

The Collectors' Caprice

Formerly the Am. Ledger.

VOL. III.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., MAY, 1884.

NO. 3.

CONNIE'S TALENT.

WONT you please paint me a little sunset, Larry? and Constance Ralph put her head in the door of her brother's studio where he sits painting, in the bright sunset of a mellow August day. "You see," she continues while she holds a square foot of canvas up to his critical gaze, "I can't get the sunset right. The light is all right on the girl's face, but as to the sunset itself, I've given it up and I've really entertained serious ideas of painting an Argand burner over there in the shadows instead of a sunset.

"And is this the best that Madam Lamareaux's Seminary can produce for the exhibition?" asks the young artist as he turns from his own beautiful landscape to his sister's sketch, I'd try again Con, and let this go."

"Never," answers Connie, firmly. "The teachers paint the girls' pictures at the Seminary, and of course there're better than mine, but I thought I could do mine with a little help from my valuable brother, and I like that "Lost Day" too well to give it up; so please paint the orb of day over there in the background Larry, it won't take you a minute."

Lawrence takes the canvas from his sister's hand and in a few moments he lights up the picture with

a few masterly touches and hands it back to Connie who receives it in a rapture of delight.

"That's just it Larry and I don't know how to thank you, but I'll leave you in peace now to your "English Meadows," and she rushes from the room with her muslin dress gathered in her hand from the easels and sketches in her brother's studio.

Up the broad stairs with her picture in her hand runs Connie, a fair picture of girlhood with "a red, red rose," in the bright hair gathered in wilful curls around her face.

Up in the high, roomy attic is Connie's retreat, loaded down with sketches and pencil drawings and paint and everything calculated to distract the senses. The diamond paned window is open and the Wisteria vine blows in, sending its perfume through the room. Connie sits by her table and gazes out in the garden as the sun tinges with its last rays the maple leaves. She takes her brush. Oh! if she could but transfer the tender, quivering light to the canvas. She looks down upon it again. It is a pretty picture. A girl stands by a broken gate looking out at the setting sun—and to tell the truth, Connie had brought the expression to her face requisite to one who

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had spent a lost day.

Connie touches the picture lightly here and there, and looking out at the setting sun, catches inspiration from its beam and transfers the living fire to the picture. The sun sinks lower and lower and Connie turns it lightly over and writes "Ralph" across the back of the frame as she has so often seen Larry do.

In the room below he sits gazing on the canvas upon which he has spent so much labor, mental and physical. He has traveled for a year and has returned hoping to gain a name, which will enable him to remain at home with his sister and mother. The exhibition occurs in August and his picture he expects will bring him fame, for Lawrence Ralph knows he is a good artist.

* * * * *

The pictures are being sent in already and Ralph goes fondly at his work as he sees it consigned to the care of two expressmen.

Connie's picture goes with the "Seminary Sketches." The young ladies have devoted themselves entirely to panels and crayon drawings and Connie's is the only oil painting.

The great day arrives, and before hundreds of people assembled in the great hall, the name of Lawrence Ralph is read out as having taken the great gold medal of the year.

The news comes to Larry as he sits on the vine covered piazza, with Constance beside him. A letter is handed him. He gives

it with a nervous hand to his sister, who reads it with sparkling eyes.

Mr. Lawrence Ralph,

You are respectfully notified that your picture has taken the first prize of the exhibition. You will please be present at the presentation this evening at eight o'clock.

Sec. of Art Com.

Tears of joy came to Connie's eyes, "I knew it," she cried, "I always said our Larry was a genius;" and she rushes off, leaving her brother standing pale and silent by the rose vine. He cannot speak but his face lights with a glow of triumph.

The happy artist helps his young sister from the carriage and leads her up the beautiful hall, with its wealth of art adorning the walls, to the veiled easel. Connie is radiant. She gazes proudly around, although Larry is annoyed by the continual stare. A learned and complimentary address is made to the young artist and amid wild applause the screen is removed.

Larry gazes through a misty sea of faces, and then falls backward with a gasping cry, and Connie stares with a white, scared face through the crowd, for—there on the velvet draped easel with its wealth of floral offerings, and with the glittering medal lying before it, is Connie's picture "The Lost Day."

K. K.

—:—

MAKE up your mind slowly, but when it is done, act quickly.

Our Correspondence.

G. H. M. ALLENDALE, N. J.—Not long ago while out collecting, I came across a Yellowbird's nest containing three eggs. Securing the eggs, I set about to examine the nest, and noticing the great depth on the outside compared with that of the inside, I determined to ascertain the cause. Pulling the nest apart I discovered what I shall call a false bottom, and removing this came upon a Cowbird's egg, much to my surprise. It was not as I first supposed, one nest built on top of another for I examined it closely. Can you account for it?

