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The Keystone Stamp & Coin Gazette  
1885

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1886

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The Philatelic Gazette



Brawford 2089

THE KEYSTONE

# Philatelic Gazette.

VOL. 1.

ALTOONA, PA., JUNE, 1884.

No. 1.

## A Few Notes on Detecting Counterfeit Stamps.

The first great requisite of a stamp collector is the ability to detect counterfeit stamps, but how is this important faculty to be obtained?

First, by practice; secondly, by becoming familiar with the appearance of rare stamps. In regard to the first method, it is only the advanced collector who would profit by it. A collector who has a great many stamps in his collection, will be familiar with the appearance of the stamps of nearly every country. Consequently, he can tell which countries print their stamps well, and also those which merely daub them on the paper. But this article is not intended for the advanced collector, but merely for those whose collections number from one to five hundred varieties.

The first thing, therefore, is for the collector to subscribe for a stamp paper. Philatelic journals always chronicle new issues and describe them and very often illustrate them.

Again, if a very rare stamp is offered you at a very low price, beware of it. Look at the stamp well and examine the quality of the engraving and if you detect the least flaw, reject the stamp as a fraud.

Counterfeit stamps will be easily detected from the genuine, *first*, by the quality of the engraving, as stamps of the present time are very well engraved, with the exception of a very few half civilized countries; *secondly*, if there is a portrait on the stamp, examine the features well, and if you think the stamp suspicious, compare it with one on which the same likeness appears. If you have not a stamp with the same portrait on,

look at the photographs of rulers. These photographs can be obtained of the principle dealers and are very good for references of this kind. *Thirdly*, look at the quality of the paper, if the color of the stamp penetrates to the other side of the paper, it is a suspicious sign—for instance, if the stamp is green and if the back of the stamp presents a green appearance *without being held up to the light*, the stamp is in all probability a counterfeit. *Fourthly*, compare the face-value of the stamp with the price at which the dealer offers it. If the former exceeds the value of the latter, the stamp, if unused, is a counterfeit; for no dealer is going to sell a stamp for less than it costs him, except on very rare occasions.

Now, I will cite a little instance of this business of dealing in counterfeit stamps that came under my observation: A has a great many stamps in his collection and B has not. B determines to eclipse the collection of A, and in order to accomplish that purpose, he writes to a dealer whose price list he has received, ordering stamps and enclosing money to defray expenses. B has read the announcement of this dealer, who advertises unheard of bargains in the Philatelic line, all going to show that the aforesaid dealer gives twice as many stamps as other dealers for one-fifth the price; B receives his stamps, nearly all unused, and puts them in his album—an old book—and chuckles as he thinks of what A will say when he sees them, and when A *does* see them, he chuckles at B, for, having the advantage of a good album and catalogue, he at once sees that B has been swindled, in fact, B has been made the victim of a

regular "skin" game. Many incidents like this occur every day; and I will say here, that I was the B mentioned in the above case, the one who swindled me was *William J. Saxe*, of Montreal, Canada. Whether he holds out there at the present time, or not, I cannot say, as it was in 1879 that I had dealings with him.

PHILATELIC NEWS.

Short Talks About Stamp Issuing Islands.

HELIGOLAND.

Heligoland or Hellig Land, as the natives call it, is one of the Frisian Islands and an English possession, situated in the North Sea, 36 miles from Cuxhaven, at the mouth of the Elbe, and 100 miles from Hamburg. Though the red cliffs of the Rock Island are most familiar to the voyager entering the Elbe, there are, in reality, two inlets, the second being the Dune or Sand Island, now lying a quarter of a mile east of the main one, though at one time connected with it by a neck of land which the sea broke through and destroyed in 1720. The rock island is nearly triangular in shape, surrounded on every side by steep cliffs, the only beach being the sandy spit, where the landing place is situated, near the south-east point. On this inlet there are some 500 houses, divided into a Lowertown or Unterland on the spit, and an Uppertown or Oberland, situated on the cliff above, and connected with the other town by a wooden stair of 190 steps, the only mode of communication between the two sections.

The portion of flat-topped rock not occupied by the houses, the church with graveyard, the government residences and place for a battery, comprise a little pasture land, a few cabbage gardens, potato patches, and a magazine at the north end of the rock.

From one end of the island to the other runs a foot-path, called by the

Heligoland the "Land Waag" or "High Roads," but better known to visitors as "Kartoffel Allee," (Potato Walk).

There is also a light-house, but, though a few guns are placed behind a rude earthwork, there are no fortifications except the inaccessible cliffs of the Island and no garrison of any kind, unless a few coast-guardsmen be considered as such.

The greatest length of the Island, which slopes from west to east, is 5,880 feet, and the greatest breadth, 1,845 feet, its circumference, 13,500 feet, its average height, 198 feet, and the highest point, 216 feet.

At the foot of the stair are two lime trees, sheltered by the contiguous houses. They are looked upon by the Heligolanders as objects of national pride.

During the summer from 2,000 to 3,000 people visit the island for sea bathing, most of them from Hamburg; English guests being rare.

There are no English residents, the officials and governor excepted, being either natives or Germans; and German, when Frisian is not employed, is the official language, though for form's sake, on their postage stamps English and German words appear in duplicate.

At one time the population did not exceed 300 and it was only when it increased to 1,000 that the inhabitants had to dispense with the few horses they kept to till their patches of land. This is now done with the spade and loads are conveyed either in wheel-barrows or in shallow willow baskets.

The taxes are few and consist chiefly of duty on wine, beer and spirits. A small house tax and the "Kur Tax" levied on all persons who reside beyond three days.

Heligoland belonged to Denmark till 1807, when the English took possession of it. Population about 3,000.

The first issue of Heligoland postage stamps, which appeared in 1869, was a set of green and rose of the fol-

lowing denominations:  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2 and 6. After two years this set was replaced by a set of eight stamps, same color and the following denominations added:  $\frac{1}{4}$  sh. (2 var.),  $\frac{3}{4}$  sh. and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  sh. Other changes were made until the current set, with which every collector is familiar, made its appearance. All the adhesives were printed in two or more colors; the five mark of 1879 containing black, red, green and yellow.

## OOLOGY.

The editor of this department will be pleased to receive any information that will be of interest to our readers.

### Humming-birds.

BY E. E. HAYNES.

There is no group of birds so interesting to the collector as the Humming-bird, it being the smallest in size, the most gorgeously beautiful in color, and almost the most abundant in species of any single family of birds. They are found only on the continent and islands of America, and are found all the way from the Arctic regions, in the north, to Patagonia, in the south, but are the most abundant in Central America.

There are over three hundred known species, and new ones are being discovered every year. They are called Humming-birds on account of the buzzing sound which they produce with their wings. Wood says: "So characteristic is this humming sound that it is not precisely the same in any two species, and in many instances is so very decided in its tone that a practiced and observant ear can often detect the species of a Humming-bird by the sound which it produces in flight." One of the most common species in North America is the Ruby-throated Humming-bird, so called on account of the "glowing metallic feathers that blaze with ruby lustre upon its throat."

They arrive in Ohio about the 10th

of May, and usually come in pairs. About the first week in June they commence to build their nest, which is composed of a soft down taken from the stems of the fern. They usually cover the outside of the nest with lichens, thus giving it the appearance of a mossy knot; so much so, that I have spent nearly an hour looking for a nest after I had discovered, by the actions of the bird, which tree it was in. Another curious fact is that of sixteen nests found in this vicinity in the past three years, all were found south of the main part of the tree. The eggs are two in number, white, and nearly elliptical in shape, being of about equal size at both ends.

Mr. Webber discovered a curious habit connected with their nesting. He had frequently observed, while watching for their nests, that the Ruby-throats, after leaving their station, shot suddenly and perpendicularly in the air until they became invisible. At last he had the pleasure of seeing the female fall as from the sky upon the spot where she had built her nest, so that this curious habit of ascending and descending seems to be used by the bird for the purpose of concealing the precise position of her nest.

### CURIOSITY COLLECTOR.

#### Notes.

Always blow your eggs with *one* hole in the side.

It is interesting to keep a record of the dates on which the various kinds of birds arrive at the North, and also the time when they begin to nest.

We have received a copy of "The Young Oologist," published monthly by the well-known dealer, Frank H. Lattin, of Gaines, N. Y. It contains material for an excellent journal and is bound to succeed.

It should be the aim of collectors to exclude any but carefully identified eggs from their collections, as a poorly identified specimen is worse than nothing.

THE  
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ADDRESS all communications to

MANN & KENDIG, PUBLISHERS,  
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JUNE, 1884.

INTRODUCTORY.

In this, the first number of the KEYSTONE PHILATELIC GAZETTE, we present to you a journal devoted exclusively to stamps, coins and curiosities, and we trust that it will receive a careful perusal.

We propose to issue monthly and will always endeavor to obtain the latest news, most interesting items, &c., concerning the objects in whose interests this paper is published.

Correspondence on stamps, coins and curiosities is solicited, for which a liberal compensation will be given.

We will spare neither time nor money to bring our publication to as high a standard as any other paper of its kind now before the public.

Endeavoring to secure advertisements from none but reliable dealers, studying the interests of our patrons, and consulting none but the best authorities on all subjects, we trust that we will give satisfaction to all our readers. Again, calling your attention to the contents of this number, we believe that you may find something within it to your advantage.

Hoping to receive your support in our new enterprise, we remain

Yours Very Truly,  
THE PUBLISHERS.

We will publish exchange notices free for regular subscribers.

PUBLISHERS are requested to send their paper regularly in exchange for ours.

SPLENDID premium to every one sending 25c. for a year's subscription to this paper.

MR. J. STRAUS informs us that he will hereafter deal extensively in albums and packets.

THE "G. S. P." has a coin(?) department in which it reviews papers, books, &c.

We have received a copy of Mr. L. W. Durbin's new postage stamp catalogue. It is well compiled and a model of typography.

TO ADVERTISERS.—We have placed our advertising rates exceedingly low so that every dealer could afford to give us a trial "ad." Advertisers should take advantage of this and make their contracts now, as the rates will be advanced before the fall season opens.

We have been favored with a packet of 10 varieties of Brazillian stamps, which Mr. I. B. Cohen, of Charleston, S C., is selling for the exceedingly low price of 20 cents. Every collector should take advantage of this splendid offer. His "ad." appears elsewhere.

STAMP dealers complain of collectors taking stamps from their sheets and then replacing them. This is very inconvenient to the dealers, as the stamps are often replaced by some collectors in such a manner that they cannot be removed from the sheets again without mutilating the stamps.

We have heard it rumored that there is such a paper as the *Western Collector*, published somewhere. We would be pleased to receive a copy of it.

## PHILATELIC BREVITIES.

If you are not a stamp collector, become one at once, and learn what an interesting pursuit it is.

The study of the U. S. stamped envelopes is a large enough branch of Philately to occupy all your time.

Stamp collecting is spreading and business is increasing yearly.

Of the new stamps of Russia, lately issued, only 2,500 each of the 3 r., 50 k. and 7 r. were printed.

The stamps of Cashmere are printed from ivory blocks, which accounts for their distinctness.

Some of the old U. S. stamps, (including locals) which a few years ago were not worth a continental, now cannot be bought for love or money.

Stamp collecting first became popular about 1860, and its progress since its rise is truly wonderful. No amusement, indeed, could make such rapid strides into public favor, unless it did possess extraordinary merit.

The most common imitations thrust upon collectors are the Ionian Isles, because they are very difficult to obtain.

The *Old Curiosity Shop* discourseth thusly: We notice in Scott's new stamp album places prepared for those notorious forgeries—Hamburg Locals. These Hamburg stamps are not genuine. We do not believe they were ever issued for postal or revenue service, but feel inclined to believe that a certain dealer has manufactured them for the past ten years. We take no stock in the so called "Hamburg Locals."

WE are indebted to our exchanges for considerable of the matter in this issue, but in our next number we expect to present some very interesting, original articles on the various subjects.

ONLY 25 cents pays for a year's subscription to this paper.

## NUMISMATICS.

Of the 20c. pieces of 1877, there were but 510 coined, and of those of 1878, but 600, so you can easily see why they command so high a premium.

Russian gold coins were first issued in 1701 by Peter the Great.

Shells are employed in Africa by some tribes as coins.

Julius Caesar was the first Roman who gained permission to put his figure on medals.

As a science, numismatics appears to have been entirely unknown by the ancients.

The coins of the kings of Macedon are the most ancient of any yet discovered, bearing portraits; and Alexander I., who commenced his reign about 500 years B. C., is the earliest monarch whose medals have yet been discovered.

The first treatise on the subject of numismatics, was published by a Spaniard, Antonia Agostine in 1577.

## What Will Come Next?

The mania for collections is spreading far and wide in the Fatherland. Young and old, for themselves and for others, from artistic interest, benevolence, and not a little from spleen, have thus far collected, and are still collecting, to this day, cigar ends, horse car tickets, postage stamps, autographs, fans, buttons, old shoes, locks, teeth and whole sets, garters, apron strings, casks, &c. The latest craze is that of collecting breakfast rolls of ladies of note, actresses *en vogue*, and for that matter, also, of distinguished men, from which rolls a bite has previously been taken, and the remnant of which is then ticketed by the collector in this wise: "This roll was bitten into by Miss So-and-so on May 12, 1884, while taking her coffee." What will come next?

WHEN writing to advertisers please mention this paper.



It is a matter of fact to find that many of the American stamps are fast becoming rare. Take for example, the adhesives of 1851, issues of the denominations of 24, 30 and 90c.; the 1861, 30 and 90c.; the 1869, 20, 30 and 80c.; the 5c. newspaper stamp with blue border of the 1863 issue, etc., etc. European collectors labor under the impression that these stamps, coming as they do from our own country, must be common, and in most cases expect them at low rates, while some of our home collectors claim "U. S. stamps ought not to be rare, and they are too high priced altogether." Little do these people dream, however, of their scarcity and of the difficulty experienced by dealers in procuring them, for every dealer knows that it is seldom the case they are ever offered, and when they are, the quantity is too limited to be of any benefit.

The State, Executive, Agricultural and Justice Departments, with the exception of the 3 and 6 cts., are also becoming scarce; the demand at all times being greater than the supply.

#### PHILATELIC NEWS.

A SEND-ME-A-SHEET young man,  
A never-did-cheat young man,  
Your stamps are mis-laid,  
They're lost, I'm afraid—  
A hard-to-beat, young man.

Those of our readers who have anything to communicate which will enhance the value of this paper are requested to let us hear from them.

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HARVEY  
The Keystone

# PHILATELIC GAZETTE.

VOL. 1.

ALTOONA, PA., JULY & AUGUST, 1884.

No. 2.

## Philatelic Journalism.

BY A. HARVEY, JR.

What an easy thing it is to grumble! Yet how much easier to praise! In these days of stamp journals, catalogues and albums the collector seldom thinks, if he ever does think, of the trouble to which the earlier votaries of philately were put when the science was yet in its infancy. At that time such a powerful and well organized system of philatelic journalism was never dreamed of. But the collectors of that period saw no difficulty in pursuing their hobby while our more modern philatelists persist in complaining that they receive no encouragement in the pursuit of stamp collecting; that the journals of to-day are dry, uninteresting sheets and a host of other equally groundless objections.

Surely the collector can not complain of the price at which stamp papers are offered. One can now obtain a bright, readable journal, full of news of a character to interest philatelists, and possessing other merits, for only twenty five cents a year.

But no inconsiderable number of philatelists complain that the matter in our journals lacks freshness and originality. This would be remedied if every philatelist would note down such facts as he may think of interest to philatelists and send them to stamp papers and no doubt they would be gladly received. This advice has been given before but it does not seem to have been followed. Longevity, as a rule, is not a characteristic of philate-

lic journals. The life of the average paper set down is three years. Many papers live only a year, and some, after two or three issues, never appear again. Papers which have lived five years are very, VERY rare, while there is not one in all America which can truly claim to have been in existence a decade. This does not show much for the future of philatelic journalism.

Now, this article has not been written with the view of growling at the whole philatelic world. A few facts, unpleasant facts, perhaps, have been presented for the fair, impartial consideration of the stamp collector, and after having given the matter a due share of his consideration he will perhaps acknowledge that stamp papers might receive a little more encouragement than they do.

There are, it is true, many philatelists who earnestly strive to support the philatelic press by every means in their power. These collectors should, and no doubt do, receive the thanks of the entire editorial fraternity. But to a collector who is not a subscriber to any journal, we say: think now if it is worth while to be a philatelist without being informed as to the latest doings of the philatelic world; if not, why should the trifling price charged for a stamp paper be thought exorbitant. Every intelligent collector should see at once the advantage to be derived from the aid he might receive from a wide awake philatelic paper, and should lose no time in subscribing for one. "A word to the wise is sufficient."

—ESTABLISHED 1877—

## C. H. MEKEEL &amp; CO.,

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**PACKET NO. 3** Contains 250 varieties of postage stamps, a splendid lot, containing Hawaii, Australia, Argentine, New Zealand, U. S. Local, War, P. O. and Interior, Brazil, Egypt, Luxemburg, New Grenada, West Indies, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Chili, the best packet for a collection of less than 500, only 65c.; post free, 67c. We will send 4 of above packets to one address for \$2.00.

**PACKET NO. 4** Contains 500 used and unused, being a FINE COLLECTION. The stamps are from every quarter of the globe, every country in existence being represented, some of which may be mentioned: Lagos, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Salvador, Honduras, Guatamala, Hayti, Iceland, Ionian Isles, Paraguay, Persia, Samoa, St. Domingo, Surinam, Tobago, Turks' Island, Curacao, Cyprus, Bulgaria, Bolivia, Hawaii, Native India, Ecuador, St. Vincent, Natal, Transvaal, rare U. S. officials, locals and old issues, price only \$5.00; post paid and registered, \$5.16.

**PACKET NO. 5** Contains 50 very desirable stamps many unused, all in good condition, including Hong Kong, Japan, Malta, Mauritius, Western Australia, Allen's Locals, used Antigua, Mexico, Argentine, Bolivia, Brazil, Chili, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, New Grenada. Many rare West Indian and African stamps, in all a very fine packet. Price, post free, 25c. We will send 5 of above packets to one address for \$1.00.

**PACKET NO. 6** Contains 60 rare used and unused postage stamps, all different, including Bolivia, Old Hawaii, Malta, South American and West Indian, Jamaica, Iceland, East Indian, Japan, Cuban, Bulgaria, Constantinople, Local and many very rare stamps, not usually found in packets. Price, post free, 40c. each. We will send three of above packets to one address for \$1.00.

**PACKETS NOS. 7 to 18.** The "5c. series" contain 135 varieties, the 12 packets for 50c.

**PACKETS NOS. 19 to 30.** The "10c. series" contain 205 varieties, the 12 packets for \$1.

**PACKETS NOS. 31 to 36.** The "25c. series" contain 275 varieties, the six packets \$1.25.

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CHICAGO, ILL.

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## The Keystone

# PHILATELIC GAZETTE.

VOL. 1. ALTOONA, PA., JULY & AUGUST, 1884. No. 2.

### Philatelic Journalism.

BY A. HARVEY, JR.

What an easy thing it is to grumble! Yet how much easier to praise! In these days of stamp journals, catalogues and albums the collector seldom thinks, if he ever does think, of the trouble to which the earlier votaries of philately were put when the science was yet in its infancy. At that time such a powerful and well organized system of philatelic journalism was never dreamed of. But the collectors of that period saw no difficulty in pursuing their hobby while our more modern philatelists persist in complaining that they receive no encouragement in the pursuit of stamp collecting; that the journals of to-day are dry, uninteresting sheets and a host of other equally groundless objections.

Surely the collector can not complain of the price at which stamp papers are offered. One can now obtain a bright, readable journal, full of news of a character to interest philatelists, and possessing other merits, for only twenty five cents a year.

But no inconsiderable number of philatelists complain that the matter in our journals lacks freshness and originality. This would be remedied if every philatelist would note down such facts as he may think of interest to philatelists and send them to stamp papers and no doubt they would be gladly received. This advice has been given before but it does not seem to have been followed. Longevity, as a rule, is not a characteristic of philate-

lic journals. The life of the average paper set down is three years. Many papers live only a year, and some, after two or three issues, never appear again. Papers which have lived five years are very, VERY rare, while there is not one in all America which can truly claim to have been in existence a decade. This does not show much for the future of philatelic journalism.

Now, this article has not been written with the view of growling at the whole philatelic world. A few facts, unpleasant facts, perhaps, have been presented for the fair, impartial consideration of the stamp collector, and after having given the matter a due share of his consideration he will perhaps acknowledge that stamp papers might receive a little more encouragement than they do.

There are, it is true, many philatelists who earnestly strive to support the philatelic press by every means in their power. These collectors should, and no doubt do, receive the thanks of the entire editorial fraternity. But to a collector who is not a subscriber to any journal, we say: think now if it is worth while to be a philatelist without being informed as to the latest doings of the philatelic world; if not, why should the trifling price charged for a stamp paper be thought exorbitant. Every intelligent collector should see at once the advantage to be derived from the aid he might receive from a wide awake philatelic paper, and should lose no time in subscribing for one. "A word to the wise is sufficient."

### The Local Stamps of St. Louis and Cincinnati.

BY DR. W. H. MITCHELL.

As nothing has yet been published about these interesting stamps, we will give our readers a few facts concerning the same, which we know will prove of interest.

