



The Stamp and Coin Reporter. . . .

Vol. I. No. 1.

Cobleskill, N. Y., November 4, 1903

Weekly

Some Hints in Studying Stamps.

WHEN collecting stamps have you ever taken notice of the historical connection they have with the country by which they are made? If not here are some facts concerning them.

In this country the first issue of stamps which represents a historical event are the ones issued in 1876 the time when the centennial took place.

The Centennial, most of you know, was held to celebrate the signing of the Declaration of Independence, which made our country free from the rule of Great Britain.

The second set was issued about the time Garfield was assassinated by Guiteau. The third set was issued in 1893, the year in which the Columbian Exposition was held. The designs of these stamps show some of the important events which happened in the life of Columbus.

The next two issues are the Omaha and Pan-American. They show in their designs the advance of this country in civilization and invention.

All these stamps distinctly mark periods in the history of our country, worth well to be remembered.

The stamps of England also mark

historical events; nearly all of her stamps that are in circulation at the present time, have the head of Queen Victoria on them. The "Jubilee" and "Christmas" stamps show a prosperous period in her history.

France in her changes from an Empire to a Republic, are historical facts; these changes are shown in her stamps.

There are many more countries that could be mentioned, and many stamps issued by these countries have designs which show the noted places of the country. Many countries have stamps with noted men represented on them, and frequently the countries coat of arms are used.

Thus it can be seen that many historical facts are connected with stamps.

United States Encased Postage Stamps.

While seeking for knowledge in philately's well-exploited field, the writer has interviewed many notable veterans of our recent Civil strife and in consequence thereof, he possesses, in a very slight degree, the following knowledge relative to the peculiar and extremely rare encased postage stamps used in 1862.

The curious 1, 2, and 5-cent stamps are perfectly round and fit into a little circular tin shield, which, by

arrangement with the postal authorities, were made at the time by manufacturers who used them for advertising purposes. I have examined some with the advertisement of Bennett, a manufacturer of cooking flavors, appearing on the back. Protecting the face of the stamp from moisture or from being soiled or torn is a circular disk of mica, that fits under the rim of the metal shield, holding the stamp firmly in place.

These stamps were issued for the soldiers of the union army, and were accepted in payment for small purchases as readily as cash. Protected from the transparent mica disk, through which one could see the denomination of the stamp from one side and by a tin shield on the other, they could be carried by the soldiers in any pocket through rain and sun without injury to the stamp enclosed within. This curious stamp case was invented by Burnett. When any one wanted to use the stamp he tore off the mica covering and took out the stamp, throwing away the tin shield, which was of no value in itself. These stamps now have a great many admirers and, because of their scarcity, few collectors have the fortunity to possess the very rare and interesting specimens.—C. P. DeKay.

Milwaukee Philatelic Society.

At the last regular meeting of the Milwaukee philatelic society, September 24th, the following propositions were presented and unanimously accepted:

First—In order to create more interest among the members, with the object of having a larger attendance, it was decided to offer four prizes to be distributed to those members attend-

ing the meetings with most regularity in the quarter ending January 1, 1904.

Second—It was also moved, seconded and carried that we hold another exhibition of stamps in the near future, consisting of "Uncatalogued Varieties," and each member is urged to compete and thus make the display a success. Messrs. Jungmann and Noel kindly volunteered to donate prizes for this exhibition.

Henry J. Stirn, Secretary.
Milwaukee, Wis.

There is Money in Stamps.

A specimen of the 10cts. St. Louis provisional stamp was sold by auction in 1870 for the magnificent sum of \$2 now priced in Scott's late catalogue at \$200; the 5c. and 10c. Providence for 65c. now cat. \$5 and \$30; the United States 1858, set of ten for 60c. now cat. \$18.34; the shilling Nova Scotia for \$3.75, now cat. \$90; the shilling New Brunswick for \$4, now cat. \$90; the shilling Newfoundland for \$5 now cat. \$150.

With this array of figures before us who can have the temerity to talk about castle building, fools' paradise, etc. in connection with the collection of stamps as an investment. Those who know by experience and are therefore competent to express an opinion worth hearing, most heartily agree that stamps bought with good judgement in regard to the future needs of collectors, must yield at least as good a profit as the first class investments of the day, and in most cases very much more.

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Let Us Have the Button.

Here is a comment on the proposed philatelic button, from an English publication; we suppose that the remark is a very rich one, but we can only guess at the significance of its waggish humor: "An agitation is in progress among United States collectors for a 'philatelic button.' The want of this has long been noticed by non-collectors on this side who habitually look upon philatelists as being 'a button short.'"—Mekeel's Weekly.

There are a great many odd devices on stamps, some of which have a meaning and are worthy of study. The arms of different nations are frequently made up in such a way that the designs are very interesting. The double-headed eagle which may be seen on European stamps has its origin in the union of the Eastern and Western empires once divided under the Romans. Stamps such as those of Bergeford show the bringing together of arms of different nations, known in heraldry as quartering. A collection which exhibits the different emblems and designs used in heraldry would surely be very interesting to one who likes to study ancient ideas as applied in modern life.

Printing upon the stamps of Venezuela frequently attracts attention, inasmuch as it appears very much like a surcharge. It is, however, of similiar nature to the fine perforations which are found in stamps of Great Britain, India, and many other countries, which are intended to prevent the stealing of stamps by employees of large firms. The government of Venezuela allows stamps to be over-printed in this way for this pur-

pose. The letters in the corners of the stamps of Great Britain are intended to indicate the position of the stamp upon which they occur in the sheet. The alphabetical order is down the sheet of stamps and across it from left to right. Thus there are no two stamps in the same sheet which have the same letters. This was originally intended as a guard against counterfeiting, but, like many other things invented for this purpose, it has been abandoned in recent years as unnecessary.

I recently saw a specimen of the three cent 1861 issue which was the size of the 1869 issue. It must have resulted from a sheet of this value being run through the perforating machine while they were arranged for the latter issue.

In a celebrated English collection it is said a specimen of the 1859 issue exists with the grill so impressed that it is diamond shaped, the evident cause being an accident by feeding diagonally into the grill press of a sheet. The stamp is an error, not a variety.

The use of the hand stamp continued to some extent even after the adoption of stamps. I have before me an interesting specimen from Schaghticoke, N. Y., with the large figure 3 on with the word Paid in colorless letters with in the back of the numeral.—Ex.

In the originals of the Samoa Express the dots are evenly spaced and two are placed directly under the "M" of Samoa. In the reprints there are also two dots but the spacing is not regular. The counterfeits have only one dot under this letter.

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The REPORTER greets you today; we trust you will invite it to become a regular visitor of yours, and that its appearance each week will be an advent of joy and pleasure. We shall chronicle that which shall interest and instruct those who collect and sell stamps and coins. Our advertising columns will be filled with bright ads., and we invite all our readers to either contribute or advertise with us.

Although it is rather early to make announcements yet we can promise our readers a fine holiday number. It will be a good advertising medium and you should see that your adv appears therein.

Our advertising rates are very low, so low that all can be represented in our columns. Just think of it, only 10c an inch. No discount for time or space.

It should be remembered that the best place in which to buy the stamps of a country is not necessarily that country itself. Usually, the collector who attains any standing in his hobby gives first choice to the stamps of his own country, and he is more assiduous in collecting them completely than in gathering those of the other countries. The supply of the really good stamps of countries in which collectors flourish is often inadequate to meet the demands of specialists and the rank and file of collectors in that self-same country. The good stamps of any of these countries are rarely at the disposal of the one who sends out stamps in quantity, but even if they are, he is too shrewd to offer them in any but the strongest market, and it is likely that that exists at home. The foreigner could apply the same rule to collectors in this country. As a rule, foreign correspondents are an expensive luxury, but if the collector will have them, he should pay without squirming.—Mekeel's Weekly.

Stevens & Co., of Chicago, have adopted an original plan in disposing of common stamps that appeals strongly to the school boy trade. A large box of stamps is placed on the counter and for 5 cents a "grab," or handful, of stamps is allowed the buyer. The idea is a good one and dealers in other cities might find it a good drawing card.

In order to meet our readers half way we have decided to take 200 subscriptions at 25c each. Don't wait until it is too late but subscribe at once.

Be sure that your ad appears in our next issue.

Stamp News and Notes.

THE STAMP AND COIN REPORTER greets its readers to-day with an enthusiasm seldom put in print. Our aim shall be to keep our readers posted on all new issues with many timely hints thrown in. We expect to give a large portion of our paper up to stamp collecting, and shall publish from time to time illustrations of many new and rare stamps. We at all times solicit notes and news items from our readers for publication.

A Chicago correspondent in an exchange says: There is activity here in stamp circles, but the trend of business is to the sale and purchase of entire collections. Some of the older collectors here are changing their collecting course and disposing of portions of their collections so as to apply themselves wholly to semi-specialistic collecting.

The time to collect stamps is the present time. A local collector recently added a number of fine specimens to his album by taking advantage of the "summer" months.

A contemporary says that on account of the extreme heat now existing in South Africa, that the stamps of Mozambique are sold without the gum and buyers of postage stamps are furnished with mucilage with which to affix them to the letter to be mailed. What next?

German dealers are offering \$1.00 each for cancelled copies of the 5 mark stamp of the 1900 issue.

Now that vacation days are over every collector should hunt up his

album and look over our journals for a chance to fill up some of those "yawning blanks."

The Boston dealers are planning for a very busy auction season this winter.

It costs but 10c an inch per week to advertise in the REPORTER. Send in a small trial ad.

Stamps of the Balkan States are very much in demand in Washington these days.

Among all the stamps, new or old, none have for me more charm than the stamps of the Southern Confederacy. Besides their intrinsic value they possess other and more peculiar qualities. They tell a long, long story of suffering, privation, trouble and death, which holds the listeners spell bound with interest from beginning to end. They point with an unerring finger toward the blood stained valleys of Virginia, telling us in mute yet forcible language of the lost cause of the South.

The Bogert & Durbin Co., of Philadelphia, has held 198 auction sales of stamps since 1886. They have a paid-in capital of \$75,000 which insures absolute security to any one placing his collection in their hands.

The Chicago Philatelic Society promises to hold some very enthusiastic meetings this winter. We are glad to note their success.

It may be that the present revenues will be the last issued. Even if the

last issue (green with the black surcharge) should be the last, what a rise there would be in the values of the United States revenues, when collectors realized that no more U. S. revenues were to be issued and there were only so many revenues now on the market for sale, and if they wanted any revenues, they had better lay in a stock?—Ex.

Neatness is a great factor in making a good collection, and damaged stamps are unsightly reminders of Philatelia's early days, but one should not carry the practice of collecting perfect copies too far.

Send in your adv at once and thus avail yourself of the winter trade. You can reach this trade by an adv in the REPORTER. Try it. Only 10c per inch per week. You can put in an inch adv in four issues cheaper than most monthlies for one issue.

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing is hard at work preparing plates for the new 2c. stamp. While the Bureau may begin printing stamps by November 1st, they may not be issued to postmasters until some weeks later, or until the stock of the current 2c. stamp is worked off.

J. M. Bartels & Co., of Boston, will hold their twenty-second auction sale some time in November at which time a collection of a Philadelphia philatelist will be sold. It will be strong in old Spanish, Uruguay and unused Greece.

Two French Congos, the 30c. red and orange, and 2fr. carmine and brown, have been surcharged respec-

tively 5c. and 10c. In the 30c. the value is destroyed by two short bars over the original value, but the 2fr. has one long bar across the entire width of the stamp. Four thousand of each were issued.

Some of our philatelic exchanges are giving considerable space these days discussing a plan to stop the thefts of stamps from post-offices. The idea seems to prevail that the stamps should be privately marked. Even if they were it might be a rather difficult job to catch the thief. And it might be a rather expensive job for the government to maintain a private mark for each country post-office supply of stamps, on which offices the thieves chiefly operate.

The one cent orange Confederate was never put in use and although listed by the standard catalogue can only be considered as a essay. If this be the "stamps" standing where can a perforate specimen, as recently offered in the metropolis, be placed?

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A. C. MAC, R 17,

502 S. Mont. St.,

Butte, Mont.

Hungary, 1881, Watermark.

Collectors are prone to find too much fault with the catalogue. All things considered, it is an excellent work and sold at a very low price. On the other hand, blunders may be found in it which to me seem inexcusable, inasmuch as they are not made by European catalogue makers.

I have time for only one example right now. Every one who has carefully examined the stamps of Hungary, 1881, knows that the watermark is "kr" within an ellipse, the major axis of which is parallel to the vertical strokes of the letters, and which is interlaced with another ellipse on top, bottom and either side.

This watermark has always been correctly illustrated by Senf, while year after year in Scott we find the description "K. P. in Circle." The current Scott attempts to correct the error with another, as follows: "K. R. in circle."

Gibbons formerly described the watermark as "'Kr.' in Interlaced Circles" and now gives a correct illustration of it.

With the stamps at hand in quantity, and the two catalogues quoted for reference, it seems strange that Scott should keep wrong for ten years.

The Scarcity of 6c Canada 1898 Numerals Explained.

The stamp was issued in Sept. 1898, a three months supply of about 75,000 most probably all that were ever printed. This value was almost exclusively used for double weight domestic and U. S. letters, and when on Jan. 1, 1899, the single rate was reduced to 2 cents, it was withdrawn from issue. When, in the summer of 1898, the sale of the

6 cent was again permitted, it was mostly the four-leaf issue that remained to be disposed of. As no further printings of the 6 cents stamps have taken place, the 1897 issue, though higher priced in the catalogues is a much commoner stamp, used or unused, than the 6 cents numerals, which have practically only a limited career of about four months.

Collectors should examine their stamps carefully for rare specimens which they are likely to find among those of many countries. It has been customary among all collectors, both young and old, during late years to use a perforation gauge which enables them to readily discover which are in many instances very important so far as the collecting value of stamps is concerned. The way in which the size of the perforation is indicated is by the numbers that are to be found in the space of twenty millimeters; thus a stamp is spoken of as perforated ten, twelve or any other number. Stamps which are quite common with the ordinary perforations are sometimes exceedingly rare and high priced with perforations that are unusual. The countries in which the difference in the size of the perforations most frequently occurs and is of the most consequence are the British colonies throughout the world. There is likewise variety in the perforation of other countries; but in some of these, as in the case of Japan, little attention is paid to the difference.

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1 inch per week, 10c	½ page	\$.70
¼ page, 35c	1 page	1.40

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Coin Collecting

Oldest Coin in the World.

What is said to be the oldest coin in the world is a shekel now in the possession of Herman Gottschalk, of Chicago.

