inserts ads. in his catalogue and has bids by the lot, not piece.

MEXICAN REVENUES.

A REFERENCE LIST.

PAPER II.

Contribucion Federal Stamps.
Issue of January 1, 1880. Por-

trait to left. (Renta del Timbre.)

- 31. 1c blue.
- 32. 5c green.
- 33. 25c violet.
- 30. 1p green-blue.
- 35. 5p vermillion.

Issue of January, 1881. Portrait of Don Melchio Ocampo.

- 36. 1c brown.
- 37. 5c orange.
- 38. 25c green.
- 39. 1p ultramarine.
- 40. 5p carmine.

PENCILINGS.

DIXON'S H. H.

The P. S. of A. exchange department is now in running order. H. H. was shown some of the sheets by Mr. F. L. Stone. They are printed on a very fine grade of onion skin paper and present a fine appearance.

Talking of exchange departments, what one can compare in enterprise with that of the Chicago society. Bradt always was a hustler though.

Something must be wrong with the A. P. A., was what H. H. heard one collector remark when he received the last A. P. *One hundred and thirty-eight* dropped and five resignations—and such names as Carter, Sanford, Hask-

ell, Gilbert, Wilcox and Leckie in the list. From the number of Chicago names is it to be considered our Chicago brethern think their local society sufficient?

The Beacon is publishing what some of the leading philatelists have said on the Chalmers—Hill controversy. It don't look as though Hill was entirely unsupported. By the way, where, oh! where is that committee of investigation appointed by the A. P. A.? Bros. "Hillites" don't rest until you get a repeal of that disgraceful Chalmers resolution which the A. P. A. was induced to pass two years ago.

Talking of the Hill—Chalmers, why can't Hooper, Wolsieffer and Davison stop their mud slinging and while they may differ on this great (?) question, yet refrain from personalities. Bury the hatchet brothers.

The first one of the new issue was shown H. H. by Bro. Aldrich and was a 2 cent purple. A few days later the same gentleman showed us the balance of the series except the four, five and ninety.

Enterprise, well I guess that the is name of it. *Post Card* No. 37 and less than a year old.

The Philatelic Almanac for 1890, is the title of a neat little pamphlet H. H. has received from Bro. Aldrich. The feature of the *Almanac* is a fabulated list of events, mostly philatelic, and a valuable and interesting fable it is. It should find a place in every philatelic library.

FREED!

Your choice of the following will be given to every yearly subscriber received during April.

1. 5 varieties Mexico.
2. 4 unused stamps.
3. 10 stamp papers.
4. 100 good stamps.

CURIO CO.,

Benson,

Minn.

Stamped Bank Checks!!

3 varieties entire, .05, postage 1c extra.
5 " " " .01, " " 9c "

Any one sending for the above, I will send some of my approval sheets at 25 per cent.

W. ALTHEN,

619 Cherry St., St. Paul, Minn.

5th Auction Sale.

—APRIL 20TH.—

Send bids to Curio Co., Benson, Minn. Bids by the piece. If lot contains 10 pieces and you will give \$1.00, make bid 10c.

- | | |
|--|-----|
| 1. 100 stamp papers, sold as | 1 |
| 2. 25 large papers. | 24. |
| 3. Tiffany's history of U. S. stamps, pa'r | 1. |
| 4. Senf's illust. album, good condition | 1. |
| 5. U. S. 1853, env. K die, on buff | 1. |
| 9. " " " ladies size, 2 var. | 2. |
| 7. " " " 4 var. | 4. |
| 8. " 1856 " 3 " | 3. |
| 9. " Faunces local, very fine | 1. |
| 10. " Eagle carrier stamps, ORIGINAL | 1. |
| 11. " Balto. carrier, 1c red | 1. |
| 12. " 1868, 90c GRILLED | 1. |
| 13. " Official seal, post obitum | 1. |
| 14. Confederate, Petersburg local | 1. |
| 15. " " 5c green, varieties | 6. |
| 16. " " 5c blue, var., pairs, etc. | 7. |
| 17. Mexico, 1872, set unused | 6. |
| 18. Sedang, set | 7. |
| 19. Persia official, set | 4. |
| 20. Same | 4. |
| 21. Samoa, set | 8. |
| 22. CURIO, file of 4 volumes | 1. |
| 23. Granite State Philatelist | 26. |
| 24. Capital City Philatelist, odd numbers | 25. |
| 25. Confederate war envelopes, fine and rare | 25. |

Don't forget the date April 20th.

BARGAINS!

See my monthly list of bargains in the Philatelic Tribune (now in its 8th volume). Sample copy FREE.

AGENTS WANTED

to sell stamps for me from my approval sheets at

40 PER CENT. COMMISSION.

Send reference and state about what priced stamps are desired. Packets 10c to \$10.00. Hinge paper, 6c sheet, 5 for 25c, best in the market. Best large, cheap collectors' directory reduced to 20c. Canadian Revenue stamp catalogue 15c paper, 30c cloth. Circulars and 25 varieties of stamps free for 2c stamp.

F. J. STANTON,
Smyrna, N. Y.

BACK NUMBERS! We have disposed of all files to Mr. E. R. Aldrich, but have a few of the numbers mentioned below, and will send on receipt of price:

Vol. 1, No. 2.....03

" 4, " 1.....02

CURIO CO., Benson, Minn.

Stamp Collectors' Journal,

LAKE VILLAGE, N. H.

Original throughout! Only TEN cents per year. 12 numbers guaranteed or money refunded. Sample FREE. Advertisements 20 cents per inch.

WANTED—Plates illustrative of U. S. History. E. R. ALDRICH, Benson, Minn.

Picture Advertising CARDS.

Send me 25 different ones and I will send you 250 fine stamps, or two elegant curios or 6 months subscription to CURIO.

BOX 13, Benson, Minn.

COLLECTORS!

I have some good Foreign stamps that I wish to exchange for good U. S. or Foreign stamps that are not in my collection.

W. K. MACKEY,
Pawnee City, Neb.

"ONE DIME,"


Is an 8 page and cover Philatelic paper published monthly, for only 10c a year, and if you send a 2c stamp extra I will send you a gypsum crystal, or 1 arrow head, or 1 piece of petrified moss, or 4 unused stamps, your name in Directory 1 time free. Exchange column free to subscribers. Advertising rates 35c per inch. The first five answering this and mention this paper will receive a nice present free. Send for a sheet of stamps on approval at 50 per cent. discount to beginners, promise to return in ten days and address

CHARLES W. PEUGH,
KOSSUTH, INDIANA.

PHILATELIC PRINTER.

I am prepared to do all kinds of Philatelic printing. Send stamp for estimates on any printing that you may want.

W. K. MACKEY,
Pawnee City, Neb.

 This paper is a specimen of my work.

PHILATELIC ANNUAL and THE CURIO 3 months, only 8 cents.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA.

Organized on a Popular Basis.

NO SUPPRESSION OF VOTES OR
OPINIONS.

Dues only \$1.00 per year.

*ALL DEPARTMENTS NOW
IN OPERATION.*

Full particulars may be obtained of the Secretary,

H. C. BEARDSLEY,
St. Joseph, Mo.

Please mention **THE CURIO** when answering advertisements.

T. J. MITCHELL,

348 FULTON STREET, CHICAGO.

U. S. and Foreign Postage and
Revenue Stamps of all kinds.

BLANK APPROVAL SHEETS

Fine linen paper, printed heading, ruled to hold 48 stamps, per 50, 30c; 100, 50c, postpaid. Used by a large number of dealers.

New Foundland, 5c 1876, used.....	8	04
Ecuador, 1r yellow 1865, ".....		07
" " ½ blue " ".....		02
Capec of Good Hope, 4d blue 1853, used.....	12	
" " " " 1d red " ".....		25
U. S. 3c 1870 grilled, used.....		04
" 2c " " ".....		08
" 1c " " ".....		12
" 1c " orange paper, used.....		08
" 1c " manilla " ".....		08
" 3c 1874 white " 'A'.....		08
" 3c " amber " ".....		12
" 2c 1875 red on cream, 'C'.....		08
" 2c 1873 P. O., lemon.....		08
" 6c " " ".....		08
" 3c 1853 white, die 1.....		40
" 3c " buff " 1.....		40
" 10c 1871 proprietary.....	25	
40 var. U. S. postage official and due.....	25	
35 " " document and match.....	25	
30 " " entire envelopes.....	40	
5 " " " postal cards.....	06	
8 " " " stamped bank checks.....	10	
3 " " " unused letter sheets.....	15	
100 varieties of stamps, including Java, Hawaii, Australia, Mexico.....	15	
110 varieties, including stamps from Can- ada, (Beaver), Turkey, Venezuela, Hon- duras, Porto Rico.....	20	
115 varieties, including stamps from Nic- aragua, Brazil, Egypt, Mexico official..	25	
1000 mixed stamps, postpaid.....	20	
1000 U. S. stamps from 25 to 35 varieties....	80	

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50 varieties stamp papers with covers
50 varieties without covers

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August

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A 2½x4 inch PRINTING PRESS given away FREE with 2 fonts of 2 rollers, ink, 50 cards and furniture. Send for terms and particulars. Be sure to mention this paper. See THE NA NEWS-LETTER.

Enterprise Stamp Co.

THREE RIVERS, MICH.

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

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Vol. VI.

BENSON, MINN., APRIL, 1890.

No. 1.

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Subscribe for and Advertise in

THE FARRAGO.

A monthly literary magazine for boys and girls. It has 12 pages and cover, overflowing with short and serial stories, sketches, poems, puzzles, &c.

Subscription 35 cents a year. Advertising 45 cents per inch. Circulation 1000 to 3000. Sample copy free.

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628 Hudson St., New York.

CURIOSITIES.

Pentremites, fine, .05
Elegant, .10
Ass't doz., .40
Petrified Moss, 5-25
Dozen, 15-6.00
Arrow Head, 5-40
Dozen, Ass't, 40-3.00

BOX 13, Benson, Minn.

A. P. A. Tickèt.

For President,

WILLARD C. VAN DERLIP, of Boston.

For Vice President,

S. B. BRADT, of Chicago.

For Secretary,

M. F. WALTON, of Philadelphia.

For Treasurer,

C. H. MEKEEL, of St. Louis.

For International Secretary,

HENRY COLTZ, of New York.

Blood's Dispatch.

BY ERA.

"Through Blood's the passage,
The only way
To send a message
Three times a day."

Thus read one of the advertising slips which were scattered over the city of Philadelphia by the enterprising Mr. Kochersperger, under whose able management Blood's Dispatch became the largest of the local mail carriers.

Started, almost contemporary with the introduction of postage stamps by the United States, by Daniel Otis Blood, it grew to be a dangerous rival to the government post, absorbing over two-thirds of the local mail of Philadelphia.

The post was started in a basement at 48 S. Third St., with four boys to collect and deliver. It was here that the first and most celebrated of its stamps, the large stamp with a man stepping over a street from one housetop to another, was issued. After the death of Mr. Blood the post was sold to Mr. Charles Kochersperger, who removed it to 28 South Fifth street. The dove variety is said to have succeeded the large square issue, but I believe the small rectangular "one cent" was earlier, as I have seen a specimen bearing the date of October 12, 1854. The "dove" stamp, not

being a favorite, was succeeded by the small rectangular designs, of which five varieties exist besides the one mentioned above. About 1855, Mr. Elbert Kochersperger became a partner, and the business was carried on under the name of "Blood's Penny Post, Kochersperger & Co., Proprietors," as is shown by the common variety with the circular portrait of Henry Clay.

Several varieties of stamped envelopes were issued between 1850 and 1862. In all twenty-three varieties of stamps and envelopes appear to have been brought out.

The charges made for letters to the post office was a cent apiece; for local letters, two cents apiece, twenty cents a dozen, while to large consumers stamps were sold eight dozen for a dollar.

Receiving boxes were scattered throughout the city, in different stores which displayed signs reading: "D. O. Blood & Co., City Dispatch. Box in Store."

Three deliveries were made; 7 and 10 A. M. and 2:30 P. M. In 1860 a later delivery was added.

In 1856 the office was moved to the Arcade, on Chestnut street, and in 1860 again removed to 26 South Sixth street. Suits having been entered against city dispatch companies, and the United States court having decided in their favor, Congress, in 1861, passed an act declaring the streets of a city post roads.

The following is the last announcement made by Messrs. Miller & Riley, the then proprietors of the post.

TO THE CITIZENS OF PHILADELPHIA—
The undersigned, proprietors of BLOOD'S DISPATCH, having been notified by the Post-office Department, through the Post-master of this city, that the business carried on by them was in contravention of the law, and having thoroughly investigated the subject, they feel convinced that the laws of the United States regulating the postal affairs of the country do not recognize their right to carry letters or mailable matter through the streets, lanes, and alleys of the city of Philadelphia, and being desirous of conforming to the laws

of the country, in every particular, hereby give notice that after SATURDAY NEXT, the 11th instant, they will cease to operate as a Dispatch post, or to carry any letter or other matter through the city of Philadelphia as heretofore. The entire control of this business has been relinquished to the United States Post-office Department, represented by Postmaster of this city.

In making this public announcement, we feel it but just to assure our former patrons and the public generally that, from the arrangements made by the Postmaster on behalf of the Department, the business will be carried on as much to the satisfaction of the community as though still under our control.

Some of the gentlemen who have so long and so successfully managed the business while in our hands have been employed in the same capacity by the Postmaster, which of itself is a sufficient guarantee that the service will be properly conducted. The arrangements have been made with especial regard to public convenience, and are as perfect as could be devised. The carriers selected by the Postmaster are both faithful and intelligent.

In thus retiring from the Dispatch, we cannot but thank the public for their appreciation of our efforts to serve them, and express the hope that they will favor the new regime with their patronage in the future.

HIRAM MILLER and
JOHN M. RILEY,

Proprietors.

Philadelphia, January 10, 1862.

Thus fell the greatest of the local deliveries of the United States, a company which could compete with and beat the postal authorities.

Postage was good,
Dispatch was better:
It was through Blood's
I sent my letter.

—*Philatelic Fortnightly.*

The delay in issuing this number was due to the sickness of the printer. Having now changed printers, we will endeavor to be nearer on time in the future.

Foreign Revenues.

A. L. D.

Shortly after I commenced collection (some two years ago) I received a sheet from an eastern dealer, containing nothing but the long bill stamps of Great Britain; being "struck" with their appearance I retained quite a number, and so started the foreign revenue part of my collection.

There is no question that there are many foreign revenues which present a much finer appearance than the postage labels of the same country, and again we meet with many countries or provinces that issue no postage stamps, such as Ireland, Ontario, many of the Swiss cantons Germanic provinces.

The only objection is that there is ground enough to cover while collecting postage stamps without stopping to notice revenues, but if you once try it you will, I am sure, prefer revenues to the postal issues.

The field is much broader and there many times more varieties. The most serious drawback is the want of a good catalogue, (there are to be sure French and German ones) and the need of more dealers handling them, but these would both come if collectors would but take more interest in this branch.

BY THE WAY.

[Continued from 6th page.]

Probably there is nothing on which dealers' prices differ so radically as "hand stamps." I have received specimens which could hardly be told apart, one of which was valued at \$5.00 and the other at 15 cents.

 Publisher's Notes.

We will give free to every person sending a year's subscription during May, a copy of the "Philatelic Annual" published by E. R. Aldrich in 1887.

We have in the past sent copies to several of our contemporaries, hoping to exchange, but received no copy in return. If we receive none this month we shall stop sending our paper.

We have been favored with a copy of "Aldrich's Philatelic Almanac" for 1890. It should be in every library.

 Prize Contest.

We have decided to submit to popular vote the following questions:

1. Who is the most interesting philatelic writer?
2. Who is the most interesting story writer?
3. Who has written the best article on the stamps of any one country?
4. Who has compiled the best catalogue?
5. Which is the best American stamp paper?
6. Which is the best British stamp paper?

The person who sends the list which is nearest to that which shall be voted correct, we will send, post free, a selection of Confederate stamps on original envelope, worth \$1.50. To the second, a selection of U. S. stamps worth \$1.00 and to the third a complete file of THE CURIO to date.

The only conditions imposed are that the contestant must be a subscriber. New subscribers may contest, if the price of subscription accompanies their vote.

 PENCILINGS.

 DIXON'S H. H.

In the April number of the *A. P. Bro.* Clotz is out with a new scheme for running the X department. The idea advanced is to make remittances to the Superintendent at the time of removing the stamps and thus doing away with considerable bookkeeping. Don't you think you are rather hard on the boys, Henry?

At last the long looked for *Metropolitan Philatelist* has appeared. It reminds one of the old *National Philatelist*, published by the New York society several years ago. With three New York societies back of it, it must be a success.

Postage stamp exhibitions seem to be in order this year. London is to have one in May, and later in the year one is to be held in Vienna, and lastly the A. P. A. at their convention in New York will hold one. Bro. A. P. A.'ites of the east, be sure to "put up" as good a "show" as our European brothers.

The March *Quaker City Philatelist* gives us a lot of light on De Velaye and the origin of the

postage stamp. How did you enjoy reading it, Chalmersites?

The one-cent postage scheme, to which the Republican party committed themselves in their platform in 1888 seems as far from adoption as ever. With full control of all branches of legislation it would seem as though they ought to carry out their pledges.

BY THE WAY.

ERA.

The way some Canadian exchange sheets which passed through my hands recently looked, a certain eastern dealer must be "long" on reprinted U. S. locals, especially Hussey's horseman series.

Several of our wholesale dealers seem to be quite anxious to unload German locals. Probably there is a good margin to the wholesaler.

The new red stamp seems to come in for a worse roasting than the old sickly green. The only redeeming one of the new issue I have yet seen is the ten-cent green. The size does not tend to make the design show off.

[Continued on page 4.]

AGENTS WANTED

To sell stamps from my unexcelled Approval Sheets at 30 p. ct. Comm

Farrand H. Borgman,

THE EFFORT 368 E. Congress St.,
Sample free. Detroit, Mich.

HARRY H. PIKE,

Duxbury, - Mass.

50 Varieties, used and unused stamps 10 c
Unused foreign stamp in every other pack
Agents' terms with every order.

A pair of lever nickel-plated skates for be
offer of stamps. Also 7 varieties of fore
coins for best offer of stamps.

Send 2c stamp for approval sheets.
1000 hinges 6c.

Geo. R. Brownlee,

Box 19, Galva, Ill.

◁ BOYS ▷

Go into the stamp business. I offer you an outfit at the very lowest price and on very easy terms.

Sheets to the value of \$10 and an inch ad in this paper for only

\$4.00

Cash down, \$1.00, and the balance in three monthly payments of \$1.00 each.

E. R. ALDRICH,

BENSON, - MINN.

BARGAINS!

See my monthly list of bargains in the Philatelic Tribune (now in its 8th volume). Sample copy FREE.

AGENTS WANTED

to sell stamps for me from my approval sheets at

40 PER CENT. COMMISSION.

Send reference and state about what priced stamps are desired. Packets 10c to \$10.00. Hinge paper, 6c sheet, 5 for 25c, best in the market. Best large, cheap collectors' directory reduced to 20c. Canadian Revenue stamp catalogue 15c paper, 30c cloth. Circulars and 25 varieties of stamps free for 2c stamp.

F. J. STANTON,
Smyrna, N. Y.

BACK NUMBERS! We have disposed of all files to Mr. E. R. Aldrich, but have a few of the numbers mentioned below, and will send on receipt of price:

Vol. 1, No. 2.....03
" 4. " 1.....02

CURIO CO., Benson, Minn.

Stamp Collectors' Journal,

LAKE VILLAGE, N. H.

Original throughout! Only TEN cents per year. 12 numbers guaranteed or money refunded. Sample FREE. Advertisements 20 cents per inch.

WANTED—Plates illustrative of U. S. History. E. R. ALDRICH, Benson, Minn.

**Picture Advertising
CARDS.**

Send me 25 different ones and I will send you 250 fine stamps, or two elegant curios or 6 months subscription to CURIO.

BOX 13, Benson, Minn.

COLLECTORS!

I have some good Foreign stamps that I wish to exchange for good U. S. or Foreign stamps that are not in my collection.

W. K. MACKEY,
Pawnee City, Neb.

"ONE DIME,"

Is an 8 page and cover Philatelic paper published monthly, for only 10c a year, and if you send a 2c stamp extra I will send you a gypsum crystal, or 1 arrow head, or 1 piece of petrified moss, or 4 unused stamps, your name in Directory 1 time free. Exchange column free to subscribers. Advertising rates 35c per inch. The first five answering thjs and mention this paper will receive a nice present free. Send for a sheet of stamps on approval at 50 per cent. discount to beginners, promise to return in ten days and address


CHARLES W. PEUGH,
KOSKUTH, INDIANA.

PHILATELIC PRINTER.

I am prepared to do all kinds of Philatelic printing. Send stamp for estimates on any printing that you may want.

W. K. MACKEY,

Pawnee City, Neb.

 This paper is a specimen of my work.

PHILATELIC ANNUAL and THE CURIO 3 months, only 8 cents.

THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA.

Organized on a Popular Basis.

**NO SUPPRESSION OF VOTES OR
OPINIONS.**

Dues only \$1.00 per year.

**ALL DEPARTMENTS NOW
IN OPERATION.**

Full particulars may be obtained of the Secretary,

H. C. BEARDSLEY,
St. Joseph, Mo.

Please mention **THE CURIO** when answering advertisements.

T. J. MITCHELL,

348 FULTON STREET, CHICAGO.

U. S. and Foreign Postage, and
Revenue Stamps of all kinds.

BLANK APPROVAL SHEETS

Fine linen paper, printed heading, ruled to hold 48 stamps, per 50, 30c; 100, 50c, postpaid. Used by a large number of dealers.

New Foundland, 5c 1876, used.....	8	04
Ecuador, 1r yellow 1865, ".....	04	
" 1/2 blue " ".....	02	
Cape of Good Hope, 4d blue 1853, used.....	12	
" " " id red " ".....	25	
U. S. 3c 1870 grilled, used.....	04	
" 2c " " ".....	08	
" 1c " " ".....	12	
" 1c " orange paper, used.....	08	
" 1c " manilla " ".....	08	
" 3c 1874 white " 'A'.....	08	
" 3c " amber " ".....	12	
" 2c 1875 red on cream, 'C'.....	08	
" 2c 1873 P. O., lemon.....	08	
" 6c " " ".....	08	
" 3c 1853 white, die 1.....	40	
" 3c " buff " 1.....	40	
" 10c 1871 proprietary.....	25	
40 var. U. S. postage official and due.....	25	
35 " " document and match.....	25	
30 " " entire envelopes.....	40	
5 " " postal cards.....	06	
8 " " stamped bank checks.....	10	
3 " " unused letter sheets..	15	
100 varieties of stamps, including Java, Hawaii, Australia, Mexico.....	15	
110 varieties, including stamps from Can- ada, (Beaver), Turkey, Venezuela, Hon- duras, Porto Rico.....	20	
115 varieties, including stamps from Nic- aragua, Brazil, Egypt, Mexico official..	25	
1000 mixed stamps, postpaid.....	20	
1000 U. S. stamps from 25 to 35 varieties....	80	

33 1-3 PER CENT. DISCOUNT

from my Foreign Approval Sheets and Books; 25 per cent. from my U. S. Sheets; reference required from those not members of Philatelic Societies—only the No. of the latter is necessary.

U. S. STAMPS.

1868, 15c black, unused, grilled, 8 35
" 24c lilac. " 1 73
Pairs, triplets and blocks of four on hand.
Foreign stamps sent on approval at 33 1/2 per cent. discount. Send for sheet.

BARTLETT BROS.,

South Amboy, - New Jersey.

I offer 100 different numbers of stamp, coin and curiosity papers of all kinds for only one dollar. Papers devoted entirely to collecting, are in good condition and sent postpaid on receipt of price. More than one-fourth are covered and dated every year since 1884. Address

J. R. CRAIGUE,

Jackson, - Minn.

The Star Pocket Printer.

The outfit consists of a 3 A font of type, neatly arranged in a box, with directions for use, a pair of tweezers, a type holder, an ink pad, and a bottle of ink. Price, complete, 25c.

We also put these up with a set of figures for 35c. Address

J. T. HANDFORD, Lincoln Park, N. J.

TO COLLECTORS!

Send for sample copy of the **Stamp Advertiser**, or 10c for a years subscription. A first class journal for collectors.

PHILATELIC LITERATURE.

50 varieties stamp papers with covers \$1 00
50 varieties without covers 75

Send at once to H. G. PARKS, Rock Bottom, Mass.

25 varieties rare stamps, catalogued by Scott at over \$1.25, only

27 CENTS.

No trash, but good desirable stamps. Remit by postal note. Agents wanted for sheets at 33 1/2 per cent. commission.

OREGON STAMP CO.

Augusta, Me.

BOYS!

A 2 1/4 x 4 inch PRINTING PRESS given away FREE with 2 fonts of type, 2 rollers, ink, 50 cards and furniture. Send for terms and particulars, and be sure to mention this paper. See CORONA NEWS-LETTER.

Enterprise Stamp Co.,

THREE RIVERS, MASS.

Editors inserting this and the above three times, can have pay in rubber stamps, not to exceed two dollars and not less than 50c dollar.

"THE CURIO."

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VI.

BENSON, MINN., MAY-JUNE, 1890.

No. 2.

A. P. A. TICKET.

For President,

WILLARD C. VAN DERLIP, of Mass.

For Vice President,

P. M. WOLSIEFFER, of Illinois.

For Secretary,

MILLARD F. WALTON, of Penna.

For Treasurer,

CHARLES GREGORY, of New York.

For International Secretary,

Wm. SELLSCHOPP, of California.

The above ticket is, we believe, a representative ticket of the whole country and not of any one clique or locality. The east is, to be sure, more heavily represented than any other section but owing to the fact that the east has by far the larger membership, this is but fair. The fact of our not supporting Mr. Tiffany for a reelection is not due to any fault on that official's part nor is it intended to be in any sense a criticism on the present administration. Mr. Tiffany has made an excellent officer and it is doubtful if any hand could have piloted us through the breakers which beset the early part of the voyage as well as he has, but at the same time we believe in rotation of office, and therefore cannot take kindly to the "third term" idea.

Our candidate, Mr. Willard C. Van Derlip, is our present Vice President. He is an old time collector, well versed in all collecting matters. He has at all times stood fairly and squarely by collectors in all their troubles with dealers. He is a man well worthy of being the chief of our organization.

Our nominee for Vice President is also too well known to need introduction to the collecting public. Mr. Wolsieffer is also a collector and has never been identified with any "printed to order" envelope or "Seeback" stamp deals,—in fact his own private interests have always been made subservient to the interests of our organization.

Mr. Wolsieffer also is the representative man of the Chicago society, which strong organization has now no representative in our official board.

For Secretary and Treasurer the present incumbents have our support.

Mr. Rechert has made an efficient International Secretary, but the third term issue is again in the way of his election. We doubt if any one can suggest a better man than our nominee, Mr. Sellschopp.

The London Exposition.

We extract from the letter of a correspondent the following account of this great show:

"H. R. H. The Duke of Edinburgh opened the show with a few appropriate remarks on May 19. Probably the greatest attraction show was either Mr. Tapping's Hawaiians or Maj. Evans' Afghans. The restored sheets of Mauritius and Australian colonies also came in for much attention. You would have been greatly disappointed in the exhibit of U. S. stamps, as they were very poor. Bacon however exhibited some fine proof, and some valuable locals were also shown.

A special feature was the selling of Jubilee post cards of which I understand only 10,000 were sold.

* * *

That the exhibition will advance the cause of philately is unquestionable. We may look for a large number of new beginners, and the London Society should have the heartfelt thanks of all collectors."

EDITORIAL.

Owing to circumstances over which we had no control, we are obliged to double up our May and June number. Our subscribers will however receive twelve numbers in 1890 just the same.

What could we have done to be punished by having the new 4 and 5 cent stamps sprung on us? Of all cheap John stamps the United Stamps has ever had, these take the cake.

The *Philatelist* is now the official organ of the P. S. of A. Let us hope this young society may now flourish.

◁ THE CURIO. ▷

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

CURIO CO.,

BENSON

MINN.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

U. S. and Canada per year.....	15c.
Postal Union Countries.....	25c.
South Africa and Australia.....	35c.

—ADVERTISING RATES—

Per Inch.....	\$.20
" Column.....	1.00
" Page.....	1.80

Special contracts on standing advertisements.

If this is marked, your subscription has expired. Please renew.

We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

Mr. E. R. Aldrich has practically retired from the stamp business. He was compelled to do this by press of other business.

Mr. N. E. Carter is back at Delevan, Wis. He will, we hear, re-assume publication of the *Badger*.

The appropriation for telegraphs, made from July 1st to December 31st, 1863, by the Confederate Government, was \$50,000.

The Stamp Collector's Journal.

Lake Village, N. H.

Original Throughout. Only 10 cents a year.

12 numbers guaranteed or money refunded.

Sample FREE.

Advertisements 20c. per inch.

**Papers.**

1 doz. Phil. papers - .07

1 doz. packages of above - .45

CURIO CO., Benson, Minn.

THE
PHILATELIC SOCIETY
OF AMERICA.

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 OR OPINIONS.

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 of the Secretary,

H. C. BEARDSLEY,

St. Joseph, Mo.

Please mention *The Curio* when
 answering advertisements.

WANTED.

Agents to sell stamps from my approval
 sheets, at 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. commission.

15 Cents

buys 100 assorted foreign stamps.

25 Cents

buys 50 South and Central American stamps.

I have on hand a large lot of rare stamps,
 more than I need for my own use, and I am
 quoting some cheap prices, to

DEALERS ONLY.

If you are a dealer send for quotations.

EXTRA commissions allowed agents on
 sales amounting to over \$3.00 during May,
 June and July.

COLLECTORS

will find my prices very low. If you are in
 want of any stamp or stamps, write to me for
 a price before you buy elsewhere.

Everyone

answering this advertisement will receive a
 stamp catalogued by Scott, N. Y., at 5c.

S. W. SCOTT,

DEALER IN

FOREIGN AND U. S. STAMPS,

1046 Iowa St.,

DUBUQUE - IOWA.

A Surprise.

A Surprise.

A Surprise.

\$30.20 FOR \$5.48.

Our latest "Standard Packet" No 31 contains 100 different Postage Stamps, genuine and all in first-class condition, comprising stamps as follows: Bolivia 10c. vermilion, unused; Siam provisional, 1 on 2 a; Argentine Republic, 24 and 60c. black; Italy unpaid 1 issue; one complete Set Transvaal 1883 Id.; Ish, complete unused; Scott 70c., Faridokot 2 sets perf. and unperf.; Scott \$1.20, Bosnia Revenues used postally; Spain '76, 4 pes. unused; China 1 Em., used; a fine line of "rare" Mexico including a set of 1864, Scott 65c., Set of 100 c. complete; Scott \$2.45; 3 Errors of 1872 to 1882 provisional 1 on 2 cts. Scott \$3, complete sets of Porte de Mar. col'd; Set of Persia Officials, fine used and unused stamps of Bosnia, Shanghai, China 1885, Columbia, Costa Rica, Hawaii, Guadeloupe, and last but not least, besides all those mentioned above, a fine lot of scarce U. S. stamps, such as unused State, Justice, War, 1864 envelope 2c. on orange entire, used Agriculture, Navy, &c., and besides that, each packet contains a rare 90c. purple of 1888 issue which are getting rare very fast. Not a single stamp in this packet that is worth less than 3c. each by Scott's 50th edition catalogue, while the average value of each stamp is over 30c. apiece.]

We mean exactly what is said above, i. e. to give \$30.20 worth of good valuable stamps for only \$5.48, "and guarantee this."

If stamps do not come to at least \$30.20 we will refund the money in every instance. We cannot afford to give away any prize stamp with this packet, but we will deliver you 100 rare stamps at very nearly our cost price, and that is away below regular wholesale prices. We feel assured that you will be more than pleased, but would remark, that no person can purchase more than one of these packets at a time. Packets are already made up and all orders can be executed promptly. We hope to be favored with your valued order, which we feel almost sure, will be followed by another. PRICE LISTS, ETC., FREE.

KINDLY ADDRESS

The Standard Stamp Company,

1115 South 9th Street, St. Louis, Mo.

"THE CURIO."

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VI.

BENSON, MINN., JULY, 1890.

No. 3.

Post Office Clerks.

In none of the new branches of women's work has continual progress been more clearly marked than in the General Post Office. It is only fourteen years ago since the experiment of employing women in the capacity of Civil Servants was first made. Lord John Manners, who was Postmaster-General at the time, admitted a small number of them "on trial." They did well, their number was increased, and at the end of four years the first forty women became regular Civil Servants. Thirty women began in the Savings Bank branch, while ten went to the Clearing House. The number of lady clerks at present employed in the Savings Bank is upwards of 250, and there are also some fifty paper-sorters. Another hundred are working at the Clearing House.

A third department of the General Post Office—the Postal Order branch—has since then been opened to women, one hundred and fifty of whom are employed as clerks, and seventy as sorters. It was primarily for the daughters of professional men only that the position was open. Since October, 1881, however, this rule has been abandoned, and any girl sufficiently educated is now free to compete for a vacancy. The competition has, on account of this change, been so enormous during the last four years that there is a whole army of girls always waiting for an opening, and on a recent occasion several thousand applications were made for forty vacancies. It may appear contradictory, but it is a fact that this rush for a position in a Government office is due less to the inability of women to find employment than to the better education now easily

obtained in elementary schools. Parents who themselves have only had the scanty education which was given in elementary schools a generation or two ago are apt to think that their daughters, with their greater store of knowledge, ought to enter some "genteel" profession, and not become domestic servants, as girls of the same class did in former years.

This mistake leads to the overcrowding of all so-called "genteel" professions, and brings about the scarcity of domestic servants so much complained of by the British matron. It is the same with young people of both sexes; every boy imagines that by becoming a clerk he holds a higher position in life than if he had chosen to be an artisan or a mechanic, and every girl fancies that she is a lady if she can do work at which she need neither wear a cap nor soil her hands.

There is no doubt that a position as Government clerk offers many advantages to a woman. Six working hours a day, with an interval of half an hour for luncheon—the luncheon or dinner must be taken on the premises, where a special dining-room and every comfort and convenience is provided—are certainly not too many; the salary is fairly good if one abstains from comparing it with that of the clerks of the other sex, who for precisely the same work receive three times the pay of the women; a month's holiday is given every year, besides the Bank holidays, and the full salary is paid in cases of illness for the first six months, and half the salary for the second six months. Another great consideration is that at the end of ten years a pension is granted to Post Office clerks if they are obliged to leave their situations on account of ill health. The pension amounts to one-

◁ THE CURIO. ▷

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BENSON

MINN.

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—ADVERTISING RATES—

Per Inch.....	\$.20
" Column.....	1.00
" Page.....	1.80

Special contracts on standing advertisements.

If this is marked, your subscription has expired. Please renew.

We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

sixtieth part of the present salary for each year of employment. Thus, a principal clerk, on leaving the Post Office after ten years' service, and whose salary was £150, would have £25 per annum for the rest of her life.

The training, so far as book learning is concerned, is easy enough. Girls between the ages of eighteen and twenty, who have had a sound elementary education, should be able to pass the preliminary examination in copying, dictation, and arithmetic without difficulty, and with a little "reading up" the competitive examination, which is held a few weeks later, and in which geography, history, and composition form additional subjects to the above, is also easy enough. It should be mentioned that these examinations are held in different large towns throughout the United Kingdom. After passing the competitive examination applicants for situations have to wait till vacancies occur or the staff is increased, and are then selected according to merit.

They receive their full salary from the beginning, although for the first six months they work only as probationers. Some of the girls are during these first months found to be unsuitable for the position, failing mostly in the chief requirement which is strictest accuracy.

(To be continued.)

The P. S. of A.

The season when collectors again take up their collections is fast approaching and every collector will soon be asking himself, "How can I best place myself in correspondence with the collecting multitudes and add to my collection?" The answer to this is undoubtedly "Join some good society."

Now just what society to join is the question that these remarks are intended to cover. The young collector, not necessarily young in years, but in collecting, will find that the Philatelic Society of America will answer his requirements better than any other.

The dues are so much lighter than those of the A. P. A. and really the real advantages derived are very nearly, if not entirely, on a par with the A. P. A.

A member recently showed me two exchange books, one of the P. S. of A. and one of the A. P. A., and the prices of the P. S. of A. sheets were on an average 20 per cent. below those of the older society and the quality of the stamps much better. To the more advanced class of collectors I will say that I had a P. S. of A. book pass through my hands in which the sheets were valued at from \$8.00 to \$20.00 a piece and price marked exceedingly low. Again I have found circulation in the department prompt, whereas cases of six or eight months or even longer are not uncommon in the A. P. A. Exchange Dept.* I have seen such stamps as New York post office stamps and a multitude of others worth from \$1

to \$10 on the sheets. At the same time sheets are circulated and stamps of 3 to 5 cents value freely taken.

Another department which has its advantages is the library. True, as yet, it is small, but it is slowly but surely growing and members have free use of it, the only expenses being the postage on periodicals consulted.

Then again through the purchasing department he may obtain stamps at prices much below what he would have to pay dealers. He can soon save the price of dues by using this department.

Again both the President and Secretary are well known and well posted philatelists, and always stand ready to give their council and advise on any questions asked by members.

These are but a few of the advantages that will be derived from joining the P. S. of A. We advise all our readers to address either the President, Mr. E. R. Aldrich of Benson, Minn., or the Secretary, Mr. H. C. Beardsley of St. Joseph, Mo., for application blanks or other information.

F. L. STONE, P. S. of A. 84.

*Since writing the above I have learned of a case where stamps were sent into the A. P. A. Department in May, 1889, *fifteen months ago*, and not yet returned, in fact they passed through the owner's hands about 2 months ago, in circulation

RARE STAMPS WANTED!

I will pay cash for good collections of stamps. Stamp Dealers of the World, 12c.; Stamp Collectors of the World, 12c.; Black List, 12c.; Stamps, How to Buy and Sell, 12c.; Premium Coin and Stamp List, 12c.; Philatelic Frauds, 12c.; Album space for 2,500 stamps, 25c.

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Lake Village, N. H.

The Stamp Collector's Journal.

Lake Village, N. H.

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Agents to sell stamps from my approval sheets, at 33½ per cent. commission.

15 Cents

buys 100 assorted foreign stamps.

25 Cents

buys 50 South and Central American stamps.

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If you are a dealer send for quotations.

EXTRA commissions allowed agents on sales amounting to over \$3.00 during May, June and July.

COLLECTORS

will find my prices very low. If you are in want of any stamp or stamps, write to me for a price before you buy elsewhere.

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We mean exactly what is said above, *i. e.* to give \$30.20 worth of good valuable stamps for only \$5 48. "and guarantee this"

If stamps do not come to at least \$30.20 we will refund the money in every instance. We cannot afford to give away any prize stamp with this packet, but we will deliver you 100 rare stamps at very nearly our cost price, and that is away below regular wholesale prices. We feel assured that you will be more than pleased, but would remark, that no person can purchase more than one of these packets at a time. Packets are already made up and all orders can be executed promptly. We hope to be favored with your valued order, which we feel almost sure, will be followed by another. PRICE LISTS, ETC. FREE.

KINDLY ADDRESS

The Standard Stamp Company,

1115 South 9th Street, St. Louis, Mo.

“THE CURIO.”

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VI.

BENSON, MINN., AUG., 1890.

No. 4.

Post Office Clerks.

(CONTINUED.)

Those who stand the ordeal have their appointment confirmed as 2d-class clerks, and as such they receive a salary of £65 a year, rising by £3 a year to £80. In the course of time second-class clerks may rise to the position of first-class clerks, who begin with a salary of £85, rising by £5 to £110; eventually they may attain to the position of principal clerks, with a salary of £120, rising by £10 to £170. The number of these senior appointments is naturally limited. A lady superintendent is at the head of each branch. Her salary rises from £185 to £300, and she is generally supported by an assistant superintendent, who has a fixed salary of £180. In all the branches of the General Post Office in which women are employed the salaries are the same, as is also the nature of the work, which consists in attending to all the intricate details, the strictest attention to which alone makes it possible to keep the enormous machine of the Post Office in motion. In the Savings Bank branch, for instance, where there is more mental work than in the two other branches, the Savings Bank accounts of all the postmasters throughout the country are balanced daily, warrants for the repayment of money are issued, the investments and sales of Government stock made by depositors are dealt with, the allowances due to postmasters on account of Savings Bank business are computed, and various other branches of work are performed, which space does not allow us to particularize. The Post Office annuity and insurance business, recently incorporated with the work of the Savings

Bank department, is also, I understand, in course of being transferred to the lady superintendent's staff. In the Clearing House the work is connected with telegrams, and in the Postal Order branch with postal orders. It is easy to see that if a girl has not a clear head and a good memory for figures she will not be suitable for work in the Post Office.

Another class of girls is employed as paper-sorters. These are admitted between the ages of fifteen and eighteen, and pass only a very slight entrance examination, their work being quite inferior to that of the regular clerks. The working hours of the sorters are from nine to five; their wages are from 12s. a week, rising to 16s., and they have a fortnight's holiday every year. There are also first-class paper sorters in the Savings Bank, with wages of 21s. a week, rising to 30s. After reaching the proper age, they are free to compete for a clerkship. The small number of cases of ill health which occur among the women employed in the Post Office shows that notwithstanding the fact that the work is altogether sedentary, it does not affect the health of the workers. At the same time delicate girls should not attempt the work, as they would, before the end of their six months' probation, find that they were unsuited for it. The late Postmaster-General, Mr. Fawcett, who instituted many improvements in the departments where ladies are employed, provided a lady medical attendant, to whom the clerks may apply if they wish for an exemption from work because of ill health. With few exceptions the lady clerks are fond of their work, and rarely leave their positions, unless, which is not unfrequently the case, they marry.—[*Pall Mall Budget*.

◁ THE CURIO. ▷

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ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

WILL IT SURVIVE?

The A. P. A. Surrenders to the N. Y. Clique.

THE CORWIN GANG RUNNING THINGS JUST TO SUIT THEMSELVES.

(Special to the Curio.)

NEW YORK, AUG. 10.—At last the agony is over and the Corwin-Calman clique victorious. At the last hour, almost, President Tiffany rendered a decision that Corwin was legally elected Vice President. It seems likely however that when the incorporation is completed that another election must be called. New York has been selected as meeting place again in 1891.

The N. Y. crowd also succeeded in abolishing the *American Philatelist* and making the *Metropolitan Philatelist* the official organ.

Such an action was entirely unexpected and will meet with little approval even here in the Corwin-Calman stronghold.

In fact the action of the convention all through will hardly tend to promote the welfare of the Association.

TIFFANY'S UKASE.

A DECISION WITHOUT PRECEDENT.

The decision of President Tiffany in relation to the Vice Presidential election is certainly in keeping with the manner that the entire Corwin campaign has been conducted. The idea that the changing of the constitution prior to the seating of the officers will legalize an illegal election is the height of absurdity. To take a similar case, would a murderer found guilty in Michigan and on whom judgement should not be passed, pending a stay of proceedings, until after a law had been passed authorizing capital punishment, be subject to the law passed after his conviction.

Following his decision in our election case our president would have to say yes.

Such decisions would certainly be a new departure.

Our only surprise is that Missouri should have overlooked our worthy president when selecting her supreme bench.

NON EST.

THE DOOM OF THE A. P. PRO- NOUNCED BY THE N. Y. CONVENTION.

The greed of the New York members of the A. P. A. is well illustrated by the suspension of the *American Philatelist*. Not content with having the Treasurer, International Secretary, and Board of Trustees, they must capture, legally or

illegally, the Vice Presidency, and then looking around for more they must have the official organ.

This action is likely to cause more dissatisfaction than all the other acts of the convention put together. The official organ struggle of two years ago is not yet forgotten by any means, the same feeling yet prevails with *all* loyal members of the Association that we should have an official organ published by the Association and not depend upon any paper published by individuals. The *Metropolitan Philatelist* is not by any means the representative stamp journal of America. It will hardly compare with the *American Journal of Philately*, and is certainly "distanced" by the popular *Philatelic Journal of America*.

If the *A. P.* must be abolished, the selection of its successor should be left to a popular vote of the Association.

Change in Name of Mexican Post Offices.

Post Office Department.

Office of Third Ass't P. M. General,

WASHINGTON, D. C., JUNE 21, 1890—

Postmasters are notified that registered letters for the city of Juarez, Mexico, (old name Paso del Norte) should be enclosed in register package envelopes and addressed to El Paso, Texas, and for Porfirio Diaz, Mexico (old name Piedad Negras) to Eagle Pass, Texas.

A. D. HAZEN, *Third Ass't P. M. G.*

Also decisions have been lately given admitting Queen Bees into mail for Costa Rica.

The Stamp Collector's Journal.

Lake Village, N. H.

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BENSON, MINN., SEPT., 1890.

No. 5.