In the later part of November, 1882, a company organized in St. Louis, Mo. for the purpose of conveying letters and packages in the central or business part of the city, under the name of the "St. Louis City Delivery."

At first the scheme was regarded as a humbug by merchants, but the business increased so rapidly, that at the time of their dissolution, they enjoyed the almost general patronage of the people in their district, and were making money fast, (also causing a quite perceptible decrease in the local revenues of the U. S. P. O. Department,) when the Government stepped in, in the form of a U. S. Marshall, and denounced the business as an infringement on the U. S. privilege, or rather monopoly, of carrying mail on a post route—the streets of the city being considered as such, and ordered a discontinuance of the same, which order was of necessity promptly complied with.

About January 12, 1883, a member of the St. Louis company was sent to Cincinnati to establish a branch office for the same purpose, to be known as the "Cincinnati Delivery Co.," but they had only fairly started when they were compelled to quit about three weeks later.

In St. Louis 25,000 stamps were issued, 20,000 were sold to the company's patrons

nearly all of which were actually used.

In Cincinnati about the same number of stamps were issued, 5,000 of which were sold, but only 3,000 were actually used.

The design of the stamps is very simple. In the center a carrier on duty, above, the name "St. Louis," or "Cincinnati," and below "City Delivery," and the number of the office, on the Cincinnati, "64 West St." and on the St. Louis, "506 Olive Street."

The color is pink, but the Cincinnati are a shade darker than the St. Louis. Altogether they present a very neat appearance.

The supply being very limited, they will undoubtedly be very scarce in a short time.

Every philatelist should subscribe for a LIVE philatelic paper, one that is devoted to his interests. The "KEYSTONE PHILATELIC GAZETTE" is the paper wanted and will be sent for one year, with splendid premium, for 25 cents.

### EXCHANGE NOTICES.

Under this head notices of exchange will be published for regular subscribers.

A collection of fossils, minerals, curiosities, etc., for sale, or to exchange for printing materials. Write for particulars. Walter Boulton, Box 684, Altoona, Penna.

I have a long list of papers, stories, coins, harmonicas, printing press, watch, and large lot of miscellaneous articles, to exchange for reading matter or useful articles. T. S. Sparrow, Verona, N. Y.

250 foreign and domestic stamps, no duplicates, for type or printing material. W. H. Kearney, 1102 Eighth Ave. Altoona, Penna.

## NEW ISSUES.

ANGOLA—A 20 reis, red, and 25 reis, magenta, are reported; also two post cards, 10 reis, blue, and 30 reis, green.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—The 25 and 30c. are surcharged "Oficial."

AZORES—With small surcharge, 150 yellow, and post cards 10, 30 and 10 x 10 reis. The 20 reis stamp is to be changed to red.

BELGIUM—The 2 franc stamp is prepared but not yet issued. It bears the portrait of Leopold to left in circle with "Belgique" above and "Deux Francs" below. Printed in brown.

BRAZIL—The 50 reis letter card is now brown on outside with white inside. The stamp and inscriptions have been slightly changed.

CAPE VERDE—The same novelties are reported as under head of Angola, which see.

FRANCE—A 5c. envelope, green on white, 115 x 75 mm.

GUINEA—A set of nine values is reported of a new type, probably not surcharged. Also two post cards, 10 reis blue and 30 reis green.

MOSAMBIQUE—Same as Angola.

NORWAY—The 12 ore is now brown instead of green, and the 25 of the new type has been issued.

ST. THOME & P. I.—10 reis, green, 20, red; 25, magenta and 40, yellow, are reported, and post cards 10 reis, blue, 30 reis, green.

UNITED STATES—A new die has been prepared for the envelope stamps which closely resembles that of November. It is larger, however, and measures 27x31 mm, the figures at the sides are heavier, and there is only one wavy line instead of two above and below the labels containing the inscription.

## NUMISMATICS.

The first coinage of silver at Rome was in B. C. 294.

U. S. HALF CENTS.—These little coins are fast disappearing, 1793 has become very rare, 1797 is equally rare, and with a few exceptions all the early years are becoming scarce; these exceptions are 1803-1804-1806 and 1807 which are, perhaps, more common than others. 1831 and 1836 are of the highest rarity. In 1841-1842-1843-1844-1845-1846-1847 and 1848 none were issued for circulation and the specimens coined at the mint are of the highest rarity as also are those of 1852. In later years a limited number of pieces were struck from dies dated 1836, 1840 to 1848 inclusive, and 1849 small date. No half cents were coined in 1798, 1799, 1801, 1812 to 1824, 1827, 1830 and from 1837 to 1839.

The secret of success in coin study is to go slowly over each specimen, examine it with reference to size, weight and material; view the portrait from different positions; decipher, letter by letter, the inscriptions, supplying the abbreviations,—in short, follow the order in which our descriptions are given. Attend to only one thing at a time. To dwell on each topic until a perfect mastery of that is secured is the sure way to make acquisitions profitable and subsequent progress easy, rapid and delightful. The student will not then feel that the region he has passed over swarms with enemies no less numerous and formidable than those he has yet to encounter. He will not have the difficulties magnified by being seen through the mists of imperfect, half-formed ideas, but will contemplate with pleasure all the grounds he has trodden.



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2 inches. . . . .	60	1 page. . . . .	4 00

ALL ADVERTISEMENTS must be in by the 20th of the month to insure insertion in the next number. The right to reject any advertisement is reserved.

REMIT in postal note when possible.

EDW. C. MANN, }  
EDW. E. KENDIG. } EDITORS.

ADDRESSES all communications to

MANN & KENDIG, PUBLISHERS,

ALTOONA, PA.

JULY & AUGUST, 1884.

EXPLANATORY.

Some apology is needed for the late appearance of the second number of our paper. Our first number came out so near the end of June that we were unable, under the circumstances, to get out the next in July and concluded it was best to have one number for July and August. The paper will be issued regularly hereafter and every subscriber will receive twelve numbers for a year's subscription.

Advertisers will please note that we print one thousand copies of this paper monthly and that our circulation extends to all parts of the country.

There is still room for a few more philatelic papers and we wonder why it is not promptly occupied by ambitious young journalists. "There's millions in it."

It is our desire to make this a live paper and so useful to collectors that they cannot do without it. We ask them in turn to communicate to us any facts or information that will tend to bring about this result.

TO COLLECTORS.

An article printed on our first page refers to the failure of collectors to support journals published in their interest.

There are, unfortunately, good reasons for this lack of support. Many journals of this class are so short lived that many who would subscribe are deterred from doing so by the fear that not more than one or two numbers will be issued, or, should the publication be continued, that the contents would prove to be of no interest or benefit.

Possibly some withhold their support under the impression that to give it would result in making the publisher a millionaire, or a heartless monopolist.

Now, it ought not to be necessary to say that instances of philatelic papers published at a profit are exceedingly rare; that in the great majority of cases they are printed at a loss, if not in cash, of much time and labor. Is it to be inferred that philatelic papers are published from pure devotion to the cause of philately? We can only speak positively for ourselves, and we are free to say that so far we have been inspired to no other motive. We have not gone into the business for the purpose of gaining a livelihood. That we obtain from our regular employment. But, if in our spare moments we can do anything to awaken interest in our hobby, on the part of our young friends, we shall feel that we have done a good service.

On a recent visit to Philadelphia we had the pleasure of calling on Mr. L. W. Durbin, the leading stamp dealer and publisher of that city. We found him as we expected; a thorough gentleman and deserving of the patronage of every collector.

**About Stamp Collecting.**

Judging from the numerous articles which have been written concerning the advantages to be gained from stamp collecting, the subject would seem to be exhausted and that nothing remains to be said. If such were the case there are good reasons for keeping the arguments, so often advanced, before the philatelic fraternity to encourage the older members and enlighten the latest accessions to our ranks. The votaries of philately are almost universally intelligent, well bred boys, for no others could have inclination for such a pursuit or diversion. They have too, those qualities so necessary for success in any enterprise, energy and persistence.

Given collectors of these qualifications it is easy to see to what extent the pursuit of their hobby will increase their knowledge of the location, extent, kind of government, history and general characteristics of the countries of the world, information which will be of the greatest value to them in after life. There is no risk in saying that collectors of the kind referred to far excel, in accurate knowledge of the world all boys who have had only the advantages of even the best schools. The latter have as a rule only vague notions of the existence of many of the most remote and least known parts of the globe and of their form of government, political relations etc., while the former must from the very nature of their favorite amusement, become familiar with all these things.

Is there not reason for inferring that the boys now engaged in collecting stamps, will in a few years, be amongst our most energetic, intelligent and consequently most successful business men?

When answering advertisements please say "Saw ad. in KEYSTONE PHILATELIC GAZETTE."

Your attention is called to our unequalled offer on last page of cover.

**Among Our Exchanges.**

Have the "Stamp World" and "Granite State Philatelist" suspended or are we not good enough to be counted among their exchanges?

"The Friend," published by Will. Grey of Rock Island, Ill., is one of our most welcome exchanges. It is the only weekly on our list.

We have before us the "Pine & Palmetto," published by Paul Goldsmith and Clarence Whitney, two experienced editors and publishers. It is bound in a neat cover and presents a very creditable appearance.

The "Bayonne Philatelist" is an excellent philatelic journal published at Bergen Point, N. J. Although the last number contained but four pages it embodied more news for the collector than many of the self-styled "largest philatelic paper in the world."

The publishers of the following will please accept thanks for copies sent: "The Argus," "Bayonne Philatelist," "Pine and Palmetto," "The Advertiser," "The Friend," "The Collectors Caprice," "Philatelic Monthly," "Chair City Stamp Collector," "California Philatelist," "U. S. Philatelist," "The Toothpick," "Dowagiac News," "American Boys," "The Philatelist," "Philatelic World," "The Youth's Journal," "The Comet," "The Spark," "The Midget," and "The Waterfordian"

Elsewhere under the head of "Exposure" we publish some philatelic frauds. We regret that our list is so large but for the benefit of others, we are compelled to publish all that come under our notice.

## EXPOSURE.

Verona, N. Y., August 10th 1884.

I wish to warn all who read this of a fraud and dead beat of the worst kind. He signs his name as Lou. Casper, Louis Casper and Miss Lou. Casper, and hails from China Grove and Heiligs Mill, N. C. He requested me to appoint him as my agent in his place to sell stamps and coins for me, and gave good reference. I sent him a small consignment first and more afterwards at his request and I hold his letters acknowledging receipt of same. When I requested a settlement he refused point blank to either pay the bill or return the goods, and defied me to collect anything. The bill amounts to about twenty dollars in all and I will willingly give half to anyone who will either collect the bill or get goods from him to that value. If he objects refer him to me and I will take the responsibility. I can prove all I have stated by his own letters. I am not the only one he has swindled so let all dealers and exchangers beware of him.

Yours Respectfully,  
T. S. SPARROW.

## MORE DEAD BEATS.

A. J. DENT, COLUMBIA, S. C.  
M. L. AREY, GOLD HILL, N. C.  
J. ROCKEY, JR., 417 SYCAMORE STREET,  
E. DES MOINES, IOWA.  
SAM. FORSYTHE, BOX 499, XENIA, OHIO.

*Unless some settlements are made shortly we will have a large number of names to add to this list.*

*Excelsior Stamp Co.,  
Box 186. Altoona, Pa.*

Pennsylvania has the largest number of post offices in the Union, and Lancaster county has the largest number of any county of the United States.

## THE KINGFISHER.

By W. C. D.

The Belted Kingfisher, (*CERYLE ALCYON*) is the only representative of this tribe in the Northern United States; but as it is abundant wherever fresh water and good fishing are to be found, it occupies a prominent place among our birds.

The form and appearance of the kingfisher are singular. It has a long, sharp bill, a large head ornamented with a crest which gives it a formidable look, a thick neck, a robust body, small in proportion to the other members, ample wings, short legs and small feet. The back is of a bluish lead color, the breast white. In the male a band of black crosses the upper part of the breast. In the female the blue tint is not so perceptible, while the band which crosses her breast is of a reddish brown, and the belly is girted with a band of the same color.

Its principal resorts are the banks of the inland streams, ponds and lakes, especially where the bank is clayey or gravelly and rises some three or four feet above the level of the water. Here both birds help to dig a hole about four or five feet deep and running horizontally under ground at the depth of about two feet. The hole is just large enough to admit the body of the bird, but at the end it widens into an apartment large enough to permit the birds to turn freely. Here is the nest, built of a few sticks and feathers in which the female lays generally six pure, white eggs, which she hatches in about sixteen days, the male taking his turn on the nest.

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To sell my SHEETS OF STAMPS, references required, enclose stamp for postage.

**Price List and Circular FREE.**

500 gummed wafers for mounting stamps, 13c.; 90c. Treasury, 6c.; 100 mixed foreign, 6c.; 100 good, all different, 16c.; 100 blank approval sheets for stamp dealers, 50c.—all postpaid. G. S. WYCKOFF, New Brunswick, N. J.

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Authorized Standard Edition, by the renowned biographer and historian Col. Russell H. Conwell, whose life of Garfield outsold all others by 60,000 copies. This book contains nearly 600 pages and a large number of steel engravings. Price to agents, 75c. sells \$1.50; better style, price to agents, 85c., sells for \$1.75, prospectus 25c., circulars free, address, THE AMERICAN SUBSCRIPTION AGENCY, Middlebury, Vt.

**COLLECTORS, READ!** Having just received an immense quantity of Brazilian stamps, and being desirous of disposing of them at an early date, I accordingly make this great offer: 10 varieties, all different, including Old Issues, only 90 c., postpaid. Collectors should take advantage of this offer. Approval sheets of rare stamps sent to responsible parties. Agents wanted in every town at 25 per cent. Address everything to L. B. COHEN, 248 King Street, Charleston, S. C.

**IN THE FAR WEST.**

The Pacific slope is the richest portion of the U.S. and has a very large number of philatelists and very few dealers in proportion to its collectors. Eastern papers do not reach these, and the only way for dealers to get their trade is to advertise in a Western philatelic paper. The "PINE and PALMETTO" is the only philatelic paper West of the Rockies, and if you want your ad. to be answered by a large number of both Western and Eastern collectors, give us a trial. Rates: 35c. per inch; 4c. a line, 8 words to a line, 10 lines to an inch. Discount on continued ads.

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All stamp collectors should send for a copy of this work, supplying as it does the most recent and favorable quotations. It is truly a representative catalogue, and all who desire to have the best and latest information as to the market value of stamps etc., will find this book invaluable. No advance will be made in the price of this Catalogue or Appendix, notwithstanding the very large number of new issues added and fully illustrated.

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**NEW ISSUES.**

**AFGHANISTAN.**—The "Ph. R." mentions the 1 abasi, deep orange, and 1 rupee, pink.

**AUSTRIA.**—The newspaper bands have come out with the stamp of the new type impressed thereon.

**BELGIUM.**—The type of the new centime stamps has again been changed. The head of the king is in a pearled oval, two cornucopias below, and "Belgique Postes" above. The color is carmine.

**BULGARIA.**—Three surcharged stamps have been issued.

- 3, black on 10 Stotinka,
- 5, red on 30 "
- 15, red on 25 "

**COCHIN CHINA.**—The "W. P." notes a new card for this country. Black on blue.

**ECUADOR.**—The postal cards have undergone a change. The color is black and violet instead of black and lilac, and "Sor." before the dotted lines, has further been abbreviated to "Sr." The frame is also different.

**FERNANDO PO.**—Specimens of the 2 cent de peso stamp have lately been seen surcharged "Habilitado para Correos. 50 cent Pta."

**GERMAN EMPIRE.**—The surcharged "1 Master" is now blue instead of black.

**JOHORE.**—The "Ph. R." has information that Straits Settlements Stamps will shortly be issued surcharged with the name of this State.

**MEXICO.**—A 5 centavo card has appeared with stamp of the latest type of adhesives.

**NEVIS.**—The 1d. has been changed to rose.

**PERSIA.**—Provisional stamps have been made by cutting stamps in half and surcharging them as follows: 5 shais, on half of 10 shais; 5 shais, on half of 50 shais; 10 shais, on half of 1 franc.

Postage stamps are printed from engraved plates, on paper especially prepared for the purpose. At every motion of the press two hundred stamps are printed. The colors used in the inks are known as "ultramarine-blue," "Prussian-blue," "chrome-yellow," "Prussian-green," "vermilion," and "carmine. The sheets are gummed separately. They are placed back upwards, on a flat table, and the gum is applied with a wide brush. It dries quickly, and then the sheets are pressed. Each sheet is cut in half, and then it is ready for the perforating machine. The U. S. Government bought the patent of the machine in 1852, paying the inventor, Mr. Archer, \$20,000. After they have been perforated, the sheets are pressed heavily to make them smooth.

Every philatelist should subscribe for a live philatelic paper, one that is devoted to his interests. The "KEYSTONE PHILATELIC GAZETTE" is the paper wanted and will be sent for one year, with splendid premium, for 25 cents.

— ESTABLISHED 1877 —

**C. H. MEKEEL & CO.,**

BOX 298.

CHICAGO, ILL.

**SEVENTH SERIES OF POPULAR PACKETS!**

None of the stamps are torn, clipped or badly blotted— all beautiful specimens and genuine. Order by number.

**PACKET NO. 1** Contains 150 varieties of genuine postage stamps, including Argentine, New Zealand, Ceylon, U. S. Interior and War, Allen's Chicago Locals, only 25c.; post free, 27c. We will send six of the above packets to one address for \$1.25.

**PACKET NO. 2** Contains 50 varieties of rare stamps such as Nicaragua, Iceland, Orange Free State, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Mauritius, Japan, Sierra Leone, Uruguay, Persia, Venezuela, Mexico, U. S. Local, U. S. Navy, Interior, War and Postoffice, Newfoundland, Bolivia, Natal, an excellent packet, 50c.; post free, 52c.; worth \$2.00 by catalogue. We will send 3 of above packets to one address for \$1.25.

**PACKET NO. 3** Contains 250 varieties of postage stamps, a splendid lot, containing Hawaii, Australia, Argentina, New Zealand, U. S. Local, War, P. O. and Interior, Brazil, Egypt, Luxemburg, New Grenada, West Indies, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Chili, the best packet for a collection of less than 500, only 65c.; post free, 67c. We will send 4 of the above packets to one address for \$2.00.

**PACKET NO. 4** Contains 500 used and unused, being a FINE COLLECTION. The stamps are from every quarter of the globe, every country in existence being represented, some of which may be mentioned: Lagos, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Hayti, Ionian Isles, Paraguay, Persia, Samoa, St. Domingo, Surinam, Tobago, Turks' Island, Curacao, Prussia, Bulgaria, Bolivia, Hawaii, Native India, Ecuador, St. Vincent, Natal, Transvaal, rare U. S. official locals and old issues, price only \$5.00; post paid and registered, \$5.16.

**PACKET NO. 5** Contains 50 very desirable stamps, many unused, all in good condition, including Hong Kong, Japan, Malta, Mauritius, Western Australia, Allen's Locals, used Antigua, Mexico, Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chili, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, New Grenada. Many rare West Indian and African stamps, in all a very fine packet. Price, post free, 25c. We will send 5 of above packets to one address for \$1.00.

**PACKET NO. 6** Contains 60 rare used and unused postage stamps, all different, including Bolivia, Old Hawaii, Malta, South American and West Indian, Jamaica, Iceland, East Indian, Japan, Cuban, Argentina, Constantinople, Locals and many rare stamps not usually found in packets. Price, post free, 60c. each. We will send three of above packets to one address for \$1.00.

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**Send for a Complete List, Free!**

Portraits, Arms and Flags, post paid.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	\$1.00.
International Album, No. 1, post paid.	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	\$1.35.

**Orders Promptly Filled.****Give Us a Trial****C. H. MEKEEL & CO.,**

BOX 298.

CHICAGO, ILL.

NEW ISSUES.

AFGHANISTAN.—The "Ph. R." mentions the 1 abasi, deep orange, and 1 rupee, pink.

AUSTRIA.—The newspaper bands have come out with the stamp of the new type impressed thereon.

BELGIUM.—The type of the new centime stamps has again been changed. The head of the king is in a pearled oval, two cornucopias below, and "Belgique Postes" above. The color is carmine.

BULGARIA.—Three surcharged stamps have been issued.

3, black on 10 Stotinka,

5, red on 30 "

15, red on 25 "

COCHIN CHINA.—The "W. P." notes a new card for this country. Black on blue.

ECUADOR.—The postal cards have undergone a change. The color is black and violet instead of black and lilac, and "Sor." before the dotted lines, has further been abbreviated to "Sr." The frame is also different.

FERNANDO Po.—Specimens of the 2 cent de peso stamp have lately been seen surcharged "Habilitado-para-Correo-50 cent Pta."

GERMAN EMPIRE.—The surcharged "1 piaster" is now blue instead of black.

JOHORE.—The "Ph. R." has information that Straits Settlements Stamps will shortly be issued surcharged with the name of this State.

MEXICO.—A 5 centavo card has appeared with stamp of the latest type of adhesives.

NEVIS.—The 1d. has been changed to rose.

PERSIA.—Provisional stamps have been made by cutting stamps in half and surcharging them as follows: 5 shais, on half of 10 shais; 5 shais, on half of 50 shais; 10 shais, on half of 1 franc.

