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# THE PHILADELPHIA PHILATELIST.

(Formerly the *GERMANTOWN PHILATELIST*.)

110264

VOL. I.

PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY, 1888.

No. 3.

## Proofs and Essays.

BY RUSSELL.

Some time since I had the pleasure of inspecting the beautiful collection of United States proofs and essays possessed by Mr. E. B. Sterling, of Trenton, N. J.

The collection consists of proofs U. S. of all issues, Match, Medicine, and Essays. The proof adhesives are printed in all colors, some on India paper, others on cardboard; those on India paper were mostly printed on a large square of paper and then mounted 4 and 6 on large sheets of cardboard, and made a very pretty showing; we believe that this part of the collection is almost complete. The proof envelopes are very handsome and are printed in various colors. Among these is a stamp that was made on a Bessemer steel, the original having been laid on an iron slab and then the red hot steel struck on it quickly and thus getting the die; it is a very unique affair and is highly prized by Mr. S.

The Match and Medicine proofs are printed in blue with large margins and then mounted on cardboard; they are truly beautiful and a delightful feast for any philatelist to behold.

The Essays are numerous, and of

many curious and unique designs. Among them are stamps bearing the head of an Indian warrior instead of the worthy Father of His Country, also some with Columbus' profile instead of those we are used to seeing every day. The essays and proofs are printed in colors of all hues, even to the deepest black and purple of the royal hue. They are printed on all kinds of paper, even to gold beater's skin, safety and sensitized paper. A volume could be written of this beautiful and strange collection, which is unequalled in this or any other country.

(Since the above was written, this collection, together with some coins, etc., has been sold to Mr. H. C. Deats, Flemington, N. J., for \$7,000.—ED.)

## Dealers' Protective Association.

Messrs. Mitchell, Bixby and Woodworth, the Committee on Organization, report having a large number of well known dealers interested, and who have agreed to join the Association. They have formed a Temporary Organization, with Mr. J. Mitchell, 263 W. Lake Street, Chicago, as temporary secretary, and expect to have a general election on or about Feb. 1st. Any communication requiring answer should contain stamp for reply.

## The History of the Mail and the Postage Stamp.

FROM THE "PARIS POSTE."

Tracing up to the remotest times of civilization we find that Messenger services have been established everywhere. The Mail has existed many centuries ago in China, in Egypt, in Assyria, in Medea. All the little Greek Republics of the Antiquity have had their messengers too. Cæsar, in his Comments of the Gallian War, relates of a rapid mode of corresponding in use amongst these Gallic tribes. Under the Roman Emperors, the Mail service received improvements of invaluable importance. Louis XI., King of France, had a private service attached to his person, but it is certainly wrong to attribute to this King the institution of a Mail service for the public use. Under the reign of Louis XIII. only, we see the general public permitted to join their correspondence with the royal messenger's, whose departure having been irregular up to that time, became from now periodic. Under the long reign of Louis XIV. we find the starting of the often spoken of Penny Post, with prepaid tax in shape of a kind of wrapper, the embryo of our actual postage stamp. The French Revolution caused the postal service to become disorganized; the political matters having been made all right again, the regular service was taken up in 1800, the tariff in use then remaining unaltered until the year 1848, a date of highly important reforms concerning postal regulation, these improvements having already been affected over the Channel some eight years before, thanks to the efforts of Sir Rowland Hill, the result of which

was the reduction of the tax for the transmission of letters, through the prepaid method by the affixing of adhesive stamps. We are indebted to M. Alph. Esquiros for the story relating the legend after which the postal stamp gave rise to its forthcoming appearance. Some fifty years ago a traveler passing through a district in the north of England, stopped at the door of the village inn, at the very time a rural messenger came there to deliver a letter. A young girl received it from the man, but having got it, she turned the letter many times in her hands, finally she asked what was due to him. The sum asked for was certainly high enough—one shilling, yet our poor girl seemed to be very much in need, she sighed heavily in giving the letter back to the carrier, and explained that it came from her brother, but being so poor, she could not afford to pay the shilling. Our traveler who was a kind hearted man, gone in the world to learn and study life, offered now to pay for her, and in spite of the girl's resistance, he accordingly acquitted the postal tax; yet the whole scene surprised him very much, and he became thoughtful about the obstinacy of the girl. No sooner was the carrier out of sight, than the girl addressing the stranger told him that the whole affair, which just happened before his eyes, was a trick combined between herself and her brother, some hieroglyphic signs on the outside of the letter being sufficient to tell her what she wanted to know, but the letter itself did not contain any writing. "We are so poor," she said, "that we have found this way to get news from each other, because neither of us can pay heavy postage expenses." The traveler left the inn, and following his journey remembered all he had heard, and asked himself if a fiscal system,