Yes. You are doubtless aware of the fact that cowbirds never build nests for themselves, but lay their eggs in the nests of birds smaller than themselves, but as the egg is a good sized one, the owners of the nest soon discover the wrong done them, and try to ril themselves of the egg. In this the yellowbird is the only one which is generally successful. It is not strong enough to lift up the cowbird's egg and throw it over the edge of the nest; therefore it gathers a supply of hay and hair, and builds a false bottom over the cowbird's egg, and the egg not receiving sufficient warmth does not hatch. The yellowbird wishes to prevent the cowbird's egg from hatching in order to protect its own young. For the cowbird when hatched is much larger and stronger than the young yellowbirds, and wishes to have the food

and nest all to himself: whenever he gets the chance he is sure to push the little yellowbirds out of the nest.

H. S. T., RUGBY, TENN.—Will you please tell me the correct name of the bird which the people here call the Yellow Hammer, and also describe its nest and eggs?

The correct name of the bird which you call the Yellow Hammer is Yellow Bunting. In regard to its nest and eggs, Wood says, 'The nest of the Yellow Bunting is generally placed upon or very close to the earth, and the best place to seek for the structure is the bottom of a hedge where the grass has been allowed to grow freely and the ground has been drained by the ditch. In rustic parlance, a "rough gripe" is the place wherein to look for the yellow Hammer's nest. It is a neatly-built edifice, composed chiefly with grasses and lined with hair. The eggs are five in number, and their color is white with a dash of very pale purple, and dotted and scribbled all over with dark purple brown. Both dots and lines are most variable, and it also frequently happens that an egg appears with hardly a mark upon it, while others in the nest are entirely covered with the quaint looking decorations.'

H. P., SHARON, PA.—The Linnet usually lays five eggs, the ground color being blue, spotted with dark brown and a rather faint purple,

ERIC;

OR, THAT QUEER BOY.

CHAPTER IV.

To my dying day, I shall never forget what the mirror revealed to me, alone, in that room that wintry night. I half 'rose in my chair, and saw—the library door slowly open, a white-robed figure glide in, with stealthy tread, and creep cautiously towards me.

Something glittered in the figure's hand; it was a knife! Nothing broke the dead silence, save the perpetual ticking of the little French clock on the mantle. I stood like one under a spell,—unable to move or speak. On came the figure. Anon, it stood close behind me, I saw the glittering blade raised for a blow, I saw the small white fingers clutch the handle of the knife more firmly, and then!—I wheeled around like a flash, seized the uplifted arm, and knocked the knife from its murderous hand.

"Eric! you!" I cried, trembling with excitement, "My God! what does this mean!"

He gave a strange, nervous laugh and sank back on the sofa. The unnatural glare of his eyes, the red, flushed cheeks, told me too plainly, that he was delirious.

"I had a dream," he said slowly, as though speaking to himself, as he sat staring thoughtfully in the dying embers on the hearth; "Oh! such a strange dream; I dreamt that I stood in this very room, and was standing behind Dr. Chynwood's chair, as he sat writing. Impelled by some irresistible motive, I peer-

ed over his shoulder at the writing, I saw that it was to the Municipal authorities, in Hollyville, informing them that he desired to surrender over to Justice, a youthful criminal, (meaning me!) that was under his roof! I awoke with a scream, then someone seemed to whisper in my ear, 'kill him! if you do not he'll betray you!' I tried to do it to-night! and have failed. But," with his hands over his eyes, "I can wait! and then no one will ever know who murdered——" Here, the little French clock announced the midnight hour, by a series of spiteful tings, thus cutting off the remainder of Eric's sentence. But I understood everything, now. Fearful that I might deliver him over to the Law, he had sought my life, to prevent my ever betraying him. He sat for a long time, with his head resting on his hand, watching the embers as they died out.

"Eric," said I, as he at last rose to leave the room, "I wish to speak to you."

He made no reply, but continued on his way. Somewhat piqued at his ignoring my request I started forward to detain him, when somehow, my fingers got entangled in his thick, yellow hair. As I suddenly withdrew my hand, the entire head of hair fell off! While a profusion of light, sunny curls, all gracefully far down around Eric's shoulders! Those long silken curls were not those of a boy, I was certain. It was a girl that now stood before me,—a pretty blue-eyed girl of sixteen, I could

Continued on 6th Page.

The Collectors' Caprice.

Subscription: One year, post-paid, 25 cents.

Advertising Rates: 1 line, 5 cts.; 1 inch, 40 cts.; 1 column, \$1.80; 1 page, \$3.25. Advertisements must be in by the fifth of the month to insure insertion in the next number.

HOTCHKISS & DILLONT, Pubs.,
88 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, New York.

JULY, 1884.

ERRATA.—THE printers have dated this number for May when it should be July. Also, on the opposite page, '4' should be substituted for '3,' in the numbering of the same.

AGAIN the CAPRICE makes its appearance, and we hope improvement comes with it. We have but little experience in our new venture, but in spite of that the public received us in a better manner than we expected it would; hence, our improvement---if any? The printing and paper have been improved, and we think the---yes, we think the contents have also. What do you think? We may be mistaken though, for we've heard that the 'young' are always conceited.

READER, do you want us to publish better stories? do you want us to publish a better paper? do you want us to publish a larger and better paper in every way? If so join your efforts with ours in trying to obtain a larger circulation. Solicit subscriptions from your friends, we pay you 25% commission on all you receive. We will then be enabled to, and will enlarge and improve the CAPRICE to the best of our ability. Is not this an offer? We pay you

for your trouble and at the same time present you with a better paper. Try it.