Postage stamps are printed from engraved plates, on paper especially prepared for the purpose. At every motion of the press two hundred stamps are printed. The colors used in the inks are known as "ultramarine-blue," "Prussian-blue," "chrome-yellow," "Prussian-green," "vermilion," and "carmine. The sheets are gummed separately. They are placed back upwards, on a flat table, and the gum is applied with a wide brush. It dries quickly, and then the sheets are pressed. Each sheet is cut in half, and then it is ready for the perforating machine. The U. S. Government bought the patent of the machine in 1852, paying the inventor, Mr. Archer, \$20,000. After they have been perforated, the sheets are pressed heavily to make them smooth.

Every philatelist should subscribe for a LIVE philatelic paper, one that is devoted to his interests. The "KEystone PHILATELIC GAZETTE" is the paper wanted and will be sent for one year, with splendid premium, for 25 cents.



## THE REASON WHY.

Several months ago a letter was published in this paper stating that in many cases the names of innocent persons had been published as frauds, and that publishers should be extremely cautious in printing the same.

In how many cases of the so-called frauds do the publishers investigate the case in hand? We may say very few indeed.

Simply because somebody says they are frauds, the next issue comes out with the names and addresses in full.

If every case could be proved by the publishers, well and good, but do not rely on hear say. "A man (or a boy) is innocent till proven guilty," and entitled to the benefit of a doubt.

Black Lists and Rogue's Galleries are not Philately, and the cause is not advanced one iota by their publication.

If there are known forgeries in existence, announce them and that will be sufficient, and will place collectors on the alert.

The main cause of this hubbub is the "Approval Sheet System," which should be abolished in the interest of the collector and dealer, and for the good of the cause.

There is a class of "Would-be dealers," for whom the approval sheet system has special attractions who send out stamps on sheets to collectors who do not desire them, and the only result is annoyance and trouble.

If dealers would not be cheated, then let them require satisfactory references from strange customers, and let collectors patronize only such dealers as are of sufficient reputation and responsibility to warrant the same.

With this understanding there would be no frauds.

And lastly let papers devote their space to the dissemination of such knowledge as will benefit and improve their readers, and not waste any time on matters Non-Philatelic.

Does Philately mean anything? If it does, keep up its standard.

Let others do as they may, but as for us if we cannot do justice to all concerned, we will leave the whole thing severely alone, and devote all our space we can to unravel the already much tangled thread of Philately.—BAYONNE PHILATELIST.

The Bayonne Philatelist is an excellent journal and its editorials show marked ability, but we must take exceptions to the above.

The "B. P." seems afraid that innocent parties will be published as frauds. We know that dealers are very lenient in the publication of 'snide' collectors. After writing three to six times and receiving no answer they perhaps publish the name as a fraud and so they should. As will be seen by the list of "Dead Beats" published elsewhere, the same persons are complained of by two reliable firms. It is not at all probable that both firms would select the same 'little innocents' unless they had defrauded both. The writer further states that the publication of frauds is not beneficial to the cause of Philately, and is a matter Non-Philatelic. According to the Bayonne Philatelist's version, F. L. Mills of the Stamp World, does not know the meaning of "Philately." John M. Hubbard, publisher "G. S. P." is equally ignorant; Will. M. Clemens, pub. "O. C. S." is also in need of a dictionary, and C. C. Simmons, the prominent stamp dealer of Chariton, Iowa, who published "Philatelic Frauds," is false to his trust.

"B. P." then attacks the "Approval Sheet System" and says it is an attraction for 'would-be dealers.' Perhaps Wm. E. Daitzell, Baltimore, Md., (one of the "P.'s." best advertisers) is a 'would-be dealer'?

The Approval sheet system will be in vogue as long as dealing in stamps

is a paying business, and there is much to be said in its favor. The principal advantage; however, is on the part of the collector, he being enabled to select just the stamps he wants, while in purchasing packets he gets many he does not want. Now, when the collector is trusted with the sheets for his own benefit and fails to return them is there not good reason for exposing him, provided, there is sufficient reason for believing fraud was intended. We feel sure every honorable collector will agree with us. We have dealt in stamps and know what we are talking about, and know that often the only thing that makes some agents return sheets is the threat to publish their names. By refusing to publish these names the philatelic papers fail in their duty to their patrons.

It is also their duty to publish the names of dishonest dealers, and as we are in favor of honest dealing allround, we shall not fail to do so when the facts will warrant us.

---

### STILL MORE DEAD BEATS.

---

Mr. I. B. Cohen, the reliable stamp dealer of 248 King St., Charleston, S. C., complains of the following:

FRED. K. STEVENS, GARDNER, MASS.

C. VANDELWARKER, EAST TEMPLETON, MASS.

CHAS. WESCOTT, GARDNER, MASS.

"JOHN SMITH," WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

E. F. GARNETT, alias LEO. MERVIN, alias JOHN CARTER, BOSTON, MASS.

The Excelsior Stamp Co. of Altoona, Penna., report the following "Beats":

LEO. MERVIN, BOSTON, MASS.

JOHN SMITH, WINNIPEG MANITOBA.

SAM. FORSYTHE, XENIA, OHIO.

### THE FLYCATCHER.

The SPOTTED FLYCATCHER has received several local names in allusion to its habits, the titles WALL BIRD and BEAM BIRD being those by which it is most frequently designated. It is one of the migrating birds, arriving in this country at a rather late season, being seldom seen before the middle, or even toward the end, of May.

This bird is fond of hunting parks, gardens, meadows and shrubberies, always choosing those spots where flies are most common, and attaching itself to the same perch for many days in succession. When the Flycatcher inhabits any place where it has been accustomed to live undisturbed, it is a remarkably trustful bird, and permits the near approach of man even availing itself of his assistance.

The Spotted Flycatcher builds a very neatly-made nest, and is in the habit of fixing his nest in the most curious and unsuspected localities. The hinge of a door has on more than one occasion been selected for the purpose, and in one instance the nest had retained its position although the door was repeatedly opened and closed, until a more severe shock than ordinary shock the eggs out of the nest and broke them. It is fond of selecting some human habitation for the locality in which to build its nest, and its titles of Beam Bird and Wall Bird have been given to it because it is in the habit of making its home on beams or in the holes of walls. The branches of a pear, apricot, vine, or honeysuckle are favorite resorts of the Spotted Flycatcher when the tree has been trained against a wall.

The nest is generally round and cup-

(continued on page 22.)

THE  
KEYSTONE PHILATELIC GAZETTE.

Subscription Price -- To any country in the Postal Union, 25 cents per year.

## ADVERTISING RATES.

1-2 inch, . . . . .	\$ 20	1-2 column, . . . . .	\$1 00
1 inch, . . . . .	35	1 column, . . . . .	2 00
2 inches, . . . . .	60	1 page, . . . . .	4 00

ALL ADVERTISEMENTS must be in by the 20th of the month to insure insertion in the next number. The right to reject any advertisement is reserved.

REMIT in postal note when possible.

EDW. C. MANN, }  
EDW. E. KENDIG, } EDITORS.

ADDRESS all communications to

MANN & KENDIG, PUBLISHERS,

ALTOONA, PA.

The "GAZETTE" is entered at the Altoona Post Office as second class mail matter.

SEPTEMBER, 1884.

Look over our advertisements, there may be something there to interest you.

Subscriptions are rolling in and the "new nickels without the word 'cents'" are going like "hot cakes."

We have been favored with a copy of "Sydney Views," published by T. Martin Wears, of Rosemount, Downfield, Near Dundee, Scotland.

We have a few more packets of one hundred varieties of postage stamps which we are offering as premiums with the "GAZETTE." The packets alone are worth twenty cents.

Any of those receiving a sample copy of this paper and who are not interested in Philately, will confer a favor by handing it to one of their friends who may be inclined in that direction.

When you can buy 1,000 postage stamps, in good condition, for eighteen cents, the question naturally arises to the uninitiated, how can living wages be earned by those who collect the envelopes and remove the stamps.

No collector should be without a good stamp album. We do not recommend any particular one but it should be well suited for the purpose. There are excellent ones published, and there is no occasion for using an inferior one.

If you want to make a collection of stamps which will be a credit to you as well as a source of pleasure, you should proceed slowly, cautiously and discreetly. Don't be in a hurry to outstrip others in the number you can get together in a short time. Quantity alone does not make a good collection. It must be thoroughly representative. Duplicates do not add anything to its value. Be careful in ordering from dealers so that you may get just what you want. Send for price lists and compare them. And beware of counterfeits.

How many of our readers have a complete collection of the fractional currency issued by the U.S. Government during and succeeding the war. Very few, perhaps, and yet no single collection of modern relics would be of more enduring interest or permanent value. They represent the most important period of our history, being identified with our struggle for national existence. For many years this currency, once of so much importance, has been out of use. The issues were various and varied, and many of them are fine specimens of the engraver's art. In making collections it is desirable to obtain new and crisp issues on account of their greater beauty, and as the supply of these must be limited their value must increase yearly.

According to the census of 1880 there were in the United States 5,905,886 boys between ten and twenty years of age. Judging from our subscription list, we do not believe more than half of them are engaged in collecting stamps.

## NUMISMATICS.

### GOVERNMENT COINAGE.

As to the coin, the Government derives considerable profit from it. The silver in one thousand dollars costs on an average \$803.75. The coinage of a silver dollar costs about 1 1/4 cents. The total cost of one thousand silver dollars to the Government is therefore \$816.25. Since the organization of the mint in 1793, 127,190,618 silver dollars have been coined, on which the Government has received a profit of over \$23,000,000. In the same period \$122,758,510 was coined into half dollars. At the same rate of cost for coinage, the Government profited \$19,395,760 on these. The total silver coinage of the Government since 1793 is \$347,766,792. Estimating the profit on the halves, quarters and subsidiary coins at the same rate as on the dollars, the total profit received by the Government on its silver coinage has been about \$64,000,000.

Mr. John E. Geesaman, of Shippensburg, Pa., some time ago, picked up, on his premises, an old copper coin, which, on examination, proved to be of a kind now exceedingly rare and valuable. The coin was minted in New Jersey in Colonial days, 1787, and bears on the obverse a shield, above which are the words "nauva caesera" and on the reverse a plow, sheaves of grain, and the motto: E Pluribus Unum. Numismatists report the coin as rare and quote the price as high as \$2.50.

### THE 1799 CENT.

This cent is deemed by numismatologists as being very rare and valuable, fine specimens of which will command a greater premium than those of the cents of 1793 of the same condition of preservation, to which from their extreme scarcity, much

value is attached. The number of this coin issued amounted to 904,585---no insignificant sum. Their scarcity, however, is attributed to a shipment to the coast of Africa, by a Salem, Mass., firm, of several hundred thousand, on an order from that country, where, being punched with holes, they were bartered away, probably to the chiefs---certainly not for negroes---and subsequently used as ornaments by the natives, being suspended from the neck by a string, and showing to what good account so slightly valuable a thing as a copper cent may be applied by the sagacity of our countrymen. Of the few of these cents to be found it is very difficult to obtain perfect specimens. The copper of which they were composed was rendered very inferior by too much alloy, which gave them a very rough and uneven surface---perhaps the result of the copper being burnt in smelting.

The great value of these cents among numismatologists has led to an attempt at counterfeiting them, by altering those issued in 1798 by means of acid or the graver, the former being most successful. Both are readily exposed by the use of a glass.

Every philatelist should subscribe for a LIVE philatelic paper, one that is devoted to his interests. The "KEYSTONE PHILATELIC GAZETTE" is the paper wanted and will be sent for one year, with splendid premium, for 25 cents.

As we still have on hand a few of the **New Nickels Without "Cents,"** we will continue our offer, viz: A "V" Nickel without the word "Cents," and this paper, one year

*For Only Twenty Five Cents.*

**SEND AT ONCE**  
**AS THE STOCK IS LIMITED.**

**THE FLYCATCHER.**

(Continued from page 19.)

shaped, and is made of fine grasses, moss, roots, hair and feathers, the harder materials forming the walls of the nest, and the softer being employed as lining.

The eggs of the Spotted Flycatcher are four or five in number, and their color is a very pale bluish white, spotted with ruddy speckles. As the nest is made at so late a period of the year, being but just begun when some birds have hatched their first brood, there is often not more than a single family in the course of the season. Sometimes, however, it has been known to hatch and rear a second brood in safety,

**About Egg Collecting.**

Why do you collect eggs? Do you live in the heart of one of our great cities, with few chances afield, and collect through the mails by purchase and exchange. Do you heap eggs together as curiosities or ornaments to show to friends, or to equal or eclipse the collections of A or B. If you are influenced by these motives, or situated as above indicated, stop where you are. Trouble the birds no longer and turn your attention to bric-a-brac. You are on a lower plane than the crows, grackies and jays who destroy eggs through inherited instinct and appetite. But if you take the field yourself, in search of ruddy health, with a passionate love for your pursuit, with no love of notoriety, and without ever a thought of rivalry, then we may not condemn you. Furthermore, if you hope by comparisons of sets and by observations on obscure breeding habits to add a few grains of information to our humble science, go on, yours is no unholy work.

Every philatelist should subscribe for a live philatelic paper, one that is devoted to his interests. The "KEYSTONE PHILATELIC GAZETTE" is the paper wanted and will be sent for one year, with special premium, for 25 cents.

**LOOK! LOOK!! LOOK!!!**

**SMART AGENTS WANTED.**

Sheets of stamps sent to Good, Smart and Responsible Parties at 25 per cent commission. Don't delay but send now!

**S. B. SMITH, West Gardner, Mass.**

**DEALERS & ADVERTISERS!**

*The December number of*

**THE**

**Keystone Philatelic Gazette**

*will be our*

**Grand Holiday Number**

*and will eclipse anything yet attempted in Philatelic Journalism.*

*It will contain from 16 to 24 pages, with*

**An Illuminated Cover.**

*AN ADVERTISEMENT in this number CANNOT fail to compensate you as*

**2,000 Copies**

*will be circulated*

**ALL OVER THE WORLD.**

*Advertisements will be inserted at our usual rates given elsewhere. All copy for 'ads.' must be in by December 1st to insure insertion in this number. Address,*

**MANN & KENDIG,**

**Altoona, Penna.**

**W. A. MacCalla,**

Dealer in Stamps,

Wallingford, Pa.

25 varieties of stamps from the following countries only: Bosnia, Brazil, Chili, Japan, Sandwich I., Sweden Unpaid and Official, Switz. Unpaid, 20 cents post paid.

**Agents Wanted**

To sell my SHEETS OF STAMPS, references required, enclose stamp for postage.

Price List and Circular **FREE.**

**COLLECTORS! Attention!**

**APPROVAL SHEETS.**

Selections of rare stamps will be sent to responsible parties on receipt of reference or deposit. Advanced collectors send for my sheets. Agents wanted.

I. B. COHEN. 248 King St. Charleston, S. C.

**ADVERTISERS!**

Our American Youth has the largest paid list of philatelic paper published, and circulates as many as any three of the others. Circulation of September number near 4,000 copies. Exact circulation will be given in October number. Our American Youth circulates all over the country: North, South, East and West; it goes to every part of the United States and Canada. Our Advertising Rates are very low: 1 inch, 35c. 1-2 column, \$2.00; 1 column, \$4.00; 1 page \$12. Send for a sample copy. Address, Our American Youth Pub. Co., Middlebury, Vermont.

**ATTENTION COLLECTORS!**

We will send on receipt of reference, deposit or promise to return in Ten days, one of our unequalled **APPROVAL SHEETS.** Send at once to  
THOMAS B. FARKELL, Ottawa, Illinois.

W. M. v. d. WETTERN, JR.,

Wholesale Dealer in

**POSTAGE STAMPS,**

268 LIGHT ST., BALTIMORE, MD.

Price List free on application to dealers only.

All kinds of Postage Stamps purchased for PROMPT CASH.

MY new 24-page Illustrated Catalogue, the most complete general Catalogue published, containing Price List of U. S. Dollars, Halves, Quarters, Dimes, Half Dimes, Three Cents, Two Cents, Cents and Half Cents, besides Fractional, Colonial and Confederate currency, as also hundreds of foreign stamps and coins, sent post free with two silver plated medals for 10 cents. W. F. GREANY, 827 Brannan St., San Francisco, Cal.

**FOREIGN STAMPS!**

50 Varieties, post free, 10 cents: 100 Mixed Foreign, 5c. Send for price list of cheap sets and packets.

HILL & BECKMAN, Grand Crossing, Ill.

**STAMP COLLECTORS!**

Our American Youth is a large eight page paper and cover devoted to Stamps, Coins, Eggs, Minerals, Natural History etc. etc. Each page same size as The Youth's Companion. It costs only 25c. per year. Sample copy free if you name this paper and address, OUR AMERICAN YOUTH PUBLISHING CO., Middlebury Vermont.

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WITHOUT WORD "CENTS"

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Mann & Kendig,

ALTOONA, PENNA.

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AN APPENDIX to the above, consisting of over 2100 Illustrations with reference numbers attached corresponding with the catalogue.

For the identification of little-known stamps, Oriental Values and Surcharges, this Publication will be of invaluable

All stamp collectors should send for a copy of this work, supplying as it does the most recent and favorable quotations. It is truly a representative catalogue, and all who desire to have the best and latest information as to the market value of stamps etc., will find this book invaluable. No advance will be made in the price of this Catalogue or Appendix, notwithstanding the very large number of new issues issued and fully illustrated.

PRICES. POST-PAID--The Priced Catalogue, 12c.; The Appendix, 24c.; The two bound in 38c.; Handsome Gift Cloth Reading Cover, 2: ed with elastic band, and adaptable to this or any future edition, price 1 shilling, or 28c.

STANLEY, GIBBONS & Co., Stamp Importers and Philatelic Publishers, 3 Cower Street, London, W. C.

— ESTABLISHED 1877 —

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**PACKET NO. 4** Contains 500 used and unused, being a FINE COLLECTION. The stamps are from every quarter of the globe, every country in existence being represented, some of which may be mentioned: Lagos, Gold Coast, Sierra Leone, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Salvador, Honduras, Guatamala, Hayti, Iceland, Ionian Isles, Paraguay, Persia, Samoa, St. Domingo, Surinam, Tobago, Turks' Island, Curacao, Cyprus, Bulgaria, Bolivia, Hawaii, Native India, Ecuador, St. Vincent, Natal, Transvaal, rare U. S. official locals and old issues, price only \$5.00; post paid and registered, \$5.10.

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**PACKETS NOS. 19 to 30.** The "10c. series" contain 205 varieties, the 12 packets for \$1.00.

**PACKETS NOS. 31 to 36.** The "25c. series" contain 275 varieties, the six packets for \$1.25.

**Send for a Complete List, Free!**

Portraits, Arms and Flags, post paid, . . . . . \$1.00.  
International Album, No. 1, post paid, . . . . . \$1.35.

**Orders Promptly Filled.**

**Give Us a Trial**

**C. H. MEKEEL & CO.,**

BOX 298.

CHICAGO, ILL.

# Philatelic Gazette.

VOL. 1.

ALTOONA, PA., OCTOBER, 1884.

No. 4.

## NEW ISSUES.

We are indebted to the Philatelic World, N. Y. and the Philatelic Monthly, Phila., for the following:

**ARGENTINE REPUBLIC**—The 5c. of 1876 has been surcharged as follows in black.

**CUATRO.**

Centavos.

1884.

**BAHAMAS**—Mr. Rosenfield has shown us a 4d. stamp somewhat resembling the current 1 shilling. The head is in a circle, and the lettering at the top and bottom are in color on white labels. The stamp is yellow, is perforated 14 and watermarked C. A. and Crown.

**BRAZIL**—Another type of 100 reis liac has been issued, and of the same there is also a 200 reis red-brown.

**BULGARIA**—The following surcharges are mentioned by some of our exchangers:

3 on 10 stotinki,

5 on 30 “

15 on 25 “

**CUNDINAMARCA**—We have received the specimens of a new 5 centavos, blue.

**EGYPT**—The post card has appeared in double form.

**GRENADA**—An 8 penny stamp is announced as an addition to the current set. The color is bistre.

**GUADALOUPE**—A series of unpaid letter stamps has been issued by this French possession. The numeral of

value is in the centre of the stamp, in square frame; “Guadaloupe.” above; “A Percevoir.” below. The set is as follows: 5 centimes, white, 10c. blue, 15c. violet, 20c. rose, 30c. yellow, 35c. gray, 50c. green.

**GOLD COAST**—The colors of the 1-2 and 1 penny stamps have been changed to green and rose respectively.

**GREECE**—A correspondent at Athens informs us that 25 and 50 lepta stamps will soon be in use.

**GUINEA**—“Le T. P.” illustrates an essay which is probably the design of the new series noted by us in August. The head of the king is to the right in oval and inscribed above “Guine Portugueza.” and the value below. All in rectangular frame. The values are given as follows; 5 reis, black; 10 r. green; 20 r. red; 25 r. violet; 40 r. yellow; 50 r. blue; 100 r. lilac; 200 r. orange; and 300 r. brown.

**LEVANT**—The 7 kopec is now printed in dark and pale blue.

**MARTINIQUE**—Another variety of postal card has come to hand; unstamped, black on green.

**NORWAY**—“Der Ph.” describes an official card for soldiers, blue on yellowish paper, 140x93 mm. headed “Militaert Tjenestebrevkort.”