which could give rise to such miserable cheat, was not a defective organization. The sun had not set on that day when our traveler—his name was Rowland Hill—was firmly decided to devote his time to reorganize on a new basis the whole public transmission system. It can be easily understood that at the time in England, where personal correspondence was very important, owing to the fact that members of the same family stayed often far away from each other; furthermore, when the commercial and transacting spirit of the nation was in conquest of the world, the whole correspondence was but a limited one, because the enormous expenses of the tax for transmission, but on removing this mischief, it would render an unequalled benefit to society, yet without any loss to the revenue of the exchequer.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

## The Adhesive Postage Stamp.

Encouraged by the success which has attended his efforts to convince the people of England that his father, and not Sir Rowland Hill, as generally supposed, was the originator of the adhesive postage stamp, Mr. Patrick Chalmers, of Wimbledon, has lately taken steps to acquaint the Americans with his views on the subject, the consensus of opinion across the "herring pond" being unmistakably in favor of the claims thus urged. The Philatelic Association of America has declared in favor of Mr. Chalmers, and by resolution the members have expressed their appreciation of the untiring efforts he has made during the past few years to cause his father's name to be associated with the invention to which, prop-

erly enough, so much importance is attached. In France and Germany similar success has attended his efforts, the associations in those countries, together with the Philatelic journals, recognizing the sincerity of the claim Mr. Chalmers puts forward with such untiring zeal. Mr. Effingham Wilson, of the Royal Exchange, publishes a brochure containing a general resume of the matters to which we have drawn attention.—*City Press.*

## C. P. A. Items.

BY CANADENSIS.

The C. P. A. election ballots are now issued. All members who do not receive them by the 25th inst., should apply to the secretary for them. The poll closes on the 31st.

The great fight will be between the four candidates for official organ.

There will be a close and friendly rivalry between Ketcheson and Hechler for the presidency.

There is quite a demand for the Canadian official envelopes, "O. H. M. S." which are carried and franked "free" by the P. O. authorities.

The Canada 1c. stamp is found in very light yellow and a deep orange. The 2c. post-card shows a distinct shade of green, light and a deep dark.

Never before has the average Canuck took such an interest in stamp collecting. The C. P. A. is the cause of it, and the new society is 105 strong.

Mr. J. R. Hooper, the organizer of the C. P. A. has withdrawn from the Secretaryship to accept the office of Vice-President.

THE

## PHILADELPHIA PHILATELIST

Issued Monthly in the interest of  
PHILATELY.

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VOL. 1. FEBRUARY, 1888. No. 3.

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Germantown, Phila., Pa.

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IN March of last year the GERMANTOWN PHILATELIST made its first appearance, and after two numbers were issued, consolidated with the *Keystone State Philatelist*, which "died," the *Quaker City Philatelist*, filling out the subscription list. We now come before the philatelic public under a new name and with almost a new staff. This time we do not intend to give up, therefore do not be afraid of sending on your subscriptions.

MR. William M. Watson, formerly editor of this paper and afterward Associate Editor of the *Keystone State Philatelist*, has been elected editor of the *Quaker City Philatelist*.

WE advise all American collectors to subscribe for the *Stamp Collectors' Journal*, of England. As we are the sole American agent, subscriptions and advertisements should be sent through us thereby saving time and money. Prospectus free on application.

WE wish to exchange with ALL papers. Please send two copies and we will reciprocate.

ARTICLES on philately are desired, and will be paid for by the publishers of this paper.