An Outrage.

Such is Minnesota's Opinion.

NORTHWESTERN A. P. A.'ITES ROAST THE NEW YORK CONVENTION.

That the indignation of the western members of the A. P. A. is wide-spread, is well illustrated by the following expression of opinions:

Only two of Minnesota's members have failed to reply to requests sent them for their opinion on the New York Convention—Messrs McDonald and Sharp, both of St. Paul, and Mr. Kurtz's opinion is expressed indirectly, it being part of a conversation he had shortly after the Convention with Mr. Bourne.

Mr. Kurtz said in substance that the manner with which the N. Y. crowd, backed up by the Chairman, conducted things is an outrage which

the West ought to refuse to countenance.

Mr. F. L. Stone, one of our members, but one who is right up and down in expressing his thoughts, says:

“My opinion of the N. Y. Convention undoubtedly is nearly, if not quite the same, as that of every true, loyal western A. P. A.'ite. It seems to me that Tiffany's ruling on the election is decidedly wrong, and would have been worthy of some of the oriental despots to have made.

The abolition of the *American Philatelist* to further the interests of a personal investment like the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, certainly shows that the Corwin-Scott-Sterling combine did not consider their own interests second to those of the Association. Unless the members of our organization undo the mischief done, I believe the A. P. A. has outlived its usefulness.”

Mr. Hawley, who is an old member, (being No. 327) writes:

“In regard to the New York Convention of the A. P. A., I have already sent my request to the Executive Board that the question of discontinuance of the *American Philatelist* be submitted to a vote of the A. P. A. members. I fail to see how our President could declare Corwin elected. Both acts of the New York members were outrageous.”

Mr. Wm. Alther of St. Paul, says:

"I think it a contemptible trick to change the constitution so as to make Corwin's election legal. I, as well as most members, was surprised to learn of the abolition of the *American Philatelist*."

Mr. W. B. Bourne of St. Paul, who like Messrs Williams and Vorton, is a comparatively new member, is an old-time collector, and is "right out" against the N. Y. clique.

"In reading the only reports yet obtainable of the late lamented Convention, I find that Reed of Maine is not the only despotic chairman of which this country can boast. We have one who goes one step farther and pays no attention to parliamentary rules, and wholly ignores all precedents.

"There is, I think, no use in discussing Mr. Tiffany's rulings, as every one, including the New York clique, must admit that they were disgraceful.

"I also see that a certain Mr. Corwin (a model of disinterestedness) is carried away with the idea that it was the height of impudence for anyone except "a veteran proxy holder" to have anything whatever to say. Now for the benefit of Mr. Corwin, and any others who may hold the same idea, I will say that it is not always the one who talks the most that knows the most, and while Mr. Williams has not been a member of the A. P. A. as long as Mr. Corwin, I will venture to say that he is nearly as good a collector, if not quite, and has been *one as long as Mr. Corwin*.

"Now Mr. Williams, it so happens, did not write the letter that Mr. Corwin took exceptions to, but Mr. H. M. Norton wrote and Mr. Williams and myself endorsed it. Mr. Norton has been a collector for twenty-four years, and I am his junior only by one year in that line.

"Now if it is the policy of Mr. Corwin or any of the rest of the clique to try to shut out all new members from a voice in

the affairs of the Association, it is time for the Association to 'sit down hard' on him.

"I do not think that the rank and file of the Association will uphold a few upstarts who, simply because they have been in the Association longer than some other folks and come from the city of *monumental gall*, see fit to show their temporal power. I hope that the mischief can still be undone and the Association prosper."

Mr. H. M. Norton writes :

"As a new member of the A. P. A., I hardly feel warranted in criticising the work of the last Convention, though some of that work, as I have seen it reported, certainly seems strange.

"That the election of two, or even more, of the officers from the same State may be a good thing, or the reverse, for the Association, I do not feel qualified to judge; though I do not favor centralization. But that votes cast at an election for any member at the time ineligible under an existing constitution should be counted in the election, save as blanks, and that the constitution should be subsequently juggled to render such count valid, do seem matters within the sphere of any member's criticism. If it be well that more than one officer should reside in any one state, would it not have been well to bring that about in a straightforward manner? There was ample time apparently, before the Convention, to consider and discuss the question of incorporation. Was there not the same time to consider this question?

"From what I have learned since the Convention I am convinced that few of those members who were personally in attendance, and practically none of those represented by proxy, had any previous intimation of the fine Italian scheme there hatched to favor a private, though possibly a deserving, publication at the expense of the *American Philatelist*. This appears to have been an 'incorporation scheme' expected by but few. If I am correct in this view some members,

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ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

particularly those of longest standing, may have some sharp things to say regarding the use their proxies were put to in Convention, and I shall expect to see the new amendment permitting an appeal from the Convention to the members at large taken advantage of to test the actual wishes of the members in this matter."

Mr. J. F. A. Williams says:

ST. PAUL, MINN., September 3d, 1890.

E. R. ALDRICH, Benson, Minn.,

My Dear Sir: You ask what do I think of the proceedings of the recent A. P. A. Convention? There were two things which I think every member should give serious consideration.

1st: The election of officers.

2nd: The abandonment of the official publication of the Association.

I am a new member, and according to Mr. Corwin's idea, my opinions must be taken *cum grano salis*. By the way, how long must a person be a member of the A. P. A. before he acquires all its privileges, and is entitled to express an opin-

ion? The election of Messrs Corwin and Rechert was a farce. The votes were cast and the election decided, before the constitution was changed. The mere announcement of the vote by the Board of Trustees, had no effect upon the election. It was not within their power to change a single vote, and clearly under the provisions of the constitution at the time the votes were cast, Messrs Corwin and Rechert could not both hold office at one and the same time. To quote from Mr. Corwin's speech: "It was a hard fight but we got there." True, but the way they "got there" was a direct violation of the constitution. To have an election that is clearly unconstitutional, and then juggle the constitution to legalize it, is establishing a dangerous precedent, which I believe if followed out would endanger the very existence of the Association. Will the members quietly submit to such a proceeding?

In abolishing the *American Philatelist*, I believe the interests of the Association have been sacrificed to gratify personal ends. Surely our Association is large enough and of sufficient importance to publish and control an official journal, and I feel certain that a large majority of the members of the Association would much prefer to contribute to the expense of such a publication, if necessary, rather than have any private paper made the official organ of the Association, and we certainly have within our ranks abundant ability to manage and edit the publication. I trust soon to see, under the new amendment adopted, the official organ published and controlled by the Association. I do not doubt the ability of the officers declared elected, and I do believe we should have the best and most capable men in the Association for officers, irrespective of where they reside, but as long as we have a constitution let us strictly live up to its provisions. I earnestly protest against the "rule or ruin" policy manifested in the recent A. P. A. Convention.

Of course it is hardly fair for the editor to publish the opinions of others without being willing to put forth his own. To all my correspondents it is a well-known fact that prior to election I favored first and placed in nomination Mr. Bradt for the Vice Presidency. Afterward at Mr. Bradt's request I withdrew his name and supported Mr. Wolsieffer. When the ticket with two New Jerseyites on it was "trotted out" I immediately mailed the secretary of the Board of Trustees a protest against counting such votes as contained the names of more than one candidate from a single state. President Tiffany immediately helped Scott, Corwin, *et al* out by declaring a vote legal even if the candidates voted for all *five places* were from the *same state*. My proxy was placed with Mr. Mekeel with the instructions to use it for the welfare of the *entire society*, and not for any one man or clique.

That the decision of President Tiffany, seating a man *who was never legally elected*, a man who is said to have nominated himself, a man who is said to have written to members who voted for other candidates, asking if they had not made a mistake, a man who showed himself all for *self*—cannot be regarded as tending toward harmonizing the different elements of the society.

That such a decision is ridiculous cannot be denied.

That Corwin, by Tiffany's *ex post facto* decision, has carried the day temporarily is true, but "it was a

hard fight" and much of it was sprung without warning, and today the anti-Corwin element is much stronger than before the convention.

There is probably nothing that shows up Corwin better than Ex-Vice President Bogert's letter in the last *Metropolitan Philatelist*.

The action of expelling a member without allowing him a chance to defend himself is rank injustice, and savors too much of the olden time Star Chamber methods. Gag rule cannot nor will not carry out the ends of justice.

The changing of the exchange department into a sales department will not tend to cause members to patronize it.

The official organ action will, I believe, be rescinded by the Association. In fact I think all the old members who remember the abolition of the first *American Philatelist* will do all in their power to keep up the Association's organ and not surrender its interests into the hands of any private individual.

That the Association should give \$300.00 to the *Metropolitan Philatelist* is no doubt fair, and would help out the publishers in fine shape, and considering the cost of circulars, postage, etc., expended by some of those individuals in securing proxies to further the welfare(?) of our Association might be highly just, but would it not have been better for them to have come out and asked for assistance, rather than going at it in a roundabout way?

E. R. ALDRICH.

“THE CURIO.”

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VI.

BENSON, MINN., OCT., 1890.

No. 6.

In the Hallway.

When I kissed her that night in the hallway

'Twas so dark that nothing was plain;

And not being sure but I'd miss her,

Why, 'twas right I should kiss her again.

There was darkness on everything round us;

I was reaching in vain for the door,

And while I was seeking an exit

It so happened I kissed her some more.

And I wasn't quite sure that I left her

As to whether she liked it or not;

But I know that I sighed to be back there

The further away that I got.

And the next time I called it so happened

That we stood in the hallway once more,

And the gaslight fell over and round us

As I quietly moved to the door.

But her red cheeks so roguishly dimpled,

And her eyes shone so wickedly bright,

That I guessed where her thoughts were a-
straying,

And I reached up and turned out the light.

—Selected.

ANOTHER KINGDOM.

The organic kingdom includes all matter having in its structure organs for its nutrition and growth. Under our present system of classification this great kingdom has been divided into two lesser kingdoms, the animal and the vegetable.

This division seems to be complete until we study the more minute

forms, then we find large numbers that are jostled back and forth from one to the other, and are never thoroughly settled in either.

However easy it may seem at first sight to draw an exact line between animals and vegetables, we will discover when we stop to reflect on the many characters that the two have in common, that it is impossible to make exact rules for the one which will exclude all the members of the other. As a proof of the need of a better system of classification we will call attention to a few of the imperfections of the one in use.

If we were called upon to define each we might say: An animal is a sentient being, with the power of voluntary motion, receiving nourishment through a mouth into an internal stomach, deriving nourishment from organic matter and propagated by ova.

A plant is an organized body, destitute of sense and voluntary motion, deriving nourishment through pores on its surface, adherent to some other body, propagated by seeds, and deriving nourishment from inorganic matter.

These definitions would be practically correct but not strictly so.

Let us now consider some of the exceptions to the rules and the characters that are common to both

classes.

In the ova of animals and in the seeds of plants we find a common structure.

Each has a hard or tough external protective layer; within this is the nutritive layer, where the supply of food for the germ it contains is stored; when this supply is exhausted the germ is sufficiently developed to seek food from without. In a point of resemblance we find that the seeds of the confera (jointed water weeds) can hardly be distinguished from some of the animalculæ.

To the rule that animals live on organic and plants on mineral matter we make exceptions as follows:

Fungi live on decaying vegetable substance, and the minerals form no small part of the tissues of the higher animals; as two-thirds of bone is mineral, and every nerve tissue has from two to three per cent. of mineral in its composition.

In structure we find that plants and the lower animals are made up of a multiple of minute cells grouped together, with a cellulose wall or outer covering, and all animal tissue while forming has a cellular structure as to form. No fixed law will reach all. Among the compound animals which are often mistaken for sea weeds, are the bryzoa, which grow in clusters on rocks and shells, have long cylindrical bodies with a mouth at one extremity, which is surrounded by arms for the prehension of its food. By the secretion of calcareous matter they pro-

duce coral forms or coral.

They have no special organs of sense, multiply by buds and artificial sections as well as by ova, yet these are classed as animals.

The coral grows and branches like trees, and buds and blossoms like the rose.

The power of motion is not possessed by all animals, as oysters, sponges and barnacles are stationary, while scores of cryptograms are known to move by their cilia, which are identical with those of some of our microscopic animals. Diatoms are seen to move in their beds of slimy water, their motion being due to the imbibing and emitting of fluids.

Plants as a rule take up carbonic acid and discharge oxygen, but mushrooms, germinating seeds, opening flowers and all plants in the dark discharge carbonic acid.

Volition is wanting in many of the lower animals, while some of the higher plants show excitability, sensibility and irritability.

Both have a circulatory system and their chemical composition is much the same.

From these facts it will be seen that a large number of organized individuals cannot be classed in either of the present kingdoms.

We favor the plan of an eminent naturalist who suggests a third kingdom for this large family. This suggestion however has not met with general approval, and the scientific world is waiting for a better one.

TRIOLETS.

George Macdonald, the well known English novelist, has been a devotee of the triolet; so has Justin H. McCarthy, the English politician and historian, but of all triolets I ever read, I liked the set of three by a countryman—the author of *Caps and Bells*—Mr. Samuel Mintuon Peck. Mr. Peck, moreover, has gained English recognizance, I am glad to say, and the following from his pen I quote from an English collection of triolets as the most excellent therein contained:

UNDER THE ROSE.

He—(*Aside.*)

"If I should steal a little kiss,
Oh, would she weep, I wonder?
I tremble at the thought of bliss,—
If I should steal a little kiss!
Such pouting lips would never miss
The dainty bit of plunder;
If I should steal a little kiss,
Oh, would she weep, I wonder?"

She—(*Aside.*)

He longs to steal a kiss of mine—
He may, if he'll return it:
If I can read the tender sign,
He longs to steal a kiss of mine.
'In love and war'—you know the line,
Why cannot he discern it?
He longs to steal a kiss of mine—
He may, if he'll return it.

Both—(*Five minutes later.*)

A little kiss when no one sees,
Where is the impropriety?
How sweet amid the birds and bees
A little kiss when no one sees!
Nor is it wrong, the world agrees,
If taken with sobriety.
A little kiss when no one sees,
Where is the impropriety?"
In these Mr. Peck has reached the

height of triolet making and, while there are many passable specimens of the form, I feel assured you will fail to find any English or American so dainty, so suggestively delicate, and at once so animated.—JOHN G. KUGLER, in *Dilettante*.

A Fine Display.

N. T.

One of the most noticeable displays made at the Ninth Annual Fair of Swift County, held at Benson, Minn., the last two days of September was that of the CURIO's philatelic editor, Mr. E. R. Aldrich. Not being deeply versed in the mysteries of "stamp crankism," I fear I can hardly do the display justice. It occupied the entire southeast corner of the main hall and was contained in seven large frames. The display consisted of United States and Confederate stamps only. The most conspicuous part of the Confederate portion was four entire sheets of different values.

I was assured by the exhibitor that the U. S. postal portion was complete save two of the 1870 issue and a few minor varieties. A superb set of periodicals was displayed, an unsevered trio of the first ten-center, a rare St. Paul hand stamp (said to be unique). elegant specimens of essays and a number of die India proofs.

A frame of Confederate stamps on original envelopes, many being illustrated war envelopes, was also one of the prominent sights, some others being evidently of home manufacture, out of circulars, wall paper, etc., all showing the spirit which infused the south in those days when they did (as the motto of one of the envelopes was):

"Stand firmly by your cannon,
Let ball and grape-shot fly;
And trust in God and Davis,
And keep your powder dry."

◁ THE CURIO. ▷

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

CURIO CO.,

BENSON

MINN.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

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Postal Union Countries.....	35c.
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—ADVERTISING RATES—

Per Inch.....	\$.35
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Special contracts on standing advertisements.

If this is marked, your subscription has expired. Please renew.

We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

PROSPECTUS!

Among other good things which we have on hand and will shortly publish we mention the following, a series on

WAR ENVELOPES. These papers by a prominent philatelist.

SHAKESPEARE A MYTH. A series showing conclusively that Bacon wrote what we usually term the Shakespeare dramas.

THE MISSING LINK, a paper by a prominent medical gentleman on the Darwinian theory.

THE STUDY OF FACES. An intensely interesting study in physiognomy, from the same pen as contributes the article "Another Kingdom" in this number. Extremely fascinating.

How do you like us in our new shape?

To the first twenty-five persons sending in their subscriptions we offer free a paper covered novel such as is usually sold for 25 cents. You thus get your subscription free.

Subscribers should not neglect to participate in our prize contests. If you are not a subscriber, subscribe and compete.

Contributions always thankfully received.

Philatelic Jottings.

EXA.

Just after the September number went to press, Mr. M. A. McDonald forwarded his opinion of the New York convention. It was just the same kind of a one as the rest of Minnesota's A. P. A'tes had.

To the victors belong the spoils—Messrs. Calman and Corwin did not get left, but where does Sterling's share come in?

What's the matter with the A. P. A. application list? Has the combine frightened applicants away?

Are you a stamp collector? If so, join the P. S. of A. This society numbers many of the more notable collectors in its ranks, and has a fine *exchange* department. Write the Secretary, H. C. Beardsley, St. Joseph, Mo., for information.

The vote on the A. P. amendments has been called, and blank ballots sent members. The wording seems to be purpose-

ly fixed to "help out" the Metropolitan side. Bogert is making a manly fight the right way, and says in this month's *Philatelic World*:

"As the ballot reads, it is a vote for the *Metropolitan Philatelist*. In order to defeat the scheme of the proxy holders it is necessary to effectually erase the word 'NOT' in both sentences. Examine the ballot carefully and see that this is done. Don't make a mistake."

PENCILLING.

DIXON'S H. H.

Why isn't the vote on the *A. P.* amendments taken by secret ballot? H. H. understood that such an amendment was adopted at New York.

Did the *A. P. A.* members notice the wording of the *A. P.* ballots? Prepared to help out the clique, wasn't they?

H. H. hears that the usual crop of new stamp papers are about to spring up. Well, success boys!

With such men as are coming in, the *P. S. of A.* seems bound to succeed. Walton, Watson, Jewett, Kurzweg and Stanton are among the recent recruits.

What's the matter with Bogert for President of the *A. P. A.* in 1892? His course is such that the West could well support him.

QUERIES.

The Editors will answer any questions that may be within their power to. Inquiries of personal nature only will be answered by mail if postage is enclosed, otherwise no notice will be taken of them.

R. S. T. There is no premium on the 1861 half dollar.

L. E. S. January 1st, 1847, fell on Friday.

B. (Knoxville.) The date usually assigned to the Trojan war is 1284 B. C.

R. F. Send on your article on archæology.

PRIZE CONTESTS.

Open to Subscribers Only.

We will award on December 1st the following prizes:

For the best article on any philatelic subject an International Album. Article to contain not less than 500 words or more than 750.

For the best article on any historical subject a bound copy of Simm's celebrated historical novel, "Katherine Walton." Article to contain between 500 and 1000 words.

Guessing Contest.

CLOSES NOV. 20.

We will send to the subscriber guessing the nearest to the number of "i"s on the first page of our December number a rare Mexican stamp catalogued at \$5.00.

The Northmen and Early America.

(Translated for the CURIO from the Norwegian of D. SCHÖYEN.)

The first discovery of America was due, according to the sages, to different Northmen, who independent of each other found their way to this land.

Are Marson, an Icelandic chief, went, so it is said, about the year 982 to Great Ireland, or "Hvit Manuel (white man's) Land" (coast between the Potomac and Florida), Bjarne Herjulfson voyaging in 1000 from Iceland to Greenland was driven by a storm to the coast of Newfoundland, Leif Ericson, Thorvold Ericson, Thofinn Karlsfne and Fregdiis Ericdater, with a number of companions sojourned in Vinland (supposed to be New England) for several years (1001-8) and lastly Bjerne Asbrandson, about the year 1000, went from Iceland to Florida, where he became a chief among the natives.

It is probable that the Icelanders were not the original discoverers, but that they received their first knowledge from Ireland, for between Ireland and America in high antiquity there was communication and as it is admitted that the Celtic element of the Icelandic people have had its influence on their traditions and poems, so likewise it is probable that the Irish first brought their news of Great Ireland (America) to Iceland.

This much is usually admitted that the Northmen from Norway, Iceland and Greenland, during the period from 1000 up to the middle of the fourteenth century visited the American mainland, that in the year 1121, the Catholic bishop, Eric, went from Greenland to Vinland to plant the gospel there, that the Norwegian king, Eric Magnusson, between 1285 and 1295, assisted a man named Finde Rolf to plant

a colony in Newfoundland, and lastly that the last knowledge of direct communication between the Northmen on both sides of the ocean was in 1347, when a ship sailed from Markland (Nova Scotia) to Norway and passed Iceland on the way.

The political complication and the Black Death in the middle of the fourteenth century depopulated alike Norway and Iceland so that most of their foreign commerce and their communications with lands on the other side of the Atlantic was entirely broken off.

Although it is thus well known that the Northmen have known America long prior to Columbus, it is not known what the extent of their discoveries were. It may be deduced from their writings of the land that they reached the temperate regions. It is also believed that they were as far south as St. Augustine, Fla. Their investigations also extended far northward and in 1135 they built a round beacon tower with runic inscriptions on it on the west coast of Greenland (73 deg. 55 min. N.) In a northwesterly direction they came to Lancaster Sound.

Diabolical Proverbs.

Compiled for the CURIO by A. A.

"Bad as he is, the devil may be abused:
Be falsely charged, and causelessly accused,
When men, unwilling to be blamed alone,
Shift off those crimes on him which are their own."
—DEFOE.

"Give the devil his due."

"'Tis a sin to belie the devil."

"The devil is not always at one door."

"Hell is wherever heaven is not."

"Hell and Chancery are always open."

"Hell hath no limits, nor is circumscribed."

"The devil's meal is half bran."

"The devil is never so black as he's painted."

"They run fast whom the devil drives."

"Your adversary, the devil, cometh as a roaring lion."

"The devil can quote scripture for his purpose."

"The devil is good when he is pleased."

"Tell the truth and shame the devil."

"Resist the devil and he will flee from thee."

"Talk of the devil and he's sure to appear."

"An idle brain is the devil's workshop."

"Idle men are the devil's playfellows."

"The devil hath power to assume a pleasing shape."

"He that taketh the devil into his boat must carry him over the sound."

"And seem a saint when most I play the devil."

"It's an ill battle where the devil carries the colors."

"He must have a long spoon that must eat with the devil."

"Where God builds a church, there the devil builds a chapel."

"Hell is paved with good intentions."

"When the devil is sick, the devil a monk would be:

When the devil got well, the devil a monk was he."

"We paint the devil black, yet he hath some good in him, all agree."

"Culture, which renders man less like an ape,

Has also licked the devil into shape."

"From his brimstone bed at the break of day,

Awaking, the devil is gone

To visit his snug little farm, the earth,

To see how his stock goes on."

Good people, all who play with the devil,
Be warned by what I say;

His credit's long, and his tongue is civil.
But—you'll have the devil to pay.

The Chestnut Sided Warbler.

DENDROECA PENN.

During the past season more nests of this species were observed in different places, in this vicinity, than in any other year, which seems to indicate that it is becoming more abundant. The scolding notes of this bird are a sharp "chirp," but its song is the repetition of one or two soft but pleasing notes uttered more in the tone of a loud whisper than in the higher voice of melody, usual to many of the warblers; yet when under its impulses the performer seems to be in the enjoyment of supreme happiness, and doubtless obtains as much of that desirable element as falls to the lot of human mortals. The eggs of this species are of a clear white hue, beautifully spotted, especially at the larger end, with brownish-purple, size .65 x .49, and when the first set is taken it will soon afterwards nest again, but the month of June is with it the chief period of reproduction. The general habitation of this species is in low, thick, second-growth hard woods, where the ground beneath is dry, and where there is an intermingling of young maple, beech, and raspberry vines, and usually not far from the edge of the open fields—for it seldom penetrates, at least for nesting purposes, more than a few rods into the high, thick woods. It seems to be rather sociably inclined, not only with its own kind, but also towards other species of the Warbler family, and several nests may sometimes be found in the same vicinity, and near to that of the Redstart, or Indigo Bird, but its nest is always near to the ground, seldom more than an elevation of two or three feet.—WM. L. KELLS, in *Oologist*.



JEWETT'S



PHILATELIC LIBRARY.

No. 1 of this valuable series of Hand-books was published last season under the title of

THE STAMP COLLECTORS' DICTIONARY AND GUIDE.

It consists of 64 pages and cover and contains much that is valuable to collectors, such as a dictionary of philatelic words and phrases, a list of watermarked stamps, list of devices found on stamps, notes, etc. The book should be in the hands of every collector. Price 10c.

Read what the Press says of it:

"Jewett & Lyons' 'Stamp Collectors' Vest Pocket Dictionary and Guide' contains a reference list of philatelic words, terms, devices, watermarks, etc., and is well worth the 10 cents asked."—*American Philatelist*.

"Is a credit to the publishers. It contains a lot of information in small space."—*Dominton Philatelist*.

"It is a very handy Manual and Reference List * * * is well gotten up."—*Stamp World*.

No. 2 is now out and contains over 30 pp. of interesting matter, titled
HANDBOOK ON COUNTERFEITS.

By W. W. JEWETT.

It contains much information of value to every stamp collector or philatelist and by a frequent reference to it a collector can easily guard himself against counterfeits and save himself many times its price.

Besides its lists of counterfeits with points to aid in their detection the work contains a number of interesting articles on counterfeiting and counterfeiters.

The price is low and every collector should have a copy.

Price, postpaid, 10 cents.

No. 3 is in press and will be published about November 15th.

Every collector should have a copy of
Ten Days with a Modern Stamp Dealer.

By E. P. NEWCOMER.

It relates in an original, thrilling manner what was seen and heard by the author during a ten days visit with a metropolitan stamp dealer.

Mr. Newcomer the author is a well-known philatelic writer whose popularity is rapidly increasing and he has placed his best efforts on this work.

We are now booking orders and the indications are that it will have a large sale. Order a copy at once and receive it as soon as issued.

Price, postfree, 10 cents.

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Library is an excellent advertising medium and that an advertisement in one number will be read by TEN times as many collectors as the same advertisement would if inserted in a stamp paper. Again our Library is not read and cast aside after a hasty reading like most stamp papers, but is saved for re-reading and frequent reference. Then again an advertisement in our Library appears to better advantage as it does not have to compete with so many other advertisers' announcements. It is left to you to decide whether you care to test its value or not. If you don't, you miss it. Each number has a guaranteed edition of 1000 copies. A few advertisements will be accepted from reliable advertisers only, at the following low rates:

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Portland, Me.

"THE CURIO."

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VI.

BENSON, MINN., NOV., 1890.

No. 7.

The Sweetheart of the Period.

BY ELLA WHEELER.

I whispered in my darling's ear,
"Sweet, do you love me yet?"
She blushed, then came in accents clear
The soft reply, "you bet!"
"Oh, I could die for you," I cried,
"My charming, winsome elf!"
She lifted up her eyes and sighed
"I know how 'tis myself."
"My dar—," "oh, hush for goodness sake,"
She cried, "or pa will hear,
And such a row and fuss he'll make
You'd walk off on your ear."
He waited breathless till a creak
Was heard up overhead.
"There, now," said she, "twill do to speak;
He's in his little bed."
She nestled closely at my side,
With most confiding manner,
Said I, "I want you for my bride,"
Said she, "That's what ails Hanner."
"Then let the blessed day be soon,"
I breathed with anxious sigh;
Said she, "we'll say the fourth of June,
How will that do for high?"
I clasped her to my throbbing breast;
My heart o'erflowed with joy.
She sighed, her cheek to mine close prest,
"You are a brick, my boy."
I told her she was sweet and fair
As angels in the sky;
She said, "don't flatter, sir, take care!
That all is in your eye."

I said she was the queen of girls,
The rarest girl e'er born;
She laughed and shook her sunny curls,
"I am, yes, in a horn."

I whispered, bending down my head,
"Your lips are like a cherry;"
She took my meaning—laughed and said,
"Well, I'm your huckleberry."

The clock struck twelve while thus we sat,
Breathing the old, old story;
"No, no," she said, "don't get your hat,
We are all hunkydory."

'Twas thus I wooed and won my Grace
With the charms that so adorn her,
And she says the wedding must take place
In the "church around the corner."

CLOUDS.

A. H.

Clouds—a rather airy subject—are moisture evaporated from the earth and again partially condensed in the upper regions of the air. Clouds differ from fogs only by being elevated over our heads while fog come in contact with the surface of the earth.

Clouds are higher on a fine, warm day, being lighter and more bouyant because the vapor of the clouds is less condensed and the air itself on a bright, sunny day retains

much of the vapor in an invisible form.

Clouds float in the air because they are composed of very minute globules which are lighter than the air. An every day illustration can be found in soap bubbles.

The main cause of the clouds accumulating is the changes of wind, for if a cold current blows suddenly over any region it condenses the invisible vapor and clouds appear and generally rain ensues, but, if on the other hand, a warm current of air suddenly prevails it disperses the clouds by rendering the vapor more highly rarified. The prevalent fogs of London and the cloudy condition of Great Britain is due to variable winds, and the comparatively rainless condition of Egypt to their absence.

The distance of elevation of clouds vary, some being elevated far above the highest mountain tops, while others, owing to greater condensation, touch even the top of trees and church spires.

The average height is between one and two miles.

The clouds are not all alike, but vary greatly in density and appearance and for this reason are usually named and described as the cirrus (the most elevated and feather like clouds), the cumulus (the massy, fleecy looking ones), the stratus (the striped one, the so-called mackerel sky belongs to this variety) and the nimbus (the dark rain cloud).

WAR ENVELOPES.

I.

One of the most interesting studies of the relics of the late unpleasantness, to my mind at least, is that of the pictorial envelopes issued by a stationer on both sides of Mason and Dixon's line.

Of course as would seem natural, those of the Confederacy are both of superior quality, both as to paper and engraving (this is of course only a general remark for there are "exceptions to all rules"), and when we consider the condition of both sections this is only natural.

The use of these emblematic envelopes by the South, during the latter years of the war was of rare occurrence and straw paper covers, old envelopes turned and re-used, wall paper and old circulars made into envelopes are more frequently met with. Of course the sapping of the resources of the South explain this, for neither men nor material were left for manufactories. On the other hand, the loyal Unionists of the North continued even to the end of the war to use their symbolic envelopes.

As a natural result the pictorial envelopes issued from Confederate sources are by far the rarer and more valuable.

I will briefly describe a few in my possession.

No. 1. The entire face of the envelope is a representation of the Con-

federate flag in color. Although many of the relics of the lost cause have passed through my hands, this like the next described, is the only one of the design I ever saw.

No. 2. A small envelope, evidently for ladies use, with the Confederate flag embossed without color, in the upper left corner.

No. 3. Found on several colors of paper. Flag in black upper left corner, to right of which is the poetical sentiment.

"Bright banner of Freedom, with pride I unfold thee,

Fair flag of my country, with love I behold thee:

Gleaming above us in freshness and youth
Emblem of liberty, symbol of truth;
For the flag of our country in triumph shall wave,

O'er the Southerner's home and the Southerner's grave."

No. 4. Design same, but verse under picture. Manufactured by W. & J. Bonitz of Goldsboro, N. C.

No. 5. Design same with following verse:

"Gather around your country's flag,

Men of the South! the hour has come—
None may falter, none may lag;

March to the sound of the fife and drum."

No. 6. Flag in color, surmounted by streamer Southern rights, below motto "Let us alone." Probably issued just at the breaking out of the war.

No. 7. Flag in black, various colored papers, motto—

"On, on to the rescue, the Vandals are coming!

Go meet them with bayonet, sabre and spear;

Drive them back to the desolate land they are leaving,

Go, trusting in God, you'll have nothing to fear."

Printed by J. W. Randolph, Richmond, Va. This is one of the most frequently met with designs.

No. 8. Another one of the Bonitz Bros. designs. A belching cannon surmounted by the "stars and bars," underneath the verse,

"Our father's faith let us keep to death,
Their fame to its cloudless splendor;
As men who stand for their mother land,
And die but never surrender.

With the cannon's flash, with the cannon's crash,

With the cannon's roar and rattle,
Let Freedom's sons, with the gleaming guns,

Go down to their country's battle."

Probably issued not earlier than 1863.

The Rivadavia Series.

While examining my collection a short time since, I observed, a great difference between a number of the 5 centavos stamps of the "Rivadavia Series" and upon closer inspection I have discovered two marked varieties, *a large and a small figure*.

The large figures are much more prominent in the 5c than on the other specimens, yet there is considerable difference between the 10 and 15 O's of the 1864 and 1866 issues. But to examine more closely I have chosen the lowest value. In the large figure the background is more clearly defined being composed of fine lines crossing each other at right angles, thus forming minute diamonds and the printing is very distinct. In the small figure many of the specimens are perfect blotches, the background, a plain unbroken surface, and the printing scarcely legible.

The principal difference, of course, is in the figure 5, which occupies the angles of the stamps. * * * Another prominent variety consist in the superior execution of the head of Rivadavia in one and the ferocious expression in the other, the position of the eyes and the distance from the left corner of the mouth to the ear are also marked differences, which may be discovered on close inspection.—WILLARD K. FREEMAN in *A. J. of P.*, Mar., 1869.

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ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

JOTTINGS.

ERA.

Every philatelist should see to it that he writes H. C. Beardsley in regard to the P. S. of A. No enthusiastic collector can afford to stay out.

It was with the most sincere regret that I heard of Frederick S. Goldsby's death. Philately can ill afford to lose such men.

Great magnanimity has been manifested by the N. Y. board of control in the A. P. A., in giving the West five of the appointative officers. The real cause is that they didn't dare appropriate any more of the offices to N. Y.

I understand that over seventy resignations have been sent in to the A. P. A. Secretary since the convention. While I am opposed to the manner in which the Association is being run, yet it seems almost *comradely* to be driven out of the Association, and I intend to stick until asked to resign and hope that all the rest of the Western members will stay in.

Of course the new sales department of the A. P. A. must be a grand success with the Scott Stamp and Coin Co. running it, Calman as Superintendent and Collins to make sure his partner's stamps are genuine.

PENCILLINGS.

DIXON'S H. H.

Join the P. S. of A.

How do you like the new A. P. A. appointments?

H. H. understands that J. W. Scott has severed his connections with the *Metropolitan Philatelist*.

The *Philatelic Fraud Specialist* is a new one from Stromsburg, Nebraska. Green Bros., publishers.

H. H. thinks that the Mekeel Co. can well be proud of the Oct. number of the *P. F. of A.* It certainly is the finest number of a stamp journal ever issued.

"The good men keep right on joining the P. S. of A. Several more prominent collectors have come in this month," is a quotation from a letter received by H. H. yesterday from one of the officers.

QUERIES.

L. R. F. The stamps described are Italian revenues.

F. S. J. The coin is an old English piece of Geo. I, but so worn we can hardly make out what it is. It is worthless in this shape.

J. L. (Boston). We are not sure, but think you will find the quotation in the first book of *Paradise Lost*.

Philatelists. You will find the newly organized Minnesota Stamp Co. perfectly reliable.

G. B. The four elements of antiquity are fire, air, water and earth. These are the forms, you will notice, under which modern science considers matter as existing, viz: imponderable, gaseous, liquid and solid.

T. A. B. The owls which you speak of as occupying the burrows of the Prairie dogs are the burrowing owl or "Athene Hypugoea." They do not live peaceably together, but the owls prey upon the young dogs.

F. S. The composition of quartz and amethyst is identical, the only difference being in the color.

G. T. V. The white crane is found in Florida and the southern coast states and up the Mississippi a short distance. We have never known of but one being found as far north as Minnesota.

E. F. C. It has been claimed that the old stone tower at Newport is the work of the Norsemen, but it is not generally believed that such is the case.

Amateur Notes.

The September number of the *Dilettante* is especially strong. We have not seen a better written story for a long time than that of "Delphine," while Truman Spencer's historical sketch of Constance, the mother of ill-fated Arthur of Bretagne is especially fine.

Fern Leaf, as always, is one of the representative journals of amateur pressdom. Ella Maud Foye's reply to Lewis' article on Socialism is especially strong.

The *Buffalonian* comes out strong for the Napa Convention of '92.

"The Amateur Politician," by C. R. Burger, is the leading article of the *Delawarean* for October. It is a well put together essay.

Clubbing Rates.

We have made arrangements whereby we can send the CURIO and nearly any other publication at nearly if not quite the cost of one. If we don't list the paper or magazine you want write us.

	CATALOGUE.	WITH CURIO.
Scribner's Magazine,	\$3.00	\$3.00
Cosmopolitan,	3.00	3.00
Phil. Journal of America	.50	.55
Am. Journal of Philately	.50	.65
Record and Review	.25	.40
Fern Leaf,	.25	.30
Century,	4.00	4.00

A MINNESOTA CAVE.

By A. B. F.

The great cave which the Indians called "Waukan Leebe," or "Dwelling of the Great Spirit," is situated on the east bank of the Mississippi river, under Dayton's bluff in St. Paul.

The first white man to visit this cave was Capt. Jonathan Carver in 1767. Here in May of each year the chiefs of all the Indian tribes met in grand council, at which time they settled all their operations for the following summer.

Carver describes the cave, and says that at this council he was adopted as a chief in one of the tribes and was presented with a tract of land extending from Minneapolis to Lake Pepin on the east bank of the Mississippi river and 120 miles wide.

The Minnesota State Historical Society celebrated the centenary of Carver's treaty with the Indians in the great cave on May 1st, 1867, and the description of the cave according to the society records is as follows:

"The mouth of the cave was found to be almost closed by *debris* which had fallen from the bluff above, but they succeeded in entering through one corner of the mouth out of which a small stream of water flows from the lake within.

"The cave extended into the bluff

(which is composed of sand stone) 115 feet, gradually widening from the entrance for a distance of about 50 feet and then gradually narrowing to the end.

"Near the center was a small lake of clear water which was bordered by a beach of white sand.

"In the farthest end the lake was about ten feet deep and so clear that with the light of a candle one could see the bottom.

"A small boat has been used on the lake."

In 1886 I visited this cave and found that the railroads which run along the east bank of the river have nearly destroyed the cave.

It is about thirty feet deep now, and the lake has been drained by the excavating till it is two feet deep.

The ceiling is about eight feet high.

Judging from the bundles of hay in the corners, the ragged clothing lying on the floor, and the fire place with a smoky tin can lying near it, the genus "tramp" must hold full sway here at present.

SHAKESPEARE—A MYTH.

By A "BACONITE."

PAPER FIRST.

WHAT WAS SHAKESPEARE?

Of course, we who believe that Bacon wrote the psuedo-Shake-

speare plays do not claim that there was no such individual as Wm. Shakespeare. On the contrary we willingly acknowledge that there was. What we do deny is that this Shakespeare was what the world, or a considerable portion of it, claim a remarkably gifted man and the author of the finest of English dramas.

To any one who has critically read the plays the thought must at once occur what a remarkably educated man their author must have been—well versed in the classics, acquainted with French, equipped with a thorough knowledge of English history, philosophy and legal lore.

Now was the man Shakespeare such? Our knowledge of the man is just the opposite.

We know that he was born up in Stratford, in the midst of dense ignorance, where at the time less than a third of the aldermen could read or write, in a totally uneducated family (his father could not sign his name, neither could any of his children).

At sixteen we hear of his being apprenticed to a butcher, next we hear of his taking part in a beer drinking contest, next being whipped for deer stealing.

Then we hear of him taking a wife to his bosom, and becoming the proud parent of bouncing twins.

Shortly after the birth of the latter we find him going to London, where at first he held the gentries' horses at the door of the theater, later we

find him within the profession, first as call-boy and next as a second-rate actor, (he is supposed to have been the original ghost in Hamlet), next we find him as a usurer, and later we find him at the head of a brewery in Stratford, and an active oppressor of the poor, and we find the curtain rung down just as he expires from the results of a drinking bout.

Such is the man some would have us believe wrote Macbeth and Othello.

Guessing Contest, No. 2.

Open to subscribers only. Close Dec. 23. To person guessing nearest to the number of "r" on the 4th page of our January number we will send a bound book.

We will award on December 1st the following prizes:

For the best article on any philatelic subject an International Album. Article to contain not less than 500 words or more than 750.

For the best article on any historical subject a bound copy of Simm's celebrated historical novel, "Katherine Walton." Article to contain between 500 and 1000 words.

We shall commence in an early number the publication of a full list of Canadian revenues. It will be the best and most complete list ever published.

FREE! FREE!! FREE!!!

A packet of 35 fine var. of foreign stamps 1 rare one on the outside, free to every collector sending us a reference and 2c stamp for one of our fine approval books marked at Scott's prices on which we allow 33 per ct. comm.

GEO. B. TUTLIELL,
Box 1115, Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

A NEW FIRM

AND A

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The stock of five dealers consolidated into one.

We have nearly 100,000 good stamps but we don't want them. We want to realize on them and keep our stock turning over.

We know we can do it. We send out sheets on commission at 25 30 and 50 PER CENT. COMMISSION according to their scarcity.

U. S. stamps we do not send on commission, but will quote you our best price on application.

As a special inducement we will give an entire U. S. 1853 Envelope to every other person applying for an agency.

We have also obtained with the stock of E. R. Aldrich a large lot of stamp papers, in all nearly 20,000 papers, and we will send them *just as they run*

25 for - - 12c. 100 for - - 44c.

These of course contain duplicates. Send your want list and we will fill it as near as possible at the following prices for each paper :

Papers Before 1886 5 Cents Each. Between 1886 & 8, 3 Cents Each.
Since 1886 - 2 Cents Each.

DON'T FORGET TO WRITE US.

Minnesota Stamp Co.,

Benson, - - Minn.

"THE CURIO."

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VI.

BENSON, MINN., DEC., 1890.

No. 8.

The Stammering Wife.

When, deeply in love with Miss Emily Pryne,
I vowed, if the maiden would only be mine,

I would always endeavor to please her—
She blushed her consent, though the stuttering
lass

Said never a word, except "You're an ass—
An ass—an ass-iduous teaser!"

But when we were married, I found to my
ruth,

The stammering lady had spoken the truth;
For often in obvious dudgeon.

She'd say, if I ventured to give her a jog
In the way of reproof, "You're a dog—you're
a dog—

A dog—a dog-matic curmudgeon!"

And once when I said, "We can hardly afford
This extravagant style, with our moderate
hoard,"

And hinted we ought to be wiser,
She looked, I assure you, exceedingly blue,
And fretfully cried, "You're a jew—you're a
jew—

A very jud-dicious adviser!"

Again, when it happened that, wishing to
shirk

Some rather unpleasant and arduous work,
I begged her to go to a neighbor,
She wanted to know why I made such a fuss,
And saucily said, "You're a cus—cus—cus—
And were always ac-cus-tomed to labor!"

WOOD-DUCK NESTS.

In looking over my notes on duck's
nests, I find one duck who does not
build his nest on the ground. The

nest of the summer or "wood duck"
is found in hollow stumps and trees
but never on limbs. It is often sur-
prising how small an opening one of
these birds will go through to get into
these hollows. They sometimes go
10 feet down in a hollow tree to find
a suitable foundation on which to
build. In this they place grass or
small sticks, which is lined with
down from the breast of the mother-
bird.

The nest becomes so matted that
it can be lifted entire without coming
to pieces. If the nest is found and
broken up the birds will not leave
the locality but will build again.

And even a third time.

They sometimes go long distances
from the water in order to find a suit-
able place for their nests.

The eggs vary from six to eighteen
in number, the first nest of the sea-
son generally containing the most.
The old birds always cover the eggs
with feathers before leaving the nest.

As soon as the young are hatched,
they are taken in the bills of the old
bird and taken one by one and carried
to the nearest pond.

I found one of these nests in a hol-
low tree, the top of which had been
shattered by lightening, in this the
nest was at least ten feet below the
opening. Being desirous of secur-
ing the young birds, I visited the tree

every day for some time, but on my last visit I found the birds had flown though on the previous day none of the eggs were yet hatched. The young birds are very easily tamed, when hatched by a domestic fowl.

O. Z. T.

THE FALL OF TROY.

ERA.

In our "Quiz" column of month before last, the date 1284 B. C. was erroneously for the fall of Troy. It should have been 1184, which is the usually accepted date, although authorities differ.

The following dates are also assigned, by Newton 904 B. C., by Sosibius, 1171 B. C., by Eratosthenes, Diodorus, Siculus, Eusebius and Synellus, Hales and Clinton, 1183 B. C., by Apollodorus, Diong, Halicarnas, Playfait, Simpson and Usher, 1184, by Democretes, 1191, by Timaeus and Siculus, 1193, by the Parian Marble, 1209, by Dicaearchus, (who flourished 310 B. C.) 1212, and by Whiston, Dodwell, Bouhier and Larchar, 1273.

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THE CURIO.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

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BENSON

MINN.

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 " Page..... 2.75

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If this is marked, your subscription has expired. Please renew.

We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

In order to "catch up" with time we issue a smaller paper than usual but we will make it up by our extra Christmas number which will "catch us up" again. so that our 24th number will be issued in our second year. You cannot afford to miss our Xmas number. so subscribe at once.