**SWEDEN**—The “Ph. R.” is informed that on Jan. 1, the rate of inland postage will be 10 ore instead of 12 ore, which will necessitate a stamp of a new



value. It is rumored that a new series of stamps is to be introduced bearing the king's head.

SIERRA LEONE—The color of the 1-2 penny stamp has been changed to green, so it is said.

TRANSVAAL—"Le T. P." illustrates the new stamp, which contains the usual arms in a circle with "Postzegel," and "Z. Afr. Republiek" above, and the value below in letters. Figures of value are in the four corners, 1-2d. gray, 1d. carmine; 3d. violet; 4d. greenish gray; 6d. blue; 1sh. green; 2sh. 6d. yellow. 5sh. blue green; 10sh. brown.

TRINIDAD—A registered letter envelope, 2 pence, blue, is said to be in use.

TOLIMA—An entire new set of stamps has been prepared, of which the following are before us: 5 centavos, brown; 1 peso, red; 2 pesos, violet.

### Stamps of the Fiji Islands.

BY J. J. CASEY.

From cannibalism to postage stamps is a tremendous stride. It is supposed that postage stamps were introduced into Fiji in 1872. These stamps were printed on white paper, with the watermark "Fiji Postage." The issue contained: one penny, blue; threepence, green; sixpence, carmine. A short time afterward the currency was changed to "cents," and the stamps had the new values printed on them; two cents on the one penny, blue; six cents on the threepence, green; twelve cents on the sixpence, carmine. The initials "C. R." on the stamp mean "Cakobau Rex," or King Thakombau. In 1874 the Fiji Islands were made over to Great Britain, and a change was made in the stamps by printing the initials "V. R." (Victoria Regina) over the first initials "C. R." The values remained the same. In

1876 an ornamental monogram, "V. R." is printed over the letters "C. R.," and the currency is changed back to pence: one penny, blue; twopence, green (on the threepence): sixpence, carmine. In 1878 these stamps were printed on laid paper, and a new value issued, made by printing "fourpence" over the threepence stamp, printed in mauve. In 1879 the dies were re-engraved, and the letters "V. R." substituted for "C. R.": one penny, blue; twopence, green; fourpence, mauve; sixpence, carmine.

—Harper's Young People.

### NO HUMBUG.

When postage stamps are collected with the idea of exhibiting them as specimens of the engraver's skill, it is then an art when collected to show the progress of civilization, and show their properties, it is art and science combined, when collected in quantities, to sell at a profit, it is then reduced to a trade. But it is absolute folly to collect them with the idea of seeing how many can be got, and of placing them in an album without any system of arrangement, and without regard to color, value or anything else, other than number.

Such persons very soon get tired collecting, and at once pronounce stamp collecting a "Humbug."

It is now about 40 years since stamp collecting commenced, and since its birth the science has steadily risen until it now occupies a proud position, and, although many who had joined our ranks and foolishly collected, had disposed of their collections and cried "humbug," others kept on and found it no humbug, for they could sell their collections for treble their cost.

[PHILATELIC REFERENCE]

Every philatelist should subscribe for a LIVE philatelic paper, one that is devoted to his interests. The "KEYSTONE PHILATELIC GAZETTE" is the paper wanted and will be sent for one year, with splendid premium, for 25 cents.

## THE LEDGER DISPATCH.

BY PHILIP LA TOUETTE.

In December 1882 a young man named Edward Pidgeon hired two rooms in the old Willoughby building in No. 419 Fulton street, Brooklyn, hired a few carriers, issued a stamp and commenced carrying mail for the public. A number of business houses finding that they could have their letters delivered for eighty cents a hundred, immediately bought their stamps and had their city mail transmitted through this post office which was called The Ledger Dispatch. The first stamps used were light pink, but as soon as the issue was exhausted the proprietor had a dark red, and finally a purple stamp printed. About the time the purple stamps appeared the Government interfered, notifying him that his business was illegal. As he disregarded this order, he was visited by the Marshall's deputies, and his place was closed, all his stamps on hand destroyed and a fine imposed upon him. As he saw at once that his business was destroyed, he redeemed all the stamps in the possession of his customers and left Brooklyn.

Since then the Willoughby building has been partially destroyed by fire no less than three times in as many months so that all traces of the Ledger Dispatch are obliterated. Unfortunately, and very curiously too, the stamp collectors of New York and Brooklyn knew nothing about all this until after the post was closed, being so close to home it was entirely overlooked.

In contradiction to some local posts which have been closed by the Government in the last year, the stamps seem

to have disappeared, only a very few are known to exist.

The stamp is rectangular, and the design measures 19 x 26 mm. In the centre is the representation of an addressed and stamped envelope, above which are the words "The Ledger," and below "Dispatch," "419 Fulton Street, Brooklyn."

This is all in an octagon with a groundwork of lines diverging from the centre. In the four corners is the letter "L" rouletted in colored lines.

[NATIONAL PHILATELIST.

## Boys who are Naturalists.

The boy that will pass a half holiday crouched motionless in the slush and herbage of a river bank, that he may stealthily watch the doings of a family of water rats, or the boy who will rise before daybreak that he may trace the grasshopper-lark to her curiously concealed treasure, is already a field naturalist. Such boys abound in our public schools. As a rule it is notorious that they hate Greek verbs, and are scarcely fonder of geometrical problems. They are set down as dunces, and if the assistant master takes them in hand, he probably has not the slightest sympathy with such pursuits, and at the end of a couple of lessons succeeds in completely disgusting them by what he tells them of chemical formulæ or the reflex action of the nerves. Botanists get on better with their pupils, that is, systematic botanists do for we are not so sure of the success of physiological botanists in this particular. They tell them how such and such a plant may be distinguished, and where it should be looked for.

[THE COLLECTOR.

THE  
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1-2 Inch.	\$ 20	1-2 column.	\$1 00
1 Inch.	35	1 column.	900
2 Inches.	60	1 page.	400

ALL ADVERTISEMENTS must be in by the 20th of the month to insure insertion in the next number. The right to reject any advertisement is reserved.

REMIT in postal note when possible.

EDW. C. MANN. }  
EDW. E. KENDIG. } EDITORS.

ADDRESS all communications to

MANN & KENDIG, PUBLISHERS,

ALTOONA, PA.

The "GAZETTE" is entered at the Altoona Post Office as second class mail matter.

OCTOBER, 1884.

We are a little behind time again this month, but we hope soon to catch up.

Every philatelist should subscribe for a LIVE philatelic paper, one that is devoted to his interests. The "KEYSTONE PHILATELIC GAZETTE" is the paper wanted and will be sent for one year, with splendid premium, for 25 cents.

As soon as our own paper becomes free of typographical defects and errors, we propose to refer, kindly, to the blemishes which disfigure some of our amateur exchanges. So boys, take warning.

If you are a stamp collector, you should not hesitate to send us AT ONCE a year's subscription to the GAZETTE. It will be of great service to you, and will enable us to make a better paper. Try it

Since we began the publication of this paper some months ago, we have received a number of favorable press notices, and flattering congratulations from subscribers and friends, which our

modesty alone prohibits us from publishing.

We feel grateful that some of the Stamp Journals recognize the existence of the GAZETTE to the extent of offering to sell us 'headings' of defunct philatelic papers. There is nothing more pleasant than to be the recipient of such little courtesies from the fraternity.

The boy who collects a hundred or so of postage stamps, and then offers to trade them for post-marks and the post-marks for amateur papers, and these again for tin tobacco tags etc. may be a very good kind of boy, but the chances are he will never succeed in making a good collection of anything. He has no fixed purpose. He don't stick to anything long enough to find out if it has any merit, or to develop a lively interest in it. If he is going to collect stamps, for instance, let him go at it in earnest, and if, after a fair trial he finds there is nothing in it, then he ought to abandon it.

**We "Didn't know it was Loaded."**

In our last issue we re-printed an article from the Bayonne Philatelist headed "The Reason Why," in which it is stated that "There is a class of would-be-dealers for whom the 'Approval sheet system, has special attractions, etc." In commenting on this statement, we remarked, ironically, that "perhaps W. E. Baitzell, Balto. Md., one of the B. P.'s best advertisers is a would-be-dealer?"

We said this, not because we thought so ourselves, but to show the absurdity of the B. P.'s position. We did not suppose we could be misunderstood.

Mr. Baitzell, however, has written that he cannot see why we should us

his name as we have done, and that it must result in injury to his business.

While we cannot help thinking Mr. B. is the only one who took that view of our remarks, we must, of course, disclaim any intention to represent him as other than an honorable dealer.

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### PHILATELIC BREVITIES.

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"Le T. P." informs us that the dies of the old Moldavian stamps of 1858, have been found in a box at the office of the Minister of the Treasury. Look out for reprints.

In consequence of an arrangement just concluded between the Government of Monaco and M. Cochery, Minister of posts and telegraphs, special postage stamps, bearing the head of the Prince Charles III, will shortly be issued by the Principality.

The Duke of Edinburgh is an enthusiastic stamp collector. The collection was only commenced last year, and already numbers three thousand, which his Royal Highness in his spare moments, is busily engaged in transferring from their present abode to the latest arrangement in stamp albums.

It has occurred to us that there are more philatelists in the Eastern States, in proportion to the population, than any other section of the country. If our impressions are correct, how is the fact to be accounted for?

The postage stamps now in use in the U. S., which we treat with so much contempt because of their great abundance, will, in a few years be in demand. Those of us who have not preserved a set, will be very anxious to know what they were like.

### Among Our Exchanges.

The Dowagiac News for September is a model of amateur journalism. Thanks, brother Bigelow, for your suggestion; we have had the subject under consideration for some time.

The September number of Our American Youth, Middlebury, Vt., came to us much enlarged and beautified. We congratulate the publisher on this evidence of prosperity, and on the fact that he prints a paper which we can heartily commend to the youth of America.

We have received quite a number of Amateur papers, among which are The Waterfordian, Waterford, N. Y., The Echo, Rogerville, Mo., The Times, Richland, Pa., and The Boys' Advertiser, Lancaster, Pa. This class of papers seems to be increasing in number, a fact which we note with pleasure, and we wish them all success. We admire the boy who has the ambition to be the publisher of a paper, and who has the patience and perseverance to continue the good work when once begun.

There are a great many boys and youths in the land who might be very profitably employed in editing and printing amateur papers. There perhaps might not be much money in it, but the schooling would be of great advantage.

The young man who edits a stamp paper with a pair of shears, has a very hard time of it. Good, fresh, pertinent articles, are uncommonly rare. Is the subject exhausted?

---

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## Exchange Notices.

(The Exchange List is open to all, but the publishers reserve the right to decline to publish any notice.)

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I have boxing gloves, stamp photos, printing presses, musical instruments, reading matter, and other goods, to exchange.

T. S. SPARROW,  
Verona, N. Y.

## A Curious Heirloom.

A resident of Ronkonkoma, L. I. has a relic of the last century for which more than one antiquary would be glad to pay handsomely. It is a gold watch which formerly belonged to Marie Antoinette. It is about the size of a trade dollar in circumference, and is open-faced. On the back it bears the device of the French Queen, a Cupid on a cloud, worked in gold and silver. A wreath of Guinea gold and one of Roman gold surround the disk. The hours are marked in old looking Arabic numbers. The legend of the owner is that the watch was the gift of the Queen to the architect of the Tuileries who shot himself on the day following her execution by the Revolutionists. Its present owner was a near relative of a well-known American poet, now dead. The watch came into his possession through marriage.

## Bargains!

In order to reduce our stock we will sell the following stamps at reduced prices for the next 60 days. 10 War Dept. 12c.; 10 Brazil, 10c.; 10 Roumania, 15c. 7 Victoria, 10c.; 3 Argentine 1862, new, 20c.; 4 Suez, new, 25c.; 6 Bulgaria, 15c.; 6 Mexico, 1884, 15c.; 30 France, 15c.; Guatemala, 1878, 4 varieties, 40c.; 5 Saxony, 8c.; 5 Austria Telegraph, 10c.; 7 New Grenada, 10c.; 5 Hussey's Locals, 1869 25c.; 6 Venezuela, 10c.; 15 Hungary, including 20 & 25 kr. 15c. The above lot, \$2.00. Continentals post free, 23c. per 1,000. WM. LECKIE & CO., 3025 South Park ave, Chicago, Ill.

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- 14 var. Bulgaria, - - - 25c.
- 50 " Spain, - - - 40c.
- 5 " Barbadoes, - - - 10c.
- 10 " Brazil, - - - 15c.
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# Philatelic Gazette.

VOL. 1.

ALTOONA, PA., NOVEMBER, 1884.

No. 5.

## NEW ISSUES.

From the Philatelic Monthly.

**AZORES.**—The 10 reis Portugal lately described, has been surcharged for Azores.

**BELGIUM.**—We have received 1 centime stamp printed in a new color—pearl-gray.

**CEYLON.**—The color of the 2 cents has been changed to green, and that of the 4 cents to brown-violet.

**GOLD COAST.**—The 2 pence stamp has appeared in gray.

**NEVIS.**—There appears to be a systematic effort to get the stamps of the various English Colonies to correspond in colors, that of the 2½ pence to be blue and of the 4 pence gray. Nevis is the last to make the change.

**PARAGUAY.**—A new set of three values has been issued. The arms appear in the centre, with the name, "Republica del Paraguay" around, and "Union Postal Universal" in small letters below. The values are, 1 centavo, green; 2 centavos, red; 5 centavos, blue.

**PORTO RICO.**—Two more of the current set have had their colors modified, the 20c. to green, and 80c. to red.

**ROUMANIA.**—Specimens of the current bani stamp have been received of a dark green color.

**SIERRA LEONE.**—The 2d. is now blue-gray, and the 4d. brown.

**TURKEY.**—The color of the 10 para stamp is now light green.

From the Philatelic World.

**ANTIOQUIA.**—We have received the 1 centavo of 1876, printed in lilac, and the 5 centavos of 1884, in yellow; both on white laid paper. The 10c. of 1884 is reported in blue on bluish paper.

**BRAZIL.**—A reply paid card, 50x50 reis, blue on white, has been issued. The stamp has the head of the Emperor, and it is in the centre instead of the corner. We have just received three new letter cards. The stamps are surrounded by a frame, from which branch out towards the bottom and the left side, various fanciful designs, including dragons, &c. The fourth page of the cards is also ornamented with varying designs and inscriptions. The paper is greenish outside and white inside; 50 reis, red; 100 reis, blue; 200 reis, green.

**BULGARIA.**—The "W. B. L." mentions unpaid letter stamps; 5 sto. yellow, 25 sto. red, 50 sto. blue.

**EASTERN ROUMELIA.**—"Le T. P." states that the stamps will shortly have their color changed as follows; 5 paras, violet, 10 paras, green; 20 paras, rose; 1 piastre, blue; 5 piastres, brown. The 10 and 20 paras exist joined together and printed in rose and black.

**STRAITS SETTLEMENT.**—"Le T. P." says that the 5 cents blue has received the surcharge 4 cents in red, and the 12 cents purple, the surcharge 8 cents in black. Also the 5 cents is surcharged vertically, in capital letters, "Two cents."



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SUBSCRIPTION PRICE.—To any country in the Postal Union, 25 cents per year.

## ADVERTISING RATES.

1-2 inch.	\$ 20	1-2 column.	\$ 100
1 inch.	35	1 column.	200
2 inches.	60	1 page.	400

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EDW. C. MANN. } EDITORS.  
EDW. E. KENDIG. }

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NOVEMBER, 1884.

If philatelists are not happy it is not because there are not enough stamp papers printed these days.

It doesn't follow that there is nothing in stamp collecting simply because you may happen to get nothing out of it.

Look out for our December No. It will have sixteen pages, and will contain a large amount of interesting reading matter. Send your name on postal card for sample copy.

We are still hanging on the ragged edge of doubt concerning the facts in regard to that famous Brattleboro stamp. The philatelic world will not rest easy until the truth is known.

Since our last issue, at least two more philatelic papers have come into existence. We refer to The New England Philatelist, Fitchburg, Mass., and The Advertiser, Phila., Pa. They are both neat in appearance, and promise well for the future.

Our columns are open to correspondents on philately &c., and we invite them

to give us their views on all matters connected therewith. If you have discovered anything of interest to philatelists be kind enough to let the rest of us know it.

In order to gain time, we print only four pages this month. We shall, however, more than make up the deficiency in the December No. Circumstances beyond our control have, up to this time, prevented us from getting our paper out as early as we desired.

In future we shall insert no advertisements without payment in advance except for parties whom we know by experience to be reliable, and with whom we have contracts. It does not pay us to send out bills and receipts for small amounts. If you cannot trust us, please withhold your favors until you feel safe in sending the money with them.

#### Our December Number.

We call attention of advertisers to the fact that we shall print not less than 1500 copies of this paper in December to be out by the 20th of the month. We shall take special pains to place a copy in the hands of every collector and dealer we can reach. Every effort will be made to prove that as an advertising medium, our paper is inferior to none. All ads. must be in by December 10th to insure insertion in this number. Special terms for large ads. on application. Send at once for space on the cover.

#### Collectors, Read.

Until Jan. 1, 15 cents will be received for year's subscription to this paper, or 10 cents each for a club of 5. Send in your names at once, so that you may begin with our last December number.

**Some Observations.**

That stamp collecting by young people improves their general knowledge; especially of geography, history, postal arrangements &c., is a fact not seriously disputed by those in a position to know. It is only true, however, in regard to those who engage in the work intelligently, and with the determination to derive from it all the benefits it is capable of affording. The best advantages of our schools are only obtained by the few, and they are those who possess the faculty of turning to account all the facilities afforded them for increasing their stock of knowledge, and who apply themselves diligently to their studies. No one pretends that schools are a failure because the great majority do not reap all or half their benefits. Neither is stamp collecting a failure because all do not know how to go about it in a way to insure pleasure and profit.

It will not do to condemn philately on the evidence of those who are incapable of giving it a fair trial, or have no desire to do so.

**Exchange Notices.**

(The Exchange List is open to all, but the publishers reserve the right to decline to publish any notice.)

A complete font of metal bodied rubber type, for the best offer of war tokens. F. A. ACKERMAN, Marengo, Iowa Co., Iowa.

100 good, clean pictorial cards, or a good cloth bound book, for a font of type. ALBERT ZERBONE, 223 S. Water St., New Bedford, Mass.

100 var. foreign stamps, 8 var. war, (1, 2, 3, 6, 10, 12, 15 and 24c.) for other departmentals. Correspondence desired. EDW. E. KENDIG, Altoona, Pa.

**British Colonies and Siam**

4 varieties, unused, SIAM, - - 25c.  
20 " " BRITISH COL'S, 55c.

**Postage Extra. Remit Postal Note.**

IGNAZ STAUFFER,

616 Smithfield St.

Pittsburg, Pa.

**Siam & British Colonies**

**LOOK, Great Discounts to All.**

I have the BEST Rubber stamps in the world, and want 1000 agents to introduce them at once. Will give LARGE COMMISSIONS. New 100 page catalogue of rubber stamps, cards, printing presses, &c. for 10c. Large discount on California gold \$1-2 and \$1-4 and stamp photos. Send stamp for wholesale list. Immense list of second hand goods for stamp. Anyone wishing to buy or sell a good printing press or outfit, will do well to correspond with me. Agents wanted at once. Mention this paper.

T. S. SPARROW, VERONA, NEW YORK.

Publishers inserting above and this, will receive rubber stamps (made to order) to the value of \$1.25. Send two papers.

**SHORT-HAND**, Instructions by mail. Entire course

\$10.00; or will take half cash, and balance in Mineral specimens or curiosities.

Correspondence solicited. Address,

T. S. PRICE, Borden, Fresno Co., Cal.

**BADEN.**

1 k. 1851, buff,	10c.	1 k. 1864 black,	2c.
3 k. " yellow,	2c.	3 k. 1862, rose,	1c.
6 k. " green,	3c.	6 k. 1864, blue,	2c.
9 k. " pink,	3c.	9 k. " brown,	3c.
1 k. 1853 white,	4c.	1 k. 1862, green,	1c.
3 k. " green,	2c.	3 k. " rose,	1c.
6 k. " yellow,	2c.	7 k. " blue,	2c.
3 k. 1857 blue,	2c.		
1 k. 1861, black,	1c.	1 k yellow, unused,	2c.
3 k. " blue,	1c.	3 k. " "	2c.
6 k. " orange,	3c.	100 varieties stamps,	10c.

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**FOR EXCHANGE**, HILL'S MAN-UAL, LEATHER,

COST \$6.50; FOR BEST OFFERS. Address,

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WE WILL SEND

THE KEYSTONE PHILATELIC GAZETTE,

for one year, for 15c. or in clubs of five, for 10c. each. Begin with our 16 page December number.

Mann & Kendig,

ALTOONA, PA.