MR. Davis, of Salem, Mass., intends issuing a directory. (See ad.)

WHEN you are writing to advertisers always mention the *Philadelphia Philatelist*.

"THE new 2-cent green stamp seems to be catching licks all over."

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"I am writing for the PHILADELPHIA PHILATELIST," said the lad, proudly.

"Indeed you are quite young for that; what do you write?"

"I direct the wrappers."

## Casey's 14th Auction Sale.

This was, perhaps, the most successful sale of stamps held in New York for years. "The 'Suffolk' Collection was a fine general one, and the prices realized up to, and in some cases beyond catalogue prices. Mr. Casey had booked nearly 3,000 bids. The sale realized \$1,525.

## Who is "Charlie."

On Jan. 28, a postal was received, with this on it:

NEW YORK, Jan. 27, '88.

I will be up to-morrow night on the Rosedale, if it does not storm.

Yours,

CHARLIE.

If this catches the eye of "Charlie," we wish he would explain matters as we do not know any special Charlie in New York, neither do we know what the Rosedale is.

The *North Star Philatelist* and the *Philatelic Fortnightly* have consolidated under the name of the *Minnesota Philatelist*. We wish them success.



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Send 25 cents (silver) with your name, and we will insert it, or send 10 cents (silver) as a guarantee and promise to pay fifteen more on publication of the book, just as you like. You will get a sample of every stamp paper published, for we shall send a copy to every publisher. You will also get many price lists from dealers. Don't miss the chance, but send now. Advertising rates, 40 cents per inch, half in advance, the rest on publication. Once more, I guarantee that this directory will be issued.

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**S. B. BRADT,**  
Room 52, 225 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.



# THE PHILADELPHIA PHILATELIST.

(Official organ of the Germantown Philatelic Society.)

VOL. I.

PHILADELPHIA, MARCH, 1888.

No. 4.

## The Recent Mexican Stamps.

For several months past the current Mexican stamps have been issued on ruled writing paper, of varying quality. As no one seems to know much about them, I think I will start the discussion by telling what I know on the subject.

The ruled stamps are found with the large perforations, that is, there are only one-half as many holes in a given space as on the regular stamps. Some of the stamps are printed on plain paper, with the wide perforations. Of this kind, the 10-cent is the commonest, and the 1-cent the scarcest, all the values known to me being 1, 3, and 5c.

I have only seen one specimen of those with ordinary perforation with the blue ruled lines; this was a 5c.

The ruled stamps may be found ruled on the face, with plain backs, ruled on the back, with plain faces, and also ruled on both sides, the last being the commonest. Of all the ruled stamps, the 5-cent is the commonest, the 1-cent is very scarce.

The lines in some cases run vertically, and in others horizontally. On some stamps, one double line runs across the ends of the other lines—this is no doubt the margin, or head-lines,

of the sheet. On some stamps the lines reach only part of the distance across the stamp. I have never seen any specimens with horizontal lines on one side and vertical lines on the other, except those with the single side, or top-line, above mentioned.

As to perforation, the stamps are as badly guided through the machine as any from that country. The perforations are too wide apart to be of much use in tearing the stamps apart, so most of them are found cut with scissors. I have seen specimens of the 10-cent without ruling with the wide perforation, but for a part of the distance the perforation was of the normal frequency. This was on a block of ten of the 10-cent stamps, and the interval of close perforation extended for the space of half an inch in each row of perforations, all occurring at the same distance from the side of the sheet, making a vertical row down the sheet of stamps having two distinct perforations. No doubt there are many other errors of this kind.

I append a list of such as I have seen: WITH WIDE PERFORATIONS, NOT RULED—1-cent, green; 5-cent blue; 10-cent, lilac; official, bistre.

WITH CLOSE PERFORATIONS, RULED ON FACE ONLY, WITH HORIZONTAL LINES—5-cent, blue.

STAMPS RULED ONLY ON THE FACE, WITH HORIZONTAL LINES:—1-cent green; 5-cent blue; 10-cent lilac. WITH VERTICAL LINES—5-cent blue; 10-cent lilac.