While work on our Canadian Revenue list has not progressed as fast as we desired, yet our Xmas number will contain the first installment. The same number will contain the second installment of Bacon a myth, a continuation of War Envelopes, and several articles by leading amateur writers.

The Minnesota Stamp Co., offer some fine stamps at auction. See their ad elsewhere. We can cheerfully recommend this company to collectors as being a straight forward concern.

JOTTINGS.

ERA.

The Philatelic Society of America still continues to progress finely. The class of collectors who are coming, are of the very best class of philatelists, and the future of the society is assured.

The collector who wants a society run in the interests of all, and for no clique or firm, should write the Secretary *at once* for an application blank.

Jewett's "Handbook on Counterfeits" is out and is a neat little work, put up in handsome and likewise handy shape. The book is really invaluable for a collector who wishes to keep abreast of the times. The loss of money in purchasing *one* counterfeit would pay for the work. Be sure and secure it.

As the supplement of the November CURIO announced, the *American Philatelist* has been restored and possibly a little confidence in the A. P. A. has been restored. The action was not unexpected, and while it may not be the death blow to "clique," yet it will furnish such a precedent that would-be tricksters and bosses will think twice before trying to run the association.

PENCILLINGS.

DIXON'S H. H.

Join the P. S. of A.

Ketcheson is preparing a new directory of Canadian collectors.

Jewett has a new work by Newcomb in preparation—"Ten Days with a Modern Stamp Dealer."

The stamp season does not seem to open up as lively as usual. We can see no cause for this.

With the re-establishment of the A. P. let us hope that all hard feeling has become a thing of the past and that the era of good fellowship will soon return.

Canadian Collectors—I have good Mexican, South American and a few Confederate stamps to exchange for Canadian Revenues.

E. R. ALDRICH, Benson, Minn.

WHAT DO YOU BID?

Highest bid received by Dec. 24, takes. Bid by lot.

- 1 Petersburg Local on original env.
- 2 N. Y. Post Office 5c black.
- 3 " " " red, India proof.
- 4 1869 90c extra fine.
- 5 Granite State Philatelist full file.
- 6 The Curio full file.
- 7 Collector's Companion, Vol. 1.
- 8 Mexico 1872 50c blue imp. rare error.
- 9 U. S. 1853 K die env.
- 10 Charleston hand stamp rare.
- 11 1888 2c Albino on white.
- 12 Philatelic Fortnightly full file.
- 13 Providence Local 5c.
- 14 Stamp Cataloging \$20.
- 15 Stamp Cataloging \$10.
- 16 U. S. 1847 10c fine.
- 17 250 fine mixed Mexican stamps.
- 19 40 Mexican Revenues.
- 20 50 fine stamps worth \$2.50.

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Vol. VI.

BENSON, MINN., CHRISTMAS, 1890.

No. 3

The First Christmas.

E. R. ALDRICH.

Long ago a little infant
 In a lowly manger lay
 While adoring angels hovered
 All about his peaceful way.

Far above in azure, twinkling,
 Blazoned forth the royal star.
 Guiding to that little infant
 Wise magician from afar.

Gifts one bore of magic beauty
 From the distant eastern land.
 Myrrh and balm and wondrous treasures
 From old Ganges golden sand.

From old Nilus sacred border
 Came the second magic wise;
 Bringing to that humble infant
 Grand old palms of pondrous size.

From the islands of the ocean
 Came the wise man of the west
 Bringing ancient holy relics
 By the Trojan priesthood blest.

When they reached the stable humble
 Where the child and mother lay
 Putting down their gifts, adoring
 To the heav'nly child they pray.

While the gentiles thus were bowing
 Worshipping earth's new born king
 From the skies bright hosts are coming
 "Peace on earth" they sweetly sing.

Hovering o'er their infant prince,
 On their golden harps they play.
 Thus both heaven and earth rejoice
 On that first grand Christmas day.

The Bell's Story.

N. T.

Soft and low does come the cadence
 Of the joyous Christmas chime
 Telling of our dear blest Saviour
 In their ringing song of rhyme.

How he came in far off ages
 Taught and suffered ere he died
 Hung upon the cruel cross-top
 Till "all's over" as he cried.

Suffered this for man's redemption
 And from sin did set us free.
 This is what the wondrous chiming
 Of the bells tell you and me.

The Philatelic Society of America.

ERA.

While it is hardly likely that there is anything new in what I am about to call to your attention, yet it is a well known fact the only way to interest people in anything is to keep talking about it.

For this reason I am again calling your attention to this comparatively new association for philatelist—the P. S. of A. One of the great features of this society is the exchange department which is under the capable management of Mr. S. B. Bradt, one of the fathers of the American Philatelic Association and one of the leaders of the Chicago Society. This is run on exchange principles and not as a sales department as the department run by the American

Philatelic Association is. It is needless to say that it is conducted in the interest of the collectors in the society and has not, as the A. P. A. sales department, a member of one of the largest stamp dealing firms at its head.

While talking about this department I cannot refrain from quoting from an article by my friend Mr. F. L. Stone, published in the July number of this paper.

"A member recently showed me two exchange books, one of the P. S. of A., and one of the A. P. A., and the prices of the P. S. of A. sheets were on an average 20 per cent. below those of the older society and the quality of the stamps much better. To the more advanced class of collectors I will say that I had a P. S. of A. book pass through my hands in which sheets were valued at from \$8.00 to \$20.00 apiece and price marked exceedingly low. Again I have found circulation in the department prompt, whereas cases of six or eight months or even longer are not uncommon in the A. P. A. Exchange Dept.* I have seen such stamps as New York post office stamps, and a multitude of others worth from \$1 to \$10 on the sheets. At the same time sheets are circulated and stamps of 3 to 5 cents value freely taken."

Also the foot note. "Since writing the above I have learned of a case where stamps were sent into the A. P. A. department in May, 1889, *fifteen months ago*, and not yet returned, in fact they passed through the owner's hands about 2 months ago, in circulation."

In this connection I may state that these are yet in the A. P. A. department over a *year* and a *half* since they were sent in.

Again, we have a purchasing department in the P. S. of A. and the gentleman at the head of it (Mr. S. W. Scott), always cheerfully endeavors to procure what members want and does not compel them to go through a prescribe course and perhaps have to receive and pay for stamps they do not desire nor collect as has been the custom in the A. P. A.

The library as yet is small but is slowly but surely growing.

Now, brother collector, do you think you can afford to stay out of a society which will give you all the advantages this society will?

Are you not willing to be found within the body of a society which numbers as members such men as P. M. Wolseeffer, H. E. Deats, W. W. Jewett, W. C. Kurzweg, M. V. Samuels, F. J. Stanton, F. N. Massoth and H. C. Beardsley.

Should you desire to ask any questions about the P. S. of A. don't be afraid to write and ask as I shall always be happy to answer them. Address, Benson, Minn.

A Rainy Day.

KITTIE C. WOLF.

Oh dark, dreary, dreadful day;
 When one can neither work or play,
 Why do you come to make my night
 Twice long and shut out dear daylight.

The rain pours down the street below,
 Looks like the rivers murky flow
 As it quivers and shivers in monotone
 And seems to echo the general moan.

Oh poor little newsboy, it soaks you
 through
 And chills your feet and hands so blue:
 With "Daily News," "Herald" and
 "Tribune"
 You've cried them all from morn to
 noon.

A delicate girl with pure young face,
 Must yet with the river of life keep
 pace;
 With rubberless feet, she strives to pass
 The seething, soaking, shivering mass.

A dreamer next with solemn eyes,
 Reaks not if there's dark or sunny
 skies,
 With high-born hopes he goes along
 And hums a verse of an olden song.

And looking out from my window today
 I turn within and grateful say,
 Thank God for all I have down here;
 Home and work and friends most dear

ETTIE'S CHRISTMAS.

—
STAR.
—

Ettie Long was leaning by the casement of the window listening to the resonant bell of Old St. Marks as it was slowly and solemnly ushering in the gladsome Christmas day.

Gladsome to the world, but sad, especial sad to Ettie for it brought back to her the memories of the last Christmas tide and of him who had, at that very casement, as that same old bell had tolled forth the midnight hour, breathed in her ear that old, yet ever new story of love and how deceived by her heart she had said him nay and how with saddened visage and sadder heart he had quitted her side and shortly afterward sailed for Europe and had only yesterday returned.

That parting was but a short year ago and yet how long and dreary had that year seemed to her. All too late had she found out her mistake and learned from the promptings of her heart that after all Henry Price was her true, loyal and beloved knight. Would they meet on the morrow and what would be the manner of their greeting if they met. Oh why had she sent him from her? One moment she resolved not to go to St. Marks to the early Christmas service as she had been wont for many a year for fear he would be there, then again her heart bade her go and see him again if only at a distance. Why should she expect

that he would recognize her again. How should she conduct herself in the morning. When at last the tolling of the bell ceased, Ettie dropped the curtain and turning from the window she knelt to Him who is the comforter of all poor distressed souls. Long and fervently she prayed, and the whole tenor of her prayers were for that absent love.

While thus she knelt her little sister Elsie slipped into the room, with an overflowing stocking clasped in each chubby hand, and dancing in her ecstasy of glee cried out, "Look Ettie, whats I'se dot."

"Why Elsie dear, what are you are you doing at this time of night, didn't you know little girls should stay abed until morning?" reprovingly said her elder sister.

"Oh! me wanted to see what Santa Taus had brought me. Me no s'leepy 'tall," declared the little maiden. "What oo been trying for, oo tell Elsie, it not nice to tie."

Ettie, seeing that the child's curiosity was aroused, picked her up on her knee and commenced helping her take her treasures from the stocking; but Elsie was not to be thus appeased and every few minutes would ask why her large sister had been crying.

"Oh nothing, Elsie, just because it is Christmas."

"I don't like Tismas one bit, oo aint half so nice since last Tismas, oo aint."

"Oh yes I am darling, you must not thing such a thing, and now you have seen what Christmas has

brought you, just run back to bed like a good little girl.

Being put down, gathering up her treasures Elsie reluctantly trotted off to bed, but not to sleep for Elsie was wise far beyond what her baby language and six brief years would lead one to suspect.

Long she perplexed her little head with the question, what could it be that made sister Ettie so unhappy. What was it that caused the thought of Henry Price to come to Elsie's mind, whatever it was it came, and she remembered hearing her parents saying that Henry had returned that day.

Now Henry Price had always been one of Elsie's especial friends, and often, in spite of her larger sister's remonstrances, she had in her pretty artless way called him her big brother. Now, having remembered that he had returned, she confided to the new doll which she had taken to bed with her that "Me doing to see if big brofer can't make Ettie happy gain," and then even happy childhood had to give way to drowsy sleep.

What was Ettie's surprise next morning, when from her accustomed place in the choir to see Elsie proudly sitting in the back pew beside of Henry Price and to see Henry reach down every few minutes to listen to the child's prattle.

Then the organ softly pealed forth the opening anthem and soon the glorious old hymn of Cawood floats through the air.

"Hark! what means those holy voices,
Sweetly sounding through the air;
Lo, the angelic host rejoicing,
Heavenly Alleluras rise;
Listen to the wondrous story,
Which they chant in hymns of joy.
Glory in the Highest, Glory!
Glory be to God most high!"

The hymn ended and once again Ettie's eyes wandered to where Elsie nestled by her lost lover's side.

What could the little elf be saying for in spite of being "at meeting" Elsie was constantly talking, and some how the handsome young gentleman let her talk right on.

At last, however, Henry said something which seemed to satisfy Elsie, and now, as demure as any little Puritan, she sat and listened to the sermon, that same old story which mankind never weary of telling or hearing told.

At last the sermon ended and the words of Sear's old Christmas anthem rolled forth.

At the third verse,
"O ye beneath life's crushing load,
Whose forms are bending low;
Who toil along the climbing way,
With painful step and slow"

Ettie dropped her head, while slowly the tears trickled down her cheek, but for a brief moment only and then she resumed with renewed spirit and her clear contralto voice rose high above the others on the last verse.

"For lo, the days are hastening on,
By prophets seen of old,
When with the ever-circling years
Shall come the time foretold
When the new heaven and earth shall
own
The Prince of Peace, their king;

And the whole earth send back their
song.

Which now the angels sing "

At the last word Ettie's eyes sought the last pew again but its occupants were gone. He would not even meet her and pass the customary greetings of the season were her thoughts.

Services over, she tried to find little Elsie, but both she and Henry had disappeared together.

Hardly had Ettie reached home when a messenger boy rang the bell and passed in a note

"Elsie will pass the morning with me. Will bring her home this afternoon.

Greetings of the Season.

HENRY PRICE."

"Why how did Elsie get out this morning?" asked Mrs. Long. Ettie related how she had seen her at church and how both had left before the close of the service.

* * *

Softly the snowy flakes were falling as Henry Price and his little charge reined up at the Long residence and Elsie carrying a doll as large as herself and Henry with his arms full of toys descended and entered the house.

"Look at my booful doll, lot nicer than Lottie Jones' " was Elsie's salutation while Henry was making the usual Christmas greetings.

* * *

In the gathering Christmas twilight Ettie and Henry sat alone and Henry briefly narrating the events of the morning said "And is Elsie's saying that I must come and make you happy true, and may I?" But let us draw the curtain o'er the case-ment and listen no farther.

But later in the evening, just ere Henry was about to go, Mrs. Long

said "Is it true you will soon leave us again for Europe?"

Henry, placing his arm around the now happy Ettie's waist, replied "Yes, but not alone for this time, this dear little girl will go with me."

Just then softly the chimes of old St. Marks began to usher out the day and there, side by side, gazing into the happy future we will bid them farewell.

A Minneapolis Collection.

From time to time, we hear of collections of rare stamps through the public press, but seldom such an account as the following taken from the *Minneapolis Tribune*, of Nov. 26:

Minneapolis has perhaps 50 postage stamp collectors. I met one of them in my rounds a few days ago and the collection as well as the collector interested me. William Strohmeier is his name. He is a manufacturing jeweler, with a workshop on the second floor under the Minneapolis Athletic club's rooms on Nicollet. A German by birth, and rather a recluse, he has only half learned to lisp the English. But his enthusiasm over his hobby soon leads one to forget his speech as his marvelous knowledge of philately develops in the conversation.

Mr. Strohmeier came from the city of Sigmeringen, in Wurtemberg, Germany, where the craze struck him.

"I was only a little boy," he told me, "when I began to collect stamps. First I got only a few from Germany, then as I grew older I was able to make exchanges with other collectors. A large stamp agency in Germany furnished many of the higher priced and rarest of my collection."

Here his face lighted up with enthusiasm as he inquired: "Have you seen my collection? Do you wish to see it?"

An affirmative reply was all that was necessary to start him off to the corner of his workshop where the safe was located.

Among the jewels and the gold which he keeps in stock or which is en route from raw state to its finished condition he keeps the treasure which he prizes most. A richly-bound album, the size of a family Bible and neatly covered with a case is the repository of what has cost him much time, but afforded him an equally great amount of pleasure. There are in that volume about 4,200 postage stamps, no two of which are duplicates. The amount of work that this collection has cost can hardly be estimated. The money cost, Mr. Strohmeier estimates, at from \$400 to \$500; the value, according to the catalogued price of stamps, would probably be \$2,000.

To the average well posted American the history of stamps is as an unknown continent. Stamps were in use when he grew up, just as though Columbus had brought them over on his first voyage. He probably recollects that Benjamin Franklin was postmaster general under the British government before the revolution, and in all probability he has never once stopped to think that stamps are comparatively modern in their general use.

The oldest in Strohmeier's book is the penny stamp of Great Britain of 1840. There are older stamps, but the collectors start with the penny stamp of 1840 and come down to the present time, making over 8,000 in all in the world. Mr. Strohmeier says that in a French treatise upon the subject he has learned that the stamp idea's earliest traces were during the reign of Louis XIV. M. De Velayre established a private penny post in 1653, but it soon fell into disuse. The French government thought they saw a good chance to increase the exchequer when in 1758 another Frenchman started a post for the city. The government bought him out but the post soon fell and was lost sight of. In Spain the government authorized the officials to stamp letters with their seals and they were carried free. The earliest stamp as we have it

today was issued in Sardinia in 1818. Roland Hill instituted the great postal reform in England and after three years of struggle it went into effect. The 1840 Queen Victoria one penny being the first regular stamp which for any time has remained permanent.

About this time a prize was offered for the best design for an envelope. It was gained by Mulready, of the Royal academy. The envelope is about medium size. The copy in Mr. Strohmeier's collection is not an envelope as it is known today. It is a sheet of paper the size of letter paper folded to enclose a letter and it is intended to be sealed with sealing wax. The design is artistic and shows in an appropriate style the commercial character of English people. It covers the entire upper half of the envelope. In the middle lies the British lion upon a rock pedestal. Behind him stands a female figure, genius of the new system. As she waves her hands to the right and left winged messengers speed on their way to furthest climes. On her right is India, with her elephants, camels, her gold in the ingots and silk in the bales; the Chinaman, too, is there. On her left is America, and the scene looks like Penn's first treaty with the Indians. There are two side pictures, which comes home to every one who knows what a boom a letter from dear ones means. A mother is in the midst of a letter which she is reading to her children as they bend in eagerness to catch each word. The other is a young girl reading a letter to a dying mother as she lies upon her bed of suffering. After a use of only a few months the "Mulready" envelope fell into disuse and it was superseded by the adhesive stamp. France, Switzerland, Germany and Brazil even preceded the United States in the adoption of adhesive stamps. According to the album a few local stamps were in use in New York city, Baltimore and a few other cities but it was not until 1847 that Congress authorized the issuance of the modern postage stamp.

Our Chicago Letter.

FRIEND ERA:—

Things are booming at present in this vicinity and of course Philately and its adherents are feeling the effects of the boom.

A rumor has reached me to the effect that Corwin was defeated in the National Society last Tuesday evening by a vote of 22 to 0. It appears that he sent out a notice to each member of the National to be at that meeting "to assist him in vindicating his character so foully aspersed by R. R. Bogert, etc.," but he made a sad mistake and not satisfied with crushing him by a vote of 22 to 0, the society later on in the evening censured the Board of Managers of the *Metropolitan Philatelist* for issuing such a paper as the Nov. number, whereupon Corwin, Scott and Gregory resigned and the places of two of them were filled at once. Poor Corwin, first "Stone's Snow Drift" 381 to 35, and then the National's rebuke 22 to 0. Corwin has sown the wind and reaped the whirlwind, a regular cyclone so to speak.

There is so much news I can't tell it all in this letter and don't know where to begin first.

Oh yes, the forgeries are of interest to all, and I think I can say that a clue has been found which may lead to the exposure of the rascal. An important meeting of the Chicago A. P. A. Branch was held Monday evening the 24th. It was well attended and being held in secret session I could not say what results were arrived at, but there is mystery in the air and I am looking for some sensational disclosures.

The C. P. S. is soon to have an official journal and continue its popular Auction sales. These sales last winter and spring did much towards educating the young collector in buying stamps judiciously,

and it has cultivated a taste for more of the same kind. It is expected that the new journal will be run from Chicago and Hanover Centre. Massoth is to be the publisher and proprietor, and Wolsieffer managing editor. Massoth will drop the name of his paper for one not quite so long and a new style and shape will be adopted. Passive members of the Chicago Society will once more receive a journal and keep posted on the workings of the Exchange and Auction Departments. It is expected that the first number will be out in January.

The C. P. S. Exchange Department under the able management of S. B. Bradt, seems likely to be taking the place of the old A. P. A. Exchange Department. All A. P. A. members who are also Passive members of the C. P. S. are sending in increased lots for circuit.

Mr. Bradt and Mr. Leland are both mentioned for place on the new Literary Board. It is understood that Mr. Bradt will not consent to serve unless the *American Philatelist* is published from Chicago, and if that does happen we have no cause to complain. We were beat out of the Vice Presidency, but we captured the Trustees, refused the Library twice, and run a chance of getting the *American Philatelist* and two members of the Literary Board. Chicago is a great town I tell you.

By the way, the Chicago Society is to have a banquet on the night of their annual election. December 18th, at the Grand Pacific Hotel. Better come down Era and help empty the flowing bowl.

Well, as you do not use minion type in your paper I better cut this letter somewhat.

Yours philatelically,

POTPOURRI.

Chicago, Ill., Nov. 25th.

◁ THE CURIO. ▷

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

CURIO CO.,

BENSON

MINN.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

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If this is marked, your subscription has expired. Please renew.

We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

Once again the universe has turned by the slow revolutions of the ever moving wheel of time, bringing us again to that holy festival which we may well term the birthday of earth.

Once again our hearts are gladdened by the joyous and happy festivities of the holiday season, and between friends we heard the merry greetings wishes each other a happy *Noel*.

So once again THE CURIO goes forth to greet its friends with kindly greetings, may this be a joyous Christmas tide to all, may “Goodwill toward all,” be not merely a saying easily said, but may it be the guiding motto to all, and may “Peace on earth,” be an assured thing. May the spirit of plenty fold her broad wings o'er our land and may all acknowledge a “MERRIE CHRISTMAS.”

JOTTINGS.

ERA.

Advices from the east show that Corwin's friends even in the National are not very numerous, being indicated by the lowest of low figures—o.

Judging from a letter received from a certain N. Y. collector taking us to task for our anti-Corwin views, we really thought Corwin had at least one friend in the National, but even he must have back slidden.

What's the matter with Corwin making the A. P. A. a Christmas present of the vice presidency.

With the re-establishment of the A. P., let us hope that a return of the good fellowship and harmonious feeling which has hitherto been characteristic of the A. P. A., return.

False, Fickle Man.

And so he is to wed. Alas,

’Twas only in July

He swore unless I would be his

He'd pine away and die.

Or, like a broken barque he'd drift

Across the sea of life

And never, never, never call

Another woman wife.

Ah, well! he's just like all the rest;

They're true for but an hour;

Like thoughtless, fickle butterflies

They flit from bud to flower.

But yet these men aren't cute enough

To get ahead of us—

My wedding with his rival comes

A month before his does.

—*Chicago Post.*

The Magic Visit.

H. P. A.

In the desert met three strangers
 All upon one errand bent,
 Seeking for the World's Messiah,
 By the fates decreed and sent.

To the Nazarean village
 Came these wise men in their quest,
 There within a stable lowly
 Found the child so heav'nly blest.

Then they bowed in adoration
 To the Saviour long for sought,
 He who yet will come in glory,
 He with whom all sin is nought.

Down they lay their gifts and trophies
 By the lowly manger's side,
 Then away to tell the story,—
 Spread the tidings far and wide.

..That to us is born a Saviour
 Jesus Christ our Lord and King,"
 This the theme of their grand story
 While the same words angels sing.

THE MISSING LINK.

A. B. F.

How often in reading the papers and even in books we see the expression "The Missing Link." The question which naturally presents itself to the inquiring mind is, what is this "missing link?" In reading a paper a few days ago I found this expression, and fell to drawing a mental picture of him, and as the picture was interesting and pleasing to me I will give it to you hoping that the result may be the same.

The term "Missing Link" from

an evolutionistic point of view, is used to designate an animal which might have existed in prehistoric times and the pres'nt mission of which, is to fill that vast gap which evolutionists find between man and the highest order of monkeys.

From this point of view our subject has no small space to fill, on the one side of him we find man, an animal in whom the upright position is normal, whose brain is larger than any other animal except the elephant and whale; who has a perfect hand. The bones of the pelvis are broad and the neck of the femur long making his upright position more firm and natural.

His skull is smooth and the outlines rounded. The cranial portion predominates over the face and is devoid of crests. He has a chin and his teeth are vertical, uniform in height and close together.

The lobe of the ear is long, he has no muzzle and the bridge of the nose is convex instead of flat. He has not much hair except on the head and face. Can live in any climate and has the power of communication by articulate language. He also has a more complex brain and those higher mental faculties which lead him to contemplate the Creator and his wondrous works.

On the other side, we have the Chimpanzee probably the highest order of monkeys. He is smaller in stature than man and though he stands and walks erect, yet insecurely, with hands which resemble hu-

man hands yet are better adapted to climbing trees than to handling the implements of civilization. In his brain the higher faculties are little developed.

He constructs huts from branches and leaves and arms himself with clubs and stones with which to battle with his enemies. He will warm himself by the fire that the traveler has left but his reason does not go so far as to tell him that he may perpetrate this heat that he enjoys so much by heaping on more wood.

Thus we have the two banks of the abyss which is to be bridged by the imagination.

This animal must have lived in Africa, south of and near the equator where food was plenty at all seasons of the year, and the weather permitted out of door life.

He had probably assumed an upright position as a normal one, though he must have been very awkward in it, the bones of the pelvis being yet narrow the toes turned out making his gait awkward and shambling. He was unable to travel very fast or for great distances but must have possessed great strength in order to protect himself from his more savage neighbors.

His shoulders were also narrow and rounded giving him a stooping appearance and his arms hanging at his sides reached to the knees. The hands have by this time reached considerable perfection though yet awkward and clumsy.

The need of clothing has not yet

presented itself to his mind but nature still protects him with a thin growth of very coarse short hair.

The chin is not prominent showing rather a tendency to keep in the shade of the nose and upper jaw. The teeth are prominent, more especially the canines which are longer than the others, he also has six well developed grinders. They are firm, bright and sound from continual hard use in masticating his poorly prepared food. The lips are well developed and prominent from their continued use in assisting the teeth and tongue in preparing the food.

The cheek bones are not prominent but the muscles of the cheeks (the muscles of mastication) are full and well developed. The nose is large, broad and flat, extending well up between the eyes which are far apart. The eyebrows are full and prominent giving the face rather a sunken appearance. From the eyebrows the forehead slopes so rapidly back as to be almost flat with no central fullness. The neck is full.

His dwellings must have been branches of trees woven together and covered with leaves and when available caves. We can also readily imagine that he utilised the hollow trunks of trees as a protection against the inclemencies of the weather.

His food was principally vegetable though he probably caught birds and was fond of the eggs also. Shell fish and parasites might have

been regarded as delicacies, for man advances more slowly in matters of food than in any other particular. The art of preparing food must have been but little known though he might have known the art of building fires.

For dishes flat stones and pieces of bark rolled up answered all his needs. He had also found that by crushing his food between stones it could be better prepared for mastication. The implements of war and of the chase were sharp pointed sticks and sharp pointed stones. The peculiar shape of his shoulders and his long arms fitted him for throwing stones with great force and accuracy.

He communicated with his neighbor chiefly by signs and occasionally by a word. He probably recognized a higher power and it would not be savage if the sun should be the object of his devotions.

They lived in small companies for protection and polygamy was exceptional. He was good tempered, jolly and sympathetic with friends, and he had few enemies.

This my friend is my vision of the bridge. "The great gulf between man and the brute is not physical but psychical."

FOLLOWING THE GOLDEN RULE.

"Are you quite sure, my darling daughter, that you thoroughly understand the full meaning of the grand

old precept of doing unto others as you would that they should do to you?" queried the fond mother as she gazed proudly at the tall and stately girl by her side.

"I am trying each day to become more and more perfect in this respect," was the reply of the beautiful girl, as she placed her pearly arms around her mother's neck and pressed her ruby lips to the kind old face that she had learned to love when first she was a little toddling baby.

It was only a week later when this beautiful girl rushed into her mother's presence with her fair cheeks aglow her blue eyes sparkling and her whole manner was that of a person unto whom some great happiness has suddenly come.

"Oh, mother!" she exclaimed, "I now fully understand the great value of doing unto others as I would that they should do to me. Last night it came into my head that it would be a grand idea to try the workings of the precept on my lover. George, you know, is a very bashful man, and left to himself I don't think would have ever asked me to marry him in the world, as he never could have summoned up courage enough. So last night, as we were sitting near each other in the parlor, I thought to myself I want George to put his arms around me, but he won't, so I put my arms around George. Then I thought to myself I want George to kiss me, but he won't; so I up and kissed George. Again I said to myself, I want

George to ask me to marry him, but the chances are that he never will. So I put a bold face on the matter and asked George to marry me. And now, dear mamma, it is all settled. George and I are to be married next month and we are just the two happiest persons in the whole wide world. I shall never forget to bless the day, dear mamma, on which I had courage enough to follow the grand old precept of doing unto others as I would that they should do to me."

Caught!

He held her hand quite tenderly.
And pressed it now and then;
She blushed and let him have his way
As girls do with young men.

He put his arm around her waist.
And drew her to his side;
Of course she could have got away—
If she had only tried.

He slowly raised her blushing face
And looked into her eyes;
Of course I thought she would resist.
But, much to my surprise,

She answered all his looks of love,
And gave him kiss for kiss.
But her papa came from above
And ended was their bliss.

—Selected.

WAR ENVELOPES.

II.

No. 9-14. The Confederate flag in color upper left corner. The difference being in the size of the flag and the arrangement of the stars.

No. 15. A belching cannon surmounted by the Confederate flag. Motto beneath, "Run, Yank or die."

No. 16. Flag of South Carolina in upper left corner.

No. 17. Portrait of Jefferson Davis in black in upper left corner.

No. 18. The "Cross" variety of the Confederate war flag in upper left corner and the motto,

"Far better to perish with honor,
Far better to go to the grave,
And better to die as a free man
Than live as a Northern's slave."

No. 19. A landscape with a cotton field in foreground, a steamboat on a placid river in centre ground and the sun rising over the rocky bluffs in the background, in the upper left corner, poetic motto,

"Death to each marauding band
Who would defile this glorious land.
The white and black man's Dixie,
For e'en the slaves would take a hand
To drive the foe from Dixie."

No. 20. A sailor nailing the flag of South Carolina to a stall, a steamer with "Southern Rights" over all. Same motto as No. 7.

No. 21. Two charging horsemen with drawn sabres, motto,

"May the Northern lancers who abuse
their Southern neighbors,
Approach near enough to feel the point
of our sabres,
May they come near enough to hear the
click of a trigger,
And learn that a white man is better
than a nigger."

Another one of the Bonitz Bros. manufacture.

(The editor would be pleased to receive description of any other Confederate envelopes as we believe a list has never before been published.)

EASY READING.

Henpecked Husband (reading the paper and rocking the cradle)—Ahem! the bustle is going out, I see.

Vixenish Wife (who has just finished dressing)—You bet it is, and I'm going with it. You take care of that budy till I get back.

“Anything in new kids?” inquired the stylish young lady while on her shopping tour.

“Yes,” replied the polite salesman absently mindedly, “twins last night—I beg your pardon—”

But the stylish young lady was out of sight.

A small boy's composition on “Umbrellas” states that “Umbrellas were introduced in the rain of George the Third, which was a disastrous one in many particulars, being the time when Declaration of Independence was signed by the four hundred and about the date when George Washington could not lie.”

“Sister told me to come in and talk to you till she found her hair,” said a little six-year-old girl to her big sister's beau. “Do you like to have me talk to you? Sister says you sing like a screech owl. Won't you sing for me? Sister says—why you aint going, are you? O, my! Won't sister be mad, though.”

Attorney (to witness)—Mr. Chalkley, if I mistake not, you said a few minutes ago that you sold milk for a living.

Witness (guardedly)—No, Sir; I said I was a milkman.

“My friend,” said the long-coated old man, solemnly, “have you made any preparation for the day of judgment?”

“Sir,” replied the young man, “that's how I make my living.”

“Young man!”

“I'm employed in a sheriff's office.”

“I've just read some statistics about the frequency of divorce in the United States.”

“It seems to me they ought to change ‘Until death us do part’ into ‘Until divorce us do part.’”

Mrs. Lushley—And there you were, when the policeman found you at three in the morning, hugging a cigar sign. Oh, it's just awful.

Mr. Lushley—My dear, it is surely not possible that you are jealous of a cigar sign.

“That's the fellow I'm laying for,” remarked the hen, as her owner came out with a pan of corn-meal.

When a modern youth becomes ensconced in a street car the ladies discover that he doesn't belong to the rising generation.

❖ MEXICO. ❖

1000 MEXICAN POSTAGE STAMPS, WELL ASSORTED.

MORE THAN HALF OBSOLETE ISSUES.

Including the issues of 1856, 1861, 1864, 1867, 1872, 1879 and 1882. The assortment is of over FIFTY VARIETIES, and in every 1000 is 5 each of the 85c. violet and 100c. black, 1879 issue, besides such stamps as 1 peso, 1884, provisional 1867, and official envelopes, entire, Errors, 1882, and other good stamps.

PRICE, \$15.00.

Post-free anywhere in the world.

Our stock of Mexicans is the largest and best in the world, and no other dealer could afford to make the offer we do, and our offer is limited to 100 lots of 1000 each. This is done to reduce our stock during the summer months.

It is a bargain for a collector as well as a dealer, as one of each variety in the lot is catalogued at much more than the price of the whole thousand.

We sell a good mixture of Mexicans (20 varieties), at \$3.00 per 1000, post free.

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1011 Locust St.,

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is the best youth's magazine at its price in the world, containing articles by the leading English and American amateur authors. Contains,

Serial and Short Stories,

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We offer until our supply is exhausted the following at great reduction, all unused:

	Reg. Price.	Our Price.
1882 10c brown error	\$5.00	.. \$.75
1882 6c blue	.12	.. .07
1864 4 varieties	.65	.. .15
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85c	2.00	.. 1.00
1882 24c	.50	.. .30
10c	.30	.. .15
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12c	.30	.. .25
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Packet Mexican cataloging \$1.00 only .40
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MINNESOTA STAMP CO.,

Benson,

Minn.

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Philatelic Frauds, 1883	.12
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Stanton's Canadian Revenue Cat., cloth	.30
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MINNESOTA STAMP CO,

BENSON,

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Special Offer for December.

500 Var. Choice Stamps, \$1.00

Everything sent fully prepaid on receipt of price. Send for circulars giving a list of every stamp contained in this packet.

Miller & Lane, Vassar, Mich.

A Fountain Pen and 100 Choice Stamps, 30c.

REVENUES WANTED!

We will send this paper one year for 100 revenue stamps of any country.

CURIO CO.,

BENSON

MINN.

◁ BACK NUMBERS. ▷

During January and February we offer all our back numbers, so far as we can supply them, at 5c each, or 3 for 10c. After March 1st we shall destroy all back numbers. 2t

CURIO CO., - Benson, Minn.

C. H. Mekeel's Announcements.

I am always ready to buy rare stamps or collections containing many old issues. Small collections made in the last ten years not wanted.

RETAIL.—My specialty is the stamps of American Countries. Collectors should obtain my Complete Illustrated Catalogue of these stamps. Price 25c, post free.

WHOLESALE.—I am always prepared to send selections of good stamps to dealers at the lowest wholesale rates. My specialty is the stamps of Mexico and Central America, from which countries I import more stamps than any other dealer. Prices low and terms of payment reasonable to parties who can give good references.

AGENTS WANTED.—Sheets of stamps from 1c to \$5.00 each, are sent out to agents, and 30 per cent. commission allowed. Send for a trial lot. I have over 2,000 agents' names on my books, and do the largest approval business in America, so that you may depend on finding a good variety at reasonable prices. No deposit required.

ALBUMS.—I carry a complete line of albums from 20c to \$20.00 each. The Popular Album containing spaces for over 3,000 stamps, is the best for small collections, and can be had at 30c, 55c and 75c prepaid. The 75c edition is the best album published for less than \$1.50. A full list of our albums and other publications will be found in our new 36 page price list, which will be sent free on application.

ADDRESS BOOK.—Mekeel's Address Book, containing names and addresses of over 3,000 stamp dealers and collectors in all parts of the world, has just been published and is worth a great deal to any dealer or collector. Book contains 224 pages, and is bound in cloth, post free, \$1.00.

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Minnesota Stamp Co., Benson, Minn.

Stamp Papers at Cost

100 Mixed Papers Only 40c.

MINNESOTA STAMP CO., Benson, Minn.

LOOK! Honest persons who have been suffering with catarrh, come to the front and testify to the reliability of Abbe's Tar Ointment for the cure of catarrh, and colds in the head. By using Abbe's Tar Ointment you have a remedy that will heal, soothe, and cleanse the nasal passages. Abbe's Tar Ointment possesses qualities not found in any other catarrh cure, and it has now a good reputation wherever sold. Sent by mail on receipt of 25 cents. **ABBE & CO., L. Box 2178, Rockford, Ill.**

Please mention The Curio when answering advertisements.

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Packet No. 1. Contains 5, all different, unused Department Stamps, catalogued over 35 cts. Price only 15 cts.

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Packet No. 4. Contains 50, all different, United States Stamps, including Postage, Envelope, Department and Revenue. Price 25 cents.

Orders filled same day as received.

Postage 2 cents extra on orders under 25c.

CHAS. W. BURNHAM,

STAMP DEALER,

32 Grant Place, Washington, D. C.,

Old United States and Department Stamps bought.

OLD U. S. STAMPS,

Also Confederate Stamps wanted for cash. Write what you have.

CURIO CO.

BENSON - - - - - MINN.

(Amateur Publishers insert in their January number and send copy to occupy like space.)

A FEW BARGAINS.

35 varieties United States stamps . . .	\$.10
50 " " " "25
100 " " U. S. and Foreign10
250 " " " "25
400 " " " "	1.00
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Stamps to sell at 2 cents, per 10050
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Newfoundland, 3c blue "75
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Choice stamps on approval. (4

W. H. Bruce, Box 283, Hartford, Ct.

A NEW FIRM

AND A

GOOD FIRM TOO.

The stock of five dealers consolidated into one.

We have nearly 100,000 good stamps but we don't want them. We want to realize on them and keep our stock turning over.

We know we can do it. We send out sheets on commission at 25 30 and 50 PER CENT. COMMISSION according to their scarcity.

U. S. stamps we do not send on commission, but will quote you our best price on application.

As a special inducement we will give an entire U. S. 1853 Envelope to every other person applying for an agency.

We have also obtained with the stock of E. R. Aldrich a large lot of stamp papers, in all nearly 20,000 papers, and we will send them *just as they run*

25 for - - 12c. 100 for - - 44c.

These of course contain duplicates. Send your want list and we will fill it as near as possible at the following prices for each paper :

Papers Before 1886 5 Cents Each. Between 1886 & 8, 3 Cents Each.
 Since 1886 - 2 Cents Each.

DON'T FORGET TO WRITE US

Minnesota Stamp Co.,

Benson, - - - Minn.

"THE CURIO."

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VII.

BENSON, MINN., JAN.-FEB., 1891.

No. 1.

My Wish.

A. A.

If Cupid would but grant my wish
And skies, serene, would shine,
Oh, damsel dear! with auburn locks,
I'd be thy valentine.

The N. W. P. Association.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., DEC. 30.

The meeting at the Nicollet House last night, to form a North Western Philalelic Association was not largely attended and an adjournment was taken until the evening of Jan. 2, when organization will take place at St. Paul.

ST. PAUL, JAN. 2.

The meeting tonight resulted in the selection of the following officers:

President—E. R. Aldrich, Benson, Minn.

Vice President—W. B. Bourne, St. Paul, Minn.

Secretary—G. W. Achard, Madison, Wisc.

Treasurer—S. W. Scott, Dubuque, Ia.
Superintendent of Exchange—G. A. Martin, Merrimac, Wisc.

A board of trustees to consist of a member from each of the states of the N. W., together with the librarian and counterfeit detector will be appointed by the president.

A committee of five was appointed to draft by-laws, Messrs. Aldrich, A. E. Williams, J. F. Williams, H. M. Norton and W. B. Bourne, being such committee.

The membership with which the new society starts is 37.

NOTES.

A. B. Bourne made a good chairman. By the by, Bourne used to be connected with *The Keystone Exchange* which was published in 1876.

Aldrich was kept to home by a sprained ankle, but he was with the boys in spirit.

Achard's cane was one of the prominent features of the convention. It is said he feared he might be enumerated as a St. Paulite and was prepared to resist.

Whitall, of the Flour City Stamp Co., showed up under Achard's protecting wing.

Few people knew that there were so many collectors in the Twin Cities, and many of them well advanced both in years and philatelic knowledge.

SHAKESPEARE—A MYTH.

PAPER SECOND.

Having in our last paper shown that the education and surroundings of the actor, William Shakespeare,

was such as to render it extremely doubtful, if not altogether impossible, that he could have been the author of the plays which are associated with his name, the next thing is to see if there was anyone, living at the time the plays were placed before the public, who from his pre-eminence learning and ability might have been the intellectual genius who evolved them.

In the whole field of Elizabethan literature, with its many brilliant authors, poets and statesman, we can not but without hesitancy exclaim that there is only one man who could "fill the bill" and that man, Bacon.

Francis Bacon, as is proved by his acknowledged works (to say nothing of what history tells us) was a man of giant intellect, a chaste Latin scholar, well versed in cotemporary Continental literature as well as the legends of the past, a scientist of no mean ability, one of the ablest legal lights that ever graced the English bar, in fact, the one man who seems to unite all the "Shakespearean" qualifications in himself.

From time to time, it has been shown that there are many parallels between passages in his acknowledged works and in the Shakespearean plays. Could these be accidents? That a few similar ideas should exist might not be surprising, but when over a hundred almost identical expressions can be found, does it not necessarily set one to thinking?

How Satan Found His Wife.

BY ONE OF HIS IMPS.

His majesty Satan, one morning awoke
And found that his wife was dead;
He said to himself, "This is really no joke;
My household requires a head;
The defunct, here below, was a marvel of
worth
I must seek her successor above on the
earth."

So the devil set forth on his conjugal quest
Of a queen for the realms below,
And he found he had lost his natural rest
And his progress was terrible slow,
For the woman he wanted was hard to
find
And the cares of his kingdom weighed
on his mind.

The daughters of England were lovely,
he saw
A nation of fair-haired queens;
But those rosy lips could lay down the law
And they lived beyond his means.
So he quietly wandered over to France
And there the Parisian led him a dance.

But why should I tell of his lengthening
work
And of all the countries he tried,
Till he suddenly thought one fine day of
New York
And instantly thitherward hied?
But quick as he was, the women were
ready,
Their heads were clear and their hearts
were steady.

The devil was flattered, and flurried and
pleased,
What grace, what refinement, what
sense.
How quickly his notions, half hinted, were
seized,
And nothing he said gave offense!

He thought he had seen half these beauties
before;
The better he knew them, he liked them
the more.

But time was pressing; he could not wait,
Though he scarcely knew how to choose,
So he offered his crown and his royal state,
Himself and his dead wife's shoes
To a damsel, whose candor and virtue
intact
Were all that the devil himself could
exact.

She accepted his offer and did not repent
When the day of the wedding drew nigh,
For you know that to Hell there's an easy
descent,
And her friends would drop in by and by,
While the devil declared himself more and
more blest
As the innocent creature, he tenderly
pressed.

But when she was married and safely
installed
As queen in the regions of shade,
It is said that the Devil was somewhat
appalled
At the bargain he found he had made
And remarked, "Twould have been, on
the whole, quite as well,
Had I tarried at home and married in
Hell.

OUR CHIGAGO LETTER.

Friend ERA :—

No doubt your readers have nearly
all seen a copy of *Mekeel's Weekly
Stamp News* and I trust the major-
ity of them have, at once, sent in
their subscriptions. It takes money
to run a paper of any kind and this
scheme of Mekeel's should be sup-
ported by every wide awake collect-
or. Certainly, every Western phila-

telist should give his aid to help
along the good work. Don't forget
that Mekeel stood by the West in the
recent A. P. A. Convention, partic-
ularly, and for the good of the
A. P. A. in general.

For the first time in its history, the
Chicago Philatelic Society had an en-
tirely unanimous election. But one
set of officers were nominated. The
new officers are

President—P. M. Wolsieffer.
Vice President—A. P. Hosmer.
General Secretary—C. E. Severn.
Treasurer—L. A. Haskell.
Librarian—C. J. Kuchel.
Executive Committee—Samuel Le-
land, Chairman, W. C. Kurzweg,
and W. G. H. Janssen.

Mr. S. B. Bradt was again ap-
pointed Manager of the Exchange
and Auction Departments.

The 16th C. P. S. Auction sale
takes place Jan. 15th and the 17th
sale, on Feb. 19th. All collectors
desiring to bid at these sales will find
them advertised in the *Stamp Col-
lector*. Any one can bid and have
their bids executed *free of charge*
by any C. P. S. member living in
Chicago. These auctions come more
in the scope of the moderate collector
and beginner although there are
some very rare stamps offered which
will interest the advanced collector.
The C. P. S. is doing good work in
holding these monthly public Auc-
tion Sales.

(Continued on page 6.)

◁ THE CURIO. ▷

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

CURIO CO.,

BENSON

MINN.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

U. S. and Canada per year.....	25c.
Postal Union Countries.....	35c.
South Africa and Australia.....	50c.

—ADVERTISING RATES—

Per Inch.....	\$.35
“ Column.....	1.50
“ Page.....	2.75

Special contracts on standing advertisements.

If this is marked, your subscription has expired. Please renew.

We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

A Good Firm.

THE MINN. STAMP CO.