## EMPIRE OF GERMANY.

1-4 g. 1871 mauve,	2c.	7 k. 1871 blue,	1c.
1-3 g. " green,	1c.	9 k. " brown,	2c.
1-2 g. " orange,	1c.	18 k. " stone,	5c.
2 g. " blue,	1c.	9 k. 1874 brown,	3c.
5 g. " bistre,	1c.	ENVELOPE STAMPS.	
1-4 g. 1872 mauve,	2c.	1 g. 1871 rose,	2c.
1-3 g. " green,	1c.	3 k. " "	2c.
1-2 g. " orange,	1c.	1 g. 1873 " "	1c.
21-2 g. " brown,	2c.	3 k. " "	1c.
5 g. " bistre,	1c.	NEWSPAPER STAMPS.	
21-2 g. 74 brown,	2c.	1-3 g. 1871 green,	2c.
1 k. 71 green,	1c.	1 k. " "	3c.
2 k. " vermillion,	2c.	1-3 g. 1872 " "	2c.
3 k. " rose,	1c.	1 k. " "	2c.
7 k. " blue,	1c.	POSTAL CARDS, (CUR)	
13 k. " stone,	1c.	1-2 g. brown,	1c.
1 k. 72 green,	1c.	2 k. " "	3c.
2 k. " vermillion,	2c.	100 Finely Mixed,	20c.

Postage extra. Remit Postal Note. Pittsburg and Allegheny stamp collectors, I have always a fine selection.

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*In The Far West.*

The Pacific slope is the richest portion of the U.S. and has a very large number of philatelists and very few dealers in proportion to its collectors. Eastern papers do not reach these, and the only way for dealers to get their trade is to advertise in a Western philatelic paper. The "PINE AND PALMETTO" is the only philatelic paper West of the Rockies, and if you want your ad. to be answered by a large number of both Western and Eastern collectors, give us a trial. Rates: 3c. per inch; (c a line, words to a line, 10 lines to an inch. Discount on ad. continued ads.

Every subscriber will have a *cross* to make \$3.00 by Xmas. Address, PAUL GOLDSMITH, 107 Central Avenue, Oakland, Cal.

## COLLECTORS! Attention!

## APPROVAL SHEETS.

Selections of rare stamps will be sent to responsible parties on receipt of reference or deposit. Advanced collectors send for my sheets. Agents wanted I. B. COHEN, 243 King St., Charleston, S. C.

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Sheets of stamps sent to 1001 Smart and Responsible Parties at 25 per cent commission. Don't delay but send now!

S. B. SMITH, West Gardner, Mass.

WM. V. d. WETTERN, JR.,  
Wholesale Dealer in

## POSTAGE STAMPS,

268 LIGHT ST., BALTIMORE, MD.

Price List free on application to dealers of all kinds of Postage Stamps purchased for PROMPT CASH.

## FOREIGN STAMPS!

100 all different, 12 cents; 100 mixed, 4 cents; different, unused, 6 cents; 6 Jamaica 10 cents; Chili, 7 cents; 4 Dutch Indies, 6 cents; 10 Japan, 6 cents; 7 Bulgaria, 2 cents; 5 Hong Kong, 11 cents; 4 East Romella, 11 cents; 4 Italy, (segnatasse), 6 cents; 6 Greece, 6 cents; 6 Porto Rico, 10 cents. Price List Free.

WM. H. McLAIN, No. 1 SWETT ST., BOSTON, MASS.

**BARGAINS!** 100 Mixed Foreign Coins, fair to good for only \$1.25. 100 "V" Nickels, without "cents," FINE, for only \$10.00; with retail very readily @ 15c. each.

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Volume I.

Number 6.



DECEMBER, 1884.



THE KEYSTONE

# Philatelic Gazette.

A Monthly Publication,

*— in the interest of —*

STAMP, COIN AND CURIOSITY COLLECTORS.

---

Mann & Kendig, Publishers,

ALTOONA, PENNA.

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Subscription Price Twenty Five Cents per Annum.

## EMPIRE OF GERMANY.

1-4 g. 1871 mauve,	2c. 1 k. 1871 blue,	1c.
1-3 g. " green,	1c. 9 k. " brown,	2c.
1-2 g. " orange,	1c. 18 k. " stone,	6c.
2 g. " blue,	1c. 9 k. 1874 brown,	2c.
5 g. " bistre,	1c. ENVELOPE STAMPS.	
1-4 g. 1872 mauve,	2c. 1 g. 1871 rose,	2c.
1-3 g. " green,	1c. 5 k. " "	2c.
1-2 g. " orange,	1c. 1 g. 1872 "	1c.
21-2 g. " brown,	3c. 3 k. " "	1c.
5 g. " bistre,	1c. NEWSPAPER STAMPS.	
21-2 g. 74 brown,	2c. 1-3 g. 1871 green,	2c.
1 k. 71 green,	1c. 1 k. " "	3c.
2 k. " vermillion,	2c. 1-3 g. 1872 "	2c.
3 k. " rose,	1c. 1 k. " "	2c.
7 k. " blue,	1c. POSTAL CARDS. (CUT)	
19 k. " stone,	2c. 1-2 g. brown,	1c.
1 k. 72 green,	1c. 2 k. " "	2c.
2 k. " vermillion,	2c. 19) Finely Mixed,	29c.

Postage extra. Remit Postal Note. Pittsburg and Allegheny stamp collectors, I have always a fine selection.

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Volume I.

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**Don't Read This!** Boys; if you want to get a good bargain for your friends, as well as for yourselves, send for one of our unexcelled sheets of stamps on approval, @ 25 per cent. com. Amateur papers insert three months and send bill. Mention this paper.

INTERNATIONAL STAMP CO.,

No. 9 Central St., West Gardner, Mass.

### Only a Few Left.

†Alsace & Lorraine, 2c., brown,	12c.
Argentine Republic, 15c. blue,	8c.
Brazil, 100 reis, olive,	3c.
"    30    "    black, [1850]	2c.
†Cyprus, 1d. red,	3c.
Cape of Good Hope, 1 & 2d, each,	1c.
Chili, 1c., green,	1c.
"    2c., rose,	2c.
"    5c., blue,	2c.
"    10c., "	2c.
†Curacao, 2 1-2c., green,	4c.
"    3c. gray,	5c.
Dutch Indies, two var.	1c.
Egypt, two var.	1c.
"    Official, many var., each,	3c.
†Peru, 10c., unpaid,	4c.
"    1c., orange,	2c.
†Porto Rico, two varieties,	1c.
Servia, 2 varieties,	1c.
Turkey, 2    "	1c.
†U. S. Franklin Car. 1c., blue,	3c.
5 varieties unused,	2c.
† Unused. Postage extra.	

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**Xmas SHEETS!**  
C. H. ANDREW,

No. 347,  
LINCOLN, ILL.

Set SIAM, 5 var. unused, 85c.  
" IONIAN ISL. 3 var. unused, 60c.  
" BERGDORF, 5 " " 09c.  
FIRST ORDER received for any one of the above will receive, free, a 4d triangular Cape of Good Hope APPROVAL SHEETS at 33 1-3, 40 and 50 per cent. commission. Reference required.

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## THE KEYSTONE

# Philatelic Gazette.

1. ALTOONA, PA., DECEMBER, 1884.

No. 6.

for the K. P. G.

### PHILATELIC SOCIETIES, Repositories of Philatelic Literature.

BY DR. WM. H. MITCHELL.

What are Philatelic Societies good for? This is a query that is not confined to Philatelists, for many collectors are asked to identify themselves with Societies in their formation and maintenance, and are guilty of the same question. It is this query that I propose to answer, and at the same time I hope to throw out some hints and suggestions that have not been touched upon by other writers, namely: Philatelic Societies as Repositories of philatelic literature. Societies, of course, have their regular order of business; the reading of their papers, their discussion and preservation, the general exchange of information etc., but Societies have special facilities that are not possessed by individuals, not only in the means, but in the fact that they are able to cover a larger field. All these are of the greatest importance to collectors, but the chief interest in a society should be its library, whether consulting or circulating. They should not be restricted to the purchase of works as they may receive gratuitously by courtesy, but they should have a regular annual appropriation set aside for this purpose.

Although Philately is still young in our country and its literature still younger,

there are many valuable works out of print that should be carefully preserved, not only for the information contained, but for their very scarcity. The library should consist of standard works, periodicals and manuscripts, the contents of which should be indexed so that any point could be easily found without loss of time. Such an arrangement would be of untold benefit to philatelists, and collectors could find out all that was written on any given specimen. Writers could refer to "the records of the past." There would be far less plagiarism than now exists, and it would give a new impetus to our hobby.

Philately is now at as low an ebb as it has been for many years, and something must be done this winter to revive it, and I know of no way that is as likely to keep it up as the influence of the regular meetings of these associations, and an interesting book to read in the interval. It would serve, in a sense to educate philatelists, and show beginners what those who have "gone before" have done to benefit the science.

Philatelic books being designed for a special class of readers, and the number published being comparatively small, if of any value they are soon out of the market, and even when second-hand and put up at auction, in nearly every case do they bring their original value and often more, so eager are collectors for their possession.

Each Society should procure at the earliest date every book, pamphlet and



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- Brazil, 100 reis, olive, 3c.
- " 30 " black, [1850] 2c.
- †Cyprus, 1d. red, 3c.
- Cape of Good Hope, 1 & 2d, each, 1c.
- Chili, 1c., green, 1c.
- " 2c., rose, 2c.
- " 5c., blue, 2c.
- " 10c., " 2c.
- †Curacao, 2 1-2c., green, 4c.
- " 3c. gray, 5c.
- Dutch Indies, two var. 1c.
- Egypt, two var. 1c.
- † " Official, many var., each, 3c.
- †Peru, 10c., unpaid, 4c.
- † " 1c., orange, 2c.
- †Porto Rico, two varieties, 1c.
- Servia, 2 varieties, 1c.
- Turkey, 2 " 1c.
- †U. S. Franklin Car. 1c., blue, 3c.
- 5 varieties unused, 2c.
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## PHILATELIC SOCIETIES, Repositories of Philatelic Literature.

BY DR. WM. H. MITCHELL.

What are Philatelic Societies good for? This is a query that is not confined to Philatelists, for many collectors are asked to identify themselves with Societies in their formation and maintenance, and are guilty of the same question. It is this query that I propose to answer, and at the same time I hope to throw out some hints and suggestions that have not been touched upon by other writers, namely: Philatelic Societies as repositories of philatelic literature. Societies, of course, have their regular order of business; the reading of journals and papers, their discussion and preservation, the general exchange of information etc., but Societies have special facilities that are not possessed by individuals, not only in the means, but in the fact that they are able to cover a larger field. All these are of the greatest importance to collectors, but the chief interest in a society should be its library, whether consulting or circulating. They should not be restricted to the purchase of books as they may receive gratuitously by courtesy, but they should have a regular annual appropriation set aside for this purpose. Although Philately is still young in our country and its literature still younger,

there are many valuable works out of print that should be carefully preserved, not only for the information contained, but for their very scarcity. The library should consist of standard works, periodicals and manuscripts, the contents of which should be indexed so that any point could be easily found without loss of time. Such an arrangement would be of untold benefit to philatelists, and collectors could find out all that was written on any given specimen. Writers could refer to "the records of the past." There would be far less plagiarism than now exists, and it would give a new impetus to our hobby.

Philately is now at as low an ebb as it has been for many years, and something must be done this winter to revive it, and I know of no way that is as likely to keep it up as the influence of the regular meetings of these associations, and an interesting book to read in the interval. It would serve, in a sense to educate philatelists, and show beginners what those who have "gone before" have done to benefit the science.

Philatelic books being designed for a special class of readers, and the number published being comparatively small, if of any value they are soon out of the market, and even when second-hand and put up at auction, in nearly every case do they bring their original value and often more, so eager are collectors for their possession.

Each Society should procure at the earliest date every book, pamphlet and

periodical published relating to the science, two copies, one of which to be kept at the rooms of the society, and the other in some safe deposit vault where it would be safe from the destroyer of philately—Fire.

The daily and weekly press should be carefully scanned for any philatelic news, which should be preserved in the archives of the society for future reference.

Philately is not an illusion, a mere fancy, a craze, as some would call it. Numismatics is looked up to and respected. So will philately be, and there is no reason why it should not. Their methods and practice are the same, the only difference is, coins or stamps, and as I look forward into the future of philately, and see the interest manifested by its votaries, and the pleasure they derive from it, I am led to exclaim with Longfellow:

"And the night shall be filled with music,  
And the cares that beset the day,  
Shall fold their tents like the Arabs,  
And as silently steal away."

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### SOME COLLECTORS.

BY NEMO

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The manner in which stamp collecting is conducted by many young "philatelists" is not much above the level of collecting and stringing buttons, and is attended with about the same results. In the case of the buttons, after all that can be got are gathered and strung, the work is done, and the collection is put aside as not worthy of any further consideration. The gatherer don't know any more than he did before, except that there are rather more different kinds of buttons than he had any idea

of. So with the postage stamps. To many collectors they seem to be nothing more than queer little pieces of paper of various colors, differing one from another more or less, and pretty to look at for a while. They only collect because others are collecting. They have the most superficial knowledge of the different specimens which make up their "collections," in many cases being ignorant as to what countries they represent. The idea of studying a postage stamp in all its various bearings never occurs to them. They know it simply as a piece of adhesive paper which, if affixed to a letter will secure its transmission through the mails, and that, in their opinion, is all there is about it. Now, it is desirable for the benefit of all such collectors and philately in general, that these false impressions or ideas should be removed if possible. It would be better for all concerned if those who engage in stamp collecting would begin it with proper conceptions of its objects and purposes. There would be fewer disappointments, less inclination to speak disparagingly of it, and more pleasing and instructive entertainment.

It is of course not pretended that philately will be found congenial to the taste of every one. It is the fewest number who are adapted to it, but that is no argument against its utility. It is not the fault of the science if a great many people see nothing in it. The requisite qualifications for successful stamp collecting are intelligence, aesthetic taste, patience, perseverance and that peculiar bent or inclination of mind which leads its possessor to investigate, explore and examine minutely into everything pertaining to the science.

## NEW ISSUES.

From The Philatelic World.

**BERMUDA.**—The 2 1-2d. stamps just appeared. The head of the Queen is in a circle to left. Above, in a label shaped like two sides of a hexagon, is the word "Bermuda" in white letters, and below in a similar label, "Twopence halfpenny." Watermark, C. A. and crown; color, blue.

**GUADELOUPE.**—"Le T. P." states that there are 10 varieties of each value of the new unpaid letter stamps. These are repeated six times on the sheet, which consists of 60 stamps.

**HUNGARY.**—The "W. P." mentions a post card with stamp of the type of the newspaper band. It is the 2kr. lilac on buff, and measures 144x88 mm.

**ITALY.**—The colors of the new unpaid letter stamps, according to the color chart, are as follows: 50 lire (II. 13.), 100 lire (VII. 20).

**MEXICO.**—"Le T. P." states that the 10 pesos does exist, and also a 5 pesos, both printed in blue. They are not sold to the public, but reserved for contracts between editors of newspapers and the post office, the same as the Periodical Stamps of the United States.

**SENEGAL.**—There are two varieties of the Post Card lately issued, in one of which there is a period after "Carte Postale" and in the other none. Unpaid letter stamps are also reported.

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA.**—A new band has been issued with "South Australia" larger and the arms smaller. The head on the stamp is also smaller.

**STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.**—The 12c., surcharged 8 in black: has been surcharged a second time with a large 8 in red, the first surcharge not being prominent enough.

From the Philatelic Monthly.

**BRAZIL.**—A double 50 reis card has been issued with stamp of the new type.

**BRITISH HONDURAS.**—We learn that the color of the 1 penny has been changed to rose. We have not yet seen it.

**BULGARIA.**—Unpaid letter stamps have lately been issued of which three values have been brought to our notice viz:

3	stotinki,	orange,
25	"	red,
50	"	blue.

The inscriptions are all in Bulgarian, making it difficult to describe intelligently.

**CUNDINAMARCA.**—A new type 5 centavos is said to have been issued.

**ECUADOR.**—There is said to be a 2 centavo card on rose, but we are inclined to think it is not a regular issue.

**LABUAN.**—We have received specimens of the 16 cents, blue, surcharged "One Dollar," and the initials of the postmaster. The surcharge is done by hand, with a pen, in red ink.

**MEXICO.**—There is a 3 centavo card of the new type, and a 5 peso adhesive stamp, neither of which we have mentioned before. A 10 centavo letter card has recently been issued.

**NEVIS.**—The 6 pence, green, of the new type, so long expected, is now in use.

**NORWAY.**—The color of the 12 ore is said to have been changed to red. What will become of the 10 ore now, we cannot say.

**PARAGUAY.**—Cards of the value of 2 and 3 centavos, with stamps of the new type impressed thereon, are in use.

**RUSSIA.**—We learn that the 1 kopeck, yellow, of the new series, is now in use.

## Postage Stamps of the United States.

### PROVISIONALS OR GOVERNMENT LOCALS.

These are the earliest United States stamps, and were issued by and at the expense of the postmasters, although recognized by the government. They are all very rare, some being almost unobtainable. We give below a list and description of the different varieties.

**NEW YORK.**—3 cents, buff, 1842, rectangular, unperforated. Full face portrait of Washington in banded oval; "United States City Despatch Post" above; "Three cents" below.

Same as above, 3 cents, blue, 1843.

The paper of these stamps varies, and there are several dies of the blue. Both these stamps are rare, the 3 cent's buff being sold at a recent auction for \$75.

\* Five cents, black on gray paper, 1847, rectangular, unperforated. These stamps are rather larger than the preceding, showing three-fourths face of Washington, "New York" in the upper corners; "Post Office" in circle above head; "Five cents" in circle at bottom.

**NEW HAVEN.**—5 cents, red, 1845, large octagon, unperforated. This stamp was impressed with hand stamp on white or buff envelopes. Each stamp was signed by the postmaster, E. A. Mitchell, in blue ink. Large numeral of value in centre; "Post Office" in one line at top; "New Haven, Ct." in circle above figure; "Paid" and signature "E. A. Mitchell, P. M." below. As when Mr. Mitchell retired from the Post Office, all stamps remaining on hand were destroyed, this stamp is

very scarce.

**ST. LOUIS.**—Five cents, black; 10 cents black; 20 cents, black, 1845; rectangular, unperforated. These are all of the same general design. Arms of Missouri in centre, "St. Louis" and numeral of value above. "Post Office" below, in lined frame. They were engraved in copper, and there are several varieties of each, in dies and paper.

**BALTIMORE.**—Five cents, black on bluish paper, oblong, unperforated. Facsimile of the signature of postmaster, James M. Buchanan. "5 cents" below, enclosed in a single line.

**PROVIDENCE, R. I.**—Five cents, black; 10c., black, 1846; large oblong, unperforated. They are the same with the exception of value. "Post Office, Providence, R. I., Five cents" in three lines in transverse oval with ornamental corners. The work on them is very poor, and they have been counterfeited by the man who made the originals.

**BRATTLEBORO, VT.**—5 cents, black on buff, small oblong, unperforated. Initials of postmaster, F. N. Palmer, in octagon in centre on groundwork of vertical lines, "Brattleboro, Vt." above, "P. O." at sides, "5 cents" below. They were engraved in copper. But few were used, and it is the rarest United States stamp. One was recently sold for \$175.00.—*The Philatelist.*

Regarding the stamp last mentioned above, a writer in *The Stamp World* says further:

Before the issue of five hundred stamps was used up, the Government began to furnish postage stamps and the destruction was ordered both of the stamps on hand and the dies. Hence the extreme rarity of the stamps, which has led some to doubt their existence. The engraver, Mr. Chubbuck, had a single sheet of the stamps in his book of samples of his work for a number of years, but finally sold them, about ten years ago for a dollar apiece.

### Origin of Postage Stamps.

The idea of an adhesive stamp affixed to a letter, as indicative of the payment of postage, is much older than has been generally supposed. It is known that the first suggestion of such an arrangement in modern times came from Rowland Hill, the father of the cheap postal system in England, about the year 1839 or 1840. It was several years, however, before his suggestion was carried into effect. History, however, tells us that the ancient German cities of Thurn and Taxis had such a system, which, for some inexplicable reason, fell into disuse, or failed to become general among nations. The modern postage stamp was first used in England about the year 1842 or 1843. In 1845 E. A. Mitchell, then postmaster of New Haven, taking advantage of the English idea, made use of a stamp of his own, which he continued to use until 1847, when the Government of the United States issued the first American postage stamps. They were in two denominations. The five-cent was of a light brown color, bearing the head of Franklin, and the ten-cent of a gray color, with the effigy of Washington. At that time the rate of letter postage was five and ten cent's, according to distance. In 1851 a series of six denominations was issued. The one-cent stamp was blue, bearing an elliptical band, upon which were the words, "U. S. P. O. Dispatch Pre-paid, one cent." Within the band was an eagle, with wings outspread. The two-cent stamp was also blue, bearing the head of Franklin; the three-cent vermilion, with head of Washington; the five-cent chocolate, with head of Jefferson; the ten-cent green,

with head of Washington, and thirteen stars in semi-circle above; the twelve cent was black, also with head of Washington. The twenty-four, thirty, and ninety-cent stamps were subsequently added to the series. The first of these bore the face of Washington; the second was orange, with the head of Franklin; and the last was dark blue, also with the head of Washington. There was also in this series a square carriers' stamp, blue in color, and bearing the head of Franklin.

*New Haven Palladium.*

### Reprints of Old U. S. Stamps.

The carrier stamp of the U. S. bearing the head of Franklin is extremely rare. Those which are extensively sold and which most collectors have are neither genuine nor counterfeit, but authorized reprints. It will be well for those who collect genuine stamps only, to bear this fact in mind. The reprints are generally not gummed. The five and ten cent stamps of 1847 are also reprinted by the P. O. Department since the destruction of the original dies. The originals are not so well executed as the reprint, and the paper is apparently thicker. Always obtain the used specimens when you can. All old envelope stamps, with the exception of the one cent, are reprinted.