This coin, it is said, was used in the temple at Jerusalem, in the days of King Solomon, as a token. It is the only perfect one in existence. The characters inscribed thereon are as follows: On the first side reading from right to left is Shekel Haka-doush, signifying holy shekel. Emblazoned in the center is the star Mogin Dovid—or the shield of David—in modern times called the star of Bethlehem. On the other side, also reading from right to left, is Jerus-holajim, signifying Jerusalem.

The strangest thing in connection with the coin is that, while the body is of a bronze gold alloy about 70 per cent. fine, the raised figures are pure gold. The assay of the coin was taken by Tiffany, of New York, and even the clever goldsmiths there were unable to tell how the union of the letters and the coin was effected.

—Boys who have rare old coins should write us about them. Any coin note of interest is gladly solicited for publication.

—Advertisers should try an adv in this column to dispose of their surplus stock of coins and broken bank bills. Rates only 10c per inch per week.

—The 1851 three cent piece is worth fifteen cents.

—A 1798 cent, in good condition, readily sells for half a dollar.

—The ore is a money denomination used by Sweden, Norway and Denmark.

—A Numismatist thinks our three cent doughnut coin will soon be a reality.

—“Milled edge” is the edge of a coin which is not lettered but creased by parallel lines running at right angles to the circumference. All the silver pieces of the present time have milled edges.

—“Fillet head” is a head tied with a band.

—“Turban head.” A turban upon the head inscribed “Liberty.”

—The 1838 half dollar, with O between bust of Liberty and date, is worth seventy-five cents. This is the first year on which mint marks appear on our coins. O signifies New Orleans mint.

—The dealers charge \$4.00 for an 1869 dollar gold piece. The gold quarter eagle of 1853 has no premium.

—The 1857 cent has no premium.

—An 1876 trade dollar, unless at least uncirculated, has no premium; 1833 cent if good, fifteen cents; 1875 twenty cent piece, no premium.

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Gobleskill, N. Y.



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Blank Albums.



AFTER the stamp collector passes that very important stage of his career—that of having 1000 varieties—he not only begins to consider himself quite a philatelist, but desires a blank album—that sure sign of greatness.

A collection of 1000 varieties looks much better in a blank album than one twice as large elsewhere. But do not get a blank album unless you are willing to spend a great deal of time, patience and care upon it. For if you do not, but go at it expecting to finish it in a couple of days, the result will be a very unattractive piece of work, and your collection would far better have remained in your old album.

In selecting a blank album get a large one—not too large—one 12x14 inches will answer all ordinary purposes. Do not get a smaller one. Have good substantial binding, as stamp albums often get rough usage; and be sure to have a good heavy white paper in it—heavy so it will not draw, white because no other color

or shade is nearly as pretty. For a collection of 1000 or 1500 varieties, one with 50 leaves will answer.

In "making" the album, if you draw the squares with a pencil, besure to use a hard one. Make the squares large—larger than is usually found in printed albums. Print the date of issue neatly over each set. If you have the time and patience, the putting in of the population, standard coins, etc., of each country, the drawing of maps, the symmetrical arrangement of sets, the drawing of flags in colors, and the use of numerous other means which will suggest themselves to you will, if care is taken, make your album quite a beautiful and an elaborate affair. Put the stamps only on one side of the leaf (the other side maybe used in the ways mentioned) and do not grow careless toward the end.

The blank album gives a large scope for individual ideas and ingenuity, use them and make your album "a thing of beauty" and it will doubtless be "a joy forever."

GRAPHIC

Canada's Minor Varieties.

The collector desiring minor varieties should take up the stamps of Canada. There can be found shades, varieties of paper, watermarks, etc., enough to satisfy the most ardent minor variety crank.

The very first issue can be found on laid paper, thick and thin wove paper, and the 3p on ribbed paper.

The $\frac{1}{2}$ c pink of 1857 can be found on wove and ribbed paper as also the 3p red perforated 12, and perforated 14.

The 1c pink of 1859 can be found on wove and ribbed paper and imperforate.

The 5c vermilion can be found imperforate, on ribbed paper, with the circle broken and in three shades.

The 10c 1859 is to be had in five different shades and imperforate.

The 2c, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ c and 17c of '59-64 can be found perforated and imperforated. The issue of 1868 comes perforated 12 and 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x12; there are from two to four shades of all values also. The stamps can also be found watermarked.

The 1c, 3c and 15c come on laid as well as wove paper.

The 1c yellow of 1869 comes in 3 shades, watermarked and imperforate.

The issues of 1869 to 1890 come in a great variety of shades, and the $\frac{1}{2}$ c, 2c and 3c can be had imperforated. Nearly all values can be found on ribbed paper. The 2c of 1872 can be found cut diagonally and used as 1c and the $\frac{1}{4}$ c black is to be found on thick paper. The 8c is probably to be found in the greatest variety of shades running from nearly black to greyish lilac. There are few varieties of the Jubilee issue. The celebrated

"Maple Leaf" issue is also pretty free from minor varieties. The only ones I call to mind being the $\frac{1}{2}$ c on thick and thin paper and in two shades. The 2c purple can be found in two shades.

The 1898 numeral issue is also free, as yet, from minor varieties with the exception of the 2c which comes in 4 shades.

The Christmas "Map" stamps can be found in six shades, viz: lavender, blue, light blue, blue green, light grey-green and dark blue. The registration stamps come in the following varieties: 2c orange, 2c vermilion, 2c scarlet, also imperforated. The 5c comes in 3 shades and imperforated. The 8 cent blue comes in two shades. There may be a few more varieties.

Official Stamps in Ceylon.

Writing on the subject of illicit dealings in Government stamps, a Colombo correspondent says:

"In this colony the evil is wholesale and organized. The Government, though applied to, will not sell the stamps, yet in some of the shops of the natives dealing in stamps you can purchase blocks of twenty or so unused Service labels, based more or less on Stanley Gibbons' prices. It puzzles me why the Government cannot or will not sell 'Service' stamps; and also it puzzles me why respectable stamp dealers price and deal in stamps which they know must be stolen."

In connection with the last sentence of this letter should be stated, in common fairness to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., that that firm have now publicly stated that they have withdrawn from sale all kinds of unused English Official stamps.—Stamp Collectors Fortnightly.

The First Cuban Stamps.

The early stamps of Cuba were used in Porto Rico without any special marking, but about 1862 the postal authorities considered there were more letters being sent from Porto Rico than they had supplied stamps for, and it was discovered that as stamps in Cuba were obtainable for the depreciated paper currency than in use, they were sent to the adjoining island in payment of small debts, or for use, with less cost than they could be bought with silver in Porto Rico. So the stamps for use there were over-printed in 1873 with a "paraphe" or copy of the flourish used in signing his name by the Finance Minister. Later issues had two of these paraphes from somebody else's signature, and the issue 1876 having been largely stolen, the remaining stamps had a third flourish across the other two. The first stamps should be laid on their right to see the form of paraphes.

Bidding at Mail Auctions.

Send in your bids in good time: not only to avoid the rush but preference is generally given in order of receipt. Pay for your purchases promptly.

Damaged stamps are generally described by the catalogue as "fair." Bear this in mind when bidding on such lots.

If you desire choicest specimens offered of rare and desirable stamps make liberal bids on them or somebody will be apt to get them instead of you.

When a series of lots of the same kind are offered place a reasonable offer and all with instructions that only one is desirable, as prices in such cases generally vary from high to low.

The actual value may be more or less than catalogue price according to condition and popularity of the stamp. Bid accordingly.

Leeward Island Shades.

The 5 shilling Leeward Islands Stamps may be found in much the same shades as the 5 shilling Lagos, which recently commenced to appear with value printed in dull or pale ultramarine. We have had an opportunity of examining a number of the 5 shilling Leeward stamps, and the value appears to be in two quite distinct shades, blue or deep blue (similar to that of the 5 shilling St. Vincent or \$2 British Honduras) and pale ultramarine. Is the present appearance of the latter shade due to a new printing or to the issue of old stock hitherto kept in reserve?

It is fall again and the leaves are falling. The evenings are longer and the stove becomes our best friend while we are going over our stamps. But the man or woman not a member of any stamp fraternity is like the isolated dry leaf drifted and whirled around at the raw wind's mercy. Nobody cares for him that cares for nobody. Friendless and cheerless is his path.—Ex.

A minor variety existed in the chronicle in the March 1896 number of the International stamp is that of the one cent blue with broken line on the right hand side of the triangle. The variety is said to have occurred only on plate 168 and is, I believe, nowhere else listed.

Send 10c for the REPORTER 10 weeks on trial.

STAMP AND COIN REPORTER.

ISSUED EVERY WEDNESDAY.

MELVIN R. KING, Publisher,Office: Corner Main and Union Streets,
COBLESKILL, N. Y.**SUBSCRIPTION:**

One Year	50c
Six Months	25c
Ten Weeks	10c

Unused 1 and 2 cent stamps will be accepted when not convenient to remit otherwise.

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Cobleskill, N. Y.

ADVERTISING RATES.

1 inch per week, 10c	½ page	\$.70
¼ page, 35c	1 page	1.40

No discount for time or space.

Terms, cash with copy.

We solicit an ad from you for our next issue of the REPORTER. We believe it is to your interest to advertise with us. Our publication is neat, attractive, and practical. Our adv rates are very low. We can retain them only because we have our own printing plant. Our facilities are unexcelled by any philatelic publication. We will enlarge our publication as fast as business demands it. Copies of this paper are mailed to every collector whose name we are able to secure and thus your ad appears for the first time before many collectors. In order to draw trade you must write an ad that will attract attention—just such an ad that would appeal to you were you looking for bargains in stamps, then you will reap a harvest from your ad. Put in a big ad that will attract attention. A quarter page will cost you but 35c. It makes a nice size ad and will surely attract attention of all our readers. A whole page costs but \$1.40. Not much more than

some of our contemporaries charge for an inch.

We wish to thank all who have spoken kind words of encouragement in regard to our venture. We shall spare no pains in order to make this paper a success, and can guarantee our collector friends that we shall put out some very good numbers. Typographically we shall be the equal of the best. We have a large and well established printing plant of our own, which is especially equipped for magazine work.

Although no definite plans have been made yet we can promise our readers and advertisers something extra in the way of a Thanksgiving number. This issue will be illustrated and will have additional pages. If you haven't done so you had better subscribe at once. Our offer, 25c for a whole year (52 numbers), holds good yet.

Mr. Melvin R. King,

Dear Sir:—Your sample copy of the Reporter came duly to hand. I congratulate you on the fine appearance and general make-up of the paper. It most certainly is deserving of success.

Rochester, N. Y. W. A. CARR.

Thanks! Mr. Carr is a job printer and knows what he is talking about.—Ed.

THE STAMP AND COIN REPORTER is issued every Wednesday. Ads should reach us one week in advance of the date of publication.

In order to meet our readers half way we have decided to take 200 subscriptions at 25c each. Don't wait until it is too late but subscribe at once.

Be sure that your ad appears in our next issue.

It will cost \$1.40 to put a full page ad in this paper.

Stamp News and Notes.

THE publishers of the Philatelic Era have removed their publication office to 355 Washington St., Boston. The size of the papers will remain the same, but the contents will be composed more of a literary nature. C. H. Howes will conduct a department of "Queries and Answers," and H. A. Kidder will continue to "Chronicle of New Issues," up to date in the bright, breezy manner in which it is written. Willard O. Wylie in in "Our Eye" will boil down the gossip of the day.

If you want to receive the REPORTER regularly you must subscribe, for we shall have no free list or honorary subscribers.

A collector of postage stamps has a great advantage over other collectors as he can secure his collection with the outlay of so little money. Take for instance a collection of coins. He is forced to pay a goodly sum for each one of his coins as every coin has a face value, it matters not how great or how small the denomination. In spite of the absence of intrinsic worth, some cancelled stamps command very high prices.

Auction sale dealers will find the REPORTER a profitable adv medium, our rates being so very low—only 10c per inch. For a small sale it would be cheaper to have your list published in our adv columns, and buy extra copies at 1c each to supply your customers, than to issue a price list.

We shall issue a Thanksgiving number of the REPORTER. Although

the general contents have not as yet been selected, we shall make it an extra fine issue, with additional pages, fine illustrations, and a cover in colors. Get your adv in this number!

Edwin de Z. Kelly has been appointed Boston correspondent of the Philatelic World.

It is reported that the supply of the Bulgarian 10s. is nearly exhausted and the 15s. will be surcharged with this value.

It is reported that the new commemorative issue of the Danish West Indies has been turned down by the home government.

Reports from Port-au-Prince, Hayti, says that a new issue of stamps are under way.

The October 24th issue of Mekeel's Weekly was issued as a Recruiting Special.

Now days we hear a good deal about 1c letter postage. We do not think that the time has come for such a reduction in postage, and we are sure that the public would appreciate a perfection of the present system more than they would a reduction in postage.

It is interesting to note the style of coloring used for stamps by different countries. Some countries run to dull colors, others to loud, flashy colors, and others still to delicate colors. Some countries have pretty stamps, others homely stamps. There is one peculiarity the stamps of every country possesses in common, how-

ever, and that is, it takes money to buy them.

Advertisers will note the low rates for advertising in the REPORTER—10c per inch. We shall retain these rates but a short time and we make them simply to introduce our publication. We can promise our readers one of the finest, typographical, weeklies issued and we desire to introduce it to the public as quickly as possible. Send in your adv at once.

Auction dealers should remember that an adv in the REPORTER and extra copies of the paper to send to prospective buyers cost much less than it does to get out a catalogue and you have the advantage of our circulation besides.

An unusual item, a block of eleven of the 1sh., octagonal, Great Britain, 1847., lightly canceled, is offered by an English firm for approximately \$30. Catalogue value has little influence in fixing the value of a piece such as this.

We desire a good correspondent at Montreal, Can. Please quote terms in writing.

The United Stamp Co., of Chicago, will sell the Schuyler Collection at public auction the coming season. It will be offered in 3 parts, each part a separate sale. Part 1—Consisting entirely of British Colonials will be offered in Wolsieffer's Sale No 39, on Nov. 28th, and will be notable for its 65 or more Sydney Views, singly, pairs, strip, and on cover, in addition to many varieties and scarce stamps.

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Terms, cash with copy.

\$1000 FOR 10 CENTS. Give us 10c for 1000 stamps. We will give you \$1000 worth of stamps. FREE MONEY
John H. R. Treasurer, **JOHN R. CHIDSEY, EASTON, PA.**

For Only One New Subscriber←

A packet of unused stamps of many varieties, no two alike, and to the catalog value of 50 CENTS will be sent to any one securing only one new yearly subscriber at 25 cents to THE JUNIOR. The Junior has an excellent Stamp Department.

THE JUNIOR, Bethlehem, Pa.

If you mention this paper a present will be sent you.

DON'T Fail to send your name and address for a copy of our large list of unused and used STAMPS at ONE CENT EACH.

This list contains stamps catalogued as high as 20c each.