We have of fine curiosities

The rarest kind, we claim,

And for first-class kinds of stamps

We “get there just the same.”

We sell our goods for what they are—

The price in language plain,

And with low prices for the best

We “get there just the same.”

So don't forget to write to us

Since you have learned our fame

And we will give you bargains great

And “get there just the same.”

Benson, Minnesota, the place

And as you wish our name

'Tis the Minnesota stamp Co.

That “gets there just the same.”

EDITORIAL.

Don't fail to read our new offer to subscribers!

Mekeel's Weekly should receive the support of all true philatelists. A light, gossipy paper once a week is just what is needed. Send us a dollar bill and we will send you the *Weekly* and *THE CURIO* one year, for just the price of the *Weekly*.

If you belong in one of the north western states, you should not fail to join the N. W. P. Association. Read the account of its organization, anyhow.

There were two *Metropolitan Philatelists* for January, one sent out by the Board of Managers and one by Scott and Corwin. Should think this would puzzle advertisers which to pay.

Up to March 1st we will supply back numbers as far as possible, for 3 cents each. After that date we will supply only full volumes.

Don't forget to read the ad. of the Minnesota Stamp Co., and then send for some of their bargains.

The Figaro is now called *The Stamp Collector*, and is under the editorial control of P. M. Wolsieffer. That's enough to prove that it is a good one.

Pat Chalmers has favored us with two circulars thus far this year. One reiterating the same old “chestnuts” and the other villifying those who have the

audacity to write against his pretensions. We have failed to see anything that says anything of the rescinding of the A. P. A. resolutions of support

We must apologize for doubling our January and February numbers, but causes which were unavoidable makes it necessary. Our subscribers, however, may rest assured that we shall not fail to issue our 12 numbers during the year, just as we have done since the CURIO was established.

The old *Philatelic Record* evidently is degenerating, as a sample we quote the following jinkle of which there is a full page in the December number:

"A youth of the South Atlantic
Of Cape had an error gigantic
All day it was red,
When he jumped into bed
It turned blue, and this drove him quite
frantic."

Don't forget that every collector will find it to his advantage to join the P. S. of A., and a resident of the North West, the N. W. P. A.

Should any of our readers be in need of either vegetable or flower seeds, they will do well to correspond with Mr. Edward Larssen, whose ad. will be seen elsewhere. Mr. Larssen's location, in Minnesota, is, we believe, further north than any other seed grower's in this country, which would cause his seeds to be hardier than those of his competitors.

Pencilings.

DIXON'S H. H.

At last the storms which have hovered over the Metropolis seem to be clearing

away. Scott is to have the *Metropolitan Philatelist*, the National a new organ and Corwin will unite his followers into a new society.

Dixon regrets to hear that New York has been visited with such severe winter weather. Can it be the result of Stone's snow-fall?

Dixon hears that Librarian Sheldon of the P. S. of A. has resigned. R. A. was a good officer and we hope the report is untrue.

We understand that Corwin will not follow the English custom of resigning and standing for a vindication. He is afraid the next fight might be harder fought and he would not be victor again. Wonder if Tiffany considers the 378 to 38 vote a reflection on his administration.

Amateur Jottings.

The meeting of the Wapa, at Cincinnati, from all reports was a most successful affair and everything passed off harmoniously.

Mr. F. E. Schermerhorn, of Philadelphia, has appeared as a candidate for the Napa presidency. He seems to have the support of all the Phila. members, except Chiles of *The Rising Age*.

Buffalo is the only place mentioned for convention seat in '92, but legally it should go to a Western City.

The Rising Age for February gives us a portrait and sketch of C. R. Burger.

If New York has any papers outside of Buffalo, we should be pleased to learn it.

We understand that H. E. Deats, the prominent revenue stamp collector will soon issue an amateur journal.

Our Exchanges.

We acknowledge receipt of the following philatelic exchanges and hope the publishers will continue to exchange. Next month, we will give a list of our amateur contemporaries.

Philatelic Journal of A., St. Louis, Mo.
Quaker City Philatelist, Box 38, Phila., Pa.

Eastern Philatelist, Newmarket, N. H.
Philatelic Era, Portland, Me.

Rhode Island Philatelist, Box 202, Newport, R. I.

Dominion Philatelist, Petersburg, Ont.

Stamp Collector, Hanover Centre, Ind.
Fitchburg Philatelist, Fitchburg, Mass.

Essex Co. Philatelist, Lawrence, Mass.
Standard Philatelist, St. Louis, Mo.

Stamp Collector's Journal, Lake Village, N. H.

North American Philatelist, Oak Park, Ill.

Philatelic Beacon, Newtonville, Mass.

American Philatelist, Drawer 651, Chicago, Ill.

N. W. Philatelist, Box 73, Madison, Wisc.

Tribune, Smyrna, N. Y.

Philatelic Reporter, Union Grove, Wisc.

Southern Philatelist, Charleston, S. C.

American Youth, Nashville, Tenn.

(Continued from page 3.)

The banquet of the C. P. S. following the annual election on the night of Dec. 18th, was greatly enjoyed by all who participated. The full particulars, Menu, etc. have been widely published ere this, so I won't go into details at this late hour, but the members are still talking about it and want to get up another one shortly. One enthusiastic member wanted to call a convention of all

the active and passive members and wind it up with a grand feast.

A combine of Massoth and Wolsieffer have produced the *Stamp Collector*, which is the official journal of the C. P. S. and P. S. of A. As is usual with all stamp papers printed in Chicago, the typographical appearance of the *Stamp Collector* is fine. There are several new features introduced and it promises to be an acceptable addition to our ranks.

Union Stamp Co., alias John Borgenson, got eighteen months in States prison for his slight of hand performance of writing other men's names. Now if we can only get the rascal who has been indulging in this amusement on exchange sheets, we will send him to Joliet to keep John company and kind of keep up the "Union" as it were.

The *American Philatelist* is looked for as usual on Jan. 10th. Messrs. Bradt and Leland have been working on it for several days. It is a big job to get a paper of that kind in presentable shape and look after the many details of proof reading, make up, etc., but with Bradt looking after this part of it, it is sure to be an improvement over the last number received.

C. J. Kuchel, the newly elected Librarian of the C. P. S., has received the appointment of Librarian of the A. P. A.

Yours philatelically,

POTPOURRIE.

Have you seen it?

WHAT? Why the best 25 cent philatelic magazine published. You ought to send for a sample copy to The Northwestern Philatelist, Box 73, Madison, Wis.

LOOK! Honest persons who have been suffering with catarrh, come to the front and testify to the reliability of Abbe's Tar Ointment for the cure of catarrh, and colds in the head. By using Abbe's Tar Ointment you have a remedy that will heal, soothe, and cleanse the nasal passages. Abbe's Tar Ointment possesses qualities not found in any other catarrh cure, and it has now a good reputation wherever sold. Sent by mail on receipt of 25 cents. **ABBE & CO., L.** Box 2178, Rockford, Ill. 2t

◁ **BACK NUMBERS.** ▷

During January and February we offer all our back numbers, so far as we can supply them, at 5c each, or 3 for 10c. After March 1st we shall destroy all back numbers. 2t

CURIO CO., - Benson, Minn.

THE YOUTH'S PRESS,

is the best youth's magazine at its price in the world, containing articles by the leading English and American amateur authors. Contains,

Serial and Short Stories,
Philatelic, Exchanges and

Lots more to interest Youth.

Subscription, only 20c per year. Name in Directory free. Advertisements, 15c per inch. Guaranteed circulation over 500 per month. Address mentioning paper, **PRESS, TROY, PA.** Sample free. 6t

A FEW BARGAINS.

35 varieties United States stamps ... \$	.10
50 " " " " " "	.25
100 " U. S. and Foreign .....	.10
250 " " " " " "	.25
400 " " " " " "	1.00
500 " " " " " "	1.50
Stamps to sell at 2 cents, per 100 .....	.50
" " 3 " " " "	1.00
" " 5 " " " "	2.00
Newfoundland, 3c blue " .....	.75
" 3c brown " .....	.50
" well mixed "	1.00

Choice stamps on approval. (4

W. H. Bruce, Box 283, Hartford, Ct.

New Jersey Philatelist.

A monthly devoted to the interest of stamp collectors. Subscription price 25 cents a year. Send for sample copy.

NEW JERSEY PHILATELIST.

C. L. ROLLER, Editor,

298 Market St., Newark, N. J.

HOW'S THIS?

Only 25 cents for the following worth 60 cts.:
CURIO 1 year, .25
 Philatelic Annual, .10
 2 numbers Granite State Philatelist, .10
 3 numbers Philatelic Fortnightly, .15

CURIO CO., .60

Benson, Minn.

∴ **SEEDS** ∴

Of All Descriptions.

The best and hardiest seed grown.
 Lists in English and Scandinavian.

ED. LARSEN,

Benson, Minn.

EXCHANGE WANTED.

I have stamps of equal value to exchange for the following departments which I want for my own collection.

Unused.

Navy 1, 3, 6, 7, 10, 15, 90 c.

Interior 1 c.

Agriculture 30 c.

Justice 1, 2, 12, 30, 90 c.

Treasury 1, 5, 30, 90 c.

Used.

Navy 24 c.

Agriculture 15 c.

Justice 24 c.

Treasury 6, 24 c.

E. R. ALDRICH,

Benson, Minn.

A Great Chance.

To get the CURIO almost free.

Send us 50 revenue stamps, or 50 4, 6 or 15 cent stamps, or 100 5 or 10 cent stamps, and we will send you the CURIO six months.

CURIO CO.,

Benson, Minn.

Amateur publishers insert once and send copy to occupy like space.

Please mention The Curio when answering advertisements.

Press of W. W. Jewett, Portland, Me.

STILL BOOMING.

The opposition dealers are all in the dumps because we are giving such bargains.

The following are from the same collection as the gems sold by us at auction in December and *must be closed out at once.*

U. S. 1886, 10 c. env., 20 var.,*	\$3.25
Confederacy, 10 c. rose on <i>orig. env.</i> ,	2.25
“ Petersburg Local on orig env.	10.00
U. S. Ladies' note env., 1853, wide straight die,	12.50
U. S. letter size 1853, K die on buff,	2.50
“ “ “ “ Shape, C “ “ “	2.50
Spain, 55 var.,	.60
U. S. 1847, 10 black,	1.15
Brady & Co., Local, possibly a reprint,	2.50
U. S. 1856, 5 c., with projections,	1.90

NEW PACKETS.

Our Leader, a bran new one, contains 10 stamps, including rare Western Union, Canada Gas stamps, rare Mexican, etc. The value of this packet is over \$1.00
Postpaid 25 cts.

The Favorite, 25 rare stamps, including the 1861 12 ct., department stamps, etc., only 50 cts.

Ne Plus Ultra, 17 varieties, including 1853 entire envelope, Spain, Cuba, Mexico, India, etc., only

17 cts.

“*Get There*” *Packet* contains 20 good stamps from all divisions of the world. We only offer this to get your name that we may call attention to our many bargains.

Postpaid 6 cts.

STAMP PAPERS.

We have not room to keep them so they have got to go, so just send us 11 cents and we will send you twenty papers by return mail.

History of U. S. Postage Stamps, by J. K. Tiffany, paper.....	\$1.00
History of U. S. Postage Stamps, by J. K. Tiffany, cloth.....	1.50
Philatelic Catalogue, bound.....	4.00
Philatelic Catalogue, unbound.....	3.00
Philatelic Annual, 1887.....	.10
Philatelic Almanac, 1890.....	.20
Philatelic Frauds, 1883.....	.12
Mulready Envelopes, History of.....	.20
Study of Philat.ly.....	.15
Granite State Philatelist file.....	2.00
Collector's Companion, Vol. 1.....	2.00

APPROVAL SHEETS.

We want a few more agents in this department for sheets on which we allow 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ and 50 per cent. To every agent when he makes his first returns, we send this paper free for six months, provided, the amount remitted is over 25 cents.

For collectors, we have some fine sheets put up at *net* prices. Should you want to buy sheets outright, we have some, each holding twenty stamps.

	1 sheet	10 sheets	100 sheets.
To sell at 1 ct.	.07	.60	\$ 5.00
“ “ “ 2 “	.18	1.60	15.00
“ “ “ 3 “	.30	2.80	27.50

Orders under \$1 must include postage.

Minnesota Stamp Co.,
Benson, - - - Minn.

"THE CURIO."

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VII.

BENSON, MINN., MARCH, 1891.

No. 2.

When She'll Need Her Strength.

She rides, and walks, and runs, and rows,
She's quick and energetic.
How she turns up her pretty nose
At all the woes pathetic
Which fills her weaker sister's minds,
And keep them all complaining;
Her greatest joy in life she finds
In her athletic training.

A perfect woman, full of health
And life, all men adore her.
To her they'd gladly bring their wealth,
And lay it down before her,
But she, Diana like, is cold,
And hates their love-sick sighing.
And so she stops their wooing bold,
And sends her lovers flying.

She's cold; but there will come some day,
A man who's fit to woo her,
And then, the more she says him nay,
The closer he'll pursue her.
To love she'll yield—some happy day
She'll give herself in marriage.
Later her strength will come in play
Behind a baby carriage.

—Ark. Traveller.

WORLD'S FAIR STAMPS.

ERA.

When the nation in 1876, celebrated its one hundredth natal year, by holding the Industrial Exhibition in Fairmont Park, the postal authori-

ties gave forth to the world, as its special gift, what is known as the Centennial Envelope.

These envelopes hold a unique place in the postal history of our country, as being the only design prepared for any special occasion.

Since then Great Britain has brought forth what is known as the Jubilee series, in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee Years, but as these have continued in use ever since, they can hardly be entitled to occupy a position similar to our Centennial Envelope. Probably the cards designed in commemoration of the Jubilee anniversary of the Penny Postage Scheme will, however, occupy a similar niche.

Why should not the government issue a special set during the Great Columbian World's Fair, to be sold on the grounds and to be commemorative of the event. Such a series would certainly be a most interesting souvenir of the Fair.

The set should be of a size somewhat larger than the 1869 issue and should be emblematic of the important historical events of our country.

Such a series could be made somewhat as follows:

1 cent, a vignette design of the heads of Washington, Lincoln and Grant.,

- 2 cents. The landing of Columbus.
 3 cents. Signing the Constitution.
 4 cents. Washington crossing the Delaware.
 5 cents. A view of the main building of the Fair.
 6 cents. The surrender of Cornwallis.
 10 cents. The inauguration of Washington.
 12 cents. A design showing the old fashioned post boy at top, and a modern mail train below.
 15 cents. Engagements of the Monitor and Merrimac.
 30 cents. View of Old Fort Dearborn.
 90 cents. Franklin flying kite. In corner telegraph instrument, phonograph, telephone and electric light.

Also a special designed card, showing the landing of Columbus at top, and in border around the card the leading buildings of the Exhibition.

The A. P. A. in its convention in August, should memorialize Congress to take hold of some such idea as this. Brother collectors, let us hear your opinions on the subject.

Publishers! If you contemplate sus-
 pending publication then write us at once
 and we will make you very advantageous
 terms and assume your subscription list.

THE STAMPS OF IRELAND.

I.

While the "Isle of the Shamrock" has never been allowed to issue any postage stamp, but always been subordinate to the "home office" yet collectors of revenue stamps find quite a number of interesting labels. The following list may, or may not be complete, and should any collector be able to make either additions or corrections, the writer would be pleased to acknowledge them.

While stamped paper was issued as early as the eighteenth century, yet it was not until sometime in the fifth decade of the present century, that the first adhesive made its appearance.

Admiralty Ireland.

These stamps were, I understand, to be attached to documents in the Admiralty Court, as would be indicated by their inscription.

The date of the first issue is doubtful, but was probably early in the fifties. The design, a crown and arms of Great Britain, embossed in relief in color on white, black lines for separations, surcharged in green. Admiralty Ireland in block caps.

1. 6 pence rose.

The next issue appeared a few years later. Design, head of Victoria in a circle, surcharge in blue, Admiralty Ireland. Perforate 14. Blueish paper.

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------|
| 2. 1 shilling | mauve. |
| 3. 2 shilling 6 pence | “ |
| 4. 5 shilling | “ |
| 5. 10 shilling | “ |
| 6. 1 pound | “ |

Same on white paper.

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------|
| 7. 1 shilling | mauve. |
| 8. 2 shilling 6 pence | “ |
| 9. 5 shilling | “ |
| 10. 10 shilling | “ |
| 11. 1 pound | “ |

About 1872, a new set was prepared, the design consisting of the effigy of Victoria within a circle, around which the inscription “Admiralty Court Ireland.” The value is surcharged in purple. Perforate

14.

- | | |
|------------------------|-------|
| 12. 6 pence | blue. |
| 13. 1 shilling | “ |
| 14. 2 shilling 6 pence | “ |
| 15. 5 shilling | “ |
| 16. 10 shilling | “ |
| 17. 1 pound | “ |

Petty Sessions.

The first pair issued in 1858, is the embossed arms design, surcharge, “Ireland Petty Sessions” in caps in black.

18. 6 pence rose.

19. 6 pence green

A new specially engraved set came forth in 1862, the design being head of Victoria within a circle, surrounded by the inscription “Ireland Petty Sessions” in caps. Perforate 15.

- | |
|---------------------------------|
| 20. 6 pence rose, |
| 21. 6 pence green, |
| 22. 2 shillings 6 pence purple. |

Registration of Deeds Fee.

The stamps for this department

was first employed in 1861. Head of Victoria within an oval with the inscription, “Registration of Deeds Fee Ireland,” in caps.

- | |
|------------------------------------|
| 23. 3 pence red-brown, |
| 24. 4 pence “ |
| 25. 6 pence “ |
| 26. 1 shilling “ |
| 27. 2 shillings “ |
| 28. 2 shillings 6 pence red-brown, |
| 29. 8 shillings red-brown. |

In 1864 the same series appeared perforated 13, and two new values were added.

- | |
|------------------------------------|
| 30. 3 pence red-brown, |
| 31. 4 pence “ |
| 32. 6 pence “ |
| 33. 1 shilling “ |
| 34. 2 shillings “ |
| 35. 2 shillings 6 pence red-brown. |
| 36. 8 shillings red-brown, |
| 37. 10 shillings “ |
| 38. 1 pound “ |

Record of Title Fee

First issued in 1861. Similar to Registration Stamps with inscription “Record of Titles Fee Ireland.”

- | |
|--------------------------|
| 39. 1 shilling green, |
| 40. 2 shillings 6 pence. |

In 1862 the same were perforate 14.

- | |
|-------------------------------|
| 41. 1 shilling green, |
| 42. 2 shilling 6 pence green. |

License,

Issued in 1865 for use on receipts in payment of dog tax.

Design, a shepherd coolie facing to left, below “License and value.”

- | |
|-------------------------|
| 43. 2 shillings lilac, |
| 44. 10 shillings blue, |
| 45. 20 shillings green. |

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Special contracts on standing advertisements.

If this is marked, your subscription has expired. Please renew.

We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

Have you sent in your subscription yet? If not, you should not delay, “for now is the chosen time.”

We will send *Mekel's Weekly* and THE CURIO one year for \$1.00, the price of the *Weekly* alone.

Send us \$2.40 and we will send you *The Cosmopolitan Magazine* and THE CURIO for a year. This is making you a present of our paper.

Publishers! If you contemplate suspending publication then write us at once and we will make you very advantageous terms and assume your subscription list.

Dealers! Do you wish to place your ad where it will reach a live class of buyers

who are not apt to receive any other paper of this nature? If so, close a contract with us at once.

We acknowledge the receipt of the following, and having placed them in our X list, hope they will reciprocate:

- Dilettante*, Indianapolis, Ind.
- Bugle*, Buffalo, N. Y.
- Chinook Breezes*, Seattle, Wash.
- Fern Leaf*, Philadelphia, Pa.
- Literary Signal*, Blue Earth, Minn.
- Rising Age*, Philadelphia, Pa.
- My Regard*, Geneva, Neb.
- Little Sight*, Buffalo, N. Y.
- Star*, Langhorne, Pa.
- Investigator*, Allentown, Pa.
- Appeal*, New Orleans, La.
- Plain Talk*, 5 Beekman St., N. Y.
- Rusher*, Bowling Green.
- Iris*, Indianapolis, Ind.
- Acme*, Oakland, Cal.
- Twinkling Star*, Buffalo, N. Y.
- Commentator*, Chicago, Ill.

JOTTINGS.

ERA.

The *American Philatelist* under its new board of editors has twice come to us. If to judge by the editors is any criterion, it is bound to be a success.

While talking of Chicago we can not fail to think of the new *Stamp Collector*. Under the management of Wolseiffer it is bound to take rank with the foremost.

If you live in the Northwest you should see to it that you join the N. W. P. A. The statement in all eastern papers that its formation was owing to dissatisfaction with the A. P. A. is without foundation.

Only two A. P. A.'ites were in attendance at the organization and they still remain members of the older organization.

Isn't it about time for World's Fair Committee of A. P. A. to commence to make preparations for the display of '93. No effort should be spared to make the display complete in every particular and have, if possible, a specimen of every stamp, essay and envelope displayed.

The London Philatelic Society has recently elected the Duke of Edinburgh as Honorary President. The society numbers several of the nobility among its active members.

Mekeel's Weekly certainly fills a long felt want and is certainly the best of all Mekeel's attempts.

PENCILLINGS.

DIXON'S H. H.

I understand that not enough votes were cast in the late P. S. of A. election to insure an election. In my own case, I had no chance to cast a ballot as I did not receive the paper containing the notice of election until two days before the day of counting the ballot.

Talking of the P. S. of A., are you a member? If not, why not? Do you want to belong to a society having a good live exchange department, or are you wedded to a sales department run in the interests of the dealers as the sales department of the A. P. A. is?

At last the *Metropolitan Philatelist* has passed into the hands of J. W. Scott

and the "merrie war" is at an end for a while at least. Was there ever a time when the New Yorkers were at peace with one another for a whole year?

It seems to us that there are not as many new local societies being formed this year as previously, and of many of the old ones we hear practically nothing. Who now hears of the Fitchburg, Savannah, Atlanta (Ga.) or the Pomeroy, of Toledo?

The N. W. P. A.

In our list we gave a report of the formation of this new society, but since then we have heard nothing new, but we believe that it is slowly but surely progressing onward.

The officers of the society are certainly all that could be desired.

The President has, ever since he entered the ranks of philately, been one of her most active votaries. He has been a member of nearly all the leading societies, although he has, I understand, since the A. P. A. convention severed his connection with several of the eastern societies.

The Vice President, Mr. Bourne, is probably the leading spirit of the collection of the Saintly City. Mr. Bourne has been a collector for nearly twenty years, and was way back in the seventies for a period connected with a Pennsylvanian stamp journal. He is a man whom Philately can well be proud of.

The secretary, Geo. A. Achard, a resident of Minneapolis, is at present pursuing his law studies in the University of Wisconsin, at Madison. He has been a collector over ten years and has off and on, been connected with philatelic journalism the greater part of the time, having been editor of the *North Star* and *Minn-*

esota Philatelists and is now in connection with Mr. F. S. Davis publishing the *Northwestern Philatelist*.

The treasurer is Mr. S. W. Scott, the promoter of the Philatelic Mercantile Agency, the purchasing agent of the P. S. of A. and the most prominent of Iowa dealers.

We advise all collectors, resident in Minnesota, the Dakotas, Wisconsin, Michigan, Iowa or Nebraska to join at once.

LELEX.

The Trenton Limestone.

BY EDGAR J. KLOCK.

Nature has carefully preserved for us a history of all creatures that have had life in the past. Although she has written in a picture language, yet her facts are faithfully stereotyped, printed and bound in many vast volumes, piled high one upon another all over the Earth's surface and termed stratified rocks. Of this vast library of antediluvian lore, no volume is of more interest to us than "The Trenton Limestone." The Trenton period, of which "The Trenton Limestone" is one of the four epochs represented in this state, is a part of the Silurian Age, or age of Mollusks, and is, probably, distributed over a larger territory than any other similar deposit.

The Trenton Limestone proper, which receives its name from the picturesque gorge at Trenton Falls, N. Y., is a hard, compact formation, black in the lower beds, grading to a gray in the upper, and is extensively quarried for building purposes; while it gives to the student one of the grandest and most satisfactory fields for study in the state. It is one great pile of organic remains. Corals, plants and shells are crowded together in

the greatest abundance, and often pieces of the rock, seemingly devoid of fossils, with the microscope show their animal origin. Brachiopods (arm-footed bivalves) are found in many varieties, while the Trilobite appears in a vast number of types and sixteen or twenty well defined species, varying in length from a half to sixteen inches. Their bodies were divided lengthwise into three lobes (from whence the name "Trilobite"), covered with a jointed crust like the tail of a lobster.

The Trilobites were second, however, in abundance, size and power to the Orthoceratite, which marked the entire period. This peculiar animal inhabited a straight shell, which was periodically lengthened to accommodate its growth. As it increased in size it built another room at the larger end of its dwelling and moved into its new quarters, sometimes forming and connecting as many as sixty of these chambers, each larger than the preceding one. In this class were found the largest animals inhabiting the Silurian Seas, some specimens measuring thirty feet in length; while others are no larger than a pencil. Altogether the fossils in the Trenton Limestone are numbered high up in the thousands, so that in so brief a space we can but just touch so vast a subject.—*Mohawk Standard*.

THE YOUTH'S PRESS,

is the best youth's magazine at its price in the world, containing articles by the leading English and American amateur authors. Contains

Serial and Short Stories,
Philatelic, Exchanges and

Lots more to interest Youth.

Subscription, only 20c per year. Name in Directory free. Advertisements, 15c per inch. Guaranteed circulation over 500 per month. Address mentioning paper, PRESS, TROY, PA. Sample free. 6t

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Diamond  **Philatelic**
DIRECTORY

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Editor Literary Yankee,

Box 665, Augusta, Me.

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35 varieties United States stamps ... \$.10
50 " " " "25
100 " U. S. and Foreign10
250 " " " "25
400 " " " "	1.00
500 " " " "	1.50
Stamps to sell at 2 cents, per 100 .....	.50
" " 3 " "	1.00
" " 5 " "	2.00
Newfoundland, 3c blue " .....	.75
" 3c brown " .....	.50
" well mixed "	1.00

Choice stamps on approval. (4

W. H. Bruce, Box 283, Hartford, Ct.

READ!

A breezy paper 3 months on trial, only 5 cents. Every 5th person answering this gets it one year FREE. Subscription rate 25c a year. Ad. rates 25c an inch, 3c a line.

HERALD, 910 N. Winnebago St.,
 2) Rockford, Ill.

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As long as we can supply them, we offer the following great bargains. Of some we have but one in stock, while of others we have several hundred, so it is best for you to order early.

U. S. 1847, 5c.....	\$.23	1869 1c.....	.12
5c pair.....	.85	2c.....	.02
10c.....	1.15	3c.....	.01
10c pair.....	2.50	6c.....	.22
10c trio.....	25.00	10c.....	.25
1851, 1c*.....	.50	12c.....	.25
1c.....	.08	30c.....	.90
1c on original envelope.....	.15	1872, 7c.....	.25
1c pair.....	.25	12c.....	.08
1c trio.....	.60	24c.....	.35
12c.....	.70	90c.....	.09
12c pair.....	2.00	1888 30c*.....	.45
1857, 1c*.....	.08	60c*.....	1.45
1c* pair.....	.20	Navy 6c.....	.12
1c.....	.04	Interior 3c*.....	.05
1c on original envelope.....	.08	6c*.....	.09
1c pair.....	.15	Set.....	1.05
1c trio.....	.50	Executive 2c*.....	2.15
3c* trio (no gum).....	.20	3c*.....	1.75
3c outer lines.....	.30	State 6c*.....	.20
1861, 1c on original envelope.....	.03	7c*.....	.40
1c pair.....	.10	Agriculture 1, 2, 3, 6c.....	.80
1c trio.....	.25	15c*.....	.65
5c.....	.20	Justice 3, 6, 10, 15c.....	2.00
12c.....	.12	P. O. 1c.....	.10
24c.....	.12	10c*.....	.30
1863, 2c.....	.02	Faunces Local.....	.45
2c on original envelope.....	.05	J. F. Henry 1c silk.....	.09
1868, 12c grilled.....	.25	Western Union frank, 1886*.....	.35
2c grilled.....	.08	1887*.....	.20
2c grilled on original envelope.....	.15	1888*.....	.15
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		Internal Revenue Rebate.....	.15
		Match 3v.....	.05

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Minnesota Stamp Co.,
Benson, - - Minn.

“THE CURIO.”

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VII.

BENSON, MINN., APRIL, 1891.

No. 3.

He Didn't Swear.

She sneaked the boy's candy that Santa Claus left,

And knowing Sue Smithers committed the theft

He felt a big mad and he wanted to swear,
But—thoughts of ma's slipper made Johnny beware.

“Dear Mamma,” said Johnny, “you know that I am

A Sunday-School scholar and wouldn't say ‘dam,’

But ‘Rotterdam’ ma, is that wicked to say?”
She answered, “No evil those words can convey.”

How sweet the relief to this Sunday-School child,

And how like a dear little demon he smiled !
“I never will play any more on the heath
With Sue, but I wish she was planted beneath
And hope that stole candy will Rotterdam
teeth.”

—*Judge.*

MAIDA'S BROTHER.

Maida Gordon came from the library to which she and her sister Janet had been summoned; her face was clouded, her eyes glistering and the corners of her sweet mouth drooped pathetically, a most direct contrast to her sister, whose scornful expression showed her anything but a “maiden all forlorn.”

“Maida,” she said, placing her arm across her sister's shoulders,

“I don't believe a step-mother will be so bad, after all. Mamma died when we were so young, that I do not feel that her place is being usurped, as I should if I remembered her better.”

“It isn't that which affects me,” said Maida; “it's the choice he has made. No wonder he didn't speak of her much; he didn't mention her name at all, did he?”

“No, I think not, but it is Miss Caldwell, of course.”

“Of course,” Maida agreed, “he has been going to the Dallas' so often of late, that we know it isn't all on business; that old maid school-teacher is the attraction.”

The girls separated, Janet going to her room, while her sister went to the summer-house and threw herself on its lounge; the subdued sobs that shook her slight form showed that her grief was very great. She must have made an attractive picture, for a young man coming up the gravel walk, paused in the doorway and regarded her with an expression in which it is hard to say if admiration, pity or humor was prevailing. Soon he approached her and said, “Come, sister mine, you've cried quite enough; I came to have you share my joy, and here I find you in the depths of despair. What's up, pray.”

Maida looked up quickly and met the quizzical, aughing eyes of Hal Dallas, her father's friend and partner.

"Your sister?" she asked, "Yes, I supposed so long ago, but why didn't Janet tell me?"

"Well, I can't say; perhaps she doesn't know, I haven't seen her for a day or two."

"Haven't seen her! Well, how am I your sister, then?"

Hal looked at her smilingly for a moment, and then said, "Oh, that's easy enough. Tell me first, what is the cause of your grief."

"That is easily done, I don't like my father's choice of a wife."

"You don't! What have you against her, I'd like to know," Hal exclaimed, whether in mock or real anger, Maida could not tell.

"In the first place, she doesn't like me; and secondly, she's an old maid; thirdly, she's——"

Hal burst out laughing and asked, "Would you object to telling me who is the unfortunate cause of this?"

"Why, Miss Caldwell, of course," Maida said, much surprised.

"Well, Miss Gordon, I don't know as it will make any particular difference, but I may as well tell you that it is my mother who has consented to watch over you young ladies. Now, ain't I your brother?"

To say that Maida was astonished is expressing it too mildly. She sat erect and stared at her informant for a few seconds, and then began to cry again.

"Oh, I say, now don't please. It's a rather queer and unexpected piece of business, but I don't know as it can be helped now; I know though, how you feel about it," Hal said.

"Oh, I am just as glad as I can possibly be, but I never——"

"What are you crying for then? Let's have smiles instead of tears," and Hal took her moist and tear-stained handkerchief and put it in his pocket, and they went to find Janet.

The marriage soon occurred and the two families were most perfectly united. Janet had made her *debut* a year before and her time was fully taken up with the round of calls, balls and parties, so Maida devoted much of her time to "her brother." Always kind and deferential, the additional privileges which his new relationship gave him took nothing from the charm of his person or manner. He was her constant attendant at all places of amusement and her confidante in many ways.

As she entered the library one afternoon on her return from a shopping expedition, she was surprised to see Hal lying on the lounge.

"What is the matter, Hal, sick?" she asked.

"No, only tired and a slight headache," he said, as he pulled a chair near the couch for her.

"Shall we try the old remedy," she asked smiling.

"If you like," he answered, and she went to the bookcase and brought

a volume of Longfellow's poems and soon "the music of her voice" floated through the matchless lines.

As she raised her eyes once, she noticed that his own were closed, and she stopped reading. He opened them and said, "I am not sleeping, but you may quit if you like."

As Maida closed the book, he said, "I wonder what special treat Maude has in store for us this evening."

"Do you feel like going?" Maida asked. They were alluding to a friend at whose home they were to spend the evening.

"Oh, yes," Hal said, "I feel rested already. If I did not go, who would take care of my sister? She will let me bring my sweetheart home, I suppose."

Maida looked up quickly and said, "Ah! I thought you had been keeping something from me; I'll find out now who your sweetheart is."

Hal smiled but said nothing. That evening, as usual, Maida was the favorite, the center of attraction, but she found time to "keep an eye on Hal," as she expressed it, to discover the object of his attentions. She was near deciding several times, but none of the maidens selected, seemed to quite reach her idea of the character of Hal's sweetheart.

When the guests were thinking of leaving, Hal came with her scarf and bonnet, and together they started for home.

"Wasn't she there tonight?" Maida asked quizzingly.

"Yes," he answered, quietly.

"I wonder if someone has been fooling him," she thought. She tried to find some sign of unhappiness in his face, but he seemed decidedly otherwise. She was at a loss to account for it.

Hal asked, "Would you like to see her picture? I can show it to you when we reach home."

When they entered the hall, Hal removed her wraps and hung them up; then leading her before the mirror, he asked, "Do you see her now, Maida?"

As she saw her own image reflected in the glass before her, she looked up at him with a puzzled, joyful face.

"Hal, I—you—"

"I am in earnest, dear. Won't you be my sweetheart now, my wife by-and-by?"

Then she raised her eyes to his and put out her hands with a little impulsive gesture. "Take me, Hal," was her only answer, but it must have been sufficient, or he would not have been allowed to take "the lover's toll" that he did.

HONOR MYDDLETON.

P. S. of A.

ST. JOSEPH, MO., March 10. The election of the P. S. of A., resulted in the election of the following officers:

President—E. R. Aldrich.

Vice President—M. V. Samuels.

Secretary—A. N. Spencer.

International Secretary—H. E. Deats.

Treasurer—F. N. Massoth, Jr.

◁ THE CURIO. ▷

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

CURIO CO..

BENSON

MINN.

— SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

U. S. and Canada per year.....	25c.
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South Africa and Australia.....	50c.

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" Page.....	2.75

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We wish to exchange with all.

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Don't forget you can send us \$1.00 and get both the CURIO and *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* for a year.

While they last we will give every new subscriber a copy of the Christmas CURIO. This offer is good for 15 days only.

Don't fail to send to Geo. W. Achard, Box 73, Madison, Wis., for an application blank of the N. W. P. A.

Subscriptions have been rolling in rapidly the past month, but still like *Oliver Twist* we call for more.

We add to our exchange list this month:
Bumble Bee, Alameda, Cal.

Maritime Philatelist, Salem, Yarmouth, N. S.

Racquet, Box 128, So. Portland, Me.
Amateur Writer, Box 261, Albany, New York.

Stamp Critic, Washington, D. C.

Pencilings.

DIXON'S H. H.

Stanley Gibbons has opened up a store at 435 Strand, London. This is the first attempt, I understand, a philatelic store in the great metropolis.

It was my pleasure to see another lot of P. S. of A. exchange sheets lately, and I got some good bargains from them too. Why don't you join?

By-the-by, what do you think of the "World's Fair Stamps," as suggested by *Era* last month. Such a scheme should certainly be carried out.

The suspension of the *Stamp Collector* is certainly to be deplored. Such is the way of the world, however.

Philatelic Wafers.

It is said that Sir Rowland Hill, the author of the postage stamp, had at the time of his death, in 1879, the most complete collection of postage stamps in existence. It was valued at \$5000. Among his curiosities was the original die, value 3 shillings, 6 pence, with which it was intended to stamp colonial legal paper, according to the provisions of the famous Stamp Act of 1776.

Who kills all dead letters? Miss—
Direction.

An ingenious machine is soon to be placed in stores and other prominent places in all large cities. It is an adaption of the put-a-nickle-in-the-slot machine to the sale of postage stamps. A sheet of stamps is cut into slips the width of two stamps, and these slips are wound around a cylinder inside of the machine. A nickle is placed in the slot which drops down, starts an electric current, which causes the stamp cylinder to revolve, the slip of stamps glides along and passes under a row of needles, which drops down and cuts off two stamps. The owner of the nickel waits a few seconds after the money disappears and then presses a metallic button and two stamps make their appearance at an aperture in the lower part of the machine. It is proposed by the inventor to place these machines in all large cities.

The *P. C. Record* says: "The large and small postal cards soon to be issued by our postal authorities, remind us of the man who cut a large and small hole in his kitchen door; one to admit the kittens and the other for the large cats. The department will soon find there is no market for the small postals. We all want more room and as a thing of beauty or of style a postal card is neither fashionable or tony, but simply a thing of utility and therefore, the larger the better.

E. P. NEWCOMER.

The Birmingham Exhibition.

A fine art exhibition, held in Victoria Hall, Aston, Birmingham, Nov. 26th, 27th, and 28th, 1890, included some phil-

atelic exhibits which proved a great source of attraction to visitors and attracted considerable attention in the local newspapers, which have recently contained letters urging the city council to form a philatelic section in the grand Art Gallery, as a standing memorial to Sir Rowland Hill in his native town.

Mr. Hollick had under his charge the arrangement of exhibits which were in a series of frames 3x2 feet. The principal object sought was to popularize the hobby rather than display the rarities of the exhibitors.

The first frame contained the Mulready envelopes and letter sheets, surrounded by the very extensive and interesting collection of caricatures of Messrs. Walton and W. T. Wilson, the catalogue pointing out that it was greatly through the ridicule thus thrown on them that Mulready's envelopes were withdrawn from circulation. Adjoining these, came a fine show of essays and rejected designs for adhesives, by Messrs. Whiting and others, much interest being shown by the visitors in the V. R. black and the Prince Consort essays. A re-constructed plate of the one penny, black, by Mr. Walton, with every variety of English postage stamps down to the Jubilee issue, was also shown.

In the space devoted to the British Colonies, each one issuing stamps was typically represented, several countries being complete. This section, also, included several frames of oriental stamps, and complete plates of Afghans, which, with the quaint Cashmere and Bhopals, were curiously eyed and curiously commented on.

Unfortunately, the hall could only be secured for three days, and much regret was expressed by the public and the press that such treasures as were shown should only be on view for so short a time. It should be added that the Marquis of Lorne was one amongst the many distinguished visitors and Captain Grice Hutchinson guaranteed every expense.—*Philatelic Record*.

FAUNCE'S LOCAL.

ERA.

Since Dr. Mitchell's article appeared in a recent number of the *Independent Philatelist*, I have written to several of the prominent business houses of Atlantic City for information concerning the post run by A. S. Faunce.

The following letter from E. J. Hackney of the real estate firm of Perkins & Hackney would seem to vouch for the authenticity of the post.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Feb. 28, 1891.
E. R. ALDRICH,

Benson, Minn.

In reply to the enclosed letter, I would say the stamp is a genuine one and A. S. Faunce is now keeping a grocery store in this city. He carried on the "Penny Post" business until the Government put on regular carriers, when he was debarred from further business.

Yours respectfully,

E. J. HACKNEY.

THE STAMPS OF IRELAND.

II.

Chancery Fee Fund.

The first series were issued in 1767, the design being the arms and crown variety:

46.	1 penny	rose
47.	6 shilling 2 pence	"
48.	2 pounds	"
49.	3 "	"
50.	5 "	"

In 1872 a new series was prepared. Design, head of Victoria in circle, surcharged in red, "Ireland Fee Fund." Perforate 14, color violet.

51.	3 pence	
52.	4 "	
53.	6 "	
54.	8 "	
55.	1 shilling	
56.	1 shilling 4 pence	
57.	1 "	6 "
58.	1 "	8 "
59.	2 "	
60.	2 "	4 "
61.	2 "	6 "
62.	2 "	8 "
63.	3 "	
64.	3 "	6 "
65.	4 "	
66.	5 "	
67.	7 "	
68.	8 "	
69.	10 "	
70.	14 "	
71.	1 pound	
72.	2 "	
73.	3 "	
74.	5 "	
75.	10 "	

ERA.

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At 50 per ct. commission from Scott's prices. Central and South American stamps a specialty. Reference required.

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Philatelic, Exchanges and

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TWO CENTS.

Buy a two-cent stamp and with it write for our superior approval sheets. We allow 33 1/3% commission and do not require reference from members of the A. P. A., C. P. A., P. S. of A., or N. W. P. A. Collectors not members of the above named societies will please send reliable reference. SEND NOW.

MONONA STAMP CO.,

Box 73,

Madison, Wis.

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M. Steffan,

MEMPHIS, - Mo.

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1c 1857, outerlined labels, 6 var., each	\$.30
3c " " " 20c; per 10	1.25
3c " fine per 100	.50
3c 1861 pink 18c; per 10 \$1.25; per 100	9.00
3c 1863 per 100	.20
3c 1868 grilled, per 100	.40
3c 1870 grilled, per 10 30c; per 100	2.25

1c 1872 Fine.....	15c per 100
2c " "	40c "
3c " "	10c "
6c " "	50c "
10c " "	50c "
1c Due.....	90c "
2c "	50c "
3c "	50c "
2c 1875.....	15c "
5c "	75c "
5c 1882.....	40c "
10c "	30c "
4c 1883.....	35c "
5c For'n Ex.....	90c "
Star Match.....	6c per 10
Echiel & Co. Silk.....	20c "
3c Treasury Dept., new.....	\$2.25 per 100; 25c per 10

Send list of wants, numbered by any catalogue and receive sheets. Standard selling price Dept. 25, postage 30, and Revenue 50 per cent. Comm. Net sheets and cards of rarities, 1200 varieties (all U. S.) in stock.

Address as above.

A FEW BARGAINS.

35 varieties United States stamps	...	\$.10
50 " " " " " "	.....	.25
100 " U. S. and Foreign	.....	.10
250 " " " " " "	.....	.25
400 " " " " " "	.....	1.00
500 " " " " " "	.....	1.50
Stamps to sell at 2 cents, per 10050
" " 3 " " " "	1.00
" " 5 " " " "	2.00
Newfoundland, 3c blue	"	.75
" " 3c brown	"	.75
" " well mixed	"	1.00

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10 U. S. Medicine.....	.50
2 Faunce's Locals.....	2.00
5 Confederate on Envelope.....	.50
100 Stamps @ 1.....	1.00
50 " " 2.....	1.00
25 " " 3.....	.75
10 " " 5.....	.50
50 Mexico.....	1.00
10 Mexico Revenues.....	.30
100 Stamp Papers.....	1.00
1 inch ad in CURIO 3 times.....	1.05
1 year's subscription to CURIO.....	.25
1000 Hinges.....	.10
10 Approval Sheets.....	.10

Total \$11.30

Minnesota Stamp Co.,

BENSON, MINN.

ESTABLISHED IN 1885.

F. N. Massoth, Jr.,

IMPORTER AND DEALER IN

U. S. and Foreign Postage and Revenue Stamps, Stamped Envelopes, Tax Paid Stamps,

All Albums and Everything Pertaining to Philately.

Do not delay to send for my new 12-page illustrated price list free to all. I carry in stock everything required by a stamp collector.

Approval Sheets of saleable stamps sent to reliable parties. I pay from 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 40% commission. A commission of 15 to 25% is allowed on U. S. postage.

Agents wanted in every town, school, etc., to represent our house. Send for special terms.

Packets from 5c to \$10.00. A Scott's \$1.50 album given free with every purchase of a \$10.00 packet. Packet of 1000 asst., including such as Mexico, Chili, Japan, etc., sent postpaid for 20 cents.

Gummed Hinges I keep in stock best quality only price 8c per 1000 or 70c per 10,000 postpaid.

Wholesale. Wholesale parcels of stamps sent on approval to parties furnishing gilt edge references. Wholesale list free.

Buying List. Send 5 cents for 12 page book of cash prices paid for U. S. stamps.

Blank Approval Sheets made of best onion skin, with printed heading. Per dozen 10c; per 25 15c; per 50 25c.

Albums. I carry in stock all the standard albums, and really sell them below publishers' prices. The latest and best.