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In order that all may have a chance, after seeing this number of our paper, to get it at the reduced price, we extend the time during which we will receive 15 cents for a year's subscription, until February first. After that time it can only be had at the regular price. We intend making it worth 25 cents at least to any one who has use for a paper of the kind. Please send at once before you forget it.

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SUBSCRIPTION PRICE.—To any country in the Postal Union 25 cents per year.

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1 inch. . . . .	85	1 column. . . . .	2 00
2 inches. . . . .	60	1 page. . . . .	4 00

ALL ADVERTISEMENTS must be in by the 20th of the month to insure insertion in the next number. The right to reject any advertisement is reserved.

REMIT in postal note when possible.

EDW. C. MANN. }  
EDW. E. KENDIG. } EDITORS.

ADDRESS all communications to

MANN & KENDIG, PUBLISHERS,

ALTOONA, PA.

The GAZETTE is entered at the Altoona Post Office as second class mail matter.

DECEMBER, 1884.

Hereafter all subscriptions must begin with the current number. We are forced to do this because we have but very few of some back numbers, and cannot furnish complete files at present at any price.

Philatelists and Numismatists will find much to interest them in our advertisements and we ask a careful perusal of them. Prices of coins and stamps are given in ample detail, and collectors can select just what they want.

We send this number of the GAZETTE to many who are not subscribers. If they desire to have us continue to send it to them they will of course show it by sending us the trifling sum we charge for a year's subscription. We shall construe their failure to do so as a gentle hint that the paper is not wanted.

Some of our friends have been kind enough to furnish original notes, and clippings from the daily and weekly press, for which they have our thanks. We appreciate favors of this kind, and

hope that many more of our patrons will do likewise. We shall be glad to send this paper free to any who send us one or more accepted original articles, be they lengthy or short.

Hereafter the GAZETTE will consist regularly of eight pages and cover. This will enable us to devote more space to reading matter, and we intend to make this portion as fresh and interesting as can be found in any paper of the kind published. As stated in our last number, we will receive, until Feb. 1st '85, 15 cents for a year's subscription. No one would ask it for less. If it is not worth that, it is not worth anything. Shall we enter your name on our list of subscribers?

An article on our first page by Dr. W. H. Mitchell, contains some suggestions in regard to the formation of Philatelic Societies, which we heartily approve. Even where regular organizations are not effected, much advantage would result from informal meetings of collectors for the purpose of comparing notes and interchanging views.

S. Allan Taylor has kindly sent us specimens of the two pence South Australia postage stamps surcharged "O. S." in black. The peculiarity of these stamps is that the surcharging was done *after the stamp had been cancelled*. We always thought that the surcharging was done *before* the stamp was used.

It is not our intention to be discourteous to our brethren of the philatelic and amateur press, but if some exchange ads. fail to appear in our paper, it is because we do not wish to fill up our columns with them, particularly when we do not get an ad. inserted in return.

Mr. A. N. Ridgely, wholesale stamp importer of Baltimore, Md., has sent us specimens of the new issue of 1-2 and 1 Centavo, Argentine Republic. He also informs us that he has received specimens of the provisional 1c. on 1 r. with the surcharge inverted; also a sheet of the same with one stamp on the sheet not surcharged.

Our friends who send us "exchange notices" should bear in mind that offers to trade certain articles for silver ten cent pieces, V nickels and unused U. S. postage stamps, do not come under this head. They are advertisements, and we will publish them at the usual rates. We shall be very glad to print all proper offers to exchange so far as space will allow.

In an article on "Philately" in the November number of the *Stamp World*, we are told to "avoid Enos." We are not acquainted with the gentleman but presume he is a dealer in counterfeit stamps, and shall therefore give him a wide berth. It is possible, however, that "Enos" may be an invention of the "typo."

We always feel flattered when any of the philatelic journals find anything in our columns worth copying, but we should like if proper credit were given. Some time ago the *Philatelic Monthly* copied one of our articles and credited it to the *Keystone Philatelist*, and in its December number, the same paper copied another article and credited it to the *Stamp World*.

Of course Bro. Durbin has not erred intentionally, and we only want to remind him that if he would help us up the ladder of fame, he must be a little more careful!

The *Independent Philatelist* in referring to some remarks we made in our Sept. No., uses these complimentary words:

"And to call Mr. Baitzell a would-be-dealer, was the height of folly, and it shows total depravity on the part of the K. P. G."

Thank you. You will, however, pardon us for saying, once for all, that we never called Mr. B. anything of the kind.

#### An Oriental Philatelist.

T. S. Price, of Borden, Cal., writes us as follows:

Philately has not, until recently, received much attention in this part of the world. People have heretofore been so intent on money getting, that very little attention has been paid to the collecting of curiosities. In fact, the best philatelist I know in this part of the coast, is a Chinese merchant. On visiting him to procure some articles of Oriental manufacture to send to friends in the East, I had considerable conversation with him. My purchases, which amounted to quite a little sum, so opened his soul as to cause him to show me his collection of stamps and curios. He had almost every stamp procurable, it seemed, and when the genuine could not be secured, he had made a hand-painted copy. True, they were by no means perfect, but did credit to his skill. In addition to these, he had paintings of the flags of the different powers, merchantmen, etc., all hand-made and "true to life." From him I understood the collection was not for sale, but that they were to be taken to China by him when he saw fit to again visit the Celestial Empire.



**Big Prices for Old Postage Stamps.**

One of the rarest known postage stamps, and consequently one of the most prized by collectors, is the ten cent stamp issued at Nashville, Tenn., in 1861 by Postmaster McNish, and bearing his name. Some months ago Mr. Joseph S. Carels sold one he had had for many years, for \$25.00, and it was afterward sold in Paris for \$50.00. It had been taken off the original envelope, and as counterfeits have been manufactured, Mr. Carels, before selling it, had to get letters from Mr. McNish, Dr. Blachie and others, vouching for authenticity.

A son of Mr. Edmund Cooper, who is making a collection, found among his father's old letters, an envelope bearing a cancelled specimen, postmarked &c. Recently he accompanied his mother to New York on a visit, and while there sold the stamp to a dealer for \$37.50. The stamp being on the original post-marked envelope, and bearing its own credentials, so to speak, made it much more valuable.

Even rarer than this stamp is the three cent stamp issued by Mr. McNish, as a used specimen has never been found, and one on the original envelope and well authenticated would sell for a most extravagant figure. Mr. McNish also issued a five cent stamp, used specimens of which sell for from \$5. to \$8.; the writer of this paragraph having sold a fine specimen for \$10.

*Nashville American.*

The head of George Washington on the two cent postage stamp was engraved by that venerable Academician, Mr. Alfred Jones, from the celebrated mask which was taken from life by the French sculptor, M. Houdon.

**ITEMS OF INTEREST.**

The date of the earliest stamp collection is presumed to be unascertainable; the first I ever saw was in 1854. The stamps were arranged on a large chart; the names of countries stood in a column on the left, and the stamps followed horizontally. They numbered about a hundred.—*Dr. Viner.*

During the year 1839 there were posted in Great Britain 82,000,000 letters, of which one in every thirteen was franked. Next year the number rose to 169,000,000, although franking was abolished. At the present time, (1884) the number reaches a grand total of 1,280,000,000 a year.

Statistics recently published to show the growth of correspondence in Russia are these: In the year 1878 there were sold 81,387,171 stamps at different prices; in 1879, 90,682,028; in 1880, 98,502,374; in 1881, 106,283,222; and in 1882, 114,287,777. Of the latter, 71,289,58 were seven kopeck stamps, which are used for letters sent out of the country.

Card telegrams are much used in Paris. There are two kinds of them—one is like the ordinary postal card in form and color, and the other is blue and capable of being so closed as to conceal the writing. They are each large enough to contain a message of sixty words. When a card is dropped into the card-telegram box of the nearest telegraph office, the official in charge picks it up and has it transmitted through one of the pneumatic tubes which extend all over the city, thus insuring its delivery at the place to which it is addressed, in less than half an hour from the time it was "posted".

## Exchange Notices.

The Exchange List is open to all, but the publishers reserve the right to decline to publish any notice.

Stamps for stamps; rare stamps for the 50c. Justice. E. A. HERNANDEZ, Box 2727, New York City.

A set of War, and a set of Interior Dept., used, for a 2c. and 3c. Executive used. GEO. L. GILMORE, 212 Bunker Hill St., Boston, Mass.

Vol. 2 'Golden Days,' in good condition, for a small card press and type, or for Vol. 5 of the same paper, or books. Write. H. S. WINGERT, Lancaster, Pa.

Coins of Nova Scotia, Hayti, Brazil, New Brunswick, New Foundland, France, Prince Edwards Isle, U. S. 5 cents, for coins of other countries or Indian arrow-heads. P. S. JOHNSON, Box 183, Bolivar, N. Y.

I have several hundred varieties of stamps, including many official U. S. stamps which I would like to exchange for other stamps. Any person having any good ones to trade, please address S. COSBY, 1808 Mass. Avenue, Washington, D. C.

Stamps—New Zealand, Victoria, Roumania, Greece, South Australia, Turkey etc., to exchange for back numbers of papers on sign or house painting, stamp or coin papers, books, magazines, coins, arrow-heads, minerals etc. JUSTUS CORNELL, Marshalltown, Iowa.

2 Iowa minerals and 3 fossils for every urchin, alligator's or shark's tooth alligator's or shark's eggs, Indian arrow-head, Indian spear head, star-fish, blue-crab, sand-dollar, rattle-snake's skin, any snakes preserved in alcohol 100 foreign stamps, or any of the

above minerals, for curiosities, ores, minerals, fossils, Indian relics etc. WALTER L. BRENHOLTZ, Mt. Pleasant, Ia.

I have 1 violin, (cost \$15.00) 1 fife, 1 magic lantern, games, 1 Gaskell's Compendium, brass microscope, scrap book, pair all clamp ice skates, 1 myropticon, several bound books, and other goods to the value of \$30.00, and will exchange them all together or in part for printing press and outfit or for other goods of equal value. Send full description with value of what you have to offer. Stamps, cards, etc. to exchange for libraries, magazines or amateur papers. J. D. O'NEIL, West Elizabeth, Pa.

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 The Philatelic Press.
 

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Far too many of the articles that are published to-day have the appearance of having been concocted from the common school history of the country of which it treats, combined with information gleaned from our standard catalogues.—*New England Philatelist*.

The instructors in philately are the advanced collectors, a most uncommunicative and retiring class, who, having by diligent research, procured valuable information, reserve it for covetous ends.—*Stamp World*.

Philately, as I understand it, does not mean merely the accumulation of a number of pieces of paper of different colors and designs, issued by various countries, but a careful study of the postage stamps of all nations.—*T. Coke, in Granite State Philatelist*.

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## NUMISMATICS.

## MONEY HUNTING.

Money hunting demands three qualities in the money hunter. *First.*—He must know what he is looking for. It would make an ant-eater smile to watch some people buying coins in a coin mart. As they don't know what they want, they are sure not to get it. *Second.*—He must know what the market value is of the coins he does want. Failing in this, he can never know whether he is paying too dear for the whistle or getting bargains. *Third.*—He must have the patience and perseverance of Job himself, who might, so far as the record goes, have been a first-class numismatist.

And I might have added two or more qualifications for a good money hunter, viz ; time to spare and money to spend.

But every person in the land has some time, some means to devote to a work which, if properly pursued, and made subordinate to the necessary vocation a person follows, is delightful as a recreation, and instructive as a branch of historical research. I have quite a number of patrons who began with me ten or twelve years ago, began on a small and economical scale, and whose collections of numismatic objects are already respectable, in point of number and value.

The reader will perhaps enjoy with me some reminiscences of my own experience in money hunting in Oriental lands. They embrace many years of patient research and in many places. I have for half a day together, patiently followed the *fellah*, as he plodded be-

hind his little plow, giving me the opportunity to inspect the newly stirred soil. What a variety of objects I have picked up, and the most of them worthless. A copper piece with nothing visible on it but the big M, showing it was a Byzantine, the M standing for Mounia, or the quantity 80, and the specimens not older than the 5th century. Next comes a shell of the Ammonite family. Then the metal stud of a bridle, the remnant probably of a gallant steed that fell here in deadly conflict. Next a copper piece of Alexander Severus (A. D. 220) in fair condition. Next another Byzantine, a trifle older than the last. Then a Greek Imperial in copper, upon whose front I recognize the well-known lineaments of Probus (A. D. 268). Next a Cufic piece (A. D. 700) whose curious forms of Arabic letters would puzzle anybody but an antiquary. Then perhaps the same series over again, and out of the gleanings of half a day's walk, enough to fill a pint cup, and not half a dozen coins legible enough to enter a respectable cabinet.

Some of my pleasantest memories of coin hunting in the Orient are connected with Gebal. To understand how so much metallic currency turns up in the old world, we have but to consider that in the times which numismatic history treats of, the only currency was metallic, gold and silver to a moderate extent, but copper to the extent of nine-tenths the popular traffic. The circulating medium was large.

Even in the daily purchases of the poorer classes, the number of pieces necessary to a city of ten thousand people was very great as a moments reflection will show.—*Robert Morris, LL. D.*

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Send reference or deposit of 30 cents, and receive by return mail, a sheet of RARE stamps at 25 per cent commission.

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In order to reduce our stock, we will send for the next 60 days.

	100		100
apc. 4 var.	\$ .35	Bulgaria, 10 var.,	\$ 1.50
Brazil, 10 var.	.45	Central Am. only.	2.50
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West Indies, 23 var	1.25	Spain, 10 var.,	.15
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**BARGAINS! BARGAINS!**

In order to reduce our stock, we will send for the next sixty days, 10 War dept., 12c.; 10 Brazil, 10c.; Roumania, 15c.; 7 Victoria, 10c.; 3 Argentine 1862, 20c.; 4 Suez, new, 25c.; 6 Bulgaria, 15c.; 6 Mexico, 1884, 15c.; 30 France, 15c.; Guatemala, 1878, 4 var. c.; 5 Saxony, 8c.; 5 Austria Telegraph, 10c.; 7 New Grenada, 10c.; 5 Hussey's Locals '69, 25c.; 6 Venezuela, 1c.; 15 Hungary including 20 & 25 kr. 15c. The above lot \$2.00. Continentals post free 23c per 1,000

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**Stamps!**

4 varieties unused Siam,	25c.
20 var. unused British Colo.	55c.
10 var. used Baden,	10c.
15 var. used Bavaria,	10c.
20 var. used, Germany,	15c.
10 var. used Europ. post cards,	15c.

Postage extra. Remit postal note. All stamps Genuine. Pittsburg and Allegheny stamp collectors, I have always a large selection.

**Ignaz Stauffer,**

6 Smithfield St. Pittsburg, Pa.

**Six Months on Trial**

FOR

**SIX ONE-CENT STAMPS!**

A Bright, Newsy Monthly,

**The COLLECTORS' CAPRICE,**

Devoted to Stamps and Coins.

ADVERTISING RATES, 20 CENTS PER INCH.

**HOTCHKISS & DILLONT,**

88 Prospect Pl. BROOKLYN, N. Y.

ESTABLISHED 1823.

**WM. H. WARNER & BRO.,**

**MEDALISTS,**

No. 1123 Chestnut St. PHILADELPHIA, PA.

**CHRISTMAS MEDALS,**

Obverse, Kriss Kingle, reverse, The Lords Prayer, struck in imitation of fine gold, size, 5-8 of an inch in diameter, mounted with silk ribbon, forwarded by mail to any address, on receipt of 10 cents. (silver.)

**EXTRAORDINARY BARGAINS**

In Used and Unused Sets.

Argentine Republic, '62, 3 var. complete,	\$ .99
Baden, 6 var. including 50 kr	.40
" " Land-post, 3 var. complete,	.08
Bavaria, unpaid, 1 and 3 kr	.07
" " return letter, 6 var., complete,	.10
Bergedorf, 5 var.,	.12
Bremen, 6 var.,	.40
German Empire, 10 var.,	.10
Guatemala, 1st issue, 3 var.,	.25
" " '75, 4 var., complete,	.25
" " '78, 4 var., complete,	.30
" " Envelope, 4 var., entire,	.50
" " " 4 var., cut square,	.38
Hamburg, Envelope, 7 var., complete,	.10
Hellgoland, 15 var.,	.40
Ionian Isles, 3 var., complete,	.75
Japan, 1st issue, 4 var complete,	.47
Mexico, Porto de Mar, '75 12 var., complete,	1.65
" " '79, 6 var.,	10.5
Prince Edward's Island, 12 var.,	.50
Sardinia, 10 var.,	.12
Siam, 5 var., complete,	.70
Servia, 7 var	.25
Thurn and Taxis, 12 var.,	2.25
U. S. Agriculture, 9 var., complete,	1.75
" " Interior, 10 var. complete,	.25
China, 3 var. complete,	.25
Guatemala, '82, 5 var., complete,	.25
Transvaal, 5 var.,	.25

Those marked thus, † are used.

Cash must accompany order. No sets on approval. Every stamp is warranted genuine. Sheets on approval. Agents Wanted. Send stamp and reference.

**S. B. SMITH,**

Lock Box 5. West Gardner, Mass.

**Thomas Semmes,**

Dealer in

**U. S.  FOREIGN POSTAGE STAMPS,**

Box 296.

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

Will send upon application from responsible collectors who furnish first-rate references. (Dealers preferred.)

**A FINE SELECTION OF UNCANCELLED STAMPS,**

embracing the higher values of many countries and issues not usually seen on approval sheets. No common stock or badly torn or cancelled specimens handled, and all stamps are hinged on approval sheets in the best manner, and priced as low as they can be sold by any retail dealer and therefore no discount will be allowed. My best customers of course have the preference, but I am always able to furnish a fine class of stamps to all who send for them, such as the high values of U. S. Periodical, 1875, uncanceled U. S. Departmental and Postage, old Italy, Spain, Mauritius, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, also old Spanish and British possessions, the higher values of Samoa, Sarawak, Montenegro, Curacao, Siam, Ionian Isles, St. Helena, Labuan and many others very desirable to advanced collectors.

I make up no approval sheets to order, but can generally cover the order of any collector if he will state in general terms what he needs.

I have listed below a few sets that I can furnish to anyone desiring them, on receipt of price. All are UNCANCELLED, except three sets which are indicated by a †. I have only a few sets of the State and Navy at present.

	VAR.	PRICE.			
Bergedorf,	5	\$.12	Mexico, Porte de Mar,		
Bremen, complete,	15	.75	complete,	6	\$ 2.00
Baden, incl. 30 kr. orange.	6	.40	Mauritius, 1856-62,	5	2.00
Baden Land Post,	3	.10	Newfoundland, 1862-63, without 2d.	6	2.25
†China, complete,	3	.30	Oldenberg,	5	.10
Danube S. Nav. Co.,	4	.20	Persia Official,	4	.45
†Egypt, 1879, compl.,	6	.15	Prince Edwards Is.	12	.50
German Empire,	10	.10	Sardinia,	12	.15
Guatemala, 1st issue,	3	.25	Salvador, 1st issue,	4	.75
" 1875,	4	.30	Siam,	5	.70
" 1878,	4	.35	"	4	.30
† " 1882,	5	.15	San Marino,	5	.50
German Levant,	5	1.10	Samoa,	8	2.75
Heligoland,	15	.40	Swiss Ausser Kurs,	10	.15
Ionian Isles,	3	.65	Saxony, arms,	6	.12
Japan, 1st issue,	4	.50	Transvaal, 1st issue,	5	.25
Lagnira, "	5	.85	Agriculture,	9	2.70
Mexico, Porte de Mar, complete,	12	2.75	Interior,	10	1.75
			Navy,	11	2.90
			State,	11	3.10

No responsibility assumed for letters lost in the mails, unless registered. Small amounts may be sent in unused stamps or postal note. All orders filled by return mail, and must include postage for registration if desired, unless over \$2.00 which I always register at my own expense.

**Thomas Semmes.**

# THE KEYSTONE PHILATELIC GAZETTE.

**A. N. RIDGELY,**

**Wholesale Stamp Importer,  
AND DEALER TO THE TRADE ONLY.**

ALL KINDS OF POSTAGE STAMPS pur-  
chased for PROMPT CASH.

NEW LIST FREE, on application, to Dealers only.  
EVERY DEALER should send for one before buying  
anywhere, as many stamps are quoted 10 and 15  
cent. less than on the lists of other Wholesale  
Dealers.  
Address :

**A. N. RIDGELY,**

4 N. CALVERT ST., (Barnums Hotel Building),  
**BALTIMORE, MD.**

Established (1869-1894.) Fifteen Years.

**L. W. DURBIN,**

57TH AND LIBRARY STS.,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

**Foreign Stamp Importer  
AND PUBLISHER.**

The largest assortment of genuine stamps, at the  
lowest prices, always in stock.  
The most extensive stock of foreign postal cards  
on the market.

**MARVELLOUS PACKETS!**

Packets of 10 different stamps for 5c. ; 50 different  
for 25c. ; 120 different for 50c. ; 250 different for \$2.04 ;  
500 different for \$3.54 ; 500 different (many rare) for  
\$1.000 different for \$25 ; 125 South American for  
\$1.00 and a large number of other Packets at various  
prices. List of which may be had on application by  
mail or in person.