STAMPS RULED ONLY ON THE BACK, WITH HORIZONTAL LINES—5-cent blue. WITH VERTICAL LINES—5-cent blue; 10-cent lilac. WITH VERTICAL LINES ENDING AT A DOUBLE HORIZONTAL LINE—10-cent lilac.

STAMPS RULED ON BOTH SIDES, WITH HORIZONTAL LINES—1-cent green; 5-cent blue. WITH VERTICAL LINES—5-cent blue; 10-cent lilac. WITH HORIZONTAL LINES, AND ONE DOUBLE VERTICAL LINE ON BACK—5-cent blue; 10-cent lilac.

WITH VERTICAL LINES, AND ONE DOUBLE HORIZONTAL LINE ON BACK—5-cent blue; 10-cent lilac.

WITH HORIZONTAL LINES, AND ONE DOUBLE VERTICAL LINE ON FACE—5-cent blue. WITH VERTICAL LINES, AND ONE DOUBLE HORIZONTAL LINE ON FACE—5-cent blue; 10-cent lilac.

Collectors can decide for themselves whether they will collect these varieties or not. I have no doubt that all three values, and possibly even others, exist in the above varieties. There are other sub-varieties, such as in the last two varieties in the list, there are some with the lines running on one side of the double line, and some on the other—but I have never seen any in which the plain lines cross the double. Mexico has fairly proved its title to rank among the first stamp-producing countries, and I do not know of any other that will as well repay careful study and classification.

I hope that some one who has a better chance of observing these late emissions, will give us more light on this most interesting branch of our study.

THEODORE SIDDALL.

## The History of the Mail and the Postage Stamp.

FROM THE "PARIS POSTE."

(Continued from No. 3.)

His personal views were agreed to and sanctioned by the British Government and on the 10th of January 1840 the Penny Post was inaugurated in the United Kingdom. This hardy innovation soon surpassed the highest expectation of the rulers; in ten years, from 1840 to 1850, the number of letters raised from 1,500,000 to 8,250,000. Sir Rowland Hill died in 1870, having held during many years the charge as General Secretary of the Postal department for Great Britain.

The gratitude of his fellow-countrymen expressed itself by the raising of his statue in London, in fact he must be recognized as the originator of cheap mail combination and as the inventor of the adhesive stamp. This last title is now claimed by Mr. Patrick Chalmers as belonging to his father, a former bookseller in Dundee.

Under Louis XIV. an attempt was made in France to start a mail business for public purposes, the prepaid tax being represented in a kind of wrapper, which was folded around the letter to be forwarded, and was called "a note of paid postage," to which we have already referred as having existed.

M. Feuillet de Conches possesses in his collection a specimen of one of these ancient wrappers, which has enclosed a missive of Pelissier, the friend of Fouvuet and of the fabulist La Fontaine, addressed to Mademoiselle de Scudéry.

The new postal reforms applied to

England came successively into use in other countries as follows.

Switzerland, Canton of Zurich,	March 1, 1843.
Brazil, - - -	July 1, 1843.
Switzerland, Canton of Genève, - - -	Sept. 30, 1843.
Switzerland, Can. of Bâle, July 1, 1845.	
Trinidad, - - -	April, 1847.
United States of America, July 1, 1847.	
Maurice, - - -	October, 1847.
France, - - -	Jan. 1, 1849.

We mention this particularity of France holding the ninth place in the above list, being distanced by such small European States as the Swiss cantons—Genève, Zurich and Bâle—and by a South American land—Brazil—which at the time was yet in a half savage condition.

The adhesive stamp with its manifold usefulness, more and more appreciated as it becomes familiar to the public, has reached the place of an important factor, to settle small business transactions, through the papers we learn daily the use we can make of it, but a fact certainly unknown by many people is that the stamp played an interesting part in the great American War, when it was taken as regular paper money.

In order to facilitate settlements of small transactions, as well as to prevent the want of bullion, the federal authorities decided—July 17, 1862—on the issue of a kind of stamp, larger than those already in circulation, and ranging in value from 10 cents up to 5 dollars. In fact, these stamps were much like small bank notes, and could be used as such, the nominal value could be cashed at any time in stamps through any office of the treasury department.