J. W. Scott's Best Albums.	
\$1.50 edition, Board cover, postpaid for	\$1.25
2.50 " Gilt, cloth, " "	2.25
5.00 " Printed one side of paper, postpaid for	4.25

I make a specialty of buying Collections or stocks of stamps of all sizes and varieties and pay best cash prices.

Address,

F. N. MASSOTH, JR.,

Hanover Centre, [5] Indiana.

Press of W. W. Jewett, Portland, Me.

"THE CURIO."

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VII.

BENSON, MINN., MAY, 1891.

No. 4.

Parting.

Only a head on his shoulder,

Only an arm round her waist,

Just a touching of ruby lips

Of the sweetest nectar a taste.

Only a soft murmured goodnight,

As they parted at the gate,

Just then a rush—a snarl—a growl,

But the ~~dog~~ dog is too late.

Only a vanishing coat tail,

Only a maiden forlorn

As papa crys from the window,

"Say now, is that young cuss gone."

A. A.

EDWIN B. SWIFT.

To write the biography of such a man as Edwin B. Swift is an easy task. There is in his life so much of interest, in his personality so many characteristics that the fund of facts is inexhaustable.

Knowing him as I do from the time when we were boys together, and he was captain of our ball club, the leader in the Seventh District School and growing up with him to manhood's estate, I have ever found him a leader in his set. A leader not because he has chosen to lead, but because he was chosen by others. A leader because he is the kind of a

man in whom trusts are placed because they will be well attended to. It is as natural to those who are his companions to "want to know what Doc thinks of it" as it is to consider him at all.

He has the force of character that is essential to a successful business man; his opinions are formed quickly, expressed in the same manner, and he has the courage to stand by them.

He is the kind of a man who is always ready to take the part of the "under dog in the fight" and while no man is too poor to be beneath his notice, no man is too high for him to hesitate in telling him what he thinks.

The amateurs of the last ten years all feel that "they always knew where Swift was on any question," to quote an opinion of E. A. Edkins.

Born in 1860, entering amateurdom in '79, he has published the largest single issue of an amateur paper, one of the longest lived and most regularly issued papers; the best single issue and during the last ten months has issued ten papers of 138 pages, more in fact than either of his opponents and their campaign committee combined.

(Continued on page 3.)

◁ THE CURIO. ▷

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

CURIO CO.,

BENSON

MINN.

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—ADVERTISING RATES—

Per Inch.....	\$.35
" Column.....	1.50
" Page.....	2.75

Special contracts on standing advertisements.

If this is marked, your subscription has expired. Please renew.

We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

Circumstances over which we had no control so occupied our time as to both make us appear in a reduced form and to be extremely late, but it shall not occur again.

Why don't you join the P. S. of A.? If you want to get rid of your duplicates, you will find it has an excellent exchange department.

To the first twenty-five persons subscribing this month, we will give an unperforate 25c insurance stamp free.

Minnesota Historical Society.

The Sixth Biennial Report of the Minnesota Historical Society is before us in the shape of a neat 62-page pamphlet.

Many valuable additions have been made to the library. The same now numbers 18,207 bound volumes and 16,475 unbound pamphlets, to catalogue which requires 54,850 cards.

Quite a number of valuable additions have been made to the collection of photographs. Probably the most notable addition to the museum was a "Washington" chair, presented by Major Geo. B. Clitherall, of Mobile, Ala., to the society on March 10, 1890. Among other donations we note some Confederate postage stamps from J. Bellaire of Winona.

It is greatly to be regretted that the society have such small space to display their valuable collection in.

In the department of manuscripts many valuable documents relating to our early State history have been added.

Probably the most valuable collection of newspapers in the northwest is owned by the society, which now number 2031 volumes.

A number of volumes of Boston and New York dailies of war times, were added during the past year.

The collection of pamphlets is made a specialty by the society and donations to the collection are always appreciated.

C. B.

She was a Stamp Collector too.

Miss Alice—"I learn Mr. Bowles, that you intend to make the grand tour?"

Bowles—"Yes, Miss Alice."

Miss Alice—"And you promise to write to me from every country you visit?"

Bowles—"Promise? Ah, you may not know how I will value the privilege! When I am far from friends will it not be a vertible heaven to think of you and address you? But will you really care to receive so many letters?"

Miss Alice—"The more the better. I am collecting the postage stamps of all countries.

(Continued from page 1.)

He is not alone worthy of the office, and capable of filling it, but is pre-eminently the man in a position to advance the interest of the cause he represents. He has practical plans, both for the elevation of amateur journalism and the increasing of its adherents, by judicious proselyting. He has to sus-

tain him the support of the men of ability in amateurdom and is the only candidate whose support is universal in its breadth.

As editor of *Hyperion*, associate on *Red-Letter Days*, *Vanity Fair* and *Quarterly Review*, he is presenting the best papers ever published by an amateur.

FRANK RANDALL.

The Philatelic Society of America.

ORGANIZED JANUARY 15, 1889.

President—E. R. Aldrich, Benson, Minn.
 Vice-President—M. V. Samuels, San Francisco, Cal.
 Secretary—A. N. Spencer, Cor. John and Front Sts.,
 Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Treasurer—F. N. Massoth, Jr., Hanover Center,
 Indiana.

International Secretary—H. E. Deats, Hightstown,
 New York.
 Exchange Superintendent—S. B. Bradt, Grand Cross-
 ing, Illinois.
 Purchasing Agent—S. W. Scott, Dubuque, Iowa.
 Librarian—R. A. Sheldon, Mobile, Ala.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

CINCINNATI, O., May 1, 1891.

At last the Society has secured their new official organ in the *Curio*, a philatelic sheet that no doubt all our members are well acquainted, as it is an old paper and a bright one. It will be mailed to each and every member each month and they will find therein full particulars of the doings of the Society. We trust a fresh impetus will be given to the growth of our Society through the dissemination of knowledge by our journal. We expect our Society to be of great national importance and every individual member should strive to bring in recruits to swell the ranks.

I have but just received the books and

papers of the Society and have no statistical information to present this month. In assuming the duties of the official position to which I have been called, I do so with some hesitation because of my inexperience in that line of society work, but I trust that with the able support of the members, I may succeed in performing acceptably those duties that will bring into our organization the friends of philately from every quarter of our broad land and make it an important factor in spreading the knowledge, geographical, historical and governmental, that the study of our science produces.

Correspondence relative to the society business will receive prompt attention.

A. N. SPENCER,
 Secretary.

Please mention *The Curio* when answering advertisements.

THE S. B. BRADT COMPANY.
(INCORPORATED.)



PROPRIETORS OF COBB'S CIRCULATING LIBRARY.

91 & 93 Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.

DEALERS IN

POSTAGE AND REVENUE STAMPS

STAMPED ENVELOPES, POST CARDS, ALBUMS, ETC

U. S. WANTED!

I will give $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of stamp papers for every U. S. stamp catalogued at 10c. No envelopes wanted.

E. R. Aldrich, Benson, Minn.

COINS, STAMPS, CURIOS,

48-PAGE CATALOGUE FOR STAMPS.

W. F. GREANY,

827 Brannan St., [8] San Francisco, Cal.

A FEW BARGAINS.

35 varieties United States stamps	... \$	.10
50 " " " " " "	.....	.25
100 " U. S. and Foreign	.....	.10
250 " " " " " "	.....	.25
400 " " " " " "	.....	1.00
500 " " " " " "	.....	1.50
Stamps to sell at 2 cents, per 100	.....	.50
" " 3 " " " "	.....	1.00
" " 5 " " " "	.....	2.00
Newfoundland, 3c blue	" " " "	.75
" " 3c brown	" " " "	.50
" " well mixed	" " " "	1.00

Choice stamps on approval. (4

W. H. Bruce, Box 283, Hartford, Ct.

ESTABLISHED IN 1885.

F. N. Massoth, Jr.,

IMPORTER AND DEALER IN

U. S. and Foreign Postage and Revenue Stamps, Stamped Envelopes, Tax Paid Stamps,
All Albums and Everything Pertaining to Philately.

Do not delay to send for my new 12-page illustrated price list free to all. I carry in stock everything required by a stamp collector.

Approval Sheets of saleable stamps sent to reliable parties. I pay from $33\frac{1}{2}$ to 40% commission. A commission of 15 to 25% is allowed on U. S. postage.

Agents wanted in every town, school, etc., to represent our house. Send for special terms.

Packets from 5c to \$10.00. A Scott's \$1.50 album given free with every purchase of a \$10.00 packet. Packet of 1000 ass't., including such as Mexico, Chili, Japan, etc., sent postpaid for 20 cents.

Gummed Hinges I keep in stock best quality only price 8c per 1000 or 70c per 10,000 postpaid.

Wholesale. Wholesale parcels of stamps sent on approval to parties furnishing gilt edge references. Wholesale list free.

Buying List. Send 5 cents for 12 page book of cash prices paid for U. S. stamps.

Blank Approval Sheets made of best onion skin, with printed heading. Per dozen 10c; per 25 15c; per 50 25c.

Albums. I carry in stock all the standard albums, and really sell them below publisher's prices. The latest and best.

J. W. Scott's Best Albums.
\$1.50 edition, Board cover, postpaid for \$1.25
2.50 " Gilt, cloth, " 2.25
5.00 " Printed one side of paper, postpaid for 4.25

I make a specialty of buying Collections or stocks of stamps of all sizes and varieties and pay best cash prices.

Address,

F. N. MASSOTH, JR.,
Hanover Centre, [5] Indiana.

“THE CURIO.”

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VII. BENSON, MINN., JUNE, 1891.

No. 5.

This Life is Like a Pack of Cards.

BY FRANCIS E. SMITH.

This life is like a pack of cards;
The four suits are the classes;
Trumps take the sway in all regards;
The odd suits are the masses.
Some lose, some win, as runs the game;
If trumps come to us freely,
We gather gold, acquire fame,
And go through life genteelly.

Childhood's best cards are hearts, of course,
While youth for diamonds scramble;
For middle-age clubs are the cross,
Yet each suit is a gamble,
For fortune comes and fortune goes,
As with our late we scuffle,
Till old age falls with all its woes,
And spades end the last scuffle.

—*N. Y. Weekly.*

FOR BACHELORS ONLY.

Agree with the girl's father in politics and the mother in religion.

If you have a rival keep an eye on him. If he is a widower keep two eyes on him.

Don't put too much sweet stuff on paper. If you do you will hear it read in after years when your wife has some especial purpose in inflicting upon you the severest punish-

ment known to a married man.

Go home at a reasonable hour in the evening.

Don't wait until a girl has to throw her whole soul into a yawn that she cannot cover with both hands. A little thing like that might cause a coolness at the very beginning of the game.

If, upon the occasion of your first call, the girl upon whom you have set your young affections looks like an iceberg and acts like a cold wave, take your leave early and stay away. Woman in her hour of freeze is uncertain, coy and hard to please.

In cold weather finish saying good-night in the house. Don't stretch it all the way to the front gate, and thus lay the foundation for future asthma, bronchitis, neuralgia and chronic catarrh to help you to worry the girl to death after she has married.

JOTTINGS.

DIXON'S H. H.

It is a matter of profound grief that the philatelic world should be deprived of such a worker as Vice President Tapling of the London Society. The work he had

already done, especially in the investigation of the plates of Australians, was such that it entirely revolutionized the method of collection of those stamps. To be removed, when scarcely in his prime seems hard, for philately expected much of him in the future.

Soon will the proxy fiend of the A. P. A. be after your vote. If you cannot attend yourself be careful with whom you place your attorneyship, as it will be better to be unrepresented than misrepresented.

While speaking of proxies, I know of no one whom the western member can trust more safely, than Chas. Haviland Mekeel. He has attended each convention of our Association and has always exerted his influence of the side of Right.

It is a matter of regret that the P. S. of A. does not progress better. The departments are all in the hands of good men and the society offers all the advantages that the more costly A. P. A. does.

Packet Mexico.

8 varieties Mexico including unused, .10

Packet Gothic,

12 varieties including unused, .13

Packet Faunce.

10 varieties including Faunce Local \$1.00

MINNESOTA STAMP CO.,
BENSON, MINN.

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We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

We will get back full size next month sure.

* * *

An unused Mexican worth 5c, our Christmas No., and a copy of the *Philatelic Annual* to every new subscriber in July.

* * *

Do you want the *Philatelic Journal of America* and this paper a year for 55c? If so get your order in by July 25.

The Philatelic Society of America.

ORGANIZED JANUARY 15, 1889.

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 New York.
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 ing, Illinois.
 Purchasing Agent—S. W. Scott, Dubuque, Iowa.
 Librarian—R. A. Sheldon, Mobile, Ala.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, JUNE 1, 1891.

Fellow Members:

One reason that a stamp society exists successfully, is because each and every individual member considers himself a committee to look after the welfare of the society and see to it that the government of the institution is correctly administered, and to seek out those who are ready to become identified with him in spreading the society good into wider fields and new localities. Do you wish the P. S. of A. to thrive? Then seek for the new blood. Carry every doubting Thomas or timid collector by persuasive and irresistibly gentle assault until he enthuses and enlists under Philatelia's Banner, as it is carried by the P. S. of A. I will do my share.

Members who have made changes in their addresses will please kindly communicate them to the Secretary, that he may publish them in the official journal.

Members are aware that under the able management of S. B. Bradt, the Exchange Department will be a splendid place to dispose of duplicates. The Purchasing Department is in good hands and orders for new issues will have best attention. Then there is our Library. A donation of papers from our overstocked supplies will make that department a very attractive feature.

The hints thrown out as to our various

departments are merely to call your attention to them in a general way. For particulars apply to the various heads of departments.

A. N. SPENCER, *Sec'y.*

BENSON, MINN., JUNE 1, 1891.

Fellow Members:

Although the dull summer season when many collectors lay aside their collections until the return of the cool of the autumnal season is here, yet it is right and proper that those of us, and let us hope that means all, who are sufficiently interested in our hobby to remain loyal to it during the "heated term", put our shoulder to the wheel and do our utmost to place our society in such a position, that when the fall renewal of philatelic interest comes, our society shall be in a position to command the respect of the entire philatelic public. To bring about this end it is necessary that we should do all in our power to bring our society to the notice of all good, reputable collectors, to induce outsiders to come into the fold, to make use ourselves of all the advantages offered by the different departments. By doing this we can place our society where it should be—equal to all, exceeded by none.

E. R. ALDRICH, *Pres't.*

Midsummer Sale.

Our First Auction Sale will be held on July 25th, afternoon and evening. An unusually large and fine assortment of U. S. will be sold without reserve, as well as many rare foreign stamps.

Catalogues mailed free upon application.

The S. B. Bradt Company,

91 & 93 WABASH AVE.,

CHICAGO,

ILL.

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"Packet July."

10 good varieties including a slightly damaged 5c Confederate 1st issue on original envelope, catalogued at 35c alone, for only

18 Cents.

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"THE CURIO."

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VII.

BENSON, MINN., JULY, 1891.

No. 6.

Only Once.

It was a pitiful mistake,
 An error sad and grim;
 I waited for the railway train,
 The light was low and dim.

It came at last and from the car,
 There stepped a dainty dame,
 And looking up and down the place,
 She straight unto me came.

"Oh Jack!" she cried, "Oh dear old Jack!"
 And kissed me as she spake;
 Then looked again, and frightened cried,
 "Oh what a bad mistake!"

I said "Forgive me, maiden fair
 That I am not your Jack,
 And as regards the kiss you gave,
 I'll straightway give it back."

And since that night I have often stood
 On the platform lighted dim,
 But only once in a man's whole life
 Did such things come to him.

—*Boston Courier.*

A. P. A. CONVENTION.

ERA.

The time of the annual convention of the A. P. A. draws on apace, and it behooves members to begin to consider the subject.

Soon the "proxy fiend" will be soliciting your power of attorney-

year members should be careful to see that the man to whom they delegate their authority will not be one who will misuse it, but will carefully and truthfully carry out the wishes of those whom they represent. From experience of the past I can unhesitatingly recommend C. H. Mekeel of St. Louis or Geo. H. Watson of New York as men who will carry out even the most minute instructions.

Of course there may be, as at last years gathering, resolutions and actions which are not anticipated but let us hope that the gathering this year may tend to reunite the nearly broken bands which hold together the philatelic east and west. That there will be several matters of importance to be determined, we all know, the most important of which is undoubtedly the

INCORPORATION IDEA.

What action should be taken on this important point? Unquestionably there are two sides to this, as to every other question, so that to determine just what to do will require the most careful consideration from all members. As the laws exist in nearly if not all the states of the union the governing power, all business meetings and all official acts must take place in the state where the charter is issued, which will

result in practically placing our national society on the same basis as the National Society of New York in the East and the Chicago Society in the West, not that they are incorporated but that as far as the governing power goes they are entirely local although each possesses a large extra-urban membership.

Undoubtedly this would render the Association a better and safer institution for the members who reside in the place of centralization but would it not tend to cause the gradual drifting away of those who were not so favorably situated?

Look at it as you will, but carefully deliberate upon the matter before giving up the Association into the hands of any local clique wherever located, for as Frank H. Burt in a recent number of the *American Philatelist* says it is "better to have a live society without a charter than an incorporated skeleton."

NEXT CONVENTION SEAT.

With the understanding that the World's Fair City has the convention of 1893, it would seem but right to yield to Philadelphia the meeting of '92, for as yet this important point has not received the attention from the A. P. A. which it deserves, and the fact that they were to have the convention seat would probably cause the "Quakerites" to boom matters philatelic.

New York having had the convention seat twice successively should withdraw from the list, Chicago with her promise of '93 should be quiet,

and Boston and St. Louis, each having had the honor, should be willing to abdicate in favor of the City of Brotherly Love.

IN RE CHALMERS.

While the emphatic manner in which the Convention of '90 rescinded the Chalmer's resolution passed at Chicago would seem to settle this matter yet there may be an attempt to again cause our Association to declare in favor of the "impostor's scheme" so that all who wish to see the truth of history upheld should see that the matter stays where it belongs—*innocuous desuetude*—until convincing proof is produced by the only and original Pat.

THE AMERICAN PHILATELIST.

Undoubtedly the question of continuing the publication of the *A. P.* will be brought before the convention and after the fight of a year ago, members should be on the alert for any "clap-trap" schemes which the "clique of '90" might spring.

Means should be devised by which our organ can be placed on a par with the best philatelic publications both at home and abroad.

THE TRUSTEES.

Should they be elected or appointed? This is really no new question but one which has been more or less talked of before, but why there should be any change in the constitution on this point I fail to see. That the trustees since they have been located together have produced better and more harmonious work is

undisputable and the chances are, unless some proviso to the contrary, that if elected they would again be separated and so all usefulness destroyed.

These will probably be the leading topics for consideration before the New York assembly with possibly some movement to censure the actions of the Corwin-Scott combine of '90 but probably in this latter matter it would be best to let the dead past bury the past and to let any such movement severely alone.

If the members work for the good of the Association they will not be guided by personal or local ideas but only by such action as will tend to cement and keep alive that friendly feeling among all sections which will tend to stimulate members *everywhere* (New York included) to renewed efforts to place the American Philatelic Association in the highest niche of philatelic fame.

CROQUET.

A. D. F.

It is doubtful if any game, even the so-called National Game, has as many ardent admirers as the old timed "Methodist Billiard," adapted as it is to the wants both of the dwellers of the spacious mansions on the avenues and the more lowly dwellers of the alleys.

To be sure the mode of play in

the two localities are often as different as the well turned, finely varnished, highly ornamental set which ornaments the well trimmed lawns and the poor battered up remains which amuse the children of the slums.

The fact that there are so many different modes of playing, from the rules of the "professional game" to the little red pamphlet directions which the manufacturers send out.

It was for this reason that when the editor of THE CURIO asked me to prepare a few simple rules I was willing to comply.

I. At the beginning of the game place your ball half way between the starting stake and the first arch.

II. The ball must be struck fairly with the face of the mallet. (Young players should especially guard against shoving or pushing the ball as the habit when once acquired is hard to overcome, and is one which will rule a player out of a game).

III. Every strike counts if the ball moves however slightly. If the player strike the ground or entirely misses the ball, he may strike again.

IV. Every player after making a wicket or striking a stake is entitled to another stroke, provided the arch or stake is the proper point to make.

V. The tour of the ball continues as long as it makes a point or croquets a ball.

VI. When a ball strikes another ball the player is entitled to two strokes if he moves *both* balls at the first stroke, otherwise but one.

(Continued on page 6.)

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We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

AUTHORS.—We are in need of a few good articles and will send a sheet of stamps worth \$2.00 for the best article on stamps received by Sept. 1.

ADVERTISERS.—Have you placed your ad. with us yet? If not, why not? You will find we reach the best class of persons possible and have unusually good facilities for obtaining new names to send sample copies to.

We are in receipt of a neat little pamphlet, the third in the series of “Jewett’s Philatelic Library.” This

little work is from the pen of Edward P. Newcomer, and is written in that author’s most pleasing style. As the subject—“Ten Days with a Modern Stamp Dealer”—indicates, the work shows the inside of a dealer’s life and the ins and outs of the trade. A flavor of sentiment is intermingled by introducing a daughter of the dealer who “had determined to marry the man with the stamps,” and who in the end gave the hero—“well I needn’t say what.”

As an addition to every philatelic library it should be in good demand and we hope yet to receive a second edition.

We can cheerfully commend our readers to Mr. F. N. Massoth, Jr. of Hanover Centre as being an upright, industrious, and reliable dealer, who will cheerfully and satisfactorily fill any orders consigned to him.

The coming A. P. A. convention will probably be one of the most interesting which the Association has seen. The question of incorporation is one which will probably be a most momentous one and one upon which the existence of the body may hinge. Members should hesitate before giving the Association over into the hands of any local clique.

Don’t forget that the P. S. of A. offers just as many advantages as any society in existence and at rates largely lower.

The Philatelic Society of America.

ORGANIZED JANUARY 15, 1889.

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BENSON, MINN., July 1, 1891.

The sultry weather has caused many of our collectors to take vacations. The closing exercises and examinations in our schools has tended to keep others employed in matters non-philatelic so it is not to be expected that much work would be done. The heated period of July and August will probably be such that most members will seek well merited rest and we can hardly expect a revival before September but let us then put our shoulder to the wheel all together and show glorious results.

It is with regret I announce the acceptance of Mr. Bradt's resignation as Exchange Superintendent.

However another Chicago hustler, Mr. P. M. Wolsieffer, has accepted the management and we have just as good a man at the helm, a much better one than the A. P. A. can boast of.

E. R. ALDRICH,
President.

REPORT OF EXCHANGE MANAGER.

GRAND CROSSING, ILL., June 13, 1891.

Since I have taken charge of this Department, the following business has been transacted.

Filled sheets received, circulated, and returned to owners 149. These were made up into 23 books and circulated as 4 different lots. The sales amounted to

\$58.70. I have this day started out over a circuit of 11 members lot No. 5, comprised of 30 sheets in 8 books. value \$90.27.

This is the last lot I shall put in circulation, having a few days since tendered my resignation as Manager. Any filled sheets received after this date will be held for my successor in office.

The expenses of the Department since Oct. 1, 1890 have been \$10.39, of which \$5.39 is for miscellaneous expenses and \$5 paid on account of printers' bill. There is \$17.80 owing the printers which should be settled at once, as this bill is over six months old.

The receipts for sheets have been \$5.95, or \$4.44 less than expenses, of this latter amount Mr. Aldrich advanced \$3.08 and I \$1.36. This makes the indebtedness of the Department as follows:

M. H. Kendig, printing	\$17.80
E. R. Aldrich, cash	3.08
S. B. Bradt, cash	1.36

\$22.24

There is due the Department from members \$9.10 and that amount is owing Mr. Massoth for stamps taken from his sheets. I trust those owing will at once remit and allow me to settle all matters before turning over the Department to my successor.

S. B. BRADT,
Exchange Manager.

CHICAGO, July 10th, 1891.

To the Members of the Exchange Dept.:

Having accepted the appointment of Exchange Superintendent I would respectfully call the attention of all the members of the department and also those who are not participants to Mr. Brádt's report. It shall be my endeavor to make the Department a success, but in order to do so, I must have the active and hearty co-operation of all the members.

Blank sheets will be furnished at five cents each as before, and the same rules and regulations will prevail. I would ask each member to be prompt in making settlements and forwarding to next on circuit. By strictly observing these two simple rules you will greatly help in making a success of the Department.

Don't take stamps from sheets unless you are fully prepared to pay for them the following month. I want to hear from every member of the Society and I trust you will all send in filled sheets and ask to have your name placed on circuit as well.

Remember that this Department is run in the interest of the members and if you want to receive its benefits you must apply for them. Only members in good standing will be placed on circuit.

Members should also try to secure the applications of other desirable stamp collectors. The Secretary will furnish all with application blanks.

P. M. WOLSIEFFER,

Exchange Superintendent.

Drawer 707.

(Continued from page 3.)

(A player by this rule is not entitled to an additional stroke if he "tight" croquets, *i. e.*, places his foot on his own ball and drives the croquetted ball away.)

VII. A player is entitled to but

one stroke, however many wickets he may make. (In this point I prefer to follow professional rules and not the old fashioned "baby" game of giving an additional stroke for each wicket over one made at a single stroke.)

VIII. A player playing out of turn loses all advantages gained in the "out of turn" play and is deprived of his next turn.

IX. If a player plays with a wrong ball, the ball must be replaced and player loses his turn.

X. No ball, except a rover (*vide infra*) can croquet the same ball a second time until the playing ball has won a new wicket. (A ball is said to be dead on a ball after croquetting it and remains dead until an additional wicket is made.)

XI. No ball can be croquetted until it has passed the first wicket.

XII. A player after croquetting a ball is not compelled to roquet it, *i. e.*, play in such a manner as to move the croquetted ball.

XIII. A player croquetting a rover so that it touches the starting stake has a further stroke, but no right to roquet.

XIV. A ball which has made the entire circuit except striking the starting stake, becomes a rover. A rover becomes "dead" only during the continuance of a single play.

XV. If the croquetted and croquetting ball both make a wicket at the same stroke, the player is entitled to but one stroke.

XVI. A ball passing through a wicket and striking a ball at one stroke, it is necessary to again strike the ball to entitle the player to claim the wicket.

XVII. If a ball is driven off the

limits of the grounds, it may be replaced at the point of leaving.

XVIII. Should a ball croquet two or more balls, each must be played upon in turn.

XIX. Disputed points may be referred to any disinterested bystander.

XX. Always keep good natured and never lose your temper. You will play a better game if you are cool, calm and deliberate.

Young players should endeavor to keep near the partners, in a four or six hand game, and to keep the balls of their opponents apart. For a mallet many prefer a short handle (12 to 14 inch) but a full length is to my way of thinking much more desirable.

Wickets should not be over 9 inches wide at the ground. The ground where possible should be at least 70 feet long. Professional games are usually played on a sand ground, but a good, evenly cropped grass lawn makes an elegant court.

[Any questions on the game will be cheerfully answered by the writer of the above, whom the editor can recommend a thoroughly well posted player. Address inquiries to A. D. F., Care of CURIO, Benson, Minn.—Ed.]

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35 varieties United States stamps	\$.10
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Stamps to sell at 2c, per 100.....	.50
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Please mention The Curio when answering advertisements.

Auction.

Auction.

Auction.

Our first sale will be held in the early part of September and the list of what we offer will occupy this space next month.

Minnesota Stamp Co.,

Benson,

Minn.

Our New List

Will be out September First. Send us a 2c stamp and we will send you the list as soon as issued and five stamp papers *at once* post free.

A DULL MONTH

Is what we expect from July 15th to August 15th, so we make you this special offer, a fine sheet of stamps, worth \$1.00, for only

40c.

If you don't want to buy have you anything to trade or

SELL?

If so write us and we will make you an offer.

Anything in the stamp line that can be procured can be had of us.

Don't forget to send for that new list.

Minnesota Stamp Co.,

Benson,

Minn.

Established in 1885.

F. N. Massoth, Jr.,

IMPORTER AND DEALER IN

U. S. and Foreign Postage and Revenue Stamps, Stamped Envelopes, Tax Paid Stamps.

All Albums and Everything Pertaining to Philately.

Do not delay to send for my new 12-page illustrated price list free to all. I carry in stock everything required by a stamp collector.

Approval Sheets of saleable stamps sent to reliable parties. I pay from 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 40% commission. A commission of 15 to 25% is allowed on U. S. postage.

Agents wanted in every town, school, etc., to represent our house. Send for special terms.

Packets from 5c to \$10.00. A Scott's \$1.50 album given free with every purchase of a \$10.00 packet. Packet of 1000 asst., including such as Mexico, Chili, Japan, etc., send postpaid for 20 cents.

Gummed Hinges I keep in stock best quality only price 8c per 1000 or 70c per 10,000 postpaid.

Wholesale. Wholesale parcels of stamps sent on approval to parties furnishing gilt edge references. Wholesale list free.

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Blank Approval Sheets made of best onion skin, with printed heading. Per dozen 10c; per 25 15c; per 50 25c.

Albums. I carry in stock all the standard albums, and really sell them below publisher's prices. The latest and best.

J. W. Scott's Best Albums.

\$1.50	edition, Board cover, postpaid for	\$1.25
2.50	" Gilt, cloth, " "	2.25
5.00	" Printed one side of paper, postpaid for	4.25

I make a specialty of buying Collections or stocks of stamps of all sizes and varieties and pay best cash prices.

Address,

F. N. MASSOTH, JR.,

Hanover Centre, Indiana.

"THE CURIO."

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE P. S. OF A.

VOL. VII.

BENSON, MINN., AUG., 1891.

No. 7.

Popping the Question.

When Adam asked sweet Mistress Eve
His gentle wife to be,
She prettily did sigh and blush
And pulled a rosebud from a bush,
And spake no word to he,
Leaving in doubt if she did grieve.

He took her by the lily hand,
Talking rapidly,
She tore the leaves from off the rose
And cast them feebly at his toes,
And stood there silently,
Her foot upon the pebbly sand.

He urged his suit with throbbing heart.
And went down on his knee;
One sweet, admiring glance she stole,
While love went surging o'er her soul
For the first time you see,
And broke the spell with sudden start.

"Then, sir, I'll be your willing wife."
He thanked her heartily.
"I'll mend, and make, and wash, and sew,
To others I'll a pattern show,
And tend the progeny,
And never gossip in my life."

L'ENVOI.

Since that well nigh forgotten day
The boys all seem to want
To have the girls their blushing brides.
Then soon come little tots their prides—
But though the times have changed
Yet still they act the same old way.

THE MEDIO PESO OF PERU.

ERA.



Among the rarest of American stamps, one of the two varieties of the medio peso of Peru issued in 1858, will always be numbered, being outranked in scarceness only by some of the early British Guianas. This label, in the carmine or rose color, is usually considered an error, being caused by an insertion of a die of the medio peso by mistake in a plate of the una paseta. This view is advanced by both Moens and Evans in their respective catalogues, but J. K. Tiffany in his comments on the Peruvian Societies' list, states that Mr. H. L. Calman, has, or had in his possession some two years ago, a strip of twenty or more stamps in which two adjoining stamps were each of the medio peso value and the balance of the una paseta from which he infers that the two values were intentionally and purposely printed together, probably to save expense.

Whatever may have been the case, it is certain that but very few of this color were used and that a new printing of the higher value was ordered and executed in a new color—yellow.

This latter variety is also a "scarcity" being catalogued at from \$12 to \$20, the latest American catalogue (Mekeel's) pricing it at \$13.50.

Specialist who make a note of the fine differences in shade can find at least eight varieties.

1. Medio peso, rose.
2. " carmine.
3. " brick-red.
4. " yellow.
5. " orange-yellow.
6. " golden-yellow.
7. " lemon.
8. " yellow nearly buff.

The forgeries of the stamp are not such as would be likely to deceive, as the young and inexperienced collector is hardly liable to advance the amount requisite to procure a specimen but the following notes on the subject may not be out of place. The shield is 7 mm high, the entire design is 21x21 mm and has eleven lines in the top, bottom and left band, and twelve in the right. The stamp when cancelled is covered by a large single circle with name and date or a double circle with name between the circles and date in the centre.

The only counterfeit which I have seen is evidently of the "Hub" manufacture, being exceedingly

"wooden-blockish" and being found not only in yellow and reddish shades, but also blue. Earce in his "Album Weeds" describes another lithographed on stout yellowish white wove paper, fourteen lines of shading in the compartment of the shield which bears the llama, counting on the right hand side of it and the llama has an absurd blotch on the shoulder. The right and left hand labels bear the word CORREOS and the bottom label has MEDIO PESO. The ground-work is of short oblique lines pointing different ways in alternate rows.

JOTTINGS.

DIXON'S H. H.

I see by some of the foreign papers, the officials of the British Museum are loath to accept the bequest of the late Thos. K. Tapling. It will be a serious blow to our cause if the gift be not accepted, as the display of such a collection by that institute would be most advantageous.

I fail to see how the philatelic press have overlooked Era's suggestions on "World Fair Stamps" in the March number of the CURIO. Such a set would be a most interesting souvenir of the great exhibition.

The N. Y. World's Fair Committee, appointed at the convention of a year ago, should tender their resignations and allow a committee of Chicago hustlers to be appointed. To be sure, its quite a long ways

ahead to '93, but the early bird, etc., and if we wish a *complete* display, it is time to commence looking around.

The New York crowd are keeping quiet in expectancy of the incorporation scheme being carried through the A. P. A. convention, when they will try to rush through the scheme with N. Y. as the state for the charter and then gobble in the offices and the Association.

The July P. J. of A. notes a 20 cent Confederacy on ribbed paper, also a 20 cent with lines similar to the outer line 10-center. Over a year ago Mr. Aldrich showed me a specimen of the 20-center, with lines on three sides, but I hardly thought it worth noticing, much to that gentleman's disgust.

A Dealer's Talk.

ELMO.

Having next to nothing to do I dropped into the stamp emporium of my friend X—the other day and found him lounging back in his office chair, his feet resting on his desk and a fragrant Havana between his teeth.

Knowing from experience that this position was a sure indication that visitors (not purchasers) were welcome, I immediately dropped into a chair on the other side of the desk and upon being offered a "weed" soon was assisting in filling the office with fragrant smoke.

"Well X—," says I, "what was you dreaming of when I came in?"

"Well, to be candid, I was just thinking that the stamp trade is not what it used to be."

"Why not? Well, there are quite a number of reasons. In the cheaper class of stamps competition is so much greater

than formerly that there is practically little or no money in handling them except in enormous quantities. This competition is also felt in good goods, by the advent in the last few years of several large new concerns. Then again, quite a number of these new concerns brought large capitals into the business, giving them the advantages of a large surplus, which they have on hand ready to invest in stamps for which there may not be demands for years to come, and also by 'gobbling' up all rarities that are offered and hold them for future advance. Then again, while as a rule, collectors are more honest than once, yet when we do get caught it is usually for a much larger amount than formerly. Why, it is not long ago that I received a \$50 deposit from a collector and kept sending him from time to time sheets of rarities, and at last was foolish enough to submit a consignment of rarities which I had received from a foreign correspondent, and which were worth about \$500. I did, after considerable expense, recover a portion of the lot, but was out nearly \$200 on the deal, which you see ate quite a hole in my profits for that month.

"Another consideration which we have now to figure on, and which we did not have to contend with a few years ago, is the growing disinclination of collectors to accept anything but what is just exactly to their fancy—a stamp is cancelled too heavily, or on the wrong part of the stamp, the stamp must not have a single crease in it, or in fact, must be just so. Oh, I tell you the stamp business has gone to the 'demnation bow-wows' and just as soon as I can clear out what I have on hand I shall quit the business; but say don't you want to look at that new lot of old Saxony envelopes I just received to-day."

Of course I looked at them, but when he began trying to dispose of the lot at a profit of seventy-five per cent., I quit him and went home wondering why it is that mortals are never satisfied.

 ✧ THE CURIO. ✧

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

CURIO CO.,

BENSON

MINN.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

U. S. and Canada per year.....	25c.
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We call the attention of dealers to our new advertising rates. Considering the class of collectors to whom we circulate, our paper is undoubtedly the best and cheapest medium which an enterprising dealer can desire.

We hope in the near future to devote a portion of our space to a review of the English stampic publications, thus keeping our readers abreast with the philatelic happenings and feelings abroad. These reviews will be prepared by

the gentleman who has so frequently in the past contributed to our columns under the signature of “Dixon’s H. H.”

In order to increase our subscription list, we will send a selection of stamp papers weighing half a pound to every person subscribing before September 15.

Ere this reaches our readers the A. P. A. annual meet will have become a thing of the past, and let us hope that whatever course the Association may adopt, they may not be such as shall start it on the down hill road.

C. W. KINGSBURY.

It is with the most sincere regret that we learn of the decease of Charles W. Kingsbury, of St. Cloud, Minn., one of Minnesota’s most sterling collectors, who passed away on June 30. Mr. Kingsbury was for many years the secretary of his local Masonic lodge, a prominent and well respected citizen. A sketch of the gentleman will be found in the CURIO for June, 1889.

The Philatelic Society of America.

ORGANIZED JANUARY 15, 1889.

President—E. R. Aldrich, Benson, Minn.

Vice-President—M. V. Samuels, San Francisco, Cal.

Secretary—A. N. Spencer, Cor. John and Front Sts., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Treasurer—F. N. Massoth, Jr., Hanover Center, Indiana.

International Secretary—H. E. Deats, Hightstown, New York.

Exchange Superintendent—P. M. Wolsieffer, Drawer 707, Chicago, Illinois.

Purchasing Agent—S. W. Scott, Dubuque, Iowa.

Librarian—R. A. Sheldon, Mobile, Ala.

BENSON, MINN., August 1, 1891.

Fellow Members:—Soon the season of activity in our little circle will be at hand. Soon again the album will be brought from its resting place where it has lain dormant during the summer. Soon again we will be ready to commence our season of barter and exchange. Then let us each obtain from the Secretary a supply of application blanks and mail one to each of our correspondents when writing and try and induce them to come into the fold. Only by some such systematic work can we expect to make our society such a one that its influence can be weightily felt in philatelic circles.

E. R. ALDRICH,
President.

A SALES DEPARTMENT.

A letter has been received by the President, and the publishers of this paper are willing to donate a column a month to assist in furtherance of the scheme should it materialize. The plan has been submitted to the official board. We give only an extract from the letter: "Seeing that several other societies are in the habit of holding monthly sales, why should not the P. S. of A. establish a similar department? A commission of ten per cent. could be charged to defray expenses and no lot which the manager considered worth less than \$1.00 advertised. Members should be allowed to

place their reservation price on the lot, and such price should be given when the sale was advertised. Can't something like this be done?"

THE PHILA. CONVENTION.

"We have met the enemy and they are ours," wrote Perry after the memorable naval victory, and most appropriately did our correspondent from "the seat of war" open his letter with the same words. The vote on the presidency resulted:

	Proxy.	Present.	Total.
Swift,	62	25	87
Schermerhorn,	19		19
Tomlinson,	6		6

57 votes being a majority.

Swift having received 87 was declared duly elected.

The balance of the ticket elected was

1st Vice—Miss Cox.

2d Vice—C. H. Lawson.

Rec. Secretary—John Moody.

Cor. Sec.—O. A. Raum.

Treas.—H. R. Cody.

Off. Ed.—W. C. Chiles.

Judiciary Com.—J. L. Tomlin-

son, W. O. Wylie and T. J. Spencer.

Buffalo was successful in the fight for next convention seat.

C. R. Burger was appointed Sec'y of Credentials, J. F. Morton, Jr., Laureate Recorder and C. W. Edmunds, Librarian. The poet laureateship was awarded Miss Stella Truman, that of history to Mrs. Ella Maud Frye, while *The Ideal* achieved the honor among the papers.

The Schermerhorn people are "hot under their collars", but in face of such an overwhelming Swift "snow slide" will undoubtedly come around all right.

Dealers' Directory.

A 2 or 3 line card in this column, \$1.00.

ADAMS, S. C., & Co., 6 Shirley street, Worcester, Mass. Liberal discounts on approval sheets.

ATLANTIC STAMP CO., Hartford, Conn. Dealers in foreign and American postage stamps. Good agents wanted at 33½% commission.

BRADT THE S. B., & CO., 91 & 93 Wabash avenue, Chicago. Stamps, albums, etc.

BURGER & CO., 59 Nassau street, New York City. Old United States and rarities. New catalogue 10c postfree.

CONRATH, JR., & CO., JULIUS, 1334 Lasalle street, St. Louis, Mo. Agents wanted. 33½% commission allowed from our sheets. List free.

CARPENTER & CO., 867 East 137th street, New York. Stamps on approval by Scott marked and 35% allowed. Agents wanted (send reference).

BOGERT, R. R., Room 37 Tribune Bldg, New York. Wholesale and retail.

CLARK, T. S., Box 1039, Belleville, Ontario, Can. Canada stamps wholesale and retail. Wholesale list to dealers only. Agents wanted at 33½% commission.

DeWOLF, A. B. S., Box 115 Halifax, N. S., Canada. British North American stamps a specialty.

DURBIN & HANES, 128 S. 7th street, Philadelphia, Pa. Established 1869. Complete catalogue, 25c.

EDWARDS, PEEKE, & CO., 2728 Calumet avenue, Chicago, Ill.

FLOUR CITY STAMP CO., 125 Nicollet avenue, Minneapolis Minn. Approval sheets a specialty.

GLOBE STAMP CO., 2008 N. 10th St., St. Louis, Mo. Dealers in foreign and United States stamps.

GREANY, W. F., 827 Brannan street, San Francisco, Cal. Coins, stamps and curiosities.

GREMME, HENRY, 80 Nassau St., New York. South African stamps a specialty.

HOLTON, E. A., 8 Summer St., Boston, Mass. Rare U. S. and foreign stamps. Established 1861. Price list on application.

HAYNES, W. E., Sioux City, Iowa. Dealer in U. S. and foreign postage stamps.

HOUSTON, J. H., U. S. Department stamps, 461 Mo. avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. Packets 5c, 10c, 25c, 50c each.

JACKSON, 605 Bennington street, East Boston, Mass. Fine stamps on approval. Prices low. Good commission to agents. Send reference.

J. W. SCOTT COMPANY, LIMITED, 163 Fulton street, New York City. Stamps, coins and curiosities.

KETCHESON, H. F., Box 499, Belleville, Ont., Canada. Canada stamps a specialty.

KOON, F. H., P. O. Box 487, Auburn, N. Y. United States and foreign stamps on approval. Central American a specialty.

LANG, E. G., 80 Cypress street, Rochester, N. Y. United States and foreign stamps on approval at 50% discount.

LOHMEYER, A., 922 N. Gilmor street, Baltimore, Md. Postal cards for collections, price list 10c.

LUTHER, E. S., 504 Madison avenue, Albany, N. Y. Sheets of fine stamps on approval at 33½% discount. Agents wanted.

MARSHALL, E. W., 414 Merrimac street, Lowell, Mass. Send for my fine sheets of postage and revenue stamps at 40% commission.

McMAHON, WALTER, 65 Melbourne avenue, Toronto, Ont., dealer in Canadian, United States and foreign postage of all kinds. Sheets at 40% below Scott. Send for price list.

MEKEEL STAMP & PUBLISHING CO., C. H., 1007, 1009, 1011 Locust street, St. Louis, Mo. Wholesale and retail stamp dealers and publishers.

MOREY, H. E., 26 and 31 Exchange street, Boston, Mass. Dealer in foreign and American coins, paper money and stamps. Send 10c for 1891 price list.

MOUND CITY STAMP CO., St. Louis, Mo. Incorporated under the laws of Mo. Mexican stamps a specialty.

NEWMAN, W. G., P. O. Box 78, Kingston, Jamaica. Solicits foreign correspondence.

NEW ZEALAND FOREIGN STAMP CO., Box 260, Auckland, N. Z. Wholesale stamp merchants. Cash or good exchange taken.

OLEANDER CITY STAMP CO., 1011 Twenty-sixth street, Galveston, Texas. 40 to 50% commission and premiums to agents.

OLIYA STAMP CO., 901 Vandeventer avenue, St. Louis, Mo. Dealers in all kinds of stamps, domestic and foreign.

ORIENTAL STAMP CO., 67 Atlantic street or 29 1/2 Oak street, Jersey City, N. J. Stamps sent on approval, 33 1/2% commission.

PARRISH, W. J., 1408 Johnson avenue, Kansas City, dealer in U. S. and foreign postage and U. S. revenue, match and medicine stamps.

PADLEY, R. W., 24 White street, Rochester, N. Y. Stamps on approval. Agents wanted. 33 1/2% commission.

PHOENIX STAMP CO., 319 Olive street, St. Louis, Mo. Fine sheets of stamps on approval. 33 1/2% discount. Send for price list.

ROTHFUCHS, C. F., 359 1/2 Penn Ave., Washington, D. C. Wholesale and retail. United States departments a specialty.

RECHERT, JOSEPH, Hoboken, N. J. United States, South and Central American a specialty.