Economist Stamp Co.,

2113 Third Ave., New York City.

→ Indian Relics. ←

1 Fine Arrowhead.....	5c
1 Fine Spear Head.....	8c
3 Var of Arrow Heads.....	10c
2 Var of Spear Heads.....	15c
All varieties.....	30c

Bargain last week still holds good.

A. C McDonald.

502 S. Mont. St., Butte, Mont.

JOIN THE UNION

Philatelic Society—Dues 25c per year. Initiation fee 10c, for blanks and information address the secretary-treasurer.

A. F. DISTELHORST,

Box 101. M. P. A. Dorchester, Wisc.

Stamp Collectors

Fill up your empty spaces by sending for my approval sheets at 50 per cent discount. Mention Countries interested in. 12 foreign original covers 5c. 1000 hinges 6c. 10 Cuban stamps 5c.

JOSEPH SAYMON,

12 West 117th St., NEW YORK CITY.

Please Mention this Paper when writing Advertisers.

Beginning with the 1st of November the subscription price of Mekeel's Weekly has been increased from 50c to \$1.00 per year. Within a short time evidences of improvement will be made in the Weekly. We wish the publishers continued success in their undertaking and believe that they will retain it.

W. F. Gurley of Chicago has a collection of stamps valued at \$25 000.

The publishers of the Weekly Philatelic Era announce a stamp serial entitled: "The Lost Millburg; or, The Philatelic Sleuth-Hound," to begin Nov. 14. This is a new idea in stamp literature, and we look with pleasure on its advent.

The highest price paid for a stamp Marituis 1847. 2d blue, which has just been purchased by the German Postal museum for \$9,022, still people say there is no money in stamps, better look over your old letters, etc.

Inverted center have been found in the 1 and 2 pesos of Argentine Republic.

A sheet of the 3 cents stamps of Newfoundland, current issue, was recently sent out imperforated.

Stamps bearing the portrait of Don Carlos mark the rising up of the Carlists in Spain, in 1873.

The new King Edward series of Jamaica, may be expected at an early date.

Send 10c for the REPORTER 10 weeks on trial.

Set of Antiaquia 1902, unused, 3, 4, 5, 10, catalogue 28c and your name inserted in the Stamp Collectors Directory for only 11c. Address,

V. G. BADGER,

East Highate, Vermont.

SUITS EXCHANGED FOR STAMPS

My Fall and Winter stock is the finest and latest assortment.

Suits, Overcoats, and Trousers made to order in exchange of stamps.

Samples and circulars sent free on application.

Great Western Stamp Exchange,

JOS. E. GOLDBLATT, Mgr.,

689 N. Irving Ave., CHICAGO, ILL.

Unused & Well Centered

Canada 6c Maple Leaf, cat 20c	12c
Canada 10c Maple Leaf, cat 25c	16c
Canada 1/2, 1, 2, 3, 5c, same cat 28c	17c
Canada 1/2, 1, 2, 3, 5c, numerals, cat 25c	15c
Canada 1, 2, 3, 5c Jubilees, cat 25c	17c
Canada 15c Jubilee, cat 35c	22c

Postage extra. All in mint condition.

Fine stamps on approval at net prices upon receipt of references.

The Rochester Postage Stamp Co.,

6 Sycamore St., ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Do You Want to Sell Stamps?

ADVERTISE IN THE

REPORTER

It is a First Class Salesman.

ADDRESS:

MELVIN R. KING,

COBLESKILL, N. Y.

Please Mention this Paper when writing Advertisers.

⇒ Coin Collecting ←

Smallest British Coin.

In the British crown colony on Hong-Kong a coin is in circulation known as the "mil." This is a tiny copper coin with a hole in the center, intended to take the place of the Chinese "cash," which is one-fifty-third of a penny, and is in general use among the coolies in the colony. The mil is one-tenth part of a cent, one-one thousandth part of a dollar, and as the silver dollar is in use in Hong-Kong is at present worth about 40 cents, it follows that the "mil" is worth about one-twenty-fifth part of a cent. This, therefore, is the value of the smallest British coin. Another minute British coin is the Maltese "grain," which has been issued recently in Malta; six of these go to a cent. It is such a pretty little coin that it has attracted the notice of tourists, and is already at a premium. It can scarcely be obtained now except at the rate of five to the cent, a serious difference in the eyes of the frugal Maltese.—Stray Stories.

Shin Plasters.

Shin plaster, as fractional currency was known, was recalled by the Treasury Department some years ago, because of its unpopularity. But the mail order business was a business few were then in. This business has grown so rapidly in the last few years that, to facilitate its further increase, this form of paper money is again in clamorous demand.

Emblematic.

An urchin with a puzzled look
 Unto his father said,
 "Why is it, upon all the coins,
 They stamp a woman's head?"
 The father thought a moment, then
 He gave him this reply:
 "My child, they say that money talks,
 I think that must be why."

The 1795 silver dollar is catalogued at \$3.50 in good condition, and the 1799 dollar at \$2 50.

Coin collectors who have any duplicate currency to dispose of will do well to place a small ad in this paper.

The most valuable gold coin in common use at the present is the Doubloon of Bolivia, the value of which is \$15 83. The smallest is the toman of Persia, worth about \$1.28.

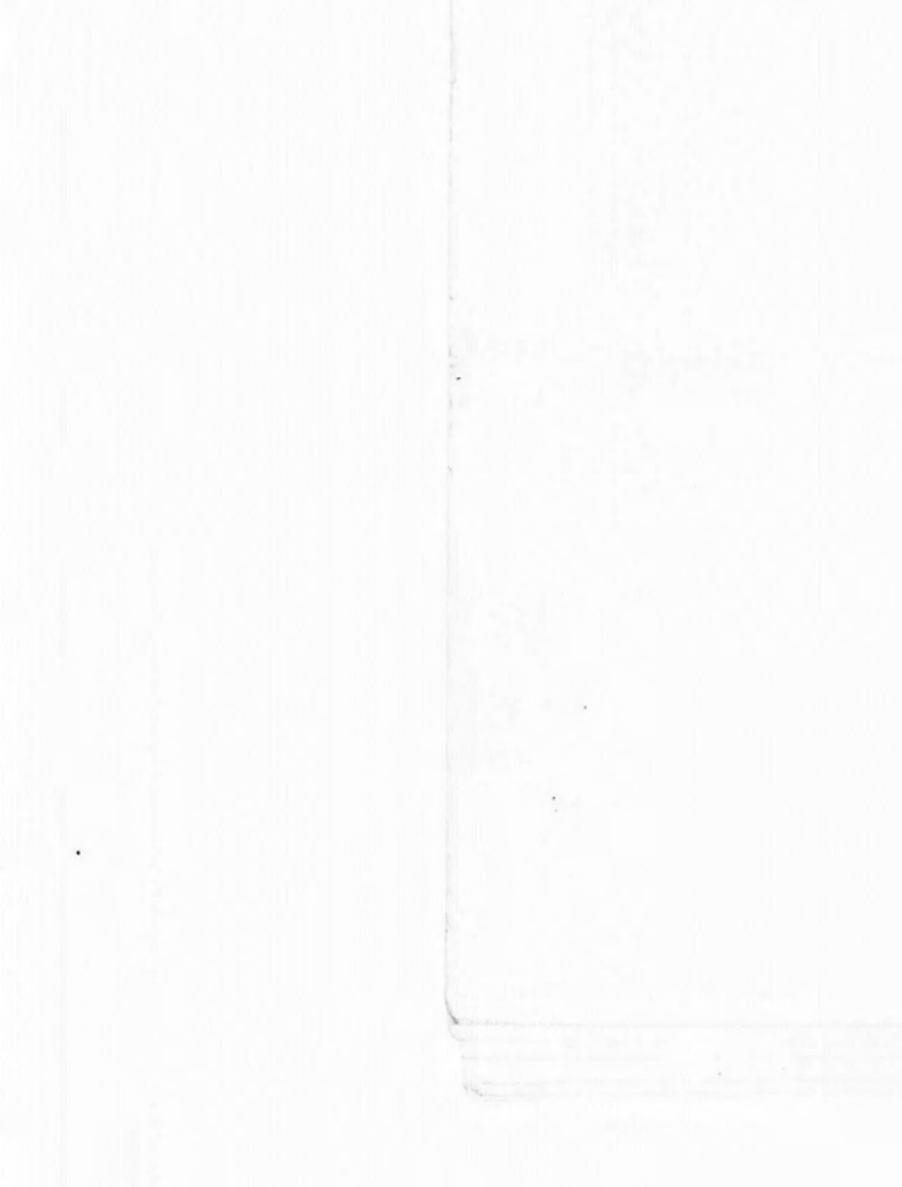
The least valuable coin if such it may be called, is the cowrie shell, which from a universal point of view, has an extensive circulation, about 100 of them being worth a cent.

The three cent nickle of 1868 has no premium. They were issued every year from 1865 to and including 1889, when their coinage was discontinued.

Send 10c for the REPORTER 10 weeks on trial.

A dime of 1819 is worth a quarter.





The Reporter will issue a Thanksgiving Number next week

→ THE ←

Stamp and Coin Reporter.

November 18, 1903.



PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

MELVIN R. KING, - PUBLISHER,

Gobleskill, N. Y.

⇒ Mail Order Notes ←

We have decided to add a new department to the REPORTER in Mail Order Notes. Dealers in mail order supplies will find this department a good place to introduce their goods, and at the low price of only 10c per inch, they will find it a very cheap agent. Send in your ad at once, that we may be able to make this department 5 pages by the first week in December instead of one as to-day.

To be effective, the illustration in the ad should be pertinent to the article advertised.

The man who has a great knowledge of, and a deep insight into human nature, possesses one of the essentials of a good advertisement writer.

Advertising is neither art, literature or typographical vaudeville, but just plain business—the plainer the better so far as the business facts of it are concerned! Ornament and grace are neither superfluous nor necessary, but to be used as accessories where they are justified. But plain business is first, last and always.

To "tell the advertising story in a glance" is well enough, provided you can tell it thoroughly. But the story told in a glance sometimes gets only a single glance from the reader, and is worthy of no more. Better give him something that will set him thinking.

No man will ever arrive at that point in advertisement writing where there will be no more for him to learn.

Boil your ads down to the fewest possible words.

Advertising is the magnet that draws the dollar.

If you want to get your share of the winter business you must advertise now.

Write your ads as though you yourself were the person to be won by the argument. Put yourself in the reader's place.

Perhaps your dull season might be sharper if you would "hone" it up with the advertising stop.

A department devoted to Mail Order Notes in a weekly paper with ad rates at a price within the reach of small dealers is quite a new venture. We shall cater to the trade of the small dealer, giving at times some valuable advice.

Many a distressed business craft has been floated off the rocks by the tide of advertising.

Bargain advertisements have parted many a woman and her husband's money.

The mail order trade is rapidly increasing. Scarcely any dealer exists that does not receive an order for goods by mail. It's the busy man's messenger.

ADVERTISING RATES.

1 inch per week, 10c	1/2 page	\$.70
1/4 page,	35c	1 page
		1.40

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The Stamp and Coin Reporter

Vol. I. No. 3.

Cobleskill, N. Y., November 18, 1903

Weekly



My Album.



ABOUT a year ago I started to collect stamps, and of course needed an album in which to place them and after looking at several kinds of books used by other collectors I came to the conclusion that a cheap International album (\$1.50) would do for me a couple of years. But it did not. I did not have 400 varieties before I noticed that I was collecting quite a large lot of stamps for which there were no spaces in the book.

About that time I had just got a 62 catalogue, which helped me a great deal to prove that the stamps for which there were no spaces were actual postage stamps, but the catalogue did not cover all the ground which I should have liked it to have done. I still had more than a dozen stamps that were not mentioned and the only thing to do with them was to hang them on the edge of the page controlled by that country until further information could be obtained.

In the course of ten or twelve months I accumulated somewhere near one thousand varieties, and

among them had fully one hundred which were not mentioned in the album or catalogue. It was then that a brilliant idea occurred to me, and I right away put it into use. I took all the stamps out of my album and then sent it to a book bindery and had it inter-leaved throughout, one blank sheet of thick board paper bound between every two pages of the printed album. It made a thick and imposing volume when finished, but as the cover in which it was bound was morocco it had a solid appearance. On the blank pages I hung in any order that my fancy took the stamps which I had taken from the printed squares, and place on the printed pages any duplicates that I get.

Everyone who has seen my album is pleased with the innovation of it, and some are and have copied it. Since the invention is not patented in all parts of the world, it would be a good investment for some dealer in albums to have a few specially rebound, unless the loose sheets could be procured from the publishers, in a cheap style of leather binding. B.

The Collecting of Stamps.

This is a thread-bare subject, but the collecting of stamps will go on just the same. The writer has been placed in years gone by where he might have accumulated a grand collection, especially of United States issues. In my days, and I can remember back to the time when the only general issue of United States consisted of the 5 cent brown and the 10 cent black, I have seen thousands of stamps thrown away into waste paper baskets and coal scuttles, to be burned up, and in these latter days their ghosts haunt me. It was before the days of stamped envelopes, and then letters were doubled together and stuck with wafers and sealing wax. Had I foreseen the future, I could have had a complete collection of envelopes with scarcely any expense, both entire and cut square. As it is I have scarcely any envelope stamps and what few adhesives I possess have cost a pretty little sum.

I have a friend, who, although somewhat younger than myself, has nearly a complete collection of U. S. adhesives, and the actual cash outlay has been less than twelve dollars. Just think of it! A 90c 1869, unused can hardly be bought for that. He has been placed in circumstances where he has had quantities of stamps given him from all over the world, and by judicious saving he has "swapped" them off to advantage, and accumulated the best United States collection I have seen.

There are, of course, many ways of collecting. Some go in pell-mell, save everything in a blank album, dozens of the same kind. It isn't long before they find their mistake,

and "go for a regular album," and commence over again. Some make a specialty, and after that specialty is filled, take up another, and so on. This method is a good one, but it is well to hold on to everything as you go along. Some specialize in United States, some in the British Colonies, and some in foreign, leaving out the United States.

The collectors of the envelope stamps are many, both entire and cut square, and the collectors of adhesives on the cover are also many, and here is a chance for a great variety, especially in Canada when the postage was three cents. I have had letters from the Dominion in every conceivable shape. Take the $\frac{1}{2}$ c stamps—the combinations that can be made with six of them on an ordinary letter, are many, and if a letter requires double postage the combinations are largely increased. Taken in conjunction with the 1c, 2c and 3c the varieties are sometimes very pleasing. I have Canadian letters with the old issues, Jubilees and the present issues all sandwiched together, and they are curiosities—a registered letter especially. I had a registered letter from Greece which was covered with 45 stamps of the 2c lepta denomination, which was a comical looking affair worthy of preservation.