England soon took up this genial idea, the post office being authorized

through a bill to introduce a similar practice, which consisted of taking back any unused stamp presented by the public, against cash, provided they be unturned and were presented in certain amount. This rule, firstly restrained to some principal offices, has now been extended to all the offices of the United Kingdom.

(THE END.)

(Mr. Chalmers was undoubtedly the inventor of the adhesive postage stamp.)

### Germantown Philatelic Society.

The Germantown Philatelic Society was organized at a meeting held at the house of Mr. von Utassy on Monday, March 5th, 1888. The following officers were elected; President, Will M. Watson; Vice-President, George Gowen Parry; Secretary, Geo. W. von Utassy; Treasurer, L. R. Shellenberger; Auctioneer, W. W. Woodruff. Mr. C. F. Hoser was elected a special member. The meeting then adjourned.

### MEETING OF MARCH 14, 1888.

Meeting called to order by the Vice-President at 8 P. M. Minutes of previous meeting were read and approved. Mr. Shellenberger was elected Librarian. The following special members were elected: Messrs. R. M. Darrach and R. S. Elliot. After a brisk auction sale, the meeting adjourned to meet Wednesday, March 28, at 5055 Green St.

GEO. W. VON UTASSY, *Secretary.*

Now is the time to "hedge" on the Newfoundland stamps and get in a stock, as negotiations for the admission of the Island to the Dominion are now going on.

# THE PHILADELPHIA PHILATELIST

Published Monthly by  
PHILA. PHILATELIC PUBLISH-  
ING CO.,

5055 GREEN STREET,  
Germantown, Phila., Pa.

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NOVEROS, Editor.

G. W. VON UTASSY,	} Business Managers.
C. F. HOSER,	

VOL. 1. MARCH, 1888. No. 4.

The PHILADELPHIA PHILATELIST will fill out the subscriptions of the *Germantown Philatelist*.

WE may be little, but we're not under the thumb of any clique or ring, either of dealers or would-be dealers. If any of our readers are taken in by the numerous small fry dealers now springing up all over the country to meet the "spring trade," they would do us a favor if they would let us know the full circumstances.

Germantown is a small place maybe, we've only got forty thousand people living here, but it is able to support a stamp paper, at least that is *our* belief

and we back up this belief by our paper; the same paper is rather small, indeed, it has been irreverently called a "gun wad," but it is going to be like pepper, spicy, and if you know of anything that will make it more so why just tell us, will you?

We have a very good list of the collectors of Germantown, some one hundred in number of our personal acquaintance, with many that are unknown to the writer. We desire to make this list complete in every way, and Germantown collectors will do us a favor if they will forward their address to this office, or let us know the names of their collecting friends. By the way, if you don't collect, now is the time to begin. You won't be sorry that you have commenced, you will learn more than you knew before at all events, and if you join the Germantown Philatelic Society, you will meet as enthusiastic a crowd of collectors as you would desire to meet. The auctions alone will be worth more than the dues. But you must first join the A. P. A., or send in your application. If you desire to join either, let us know, through our secretary, and we'll be only too happy to put you through.

The A. P. A. is gradually getting out of its apron strings and depends less on the dealers every month; at first many feared that the dealers would be the power behind the throne.

To the delight of most of the members, however, this fear has proved groundless in a great degree. It is however only fair that the dealers should have representation in the management of an association that so nearly concerns their interests. Therefore we are in favor of having three at least of the board of officers, dealers, and one of the trustees. The present officers have done their duty faithfully and well, but we for one believe in the rotation in office theory, and we will do our best to further such a plan. We think that the Secretary, Exchange Superintendent and the First Counterfeit Detector should be dealers, and for the rest of the offices we nominate collectors. We ask our readers to send in lists of the men of their choice, and we promise to stick by the popular vote. One exception only should be made to the "rotate" and that is the literary board, they should remain. The foregoing is our opinion in as compact a space as can be.