STERLING, E. B., Box 294, Trenton, New Jersey. United States stamps of all kinds.

SPENCER, A. N., 19 Lombardy, Cincinnati, Ohio. Dealer in foreign and United States stamps.

SMACK, R. C., 197 Hooper street, Brooklyn, N. Y. Agents wanted at 40 per cent. commission.

SCOTT STAMP & COIN CO., LD., 12 East Twenty-third street, New York City. Largest firm in these lines in the world.

STRONG, H. G., 129 Lake avenue, Rochester, N. Y. Agents supplied with fine stamps at 33 1/2% commission.

TRIFET, F., 408 Washington street, Boston, Mass. Oldest established (1866) in America.

TOMBLIN, F. F., Brandon, Nebr. Dealer in stamps. United States and foreign postage stamps.

TONNE, W. H., Medford, Wis. Dealer in United States and foreign stamps.

TUTHILL, G. B., & CO., P. O. Box 896, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. 35 varieties free.

WALKER, F. A., 7 Spring street, Taunton, Mass. Agents wanted to sell from our approval sheets at 50 per cent. discount.

WEIR, F. H., & CO., Box 455, Amherst, N. S., Canada. Fine approval sheets sent at 33 1/2 per cent. commission. Send 8 cents and receive a fine packet of good Canadian and foreign stamps by return mail.

WARD, GEO., 75 E. 10th St., N. Y. Ward's Welcome Stamp Packet, only 10c.

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A 16 TO 28 PAGE MONTHLY JOURNAL IN THE INTERESTS OF STAMP COLLECTORS.

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No. 1. STAMP COLLECTORS' DICTIONARY AND GUIDE. Consists of 64 pages and cover and contains a philatelic dictionary, a list of watermarks and devices, notes, etc. Price 10c.

No. 2. HANDBOOK ON COUNTERFEITS. A neat, compact and complete manual on Counterfeits and Reprints. Also contains valuable notes and collectors' directory. Price 10c.

No. 3. TEN DAYS WITH A MODERN STAMP DEALER. Relating what was seen during a ten days, visit with a metropolitan stamp dealer of note. By E. P. Newcomer. Price 10c.

No. 4. DEALING IN POSTAGE STAMPS. Written by Mr. Alvah Davison, one of philately's best writers. Also a Directory of over 260 American Stamp Dealer's names. Price 10c.

Philatelic Era, 502 Congress St., Portland, Me.

BID AT ONCE!

On Sept. 5th we will offer the following at public competition. Bid by the lot. Address all bids to the Minnesota Stamp Co., Benson, Minn.

1. U. S. Card Proof, Husband, 2c lilac-black.
2. " Env., mended, 1853, buff 3c, shape C.
3. " Env., buff, 1853, 3c K die.
4. " Env. entire, unused, 1886, 10c, 20 varieties.
5. " Revenue Stamp, dealer in tobacco, 1885.
6. " Same, 1886.
7. " Same, 1887.
8. " Brady & Co., local. Possibly reprint.
9. " Barr's penny dispatch, on piece of letter.
10. Confederacy, Petersburg local on Env.
11. " 2c rose on Env.
12. " 10c red on Env.
13. Mexico, Habilitado Envelope entire.
14. Granite State Philatelist, Vol. I.
15. " " Vol. II.
16. " " Vol. III.
17. American Philatelist, Vol. II.
18. Philatelic Almanac, 1890.
19. Mixed lot papers, 100 pieces.
20. Another similar lot.

Minnesota Stamp Co., Benson, Minn.

A FEW BARGAINS.

35 varieties United States stamps	.....\$ .10
50 " " " "	..... .25
100 " " " and Foreign	..... .10
250 " " " "	..... .25
400 " " " "	..... 1.00
500 " " " "	..... 1.50
Stamps to sell at 2c, per 100	..... .50
" " 3c, "	..... 1.00
" " 5c, "	..... 2.00
Newfoundland, 3c blue75
" " 3c brown "50
" " well mixed 1.00

Choice stamps on approval.

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THE S. B. BRADT COMPANY.

(INCORPORATED.)



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STAMPED ENVELOPES, POST CARDS, ALBUMS, ETC

COINS, STAMPS, CURIOS,

48-PAGE CATALOGUE FOR STAMPS.

W. F. GREANY,

827 Brannan St., [8] San Francisco, Cal.

SENSE.

Good sense will tell you to send

2 Cents

for our new list, ready September 1st, and a stamp worth 5 cents.

MINNESOTA STAMP CO.,
BENSON, MINN.

[Publishers insert above in 1 inch space and receive same space in this paper.]

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Established in 1885.

F. N. Massoth, Jr.,

IMPORTER AND DEALER IN

U. S. and Foreign Postage and Revenue Stamps, Stamped Envelopes, Tax Paid Stamps.

All Albums and Everything Pertaining to Philately.

Do not delay to send for my new 12-page illustrated price list free to all. I carry in stock everything required by a stamp collector.

Approval Sheets of saleable stamps sent to reliable parties. I pay from 33% to 40% commission. A commission of 15 to 25% is allowed on U. S. postage.

Agents wanted in every town, school, etc., to represent our house. Send for special terms.

Packets from 5c to \$10.00. A Scott's \$1.50 album given free with every purchase of a \$10.00 packet. Packet of 1000 ass't., including such as Mexico, Chili, Japan, etc., send postpaid for 70 cents.

Gummed Hinges I keep in stock best quality only price 8c per 1000 or 70c per 10,000 postpaid.

Wholesale. Wholesale parcels of stamps sent on approval to parties furnishing gilt edge references. Wholesale list free.

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Blank Approval Sheets made of best onion skin, with printed heading. Per dozen 10c; per 25 15c; per 50 25c.

Albums. I carry in stock all the standard albums, and really sell them below publisher's prices. The latest and best.

J. W. Scott's Best Albums.

\$1.50 edition, Board cover, postpaid for	\$1.25
2.50 " Gilt, cloth, "	2.25
5.00 " Printed one side of paper, postpaid for	4.25

I make a specialty of buying Collections or stocks of stamps of all sizes and varieties and pay best cash prices.

Address,

F. N. MASSOTH, JR.,

Hanover Centre, Indiana.

"THE CURIO."

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE P. S. OF A.

VOL. VII.

BENSON, MINN., SEPT., 1891.

No. 8.

Yes or No?

A. A.

We were seated in the hammock;
It was sometime after dark,
And the silences grew longer
After each subdued remark.

With her head upon my shoulder,
And my arms about her close,
Soon I whispered, growing bolder,
"Do you love me, darling Rose?"

Were her accents low, to equal
All my heart had dared to hope?
Ah, I never knew the sequel,
For—her brother cut the rope.

The U. S. Cards.

"MILKADO."

The postal cards, even of our own country, are nearly neglected by the collectors in the United States. Their passion seems to be to collect everything that looks like a postage stamp, and if they get hold of a postal card they immediately cut out the stamp, thereby destroying many cards which are rare, on account of their inscriptions.

The United States first issued postal cards in 1873. The design of this issue is by far the handsomest ever accepted by the U. S. officials. In the right hand upper corner the head of Liberty surrounded by oval shaded engine-turned work having on it U. S. POSTAGE above, ONE CENT

below. On the left United States Postal Card in two lines below which is the inscription, "Write the address on this side—The message on the other," in small black caps. "To" with four lines for address. The whole surrounded by a border of a neat design. It is printed in brown on buff with a watermark—large monogram—U. S. P. O. D. The card is 70x126 mm. In 1874 the size of the watermark was decreased, and the card is found in three varieties.

Red brown, on buff,
Light brown on buff,
Dark brown on light brown.

In 1875 the well known design of head of Liberty between faces was emitted. At first the directions remained the same as on its predecessor. It is E. 76x130. There are five varieties,

Black on light buff,
Black on buff,
Black on dark buff,
Black on pale yellow buff,
Black on brownish buff.

In 1879 the 2c Card first saw the light. The design is a head of Liberty in an oval surrounded by a garter with a monogram of U. and S. on it over the head Postal on left Card, on the right the figure of value on either side of head—TWO CENTS below—is in the right upper corner. The inscription is in three lines. It is printed blue on chamois. It is also found on rose-tinted board. In 1879 the legend on the 1c was changed to "Write only the address on this side." In 1882 to "Nothing but the address can be placed on this side." In 1885 for 1 cent brown head of Jefferson was given out which was succeeded by the design now in use the earlier part of the year.

The Philatelic Society of America.

ORGANIZED JANUARY 15, 1889.

President—E. R. Aldrich, Benson, Minn.
 Vice-President—M. V. Samuels, San Francisco, Cal.
 Secretary—A. N. Spencer, Cor. John and Front Sts.,
 Cincinnati, Ohio.
 Treasurer—F. N. Massoth, Jr., Hanover Center,
 Indiana.

International Secretary—H. E. Deats, Flemington,
 New Jersey.
 Exchange Superintendent—P. M. Wolsieffer, Drawer
 707, Chicago, Illinois.
 Purchasing Agent—S. W. Scott, Dubuque, Iowa.
 Librarian—R. A. Sheldon, Mobile, Ala.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

CINCINNATI, O., Sept. 1st, 1891.

New Applications.

E. E. Lambert, Rongis, Wyo.

Resignations.

Carroll F. Eustis, Portland, Me.

Now is the golden opportunity to identify yourself with a society having the interests of collectors at heart. With Wolsieffer at the head of the Exchange Department and every member hustling for the general good of the Society, we are bound to soon ride on the top wave of prosperity. Will not some of the members please loosen the bonds of their literary genius and give us good articles on literary subjects, that will interest and instruct us? Send them to the CURIO and they will be widely circulated.

A. N. SPENCER,
Secretary.

REPORT OF EXCHANGE SUPERINTENDENT.

CHICAGO, ILL., Aug. 15th, 1891.

Since my appointment but little of interest has transpired in this Department. I have written to a number of the members that I have found were not participating, and to all of the new members. But few answers have been received, and I hope to hear favorably from them later, as no doubt the vacation season found them "not at home."

Nearly every city or town has more

than one collector, and I have suggested to a number of members the advisability of getting other collectors in their respective localities to join us and form small Exchange Branches. Three members in one town or locality will make an interesting Exchange Branch and one of these could act as Manager. If this plan was adopted wherever three or more members could be secured, it would add very materially to the interest in collecting. It would also increase the knowledge of certain stamps by members connected with a Branch, for you can hardly find three collectors anywhere that don't know more about some particular country or perhaps have a specialty. There are many more reasons why these Branches would be of immense benefit to the collectors individually, in addition to helping out the Exchange Superintendent and enlarging the Society. Who will be the first to start a Branch? I am ready to call it BRANCH No. 1.

Lot 5 has not been returned to me, and I take this occasion to remind members of the importance of "rushing things." Two days each member is entitled to retain an Exchange lot, but many members forward them to next on circuit the day of receipt or the day following, which is greatly appreciated, particularly when some other members keep a lot from four days to two weeks; however, beginning with the next lot

sent out, I will put in force the rule of ten cents per day for every day kept over time. I trust I will not be called on to fine any of the members, but if the evil continues I will be compelled to enforce the rule in justice to the majority of members who are very prompt, and who are the real sufferers in consequence of this neglect. An exchange lot going from Maine to California, and having 16 members on circuit should not take over two months or 60 days.

I also would urge members to send in their statements and remittances promptly. My hands are tied till these details have all been attended to. I can not make credits or pay over any money till I receive the necessary information and cash from the members.

The success of this Department depends entirely on the members themselves. New members have a failing of putting common and ordinary stamps in the Exchange Department at full catalogue prices. This is a mistake which they soon discover. Prices must be marked low in order to secure buyers. Oddities and uncatalogued varieties at fabulous prices rarely sell, and it is a waste of time to mount them on sheets.

I trust that I can report an improvement next month. Every member should either be on a circuit to receive filled books of stamps or send in filled sheets.

P. M. WOLSIEFFER,
Exchange Department,
Drawer 707.

JOTTINGS.

DIXON'S H. H.

Well, incorporation in an unobjectionable form seems to be the outcome of the A. P. A. meet.

The new head of the Exchange Department of the P. S. of A., is a hustler and don't you forget it.

The second sale of Rogers' is announced and while no very great rarities are offered, many good things are listed. Collectors should send for a catalog.

I have received a copy of the new list of the Minnesota Stamp Co., and can recommend the firm to all collectors. They are making a specialty of stamp publications and offer many fine things.

To Canadian Philatelists.

The Organization Committee of "The Philatelic Society of Canada" are now ready to receive names of all stamp collectors wishing to join this national society. In order to make this Association one worthy of British North America, and the leading one in Canada, no charge or fee is made to those joining at once. Send names and address to the Secretary. The annual dues to July 1st, 1892, will be only 25 cents. Official organ and fine Exchange Department free.

J. H. HOOPER,

Chairman Com.

Address,

L. M. STAEBLER, Sec.-Treas., pro tem.,
984 Richmond St., London, Ont.

Great U. S. Cut.

Our supply is limited so order at once.
Postage Extra.

	CAT. OUR PRICE.	
U. S., 1861, 24c.....	\$0 15	\$0 13
*U. S. env., 1c on blue, U.		
S. P. O. D.....	10	05
*U. S. same, buff.....	10	05
J. F. Henry, 1c black silk..	15	08
1853, Ladies Note size entire	1 00	60
Navy 6c.	15	12
*1888, 30c chestnut.....	50	45
W. U. Tel. Frank.....	50	30

Something Novel.

A fine sheet of 30 stamps worth \$1 for 30c. Every other purchaser gets a Confederate stamp on original cover, free.

Minnesota Stamp Co.,

BENSON, MINN.

THE CURIO.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

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BENSON

MINN.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

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Per Inch.....	\$.50
" Column.....	2.75
" Page.....	4.00

Special contracts on standing advertisements.

If this is marked, your subscription has expired. Please renew.

We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

If you are looking for bargains don't forget to look over our advertising columns.

Just think of this offer! *Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News* and the CURIO a year for only \$1.05.

For a short time only we will offer any number of Jewett's Library and this paper six months for only 20 cents.

The A. P. A. convention is a thing of the past, and for once it seems to have been harmonious.

The C. P. A. convention on the other hand seems to have been the foreshadowing of dissolution and already a movement to organize a new Canadian society is on foot.

To the first person sending answers to the following questions, we will give a rare U. S. envelope, worth 60c; to the second, one worth 50c, and to the third, an assortment of stamps worth the same amount. Competition is open to subscribers only, but any person can send answers and accompany them by subscription.

1. After whom were the Virgin Isles named?
2. Who was Postmaster General when the 1869 issue was emitted?
3. What company prepared the 1847 issue, United States?
4. How are watermarks caused?
5. What is an albino?

We expect to commence the publication of the best reference list of United States adhesives ever issued next month. United States collectors can not be without it, so subscribe at once.

Special Offer 90 Days.

Porte de Mar, new.....	\$0 12
Cor. Official, 3 Var.....	05
Set of 1884, 11 Var.....	25
12 green, 1884, entire env. W. F. & Co	50
25 blue Habilitado.....	1 00
Newspaper band, 2c postal card, 5c blue env. new, and 10 Mexican stamps, only	25
Wholesale consignments wanted. Good exchange given for same. Orders under 50c must have 5c stamp enclosed. Register your letter.	

C. W. MEXIA,

3a Calle de Humboldt 4,

City of Mexico, Mexico.

Curiosities.

On receipt of 30 cents, stamps, I will mail a choice selection of Sea Shells to any address. Address,
WM. H. TAYLOR,
Fairhaven, Mass.

SEND 2 CENTS

For our new list and five stamp papers free.

Minnesota Stamp Co.,
BENSON, MINN.

[Editors insert above in 1 inch space and receive equal space in this paper.]

FREE,

To any one sending for a selection of my fine stamps on approval at 50 per cent. commission, I will allow them to select 10c worth entirely free. Reference or deposit required. Address, (7)
R. M. SPENCER, Nordhoff, Cal.

Dealers' Directory.

A 2 or 3 line card in this column, \$1.00.

ADAMS, S. C., & Co., 6 Shirley street, Worcester, Mass. Liberal discounts on approval sheets.

ATLANTIC STAMP CO., Hartford, Conn. Dealers in foreign and American postage stamps. Good agents wanted at 33½% commission.

BRADT THE S. B., & CO., 91 & 93 Wabash avenue, Chicago. Stamps, albums, etc.

BURGER & CO., 59 Nassau street, New York City. Old United States and rarities. New catalogue 10c postfree.

BOGERT, R. R., Room 37 Tribune Bldg. New York. Wholesale and retail.

CONRATH, JR., & CO., JULIUS, 1334 LaSalle street, St. Louis, Mo. Agents wanted. 33½% commission allowed from our sheets. List free.

CARPENTER & CO., 867 East 137th street, New York. Stamps on approval by Scott marked and 35% allowed. Agents wanted (send reference).

CLARK, T. S., Box 1039, Belleville, Ontario, Can. Canada stamps wholesale and retail. Wholesale list to dealers only. Agents wanted at 33½% commission.

DeWOLF, A. B. S., Box 115 Halifax, N. S., Canada. British North American stamps a specialty.

EDWARDS, PEEKE, & CO. 2728 Calumet Ave., Chicago, Ill.

FLOUR CITY STAMP CO., 125 Nicollet avenue, Minneapolis Minn. Approval sheets a specialty.

GLOBE STAMP CO., 2008 N. 10th St., St. Louis, Mo. Dealers in foreign and United States stamps.

GREANY, W. F., 827 Brannan street, San Francisco, Cal. Coins, stamps and curiosities.

GREMME, HENRY, 80 Nassau St., New York. South African stamps a specialty.

HOLTON, E. A., 8 Summer St., Boston, Mass. Rare U. S. and foreign stamps. Established 1861. Price list on application.

HAYNES, W. E., Sioux City, Iowa. Dealer in U. S. and foreign postage stamps.

HOUSTON, J. H., U. S. Department stamps, 461 C. Packets 5c, 10c, 25c, 50c each.

JACKSON, 605 Bennington street, East Boston, Mass. Fine stamps on approval. Prices low. Good commission to agents. Send reference.

KETCHESON, H. F., Box 499, Belleville, Ont., Canada. Canada stamps a specialty.

KOON, F. H., P. O. Box 487, Auburn, N. Y. United States and foreign stamps on approval. Central American a specialty.

LUTHER, E. S., 504 Madison Ave., Albany, N. Y. Approval sheets at 33½% discount. Agents wanted.

LANG, E. G., 80 Cypress street, Rochester, N. Y. United States and foreign stamps on approval at 50% discount.

LOHMEYER, A., 922 N. Gilmor street, Baltimore, Md. Postal cards for collections, price list 10c.

MINNESOTA STAMP CO., Benson, Minn. Send 2c for our new list and five stamp papers.

MARSHALL, E. W., 414 Merrimac street, Lowell, Mass. Send for my fine sheets of postage and revenue stamps at 40% commission.

McMAHON, WALTER, 65 Melbourne avenue, Toronto, Ont., dealer in Canadian, United States and foreign postage of all kinds. Sheets at 40% below Scott. Send for price list.

MEKEEL STAMP & PUBLISHING CO., C. H., 1007, 1009, 1011 Locust street, St. Louis, Mo. Wholesale and retail stamp dealers and publishers.

MOREY, H. E., 26 and 31 Exchange street, Boston, Mass. Dealer in foreign and American coins, paper money and stamps. Send 10c for 1891 price list.

MOUND CITY STAMP CO., St. Louis, Mo. Incorporated under the laws of Mo. Mexican stamps a specialty.

NEWMAN, W. G., P. O. Box 78, Kingston, Jamaica. Solicits foreign correspondence.

NEW ZEALAND FOREIGN STAMP CO., Box 260, Auckland, N. Z. Wholesale stamp merchants. Cash or good exchange taken.

OLEANDER CITY STAMP CO., 1011 Twentieth street, Galveston, Texas. 40 to 50% commission and premiums to agents.

OLIVA STAMP CO., 901 Vandeventer avenue, St. Louis, Mo. Dealers in all kinds of stamps, domestic and foreign.

ORIENTAL STAMP CO., 67 Atlantic street or 29 1/2 Oak street, Jersey City, N. J. Stamps sent on approval, 33 1/2% commission.

PARRISH, W. J., 1408 Johnson avenue, Kansas City, dealer in U. S. and foreign postage and U. S. revenue, match and medicine stamps.

PADLEY, R. W., 24 White street, Rochester, N. Y. Stamps on approval. Agents wanted. 33 1/2% commission.

PHOENIX STAMP CO., 319 Olive street, St. Louis, Mo. Fine sheets of stamps on approval. 33 1/2% discount. Send for price list.

ROTHFUCHS, C. F., 359 1/2 Penn Ave., Washington, D. C. Wholesale and retail. United States departments a specialty.

RECHERT, JOSEPH, Hoboken, N. J. United States, South and Central American a specialty.

STERLING, E. B., Box 274, Trenton, New Jersey. United States stamps of all kinds.

SPENCER, A. N., 19 Lombardy, Cincinnati, Ohio. Dealer in foreign and United States stamps.

SMACK, R. C., 197 Hooper street, Brooklyn, N. Y. Agents wanted at 40 per cent. commission.

TRIFET, F., 408 Washington street, Boston, Mass. Oldest established (1866) in America.

TOMBLIN, F. F., Brandon, Nebr. Dealer in United States and foreign postage stamps.

TONNE, W. H., Medford, Wis. Dealer in United States and foreign stamps.

TUTHILL, G. B., & CO., P. O. Box 896, Sioux Falls, S. Dak. 35 varieties free.

WALKER, F. A., 7 Spring street, Taunton, Mass. Agents wanted to sell from our approval sheets at 50 per cent. discount.

WARD, GEO., 75 E. 10th St., N. Y. Ward's Welcome Stamp Packet, only 10c.

WEIR, F. H., & CO., Box 455, Amherst, N. S., Canada. Fine approval sheets sent at 33 1/2 per cent. commission. Send 8 cents and receive a fine packet of good Canadian and foreign stamps by return mail.

THE S. B. BRADT COMPANY.

(INCORPORATED.)



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DEALERS IN

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STAMPED ENVELOPES, POST CARDS, ALBUMS, ETC.

COINS, STAMPS, CURIOS,

48-PAGE CATALOGUE FOR STAMPS.

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Subscribe for it!

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The Philatelic Era,

A 16 TO 28 PAGE MONTHLY JOURNAL IN THE INTERESTS OF STAMP COLLECTORS.

W. W. Jewett, - Editor and Publisher.

In its third year of publication, without missing a month or combining numbers. The most philatelic reading for the money to be found. Contributed to by the best philatelic writers. Only philatelic paper in Maine: largest and best in New England. One of the best philatelic advertising mediums extant, at very low rates. Circulation, 1500 to 2500 per month guaranteed. Rates on application. Subscription, 20c per year.

ONE SAMPLE COPY FREE.

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No. 1. STAMP COLLECTORS' DICTIONARY AND GUIDE. Consists of 64 pages and cover and contains a philatelic dictionary, a list of watermarks and devices, notes, etc. Price 10c.

No. 2. HANDBOOK ON COUNTERFEITS. A neat, compact and complete manual on Counterfeits and Reprints. Also contains valuable notes and collectors' directory. Price 10c.

No. 3. TEN DAYS WITH A MODERN STAMP DEALER. Relating what was seen during a ten days' visit with a metropolitan stamp dealer of note. By E. P. Newcomer. Price 10c.

No. 4. DEALING IN POSTAGE STAMPS. Written by Mr. Alvah Davison, one of philately's best writers. Also a Directory of over 260 American Stamp Dealer's names. Price 10c.

Philatelic Era, 502 Congress St., Portland, Me.

GRAND OPENING.

This is our first and best offer of the season. You cannot afford to miss it. Read it over and send us your order.

6,885 STAMPS.

The most complete stock of stamps ever offered. Contains :

1,000 South, Central American and Mexican.

1,000 Br. Colonials, well assorted.

2,000 European, finely assorted.

500 varieties from "all four corners."

750 Obsolete issue, U. S., Departments, etc.

300 well assorted Mexican Revenues.

600 stamps to sell at 1c.

300 " " " " 2c.

300 " " " " 3c.

75 " " " " 5c.

20 " " " " 8c.

10 " " " " 10c.

10 " " " " 15c.

10 " " " " 25c.

10 " " " " 50c.

6,885

To this we add 250 blank approval sheets with your name printed at the top, and 1-2 inch advertisement in **MEKEEL'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS** for eight weeks.

All this for \$17.90, post free.

Our American stamps cannot be beat in quality or price.

We offer 500 South, Central American and Mexican stamps, containing not less than *130 varieties*, for \$4.00, *post free*.

Send for a set of Nicaragua Officials, 1890, 1c to 10 pesos, 50c.

Our new 48-page Price-List will soon be ready to mail. Send in your name and we will see that you have one of the *first*.

C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Co.,
1007-1011 Locust St., St. Louis, Mo.

Approval Sheet Agents.

The dull season of the year is passed and *the busy season* of 1891-1892, will take its place, and the time comes *when all can make money*, and those wishing to make it should procure the agency of my fine approval sheets which are without exception the best ones in the market and always contain *good selling stamps only*, such as new issues, special bargains, etc., at the *regular net market price*. I only want good agents (penny agents are not wanted), who can furnish good reference, and guarantee to make returns promptly.

I offer the following commissions:

On United States Postage Stamps,	20 per cent.
“ “ Revenue Stamps,	33½ “
On Foreign Postage Stamps,	33½ “
On my 1, 2, 3 and 5c sheets,	50 “

No commissions allowed on sales below 50c; all remittances over \$1.00 must be made by Postal Notes; unused stamps will only be accepted for small amounts.

As I guarantee to price all stamps not higher than the real market value, I cannot allow any higher commission, as it is impossible to allow more on them, unless they are priced accordingly.

Any agent remitting \$5.00 cash at a time can select 50 cents' worth of stamps off my sheets as a premium, and to the best agent remitting the most money during any month, I will give a \$5.00 album free. The second best a \$2.50, and the third best a \$1.50. And to the Agents remitting the most money during the season 1891-1892 (September 1st, 1891 to April 30th, 1892) I offer

The Greatest Premium Ever Offered

by any dealer that is

A Collection of 3,000 Varieties, Valued at \$250.

Send in your application at once with good reference, as I only want a limited number of good agents.

HENRY GREMMEI,

80 Nassau St., New York.

WANTED.—Old Collections, Rare Stamps, Stamps on Original Letters, &c., &c.

☛ HIGHEST CASH PRICES PAID. ☚

Send for free sample copy of the POST OFFICE—the best monthly stamp paper.

“THE CURIO.”

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE P. S. OF A.

VOL. VII.

BENSON, MINN., OCT., 1891.

No. 9.

Christopher Columbus.

From the Spanish of RAFAEL MARIA BARALT.

Now who dares scorn the fury of my waves?

Who comes from distant world and alien shore

To engulf the wrecks of doomed ships once more

’Twi’x heaven and hell, in solitary graves?
What flaunting banner my dark tumult braves

Only to trail, soiled, tattered as before?
Spain’s proudest vessels rotting in my caves.

Not triumph theirs, but terror evermore,
Thus spake the ocean; a resounding voice
Made answer, “Colon.” And at God’s command

Its humbled crest kisses the prow; rejoice!
Helm creaking, sails outspread, serene
and grand,

By the Lord guided, Colon leads the fleet

And casts a world at Isabella’s feet.

AVE MARIA.

ARRANGING AN U. S. COLLECTION.

J. D. L.

[As introductory to the reference list of U. S. stamps which we propose to start in our next number. I have consented to allow my friend to briefly describe the arrangement of my collection. Should it give any ideas to others, so much the better.—ED.]

When the philatelist, becoming wearied with collecting the stamps of the entire world, and realizing the fruitlessness of his endeavors, settles down to become a specialist and devote his energies to one single country or groups of countries, it is eminent proper, if he is a loyal citizen, to make the stamps of his own country his especial study.

Therefore, when in the spring of 1890, I received a letter from the Editor of this paper to the effect that he was contemplating dropping his foreign collection, and only in the future to “keep” United States adhesive postage stamps and Canadian revenues, I was but little surprised. True, I thought then, and still do, that it would have been better to keep U. S. revenues than Canada, but he has, I believe, this year started to collect these, so we will pardon him, for better late than never.

When in the fall of ’90, I made a short visit to Benson, one of the first things I made it a point to do was to call on “Era” and ask permission to see his collection, which he was then in process of mounting in a Staten Island Album.

Opening the album I found the first half dozen pages given up to a

card proof set, following this and occupying about the same amount of room was an India paper set of proofs. After this came (and very few stamps seemed to be missing, although the owner said otherwise) was an unused set.

Next came a used set with numerous color variations and minor varieties.

Following these were sets of the departmentals, both in used and unused condition, in the Post Office, War and Treasury. I also noted sets of the shades.

Next in order came a few pages

devoted to oddities, errors in grills or perforations, etc.

Then came pages devoted to unsevered pairs, and I noted that many of the earlier stamps were well represented, while the 1872 set lacked but one to complete.

Then came blocks of threes and fours, where I saw the only unsevered three "tenners" of '74 I ever saw. Off color proofs followed, while essays and die proofs closed up the collection. I also examined the Canadian revenues, and perchance at some future day may tell how they were kept.

The Philatelic Society of America.

ORGANIZED JANUARY 15, 1889.

President—E. R. Aldrich, Benson, Minn.

Vice-President—M. V. Samuels, San Francisco, Cal.

Secretary—A. N. Spencer, Cor. John and Front Sts., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Treasurer—F. N. Massoth, Jr., Hanover Center, Indiana.

International Secretary—H. E. Deats, Flemington, New Jersey.

Exchange Superintendent—P. M. Wolsieffer, Drawer 707, Chicago, Illinois.

Purchasing Agent—S. W. Scott, Dubuque, Iowa.

Librarian—R. A. Sheldon, Mobile, Ala.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

CINCINNATI, O., Oct. 7, 1891.

New Member.

E. E. Lambert, Rongis, Wyoming.

Applications.

Chas. H. Huberich, P. O. Box 640, San Antonio, Texas.

References—P. M. Wolsieffer, A. N. Spencer.

Max E. Jesse, 567 South Presa St., San Antonio, Texas.

References—P. M. Wolsieffer, A. N. Spencer.

Luther W. Mott, 78 West 5th street, Oswego, N. Y.

Charles S. Waring, Box 292, Knoxville, Tennessee.

Resigned.

Theo. Toppell, New York City.

Clarence Jackson, Harper, Iowa.

M. V. Samuels, San Francisco, Cal.

We have reason to feel very much encouraged at the bright outlook for our Society. Philatelists are becoming interested from all sections of country and our Society will continue to grow more

rapidly than before. There are a few members who are delinquent in the payment of their dues and I take this means of urging them to step up to the cashier's desk and settle. We have some bills to meet and need all that we can accumulate in the next few weeks. I received a letter from S. W. Scott of Dubuque, our Purchasing Agent, a few days ago intimating that he would like to have more of our members take advantage of his office and purchase their new issues of him. He wishes to be kept busy, and you better help him out all you can. Don't forget that your friends who are interested in philately are not all gathered into the P. S. of A. fold and are only awaiting an invitation to cast their lot with us.

A. N. SPENCER.
Secretary.

EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

REPORT NO. 3.

CHICAGO, Oct. 5th, 1891.

The following business has been transacted by this department under my management up to Oct. 1st.

Filled sheets received, 48.

Value of same, \$223.02.

These were made up in two lots and one started over the Eastern circuit, the other over the Western circuit. Lot 6 consisted of 7 books valued at \$149.09 and was started out Sept. 3rd. For some reason this lot is meeting with delay and I seem unable to hurry it along. I trust members will think more seriously of this matter and get all lists off promptly on time.

Lot 7 consists of 5 books valued at \$73.93 and left here Sept. 28th. This lot started out nicely and I trust will make good time, in fact it promises to beat lot 6 around the circuit, although it will travel several thousand miles further.

The receipts from sale of sheets has

been but \$2.10, which will hardly pay the postage on the correspondence I have had with members.

I have written to nearly every member of the Society concerning the Exchange Department and trust they will respond favorably. All the members should take a lively interest in this Department and induce others to give it a trial. The new features I have introduced are working well, and with the proper attention of the members participating in the Department to details and the rules, it promises to be a great success.

Cheap stamps (continentals), very expensive stamps or oddities at fabulous prices do not go. A medium class of stamps at fair prices find a ready sale.

I have had several requests for gummed hinges, but do not intend to furnish them. There is nothing in it except to take up valuable time. When I run out of hinges for my own use, I buy several sheets of good gummed paper and cut them up with shears to suit whatever size I may want.

Lot 5, started out by Mr. Bradt on June 15th, is still out and it is beyond my comprehension why it is taking so long. As no lot has yet completed a circuit, I can make no report on the amount of sales. For October no statements were sent out, but I hope enough business will be done to enable me to send out statements regularly the first of each month, hereafter.

I also hope members will bear in mind that it is important to attend to all matters concerning this Department, with promptness and dispatch.

The formation of Branches should be agitated and new members recruited, so that the exchange lots can go over more circuits and the books and sheets of stamps brought before more active collectors.

If any member has not given this Department a trial, I should be pleased to have him correspond with me on the subject.

P. M. WOLSIEFFER,
Exchange Superintendent.

Drawer 707.

◁ THE CURIO. ▷

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

CURIO CO.,

BENSON

MINN.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

U. S. and Canada per year.....	25c.
Postal Union Countries.....	35c.
South Africa and Australia.....	50c.

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Per Inch.....	\$.50
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“ Page.....	4.00

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If this is marked, your subscription has expired. Please renew.

We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

Just think of it any number of Jewett's Library and this paper for six months for 18 cents or all four numbers of Library and CURIO a year for 50 cents.

We understand that G. W. Achard, who by the way, has recently been admitted to the bar, will soon send out another new philatelic venture.

Have you read the list of stamps offered at auction sale by the Minnesota Stamp Co. This is undoubtedly a good chance to secure bargains.

Our reference list of U. S. postal adhesives will be started next week. It is the intention to list every known variety, proof, error and oddity. The first installment will cover only the first issue—1847—but will enumerate not far from fifty varieties. No advanced collector can afford to be without the list, so subscribe at once.

The *Stamp Collectors' Companion*, a new venture from St. Louis, comes forth with color fac similes of three of the Confederate stamps. If you must illustrate in color, print off the back of the sheet, and so place temptation out of reach of dishonest small dealers.

The *Philatelic Record* for September, gives a photo-engraved plate showing varieties of the official surcharges of South Australia.

Remember a copy of any number of "Jewett's Philatelic Library" and the CURIO six months for 18 cents, or all four numbers of the Library and the CURIO one year only 50 cents.

The titles of the books are as follows:

No. 1 Stamp Collectors' Dictionary and Guide. A useful manual.

No. 2 Handbook on Counterfeits. Invaluable to the young collector.

No. 3 Ten Days With a Modern Stamp Dealer. A romance.

No. 4 Dealing in Postage Stamps. By an ex-dealer of note.

Leading Articles of the Month.

It is our intention to give a brief list of the important articles published each month. Articles are in the September number unless marked with * when the October number is meant.

Adhesive vs Envelope Stamps, *Southern Philatelist*, 216.

Are We Going Too Far, *Post Office*, 53-Confederate Locals, *Eastern Philatelist*,

4-

Electric Air Lines, *Eastern Philatelist*, 3. Hints to Stamp Dealers, *Southern Philatelist*, 215.

How I Became a Collector, *Essex County Philatelist*, 90.

*Mail Service in Burmah, *Missouri Philatelist*, 3.

Mexico, *Philatelic Journal of America*, 412.

Philately's Publications, *Eastern Philatelist*, 1.

*Postage Stamp Mania, *Stamp Collectors' Companion*, 10.

*Stamps of Montenegro, *Stamp Collectors' Companion*, 19.

Dealers' Directory.

A 2 or 3 line card in this column, 1.00.

BOGERT, R. R., Room 37 Tribune Building, New York. Wholesale and retail.

BRADT THE S. B., & CO., 91 & 92 Wabash Ave., Chicago. Stamps, albums, etc.

GREANY, W. F., 827 Brannan street, San Francisco, Cal. Coins, stamps and curiosities.

LOHMEYER, A., 922 N. Gilmor street, Baltimore, Md. Postal cards for collections, price list 10c.

MEKEEL STAMP & PUBLISHING CO., C. H., 1007, 1009, 1011 Locust street, St. Louis, Mo. Wholesale and retail stamp dealers and publishers.

MINNESOTA STAMP CO., Benson, Minn. Send 2c for our new list and five stamp papers.

500 Agents Wanted

for our fine approval sheets at 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % commission.

Packet U, contains 5 U. S. cut env. stamps, price 10 cents. Try it.

Packet C, contains 40 different stamps from Chili, Ecuador, Tasmania, &c., price 8 cents.

FLOUR CITY STAMP CO.,

Removed from 16 Grove to 21 Scio St., Rochester, N. Y.

FREE!!!

All who apply for our sheets of rare stamps on approval at 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % commission and send good reference will receive a stamp worth 25 cents free. This offer is only good until January 1, 1892. [11]

WINONA STAMP CO.,

721 South 7th St., Minneapolis, Minn.

PRICE
25
CENTS.

OK

PACKET
25
CONTAINS.

30 Varieties Foreign Stamps.

Argentine, Azores Islands, Brazil, Cuba, Confederate States, Ceylon, East India (Sur), Japan, Luxemburg, Mexico, New South Wales, Malta, New Zealand, Peru, Porto Rico, Spain, Victoria, etc. This is a rare bargain, as ten stamps are unused. This packet is priced by Scott & Co., at 65c, our price is 25c (stamps) or 20c (postal note). [14]

THE PENINSULAR PORTFOLIO.

Contains 60 stamps (standard prices) from which we allow a commission of 35 to 40% when sent on approval. Send for one but make a promise. Price list and something pretty slick free.

MICH. POSTAGE STAMP CO.,

Box 156 Manchester, Mich.

FREE,

To any one sending for a selection of my fine stamps on approval at 50 per cent. commission, I will allow them to select 10c worth entirely free. Reference or deposit required.

Address, (7

R. M. SPENCER, Nordhoff, Cal.

Special Offer 90 Days.

Porte de Mar, new.....\$0 12
Cor. Official, 3 Var..... 05
Set of 1884, 11 Var..... 25
12 green, 1884, entire env. W. F. & Co 50
25 blue Habilitado..... 1 00

Newspaper band, 2c postal card, 5c blue env. new, and 10 Mexican stamps, only 25

Wholesale consignments wanted. Good exchange given for same. Orders under 50c must have 5c stamp enclosed. Register your letter.

C. W. MEXIA,

3a Calle de Humboldt 4,

City of Mexico, Mexico.

THE S. B. BRADT COMPANY.

(INCORPORATED.)



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DEALERS IN

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COINS, STAMPS, CURIOS,

48-PAGE CATALOGUE FOR STAMPS.

W. F. GREANY,

827 Brannan St., [8] San Francisco, Cal.

*Please mention The Curio when
answering advertisements.*

Subscribe for it!

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The Philatelic Era,

A 16 TO 28 PAGE MONTHLY JOURNAL IN THE INTERESTS OF STAMP COLLECTORS.

W. W. Jewett, - Editor and Publisher.

In its third year of publication, without missing a month or combining numbers. The most philatelic reading for the money to be found. Contributed to by the best philatelic writers. Only philatelic paper in Maine; largest and best in New England. One of the best philatelic advertising mediums extant, at very low rates. Circulation, 1500 to 2500 per month guaranteed. Rates on application. Subscription, 20c per year.

ONE SAMPLE COPY FREE.

Jewett's Philatelic Library.

No. 1. STAMP COLLECTORS' DICTIONARY AND GUIDE. Consists of 64 pages and cover and contains a philatelic dictionary, a list of watermarks and devices, notes, etc. Price 10c.

No. 2. HANDBOOK ON COUNTERFEITS. A neat, compact and complete manual on Counterfeits and Reprints. Also contains valuable notes and collectors' directory. Price 10c.

No. 3. TEN DAYS WITH A MODERN STAMP DEALER. Relating what was seen during a ten days' visit with a metropolitan stamp dealer of note. By E' P. Newcomer. Price 10c.

No. 4. DEALING IN POSTAGE STAMPS. Written by Mr. Alvah Davison, one of philately's best writers. Also a Directory of over 260 American Stamp Dealer's names. Price 10c.

Philatelic Era, 502 Congress St., Portland, Me.

4TH AUCTION SALE

OF THE

Minnesota Stamp Co.,

On NOVEMBER 30, 1891, At 5 P. M.

We will offer the following at public competition. Send in your bids at once as we charge no commission, and you may be able to buy at surprising prices. Send bids to MINNESOTA STAMP Co.,

Auction Dept., Benson, Minn.

Bids should be for lot, not for piece.

- 1 Sweden, 1855-8, 5 varieties.
- 2 " 1863-72, complete, 12 varieties.
- 3 T. J. Husband, revenue 2c, card proof in dark purple, very fine, rare and desirable.
- 4 Barr's Penny Dispatch, on portion of original envelope. This has passed through the Ex Dept. of the A. P. A., which should be a sufficient guarantee for its genuineness.
- 5 U. S., 1853, envelope 3c, shape C. Very rare and desirable. Reserve price of \$2 placed by owner.
- 6 U. S., 1853 envelope, 3c, K die on buff. Reserve \$2.
- 7 Prussia, 1850-58, 10 Var. A fine set.
- 8 Guatemala, 1875 issue,* complete, 4 Var.
- 9 Queensland, one penny red, cat. \$1.25.
- 10 Afghanistan, 1s 1870. Reserve \$3.50.
- 11 " 1s 1872. Reserve \$2.50.
- 12 Confederacy, 5c blue, 1861, pair unsevered at top and bottom.
- 13 " 5c blue, unsevered pair at side. Reserve \$1.
- 14 " 5c green, on original env.
- 15 " 10c red on original cover.
- 16 " 20c green cancelled, scarce.
- 17 " 10c blue, 1863, showing part of imprint.
- 18 " 10c blue on original cover, 6 shade varieties fine.
- 19 " 10c blue, '62, on orig. cover.
- 20 " Petersburg Local, used, cut close on right side, otherwise fine. Reserve \$9.50.
- 21 U. S. revenues, imperf, trio of \$1, manifest, catalog if cut \$4.50.
- 22 " Imperf, block of four, 25c Entry of Goods. Rare and desirable.
- 23 " 1851, unsevered three 1c.
- 24 " 1857, unsevered three 1c.
- 25 " envelope, 1853 3c, straight die on buff.
- 26 " envelope, 1853 3c, straight die on white.
- 27 Spain, 40 varieties.
- 28 Choice selection stamp journals. 100 pcs.
- 29 Another.
- 30 Still another.

Approval Sheet Agents.

The dull season of the year is passed and *the busy season* of 1891-1892, will take its place, and the time comes *when all can make money*, and those wishing to make it should procure the agency of my fine approval sheets which are without exception the best ones in the market and always contain *good selling stamps only*, such as new issues, special bargains, etc., at the *regular net market price*. I only want good agents (penny agents are not wanted), who can furnish good reference, and guarantee to make returns promptly.

I offer the following commissions:

On United States Postage Stamps,	20 per cent.
“ “ Revenue Stamps,	33 $\frac{1}{3}$ “
On Foreign Postage Stamps,	33 $\frac{1}{3}$ “
On my 1, 2, 3 and 5c sheets,	50 “

No commissions allowed on sales below 50c; all remittances over \$1.00 must be made by Postal Notes; unused stamps will only be accepted for small amounts.

As I guarantee to price all stamps not higher than the real market value, I cannot allow any higher commission, as it is impossible to allow more on them, unless they are priced accordingly.

Any agent remitting \$5.00 cash at a time can select 50 cents' worth of stamps off my sheets as a premium, and to the best agent remitting the most money during any month, I will give a \$5.00 album free. The second best a \$2.50, and the third best a \$1.50. And to the Agents remitting the most money during the season 1891-1892 (September 1st, 1891 to April 30th, 1892) I offer

The Greatest Premium Ever Offered

by any dealer that is

A Collection of 3,000 Varieties, Valued at \$250.

Send in your application at once with good reference, as I only want a limited number of good agents.

HENRY GREMMEL,

80 Nassau St., New York.

WANTED.—Old Collections, Rare Stamps, Stamps on Original Letters, &c., &c.

HIGHEST CASH PRICES PAID.

Send for free sample copy of the POST OFFICE—the best monthly stamp paper.

GRAND OPENING.

This is our first and best offer of the season. You cannot afford to miss it. Read it over and send us your order.

6,885 STAMPS.

The most complete stock of stamps ever offered. Contains :

1,000	South, Central American and Mexican.
1,000	Br. Colonials, well assorted.
2,000	European, finely assorted.
500	varieties from "all four corners."
750	Obsolete issue, U. S., Departments, etc.
300	well assorted Mexican Revenues.
600	stamps to sell at 1c.
300	" " " " 2c.
300	" " " " 3c.
75	" " " " 5c.
20	" " " " 8c.
10	" " " " 10c.
10	" " " " 15c.
10	" " " " 25c.
10	" " " " 50c.