My first attempt at collecting was twenty-five years ago. I saw one of Trifet's lists, and sent for a stamp offered cheap. It was a genuine issue, but so homely I dropped the fad then and there. Years passed by, until six years ago I stumbled on to a box full accumulated by a young boy, and I became so infatuated that I "waded in" to the "craze," and have been trading ever since. No one who be-

comes interested hardly ever loses his love of the "critturs." It may not be actually necessary to have them, but "we have to have them all the same."

H. A. CHAPMAN.

Official Stamps in Ceylon.

Writing on the subject of illicit dealings in Government stamps a Colombo correspondent says:

"In this colony the evil is wholesale and organized. The Government, though applied to, will not sell the stamps; yet in some of the shops of the natives dealing in stamps you can purchase blocks of twenty or so unused Service labels, based more or less on Stanley Gibbons' prices. It puzzles me why the Government cannot or will not sell 'Service' stamps; and also it puzzles me why respectable stamp dealers price and deal in stamps which they know must be stolen."

In connection with the last sentence of this letter should be stated, in common fairness to Messrs. Stanley Gibbons, Ltd., that that firm have now publicly stated that they have withdrawn from sale all kinds of unused English Official stamps—Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly.

For the past ten years the government of Chile has been victimized by counterfeiters of postage stamps, and for the past four years the Chilean postoffice department has filed reports showing that several thousand more stamps of Chile have been used than printed. The mail service there is probably the poorest and most unsatisfactory of any country.

We desire a good correspondent to represent the REPORTER up in Canada. One who is in constant touch with the stamp trade in the Dominion preferred. Send terms in writing.

→ WANTED ←

All general collectors to send us their names and the number in their collections. To every person unknown to us, answering this ad and asking for stamps on approval we will send a valuable stamp free. LIST FREE.

S. D. PIERCE,

St. Francis, - - Minn.

SUITS EXCHANGED FOR STAMPS

My Fall and Winter stock is the finest and latest assortment.

Suits, Overcoats, and Trousers made to order in exchange of stamps.

Samples and circulars sent free on application.

Great Western Stamp Exchange,

JOS. E. GOLDBLATT, Mgr.,

689 N. Irving Ave., CHICAGO, ILL.

New Subscribers

to this paper are offered the following stamps, all in good condition, at the prices quoted:

Stamps at One Cent Each.

COLOMBIA, 150x, 150, 152, 162, 402; Panama, 14, 15; Tolima, 62; Santander, 7; COSTA RICA, 37, 38, 39, 226x, 225x, 227x, 228x; VENEZUELA, 119x, 120x; NICARAGUA, 125; ITALY, 28, 49, 101x, 106, 109, 110, 111, 112, 119, 153, 154, 158, 160, 231x.

Stamps at Two Cents Each.

COLOMBIA, 103x, 153, 253a, 401, 514; Santander, 1; COSTA RICA, 30x; VENEZUELA, 121x; MACAO, 201; ITALY, 107.

Stamps at Five Cents Each.

Colombia, 141; Tolima, 15; Santauder, 2, 5, 8, 13; Costa Rica, 23; Venezuela, 122x; Salvador, 1.

Stamps at Ten Cents Each.

Colombia, 134; Panama, 9, 16; Santander, 6; Bolivar, 19; Costa Rica, 24; Venezuela, 123x, 202.

X means unused. Postage extra.

7000 Stamps at one-half cent each for the elect; send for a selection, and judge for yourself.

A few fine U. S. Departments cheap; they will not last long; send for list before it is too late.

If you are interested in USED Seychelles let me quote prices.

G. D. Piper,

6 N. Main Street, WOLFEBORO, N. H.

STAMP AND COIN REPORTER.

ISSUED EVERY WEDNESDAY.

MELVIN R. KING, Publisher,Office: Corner Main and Union Streets,
COBLESKILL, N. Y.**SUBSCRIPTION:**

One Year	50c
Six Months	25c
Ten Weeks	10c

Unused 1 and 2 cent stamps will be accepted when not convenient to remit otherwise

Address all communications to

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Cobleskill, N. Y.

ADVERTISING RATES:

1 inch per week, 10c	½ page	\$.70
¼ page, 35c	1 page	1.40

No discount for time or space.
Terms, cash with copy.

The next issue of the REPORTER will be our Thanksgiving number and we are making a special effort to get out an unusually good number. Your ad should appear in this issue.

We shall soon inaugurate some decided improvements in the contents of this publication. Now days in order to keep a publication in the hands of the public, even in a class publication, one must publish a diversified list of contents.

It is rather a difficult task to launch a new publication these days, as so many people are skeptical as to its continued appearance. So many collectors or dealers get out a publication of one or two numbers and then their cash runs out, and not having made a fortune they abandon the publication. Not so with the Reporter.

We did not look for big things in the beginning and are prepared to meet all the ups and downs in a determined spirit.

Our offer to send the Reporter one year on trial for 25c holds good yet. We will accept only a limited number of subscriptions at this low price, and if you have not already done so, send in your subscription at once.

We have received from S. D. Pierce, St. Francis, Minn., his Special Price List for 1904, of stamps in sets, packets and assortments, hinges, albums, and all collectors' supplies. This list is sent out with the idea of meeting the wants of the general collector. The prices quoted are very low. Better enclose stamp and send for a copy.

Regular issues of the stamps of the Confederate States are worth gathering. The historical value of the set is so great, when it is considered in connection with the history of our country, that they are worth paying attention to with the design of securing as many varieties as possible. Unused specimens are in many instances quite cheap, as they have been found in large quantities in various parts of the South since the war.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales exhibited at the November 6 session of the London Philatelic Society a display of proofs, essays and stamps illustrating the history of the postal issues of the United Kingdom during the present reign with notes compiled from official sources.

Subscribe for the REPORTER.

Stamp News and Notes.

The Scott Stamp & Coin Company have issued their Standard Catalogue for 1904. The issuing of this catalogue thus early in the year is considered to be of a great benefit to dealers and collectors in general, who express their gratitude at its early arrival.

How many of us remember the first foreign stamp which ever stimulated our interest in collecting? The venerable father of America philately—John W. Scott, of New York, attributes his interest as dating from the time when a strip of Jamaica shilling fell into his hands when he was about fifteen years of age and since that date his heart has always been true to philatelia.

The Porto Rican stamps canceled with thunder bolts have served as telegraph stamps.

A standard catalogue is not a private price list. A standard catalogue is a basis for every business transaction (or should be) among stamp men who buy such standard catalogues for that special purpose.

Dr. Ferrari of Paris is believed to be the most enthusiastic stamp collector in the world. He has abundant means to gratify his whim, and will pay almost any price for a specimen he does not possess. He has spent about \$500,000, and has a collection which numbers over 100,000. Dr. Ferrari employs constantly six secretaries to handle new issues, revise and rearrange the old ones and assort,

mount and catalogue the stamps that are constantly pouring in.

Buy stamps not with the idea of selling them but of buying more.

Is your interest in promoting the growth of philately material enough to allow you to go to some slight expense to gain recruits for the ranks of collectors. One can do more to start an outsider on the collecting path by the gift of a small lot of common stamps than by any theoretical encouragement. By reflection, it is seen how a collector can profit through distributing stamps to persons who give the slightest sign of philatelic promise. The more collectors that there are the more demand there will be for the very stamps you have, with the consequence that their value is increased.

In planning your advertising for the year remember the REPORTER. The cost is small and the returns must be large. The new dealers can secure a substantial increase in his business by advertising with us, and he can have as much space as he wants, at 10c per inch per week.

The entire stamp collection of Wm. Alexander Smith, Jr., deceased, catalogue value \$75,000, will be sold at public auction at the Collectors Club, 351 Fourth Ave., New York City, on the evenings of Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, 2 and 3. This is in many respects the finest stamp collection ever sold at public auction. It comprises nearly every stamp catalogued at less than one hundred dollars, and many of much greater value, both used and unused including errors, double surcharges, part perms., proof, specimens,

essays, etc., all in the finest possible conditions.

The advantages of a weekly paper over a monthly are many. It has a known day of publication and advertisers can arrange their ads accordingly. It prints the news while it is news, and its readers are generally more active, and energetic and enthusiastic in their collections.

We could not afford to offer adv space in the REPORTER at 10c per inch if we had to get our printing done at some other office, but we have a very finely equipped office of our own, and are thus enabled to make our advertisers this great offer. Send in an adv for our next issue.

On Nov. 19th and 20th B. L. Drew & Co. will hold their annual sale at the Collectors' Club, 351 Fourth Avenue, New York City. The sale will contain many interesting rarities of both United States and foreign countries.

Exchange Wanted.

I am conducting one of the largest Stamp Exchanges in the United States, will allow you three-fourths cat. value for all the stamps you send me that I can use and give you fine stamps for your collection, 5000 var to select from. Stamps that cat. less than 5c not wanted. Always enclose stamp for reply.

Wm. G. Kirchenbower,
6744 Simen Ave., Pittsburg, Pa.

Old Coins and Stamps.

For 20c in silver or stamps we will send you a book giving all rare dates, prices paid, where to sell them and full particulars. Do not send us coins or write for information, but get the book, which will answer all your questions. Address:

Southern Book Concern, 2126t.
BRAINARD, NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Please Mention this Paper when writing Advertisers.

RETAIL PRICES ON SCARCE U. S. STAMPS

In Good Condition.

1	24c. 1862-66	20c
2	5c. Brown. 1862-66. fair, unused. no gum, cat \$4	75c
3	1c. 1869, cat 60c	25c
4	2c. 1869, unused, cat \$1.00, fair	20c
5	12c. 1870-71, cat 40c	20c
6	3c. 1887. o. g.	06c
7	0c. 1890	02c
8	15c. 1890, fine	03c
9	3c. 1890, fine	01c
10	90c. 1890, fine	23c
11	15c Col.	13c
12	30c Col.	23c
13	50c Col.	25c
14	\$2.00 Col., used, fair	90c
15	\$1.00 1894, cat \$1.25	50c
16	5c Omaha, fine	16c
17	\$1.00 Omaha, fine	60c
18	\$2.00 Omaha, fair	90c
19	50c. 1895, fine	05c
20	\$1.00. 1895, fine	20c
21	\$2.00. 1895, fine	\$1.00
22	\$5.00 1895, fair	80c
23	\$5.00. 1895, fine	\$1.25
24	1c to 13c. q var. 1913	07c
25	15c. 1901, scarce	10c
26	50c. 1903, scarce	10c
27	No. 111. 1874. 10c entire envelope, fine.	07c
28	cat. 20c	

Postage is 2c extra under 50c orders.
Every order gets a Good Present.

FRANK B. KIRBY,

227 Arnold St., New Bedford, Mass.

YOU NEED THESE

100 var foreign stamps	10c
50 var cat 50c	5c
Perfect arrow heads, each	10c
100 var tobacco tags	25c
25 var U. S. stamps	5c
10 var foreign stamps from 10 different countries	5c
2c piece, each	8c
Half dimes, each	10c
Fine Confederate Bills, each	10c
100 var postmarks	15c

FREE—To all applying for my approval sheets 10 var stamps and 10c worth off sheets.

Philatelic papers please send me sample copy and ad rates. Dealers please send me wholesale price lists, especially for foreign dealers.

PAUL A. ROCKWELL,

Box 127, NEWPORT, TENN.

100

STAMPS 3c.

State size of collection, specialty, etc., and receive sheets.

A. F. DISTELHORST,
Dorchester, Wisc.

The Stamp and Coin Reporter will be sent 10 weeks on trial for only 10c in silver.

The Washington Correspondent of the Metropolitan Philatelist writes, "A local dealer is showing a pair of the one cent, 1851, Franklin, type 1, with full accounts, unused. The piece is superb, with large margins all around, and is believed to be unique."

John F. Seybold, of Syracuse, N. Y. the famous collector of "Original Covers" whose collection has attracted such wide interest, will exhibit his collection of covers before the Section on Philately of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences in the Art Building, 174 Montague Street, Brooklyn, Wednesday evening, November, 18.

Eben S. Martin, publisher of the Philatelic World, has organized a company that is incorporated for \$50,000. A good part of the capital stock has been subscribed.

Often the man who is dissatisfied over receiving but slight returns for his advertising, is really to be congratulated over getting any returns at all, as the advertising was so bad as to not justify the expectations of returns.

We are all anxiously looking forward to the arrival of the new 2-cent stamp. We are wondering through what channel it will make its appearance at our office. At this writing a goodly number of them are stacked away in the receiving vault at Washington awaiting requisitions of postmasters.

\$1000 FOR 10 CENTS. Genuine Mounted (from U. S. Treasury) Circulation **FREE MONEY**
JOHN R. CHIDSEY, EASTON, PA.

For Only One New Subscriber←

A packet of unused stamps of many varieties, no two alike, and to the catalog value of 50 CENTS will be sent to any one securing only one new yearly subscriber at 25 cents to THE JUNIOR. The Junior has an excellent Stamp Department.

THE JUNIOR, Bethlehem, Pa.

If you mention this paper a present will be sent you

JOIN THE UNION

Philatelic Society—Dues 25c per year. Initiation fee 10c, for blanks and information address the secretary-treasurer.

A. F. DISTELHORST,

Box 101. M. P. A. Dorchester, Wisc.

Set of Antiquaria 1902, unused, 3, 4, 5, 10, catalogue 28c and your name inserted in the Stamp Collectors Directory for only 11c. Address,

V. G. BADGER,

East Highate, - Vermont.

Stamp Collectors

Fill up your empty spaces by sending for my approval sheets at 50 per cent discount. Mention Countries interested in. 12 foreign original covers 5c. 1000 hinges 6c. 10 Cuban stamps 5c.

JOSEPH SAYMON,

12 West 117th St., NEW YORK CITY.

Do You Want to Sell Stamps?

ADVERTISE IN THE

REPORTER

It Is a First Class Salesman.

ADDRESS:

MELVIN R. KING,

COBLESKILL,

N. Y.

Please Mention this Paper when writing Advertisers.

→ Coin Department ←

A Numismatic Club has been organized in Chicago.

There are nineteen varieties of the U. S. copper cent of 1853, out of 6,641,131 coins coined during that year.

The correspondent who inquires if any of our next year's coins will be rare, is about as easily answered as the one who writes, "I have a rare coin dated seventeen hundred and some, what is it worth?"

One of the best saving funds a young man can inaugurate is to start a coin collection. The pleasure of contributing to it, causing it to be zealously fostered and as a rule only very great profit or necessity will prompt the disposing of even a part of it.

We are in receipt of a catalogue from Lyman H. Low advertising the Comstock Collection, part 3, which will be sold at auction Nov. 25, at the Collectors' Club, New York City, comprising Foreign coins, silver under Crown size, patterns and proofs in silver and copper, English tokens war medals, etc.