### Notes

FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

The Stamp Collection in the Post-office Museum at Berlin, has, during the last few weeks been re-arranged, and completed, by Justice Lindenburg, to whom a vacation of six weeks has been granted for that purpose. Several hundred dollars have been spent solely in buying newer issues, so that many of the vacant pages have been filled. The collection is exhibited in a large

room apart from the main-building so that collectors can enjoy the inspection of it without fear of being disturbed. On exhibition days the room is lighted by artificial light, to prevent the sunlight acting injuriously on the stamps. The collection numbers over 10,000, all with very few exceptions, unused specimens. J. Lindenburg has also arranged a catalogue of the collection.

The case of Dr. Joseph, who is being tried at Breslau, Germany, on the charge of stealing postage-stamps, is exciting much interest among German philatelists. The accused in one of his depositions, stated that the stamp business was carried on by very dishonest people, and that more especially the collections sold by G. Zechmyer in Nurnberg, frequently contained forgeries. In return G. Zechmeyer firmly denies the accusation and has already taken steps to bring suit upon Dr. Joseph for libel.

The P. J. of A. for March, contained a detailed account of the "Quaker" Banquet.

We have received a copy of the American Album from the Penn Stamp Co. For beginners it is undoubtedly the best in the market.

The Cyclopedia of Philately, compiled by W. H. Baker, Jr., and published by the Quaker City Philatelic Publishing Co., Limited, is a book which every collector ought to have in his library.

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Philatelic \* Directory.

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I am about to issue a stamp directory of U. S. and Canadian collectors, and in order to do so must have the help of every active philatelist.

I want not only your name and address, but **SIZE** of collection, whether you have a **SPECIALTY** or are a general collector. Also if a **MEMBER** of, and **WHAT**, philatelic societies. Do not fail to give this your immediate attention, as it will be a mutual benefit. Send not only your own name, etc., but also those of any collecting friends you may be acquainted with. For 10 cents extra, your name will be displayed in **THIS SIZE TYPE**. Phila. collectors wanted in particular to send in their names, etc.

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# THE PHILADELPHIA PHILATELIST.

*(Official organ of the Germantown Philatelic Society.)*

VOL. I.

PHILADELPHIA, APRIL-MAY, 1888.

No. 5.

## "Do Stamps Increase in Value as They Grow Older?"

BY "SURCHARGE."

An attempt was made in a recent number of a well-known philatelic journal to show that stamp collecting as an investment was a failure, and that on the whole the impression that collections of stamps increase in value as they grow older was an erroneous one. Now, I do not wish to show that stamp collecting is a good investment, for I think no one should collect merely with that end in view; but rather, that, notwithstanding the experience of the writer of the article above referred to, stamps, as a rule, increase in value as they grow older.

In that article, too, the arguments are nearly all based on the fact that the stamps that the writer of it had had longest and paid the most money for, have decreased in value—but do all collectors buy their stamps? It is to be hoped not, but that there are many who deserve their title of collector, rather than that of "buyer" of stamps.

It was the good fortune of the present writer when in England to have given to him a collection of about 500 varieties, collected in the 'fifties by one who was in utter ignorance at that time of the existence of such people as stamp dealers, and who did not spend more than \$5 on his whole collection, yet that collection contained stamps whose face value is not above one or two pence, which are now worth as many dollars; among others I will only mention the Mauritius Post-Paid one and two pence, Nova Scotia, '57, one and six pence, Canada seven and a half, and ten pence, Cape of Good Hope triangular four pence wood block—do not these seem to have risen in value somewhat?

But, in my humble opinion, the greatest mistake in that article was the taking of U. S. stamps as examples of the deterioration of stamps below face value. Now let any one compare the face value of any entire issue with the present value, and he will find the balance very much on the side of the present: take the issue of 1861—at face value it was worth \$1.92; now it is worth, unused, about \$4.75, which is nearly two and a half times its face value. Used stamps no doubt deteriorate in value, but unused ones very rarely.