The Excelsior Stamp Album, to contain over  
100 stamps, bound in imitation morocco, only 28c.  
Other Albums at 75 cents to \$12.00.

Coats of arms, 50 cents.  
Flags of the world, 25 cents.  
Photographs of rulers, 50 cents.  
Engravings of rulers, 15 cents.  
Descriptive catalogue, thirteenth edition, 25 cts.  
Catalogue of postal cards, fifth edition, 25 cents.

For Circular Giving Full Particulars.

Am the only one in the United States who deals  
exclusively in postage stamps, and articles connect-  
ing with that branch of trade, and hence am better  
qualified than any one else to fill orders promptly and  
satisfactorily.

**ONE TRIAL SOLICITED.**

Satisfaction Always Guaranteed.

Orders Filled the Day of Receipt.

**STAMPS! Boy Agents!!**

Baden Land Post, 3 varieties, unused, complete,  
6c. Guatemala, 1876-1878, 4 var. each, both comp.  
80c. each ; Holland, unpaid 5 and 10c., used, 7c.  
Sweden official, used, 10 var. comp. 20c. ; Heligo-  
land, 20 var., unused, 45c. ; Heligoland, wrappers,  
3 var. comp., unused, 8c. ; U. S. newspaper, large,  
3 var. comp., 60c. ; Peru, llama, 1867, 3 var., used,  
comp., 9c. Send 2 cent stamp for wholesale and re-  
tail price list. Address,  
GEO. F. BROWN, Jr., 215 Newbury St., Boston, Mass.

*FINE SHEETS OF*

**Postage and Revenue Stamps**

AT 23 1-3 PER CENT. DISCOUNT.

Send good reference or a deposit.

SAMPLE COPY OF THE PHILATELIST FREE.

**JOSEPH HOLMES, JR.,**

40 FULTON ST. NEW YORK CITY.

**COLLECTORS! ATTENTION!**

**APPROVAL SHEETS.**

Selections of rare stamps will be sent  
to responsible parties on receipt of ref-  
erence or deposit. Advanced collectors  
send for my sheets.

*AGENTS WANTED.*

**I. B. COHEN, 248 King St., Charleston, S. C.**

**Send Five One-cent Stamps**

for stamps from New Zealand, Queensland, South  
Australia, Tasmania and Victoria, together with my  
price list.

**Charles S. Meck, Agt.,**

904 PENN ST. HARRISBURG, PA.

**Every Collector** Should get Packet 10  
containing 40 varieties of  
fine stamps, including  
Ceylon, Chili, Sierra Leone, Brazil, India, New Zeal-  
and, Porto Rico unused &c., price 16c. HONEST agents  
wanted.

E. C. FOX, 687 Crawford Street, CLEVELAND, OHIO.

**An Old Style Nickel** of 1883 and a 7  
nickel without  
"cents," post-  
free, for 25c. 10 var. of U. S. Revenue for 6c. 60 var.  
postmarks for 6c.

E. C. LEAL, 149 Ellison St., Patterson, N. J.

# Thomas Semmes,

Dealer in

## U. S. FOREIGN POSTAGE STAMPS,

Box 296.

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

Will send upon application from responsible collectors who furnish first-rate references. (Dealers preferred.)

### A FINE SELECTION OF UNCANCELLED STAMPS,

embracing the higher values of many countries and issues not usually seen on approval sheets. No common stock or badly torn or cancelled specimens handled, and all stamps are hinged on approval sheets in the best manner, and priced as low as they can be sold by any retail dealer and therefore no discount will be allowed. My best customers of course have the preference, but I am always able to furnish a fine class of stamps to all who send for them, such as the high values of U. S. Periodical, 1875, uncanceled U. S. Departmental and Postage, old Italy, Spain, Mauritius, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia, also old Spanish and British possessions, the higher values of Samoa, Sarawak, Montenegro, Curacao, Slam, Ionian Isles, Stellaland, Labuan and many others very desirable to advanced collectors.

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	VAR.	PRICE.			
Bergedorf,	5	\$.12	Mexico, Porte de Mar,	6	\$ 2.00
Bremen, complete,	15	.75	complete,	6	2.00
Baden, incl. 30 kr. orange.	6	.40	Mauritius, 1856-62,	5	2.00
Baden Land Post,	3	.20	Newfoundland, 1862-		
†China, complete,	3	.50	63, without 2d.	6	2.25
Danube S. Nav. Co.,	4	.20	Oldenberg,	5	.10
†Egypt, 1879, compl.,	6	.15	Persia Official,	4	.45
German Empire,	10	.50	Prince Edwards Is.	12	.50
Guatemala, 1st issue,	3	.25	Sardinia,	12	.15
" 1875,	2	.50	Salvador, 1st issue,	4	.75
" 1878,	4	.35	Siam,	5	.70
† " 1882,	5	.15	"	4	.30
German Levant,	5	1.10	San Marino,	5	.50
Heligoland,	15	.40	Samoa,	8	2.75
Ionian Isles,	3	.65	Swiss Ausser Kurs,	10	.15
Japan, 1st issue,	4	.50	Saxony, arms,	6	.12
Lagnira, "	5	.85	Transvaal, 1st issue,	5	.25
Mexico, Porte de Mar,			Agriculture,	9	2.70
complete,	12	2.75	Interior,	10	1.75
			Navy,	11	2.90
			State,	11	3.10

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ALL KINDS OF POSTAGE STAMPS purchased for PROMPT CASH.

NEW LIST FREE, on application, to Dealers only.

EVERY DEALER should send for one before buying elsewhere, as many stamps are quoted 10 and 15 per cent. less than on the lists of other Wholesale Dealers.

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Published [1869-1884.] Fifteen Years.

**L. W. DURBIN,**

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**Foreign Stamp Importer  
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The largest assortment of genuine stamps, at the best prices, always in stock.  
The most extensive stock of foreign postal cards in the market.

**MARVELLOUS PACKETS!**

Packets of 10 different stamps for 5c. ; 50 different for 25c. ; 120 different for 50c. ; 250 different for \$2.04 ; 500 different for \$2.54 ; 500 different (many rare) for \$3.00 ; 1,000 different for \$25 ; 125 South American for \$5 and a large number of other Packets at various prices. List of which may be had on application by mail or in person.

The Excelsior Stamp Album, to contain over 100 stamps, bound in imitation morocco, only 25c. Other Albums at 75 cents to \$12.00.

Coats of arms, 50 cents.  
Flags of the world, 25 cents.  
Photographs of rulers, 50 cents.  
Engravings of rulers, 15 cents.  
Descriptive catalogue, thirteenth edition, 25 cts.  
Catalogue of postal cards, fifth edition, 25 cents.

Send For Circular Giving Full Particulars.

I am the only one in the United States who deals exclusively in postage stamps, and articles connected with that branch of trade, and hence am better qualified than any one else to fill orders promptly and satisfactorily.

**ONE TRIAL SOLICITED.**

**Satisfaction Always Guaranteed.**

*Orders Filled the Day of Receipt.*

**STAMPS! Boy Agents!!**

Baden Land Post, 3 varieties, unused, complete, 6c. Guatemala, 1875-1878, 4 var. each, both comp. 30c. each ; Holland, unpaid 5 and 10c., used, 7c. Sweden official, used, 10 var. comp. 20c. ; Heligoland, 20 var., unused, 45c. ; Heligoland, wrappers, 3 var. comp., unused, 8c. ; U. S. newspaper, large, 3 var. comp., 60c. ; Peru, llama, 1867, 3 var., used, comp., 9c. Send 2 cent stamp for wholesale and retail price list. Address,  
GEO. F. BROWN, Jr., 215 Newbury St., Boston, Mass.

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JOSEPH HOLMES, JR.,

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NEW YORK CITY.

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**APPROVAL SHEETS.**

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*AGENTS WANTED.*

I. B. COHEN, 248 King St., Charleston, S. C.

**Send Five One-cent Stamps**

for stamps from New Zealand, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria, together with my price list.

Charles S. Meek, Agt.,

904 PENN ST.

HARRISBURG, PA.

**Every Collector** Should get Packet 10 containing 40 varieties of fine stamps, including Ceylon, Chili, Sierra Leone, Brazil, India, New Zealand, Porto Rico unused &c., price 16c. HONEST agents wanted.

E. C. FOX, 657 Crawford Street, CLEVELAND, OHIO.

**An Old Style Nickel** of 1882 and a V nickel without "cents," post-free, for 25c. 10 var. of U. S. Revenue for 5c. 60 var. postmarks for 5c.

E. C. LEAL, 149 Elison St., Patterson N. J.



# LYMAN H. LOW,

OF  
B. WESTERMANN & CO.,

838 BROADWAY,

NEW YORK

## Coins and Medals,

*Ancient, Byzantine, Mediæval, and Modern.*

The following coins are offered at the several prices affixed, in separate envelopes, with authentic attributions and full descriptions. Periods given, are those between which coins are known to have been struck.

### GREEK, Autonomous and Regal. B. C. 700-27.

SILVER.	Tetradrachm, 4 drachms.	\$3.25, 4.00, 5.00, 6.00, 7.50, 8.00
	Didrachm, 2 "	1.50, 2.00, 2.50, 3.00, 3.50, 4.00
	Drachm,	90, 1.25, 1.50, 1.75, 2.00, 2.25
	Tetrobol, 4 obols.	75, 90, 1.20, 1.40, 1.60, 1.80
	Triobol, 1-2 drachm, 3 obols.	60, 75, 85, 1.10, 1.45, 1.80
COPPER.	Various sizes, CHALKOBS. The unit.	25, 35, 50, 70, 90, 1.10

### B. C. 400--2.

### ROMAN REPUBLIC, Aes Grave, First reduction, B. C. 268 Second, B. C. 127, Third, \_\_\_\_\_

BRONZE, Aes.	Various sizes to 48,	40 to 80
	Semis, (1-2 as) "	" to 37, 1.50 to 4.00
	Triens, (1-3 " ) "	" to 32, 40 to 35
	Quadrans (1-4 " ) "	" to 27, 40 to 35
	Sextans, (1-6 " ) "	" to 23, 40 to 35
	Unctia, (1-12 " ) "	" to 16, 35 to 25

### B. C. 268 --- 2.

### ROMAN REPUBLIC, Consular or Family.

SILVER.	Denarius, 10 Aes.	} 45, 65, 65, 75, 90, 1.10, 1.25, 1.50
	Quinarius, 5 "	
	Sestertius, 2 1-2 "	

### B. C. 2. --- A. D. 423.

ROMAN EMPIRE. SILVER.	Imperial, Denarius, Quinarius.	35, 45, 55, 65, 75, 90, 1.10, 1.25, 1.50
	First Brass.	35, 50, 70, 90, 1.10, 1.25, 1.50, 2.00
	Sec'd "	25, 35, 45, 55, 65, 75, 90, 1.10
	Thir'd "	18, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 60

### B. C. 27, --- A. D. 268.

ROMAN COLONIAL and GREEK IMPERIAL.	Billon and Potin, Tetradrachms and Didrachms,	75, 1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 2.00
	Copper, first, second and third size.	20, 25, 35, 45, 55, 70, 85, 1.00

### A. D. 423 --- 1453.

BYZANTINE.	SILVER Denarius,	65, 75, 90, 1.10, 1.30, 1.50, 1.80
	Copper Follaro, several sizes.	15, 25, 35, 50, 65, 80, 1.00, 1.50, 2.00

### A. D. 423 --- 1500.

MEDIÆVAL.	European and Oriental Silver, Groats, 1-2 Groats, Pennies etc.	25, 35, 50, 70, 90, 1.15, 1.40, 1.65, 2.00
	COPPER, Fuls, Soldo, Denier, Quattrino, Bagattino, etc.	12, 15, 20, 25, 30, 45, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 2.00

### A. D. 1500 TO DATE.

MODERN. All Countries.	Silver Crowns,	1.25, 1.40, 1.50, 1.70, 1.90, 2.20, 2.50, 3.00
	Half Crowns.	70, 85, 1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 1.75, 2.00, 2.25
	Smaller denominations from 25 to 100 per cent above face value	
	COPPER. A large number of denominations and innumerable varieties	

MEDALS.	Silver, Bronze and White Metal.	
	Eminent persons.	15, 25, 35, 50, 70, 90, 1.25, 1.65, 2.00
	Proclamation.	50, 75, 1.00, 1.25, 1.60, 1.90, 2.40, 3.00
	Centennial.	10, 15, 20, 30, 40, 50, 65, 85, 1.00
	Military and Civic.	15, 25, 35, 50, 70, 90, 1.25, 1.65, 2.00
	Masonic.	25, 35, 45, 60, 75, 90, 1.10, 1.30, 1.50
	War Medals & Decorations.	25, 30, 75, 1.00, 1.50, 2.00, 2.50, 3.00

TOKENS.	Cities, Counties, Towns, Corporations, Haciendas, Manufacturers, Merchants.	Silver. 40, 60, 80, 1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 2.00, 2.50, 3.00 Copper. 7, 10, 12, 15, 18, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, 1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 2.00, 2.50, 3.00
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PAPER MONEY.	Colonial, Continental and Fractional Currency, Confederate Money, Broken Bank War Issues etc.,	5, 7, 10, 12, 15, 18, 20, 25, 30, 35, 50, 75, 1.00
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A large number of the above coins can be supplied at figures below the average of quotations given while some rare types and others in extra preservation command higher prices.

INVOICES of coins submitted on approval, to parties furnishing satisfactory references.

BOOKS relating to Coins, largest stock in America. Catalogues 15 cents, post paid.

Volume I.

Number 7.



JANUARY, 1885.

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THE KEYSTONE

# Philatelic Gazette.

A Monthly Publication,

— *in the interest of* —

STAMP, COIN AND CURIOSITY COLLECTORS.

---

Mann & Kendig, Publishers,

ALTOONA, PENNA.

---

*Subscription Price Twenty Five Cents per Annum.*

## STAMP COLLECTORS!

If you wish to buy choice stamps, (warranted genuine) at a very low price, send for one of my sheets of stamps on approval. Agents wanted everywhere to sell my stamps at 25 to 30 per cent. commission. A deposit or best reference required.

H. S. JEANES,

521 ARCH ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

THE

### New England Philatelist,

a fine, eight page Stamp paper, devoted entirely to PHILATELY, only 25c per year.

*Sample Copy Free!*

ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION.

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*John A. Thalheimer,*

DEALER IN

## U. S. & FOREIGN STAMPS.

No. 44 E. Biddle St., BALTIMORE, MD.

COLLECTORS. send for one of my approval sheets at same time promise to return in 7 days. 25 per cent. com. Foreign correspondence wanted.

## ADVERTISERS ATTENTION!

*I can furnish favorable rates on all prominent philatelic papers. Do your advertising through me.*

T. Morris Ten Broeck,

Box 73. BERGEN POINT, N. J.

## Coins, Stamps, Curiosities.

*24 Page Illustrated Catalogue and two Medals, 10c.*

*Bird's Egg list for stamp.*

W. F. GREANY,

827 BRANNAN ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

## SHEETS ON APPROVAL.

I will send to any one answering this advertisement, a sheet of rare stamps on approval, to be returned within 10 days

THOS. B. FARRELL, Ottawa, Ill.

Anyone wanting cards, circulars, tags, labels, envelopes, price-lists, note or bill heads, should send for our estimates before ordering. Good work and low prices.

W. W. THOMAS,

167th St. and 4th. av., NEW YORK.

## THINK OF IT!

C. H. ANDREW,

Box 347,

LINCOLN, ILL.

Set 5 var. Siam, unused.

" 12 " Prince Ed. Isl. unusd

" 12 " Thurn & Taxis. "

" 5 " Bergedorf. "

First order received for any

the above will receive, free.

medicine stamps, worth \$1.

Approval sheets at 33-1-3.

and 50 per cent. commis

Reference required.

## Extraordinary Bargains

IN USED AND UNUSED SETS

Argentine Republic, '02, 3 var. complete.

Baden, 6 var. including 30 kr

" Land-post, 3 var. complete.

Bavaria, unpaid, 1 and 3 kr

" return letter, 6 var., complete.

Bergedorf, 5 var.,

Bremen 6 var.,

German Empire, 10 var.,

Guatemala, 1st issue, 3 var.,

" '75, 4 var., complete.

" '78, 4 var., complete.

" Envelope, 4 var. entire.

" " 4 var. cut square.

Hamburg, Envelope, 7 var. complete.

Hellgoland, 15 var.

Ionian Isles, 3 var. complete.

Japan, 1st issue, 4 var. complete.

Mexico, Porte de Mar. '75, 12 var. complete.

" " '79, 6 var. complete.

Prince Edward's Island, 12 var.

Sardinia, 10 var.

Siam, 5 var. complete.

Servia, 7 var.

Thurn and Taxis, 12 var.

U. S. Agriculture, 9 var. complete.

" Interior, 10 var. complete

China, 3 var. complete

Guatemala, '82, 5 var. complete.

Transvaal, 5 var.

Those marked thus, † are used.

Cash must accompany order. No sets on approval

Every stamp is warranted genuine. Sheets on ap

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S. B. SMITH,

Lock Box 5, West Gardner, Mass

Wm. v. d. Wettern, Jr.

Wholesale Dealer in

## POSTAGE STAMPS

176 Saratoga St., Baltimore, Md.

Price List free on application to dealers only. All kinds of Postage stamps purchased for prompt cash.

## THE STAMP COLLECTORS' DICTIONARY

contains the addresses of Stamp Dealers, Collectors, Philatelic Papers, etc. from

all parts of the world. Every collector should have a copy of this valuable work

Sent postage paid for only 11 cents. This is undoubtedly the best and cheapest work of its kind published.

Dunn & Hawks, Atlantic, Iowa

## THE KEYSTONE

# Philatelic Gazette.

VOL. 1.

ALTOONA, PA., JANUARY, 1885.

No. 7.

### The Post Office in Colonial Times.

The Rev. Dr. Ashbel G. Vermilye read a paper of unusual interest at the stated meeting of the New York Historical Society, Monday evening, Dec. 1, '84.

The following are some extracts from his address:

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For fifty years, however, things went poorly under British management. The service did not pay, till, in 1753, Benjamin Franklin came into office as Deputy Postmaster General for the Colonies. Then began system. He established the penny post, and made newspapers pay, which hitherto had been perquisites of the postmasters and priors, advertised letters, reduced rates, and quickened up riders and everything else.

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On November 28, 1783—three days after the evacuation—the post office turns up alive and well at No. 38 Smith Street, William Bodlow, postmaster.

## STAMP COLLECTORS!

If you wish to buy choice stamps, (warranted genuine) at a very low price, send for one of my sheets of stamps on approval. Agents wanted everywhere to sell my stamps at 25 to 30 per cent. commission. A deposit or best reference required.

H. S. JEANES,

521 ARCH ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

THE

## New England Philatelist,

a fine, eight page Stamp paper, devoted entirely to PHILATELY, only 25c per year.

Sample Copy Free!

ADVERTISING RATES ON APPLICATION.

W. L. EMORY, 85 High St., Fitchburg, Mass.

John A. Thalheimer,

DEALER IN

## U. S. & FOREIGN STAMPS.

No. 44 E. Biddle St., BALTIMORE, MD.

COLLECTORS. send for one of my approval sheets at same time promise to return in 7 days. 25 per cent. com. Foreign correspondence wanted.

## ADVERTISERS ATTENTION!

I can furnish favorable rates on all prominent philatelic papers. Do your advertising through me.

T. Morris Ten Broeck,

Box 73. BERGEN POINT, N. J.

## Coins, Stamps, Curiosities.

24 Page Illustrated Catalogue and two Medals, 10c.

Bird's Egg list for stamp.

W. F. GREANY,

827 BRANNAN ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

## SHEETS ON APPROVAL.

I will send to any one answering this advertisement, a sheet of rare stamps on approval, to be returned within 10 days

THOS. B. FARRELL, Ottawa, Ill.

Anyone wanting cards, circulars, tags, labels, envelopes, price-lists, note or bill heads, should send for our estimates before ordering. Good work and low prices.

W. W. THOMAS,

167th St. and 4th. av., NEW YORK.

## THINK OF IT!

C. H. ANDREW,  
Box 347,  
LINCOLN, ILL.

Set 5 var. Siam, unused. \$4  
" 12 " Prince Ed, 1st. unused \$4  
" 12 " Thurn & Taxis. " \$4  
" 5 " Bergedorf. " \$4

First order received for any of the above will receive, free, 10 medicine stamps, worth \$1.10. Approval sheets at 33-1-3. and 50 per cent. commission. Reference required.