The coins in the Philippines and almost all the Eastern countries are very much assorted. The coins in circulation are from almost every value that is imaginable, but consists mostly of the coins of Spain, Mexico, China, Japan, United States, and England. Some of these coins, especially of Spain, are very rare and are collected by almost every soldier,

who collects the oldest, thinking them to be of more value than some of the valuable coins of later dates. It will pay anyone to learn the value of coins, as it doesn't take an old coin to be a rare one.

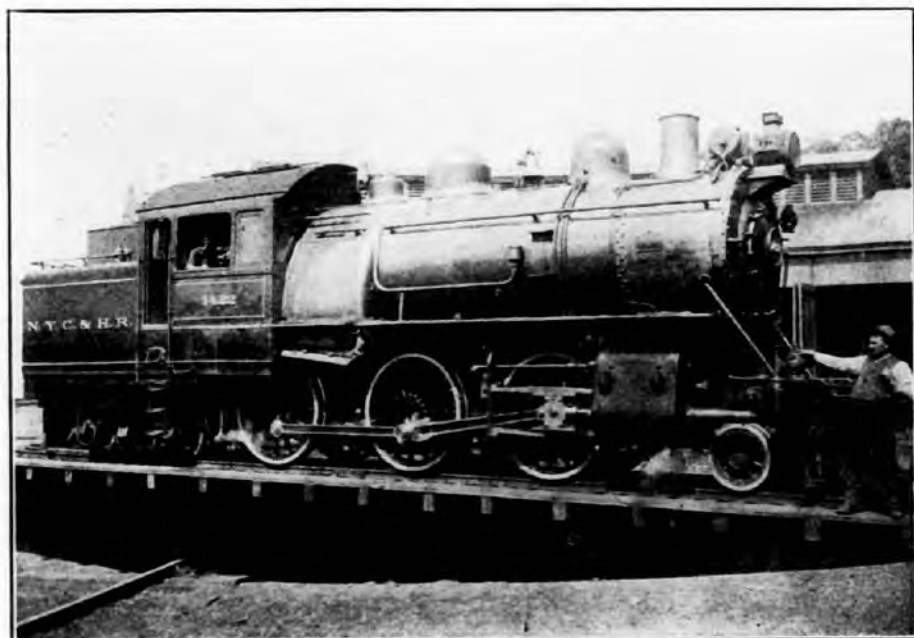
Small dealers in some of the large cities, have among their customers foreigners who purchase obsolete notes of large denominations a dealer says. "They are very particular that the notes resemble our current paper money, they buy very few at a time, and will pay twenty-five cents for a good appearing note in preference to five cents for one having a questionable appearance. I don't know what they do with them, unless it is to impress the uninitiated among their foreign associates that they have 'much a de mon'."

KAFFIR BANKING.—The Kaffirs have a simple method of banking. Before setting out to trade they select one of their number as their banker and put all their money in his bag. When an article is purchased by any one of those who are in the combine, the price is taken by the banker, counted several times and then paid to the seller, after which all the depositors cry out to the banker in the presence of two witnesses selected, "You owe me so much." This is then repeated by the witnesses. The general accounting comes between the banker and his several depositors when all the purchases have been made, after which all the natives go home.—London Express.

→ THE ←

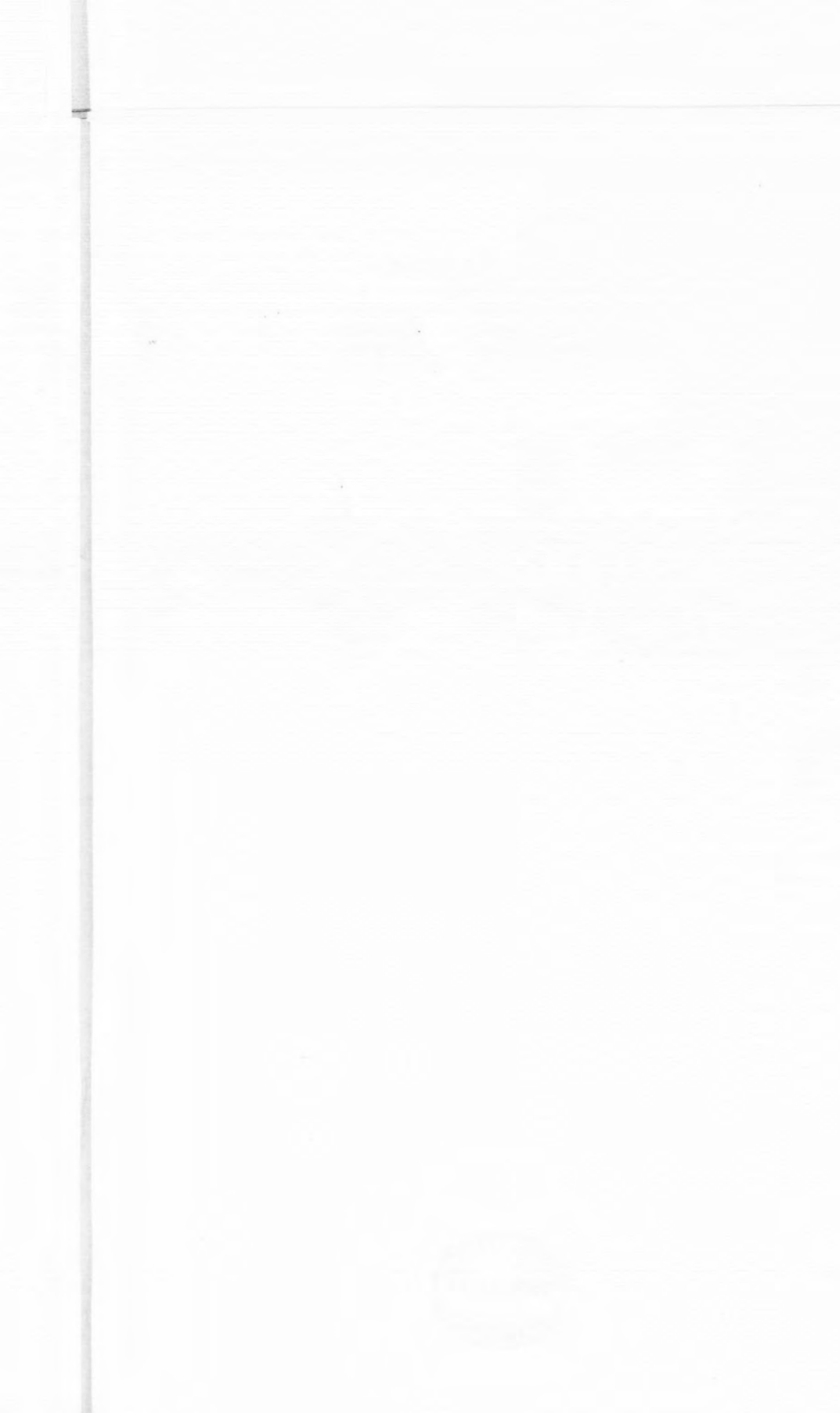
Stamp and Coin Reporter.

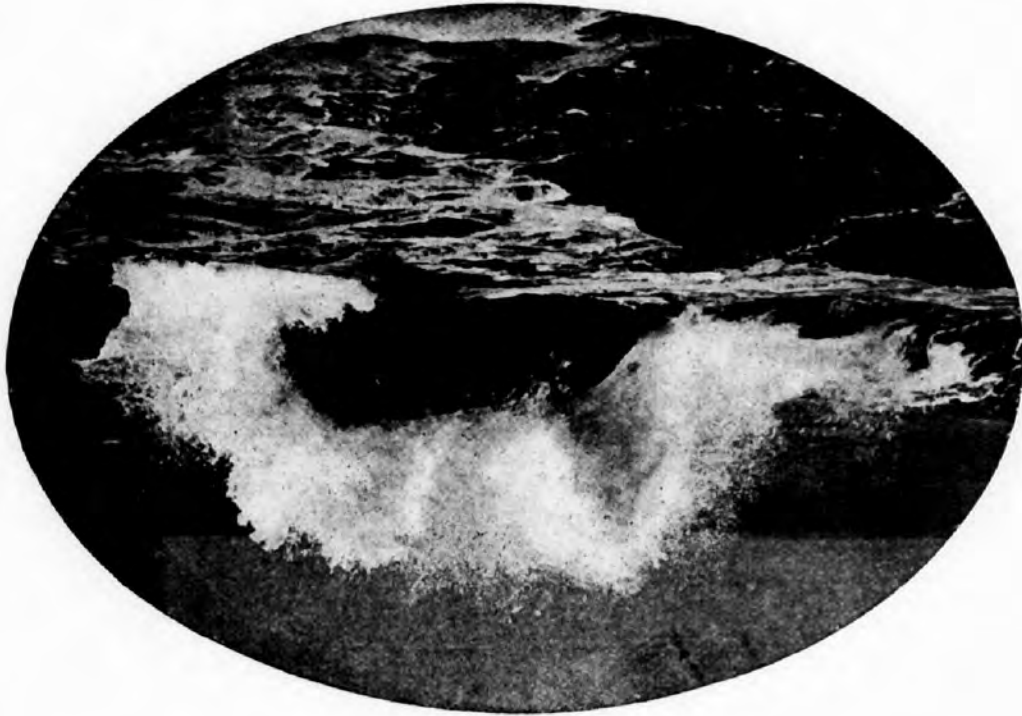
November 25, 1903.



PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

MELVIN R. KING • PUBLISHER • COBLESKILL • N.Y.





Stamp and Coin Reporter.

Vol. I. No. 4.

Cobleskill, N. Y., November 25, 1903

Weekly



Errors in Surcharges.



HERE are so many collectors interested in collecting all minor varieties that for the benefit of these I here with give a short list of some errors in surcharge.

The common 1890 91 2c on 50c claret newspaper stamp of Italy, exists with the surcharge inverted. They are very scarce however, I doubt if there are a dozen collections in the U. S. or Canada which contain them. Scott does not catalogue it, although several of the other values are listed in that condition.

The U. S. surcharges for Cuba, 2c red and 5c blue, adhesives, have been found without the words of value "2c" and "5c de Peso" printed on the stamps, the name only "Cuba" being

on the stamps. They are, no doubt, really genuine errors, caused by an over sight of the printer.

The 2½c de Peso for Cuba, exists in several distinct shades, vermilion, red, carmine. The last is very scarce. The 2½c value is regarded by many as an error as there was no use for a 2½c stamp, in fact, had not been for several years, as that value issued by Spain for Cuba, had no longer been printed for Cuba prior to the American occupation. Scott's last catalogue lists this stamp but it is not designated an error, as it should be, for such it is.

The so-called errors in surcharges that is the inverted surcharges on the Egypt 1 and 2m surcharged "Soudan" now turn out to be rank forgeries. So

collectors should not buy these. I have the 1892, 1c black on blue of "Diego Saurez," with the lower part of the "U" cut off, making it read, in capitals, "SI IARES," making "U" double "I."

An Amateur Journalist.

Nelson Glazier Morton was born in Newton Centre, Mass., in 1881, his father being Prof. James F. Morton, A. M., now of Proctor Academy, Andover, N. H., while his grandfather was Rev. Samuel Francis Smith, D. D., author of "My Country 'Tis of Thee." In 1891 he moved to Andover,



N. H., where he lived until the summer of 1899. He was graduated from Proctor Academy in the class of 1897, being secretary of the class. For two or three years he was Andover correspondent of the Franklin Transcript, the Manchester Mirror, the Concord Monitor and the Associated Press. In the summer and fall of 1899 he took a course at the Pernin Shorthand School in Boston, then was for two months stenographer in a Boston banker's office. In February, 1900, he secured a position on the night staff in the Boston office of the As-

sociated Press, and is still on that staff.

In 1896 he was elected secretary of the New England Amateur Press Association, and was re-elected in 1897 and 1898. In 1899 he was elected president of that association, in 1900 executive judge and in 1901 treasurer. At the Boston convention of the National Amateur Press Association in 1900, he was elected president. The treasury then contained \$34.44 with outstanding bills amounting to \$19.75. At the close of his administration in July, 1901, there was \$42.80 in the treasury, with all bills paid. He was awarded the title of poet laureate of the N. A. P. A. in July, 1901, and at the Nashville convention during that month he was elected executive judge. By President Nixon's appointment, he is also chairman of the N. A. P. A. Bureau of Publicity and Promotion. He is editor of the *Idler*, of which he issued eight numbers during his administration as president of the N. A. P. A. His brother, James F. Morton, Jr., is an ex-president of the N. E. A. P. A. and N. A. P. A.; another brother, Frank S. Morton, is editor of the *Reverie*, and his sister, Mary W. Morton, was at one time poet laureate of the N. A. P. A.

That Emblem.

I have been reading about the Emblem for about five months; and I concluded to help the collectors out by getting out an emblem that can be worn by Foreign as well as U. S. collectors. It is in the shape of a maple leaf and in the centre is a square to represent a stamp and to the left is a "S" and to the top is "of" and to the right is "P" and at the bottom is

"1840" it represents "S. of. P. 1840" it has nothing to do with the origination of the "Son's of Philatelia" but it is to be worn by the school-boy collector as well as the banker. It was gotten out by S. D. Pierce, for the benefit of the collectors, look up ad in this issue.

letter carrier on Saturday to get him a dollar's worth of the new two's. On Monday morning a sheet of fifty 2-cent stamps was handed him in which the central design was printed up-side-down. The story goes on to tell how he disposed of these. The first dozen went to friends at face value (two cents



A YOUNG COLLECTOR ARRANGING HER STAMPS.

Inverted Pan-American Stamps

Mr. Frederick W. Davis of Brooklyn, New York, has issued a little pamphlet which is entitled "How I Made a Fortune in Pan-American Stamps." The reason for writing this "Tale of Luck" as Mr. Davis calls it, was the fact that he found fifty 2-cent Pan-American inverts on the 6th of May, 1901. Mr. Davis had asked the

apiece) the next twenty to a stamp dealer, who bought them at \$1.00 apiece and the rest were sold at \$5.00, \$8.00 and \$1.00 each or more, Mr. Davis retaining one copy. "At present I think I may safely state," says Mr. Davis, "that taking into consideration the present market value of my remaining stamp I have made \$300 out of an investment of \$1.00. If his story had been written by some one who knew

more about stamps and stamp collecting. It might have been entitled not "How I Made a Fortune," but "How I Had a Chance and Flunked," for the fifty stamps might easily have been sold for between \$7,000 and \$12,000. A fair retail price for a single specimen of this 2-cent stamp to-day is \$250.00. There are only two blocks of four in existence, that is blocks of four stamps which are still intact, not having been separated. A well known Cleveland gentleman has one of these in his possession and considers it worth \$1,000 or more. There is little doubt but this stamp will continue to be one of the world's great philatelic treasures. It is lacking in the most famous collections. — George L. Pack in *Philatelic Era*.