Only the other day I found some old U. S. stamps and envelopes of face

value of not over three cents each,—some of them are now valued at from ten cents to \$3. In fact, I might confidently assert that any one who had preserved every envelope of every letter he received from the year 1850 to the present time, would now find at least one half of them increased over face value. But I think there are only a few collectors who consider their collection as an investment; they consider it rather as a most interesting page of the world's history, as a "thing of beauty and a joy for ever." It is not the collector who makes stamp buying an investment, but the dealer; and do not some of them seem to thrive at it?

In conclusion, I would say to young collectors that, in spite of what may be said or written to the contrary, a good collection made now, not necessarily bought—some people seem to think, or, rather, take it for granted, that that is the only way to get stamps—will twenty years hence be not only a pleasant thing to look upon, but represent a substantial cash value.

### Post-Paid Philatelic Pointers.

BY CANADENSIS.

The *Halifax Philatelist* for February contained some valuable articles, among which was a very creditable one on the Canadian bill and fiscal stamps. Although two sets or issues of the Canada bills have been obsolete over twenty years, not much interest has hitherto been taken in their collection; but interest in their collection has revived and they are now in great demand.

There are a few errors and extreme rarities in the Canada bills, which have never been catalogued, among which are the \$3 third issue *unperforated* and un gummed. The \$3 third issue surcharged "N. S." is a rarity, but, in the collection of a prominent philatelist, I have seen both the above, and as they came from a high revenue official there is no doubt whatever of their genuineness.

The following are the officers of the Canadian Philatelic Association: *President*, H. F. Ketcheson Belleville; *Vice-Presidents*, Rev. H. Harte, Jno. R. Hooper, Ernest Wurtele, W. Brown, A. J. Craig, and J. H. Todd; *Secretary*, J. A. Leighton, Orangeville, Ont.; *Treasurer*, H. L. Hart, Halifax; *Librarian*, Geo. Walker; *Purchasing Agent*, E. T. Parker, Toronto; *Counterfeit Detector*, Sid. DeWolfe, Halifax; *Official Organ*, *Toronto Philatelic Journal*; *Official Editor*, Geo. A. Lowe; *Executive Board*, Findlay (Halifax), McRae (Montreal), and Niesser (Toronto).

The Nova Scotia Philatelic Association is booming and a number of new members are expected.

There is talk of forming a Philatelic Club at Ottawa, Ont., to become a branch of the C. P. A. It appears there are a number of Government officials and ladies at the Capital who are ardent collectors and wish to be *exclusive*.

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 Philatelic Notes.
 

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EDGAR D. MELVILLE.

Mr. E. F. Gambs, of San Francisco, Cal., offers to the Philatelic public the following important question, "*Ought stamps imported from foreign countries to be dutiable?*"

In reference to the above question we should say that we think it is unjust to charge duty.

"Why so?" may be asked.

We answer, "Why should we be made to pay a tax of 25 per cent on foreign stamps which have only a fictitious value, when foreign coins which have an immediate marketable value are *free of duty*; and, lastly, when the new ruling mentions that stamps are *dutiable as printed matter*, (such a decision having been established in July last), yet at the same time, the government rejects the identical stamps' admittance in the mails as *printed matter*."

We also learn that foreign bank-notes imported are not dutiable. Then why should foreign stamps which have only a fictitious value, as do bank-notes, be dutiable?

The above are our reasons for being opposed to *duty charged on imported foreign stamps*. We would be pleased to hear from any of our brother philatelists upon the subject.

\*\*\*

Philately has advanced very rapidly during the last five years. During that time there were numerous philatelic papers that lived and died, but, strange to say, to every one paper that died, five were born. Philately has many objects, not only of possessing a good collection of stamps, but it instructs, amuses, entertains, and is in all ways agreeable.

\*\*\*

We are now fully convinced that James Chalmers is the inventor of the adhesive postage stamp. The untiring efforts of his son, Patrick Chalmers, who has attained the honor that is due his father, is a good example of perseverance.

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 Germantown Philatelic Society.
 

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We have decided not publish the minutes of this society, but only give such items as would interest the general reader.

Although only organized a short time ago our society has now quite a number of names on its books, as the following list will show.