## Extraordinary Bargains

### IN USED AND UNUSED SETS

Argentine Republic, '02, 3 var. complete. \$3  
Baden, 6 var. including 30 kr \$4  
" Land-post, 3 var. complete. \$5  
Bavaria, unpaid, 1 and 3 kr \$5  
" return letter, 6 var., complete. \$5  
Bergedorf, 5 var., \$5  
Breiten 6 var., \$5  
German Empire, 10 var., \$5  
Guatemala, 1st issue, 3 var., \$5  
" '75, 4 var., complete, \$5  
" '78, 4 var., complete, \$5  
" Envelope, 4 var. entire, \$5  
" 4 var. cut square, \$5  
Hamburg, Envelope, 7 var. complete. \$5  
Helligoland, 15 var. \$5  
Ionian Isles, 3 var. complete. \$5  
Japan, 1st issue, 4 var. complete. \$5  
Mexico, Porte de Mar, '75, 12 var. complete, \$5  
" '79, 6 var. complete, \$5  
Prince Edward's Island, 12 var. \$5  
Sardinia, 10 var. \$5  
Siam, 5 var. complete. \$5  
Servia, 7 var. \$5  
Thurn and Taxis, 12 var. \$5  
U. S. Agriculture, 9 var. complete, \$5  
" Interior, 10 var. complete \$5  
China, 3 var. complete \$5  
Guatemala, '82, 5 var. complete, \$5  
Transvaal, 5 var. \$5

Those marked thus, † are used. Cash must accompany order. No sets on approval. Every stamp is warranted genuine. Sheets on approval. Agents wanted. Send stamp and reference.

S. B. SMITH,

Lock Box 5, West Gardner, Mass.

Wm. v. d. Wettern, Jr.,  
Wholesale Dealer in

## POSTAGE STAMPS,

176 Saratoga St., Baltimore, Md.

Price List free on application to dealers only. All kinds of Postage stamps purchased for prompt CASH.

## THE STAMP COLLECTORS' DICTIONARY

contains the addresses of Stamp Dealers, Collectors, Philatelic Papers, etc. from all parts of the world. Every collector should have a copy of this valuable work.

Sent postage paid for only 11 cents. This is undoubtedly the best and cheapest work of its kind published.

Dunn & Hawks, Atlantic, Iowa

THE KEYSTONE

Philatelic Gazette.

Vol. 1.

ALTOONA, PA., JANUARY, 1885.

No. 7.

**The Post Office in Colonial Times.**

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## A PLEA FOR COLLECTING.

There is no diversion more pleasing than collecting, no matter what you may collect; be it coins, stamps, minerals, bird's eggs, or the most insignificant and intrinsically valueless of articles, yet the pleasure of collecting is, to a great extent, the same. And, along with the pleasure you derive, you accumulate a considerable amount of useful and valuable information; for, whatever you collect you become interested in, and what you are interested in, you naturally wish to be well informed upon. One thing will direct your attention towards History; another, to Antiquities; still another, to Natural History, or to Mineralogy; and so on through many important branches of learning; and the knowledge thus obtained does not speedily desert you, but remains for years after.

To the advanced collector there is no necessity for presenting these arguments. He has felt, and he knows equally with ourselves, the delights and pleasures of his favorite pastime, but to the novice—the boy or girl, the young man or woman—seeking some agreeable and instructive amusement, we cannot too strongly urge the advantages of *collecting*.

To the parent we would say: encourage your children to collect *something*, no matter what. Do not make sport of their youthful efforts but give them your cordial and hearty encouragement. Take a little pains to assist them with their collections and to direct them to the best sources of information of what they desire. This may cost you some little trouble, but consider the good you are doing your child, as well as the

pleasure you are affording him. You are aiding him in an amusement that occupies his spare time, keeps him at home and stimulates a thirst for knowledge on his part that may do him an infinite amount of good. Is not this worth a little trouble on your part?

Collecting becomes a hobby—a mania. Who so happy as he who has a favorite pursuit or occupation? There are few pleasures comparable to it. Take the Book collector, versed in bibliographical lore; what pen can portray his delight in his favorite tomes—the Coin collector, rich in knowledge of early coinage; the pleasures of whom can be but dimly hinted at—the Stamp collector, whose researches direct him to the geography, history, coinage etc. of the whole world; who would not envy him the many happy hours he enjoys with his collection—the whole army of collectors, great and small—the outside world but little knows the pleasure derived by them.

The number of persons engaged in these various pursuits is already large, but there is a much larger number to whom these pleasures are unknown. And why should so many be debarred the privilege? There is plenty of room for all, and every true collector will gladly welcome new-comers and give them his hearty support. To you who are not a collector then, I say, unite with us, take up some branch of collecting and you will never regret it, but will consider the time thus spent some of the happiest hours of your life.

To the advanced postage stamp collector I wish to address a few words. We need to arouse ourselves and promote our cause to the dignity and standing which it deserves. In the old world it has already attained a position and in-

fluence that must be extremely gratifying to all its supporters, and there is no reason why it should not secure, at least, a like recognition in this country.

Let us then, each and all, strive to give our pursuit a quiet strength and dignity that will make the name of PHILATELIST one to be proud of.

PHILO.

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### NEW ISSUES.

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From The Philatelic World.

**BAHAMAS.**—The colors of the new stamps, according to the Color Chart, are as follows; 1d. VII. 25; 4d. I. 15; 5sh. II. 17; £1, V. 16.

**BRITISH HONDURAS.**—The 1d. has been changed from blue to rose.

**CASHMERE.**—The 1 anna is now bright green, and there is a 1-4 anna, blue.

**COSTA RICA.**—The 2 centavos official is now surcharged in black, instead of blue.

**FRANCE.**—The 20 centimes is red on green paper.

**HAWAII.**—The following varieties of the envelopes we have not noted; size 137x76 mm., 2 and 4 cents; size 150x85 mm., 2 cents; same with interior of envelope blue, 2, 4, 10 cents; size 240x103 mm., 10 cents.

**INDIA.**—The 1-4 anna is on laid paper.

**MEXICO.**—There is an official envelope with the red official stamp in the upper right corner. Also a letter card, 10c., green. The stamp is of the current type, and the arms are in the left upper corner.

**PERU.**—"Der Philatelist" notes the following: 5c. blue, surcharged "Arequipa" in black circle and triangle.

The 20c. envelope surcharged "Piura" in black. The 10c. envelope surcharged in violet "Moquegua" in the usual octagonal frame. Also with surcharge "Plata-Lima." 2c. blue on violet, 2. black on carmine, 5c. black on blue, 20c. blue on carmine. With surcharge "Plata-Peru" and triangle, 1c. green, 2c. carmine. With surcharge "Plata-Lima" and triangle, 10c. and 50c. unpaid. With surcharge "Lima-Correos" and triangle, 1c. green. With triangle only, 50c. unpaid. Since writing the above we have heard of others which will be noted next month.

**UNITED STATES.**—We have been shown a cut specimen of the current envelope printed in red instead of brown.

**URUGUAY.**—The 5c. of the new issue was printed by mistake in violet, instead of blue. A new supply has arrived from New York, in blue, and will be used for foreign correspondence, while the violet stamps will be used in the interior. The design resembles the current 2 centesimos.

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In his last annual report, the Postmaster General suggests some important changes in our postal laws. He favors the reduction of postage on local letters, in cities which have free delivery, from 2 cents to 1 cent. He also recommends that a special stamp, valued at 10 cents, be issued for local letters, written by merchants and others who require that they shall be speedily delivered, and that all letters bearing this stamp should be sent at once to their destination by messenger boys. He also renews the recommendation of his predecessor, that the unit weight of letters be changed from one-half ounce to one ounce.



THE  
KEYSTONE PHILATELIC GAZETTE.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE.—To any country in the Postal Union 25 cents per year.

ADVERTISING RATES.

1-2 inch.	\$ 20	1-2 column	\$100
1 inch.	35	1 column.	50
2 inches.	60	1 page.	400

ALL ADVERTISEMENTS must be in by the 20th of the month to insure insertion in the next number. The right to reject any advertisement is reserved.

REMIT in postal note when possible.

EDW. C. MANN.  
EDW. E. KENDIG. } EDITORS.

ADDRESS all communications to

MANN & KENDIG, PUBLISHERS.

ALTOONA, PA.

The GAZETTE is entered at the Altoona Post Office as second class mail matter.

JANUARY, 1885.

The *Philatelist* for December has not reached us yet. Did you forget us brother Holmes?

The office and contents, of the *Stamp World*, were destroyed by fire in the closing days of last year. The editor has our sympathy—whatever that is worth.

In consequence of the large number of exchange notices which have been sent us, we are unable to find room for them all in this No., and we shall be obliged, hereafter, to limit the printing of these notices to those sent us by subscribers.

A correspondent in Chicago sends us an Allen's Local—red on yellow—*unperforated*. It is one of a sheet of a hundred recently picked up by him. Whether it is an original, or a reprint, we are at present unable to state.

Subscriptions have been coming in at a rate that gives us great satisfaction, and makes us feel that our efforts to

improve our paper are being appreciated. We shall try to make it still better if collectors will give us their hearty support.

We have received a copy of the "Stamp Collector's Dictionary," published by Dunn & Hawks, Atlantic, Ia. There might be some propriety in calling it a *directory*, but we are unable to find any excuse for styling it a "*dictionary*." It contains the names of many dealers and collectors.

We are indebted to Mr. Lyman H. Low, 838 Broadway, New York, for a catalogue of his 5th sale, which takes place in that city Feb. 3d and 4th, at auction. The collection is especially rich in the Canadian series, and in coins and proclamation pieces, of Mexico and So. American countries. We have been favored with an extra copy, which contains two fine heliotype plates, portraying some of the rare and fine pieces. The type is new, and in general appearance, the catalogue differs from others we have seen, and we must accord to Messrs. T. R. Marvin & Son, of Boston, another success in artistic printing.

For the information of those of our readers who collect coins, we take pleasure in stating that we have arranged with Mr. F. W. Doughty of Brooklyn, N. Y., a numismatic writer of ability, for a series of articles on that subject, beginning with the Feb. No. It is our purpose to devote a larger portion of space to numismatics than heretofore; hence, the above arrangement.

A prominent feature of this department, will be our "Numismatic Items," which will consist of the freshest and most pertinent paragraphs that can be obtained.

A number of competent philatelic writers have promised us original contributions, and our readers may expect to find at least one such article in each issue.

The price of this paper is only 25 cents per year, and any collector will find it to his advantage to subscribe for it—or some other equally as good.

The first No. of the *Collector's Companion*, Chicago, Ill., has been received. It is nicely gotten up, and ought to prosper.

Amongst our welcome exchanges is the *Southern Collector*, Nashville, Tenn. It seems to have entered the philatelic field with the purpose of staying, and the character of its make-up entitles it to a cordial support.

Mr. E. B. Sterling, of Trenton, N. J., is one of the foremost collectors of United States stamps in the country. Within a few weeks he has added to his stock a notable collection of proof document, match and medicine stamps, which embraces 875 varieties; the face value of which is \$28,947.03. This particular collection is the only one of the kind in existence, and formerly belonged to a Mr. Carpenter, of Philadelphia, who, for many years, supplied the Government with designs of stamps.

In addition to this collection, Mr. Sterling has thousands of other varieties. One of the rooms at his house is filled with collections. He has been collecting eleven years, and devotes almost all his time out of banking hours, to this favorable pursuit. He often sits up till midnight making assortments. There are only about one hundred other advanced collectors like Mr. Sterling, in the country, out of the thousands of amateurs.

## NUMISMATICS.

We shall take pleasure in solving all Numismatic problems which may be submitted to us.

In reply to H. A. M., we would say, that the coins, of which you send a sketch, are of Morocco, the date is Mohammedan whose year began 620 years after ours, and is shorter, gaining one in 33 of ours. To arrive at the date of No. 1, divide the date of the coin, 1268, by 33 and we find 38, which deducted from 620 leaves 582. This added to 1268 shows the coin was made in 1850. They are not struck from dies, but cast. Dealers pay from 15 to 25 cents for them.

A New York correspondent sends us the following report of an auction sale of a collection of coins in that city in Dec. last:

The prices realized were generally good. Some scarce Confederate notes brought from 1.50 to \$5. An 'Immunis Columbia cent' of 1787 brought 6.25; a scarce variety of the New Jersey cent, 1786, 3.90; Vermontensium cent, 1786, \$3.; a fine small eagle U. S. dollar of 1798, 5.25; one of 1836, 5.45; 1797 dime, very fair, 3.20; 1795 half-dime, very fine, 2.50. The degrees of rarity, being used indiscriminately throughout, it was no rare matter for pieces so catalogued to bring only five cents.

A cent of 1799, brought 8.50; another of 1809, 2.70; Mass. half-cent, 1787 and 1788, 3.60 and 5.45 each; Papal crown of 1669-'73, 5.20 and 4.25 each. United States gold coins sold well; 1798 eagle 26.50; 1815 half-eagle, poor, \$54.; 1863 three dollars, 7.25; same, 1873, \$19.; another of 1875, 19.25; quarter eagles, 1827, 6.25; 1833, 5.25; 1875, 4.30, dollars of 1863 and 1875, 4.75 and \$8. respectively.

## Numismatic Items.

**BEGINNERS** collect everything.

**THE** real student, collects specialties.

**RUSSIA** alone, struck coins in platinum.

**ADVANCED** collectors, want fine specimens only.

**OLD MEN**, are given to the accumulation of the precious metals.

**NEUMANN**, in his work on copper coins in the mediæval and modern series, describes 40,100 pieces.

**THERE** are more auction sales of coins in New York during the year, than in all of Europe.

**THE** American Numismatic and Arch. Society, and the Astor Library of New York, have the largest collections of numismatic works in America.

**SPAIN**, at her mints in Mexico and South America, may be said to have, at one time, coined silver for the whole world.

**THE** oldest numismatic periodical still having an existence, is the London Numismatic Chronicle, which began in 1836.

**FORGERIES** of many of the noted rarities in all periods exist; those which are the most difficult to determine, are the Greek and Roman gold and silver.

**THE** United States 1804 dollar, is universally the best known rarity, and for the number of specimens known to exist, it commands the highest premium.

**PATTERNS** are numerous; especially in the French and American series. Those most sought for are the early ones. The English, as a rule, command the highest prices.

**GERMANY** has proved the most prolific in furnishing numismatic writers.

France comes next. England and Italy may divide for the lion's share of the rest of Europe. America contents herself with about thirteen authors.

**THE** American Numismatic and Arch. Society of New York has just issued a very beautiful memorial medal, in silver and bronze, of their late president, Prof. Charles E. Anthon.

**AMONGST** the latest publications relating to coins, is the "Coins of the Grand Masters, order of Malta," by Robert Morris, LL. D., Boston, 1884.

**THE** endeavor of numismatists is to get a complete line of coins of all dates of one denomination—for example the dollar. In consequence of the rarity of coins of certain dates, intense rivalry arises among collectors which greatly enhances the value of the rare issues.

**NUMISMATICS**, it is vain to deny, is a veritable passion, but one that is noble, agreeable and useful in its effects, because it predisposes the spirit to labor and study. While it purifies the sentiments and the taste, it removes *ennui*, that most dangerous enemy of our race.

**CONSIDERABLE** use is still made in the rural districts of European countries, and in all Oriental countries, of ancient coins as currency. In France, until A. D. 1520, no copper money was struck, the old Roman pieces remaining there by the millions, answering all the purpose of change. Even now you can purchase great varieties of such from the merchants in retired places. In 1830 an English traveller saw a countryman pay his toll at the bridge in Lyons, France, with coins of Constantine the Great, A. D. 306—337.

### How Postal Currency was Invented.

Postal currency, which was the "change" during the war and until the resumption of specie payments, was the invention of General Spinner, who had represented the Syracuse district of New York in Congress, and had been appointed treasurer of the United States by President Lincoln.

Small change had vanished, and in buying a dinner in the market, change had to be taken in beets, cabbages, potatoes and what not. General Spinner was constantly appealed to from all quarters to do something to supply the demand for small change. He had no law under which he could act, but after buying a half dollar's worth of apples several times and receiving for his half dollar in change more or less different kinds of produce, he began to cast about for a substitute for small change. In his dilemma he bethought himself of the postage stamp. He sent down to the post office department and purchased a quantity of stamps. He then ordered up a package of the paper on which government securities were printed. He cut the paper into various sizes. On the pieces he pasted stamps to represent different amounts. He thus created a substitute for fractional silver. This was not, however, a government transaction in any sense; it could not be. General Spinner distributed this improvised currency among the clerks of his department. They took it readily, and the trade-folks more readily. The idea spread; the postage stamps, either detached or pasted upon a piece of paper, became the medium of small exchange. It was dubbed "postal currency." From this General

Spinner got his idea of the fractional currency, and went before Congress with it. That body readily adopted it, and but a short time after Gen. Spinner had begun pasting operations a law was on the statute book providing for the issue of the fractional currency which became so popular. The fac-simile of postage stamps was put upon each piece of currency, and for a long time it was known as "postal currency." An enormous amount never was presented for redemption, and the government consequently was the gainer. *Ben Perley Poore, in Boston Budget.*

### The Old "Pine Tree" Shilling.

The earliest American coinage of which we have any knowledge was in Boston, Mass., in 1652. The coins were of the value of three pence, six pence and twelve pence. They were of silver, rude and somewhat uneven in thickness, and irregularly circular, with no device, legend or date, save the letters "N. E." on the obverse, and the Roman numerals on the reverse side to signify the value in pence. None of the three-penny pieces are believed to be in existence at present. These were soon followed by more elaborate coinage, and instead of the letters "N. E." on the obverse, there was a double circle of dots inclosing the word "Massachusetts," and within the inner circle a representation of an oak tree. Upon the reverse side the words "New England, Our Dam." They bore the date 1652, underneath which were the numerals expressing the value in pence. Next year the oak was replaced by the pine tree. The denomination most largely issued was the coin of the value of 1 shilling, hence the famous "pine tree shilling." *Dr. Charles Fisher.*

## EXCHANGE NOTICES.

150 mixed foreign stamps for an arrow-head, 200 for a spear-head. Stamps for stamps. Coins for coins. Tobacco tags and cards for same. JOS. BOSLER, Lock Box 74, Carlisle, Pa.

Advertising cards of all kinds and shapes, for exchange. English Christmas cards, V nickels, post-marks, music, stamps, minerals, all for colored cards. Not less than 12 taken at a time, and as many more as desired. BLANCHE D. R. WALCOTT, Box 753, Pawtucket, R. I.

25 coins from P. E. Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Canada, and Newfoundland, for best offer of U. S. large cents or half cents not in my collection. Send dates of cents and half cents. ALISTER McLEAN, Hopewell, N. Scotia.

Iowa minerals etc., for stamps, coins, Indian relics, minerals, fossils, and all general cabinet curiosities. C. C. Joy, Box V, La Hoyt, Iowa.

200 English Christmas cards, very elegant, for handsome cards; minerals for colored cards; stamps and post-marks for cards. Send 100 for box of minerals. Rare stamps for rare cards. CLINTON D. S. WALCOTT, care Col. Walcott, U. S. Army, Pawtucket, R. I.

I have several hundred foreign stamps (many rare), which I wish to exchange for coins of any kind. Also a Gaskell's Compendium, a scroll saw and blades, patterns, stamp papers etc, all in good order, to exchange for coins. W. F. BARDEN, N. Attleboro, Mass.

Instruction in shorthand, by mail, in exchange for printing. A pair of Chinese chopsticks, or 3 Chinese coins for every good specimen 2x2x2 of silver or lead ore. T. S. Price, Borden, Fresno Co. Cal.

U. S. revenue, document, match, medicine, proprietary and playing-card stamps to exchange. Send lists. All communications answered, B. G. A. Box 67, Brooklyn N. Y.

Would like to exchange for any of the following stamps of Baden 1831, 1 kr buff, '53, 1 kr white, '57, 3 kr blue, '60, 1 kr black, 6 kr orange and 9 kr rose, '51, 6 kr blue and 9 kr brown, '62-4, 1 kr black, 6 kr blue, 18 kr green and 30 kr orange. G. L. Gilmore 212 Banker Hill St. Boston, Mass.

I have curiosities to exchange for large U. S. cents half cents, and eagle cents. C. Creamer, London, Ohio.

## THE BOTTOM IS REACHED!

Send for one of my unexcelled APPROVAL SHEETS with stamps marked at less than dealers prices, and in addition I give a discount of 33 1-3 per cent. Reference required. Also large stock of Autographs, Coins, Medals etc. List free.

Send 15c for The SOUTHERN COLLECTOR, one year, 12 pages; best collecting paper published. Exchanges inserted free to subscribers. Regular price 25 cents. sample free.

JAS. S. McHENRY, NASHVILLE, TENN.

## PACKET "PHOENIX."

This packet contains 120 DIFFERENT FOREIGN STAMPS including such as Newfoundland, unused Heligoland, unused Bosnia, Western Australia, Sandwich Isl., Ceylon, Bermuda, unused Saxony, Servia, Dutch Indies, Queensland, Thurn and Taxis, San Marino, Egypt, Greece, Brazil, Cape of Good Hope, Porto Rico, Roumania, Luxemburg. Price, only 36 CENTS, post free, with a sample copy of

## THE STAMP WORLD,

a 12 page paper for collectors. Address,

F. L. MILLS,

Box 473,

CINCINNATI, O.

## 33 1-3 PER CENT!

Agents and collectors wanted to sell stamps from my APPROVAL SHEETS, at 33 1-3 per cent. discount. Reference or a deposit of 50 cents required.

W. C. BOULT,

Box 684,

ALTOONA, PA.

## Notices of Exchange, continued.

I have a large Demas lathe and scroll saw in first class order, and a new nickel plated, double action, 38 cal. revolver, 4 in. barrel, both worth \$20, which I will exchange for an Excelsior self-inking printing press and outfit, size of chase, 4 1-2x7 1-2 in., must be in good condition. Write before sending. S. J. Owen, North Turner Bridge, Maine.

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