6,885

To this we add 250 blank approval sheets with your name printed at the top, and 1-2 inch advertisement in **MEKEEL'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS** for eight weeks.

All this for \$17.90, post free.

Our American stamps cannot be beat in quality or price.

We offer 500 South, Central American and Mexican stamps, containing not less than *130 varieties*, for \$4.00, *post free*.

Send for a set of Nicaragua Officials, 1890, 1c to 10 pesos, 50c.

Our new 48-page Price-List will soon be ready to mail. Send in your name and we will see that you have one of the *first*.

C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Co.,

1007-1011 Locust St., St. Louis, Mo.

"THE CURIO."

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE P. S. OF A.

Vol. VII.

BENSON, MINN., NOV., 1891.

No. 10.

P. S. OF A.

If you want to participate in a live and paying Exchange Department join the PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA. Dues only \$1.00 per year, which pays for all the benefits of membership in a National Stamp Society. Write for application blanks, rules and further particulars. Address either

E. R. ALDRICH, Benson, Minn.

A. N. SPENCER, John & Front Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

P. M. WOLSIEFFER, Drawer 707, Chicago, Ill.

Why Made.

Hearts are made to break,
Hands were made to squeeze,
Eyes were made to rove about,
And make men do as they please.

Ears were made to burn.
Feet were made to show,
Girls were made to flirt with men,
But men with girls—ah no!

Waists were made to hug,
Tongues were made to tune,
Arms were made to circle the girls,
And lovers were made to spoon.

Eyelids were made to droop,
Cheeks were made to blush,
Hair was made to curl and friz.
And lips were made—Oh hush!

UNITED STATES POSTAL ADHESIVES.

A Reference List.

Compiled by E. R. ALDRICH.

1847 Issue.

1. 5c, dark brown.

2. " red brown.
3. " purple brown.
4. " bronze brown.
5. " black brown.
6. " purplish black.
7. 10c black.
8. " gray-black.
9. " bisected and used as 5c.
10. 5c red brown reprint.
11. 5c brown " "
12. 10c black " "
13. 5c brown, original plate die proof white paper.
14. 5c black same condition on card.
15. 5c red brown, plate proof India paper.
16. 5c black " "
17. 5c green, " "
18. 5c vermilion, " "
19. 5c blue, " "
20. 5c bistre, " "
21. 5c orange, " "
22. 5c red, " "
23. 10c black, die proof white paper.
24. 10c brown, same condition on card.
25. 10c red-brown, same on card.
26. 10c black, plate proof on India.
27. 10c red brown, " "
28. 10c brown, " "
29. 10c green, " "

- | | | | |
|-----|--|---|---|
| 30. | 10c vermilion, | " | " |
| 31. | 10c blue, | " | " |
| 32. | 10c orange, | " | " |
| 33. | 10c red, | " | " |
| 34. | 5c black, plate die proof on India,
border of parallel lines. | | |
| 35. | 5c red brown, same. | | |
| 36. | 5c green, same. | | |
| 37. | 5c red, same. | | |
| 38. | 5c blue, same. | | |
| 39. | 5c black, plate proof white paper. | | |
| 40. | 5c red-brown, | " | " |
| 41. | 5c green, | " | " |
| 42. | 5c vermilion, | " | " |
| 43. | 5c blue, | " | " |
| 44. | 5c bistre, | " | " |
| 45. | 5c rose, | " | " |
| 46. | 5c orange, | " | " |
| 47. | 10c black, | " | " |
| 48. | 10c red-brown, | " | " |
| 49. | 10c brown, | " | " |
| 50. | 10c green, | " | " |
| 51. | 10c vermilion, | " | " |
| 52. | 10c blue, | " | " |
| 53. | 10c orange, | " | " |
| 54. | 10c rose, | " | " |
| 55. | 5c brown, counterfeit plate die proof
India. | | |
| 56. | 5c brown, counterfeit plate proof
India. | | |
| 57. | 5c brown, counterfeit plate proof card. | | |
| 58. | 10c black, counterfeit, plate die proof
India. | | |
| 59. | 10c black counterfeit plate proof India. | | |
| 60. | 10c black counterfeit plate proof card. | | |

It is possible that some of the proofs do not exist but it is much more likely that others not listed exist. The authorities consulted in preparing this list were the leading standard catalogs, Casey's, Scott Co.'s, Bogart's, Roger's, etc., auction sale catalogs, and articles in the philatelic press for the past few years. Collectors having any unlisted variety are requested to notify me that the list may be as complete as possible.

THE REJECTED DIE.

F. F. GILBERT.

Some time has elapsed since the so-called "Rejected Die" was discovered, and a number of articles have been published in different philatelic journals describing it. Yet at this late day I get letters from prominent collectors asking for a description of this die. There are many points of difference between the rejected die and the common one. The most noticeable feature is the head, which is tipped back, causing the eye to look at an angle of about 45 degrees instead of straight ahead. The toe point of the neck points between the third and fourth tooth from the bottom of the inside serrated border in the rejected die, and between second and third tooth in the common die. The G in "Postage" is made like a C, the cross-bar being left off. The "stars" at the sides between the upper and lower inscriptions are larger and more nearly round than in the common die.

The I in "United" in the rejected die is over the depression between two points of the inside serrated border, while in the common die the I is directly over a point. The letters are taller and finer lined.

Comparing the letter S found in the two dies there is a decided difference.

Last, but not least, there are 72 notches in the outside serrated border of the rejected die, and but 67 in the common. As this die has been found on only two sizes, three and five, it is sufficient proof that the die was in use but a very short time. The head being out of plumb, and the G in "Postage"

being imperfect, was sufficient cause for the rejection of the die.

This die has been discovered on five colors, white, blue, amber, amber manilla and oriental buff. But for Mr. L. S. Morton, of Brooklyn, N. Y., who discovered the rejected die, and his very accurate description of the same, which was published in the *International Philatelic Advertiser* in February, this die might yet have been undiscovered. Mr. Morton found one specimen in gray, and this undoubtedly was a proof; all that he found were on white, size five. The writer has the credit of being the first to discover this die on amber, and size three. The possessor of a specimen on amber, size three, oriental buff, blue or amber vanilla, can consider it a prize. The rejected die has increased in value more rapidly than any other stamp issued in the United States in the same length of time of its existence, and from present indications there is every reason to suppose that its value will still further increase within a short time.—*Philatelic Gazette*.

Official Matter Philatelic Society of America.

REPORT OF EXCHANGE SUPERINTENDENT.

CHICAGO, ILL., Oct. 26th, 1891.

Owing to the very slow movement of the circuits now out I am unable to give any figures as to the amount of sales.

I must caution the members again about reading the rules carefully and obeying them. Particular attention should be given to the matter of blank spaces found unaccounted for. The rules regarding this is very plain and reads as follows: "Should any blank spaces be found unaccounted for it is the members duty to notify the one preceding him

and adjust the matter with him. Failure to do this will render the last member accountable for the amount." Don't complain to the Superintendent about it as he is not in a position to adjust it, and the member who notices it in order to protect himself from having the amount charged to his account, must follow the rule laid down for such cases.

While it is advisable to forward by express, great care must be taken in doing so, and no member should forward that way without finding out positively if there is an express office of the Company he is shipping by in the city or town he desires to forward the lot to. If there is any doubt about it send the lot by registered mail and take good care of your receipts.

Every possible caution should be observed in forwarding lots, as it may involve a loss of several hundred dollars worth of stamps, which loss would fall on the member through whose carelessness the stamps were lost.

Several members have remitted the amount of the stamps they took from the sheets when they sent in their report, and I would be very glad if all the members would do so, as it saves time and expense and also enables me to pay balances promptly.

Members should not forget the duty they owe to the Society and try to get desirable members to join. There should be at least a dozen Branches in good running order before New Year. Let every member try to work up a boom in his respective locality and also try to induce his correspondents to become members. The Secretary will gladly furnish all the applications that are called for.

Lots 5, 6 and 7 are circulating at this writing and I am getting Lot 8 ready to send out, but Lot 5 and 7 seem to be stalled somewhere and there has been considerable kicking (and rightfully too) on account of the delay.

P. M. WOLSEFFER,
Exchange Superintendent.

Drawer 707.

◁ THE CURIO. ▷

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“ Column.....	2.75
“ Page.....	4.00

Special contracts on standing advertisements.

If this is marked, your subscription has expired. Please renew.

We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

We have received a circular inviting collectors to join the Michigan Philatelic Society, signed by Henry McConnel, Clarion, Mich., A. H. Crittenden, Detroit, and C. J. Van Valkenburg, Manchester, Mich.

We are in receipt of Merrill's Philatelic Frauds and a most valuable work it is, although there are one or two names which we doubt ought to be there, yet it is best for dealers to be on the safe side and not send out anything to those whose dealings are at all “shady.”

The November number of the *National Amateur* is at hand, and a most “sumptuous” number Chiles gives us. The opening chapters of “Helen Hall's Remnant of Lace” are strongly drawn, and Appleton's “Mrs. Jack” is certainly one of his best productions.

Butler Bros. of Brackley, England, have favored us with their latest wholesale price list (Nov. and Dec. '91) and many are the bargains listed therein. Our dealers should be sure and secure a copy.

Spy Glass for October is before us and for a general collectors' paper is unexcelled. An illustrated sketch of Newcomer, of Cedar Rapids, Ia., is the leading philatelic article.

Lot 5 of the Exchange Department of the P. S. of A. passed through our hands the forepart of the month. We were surprised at the cheap price of many of the stamps. Collectors should join this society if they wish to belong to a society which offers all the advantages possible for a society to offer. Any questions will be cheerfully answered by the editor.

The 7th Sale of the Standard Co. took place the 14th inst. The lots were all bulk lots for dealers.

Leading Articles of the Month.

October numbers meant unless * when article is in November number.

Auction Epitome, *American Philatelist*, 189.

*Boyd's City Post, *Metropolitan Philatelist*, 157.

Constitution Philatelic Society of Canada, *Canadian Philatelist*, 19.

Canadian Stamp Catalog, *Canadian Philatelist*, 18.

*Fads in Postage Stamps, *Stamp Collector's Companion*, 27.

*Founders of the Postal Service in the old German Empire, *Missouri Philatelist*, 12.

*Gummed Envelope, The, *Philatelic Journal of America*, 456.

*Mexico, *Philatelic Journal of America*, 459.

My Good Old By-gone Days, *Southern Philatelist*, 9.

Newcomer, E. P., *Spy Glass*, 31.

Philatelic Literature, *North American Philatelist*, 51.

*Philatelic Journals vs. Stamp Advertisers, *Missouri Philatelist*, 14.

Philatelic Records, *Eastern Philatelist*, 17.

Rare Memories, *Eastern Philatelist*, 18.

Season of '91-2, *Eastern Philatelist*, 19.

Stamp Collecting 30 Years Ago, *Spy Glass*, 38.

*Stamp Collecting as a Business, *Philatelic Journal of America*, 458.

*Stamps of Peru, *Metropolitan Philatelist*, 162.

*Staten Island Festivities, *Metropolitan Philatelist*, 153.

U. S. Philatelic Notes, *American Philatelist*, 193.

U. S. Stamps in My Album, *Spy Glass*, 40.

*What is Philately? *Stamp Collector's Companion*, 36.

*Who Invented the Post Stamp? *Stamp Collector's Companion*, 34.

Will it Last? *Southern Philatelist*, 10.

Dealers' Directory.

A 2 or 3 line card in this column, \$1.00.

BOGERT, R. R., Room 37 Tribune Building, New York. Wholesale and retail.

BRADT THE S. B., & CO., 91 & 92 Wabash Ave., Chicago. Stamps, albums, etc.

GREANY, W. F., 827 Brannan street, San Francisco, Cal. Coins, stamps and curiosities.

LOHMEYER, A., 922 N. Gilmor street, Baltimore, Md. Postal cards for collections, price list toc.

MEKEEL STAMP & PUBLISHING CO., C. H., 1007, 1009, 1011 Locust street, St. Louis, Mo. Wholesale and retail stamp dealers and publishers.

MINNESOTA STAMP CO., Benson, Minn. Send 2c for our new list and five stamp papers.

FREE.

To any one sending for a selection of my fine stamps on approval at 50 per cent. commission, I will allow them to select to worth entirely free. Reference or deposit required.

Address, (7)
R. M. SPENCER, Nordhoff, Cal.

FREE!!!

All who apply for our sheets of rare stamps on approval at 33 1/3 % commission and send good reference will receive a stamp worth 25 cents free. This offer is only good until January 1, 1892. [11]

WINONA STAMP CO.,
721 South 7th St., Minneapolis, Minn.

Special Offer 90 Days.

Porte de Mar, new	.....\$0 12
Cor. Official, 3 Var	..... 05
Set of 1884, 11 Var	..... 25
12 green, 1884, entire env. W. F. & Co	50
25 blue Habilitado	..... 1 00
Newspaper band, 2c postal card, 5c blue env. new, and 10 Mexican stamps, only	25
Wholesale consignments wanted. Good exchange given for same. Orders under 50c must have 5c stamp enclosed. Register your letter.	

C. W. MEXIA,
3a Calle de Humboldt 4,
City of Mexico, Mexico.

Adolph Lohmeyer
FOR COLLECTIONS POSTAL CARDS
922 N. GILMOR STREET
BALTIMORE, MD.
PRICE LIST 10 CENTS

PRICE
 25
 CENTS.

OK

PACKET
 25
 CONTAINS.

30 Varieties Foreign Stamps.

Argentine, Azores Islands, Brazil, Cuba, Confederate States, Ceylon, East India (Sur), Japan, Luxemburg, Mexico, New South Wales, Malta, New Zealand, Peru, Porto Rico, Spain, Victoria, etc. This is a rare bargain, as ten stamps are unused. This packet is priced by Scott & Co., at 65c, our price is 25c (stamps) or 20c (postal note). (14)

THE PENINSULAR PORTFOLIO.

Contains 60 stamps (standard prices) from which we allow a commission of 35 to 40% when sent on approval. Send for one but make a promise. Price list and something pretty slick free.

MICH. POSTAGE STAMP CO.,
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AUCTION SALE

Our 5th Sale will be advertised in the December number.

Drop a card for a copy.

Minn. Stamp Co., Benson, Minn.

GOOD PACKETS.

No. 8.—OUR IMPERATOR.

Contains 50 rare stamps, when we say rare we don't mean cheap penny stamps like many dealers do. We guarantee this packet to catalog over three times what we sell it for,
 40 Cents.

No. 11.—THE BOY'S OWN.

This we have put up just for the boys and contains 50 fine mixed stamps including some really good ones. We guarantee that it will catalog over five times what we want for it.

Postpaid 12 cents.

No. 20.—Contains 10 varieties good stamps such as India envelope, cut square, unused Italy, etc.,

Postpaid, 12 cents.

No. 21.—Contains 20 varieties, such as Argentine, Mexico, U. S., etc.

Postpaid, 12 cents.

Minn. Stamp Co.,

BENSON, MINN.

STAMP PAPERS.

10 good papers, including a copy of the Granite State Philatelist.

12c.

Minn. Stamp Co.,

BENSON, MINN.

DO YOU WANT

To bid on any of the following:

Original Connell, Perforated Canada 6d, Mauritius early issues, Ceylon early issues, P. E. I, 2d rouletted, Canada 6d block of 4, U. S. 1890 30c and 90c in blocks, Cape of Good Hope, wood blocks, etc,

If so send card for catalogue to

T. S. CLARK,

BELLEVILLE, ONT., CAN.

GRAND OPENING.

This is our first and best offer of the season. You cannot afford to miss it. Read it over and send us your order.

6,885 STAMPS.

The most complete stock of stamps ever offered. Contains :

1,000	South, Central American and Mexican.
1,000	Br. Colonials, well assorted.
2,000	European, finely assorted.
500	varieties from "all four corners."
750	Obsolete issue, U. S., Departments, etc.
300	well assorted Mexican Revenues.
600	stamps to sell at 1c.
300	" " " " 2c.
300	" " " " 3c.
75	" " " " 5c.
20	" " " " 8c.
10	" " " " 10c.
10	" " " " 15c.
10	" " " " 25c.
10	" " " " 50c.

6,885

To this we add 250 blank approval sheets with your name printed at the top, and 1-2 inch advertisement in **MEKEEL'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS** for eight weeks.

All this for \$17.90, post free.

Our American stamps cannot be beat in quality or price.

We offer 500 South, Central American and Mexican stamps, containing not less than *130 varieties*, for \$4.00, *post free*.

Send for a set of Nicaragua Officials, 1890, 1c to 10 pesos, 50c.

Our new 48-page Price-List will soon be ready to mail. Send in your name and we will see that you have one of the *first*.

C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Co.,
 1007-1011 Locust St., St. Louis, Mo.

Approval Sheet Agents.

The dull season of the year is passed and *the busy season* of 1891-1892, will take its place, and the time comes *when all can make money*, and those wishing to make it should procure the agency of my fine approval sheets which are without exception the best ones in the market and always contain *good selling stamps only*, such as new issues, special bargains, etc., at the *regular net market price*. I only want good agents (penny agents are not wanted), who can furnish good reference, and guarantee to make returns promptly.

I offer the following commissions:

On United States Postage Stamps,	- - -	20 per cent.
“ “ Revenue Stamps,	- - -	33 $\frac{1}{3}$ “
On Foreign Postage Stamps,	- - -	33 $\frac{1}{3}$ “
On my 1, 2, 3 and 5c sheets,	- - -	50 “

No commissions allowed on sales below 50c; all remittances over \$1.00 must be made by Postal Notes; unused stamps will only be accepted for small amounts.

As I guarantee to price all stamps not higher than the real market value, I cannot allow any higher commission, as it is impossible to allow more on them, unless they are priced accordingly.

Any agent remitting \$5.00 cash at a time can select 50 cents' worth of stamps off my sheets as a premium, and to the best agent remitting the most money during any month, I will give a \$5.00 album free. The second best a \$2.50, and the third best a \$1.50. And to the Agents remitting the most money during the season 1891-1892 (September 1st, 1891 to April 30th, 1892) I offer

The Greatest Premium Ever Offered

by any dealer that is

A Collection of 3,000 Varieties, Valued at \$250.

Send in your application at once with good reference, as I only want a limited number of good agents.

HENRY GREMMEI,

So Nassau St., New York.

WANTED.—Old Collections, Rare Stamps, Stamps on Original Letters, &c., &c.

 **HIGHEST CASH PRICES PAID.** 

Send for free sample copy of the **POST OFFICE**—the best monthly stamp paper.

"THE CURIO."

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE P. S. OF A.

VOL. VII.

BENSON, MINN., DEC., 1891.

No. 11.

P. S. OF A.

If you want to participate in a live and paying Exchange Department join the PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA. Dues only \$1.00 per year, which pays for all the benefits of membership in a National Stamp Society. Write for application blanks, rules and further particulars. Address either

E. R. ALDRICH, Benson, Minn.

A. N. SPENCER, John & Front Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

P. M. WOLSIEFFER, Drawer 707, Chicago, Ill.

THE COLUMBIAN STAMP EXHIBIT.

The time, when it behooves collectors to be stirring themselves, if there is to be an exhibit of stamps at the World's Fair is here. True, the American Philatelic Association have a committee appointed but there the entire matter seems to have ended. The only place that there seems to be any activity on the subject is among the members of the Chicago Philatelic Society, who have recently started a fund for this purpose.

In view of agitation on the question our editor addressed letters to a score of our leading collectors asking their ideas on the subject.

The pathy of the A. P. A. was well illustrated by the manner in which their officers treated the let-

ters, neither the President or Secretary condescending to notice the letters, while the Vice President was not sufficiently interested in the matter to have an opinion.

Several who were addressed replied that they were so situated that they could do little if anything to contribute to the success of the entertainment hence they felt it unbecoming to say ought on the subject, others have kindly outlined their views on the subject.

Mr. E. B. Hanes says,

"A Philatelic display at the Columbian Exposition would be a thing of very great interest to its millions of visitors and of undoubted benefit to the science in this country. It would not need to be an exhibition of great rarities so much as a general exposition of the science and its literature. It could be made very attractive without an attempt to show great value, and I think it should be

conducted on these lines."

Mr. Bogert writes

"You ask me to give you my views briefly as to a stamp exhibition at the World's Fair. So I will only say that if proper space can be secured and safety of the stamps guaranteed by insurance or otherwise there is no doubt much gain to philately would result, especially in the increase of collectors. By all means however the arrangements should be under supervision of our largest Society of the A. P. A."

Mr. Watson, the prominent post card collector, says:

"In reply to your letter of the 13th inst. asking my opinion regarding the stamp exhibit at the World's Fair I would say that we undoubtedly should have an exhibit there and it is my opinion that the Chicago Philatelic Society should have full charge. They compose an able body of Philatelists and I feel sure if they undertake to make an international stamp exhibit, they will do it in a manner that will be satisfactory to all."

Mr. Deats of Flemington thinks

"I have thought little about the stamp exhibit at Chicago in '93. Unless President Tiffany appoints the committee he was authorized to by the last A. P. A. convention, soon, considerable valuable time will be lost.

I do not know what arrangements can be made with the Managers of the Fair. That will affect the thing a great deal. The committee must make and enforce stringent rules, as to what shall be exhibited and what manner it shall be done."

The secretary of the Philatelic Society of America, Mr. Spencer, says:

"My views on the subject of Society Exhibit at the World's Fair are briefly summed up in the following:

"I think it advisable that such an exhibit should be made, and it should comprise such stamps, cards, etc. as will best serve to educate the collectors in philately. It should be in the hands of a Society that can best arrange to take proper care of it. The Chicago Society I consider amply qualified to the position, and they are on the ground.

As to details of a plan I am not prepared to comment on. It requires considerable thought to digest this part of it intelligently. A society exhibit would be more comprehensive and more interesting than any individual show, yet I would favor single exhibits where parties preferred to so display their own possessions."

Mr. Hooper, president of the Canadian national society, writes,

"I think a real live committee to represent every society in the U. S. should take the World's Fair Philatelic exhibit in hand at once. Recollect, if you do not protect foreign exhibits from loss by every means in your power, you will not be able to make it a success. This could be done by the Committee insuring the whole of the exhibits sent in. Canada's national society, The Philatelic Society of Canada, will assist as far as possible in this great undertaking."

Our old friend and former editor, who is best known by his signature, Dixon's H. H., writes

"Yours re Columbian Fair Exhibit at hand. I hardly feel capable of expressing any opinion on such a matter, but to please you suppose I must. Seems to me this is a mat-

ter that all the societies should unite on and not allow any one society to call it theirs. From their location, the C. P. S. should have charge, but the A. P. A., P. S. of A., N. P. A., S. I. P. S., etc. should all appoint co-operating committees. I can hardly think that the directors of the fair would refuse space but some arrangement with them should be made at once."

Now, after having expressed others idea, it seems to us that the proper way is for the C. P. S. to go ahead and appoint committees and make all arrangements. If it pleases them to invite the co-operation of the other societies well and good, if not, it should with its nearly 200 members have material enough to go ahead and make the exhibit themselves. Certainly after the manner the A. P. A. has "run things" in this connection, we cannot expect them to ever do anything.

Pencilings.

DIXON'S H H.

St. Louis can well claim to be the philatelic city of the West, when "he" puts forth three such monthly journals as the *Philatelic Journal of America*, *Missouri Philatelist* and the *Stamp Collector's Companion*, to say nothing of the only weekly stamp paper published and to support such concerns as the Mekeel Co., the Standard Co., the Mound City Co. and the Conrath Co.

Minneapolis having secured the Republican convention has awakened from her legarthy and we are promised a new stamp paper from the Flour City. I understand George Achard is the moving spirit.

Happening to call on the CURIO's Editor the other day, I had the pleasure of looking at two bound volumes of stamp magazines just as he received them from the express. One contained a file of the *Granite State Philatelist* and Mann & Kendig's *Gazette* complete, the while other contained complete files of the *Western Philatelist*, Abbott's *Stamp Collector*, Massoth's *Stamp Collector*, and the *Stamp Collector* of Ottawa, Ill., the *Capital City Philatelist*, Spalding's *Michigan Philatelist*, the *New England Philatelist* and the *Yankee Philatelist*. The two volumes form a library in themselves.

Speaking of Aldrich's library I also saw the London Societies' works on Australia and Canada, bound volumes of the first series *American Journal of Philately*, full files of the *Philatelic Journal of America*, *American Philatelist*, and others too numerous to mention.

GOOD PACKETS.

No. 20.—Contains 10 varieties good stamps such as India envelope, cut square, unused Italy, etc.,

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BENSON, MINN.

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MINN.

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Special contracts on standing advertisements.

If this is marked, your subscription has expired. Please renew.

We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

Once again we greet you with the salutation of A Merry Christmas.

Slowly but surely, the A. P. A. seems to be losing ground. A little true usefulness would be the best thing to inject into its veins.

C. D. Reimers, ex-exchange superintendent of the P. S. of A., has established a philatelic advertising and subscription bureau at Iowa City, Iowa.

“A number of the large dealers in this city have told me that the A.

P. A. would be incorporated within a week or ten days.”—N. Y. Correspondence *Missouri Philatelist*.

So at least one New Yorker is candid enough to acknowledge who it is that is the governing hand of the A. P. A.

The *Chicago Stamp News* is a new one. S. B. Bradt Co. prime movers.

We acknowledge receipt of an invitation to the annual banquet of the C. P. S.

Since the first page went to press a delayed letter has been received from Mr. H. C. Beardsley in which regarding the Columbian Stamp exhibit he says:

“Yours received and in reply will say that I think the *proper* way of a stamp exhibition at the Worlds' Fair will be to do the same as the three N. Y. societies did the Eden Musee (N. Y.) exhibit, *i. e.* to let each country be represented by specialists, for instance, my collection may be of Canada only, yours of Italy only, we giving our entire attention to one country only, our collections would be more complete of these countries than anyone who collects everything.”

Stamp Collectors.

Beginners find my prices on staple specimens most reasonable; advanced collectors can obtain rarest and most desirable stamps. Monthly priced lists give splendid bargains. Send for free copy.

E. T. Parker, - Bethlehem, Pa.

Dealers' Directory.

A 2 or 3 line card in this column, \$1.00.

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FREE!!!

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WINONA STAMP CO.,
721 South 7th St., Minneapolis, Minn.

SEND 15 CENTS

for 3 lists, 10 Mexican stamps different and 1 newspaper wrapper. Anybody sending me \$1.00 postal note for stamps of any retail price list will receive free a set of Porte de Mar.

Revenues of Mexico, Custom House, Renta Interior. 40 per cent. below Mekeel's prices.

Always send 5 cents return postage if you want an answer.

C. W. MEXIA,

3a Calle de Humboldt 4,

City of Mexico, Mexico.



STAMPS—ALL GENUINE!
100 Rare Varieties China, Nicaragua, Honduras, Old Japan and Egypt, Bosnia, Peru, Orange, Hawaii, fine old U. S., Interior, Treasury, P. O., War, etc., with elegant Stamp Album, only 25c. 100 assorted rare Mexico, Ceylon, Guiana, Turkey, Costa-Rica, etc., only 10c. Large new 20 page Price-List, etc. FREE! AGENTS WANTED at \$3 1-3 per cent com. STANDARD STAMP CO., removed to 923-925 LaSalle St., St. Louis, Mo.

PRICE 25 CENTS. **OK** PACKET 25 CONTAINS.

30 Varieties Foreign Stamps.

Argentine, Azores Islands, Brazil, Cuba, Confederate States, Ceylon, East India (Sur), Japan, Luxemburg, Mexico, New South Wales, Malta, New Zealand, Peru, Porto Rico, Spain, Victoria, etc. This is a rare bargain, as ten stamps are unused. This packet is priced by Scott & Co., at 65c, our price is 25c (stamps) or 20c (postal note). [14]

THE PENINSULAR PORTFOLIO.

Contains 60 stamps (standard prices) from which we allow a commission of 35 to 40% when sent on approval. Send for one but make a promise. Price list and something pretty slick free.

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Box 156 Manchester, Mich.

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STAMPED ENVELOPES, POST CARDS, ALBUMS, ETC

ONE CENT POSTAGE.

The Republican party in its last national platform resolved in favor of reducing letter postage to one cent per ounce. Since that time very little has been heard about the matter. Postmaster General Wanamaker has had several other crotchets in his head that seems to have overshadowed the "resolve" in question and relegated it to "innocuous desuetude."

The truth seems to be that there was a hole in the platform that needed to be filled up and the solons that composed the committee on platform, seized upon the first floating plank that came along and slapped it into the vacant space, only regarding the necessity of presenting a smooth surface to its voters, without much reference to the kind of timber employed in the construction.

The incident seems to illustrate the fact that party platforms do not always, or even generally, voice the true sentiments of the people who compose the rank and file of the party. If there had been a general sentiment throughout the country in favor of cheaper postage, not only the Republicans, but all other parties would have joined hands in enacting a law which would have accomplished that result.

The truth is that our present letter postage is cheap enough. No one cares anything about a one-cent postage law.

So far as we have gone, the present postal system of the United States has reached a state as near perfection as any business of like proportions.

Whether it is self-sustaining or not is a question of indifference. The post office should not be conducted with a view to making it a means of revenue to the government. It is a part of the duty the people owe to themselves to see that the means of communication between localities widely separated are within the reach of all. Whenever we have accomplished that result our next step should be to see that all classes of people are equally benefited by the means employed.

So far as the facilities for postal communication are concerned this is as nearly the case as can be under our present rate of postage. If there is anything to be desired it is not in the direction of cheaper postage, but in better mail service. We have been running in this groove of cheaper service from the foundation of the post office department up to the present time until we have reached the lowest limit of any nation on earth with the same extent of territory.

If there is anything further to be accomplished now, let us turn our attention to the other most desirable attainment—not a cheaper, but a better mail service.—*The State*, (St. Paul).

The Philatelic Society of America.

ORGANIZED JANUARY 15, 1889.

President—E. R. Aldrich, Benson, Minn.

Vice-President—

Secretary—A. N. Spencer, Cor. John and Front Sts., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Treasurer—F. N. Massoth, Jr., Hanover Center, Indiana.

International Secretary—H. E. Deats, Flemington, New Jersey.

Exchange Superintendent—P. M. Wolsieffer, Drawer 707, Chicago, Illinois.

Purchasing Agent—S. W. Scott, Dubuque, Iowa.

Librarian—

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

CINCINNATI, OHIO, Nov. 15, 1891.

New Members.

No.

133, CHAS. H. HUBERICH, P. O. Box 640, San Antonio, Tex.

134, CHAS. S. WARING, Box 292, Knoxville, Tenn.

135, LUTHER W. MOTT, 78 W. 5th St., Oswego, N. Y.

136, MAX E. JESSE, 567 South Presa St., San Antonio, Tex.

Applications.

A. F. WEIDENBACKEN, 2 Noel Block, Nashville, Tenn.

Proposed by A. N. Spencer, P. M. Wolsieffer.

P. J. KRANZ, 924 South St., Toledo, O.
References, P. M. Wolsieffer, A. N. Spencer.

WM. A. CROZIER, 36 Broadway, Chelsea, Mass.

Proposed by P. M. Wolsieffer, A. N. Spencer.

Change in Address.

E. E. LAMBERT, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

I have received a great many applications for blanks within the past few days and the indications for a most satisfactory addition to our membership continue.

A. N. SPENCER,

Secretary.

Please mention The Curio when answering advertisements.

Department Stamps

At less than

Half Catalogue Price.

12 all different unused Department Stamps catalogued over \$1.00, Price only 40 cents.

Money will be refunded to purchasers who are displeased with their investment.

Orders filled same day as received.

Price List free.

CHARLES W. BURNHAM,

STAMP DEALER,

32 Grant Place, Washington, D. C.

Member A. P. A. 1079.

GOOD PACKETS.

No. 8.—OUR IMPERATOR.

Contains 50 *rare* stamps, when we say rare we don't mean cheap penny stamps like many dealers do. We guarantee this packet to catalog over *three* times what we sell it for,
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1,000	South, Central American and Mexican.
1,000	Br. Colonials, well assorted.
2,000	European, finely assorted.
500	varieties from "all four corners."
750	Obsolete issue, U. S., Departments, etc.
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300	" " " " 2c.
300	" " " " 3c.
75	" " " " 5c.
20	" " " " 8c.
10	" " " " 10c.
10	" " " " 15c.
10	" " " " 25c.
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1007-1011 Locust St., St. Louis, Mo.

"THE CURIO."

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE P. S. OF A.

VOL. VII.

BENSON, MINN., JAN., 1892.

No. 12.

The Philatelic Society of America.

ORGANIZED JANUARY 15, 1889.

President—E. R. Aldrich, Benson, Minn.

Vice-President—

Secretary—A. N. Spencer, Cor. John and Front Sts., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Treasurer—F. N. Massoth, Jr., Hanover Center, Indiana.

International Secretary—H. E. Deats, Flemington, New Jersey.

Exchange Superintendent—P. M. Wolsieffer, Drawer 707, Chicago, Illinois.

Purchasing Agent—S. W. Scott, Dubuque, Iowa.

Librarian—

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

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No.

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138, P. J. KRANZ, No. 924 South Street, Toledo, Ohio.

139, WM. A. CROZIER, No. 36 Broadway, Chelsea, Mass.

Applications.

SMITH, L. W., 46 Jane Street, New York City.

References, John Milton Holt, Wm. D. Acker.

Proposed by A. N. Spencer and P. M. Wolsieffer.

FROST, RUDOLPH, Palatka, Putnam Co., Fla.

References, Dan Hogan, Jesse Burt.

Proposed by P. M. Wolsieffer and A. N. Spencer.

REYNOLDS, A. J., Connersville, Ind.

References, Lon R. Conner, A. N. Spencer.

SMITH, J. S., Oak Park, Ill.

References, F. T. Hoyt, F. N. Massoth, Jr.

LINDSEY, L. V., Greene, Chenango Co., New York.

References, W. D. Acker, C. L. Zimmerman.

Proposed by P. M. Wolsieffer and A. N. Spencer.

LADD, A. L., Osceola Mills, Wis.

References, Osceola Mills Co., C. C. Ladd.

Proposed by A. N. Spencer, P. M. Wolsieffer.

RUNDQUIST, A. W., No. 416 15th St., Moline, Ill.

References, Will Schacht, Chas. G. Wallin.

Guarantor, A. W. Rundquist, Sr.

Proposed by P. M. Wolsieffer, A. N. Spencer.

DOEBLIN, E., Allegheny City, Pa.

References, P. M. Wolsieffer, A. N. Spencer.

MCCULLOUGH, WM. J., Davenport, Iowa.

Reference, J. H. Harrison.

Proposed by P. M. Wolsieffer, A. N. Spencer.

LENTZ, CHAS. A., Minerva, O.

References, A. N. Spencer and P. M. Wolsieffer.

The foregoing speaks for itself, and it is a very good showing for the encouragement of our members as they enter upon a new year. It indicates prosperity for our Society, and the zeal of some of our members in infusing new life into it. It is patent that advanced collectors are becoming more and more interested in our welfare and are joining hands with us in fellowship and for the public good. We urge our many friends whom we see standing aside and watching developments, to come into the circle and widen its area until it reaches every nook and cranny of Philatelia's realm. Make our already goodly numbers a great throng. Give to the world your experience in the field that we so enjoy. Read them through the official journal. Make that paper the standard for philatelic news, both at home and abroad. Fill it with results of your research, no matter how insignificant they may seem to you. They are important and we ought to know of them. Do not be afraid of overwhelming the journal. If one will not be sufficient we will run two. Give us the matter and we will find a place to put it.

A word of caution to our members may be wise. Now that the outlook is so fair and bright, do not allow your enthusiasm to flag, but buckle the armor the more securely and make new conquests. Each one of you consider it a duty to swell the numbers and send in names early. Application blanks can be procured of the Secretary at any time.

We have a Constitution and By-Laws that we have never felt rich enough to print and distribute, but this year we hope we will have a balance in the treasury, sufficient to issue it. It will be printed as soon as it can be consistently done.

With this issue the CURIO ceases to be our Official Journal, but by the time another month rolls by, we expect to mail you an official organ as usual.

A. N. SPENCER,
Secretary.

Jan. 1st, 1892.

EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT.

Report No. 5.

CHICAGO, Jan. 1st, 1892.

Since my last report I have received 100 filled sheets, valued at \$276.15.

I made them up in three lots and they are now circulating among the members. The disbursements have not been made as promptly as I expected, although I have paid balances to several members. The reason of this is the old, old story, members don't settle their accounts when due. They read the rules and fully understand them, but don't heed them or pay any attention to my statements. This, however, can happen only once, as I immediately cut the member off from all participation in the Exchange, who is neglectful of this most important duty. I am not running my end of the line for fun, or for the benefit of any one member, but in the interest of all, and whoever don't come to time with the cash balance when it is due has no more credit with this Department.

In order to make members feel secure from loss in the case of minors not paying for stamps, I have demanded a *Guarantor* from all that are under age. This is not only a protection for the older members, but also for the minors themselves as we have quite a number in the society at the present time. While it may keep out a few who would otherwise join, I think we are better off without them if they can't furnish proper credentials. Where finances come into play minors have no standing unless backed by a *Guarantor*, and we owe it to ourselves to use care in the handling of funds or valuable stamps. Wishing all the members a prosperous New Year for their collections, I am

P. M. WOLSIEFFER,

Exchange Superintendent.

Drawer 707.

PENCILLINGS.

DIXON'S H H.

Philatelic matters in the North West do not seem to be booming this year. Three of the Minneapolis firms have consolidated and this now makes practically the only firm north west of Chicago.

The Minnesota Stamp Co. is practically a thing of the past. Aldrich has withdrawn his interest in the concern and the survivors intend only to stay in the business long enough to close out their stock.

One of the leading collectors recently showed me a set of the 1872 issue, lacking only one value, in unsevered pairs and quite an interesting lot of other issues in the same shape.

Talking of unsevered pieces Aldrich recently wrote me that he had an unsevered trio of 1847 ten centers. The same gentlemen about a year ago showed me an unsevered strip of ten of 90c purple.

I recently saw a rarity in Canadian bills of the second issue. The stamp was perforated properly horizontally but up and down the perforation came directly through the queen's head.

The P. S. of A. is getting the best class of collectors into its ranks many of whom have never before affiliated with any organization.

OUT OF BUSINESS!

Our firm was practically dissolved on Jan. 1st by the retirement of our largest stockholder but we have got something on hand yet and we will close out dirt cheap.

STAMPS. Send us any sum from 25c to \$2.00 and we will send you a selection worth four times the amount you remit.

STAMP PAPERS, a full half pound for 15 cents.

Minn. Stamp Co.,

BENSON,

MINN.

STAMP DEALERS!

Before placing any advertising contracts for 1892 we would advise stamp dealers wishing to save *Time, Money and Bother* to correspond with us. We can make combination rates that will surprise you. We have all of the principal philatelic publications on file and to advertisers who will give us the placing of their contracts we offer special inducements. We can advise as to the best mediums, circulation, etc. Correspondence solicited.

Western Philatelic Agency,
Box 1963, - Iowa City, Ia.

FREE.

To any one sending for a selection of my fine stamps on approval at 50 per cent. commission, I will allow them to select 10c worth entirely free. Reference or deposit required.

Address,

(7

R. M. SPENCER, Nordhoff, Cal.

FREE!!!

All who apply for our sheets of rare stamps on approval at 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % commission and send good reference will receive a stamp worth 25 cents free. This offer is only good until January 1, 1892. [11

WINONA STAMP Co.,

721 South 7th St.

Minneapolis, Minn.

◁ THE CURIO. ▷

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

CURIO CO.,

BENSON

MINN.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

U. S. and Canada per year.....	25c.
Postal Union Countries.....	35c.
South Africa and Australia.....	50c.

—ADVERTISING RATES—

Per Inch.....	\$.50
" Column.....	2.75
" Page.....	4.00

Special contracts on standing advertisements.

If this is marked, your subscription has expired. Please renew.

We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

Your especial attention is called to Aldrich's ad in this number. Very few of the pieces he offers could be duplicated at any price.

On another page will be found an application blank to the P. S. of A., cut it out and send your application to the Secretary *at once* as you can't afford to stay out of what is going to be *the* society of the new world.

Do you want to get the CURIO free, then take advantage of our club offer with the *Great Divide* or else send us \$1.50 for *Mekeel's Weekly*

Stamp News and Philatelic Journal of America for a year and get the CURIO free.

As with this number our connection with the P. S. of A. is severed we have given an extra amount of space to that organization. Now don't forget to give it an extra amount of your attention and use one of the application blanks.

OUR CLUB OFFER.

20 GEMS as a Premium FREE with "THE GREAT DIVIDE."

STANLEY WOOD, Editor.

20 genuine Gemstones, cut and polished ready to mount into jewelry free, as a premium to each new yearly subscriber. We send you all of these gems:

Cameo, finely cut.	Bloodstone.
Goldstone.	Sardonyx.
Tiger Eye.	Montana Moss Agate.
Petrified Wood.	Agates,
Fancy Crocidolite.	Green Moss Agate.
Carnelian.	Agates, for Sleeve Buttons.
Satin Spar.	Jewel Onyx.
	Tree Agate.

THE GREAT DIVIDE is a superbly illustrated monthly journal, published at Denver, Colorado, containing articles every month on Rocky Mountain scenery, illustrating and describing its canons, natural parks, mountain peaks, minerals, mines, crystals, relics, cliff dwellings, Indians and customs, natural wonders, caves, grotesque and marvelous works of nature, resources, birds and animals and wild flowers. DIFFERENT FROM ANY OTHER PUBLICATION IN THE WORLD. Send 10 cents for a sample copy.

Read Carefully.

THE GREAT DIVIDE and THE CURIO will be sent for one full year upon receipt of only \$1.05. The gems will also be sent you as a premium free of any cost. Bear this in mind. Send \$1.05 to this office and secure THE GREAT DIVIDE, THE CURIO and the 20 Gemstones free, as a premium. Do not delay.

Each Gemstone is honestly worth 50 cents, and some cannot be bought for \$1.00 of any jeweler, and the total value is over \$10.00. You can see THE GREAT DIVIDE and the cabinet of Gemstones at our office. Remember, there are 20 Gemstones.

The Curio, Benson, Minn.

Dealers' Directory.

A 2 or 3 line card in this column, \$1.00.

BOGERT, R. R., Room 37 Tribune Building, New York. Wholesale and retail.

BRADT THE S. B., & CO., 91 & 92 Wabash Ave., Chicago. Stamps, albums, etc.

GREANY, W. F., 827 Brannan street, San Francisco, Cal. Coins, stamps and curiosities.

LOHMEYER, A., 922 N. Gilmor street, Baltimore, Md. Postal cards for collections, price list 10c.

MEKEEL STAMP & PUBLISHING CO., C. H., 1007, 1009, 1011 Locust street, St. Louis, Mo. Wholesale and retail stamp dealers and publishers.

MINNESOTA STAMP CO., Benson, Minn. Send 2c for our new list and five stamp papers.

500 Agents Wanted

for our fine approval sheets at 33 1/2% commission.

Packet U, contains 5 U. S. cut env. stamps, price 10 cents. Try it.

Packet C, contains 40 different stamps from Chili, Ecuador, Tasmania, &c., price 8 cents.

FLOUR CITY STAMP CO.,

Removed from 16 Grove to 21 Scio St., Rochester, N. Y.



STAMPS—ALL GENUINE! 100 Rare Varieties China, Nicaragua, Honduras, Old Japan and Egypt, Bosnia, Peru, Orange, Hawaii, fine old U. S., Interior, Treasury, P. O. War, etc., with elegant Stamp Album, only 25c. 100 assorted rare Mexico, Ceylon, Guiana, Turkey, Costa-Rica, etc., only 10c. Large new 20 page Price-List, etc., FREE! AGENTS WANTED at 33 1-3 per cent com. STANDARD STAMP CO., removed to 923-925 LaSalle St., St. Louis, Mo.

SEND 15 CENTS

for 3 lists, 10 Mexican stamps different and 1 newspaper wrapper. Anybody sending me \$1.00 postal note for stamps of any retail price list will receive free a set of Porte de Mar.

Revenues of Mexico, Custom House, Renta Interior. 40 per cent. below Mekeel's prices.

Always send 5 cents return postage if you want an answer.

C. W. MEXIA,

3a Calle de Humboldt 4,

City of Mexico, Mexico.

Please mention The Curio when answering advertisements.

DUES,

\$1.00 per Year.

Began collecting in.....

Total U. S. Stamps.....

Foreign.....

Revenues.....

Total.....

Specialty if any.....

Secretary's address,

A. N. SPENCER,

John & Front Sts., Cincinnati, O.

APPLICATION OF

Received..... 189

Admitted..... 189

Official No.....

Remarks.....