The New Two Cent Stamp.

The Washington correspondent of *Mekeel's Weekly* says: Your correspondent has been permitted to examine a copy of the new 2c stamp; in fact to compare a copy with the current stamp. We believe the Department, through the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, is giving the public a handsomer stamp than the one which a month hence will go out of use. It is a stronger design, the lettering is clearer, the entire design has a cleaner cut and the portrait of Washington is mechanically superior. However, as one view the two stamps side by side, one cannot but regret, if he possesses philatelic instinct in any degree, that the current stamp must pass on and be lost to sight so far as postal use is concerned.

The current design is certainly artistic in the highest degree. The new design is bolder, far more striking and looks as though it would

wear well. The bust of Washington is noticeably larger and consequently the lines are coarser and the print shows up to better advantage in the stamp. Yet we believe the die proof of the current Washington is a finer thing than the new one. In the current stamp some of the shoulders and a portion of the shirt front of Washington appear, while in the new design much less of the figure below the neck may be seen.

In the new design the redness of the cheek and nose has been shaded out to a considerable extent by using the coarser lines. In the die proof, however, the old design strikes us as the better.

The word "Washington" underneath the bust appears on a ribbon, and instead of being white against a dark background it is dark against a white background. While in the current stamp the name can be read with difficulty, in the new one it is clear and plain. The same is true of the dates of birth and death. The words "United States of America" are also much clearer in the new design than in the old. In the new design the "Burnside" whiskers, blocked out on the side of the face, are clearly distinguishable. While they doubtless were engraved on the current plate, they are lost to view in the deep shadow or filling up of the lines.

We are disposed to fancy the figures "2" in the current design rather than the new one. In the new design the figures are an eighth of an inch higher and the effect seems to be to make Washington's head set down on his shoulders more noticeably. The figures, as previously mentioned, are enclosed in wreaths, and these wreaths cut into the panel reserved for the



bust. While this is not by any means objectionable, it is not as artistic or pleasing, in our opinion, as the figures on the current stamp.

The shield, with its supposedly blue field, and the alternate red and white stripes (supposedly) as the main frame or background for the stamp, is a unique conception, indeed, and worked out by the artists in a most happy manner.

At the time the description of the proof was given, a month ago, reference was made in the point that until the stamps should be completed and perforated it would not be possible to determine just what the effect of the rounded corners of the bottom and the sharp ears of the upper portion of the shield would appear. While, of course, the slight rounding of the lower corners is noticeable to some

extent, it is not of such a character to constitute a valid objection. The upper corners to the shield project so slightly as not to be prominent or offensive to the most fastidious.

On the whole, the new stamp, we should say, rather lays over the current one in point of strength and boldness and its radical departure from the conventional design, yet there is not the soft, artistic effect that marks the current design, especially as it is depicted in the die proof.

However we will predict that collectors and the public will be greatly pleased with the new stamp and that it will grow in popularity as the years roll on.

E. T. Parker is offering some special bargains in stamps. See his ad in another column.

STAMP AND COIN REPORTER.

ISSUED EVERY WEDNESDAY.

MELVIN R. KING, Publisher,Office: Corner Main and Union Streets,
COBLESKILL, N. Y.**SUBSCRIPTION:**

One Year	50c
Six Months	25c
Ten Weeks	10c

Unused 1 and 2 cent stamps will be accepted when not convenient to remit otherwise.

Address all communications to

MELVIN R. KING, Publisher,
Cobleskill, N. Y.**ADVERTISING RATES.**

1 inch per week, 10c	1/2 page	\$.70
1/4 page, 35c	1 page	1.40

No discount for time or space.
Terms, cash with copy.

Its rather early to make announcements, but time goes rather fast in a busy office these days. We are arranging to get out a fine Christmas number of the REPORTER to be issued the 23d of December. Advertisers who wish to be represented in this number should get their ads in a week in advance of the date of publication.

If you receive a copy of this issue of the REPORTER, and are not a subscriber, please consider it a kind invitation to subscribe. We are offering this paper for a limited time only at 25c per year of 52 numbers. We could not do more than this. Now its up to you to do your part by sending in your subscription at once.

Send 10c silver for a ten weeks subscription to the REPORTER.

Post Card Mania.

But if you want to see the post card mania with all the current turned on, visit one of the interior cities of Europe—say of Southern Germany or of Switzerland. At the station restaurant the waiter will place a plate of post-cards in front of you as a sort of introduction. When you take the bill to the desk you find that the young lady who acts as cashier has a much better collection of cards than the soup-plateful supplied by the waiter. On the way to the hotel the driver takes his official drive card out of a vest pocket of the carriage, and with it a collection of post cards illustrating the beautiful drives around the city. He is looking for business, and has been so nice about it, and his charge of one franc for you and your bag has been so moderate, that you cannot resist buying a few post cards just to help him along. But not until you reach your hotel are you really introduced to the post-card business. Here the concierge, the man who talks all languages and understands all knowledge and all mysteries, controls the market. His business is both wholesale and retail. The head porter has cards, the second porter has cards, the twenty-seventh porter has cards, the man who handles your baggage and who works for the twenty seventh porter has cards, boots has cards, and boots first assistant has cards. Cards are served with your after-dinner coffee, and the maid who does up your room leaves a little package on your dressing table for you to look at. Then you go on the street and you find shop after shop given over exclusively to post cards —Book-lovers Magazine.

Stamp News and Notes.

Less than fifty years ago there was really no postal system in this country. Previous to 1847 mails were carried by private firms and rates varied according to distance. Carriers often traveled on foot or horseback and the process was slow. In 1846 some of the post-offices issued stamps of their own, called "provisional issues." The adhesive stamp was first used in this country in 1847, and prepayment was made compulsory in 1856. In 1863 the stamp containing the head of Andrew Jackson was issued, and from then until 1875 the style adopted contained the profiles of presidents of the United States.

Local stamps are, as the word signifies, stamps whose use is limited to the place in which they are issued. They may be for use in cities only, as were many of the United States locals. They may be used between the different provinces within a country, as the stamps of the different States of the Colombian Republic. The distinguishing characteristic of all locals is that they are not intended for use in prepaying international postage.

J. M. Bartels, of Boston, has been called to Washington to arrange the postal exhibit of the Louisiana Exposition. This is an honor well merited by Mr. Bartels, who is fully competent and whose knowledge of U. S. stamps well fit him for the work. The J. M. Bartels Co. will move to a handsome building about Jan. 1.

The Boston Stamp Co. has filed a petition in insolvency with liabilities at nearly \$16,000. The assets are given at \$800.

The small boy collector has caused dealers much amusement; one of the latest was to a local dealer who upon request for a Confederate stamp had sent one on approval at the net price of 20 cents. The return of the assortment brought with it the terse sentence "I don't care to invest so much as 20 cents in one stamp, thank you." The dealer is still wondering what that "thank you" meant.

The reason some ads do not pay is in most cases, that too many words are crowded into limited space, and to have an ad properly set makes your chances much better for returns. For six lines, ad should be an inch or more, and it is better to have a two inch ad make a quarter page, for it will pay you better in the long run. You know the larger the ad, the more attention it draws and is consequently the cheapest.

Percy C. Bishop, editor of Fortnightly, a well known and progressive English magazine, will soon issue a "Philatelic Annual," which issue we are informed will be the first of a series of annuals containing matter of a philatelic nature.

One of the surest ways of telling the counterfeits of the early Persian issues is by the bar on which the lion stands. In the counterfeits it almost invariably touches the dotted circle around the lion but in the genuine it never does.

Readers will do well to look over all the advertisements, as some bargains are offered, not seen in any other magazine. It will pay you to look over the ads, even if you do not wish to buy.

The Philatelic World celebrated its first annual birthday by the publication of a birthday number.

The Post-Office Department is not giving out any news in regard to a commemorative series for St. Louis.

An adv in the REPORTER will pay you big; try it at only 10c per inch. You can afford it.

It is said that only 2c or 3c Danish West Indies provisional with date 1901 were issued.

A. L. Norton, of San Francisco, reports the receipt of the 5 centavos, Mexico, current type, in a deep orange brown instead of blue.

England was the first country to use postage stamps. They began to use them in 1847.

Hawaiian Revenues are very pretty stamps and will no doubt be saleable in this country.

By careful study of the various new stamp designs you note what progress the world is making.

The Chicago Philatelic Society will hold its annual election in December, and as a result activity is noticeable.

John N. Luff has been chosen president of the American Collectors Co. in place of G. C. Capen.

It is reported that the 1 shilling green and carmine "Govt. Parcels," of Great Britain, with Queen's head has been found with inverted surcharge.

For Only One New Subscriber←

A packet of unused stamps of many varieties, no two alike, and to the catalogue value of 50 CENTS will be sent to any one securing only one new yearly subscriber at 25 cents to THE JUNIOR. The Junior has an excellent Stamp Department.

THE JUNIOR, Bethlehem, Pa.

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V. G. BADGER,

East Highate, - Vermont.

Stamp Collectors

Fill up your empty spaces by sending for my approval sheets at 50 per cent discount. Mention Countries interested in 12 foreign original covers 5c. 1000 hinges 6c. 10 Cuban stamps 5c.

JOSEPH SAYMON,

12 West 127th St., NEW YORK CITY.

SUITS EXCHANGED FOR STAMPS

My Fall and Winter stock is the finest and latest assortment.

Suits, Overcoats, and Trousers made to order in exchange of stamps.

Samples and circulars sent free on application.

Great Western Stamp Exchange,

JOS. E. GOLDBLATT, Mgr.,

689 N. Irving Ave., CHICAGO, ILL.

Do You Want to Sell Stamps ?

ADVERTISE IN THE

REPORTER

It is a First Class Salesman.

ADDRESS :

MELVIN R. KING,

COBLESKILL,

N. Y.

E. L. Warner, of Chicago, has purchased the stock and good will of the Dixon Stamp Company, of Dixon, Ill.

A collector in Chicago is the proud possessor of a copy of the new 2c stamp which he is showing to friends. It was taken from the first sheet printed.

Denmark will have a set of postage due stamps which will be made commemorative of the "40th Anniversary of the Accession of the Throne of King Christina IX."

New Zealand is to have a new set of adhesive stamps for the Insurance Department.

In Sweden we learn that a new value is to be introduced—8 ore. The current set has no value between 5 and 10 ore.

In London the secretary of the Stamp Trade Protection Association has been arrested on the charge of embezzlement in connection with his position.

S. E. Moisant of Kankakee, Ill., and A. D. Blair, Jr., of Elmira, N. Y., have formed a partnership for the transaction of all branches of modern stamp business. We wish the new firm success.

Mekeel's Weekly says there are six philatelic weekly papers published in this country.

The stamps of the Bergedorf appeared in 1861, and were in use for ten or eleven days. Hence, their rarity.

How Old is Anne?

Never mind, look at these.

1893 COLUMBIAN U. S.

\$2 00 unused, each.....	\$2 15
3 00 unused, each.....	3 00
4 00 unused, each.....	3 90
5 00 unused, each.....	4 90
Complete set of Columbians at face	16 34
Set 1c to 50c unused.....	1 50

U. S. DEPT. ALL UNUSED.

State 30c, each.....	4 00
Treasury 24c, each.....	5 85
Interior 90c, each.....	2 15
I pay all postage.	

R. VAN BENSCHOTEN,

—DEALER IN—

POSTAGE STAMPS, Hudson, N. Y.

A Great Bargain in U. S. Stamps.

	CAT. VAL.	
1873 1c, 100 for.....	25c	\$3 00
1873 9 3c, 100 for.....	10c	
1879 1c, 100 for.....	35c	5 00
1882 1c, 100 for.....	10c	1 00
1883 2c, 100 for.....	10c	1 00
1887 2c, 100 for.....	10c	1 00
1887 1c, 100 for.....	10c	1 00
1890 1c, 100 for.....	8c	1 00
1890 2c, 100 for.....	8c	1 00
1893 1c, 100 for.....	8c	1 00
1893 2c, 100 for.....	2c	1 00
1895 1c, 100 for.....	4c	1 00
1895 2c, 100 for.....	3c	1 00
1895 8c, 100 for.....	25c	2 00
1899 10c, 100 for.....	10c	1 00
1901 1c, 100 for.....	15c	
1901 2c, 100 for.....	10c	

Send for catalogue of my 8th Auction Sale, December 8th.

Nearly 100 lots of U. S. Stamps.

Postage extra on all orders.

R. Williams,

WEST ROXBURY, - MASS.

En Passant

Write and tell us about your stamps.

Tell the stamp firms where you saw their ad.

The first postal cards were printed in October, 1869.

New issues of late have been few and far between.

The REPORTER will be sent out one year for only 25c

The use of department stamps was discontinued June 30, 1884.

Paris has more stamp stores than any other city in the world.

Hawaiian revenues are quite popular. They are quite attractive.

The 1847 issue of Mauritius were engraved by a man named Bernard.

The man who collects stamps spends his winter evenings at home.

Glad to use cuts of any of our readers and short history, makes a good ad.

The first adhesive postage stamps were put in circulation, on May 6th, 1840.

Report says that Europe is ahead of America in collecting along scientific lines.

Want all our readers to drop us a card of any notes or items, on stamps or coins.

The first post-office of the Sandwich Islands was opened at Honolulu, on December 21, 1861.

Do not be afraid to invest your money in good stamps. They increase in value from year to year.

All ranks and all classes mingle in the study of stamps in a way, and to extent seldom witnessed in connection with any other pastime.

If you want to issue a stamp paper, the publishers of this paper can print it for you at very reasonable terms.

Collector and dealer, to be successful, must be strictly honest and look out for the welfare of the pursuit in general.

The REPORTER costs but 10c for a 10 weeks trial subscription—which will include our grand holiday number—which will be worth the price alone.

A variety of the 1c 1898 provisional revenue has been seen where the R. of the I. R. is very thick and the two curves of this letter is nearly double the ordinary size of the R.

Many collectors now have the rare \$30 red 1898 documentary revenue stamps in pairs, blocks and strips. Naturally this supply had to come; but there will not be many found or sold in this condition.

Exchange Wanted.

I am conducting one of the largest Stamp Exchanges in the United States, will allow you three-fourths cat. value for all the stamps you send me that I can use and give you fine stamps for your collection, 5000 var to select from. Stamps that cat. less than 5c not wanted. Always enclose stamp for reply.

Wm. G. Kirchenbower,
6744 Simen Ave., Pittsburg, Pa.

"A Penny Saved Is a Penny Earned."

We give you a chance to save them in bunches by buying from us.

EMBLEMS

Rolled plate Gold..... \$1 25
Solid Gold..... 2 00

STAMPS

Afghanistan, 1893, 1ab green... 22
U. S. P. O. Registered, green... 15
C. of G. Hope, triangular, 4d... 35
Liberia, 1894, 5c triangular, impf 1c

Fine stamps on approval at 50 p c.
New list free. Postage extra under 50c.