<i>Pres.</i> , *Wm M. Watson,	<i>Vice-Pres.</i> , *G. G. Parry,	<i>Sec.</i> , *G. W. von Utassy,
<i>Treas.</i> and <i>Librarian</i> ,	<i>Auctioneer</i> , *W.W. Woodruff,	C. F. Hoser,
*L. R. Shellenberger,	*C. Weygandt,	*R. S. Elliot,
*W. Hamilton,	C. Pardee, Jr.,	C. Harris,
R. M. Darrach,	*G. Moore,	*R. L. Perot.

Those marked \* are members of the A. P. A. or have made application.

# THE PHILADELPHIA PHILATELIST.

Issued monthly in the interests of Philately by

Geo. W. von Utassy.

Subscriptions: { United States, Mexico, and Canada, . . . . 15 cents per year.  
 { Other countries in the Postal Union, . . . . 25 " " "

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$\frac{1}{2}$ column,	1.50	3.50	7.00	12.00
$\frac{1}{2}$ page,	2.75	6.50	12.50	20.00
One page,	5.00	12.50	24.00	45.00

Advertisements can be changed as often as desired. Communications on Philately will be thankfully received.

Editor, NOVEROS.

Business Manager, GEO. W. VON UTASSY,

5055 Green Street, Germantown, Philadelphia.

IF I remember right there was in the city of Philadelphia a paper that poked considerable fun at a western contemporary that published the ravings of a crank styling himself "Phil. A. Telic;" our esteemed Philadelphia friend has heroded Herod—that is to say, it has published a lot of rot that knocks "Phil. A. Telic" all hollow. The "Kalermaic Kronikles" (something like that) is what is meant, of what earthly use such insane gabble is to stamp collectors, or any one else outside of a lunatic asylum, it is impossible to say, unless it is to teach them what fools some people can be. It appears from the last issue of our E. C. that this "feeble wandering of a distraught fancy" is to be continued; until such time as the usually sensible managers of the *Q. C. P.* return to their ordinary senses, and *dis*-continue it, we would advise readers to give a wide berth to the page bearing the heading beginning with K.

If the writer of this stuff wishes to jump on Mr. Chalmers, who is, I suppose, the object of attack, let him do so openly instead of getting at him under the disguise of "Ricktap," etc. Presumably the author thinks it manly to ascribe anything but the right reason to the actions of a man, who however much he *may* be mistaken, is laboring in the most holy of causes, that of his father. There is small matter of surprise in the fact that the man(?) who wrote the article referred to is ashamed to put his name at the head of it, most likely he is ashamed of his name itself, he ought to be. It is but just, however, to assure

the readers of the PHILADELPHIA PHILATELIST that no suspicion attaches itself to the editor or manager of the *Quaker City Philatelist* as having any hand in its production, for as they are men who have not been afraid to put their names at the heads of any articles emanating from their pens. And now enough of a most unpleasant subject.

---

THE *Western Philatelist* is no more. The May number is the last, and once more Chicago comes to the head as a burial place for Philatelic Papers.

---

OWING to several reasons, which are best known to ourselves, we come out with a combined April-May number.

---

THE publishers of this paper wish to exchange with every philatelic paper in the world. Are we not modest?

---

WE wish to call the attention of stamp dealers to our advertising rates. They are not high, and as we circulate from 1,000 to 2,000 copies per month among the *best class* of *philatelists*, we can safely say that an advertisement placed with us is sure to bring good returns. Make your contracts at once.

---

WE certainly did not recognize the *Youth's Ledger*—new volume (Vol. IV, No. 1), new name (*Collector's Ledger*), new form (magazine), new address (Bloomfield, N. J.)

---

DURBIN & HANES intend to move their office shortly.

---

WE wish to warn stamp dealers against

F. L. Hardenbrook,

Jamaica, New York.

---

WE are always open for good articles on philately, and will pay for some in cash, stamps, or advertising space.

### Answers to Correspondents.

A. R., New Orleans.—We do not care to accept your offer

KING.—The article you spoke of will be in the next number.

We wish to remind our readers to always mention the PHILADELPHIA PHILATELIST when answering advertisements.

### Philatelic \* Directory.

*A 3-line Card under this head, \$1.00 per year, in advance.*

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