Adolph Lohmeyer
 FOR COLLECTIONS **POSTAL CARDS**
922 N. GILMOR STREET
BALTIMORE, MD.
PRICE LIST 10 CENTS

THE S. B. BRADT COMPANY.
 (INCORPORATED.)



PROPRIETORS OF **LOBB'S CIRCULATING LIBRARY.**
 91 & 93 Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.
 DEALERS IN

POSTAGE AND REVENUE STAMPS
 STAMPED ENVELOPES, POST CARDS, ALBUMS, ETC

COINS, STAMPS, CURIOS,

48-PAGE CATALOGUE FOR STAMPS.

W. F. GREANY,

827 Brannan St., [8] San Francisco, Cal.

PRICE ²⁵ CENTS. **OK** PACKET ²⁵ CONTAINS.

30 Varieties Foreign Stamps.

Argentine, Azores Islands, Brazil, Cuba, Confederate States, Ceylon, East India (Sur), Japan, Luxemburg, Mexico, New South Wales, Malta, New Zealand, Peru, Porto Rico, Spain, Victoria, etc. This is a rare bargain, as ten stamps are unused. This packet is priced by Scott & Co., at 65c, our price is 25c (stamps) or 20c (postal note). [14]

THE PENINSULAR PORTFOLIO.

Contains 60 stamps (standard prices) from which we allow a commission of 35 to 40% when sent on approval. Send for one but make a promise. Price list and something pretty slick free.

MICH. POSTAGE STAMP CO.,
 Box 156 Manchester, Mich.

*Please mention **The Curio** when answering advertisements.*

The Philatelic Society of America.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

I hereby signify my intention to become a member of the Philatelic Society of America, and furnish the information necessary in support of my application.

Signed,

Residence,

Age, Occupation,

Member of following societies,

References

Proposed by **THE CURIO.**

Unique Specimens.

Only one specimen offered.

Sent postpaid on receipt of price.

- | | | | |
|---|--------|--|-------|
| Hand Stamp of Ninty-six,—PAID 5—
Postmarked Nov. 19. The colored representation of the Confederate Ensign in upper sinister corner. Rare and fine,..... | \$.75 | U. S. 1853, straight die on buff, cut square. <i>Doute impression.</i> Probably unique..... | 2.00 |
| Confederate 10 cent, cut round, pen-mark cancellation, very rare and very curious, 2.00 | | U. S. 1853, 3 cent on white. Wide curve die. Paper <i>resembling linen and having a hard glossy finish.</i> Extremely rare. Have never met with another although I have handled thousands of these envelopes..... | 12.50 |
| U. S. envelope, 1853, 3 cents, letter size on white. <i>Watermark laid straight with lines.</i> Nesbitt tress, back of envelope torn but face in fine shape. Cancelled by penmark, very rare..... | 1.50 | U. S., Wells Fargo frank on 10c green 1853 envelope on buff, stamp torn, an exceedingly great rarity and worth \$15.00 if perfect..... | 1.00 |
| Confederate envelope, ensign in upper sinister corner. Poetical motto
"Bright banner of freedom with pride I unfold thee
Fair flag of my country, with love I behold thee
Gleaming above us in freshness and youth
Emblem of Liberty, symbol of truth
For the flag of my country in triumph shall wave
O'er the Southerner's home and the Southerner's grave."
Addressed to Col. Wm. C. Grasty, postmarked Sept. 17, 1862, franked by 5 cent London print..... | .75 | Confederacy, an envelope used and franked by 3c 1851 issue turned and used by Confederate, franked by an unsevered pair of London print 10 centers.... | .75 |
| Confederacy, Block of eight 10c, 1864, from the scarce plate 3 | .50 | Confederate Envelope with imprint in upper dextra corner, "Confederate States of America, Executive Department, Official Business." Addressed to Hon. Alexander Stephens, Vice President. Franked by an unsevered pair of London print 10 centers. Endorsed on back by Stephens's private secretary as from "His Excellency President Davis." A rare and valuable relic..... | 3.00 |
| Confederacy, Block of four 20c green, large margin on right | .30 | Confederacy, Envelope with Confederate Ensign in color in upper left corner. Franked by 3-cent U. S. 1857 stamp. Postmarked Columbia, S. C., May 11, 1861. Nearly five months after secession of the state of S. C. A very rare, curious and undoubtedly unique specimen | 10.00 |
| Spain, card proof essay in black, head of Amadeus..... | .25 | | |
| Confederacy, U. S. envelope turned and used. Rare and curious | .40 | | |
| Confederacy, Envelope made from wall paper. Very rare and curious | 1.00 | | |
| Confederacy, Envelope made out of General Orders No. 18, franked with elegant specimen of 10c bright ultra-marine blue, an exceedingly rare shade. Positively an unique curiosity | 3.00 | | |

E. R. Aldrich, - Benson, Minn.

GRAND OPENING.

This is our first and best offer of the season. You cannot afford to miss it. Read it over and send us your order.

6,885 STAMPS.

The most complete stock of stamps ever offered. Contains:

1,000	South, Central American and Mexican.
1,000	Br. Colonials, well assorted.
2,000	European, finely assorted.
500	varieties from "all four corners."
750	Obsolete issue, U. S., Departments, etc.
300	well assorted Mexican Revenues.
600	stamps to sell at 1c.
300	" " " " 2c.
300	" " " " 3c.
75	" " " " 5c.
20	" " " " 8c.
10	" " " " 10c.
10	" " " " 15c.
10	" " " " 25c.
10	" " " " 50c.

6,885

To this we add 250 blank approval sheets with your name printed at the top, and 1-2 inch advertisement in **MEKEEL'S WEEKLY STAMP NEWS** for eight weeks.

All this for \$17.90, post free.

Our American stamps cannot be beat in quality or price.

We offer 500 South, Central American and Mexican stamps, containing not less than *130 varieties*, for \$4.00, *post free*.

Send for a set of Nicaragua Officials, 1890, 1c to 10 pesos, 50c.

Our new 48-page Price-List will soon be ready to mail. Send in your name and we will see that you have one of the *first*.

C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Co.,

1007-1011 Locust St., St. Louis, Mo.

"THE CURIO."

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VIII.

BENSON, MINN., FEB., 1892.

No. 1.

THE VARIETIES OF MATCH AND MEDICINE STAMPS IN REGARD TO PAPER.

By FIG.

Many collectors neglect the collecting of the varieties of United States Match and Medicine stamps as regards to paper. There are four varieties of each stamp and the only difference being in quality of paper used in their manufacture. The varieties are watermarked, old, silk and pink paper. The pink is a common variety and is noticed by all collectors, but the other three varieties are classed as one, with most philatelists that pay any attention to this branch, now the trouble is generally assigned to the lack of telling the difference between the last three varieties mentioned. The silk paper is easily perceived as it has silk threads running all through it, but the watermarked and old paper is very much alike, many of the stamps are so small that the watermark cannot be discerned, but in a long stamp there is little difficulty in determining it. The old paper is always of a darker color and generally slightly rough and has no watermark. All these should be considered in a collection and no collection is complete without them. I trust I have thrown some light on the distinction between the varieties so as to enable the readers of this journal to properly classify their collection of these interesting mementoes.—*Park City Collector.*

P. S. of A.

The second of our National Societies in importance and size is undoubtedly the Philatelic Society of America. In its ranks are to be found the leading philatelists of the country, such men as W. J. Morgan of New Orleans, R. A. Sheldon of Mobile, G. W. Achard of Minneapolis, H. E. Deats of Flemington, S. B. Bradt of Chicago, while the press is represented in its folds by Stanton of the *Tribune*, Jewett of the *Era*, Bartlett of the *Collectors' Companion*.

The Exchange Department, and it is an exchange department, and not as a sales department like the A. P. A. The head of this department, P. M. Wolsieffer of Chicago, is one of the best posted and most thorough philatelists of the west, and the mere mention of his name is a sufficient guarantee that the "X" department is second to none. The society also gives an official organ free to each member. The society also has a purchasing agent who procures specimens direct at original cost, without charging any profit. You should immediately send to the Secretary, A. N. Spencer, Cincinnati, O., the President, E. R. Aldrich, Benson, Minn., or P. M. Wolsieffer, Drawer 707, Chicago, Ill., for information or application blanks.

◁ THE CURIO. ▷

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Special contracts on standing advertisements.

If this is marked, your subscription has expired. Please renew.

We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

“I have lost my heart,” he whispered,
Gazing into her lovely eyes;
But the maiden coldly answered,
“Why don't you advertise?”

A 1 inch ad on trial once for 30c.

A half pound package of stamp papers and the CURIO 3 months on trial for 15 cents.

When you make up your mind that you want to join a good society, send to A. N. Spencer, Cincinnati, O., for P. S. of A. application blanks.

Send 5 cents and get 3 sample copies of the CURIO and 25 well mixed North American stamps.

A package of good stamps cataloguing \$2.00, will be given for the best article on “Mexican Revenues.” This is open to all, whether subscribers or not. Competition closes on April 1st.

Bid at Once.

1. Turkey 4*	13
2. Transvaal, Trinidad,	5
3. Switzerland,	19
4. Servia 6*	11
5. Salvador, Samoa,	6
6. Russia,*	13
7. Roumania, 1862-71,	6
8. “ 1873-80,	14
9. “ 50 B. bistre,	1
10. Roman States, used,	3
11. “ reprints,	6
12. Queensland, Porto Rico,	12
13. Portugal,	21
14. Peru, 1858-62,	5
15. Peru, 1866, 1847	8
16. Peru,	6
17. Norway, 1k, 2k,	2
18. Norway,	32
19. New Zealand, 1874,	8
20. N. Germany, 2*	8
21. Newfoundland,	8
22. Malta, Simoor,	6
23. India, Hayti,	12
24. Hungary,	20
25. Hong Kong, Guatemala,	11
26. Greece. Good set.	17
27. Great Britain,	36
28. Germany,	29
29. French Col.,	9
30. France,	48
31. Egypt, Finland,	25
32. Dutch E. & W. Indies,	14
33. Danish W. I., Ecuador,	9
34. Denmark,	48
35. Costa Rica, Ceylon,	12
37. Cape Triangular td,	1
38. “ Surcharges,	5
39. Bosnia, Bulgaria.	12
40. Stamp papers, good lot,	37
41. “ “	28
42. “ “	116

Each of the foregoing sold for best bid received. Absolutely no reserve or withdrawal. Just the chance for beginners.

Bids received until **March 28.**

Minn. Stamp Co., Benson, Minn.

COINS, STAMPS, CURIOS,

48-PAGE CATALOGUE FOR STAMPS.

W. F. GREANY,

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Dealers' Directory.

A 2 or 3 line card in this column, \$1.00.

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C. W. MEXIA,

3a Calle de Humboldt 4,

City of Mexico, Mexico.



STAMPS—ALL GENUINE!
100 Rare Varieties China, Nicaragua, Honduras, Old Japan and Egypt, Bosnia, Peru, Orange, Hawaii, fine old U. S., Interior, Treasury, F. O. War, etc., with elegant Stamp Album, only 95c. 100 assorted rare Mexico, Ceylon, Guiana, Turkey, Costa-Rica, etc., only 10c. Large new 20 page Price-List, etc., FREE! AGENTS WANTED at 33 1-3 per cent com. **STANDARD STAMP CO.**, removed to 923-925 LaSalle St., St. Louis, Mo

PRICE
25
CENTS.

OK

PACKET
25
CONTAINS.

30 Varieties Foreign Stamps.

Argentine, Azores Islands, Brazil, Cuba, Confederate States, Ceylon, East India (Sur), Japan, Luxemburg, Mexico, New South Wales, Malta, New Zealand, Peru, Porto Rico, Spain, Victoria, etc. This is a rare bargain, as ten stamps are unused. This packet is priced by Scott & Co., at 65c, our price is 25c (stamps) or 20c (postal note). [14]

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WINONA STAMP Co.,

721 South 7th St. Minneapolis, Minn.

THE S. B. BRADT COMPANY.

(INCORPORATED.)



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1007-1011 Locust St., St. Louis, Mo.

“THE CURIO.”

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VIII.

BENSON, MINN., MARCH, 1892.

No. 2.

CONSOLIDATION.

The subject of the consolidation of the so-called National Societies into one large body, is a question which should certainly receive the careful consideration of the members of these societies. It is a well known fact that while membership in several of these societies lend a prestage to a person's name when corresponding with dealers and with foreign correspondents, yet does it pay a person to belong to so many different organizations as there are scattered over our country.

The only question is, could the numerous smaller bodies be brought into the fold of the larger, and here comes the hitch. The American Philatelic Association can hardly expect to gather them in while they keep their dues fixed at the present rate, the W. P. U. is essentially a sectional body and so must consider itself out of the race; the P. S. of A. can hardly expect the A. P. A'ites to come into its folds, in fact the new incorporated Canadian Society seems to be the only society which could be fixed upon as the head, and here again comes the objection of location, it being doubtful if the American would wish to be part and parcel of a Canadian organization. If the

question is ever solved it must be by the disbanding of the old societies and a reorganization on a firm basis and for this let us all heartily hope.

What is a Kiss?

The London *Tid-Bits* some time ago offered a two-guinea prize for the best definition of a kiss. Of the seven thousand answers received, the following won the guineas:

An insipid and tasteless morsel, which becomes delicious and delectable in proportion as it is flavored with love.

But other good ones were also put on record, and are worthy of mention in connection with this subject of universal interest. Here are a few of them:

That which you cannot give without taking and cannot take without giving,

The only really agreeable two-faced action under the sun, or on the moon, either.

The thunder clap of the lips, which inevitably follows the lightning glance of the eyes.

That in which two heads are better than one.

It is like the wind that blows; it is felt, but not seen.

A tonic which in childhood may be administered with safety, but with great caution when childhood is past.

Love's artillery, that is brought into action immediately on the call "to arms."

Contraction of the mouth due to enlargement of the heart.

An article that is always accepted, and (im) printed, but not always published.

◁ THE CURIO ▷

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

CURIO CO.,

BENSON

MINN.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

U. S. and Canada per year.....	25c.
Postal Union Countries.....	35c.
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A half pound package of stamp papers and the CURIO on trial for 3 months for only 15 cents.

Have you a copy of the Philatelic Annual. If not 3 months subscription and a copy will be sent for 10 cents.

The first numbers of *Long Island Philatelist* and *Cabinet and Album* at hand.

This number is issued in this shape rather than miss a month.

We shall be back to our regular size next month.

Don't neglect the chance to join the P. S. of A. Write Secretary A. N. Spencer, Cincinnati, O., for application blanks.

Please mention The Curio when answering advertisements.

FREE!!!

All who apply for our sheets of rare stamps on approval at 33 1/2% commission and send good reference will receive a stamp worth 25 cents free. This offer is only good until January 1, 1892. [11

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.. .. 3c.02
.. .. 10c.08

Sheets sent on approval to reliable collectors, and agents having good reference. 20 to 50% discount, according to quality of stamps. Collections and stamps wanted. We always have money to buy stamps.

ONLY 30 LEFT.

We have secured the remainder of Aldrich's Philatelic Almanac, and while they last will send a copy signed by the compiler for only

32 CTS.

Minnesota Stamp Co., Benson, Minn.

Dealers' Directory.

A 2 or 3 line card in this column, \$1.00.

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C. W. MEXIA,

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City of Mexico, Mexico.



STAMPS—ALL GENUINE!
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PRICE 25 CENTS. **OK** PACKET 25 CONTAINS.

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Argentine, Azores Islands, Brazil, Cuba, Confederate States, Ceylon, East India (Sur), Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, New South Wales, Malta, New Zealand, Peru, Porto Rico, Spain, Victoria, etc. This is a rare bargain, as ten stamps are unused. This packet is priced by Scott & Co., at 65c, our price is 25c (stamps) or 20c (postal note). [14]

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C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Co.,

1007-1011 Locust St., St. Louis, Mo.

“THE CURIO.”

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VIII.

BENSON, MINN., APRIL, 1892.

No. 3.

STAMP COLLECTING.

We often hear people say: “What sense is there in people spending time and money in collecting and arranging a lot of dirty pieces of paper?” We sometimes feel angry at this reference to our favorite pastime, but on mature reflection we come to the conclusion that they do not know any better, and are consequently to be pitied rather than blamed.

Frequently when showing our collection to some friend or acquaintance, we hear the remark: “that they don't see any beauty or value in postage stamps,” and after glancing over its pages, invariably close the book with the question; “what are they good for?”

Now there is a vast amount of useful information to be learned by the study of a well arranged collection of postage stamps; there is scarcely a civilized country in the world that has not adopted the method of pre-paying of postage and issuing stamps of various denominations for that purpose.

Then how can the study of these little labels fail to be interesting and instructive, combining as they do a reference to the Geography, History and Currency of the various governments which have an existence? The minor details, such as the various modes of engraving and coloring, the varieties of perforation, and the watermarks, may also be found of great interest if carefully studied, and so, almost

before he is aware of the fact, the philatelist has gained more knowledge concerning the various nations of the globe, from the study of their stamps, than he would have obtained by hard study and careful reading of histories, and all the time it has been a pastime instead of a study.

Such my unbelieving friends are some of the advantages to be gained from the study of philately, but if you would inquire further to its benefits, you must join the increasing ranks. Become one of us and you will no longer exclaim: “What are they good for?”—*Monthly Visitor.*

PENCILLINGS.

DIXON H. H.

Mr. Aldrich has in his collection of envelopes, a most interesting curiosity of a “doute” oddity. The stamp in question very plainly shows the color on the back but is on the face a perfect albino. The stamp is impressed slantingly.

The same gentleman also showed a four cent green, cut diagonally, and half used for a two cent stamp. It had passed through the Chicago post office and fully prepaid the postage.

I recently was shown by one of our prominent western collectors, a half of an envelope having two perfect impressions of the stamp embossed thereon in proper color. It is possibly unique.

◁ THE CURIO. ▷

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ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

We will be compelled to keep in 4-page shape until Fall, probably.

A powerfully written story, entitled "The Little Death," which is a mysterious tale of Ex-Governor Adams, of Colorado, a convict and the ex-warden of the State prison. The account is circumstantial and claims to be absolutely true. It is as analytical as De Quincey's celebrated confessions, as exciting as a Gaborian novel and as exact as a legal document. It will be read all over the country. Ten cents secures the June issue of the **GREAT DIVIDE**, of Denver, Colo., in which it appears.

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A. O. WAMMACK,
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pays for a bundle of 20 to 25 stamp papers, and is just the thing you need.

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If You Want the best paper *under the sun*, subscribe for the **COMMONWEALTH**, 20 cents a year. Ads in 10,000 copies at 10 cents a line. No free copies, send stamp. The Commonwealth, Augusta, Me.

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Hawaii, fine old U. S., Interior, Treasury,
P. O., War, etc., with elegant Stamp Album,
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"THE CURIO."

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VIII.

BENSON, MINN., MAY, 1892.

No. 4.

U. S. Local.

WHARTON'S U. S. DESPATCH.

Through the courtesy of the Staten Island Philatelic Society, we are enabled to add a new "local" to the already extended list. The stamp may be described as follows:

Eagle to left on branch in oval band, inscribed WHARTON'S U. S. above, P. O. DESPATCH below; oak and laurel leaves in angles.

The stamp is a fair lithographic copy of the U. S. carriers' stamp, with inscription changed. The specimen before us is taken from the right lower corner of the sheet, and between minute lines below stamp is the imprint, *Robyn & Co., Lith.*

A new local is not such a great rarity, but this stamp has a history, and as it is connected with the well-known Brown & McGill's stamp, its history is instructive and very interesting, as told by Mr. F. W. H. Hahn, of Louisville, Ky., in the following letter:

"This stamp was issued by D. B. Wharton, who was the second 'letter carrier' or 'penny post,' as they were called at the time, because the carriers collected a 'penny' for every letter delivered at the house of the party addressed, and *vice versa*, charged a penny for every letter taken to the post office.

To facilitate the latter business, Mr. Wharton has some thirty or forty letter boxes made for distribution in convenient parts of the city, and the stamps, of which one is enclosed, prepared, to be kept on sale at the post office and at convenient drug stores, groceries, &c., in various parts of the city. Letters prepaid by these stamps and dropped

in the boxes were collected just the same as the U. S. carriers collect from lamp post boxes, &c. The U. S. postage had to be added, besides the carrier's stamp.

D. B. Wharton had these stamps prepared early in 1856, or possibly the end of 1855. Shortly after getting them out, however, he resigned his place, as his health would not permit him to follow the business of letter carrier; that is, he found it too hard on him.

Very few of the stamps had been sold, and I cannot find trace of any actually used on a letter, though I believe some were used at the time. The boxes had not been distributed when Wharton quit letter carrying, and the stamps used were on letters dropped into the general post office to prepay city delivery, or possibly left, as was at first the custom, at certain groceries or drug stores for the carriers to collect.

D. B. Wharton was succeeded as letter carrier by Wilson Gough, who, however, did not use stamps, and held the place only a short time. Gough was succeeded April 1, 1856 by *James G. Brown* and *S. B. McGill* jointly. These parties bought out the entire outfit of Wharton, including letter boxes, stamps and the lithograph stone from which the stamps were printed. The stone was changed to a similar stamp printed in *blue*, and reading:

}	Brown & McGill's }
	P. O. Dispatch. }

The Wharton stamps were lithographed and printed in sheets of 50, 5x10; the space between the stamps was rather irregular and only about one-half millimeter, except between the fifth and sixth rows, where the space was 4 mms., making the sheet to appear to be printed in two parts of 25 stamps each, 5x5. * * * * *—J. W. SCOTT, in *Metropolitan Philatelist*.

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Frequent absence from home of the editor, together with other duties, causes the CURIO to appear for a few numbers in 4-page form. We hope to get back to 8 pages next month.

The question of consolidation seems to meet with the approval of the best class of collectors and will probably come at no distant day.

Remember ten cents brings you a package of good stamp papers and a three month trial subscription.

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DEALERS IN

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STAMPED ENVELOPES, POST CARDS, ALBUMS, ETC

Superior Mixtures.

Again we announce for sale these mixtures, which have given more general satisfaction than anything we advertise. There are always *some* "kickers" found in this world, but few are they that make any complaint in connection with these mixtures, as they are absolutely offered at low prices, and you may count on receiving just what we offer.

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\$1.00 Per 100; \$8.00 Per 1000.

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C. H. Mekeel Stamp and Publishing Co.,
1007-1011 Locust St., St. Louis, Mo.

“THE CURIO.”

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VIII.

BENSON, MINN., JUNE, 1892.

No. 5.

A Collection of Postage Stamps.

There has lately been bequeathed to the Trustees of the British Museum a collection which is, from a monetary point of view, as valuable as it is uncommon. Under the terms of the will of the late Mr T. K. Tapling, the trustees have become possessed of the unique assemblage of postage stamps which had been made by that gentleman, and which is beyond compare the most complete collection in England, if not in the world.

Few, except those who are actually engaged in collecting stamps, have probably any idea of the organizations connected with the pursuit. Of course it has a society devoted to it—the *Philatelic*—and a *Record*, in which the proceedings of the society are chronicled, as well as all news from north, east, south and west bearing on the subject. Agents for the purchase and sale of stamps are to be found in every large city, and, judging from the scale on which they conduct their business, appear to find them profitable undertakings.

When yet a boy at Harrow, Mr. Tapling's name was known among this fraternity, and from that period until his death he devoted a large share of his time and money to gathering every possible variety, from the Mauto ritus dark red penny stamp of 1847, down to the ordinary penny English stamp of today.

As opportunities occurred, he absorbed the collections made by others, and thus became possessed of the magnificent assemblage of Spanish stamps belonging to M. V. de Ysasi; of the early British Guiana and Cashmere stamps, the possession of Mr. Cameron; of Mr. Burnett's

collection, including the much-pirzed triangular Cape stamp, with watermarks C C and crown; of Captain Weare's priceless Afghans, of Major Evans' celebrated Mauritius stamps, and of a host of others.

In this way has been gathered from all quarters the collection which has been deposited at the British Museum within the last few weeks, and which fills three large wooden cases and an immense iron safe, the depository of the most valuable specimens.

In no branch of collection is there probably a greater divergence between the market and the intrinsic values of the specimens than in postage stamps. In the eyes of a genuine collector, specimens of the penny and twopenny issue of Mauritius stamps of 1847, are as valuable as a Caxton, or a quarto first edition of one of Shakespeare's plays is to a bibliophile. In any capital of Europe, a pair of these would fetch £300. Next in value to them are the first issues of the Hawaiian two cents, five cents and thirteen cents, which are only to be bought at prices varying from £100 to £25 each, in inverse ratio to their postal values.

The first issue of British Guiana stamps (1850) are scarcely less sought after by collectors than these last. The two-cent, four-cent, eight-cent and twelve-cent stamps, which are distinguished by being printed on rose, yellow, green and blue papers, find a ready market at any figures between £100 and £10 each; and if, for such is the prevailing taste among collectors, they are found cut square and not round, their value is enhanced.

Specimens of these and of all other rare stamps, not excepting the tiger-headed

(Continued on second page.)

THE CURIO.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

CURIO CO.,

BENSON

MINN.

—SUBSCRIPTION RATES—

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Postal Union Countries.....	35c.
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“ Column.....	2.75
“ Page.....	4.00

Special contracts on standing advertisements.

If this is marked, your subscription has expired. Please renew.

We wish to exchange with all.

ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

Our August number will be back to regular size and contain several articles on United States stamps.

A 3-month trial subscription and a package of good stamp papers, 10 cents.

Report says that stock subscription to the A. P. A. comes in very slow.

Without doubt the majority of the members of the A. P. A., P. S. of A. and W. P. U. are in favor of consolidation.

Be sure and read our 11th sale list. While small yet every piece is a gem.

(Continued from first page)

stamps of Afghanistan, are to be found in the Tapling collection, which includes also entire post-cards of every value and issued in every land. Very few of the specimens have passed through the post-office, and the designs on them are therefore undefaced. Infinite pains have been taken in arranging them, and quite a library of albums and books of reference accompany them. According to a statement made in the *Philatelic Record*, this collection cannot be valued at less than £50,000, which is exactly the sum at which Mr. Grenville's magnificent library was valued, when it was presented to the nation in 1847. What this library would fetch now, if it were sold in King Street, it is impossible to say, but it is a curious instance of the vagaries of the human mind that these books, which have been the treasured possessions of many generations of scholars, should ever have been equaled in value by a collection of postage stamps.—*Illustrated London News*.

OUR 11TH SALE.

Held September 3, 1892.

	Reserve.
1. U. S. envelope, 1853, ladies' size, white, Scott No. 1.....	\$.50
2. Same, Scott No. 21.....	.50
3. Same, buff, straight die, Scott No. 6.....	1.00
4. Same, 6c, cut square, torn but neatly mended, catalog \$2.....	—
5. Same, 3c, rare shape, Scott No. 25.....	2.00
6. Same, 3c, buff, K die.....	2.00
7. Same, 3c, wide die, buff, not used.....	.25
8. Same, 3c, close die, letter size, white.....	—
9. Same, with Nesbitt tress.....	—
10. Western Union, 1884-89, unused.....	—
11. Father Matthew 4c, extra fine.....	.40
12. Canada bills, 3d issue, 12v.....	—
13. U. S., 1856, unsevered trio of 1c on original envelope.....	.30
14. Petersburg local, cancelled.....	10.00
15. Confederacy, hand stamp of '96, very fine and rare.....	—
16. U. S. Well's Fargo frank on 10c, 1853 envelope stamp, torn slightly, great rarity and worth \$25 if perfect offer, without reserve.....	—
17. Canada 1c watermark, fine.....	2.00
18. Confederate 2c red on orig. env. not cancelled.....	—
19. U. S., 3c 1856, on pictorial Confederate env., cancelled at Columbia, S. C., May 11, 1861. The present owner paid \$4.50, but offers it without reserve.....	—
20. Letter from Pearson Hill on the origin of postage stamp, fine and rare.....	3.00

CURIO CO., Benson, Minn.

No bids less than reserve price, where one is given, will be accepted.

Dealers' Directory.

A 2 or 3 line card in this column, \$1.00.

BOGERT, R. R., Room 37 Tribune Building, New York. Wholesale and retail.

BRADT THE S. B., & CO., 91 & 92 Wabash Ave., Chicago. Stamps, albums, etc.

GREANY, W. F., 827 Brannan street, San Francisco, Cal. Coins, stamps and curiosities.

LOHMEYER, A., 922 N. Gilmor street, Baltimore, Md. Postal cards for collections, price list 10c.

MEKEEL STAMP & PUBLISHING CO., C. H., 1007, 1009, 1011 Locust street, St. Louis, Mo. Wholesale and retail stamp dealers and publishers.

MINNESOTA STAMP CO., Benson, Minn. Send 2c for our new list and five stamp papers.

Adolph Lohmeyer
FOR COLLECTIONS **POSTAL CARDS**
922 N. GILMOR STREET
BALTIMORE, MD.
PRICE LIST 10 CENTS

500 Agents Wanted

for our fine approval sheets at 33 1/2% commission.

Packet U, contains 5 U. S. cut env. stamps, price to cents. Try it.

Packet C, contains 40 different stamps from Chili, Ecuador, Tasmania, &c., price 8 cents.

FLOUR CITY STAMP CO.,

Removed from 16 Grove to 21 Scio St., Rochester, N. Y.

SEND 15 CENTS

for 3 lists, 10 Mexican stamps different and 1 newspaper wrapper. Anybody sending me \$1.00 postal note for stamps of any retail price list will receive free a set of 'Porte de Mar'.

Revenues of Mexico, Custom House, Renta Interior. 40 per cent. below Mekeel's prices.

Always send 5 cents return postage if you want an answer.

C. W. MEXIA,

3a Calle de Humboldt 4,

City of Mexico, Mexico.



STAMPS—ALL GENUINE!
100 Rare Varieties China, Nicaragua, Honduras, Old Japan and Egypt, Bosnia, Peru, Orange, Hawaii, fine old U. S., Interior, Treasury, P. O., War, etc., with elegant Stamp Albums, only 25c. 100 assorted rare Mexico, Ceylon, Guiana, Turkey, Costa-Rica, etc., only 10c. Large new 20 page Price-List, etc. **FREE** AGENTS WANTED at 33 1-3 per cent com. **STANDARD STAMP CO.**, removed to 923-925 La Salle St., St. Louis, Mo.

Western Stamp Co.,

Room 414, 17 - 21 Quincy St., CHICAGO.

Newfoundland, 1866, 10c.	\$0.09
" " " 12c. . . . .	.25
" " " 13c. . . . .	.45
" " " 24c. . . . .	.30
" " 1876, 5c. . . . .	.07
" " 1880, 1c. . . . .	.02
" " " 2c. . . . .	.02
" " " 3c. . . . .	.01
" " " 5c. . . . .	.02
" " 1887, 1/2c. . . . .	.01
" " " 1c. . . . .	.02
" " " 3c. . . . .	.02
" " " 10c. . . . .	.08

Sheets sent on approval to reliable collectors, and agents having good reference. 20 to 50% discount, according to quality of stamps. Collections and stamps wanted. We always have money to buy stamps.

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48-PAGE CATALOGUE FOR STAMPS.

W. F. GREANY.

827 Brannan St., [8] San Francisco, Cal.

FREE,

To any one sending for a selection of my fine stamps on approval at 50 per cent. commission, I will allow them to select 10c worth entirely free. Reference or deposit required.

Address (7)

R. M. SPENCER, Nordhoff, Cal.

THE S. B. BRADT COMPANY.

(INCORPORATED.)



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1007-1011 Locust St., St. Louis, Mo.

31

“THE CURIO.”

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VIII.

BENSON, MINN., JULY, 1892.

No. 6.

U. S. NOTES.

In the 1856 issue of regular U. S. series the 24c. was not issued generally unperforated, but a few sheets got out and were used in this condition. A 30c. and 90c. are catalogued by some as unperforated, but they are probably proofs. A proof is a stamp printed while the plates are fresh and are usually printed on light cardboard. They make very beautiful specimens.

The 1869 series, without grill and with colorless gum, were not issued till 1875 and were then only sold in sets to collectors. They are receivable for postage and are collectable varieties. The used specimens cannot be told from the regular grilled specimens with brown gum, but the unused all have white gum.

STAMPS IN CASES.

In 1862 silver and small change became so scarce that the use of postage stamps for small change became quite prevalent.

The obvious difficulties to this system prompted J. Gault to invent a device to overcome them.

On the 12th of August, 1862, he

was granted a patent on a small case of thin sheet metal which enclosed a stamp.

The stamp could be readily seen through a small sheet of mica placed in one side of the case. The case was about the size and thickness of a silver 25c piece.

The cases make an odd and desirable addition to either a stamp or a coin collection, though they are comparatively common yet.

Our New Departure!

With our August number we shall devote our space entirely to U. S. stamps. We believe there are enough specialists who collect naught but U. S. stamps to support a paper published exclusively in their interest, and accordingly we intend publishing our paper, for a while at least, on this line. If we are to succeed in this we must receive your support, not only financially, but also in such information as you may be able to furnish. Dealers who wish to reach a good class of buyers will find our columns unexcelled. Among the articles in our next number will be a reprint of the list of U. S. local stamps given in Winterburn's catalogue of 1865, together with the prices they were offered for. This catalogue is of extreme rarity and the list is valuable as being one of, if not the first list of our locals ever published.

◁ THE CURIO. ▷

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ENTERED AT THE POST OFFICE AT BENSON, MINN., AS SECOND-CLASS MATTER.

Ere this is in the hands of our readers the A. P. A. convention will be of the past and let us hope steps were taken tending toward consolidation.

A copy of “Tiffany’s History of United States Postage Stamps” is offered as a prize for the best article on “How to Arrange a United States Collection.” Competition open to all.

A year’s subscription to this paper for the best article on “My United States Oddities.”

A vote on the “consolidation scheme” has been called in the P. S. of A.



Portuguese Indies.

Our 12th Sale on Sept. 14, comprises the following varieties of this province offered without reserve, the prices given being catalog price.

5 reis red, glace paper.....	\$1.00
20 reis red, fine, used.....	.50
10 reis black, coarse background....	1.50
Same, variety with line under value..	1.50
Same, fine lined background.....	.25
Same, barred V rare.....	
15 reis dull red.....	2.00
Same, crimson.....	.25
20 reis red.....	.30
Same, broken background, rare.....	1.50
40 reis, 3 varieties.....	1.50
100 reis, green.....	1.00

The set of 14 are valued at \$15.00 by their owner, but it is doubtful if they could be got together for anything like that price. It will be years before a set like this is offered. The set will not be broken.

Send in your bids by Sept. 14.

CURIO CO.,

Benson,

Minn.



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"THE CURIO."

A Monthly Devoted to Collectors.

VOL. VIII.

BENSON, MINN., AUG., 1892.

No. 7.

Official Seal Stamps.

—
ERA.
—

There has been issued by the postal department from time to time, the labels which collectors usually term official seal stamps. Whether these should properly be included in a collection of U. S. stamps or not is a question open to discussion and which it is not the writer's intention to discuss in this article. That they are collected and that albums usually supply spaces for some of the varieties will undoubtedly cause the continuation of their collection.

The first in point of priority is the so-called "registry." This is a large rectangular seal $71\frac{1}{2} \times 39$ mm. and was first issued on Feb. 14th, 1872, and which continued in use until the adoption of the present style of registry envelopes in 1875.

They were used to seal the envelope which postmasters sealed registered mail in and their use for any other purpose seems to have been specifically prohibited, and postmasters when furnished with these registry envelopes were also furnished with a like number of seals. After their use was discontinued it is more than likely that some postmaster may have used the remainders for sealing up letters opened by mistake, but if so, this was done without authority. The design was: In the centre a circular disk with ground of fine concentric circles, so broken as to have the appearance of white rays, bounded by two unbroken circles and white bank within which is the inscription in block capitals "Stamp Here," above and below "Date and place

of mailing." A small Maltese cross separates the two parts of the inscription. On each side of this is a ground of horizontal lines with on the left "Post Office Department" and on the right "United States of America" in bold white block letters. In the upper corners in the ornamented border are the letters U. S., in monogram in the lower P. O. D., across the middle of the whole design is the word Registered. There are two varieties of this.

1. Green imperforate.
2. Green perforate 12.

Early in 1877 the celebrated "Post Obitum" seal was issued. The design is a large rectangle with a small head of Liberty in the centre in an oval 11×8 mm. Above in a curved line "Post Office Department" below a curve in old English letters, "United States of America" on the left side in colorless letters on a solid band "Officially," on the right "Sealed." The ground is covered with the words "Post Obitum" in horizontal lines. On the frame below is the imprint in small colored letters "National Bank Note Company, New York."

3. Brown, perforate 12.

In 1879 the ground was changed to an engine turned series of interwoven circles.

4. Brown, perforate 12.

In 1888 the same design without the imprint is found both lithographed and wood engraved. The cause of this being the fact that no appropriation sufficient for the continuance of the previous design being made. A very few were used in imperforate shape.

5. On thick paper imperforate.
6. On thin paper imperforate.
7. Wood block perforate 12.

8. Lithographed perforate 12.

9. Very light brown shade, almost grey, on thick paper, perforate 12.

In 1889 a typographed label was prepared with the inscription in English letters in a curve "U. S. Post Office Department" below in large bold block "Officially Sealed," below "Opened through mistake of" below which is a dotted line for signature.

10. Typographed black on white rouletted.

11. Similar, black on pink.

In 1885 a special design was prepared for the use of the Stamp Agency. These stamps, especially of the first design are rare and seldom met with. The first two have been catalogued by Tiffany, but the last has not yet been noted.

The design is a large rectangle bearing in the centre the monogram U. S. in large colorless letters in an oval of engine turned work surrounded by a groundwork of interlaced geometrical lines. In each corner a clover leaf. Above in the frame "U. S. Postage Stamp Agency." Across the whole in black is printed in eight lines, "Postmasters receiving this package—will please—note its condition.—If showing signs of having been tampered with, report the same and return—this package to 3d Asst. P. M. General at—Washington, D. C. This package—should be opened at the end. E. W. Barber, 3d Ass't P. M."

12. Brown and black on white.

13. Sane. Signature A. D. Hazen.

14. Red and light pink on white signature. H. R. Harris.

A specimen in the shape of an oddity showing a double impression (variety No. 6.) is in the collection of Mr. Kaye, of Washington.

A set of either of the shades advertised in another column and 3 mo. trial sub., only 10 cents.

PRICES IN 1877 AND 1878.

A correspondent, "Nosco," encloses us a copy of a list of duplicates, dated May, 1877, which he sent out to the principal dealers at that time, and the prices given below are the highest he could obtain in exchange:—

90c U. S. '61,	6c	24c " "	1.10
24c " '61,	1c	30c " "	1.10
15c " '66,	½c	90c " "	7.00
Set Treasury,	6c	1c Post Office,	1c
12c Justice,	1c	10c " "	3c
15c " "	1c	24c " "	3c
24c " "	4c	2c War,	2c
2c Int. pr 100,	75c	12c " "	3c
12c " "	60c	24c " "	3c
1c Navy,"	75c	30c " "	3½c
2c " "	60c	90c " "	10c
3c " "	15c	2c State,	3c
6c " "	15c	6c " "	2c
7c " "	3.00	7c " "	6c
10c " "	1.10	10c " "	6c
12c " "	60c	30c " "	7c
15c " "	1.00		

—*Phil Gazette.*

Ten years later at auction sales in New York the following were realized:

In 1860, 30c, 50c; 90c, 1.75; set '57 to '60, 2.08; '61, 90c, 1.10; 30c, 50c; set comp. (8) 2.00; '69, 1c to 12c, 96c; 30c, 1.00; 24c, 70c; set comp. (10) 5.10; set comp., used, 4.50; set Treasury, 77c; set War, 1.10; set Agriculture, 2.70; set Justice, 3.50; set Navy, used, 2.42; Newspaper, 12c to 96c, (8) 5.51; New York 1845, 5c black, used, 1.80.

An imperforate \$1 Entry of Goods for the best set of notes on "U. S. Revenues" not to exceed 400 words.

AN ENGLISH LIST OF U. S. LOCALS.

In 1865 G. W. Winterburn & Co., (F. J. Brickley being the Co.) whose place of business was on the northwest corner of Fourth and Vine streets, Cincinnati, Ohio, published a catalog of the then known postage. The catalog is a 32-page pamphlet and is of great scarcity, as only a few copies are known to exist. We reprint from this interesting little work the following, which is probably the earliest list of U. S. local stamps published. The price, when given, was that of unused specimens.

Albany Bazaar,	\$0.05
American Letter Mail Co.,	.02
American Express Co.	
Arthur's Express.	
Barr's Penny Despatch.	
Brown & Co.	
Bryant & Stratton's.	
Bowery P. O.	
Bentley's Despatch.	
Blood, D. O., & Co., City Despatch, three kinds,	.10
Blood's Penny Post, 2 kinds,	.05
Bonton Despatch,	.05
Boyd's City Express, 12 kinds,	.05
Brooklyn City Express, 4 kinds,	.02
Brady & Co.,	.05
Brainard & Co., 2 kinds,	.05
Broadway Post Office,	.05
Brown & McGill,	.05
Boyce's City Express,	.05
Carter's Despatch,	.05
Carrier's Despatch, 2 kinds,	.02
City Express Post, 3 kinds,	.02
Central Post Office, 2 kinds,	.02

Cheever & Towle, 2 kinds,	.05
Chicago Penny Post,	.05
City Despatch Post,	.05
Clark & Co., 2 kinds,	.05
Clinton's Penny Post,	.05
Cornwell's Madison Square Post Office,	.05
Cressman & Co.'s Penny Post,	.05
De Wing's Penny Post,	.05
Eastman's College.	
Eagle City Post, 2 kinds,	.05
East River Post Office,	.05
Essex's Letter Express,	.05
Floyd's Penny Post, 5 kinds,	.05
French American Co.,	.05
Government City Despatch, 2 kinds,	.05
Graffin's Despatch, 1 kind,	.05
Hall & Co., 4 kinds,	.05
<i>(Continued next month.)</i>	

+ I · WILL · SELL +

Any stamps in my collection or any large stock of duplicates.

15% discount from Scott's prices on U. S. stamps and 25% on foreign, 6500 varieties, including many rare stamps and many which are now selling at auction at over catalogue prices. Correspondence solicited.

D. T. Higginson,

A. P. A. 502. C. P. S. 120. 234 Adams St., Chicago.

3 Cent, 1851,

5 Shades, fine set, . . . 7 cts.

3 Cent, 1861,

5 Shades, 7 cts.

5 Sets, 25 cts.

2 Sets, 13 cts.

CURIO CO., BENSON, MINN.

SUBSCRIBE AT ONCE!

A ladies' note envelope of 1853 issue given free to the 1st and 7th subscribers this month.

DON'T NEGLECT THIS CHANCE TO

Make a Dollar.

CURIO CO., Benson, Minn.

THE 2c REAY AND PLIMTONS.

The following will enable a classification of these difficult to comprehend dies :

The periods are square in both the Reay die and in Plimton B, C and D, but round in Plimton A. Therefore look further, and in 2-cent Reay you will find the centre of the O of Postage a plain, long and narrow oval, the O of two similar in shape is crossed by a diagonal line, the figures at the sides are broad and *in circles*, the head is small and the network even, while in the 2-cent Plimpton A, besides the distinguishing mark of round periods badly made, the net work is uneven and the centres of the o's are round and both show the crossed lines.

2-cent Plimpton B. Easily distinguished from these by the figures being large and broad in *ovals*, a very large head with a big projection on the front of the bust, the network uneven, particularly at the bottom, and the *round centre of the O of postage showing the crossed lines*, while that of the O of one is either plain or shows the crossed lines also, distinguishing it from 2-cent Plimpton C, which is the common die, and is printed in red as well as brown. The centres of both O's are VERY SMALL, but oval, no lines or dots in them. The figures in the side *ovals* are smaller than in B.

2-cent Plimpton C is the very rare die, also, printed in red, has a

diagonal line across the small oval centre of "postage," crossed lines in the O of one. The head is entirely unlike any of the others, and the lower back line of the bust is very much curved inward, in fact is nearly the quarter of a circle.

ENVELOPES ONLY.

It has been the policy of the U. S. Post Office Department to encourage the use of stamped envelopes to the exclusion of adhesives, and the former are growing more and more popular. Several years ago the Postmaster General recommended to Congress that their use be made obligatory. There is much that may be said in favor of the envelopes, one argument being that their use would avoid the liability of an accidental omission to affix the necessary stamp and would also prevent the loss to the postal revenues which occurs through the washing and re-use of adhesives. It is also contended that the watermark in the paper of which the stamped envelope is made is a protection against counterfeiting.

But on the other hand it must be taken into consideration the greater ease with which adhesives can be carried and the much larger number of places where ordinary envelopes can be secured than where stamped ones are sold and it will readily be acknowledged that it would be a hardship to abolish the adhesive. The penny postage was almost lost to the world by the clumsy Mulreadies and was only saved by the adhesives.

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