S. D. PIERCE,
ST. FRANCIS, MINN.

E. T. PARKER,

Bethlehem, - - Pa.

OFFERS THIS WEEK THE FOLLOWING REVENUE STAMPS

	Good	Damaged			
1c Express.....	\$ 02	\$ 01	20 00 Conveyance	70	35
1c Proprietary	02	01	25 00 Mortgage	2 00	1 00
1c Telegraph	05	02	50 00.....	1 75	75
2c Certificate	30	10	200 00.....	11 00	5 00
2c Certificate, orange....	18	08	1c Second Issue.....	30	12
2c Express	02	01	3c	15	07
2c Express, orange.....	02	01	4c	30	15
2c Playing card.....	10	04	5c	04	02
2c Playing card, orange..	20	08	6c	1 00	40
2c Proprietary, orange..	60	20	15c	20	10
3c Playing card.....	3 00	1 00	20c	08	04
4c Playing card.....	4 00	2 00	30c	45	20
5c Agreement.....	02	01	40c	30	15
5c Express	02	01	60c	40	20
6c Inland exchange.....	06	03	70c	35	17
10c Foreign exchange..	18	08	1 30.....	3 50	1 70
15c Foreign exchange..	25	10	1 50.....	15	08
20c Foreign exchange..	45	20	1 60.....	8 00	4 00
25c Bond	05	02	2 00.....	25	10
25c Life Insurance.....	10	03	2 50.....	18	08
25c Protest	15	06	3 00.....	75	35
25c Warehouse receipt...	15	06	3 50.....	3 50	1 70
30c Foreign exchange..	1 00	35	5 00.....	35	18
30c Inland exchange....	02	01	10 00.....	1 50	75
40c Inland exchange....	03	01	25 00.....	10 50	6 00
50c Foreign exchange..	18	08	50 00.....	9 50	5 00
50c Life Insurance.....	12	06	1c Third Issue.....	60	30
50c Passage ticket	07	03	4c	40	20
50c Probate of Will.....	30	12	6c	45	25
1 00 Lease.....	06	03	15c	20	10
1 00 Manifest.....	30	15	30c	12	06
1 00 Probate of Will.....	45	20	40c	25	12
1 30	35	18	60c	35	20
1 60	1 00	35	70c	35	20
1 90.....	55	25	1 00.....	02	01
2 00 Mortgage	06	03	2 00.....	18	08
2 50	06	03	2 50.....	25	12
3 00 Manifest	14	07	3 00.....	80	45
3 50.....	60	25	5 00.....	30	15
5 00 Manifest	1 40	70	10 00.....	1 50	75
5 00 Mortgage	40	25	2c 1878 rouletted.....	30	
5 00 Probate of Will.....	38	17	2c 1878 rouletted.....	1 40	
10 00 Charter Party.....	45	25	3c 1878 rouletted.....	1 20	
10 00 Conveyance.....	1 25	60	4c 1878 rouletted.....	2 50	
10 00 Mortgage	50	25	4c 1878 rouletted.....	1 00	
10 00 Probate of Will.....	40	20	5c 1878 rouletted.....	1 15	50

Investing in Stamps.

In making an investment in stamps, it is necessary above all not to buy too many of any one Stamp. If a large quantity of one kind are acquired, they will be difficult to realize, owing to the necessity of finding a large number of buyers. If on the other hand, a small quantity of a number of different stamps are put by, they can be realized without difficulty on even a small market. The best way to make money out of Colonial stamps at present is to consider oneself the advance agent of a future generation of collectors, and to put by as many collections of current issues as can be obtained nearly complete. They must be complete or nearly so, or you will perhaps miss just the stamps which will go up in price most. About 70 sets are now current and practically all must soon become obsolete. Such a change is absolutely unprecedented in the history of philately and being on so large a scale, it will be more difficult than ever before for dealers to adequately stock the old sets. Collectors consequently have a better opportunity of catching the market short and making big profits. Speculators who have bought up one or two kinds largely may cause a slump in such, but collectors who follow this advice and spread their investment over the whole of the Colonies have nothing to fear.

I AM at the present time sending out on approval a collection of over 4,000 varieties with my other stock. Send for a lot on approval at 50 and 60 pc off from cat. 14 var of unused Cuba including a beautiful set of revenues, which are worth the money alone, only 15c. M. S. HART, 503a Fairfield Ave., AKRON, O.

→Wholesale Closing Out Sale←

1—500 1895 special fine	\$1 25
2—200 1903 special fine	85
3—100 sets 1903, 9 var, 1 to 13c	3 65
4—100 15c 1898, cat \$5 00	65
5—100 50c 1895, cat \$15 00	3 00
6—\$5.00 cat value Priv. Props. fine	1 00

My ad in No. 3 this paper still good.

FRANK B. KIRBY,

227 Arnold St.,

New Bedford, Mass.

100 STAMPS 3c.
State size of collection, specialty, etc., and receive sheets.
A. F. DISTELHORST,
Dorchester, Wisc

BOYS
—EARN A FOOTBALL—

during your spare time. Send for my great ill's free list of 10c Books for Boys. Poultry, Rabbit or Pigeon book by mail post-paid, 25c each.

AB. ATLAS LEVE, SYRACUSE, N. Y.

STOP! LOOK! LISTEN!

and see what we have to say.

We are going to give away on Jan 1st 1904, prizes of value to the ones sending us the most cash for stamps purchased from our approval sheets at 50 p c com. Why not get in line at once? You may get one. As a special inducement, we will give to every applicant sending 10c, one of our **FAMOUS PRIZE PACKETS** You'll have to hurry if you want to get one, as we have only a few left.

EXTRA.

Faultless hinges, per 1000.....	8c
100 different stamps.....	10c
250 different stamps.....	40c
1000 mixed stamps.....	25c

REMEMBER—Everyone sending us \$1 00 or more at one time, will receive a good stamp FREE.

THE DIXIE STAMP CO.,

1011 Abercorn St.,

SAVANNAH, GA.

Reference: The Editor.



A FILIPINO LADY OF FASHION.

The New Issue

We have received from the Dirigo Stamp Co., Hallowell, Me., copies of the new 2-cent stamp. We think the design a very pretty one and it is in our opinion that it will wear well. The lettering is very distinct and the name Washington is very plain and easily read as is also the dates on each side of the name. It is in our opinion a decided improvement over the current issue.

Information Desired

The rural postoffice is the bureau of general information no less so in Virginia than in Vermont, and the American Constitution reports a conversation precipitated by an old darkey who approached the village postmaster and said:

"Any letters for me?"

"No."

"Any postal cards?"

"No."

"Is my paper come?"

"No."

"Got any almanacs?"

"No."

"Well, does you know anybody who wants to buy a live alligator?"

Advertise in the REPORTER.

How About These!

3 Ecuador Jubilee (unused)	05
4 Guatemala " "	05
7 Nyassa Giraffe " "	17
2 Tasmania Picture " "	04
3 Salvador '91 " "	03
3 Foochow (95-96) " "	05
3 Cuba (war) " "	03
1 pkg Best Hinges	08
Scott's 1904 catalogue, post-paid	58

A free set of stamps to all applying for our approval books at 50 per cent discount.

Warren Stamp Co.,

CHATHAM, NEW JERSEY.

Address a Letter to Us

Place it in an envelope with your return address on corner, state that you saw this adv in Reporter, and we will send for TEN ONE CENT STAMPS a selection of Twenty Five Stamps, faultlessly mounted on a special sheet. We guarantee satisfaction. No trash. All good stamps, and each selection will catalogue four or five times amount we ask. Get a sample sheet. We wish to close out a thousand of them at these figures. Boys can make money in spare time. You run no risk. Stamps are genuine, and do not have to be returned. Send ten one cent stamps to day.

DIRIGO STAMP CO.,

HALLOWELL, MAINE.

(Samples of Philatelic Papers wanted)



Coin Department.

France Has a New Coin.

France has a new coin made of nickel, called a nickel, like the American piece and of the same value—25 centimes, or five cents. It was designed by Auguste Patey. On one side its value is marked, the date 1903 and the inscription "Liberte. Equality, Fraternity;" on the other is a woman's head wreathed in laurel, representing the French republic.

Of all articles of vertu coins have shown the largest advances in prices with the greatest stability of values. Rare coins in fine condition are continually advancing until at the present time a collection of large U. S. cents in perfect condition could not be accumulated for much less than one thousand dollars, while a complete set with perfectly legible dates and inscriptions can be bought for about twenty-five dollars, or without the four rare dates for six dollars. The average man seems more attracted by a collection of coins than by any other article, while a fine show of gold is certain to command the admiration of ladies. Although the intrinsic value of a collection of gold is considerable the premium is very small, and except for the interest account it is much less valuable than copper, while whatever may happen it will always retain its bullion value in any part of the world. Ancient coins are wonderfully cheap; from ten cents to two dollars will buy

a coin of Rome or Greece from fifteen hundred to two thousand years old. It is a strange fact that there should be so few systematic coin collectors when at least one out of every ten men has a few old pieces of money on which he sets a great store. As a safe and profitable investment for small sums there is no commodity equal to old coins. The capital is convertible at any time. The security remains in the investor's hands, and the owner has the constant pleasure of exhibiting his treasure to his friends. Profit and pleasure combined.

Equal to the Occasion—Antiquity dealer: Madame, the Spanish coin is old—more than 100 years old.

Madame: H'm it is stamped 1870.

Antiquity dealer: Is that so? Well, that of course is a missprint.

The three cent nickel of 1898 has no premium. They were issued every year from 1865 to and including 1889, when their coinage was discontinued.

Old Coins and Stamps.

For 20c in silver or stamps we will send you a book giving all rare dates, prices paid, where to sell them and full particulars. Do not send us coins or write for information, but get the book, which will answer all your questions. Address

Southern Book Concern, 2126t,

BRAINARD, NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Please Ment on this Paper when writing Advertisers.

→ THE ←

Stamp and Coin Reporter.

December 23, 1903.



SPECIAL

Grand Holiday Number

— OF THE —

Stamp and Coin Reporter

Will be issued Dec. 30, 1903.

Get your ad in this Special.

It will Pay.

Rates only 10c per inch.



PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

MELVIN R. KING • PUBLISHER • COBLESKILL • N.Y.



Stamp and Coin Reporter.

Vol. I. No. 5.

Cobleskill, N. Y., December 23, 1903

Weekly

Stamp Collecting.



STAMP collecting has gained for itself such widespread popularity that it has become a science and has received the name Philately, and the collectors, Philatelists. Recently the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences created a department of Philately, thus recognizing it as one of the sciences. Societies of Philately have been formed in all parts of this country and in Europe and many papers are being published in the interest of stamp collecting.

All this proves that stamp collecting is not a mere fad or hobby of certain persons, as is too generally supposed. Yet the interest in stamps and the knowledge about them comes gradually to all Philatelists.

I well remember the first time I heard of anyone's collecting cancelled postage stamps. It seemed to me a most absurd fad. I could sympathize with the Irishman, whose son was a collector. "Bedad," he said, "If ye ain't making a big kind of fuss over a little piece of colored paper with jist a little fancy stuff around the idge." It was not long however, before I found myself securing the stamps from old letters and saving all that I could lay my hands on. After I had added

to this diminutive collection about a dozen foreign varieties I considered myself a full fledged collector. No longer were these stamps termed small pieces of paper and if anyone in my presence called them such he quickly repented.

Christmas soon came and with it a stamp album. Now my work began in earnest for to place the stamps in the album neatly one must needs have deft fingers. The stamps are easily torn and a torn stamp has little value and is not an ornament to any album. With an outlay of ten cents one can secure one thousand small, square gummed hinges which are used to place the specimens in the book. The apparent size of my collection had considerably diminished when it was mounted in my album. As most of my stamps were of the common varieties of United States stamps, many of the pages were blank. Now came the problem of how to enlarge my collection.

My first step in this direction was to study the alluring advertisements of numerous companies. The result of this was that I sent my name to one of these firms. I received in return a good collection of stamps on approval, as it is called. These collections consist of stamps mounted

on sheets of paper with the value of each stamp given. After one has selected the specimens he desires he returns the rest. This is a most satisfactory way of obtaining stamps but necessitates the expenditure of a small amount of money.

A collector of postage stamps has a great advantage over other collectors as he can secure his collection with the out lay of so little money. Take for instance a collection of coins. He is forced to pay a goodly sum for each one of his coins as every coin has a face value, it matters not how great or how small the denomination. In spite of the absence of intrinsic worth, some cancelled stamps command very high prices.

The highest price ever paid for a United States stamp was \$4,400. This was an old Baltimore local issued by a private citizen of Baltimore before the postal system was under the control of Uncle Sam.

The fact that the stamps differ so much in value makes them of just so much more interest. They also vary widely in size, shape, design and color. The average size is that of our common two cent red stamp. Yet there are stamps which would measure three or four inches in length and some are round, others three cornered.

The changes which have taken place in the last ten years in the two cent United States stamp now in general use, are unknown to the majority of Americans. This stamp when first issued was a darker shade of red, like as it is called, than the present one. Then came a change in design. A small triangle was placed in each of the upper corners of the stamp and the shade was changed to

that of the stamp now issued. The next alteration was the placing of a small cap over the figure in the lower corners. These are termed cap two stamps.

Why do you collect stamps is a question I often hear. A small boy when asked this question promptly replied, "Why! for fun." This would be the most truthful answer I could give I do it because I enjoy it. However, this reply often fails to satisfy the questioner and I am forced to give more practical reasons. One who makes a study of Philately soon acquires a useful knowledge of Geography and History. One becomes familiar with the money used in different parts of the world. It teaches one to be careful and neat and above all it trains one in observing closely. One who is familiar with stamps which have undergone changes similar to those of our own two cent and the success of a Philatelist rests largely on his ability in detecting these minor changes.

The Stamps of Antekkirta.

You have doubtless read Jules Verne's novel, "Matthias Sandorf." Now he mentions in it an island by name of Antekkirta, situated somewhere in the Mediterranean. He forgets however to speak of its postage and revenue stamps. The postage stamps were as follows: Printed in black and green, perforated, of the values of 3, 4, 19 and 161. Revenue stamps were used to help defray the expenses of the war with the Turks. Nearly every action of the inhabitants was taxed. Checks, bills, receipts, charters, powers of attorney, express receipts, bills of exchange, exports, imports, mortgages, bills of lading,

notes, drafts, books, photographs, patent medicines, perfumery, soap, penknives, shoes, and everything that could possibly be taxed. There were 167 varieties of revenues. There is one on whisky—very common also on mortgages and books; very curious, are they not? •

Don't you wish you had one? So do I! You will notice they are printed in English. Verne does not say so, but Dr. Antekkirt adopted the English language as the language of the island, and established schools to teach it. He was a very progressive man, and if he had only issued the above mentioned stamps every stamp collector would rise up and call him blessed. The trouble is, however, that none of these stamps were ever issued. This is only an Ananasian tale, fostered by a weak mind, caused by reading the Flatlist Eckperiens.

We can use MSS but don't send undigested copy, chew it over, boil it down, cut out all useless sentences, and phrases, make it to the point, an accurate is what we want. An attractive ad is a money maker both for advertiser and publisher and no one can expect the first ad to do the work for that would be like getting fat off one meal.

It may not generally be known that the German Knights of the cross had a postal system organized and established in the early days of the 13th century.

Want all readers to drop us a card of any notes or items on stamps, coins or curios, that they think will interest or instruct our readers.

Address a Letter to Us

Place it in an envelope with your return address on corner, state that you saw this adv in Reporter, and we will send for **TEN ONE CENT STAMPS** a selection of Twenty Five Stamps, faultlessly mounted on a special sheet. We guarantee satisfaction. No trash. All good stamps, and each selection will catalogue four or five times amount we ask. Get a sample sheet. We wish to close out a thousand of them at these figures. Boys can make money in spare time. You run no risk. Stamps are genuine, and do not have to be returned. Send ten one cent stamps to-day.

DIRIGO STAMP CO.,

HALLOWELL, - MAINE.

Samples of Philatelic Papers wanted

ATENTION P. S. of A. and all others interested in stamps—I will give you FREE 7 var Philippines cat 23c, if you will send your application for some approval sheets. This week I offer 100 mixed stamps cat \$3.00, price per 100, 50c; 7 var Philippines, cat 44c, 10c, 20 used Philippines, cat over \$1.00, 25c. One entire sheet of 100 unused and fine Philippines, 75c. Join our exchange. Rules on request. **F. J. Martin, West Bay City, Mich**

Old Civil War Revenues.

25 varieties, good copies only, postage free, 17 cents.

Henry P. Day,

Box 762,

Peoria, Illinois.

STAMP AND COIN REPORTER.

ISSUED EVERY WEDNESDAY.

MELVIN R. KING, Publisher,

Office: Corner Main and Union Streets,
COBLESKILL, N. Y.

SUBSCRIPTION:

One Year 50c
Six Months 25c
Ten Weeks 10c

Unused 1 and 2 cent stamps will be accepted when not convenient to remit otherwise.

Address all communications to

MELVIN R. KING, Publisher,
Cobleskill, N. Y.

ADVERTISING RATES.

1 inch per week, 10c	1/2 page	\$.70	
1/4 page,	35c	1 page	1.40

No discount for time or space.
Terms, cash with copy.

Special Offer

In order to meet our readers half way we have decided to take 200 subscriptions at 25c each. Don't wait until it is too late but subscribe at once.

Canada's New Stamps

In speaking of the new Canadians Morley's Journal says: "The new postage stamps for Canada possess a unique interest for collectors in several ways. They were designed by H. R. H., the Prince of Wales, although this statement must be qualified by the fact that the design has, for some unknown reason, altered in detail by no means for the better, by the Canadian authorities. The portrait of His Majesty which they bear, being taken specially for the purpose, far surpasses any that has yet appeared on a stamp and finally the die was en-

graved by Messrs. Perkins, Bacon & Co., the designers of all the beautiful old colonials. As far as we know these are the first designed by the firm for many years past. We hope that the new stamps for this country, which are now generally supposed to be in contemplation, will be as effective as these new Canadians."

Every collector should secure a copy of the penny black 1810 issue of Great Britain. One reason is because this is the first postage stamp ever issued by any government, another reason is because it is one of the few stamps priced low, considering the quantity held in stock by the average dealer.

The drop in the prices of the unused stamps of Ecuador, 1896 jubilee issue, and Costa Rica 1892 issue is caused by the dumping of a lot of remainders on the market.

One of the finest of the collections formed by Canadian collectors is that of E. F. Wurtele of Quebec, of over ten thousand varieties,

1000 stamps	12c
20 unused South American	20c
10 different coins	20c
100 unused Cuba	15c
30 different Sweden	10c
2000 hinges	05c

Send for price-list.

A. P. ROESSLER,
20 Club Building, DENVER, COL.

Stamp Collectors

Fill up your empty spaces by sending for my approval sheets at 50 per cent discount. Mention Countries interested in, 12 foreign original covers 5c, 1000 hinges 6c, 10 Cuban stamps 5c.

JOSEPH SAYMON,

12 West 117th St., NEW YORK CITY

Stamp News and Notes.

Next week, December 30, we shall issue a holiday number of the REPORTER. Considerable space has already been engaged by advertisers and our forms will not close until Dec. 29th, at 6 o'clock. Send in an adv. Our circulation will be extra large and our rates are one-tenth lower than some others who do not issue any more copies than we do.

A magnificent unsevered pair of the first issue \$200 U. S. revenue imperforate changed hands in Chicago recently at a price of \$50. While the catalogue value of the stamps is \$30 each, or \$60 for the pair, they are undoubtedly worth the price paid, as it would be very hard to duplicate them at any price.

A year ago nice uncut copies of the \$30 red U. S. revenue sold readily at \$15. To-day the stamp can be bought in perfect condition for \$7 or \$8. It looks as though somebody had let go of a "Corner" on this stamp,

The one cent 1895 was used pre-cancelled by two heavy rules $7\frac{1}{2}$ m m at Sedalia, Mo.

It is said that only one specimen of the four cent 1871 revenue with inverted center is in existence. It rest in the collection of Mr. Clarence Eagle.

We are not in the Trust. Our adv rates are only 10c per inch per week. As soon as we shall sell sufficient space each week to help fill up we shall enlarge—possibly the same size as some of our leading Trust journals. Its to your interest to be represented in our columns.

To Test the Merits of the Reporter

As an advertising medium we are offering a new 1904 Catalogue Free with the first three orders for the below. Date of home postmark will decide which letters were mailed first, so all have equal chance.

SANTA CLAUS SAYS:

"You MUST have it."

FOR COLLECTORS

All the names of all the active collectors of all the states, and all the exchange notices of all the exchangers with anything worth exchanging.

FOR DEALERS

Frequent hints with above names as to the class of approval sheets desired, and also

A work on advertising that discloses a secret never let out before; show how one inch may be made to do as well as five, and

A list of the most dangerous Frauds chosen by an attorney of note (You know who is meant!).

Badger's COLLECTOR'S DIRECTORY and the Dealer's Guide Book, combined, a 25c book and a 50c book, both for 25c if you order now. Clubbing rates:

With Clark W. Brown's Address Book of Foreign Collectors. The two, 40c.

With The Metropolis, the only magazine for general collectors, a yearly subscription worth 50c, both 60c.

With Morrison's Weekly Stamp Collector, the magazine that is creating a sensation, both 60c.

The Philatelic Press Association,

PUBLISHERS.

191 54th ST., CHICAGO, ILL.

Do You Want to Sell Stamps?

ADVERTISE IN THE

REPORTER

It Is a First Class Salesman.

ADDRESS:

MELVIN R. KING,

COBLESKILL,

N. Y.

STAMP AND COIN REPORTER.

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"You MUST have it."

FOR COLLECTORS

All the names of all the active collectors of all the states, and all the exchange notices of all the exchangers with anything worth exchanging.

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Frequent hints with above names as to the class of approval sheets desired, and also

A work on advertising that discloses a secret never let out before: show how one inch may be made to do as well as five, and

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Badger's COLLECTOR'S DIRECTORY and the Dealer's Guide Book, combined, a 25c book and a 50c book, both for 25c if you order now. Clubbing rates:

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COBLESKILL,

N. Y.

C. E. Severn, the Chicago correspondent of Mekeel's Weekly says, "A block of four "I. R." surcharge block letters on the 1c. green adhesive is shown here, inverted overprint. All the surcharges of this variety that have been reported heretofore have been proved forgeries, and it is taken for granted that those now shown are counterfeits, likewise. A hasty examination of the overprint, however, reveals no point of difference between it and the original, although it is probable that a searching scrutiny would show some variation."

The 12 Annas and 1 and 2 rupees of India have been issued in the King's head type. The 1 rupee King has also been surcharged "On H. M. S." The regular set of adhesives is now complete, we believe, up to the 2 rupees.

The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly says: "We understand that the purchaser of the remainder of the 3d gray, Queen's head, Bermuda, on carefully examining his purchase, found a few sheets at the bottom with water mark C. C. instead of C. A. Evidently the first few stamps had been printed on a remnant of the old C. C. paper in order to use it up."

Send 10c for a 10 weeks trial subscription to the REPORTER.

The Post office Department is calling attention to the necessity of examining matter received from Canada and Mexico "supposed to be liable to customs duty." Large packages of stamps sent by collectors from one country to another should be so shipped as to be accessible for examination; this applies particularly to society exchange sheets, where the package feels very much like merchandise.

For Only One New Subscriber ←

A packet of unused stamps of many varieties, on two alike, and to the catalog value of 50 CENTS will be sent to any one securing only one new yearly subscriber at 25 cents to THE JUNIOR. The Junior has an excellent Stamp Department.

THE JUNIOR, Bethlehem, Pa.

If you mention this paper a present will be sent you

HOW IS THIS

Emblems, Solid Gold.....\$2 00
Emblems, Rolled Plate Gold..... 1 00
U. S. P. O. Registered, green..... .14
C. of G. Hope, triangular, 4d..... .35
Special rates to Dealers. Postage extra under 25c. List Free.

S. D. PIERCE,

ST. FRANCIS,

MINN.

Exchange Wanted.

I am conducting one of the largest Stamp Exchanges in the United States, will allow you three-fourths cat. value for all the stamps you send me that I can use and give you fine stamps for your collection, 5000 var to select from. Stamps that cat. less than 5c not wanted. Always enclose stamp for reply.

Wm. G. Kirchenbower,

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100 STAMPS 3c.
State size of collection, specialty, etc., and receive sheets.
A. F. DISTELHORST,
Dorchester, Wisc.

UNITED STATES STAMPS

60 all different commencing 1857, including Columbian, Omaha, Buffalo, Dues and Revenues, mounted and classified 30c. ~~50c~~ A foreign cover and 25 foreign stamps to all who order above. 100 foreign 5c. R. R. M'GILL, 163 E. Kinzie St., Chicago, Illinois.

LOOK HERE!

100 varieties stamp papers for 10 cents in silver. Offer ends Feb. 1st, 1904.

KARL S. HILLMER,

PLYMOUTH,

MICH.

100 XXX ENVELOPES name, address and business neatly printed on, by mail only 35c. Address M. R. KING, Cobleskill, N. Y.

With only a few changes in perforations and waterwark, the five cent dark green stamp of New South Wales has been in use for nearly fifty years.

The first postage stamp issued and sold by the United States Government was sold on May, 1847, to the father of the famous writer, Bill Nye.

U. S. postage, department and revenue stamps have been declining in price for about seven years. It is now generally conceded that they have reached the bottom, and are a safe investment at the ruling prices of to-day. The cause of the decline in prices found in the fact that they were boomed and prices raised above their true value, but now with a steady demand for old issues and a comparatively small supply of the scarcer varieties will without doubt advance from year to year at a steady and healthy rate.

The interest now manifested in Chinese stamps should serve to bring out much new information concerning them. The status of the issues has been pretty well established. As these stamps are in such demand, it would be well to look out for counterfeits, which of some issues have already been manufactured. Most of the treaty ports original issues are so crudely engraved, and the designs so simple, that forging is no hard task.

Do you know what those characters on the stamps of China means? Translated into English the characters on the right mean: "Started from this country," and those on the opposite side: "To be delivered to whom addressed."

Please Mention this Paper when writing Advertisers.

Wouldn't This Jar You?

U. S. 1869 1c, cat 60c, good	20c
" " 2c, unused, cat \$1.00,	30c
" " 2c, used, cat 12c	03c
" " 6c, used, cat 60c (2nd)	20c
" 1871, 12c purple, good,	15c
" " 90c carmine, fine	40c
" Omaha 50c, fine	15c
" 5c playing card, superb	15c
Canada 1868, 1/2 unused (large)	05c
" Jubilee \$1.00, fair	50c
" " 2.00, fair	50c
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I pay postage.	

B. Van Benschoten, Hudson, N. Y.

FREE! FREE! FREE!

3 old checks of Civil War with stamps on them to all sending 2c stamp, also a set of 6 Cuba War.

SPECIALS.

Set Ecuador Jub., 7 varieties,	16c
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Send for our sheets at 50 per cent discount.

U. S. Revenues 50 per cent discount.

DEALERS.

Send for our \$1.00 mixture on approval.

CENTRAL CITY STAMP CO.,

232 West Castle St.,

SYRACUSE, N. Y., - U. S. A.

Collectors Cat. 10c.

The Philatelic American,

And Curio Collector.

A new, bright, crispy, up-to-date monthly magazine for collectors of stamps, coins, old relics, curios, etc. Has fine features, departments, free exchange columns, questions, etc. Subscription 75c per year, single numbers 10c none free. Readers of The Stamp and Coin Reporter are offered a SEVEN months trial subscription for fifteen cents in coin. Wrap it safe in paper at the editors risk. No stamps taken.

Some very fine articles are to appear in the Christmas number. This offer will last until Jan. 7th '04. After you receive your first copy the editor would be please to hear from you and know what you think of the Phil. American.

Orders should be addressed to

KARL S. HILLMER, Editor,

Plymouth, - - - - Michigan.

The Stamps of Hawaii are experiencing a remarkable boom, both in popularity and in prices. Hardly ever before have the stamps of a country been in such universal demand, for since Hawaii has ceased to issue its own stamps, every stamp collector is striving to complete his collection of this country as far as his means will permit. It is a fact, that with the exception of the commoner varieties, few dealers have large stock of these stamps. Their unique, original designs, combined with the fine engraving, makes each of them a philatelic gem. The 1882 2c lilac-rose, 1883-86 50c without surcharge, 1894 12c and 25c, either used or unused, should be obtained at once, for some dealers are offering double catalogue prices for some of these in good condition, and very few are obtainable at that figure.

It costs but 10c per inch to advertise in the REPORTER. Our circulation is increasing from week to week, and the return from ads must likewise increase. Our desire is to make this a 32 page weekly magazine and we shall do this as quickly as we get sufficient support that will justify us in making more pages. We cannot say how long we shall be able to keep our ad rates at 10c per inch, as it sometimes costs more to set a "crowded" ad than what we get out of it, but contract ads will not be affected by any increase in price.

Continual advertising is what brings results. Buy a space in the REPORTER of such a size that you can afford to be represented each week.

Please Mention this Paper when writing Advertisers.