WE WILL gladly publish the name of any fraud, either dealer or collector, sent us, under the heading "Exposure." We will not only consider it a favor but a service to our readers if you will send us the name and address of of any dealers or collectors selling or exchanging counterfeit stamps.

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The postage on each of the above books is twelve cents.

ERIC;
OR, THAT QUEER BOY.

(Continued from page 4.)

see that, now she was unmasked as it were.

Stunned, bewildered and astonished at this startling discovery, I sank back into my chair, trying to collect my scattered senses, wondering, in the meanwhile, if it was not all a dream, from which I would soon awake.

When I looked up again, she was gone.

The cold dull streaks of early dawn streamed in through the blinds, as cold and weary, I crept up stairs to bed; determined to investigate the matter, when chance offered.

To be continued.

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The Collectors' Magazine

VOL. III.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., AUG., 1884.

NO. 4.

Shanghai and Its Stamps.

By Phranque.

SHANGHAI IS a Chinese seaport under the protection of Great Britain. It is enclosed in a wall, three miles in circuit through which six gates open into extensive suburbs. It is a dirty ill-built town with narrow streets which are constantly thronged with people. But few of the buildings rise above the low walls of the city.

Shanghai is a great commercial city, exporting and importing goods of a miscellaneous description. The population is about two hundred and fifty thousand.

The standard coin 1 tael (\$1.50) = 100 candareens = 1000 cash also 1 dollar = 100 cents.

THE STAMPS.

Shanghai first issued stamps in 1865. This set contained the following values, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12 and 16 candareens. Colors:—blue, black, brown, yellow, red-brown, green, brown, and vermilion, respectively. Description:—Coat-of-arms (Dragon ascending in cloud) in center of rectangle. Value beneath, "Shanghai P. O." above Chinese characters in each corner and at each side. These stamps are nearly twice as large as ordinary stamps.

The next issue was in 1866. Value:—2 cents rose, 4 cts. lilac, 6 cts. blue, 16 cts. green. Description:—Arms in center in oval. Fancy corners to fill out square. Value below, "Shanghai L. P. O." above. Chinese characters in corners and at sides. These stamps are considerably smaller than last issue. Each varies a trifle in design.

Another set, similar in design; was issued in 1879. Values: 1, 4, 6 and 12 candareens. Colors: brown, orange, grey and brown respectively. In 1874 the 4c. was surcharged 1c. and the 2c. was surcharged 3c.

In 1877 the following were issued. 2c. Cash, violet; 4cc. carmine; 6cc. green; 8cc. blue; 10cc. brown.

The designs of the last two sets are similar to 1866 issue.

All who receive a sample copy of this paper are cordially invited to subscribe. It only costs 15cts. until October 1st., when you will have to pay our regular price (25 cents). If you think it is worth the small amount we ask, send in your subscription at once. It is more than likely that we will enlarge several times during the year and before your subscription expires, you will be receiving a good paper for only 15c. **SUBSCRIBE.**

The Old "Red Cent."

WE HAVE been asked by several subscribers to give an account of the old "red cent," and we clip the following for their benefit:

The cent was first proposed by Robert Morris, and was two years afterward named by Thomas Jefferson. It made its appearance from the mint in 1792. It bore the head of Washington on one side, and thirteen links representing the thirteen original States, on the other. Soon afterwards the French Revolution caused a great rage for French ideas in America, and the head of the Goddess of Liberty, a French idea, was placed on the cent, instead of the head of Washington. The chain on the other side gave place to the olive-wreath of peace. The head or figure that succeeded the French Goddess of Liberty is the same that we now see on our one-cent pieces.

The INSECTARIUM.

By G. P. Schenck.

FOR THOSE who are interested in the study of insects, a very interesting mode of pursuing the subject is to keep an insectarium. You will ask, "How shall I commence? This question is easily answered.

Commence by getting a board about two feet long, by eighteen inches wide. Now obtain a strip of very fine wire netting, two feet in width and about five feet in length. Place this over the board

so that you will have a round topped cage without any ends. After doing this, it would be a good plan to cover the bottom with earth, having a pond in the middle. Then, if it can be had, plant moss over this, with small flowers or shrubs planted about. Now in stead of "How shall I commence?"—will be heard; "How shall I go on?" After the insectarium is built, the rest is nothing. Simply catch everything that is an insect, and as carefully as possible place them in the cage that you have built. In doing this, you will be educating and enjoying yourself at a cost of almost nothing.

Your insects will need no food if you keep plenty of shrubs in the cage, although it would be just as well to put some bread crumbs or a lump of sugar in, now and then. But always keep plenty of clear, cool water in the pond. If you are a collector of insects, instead of killing them, just keep them until they die, and then put them in the collection. I hope that the reader will take these suggestions which I have offered, and prosper by them.

Chestnut-sided Warbler.

ON THE 10th of June, 1884, I found the nest of a Chestnut-sided Warbler, (*Dendroica Pennsylvanica*), in a small bush, growing beside a stone wall. The nest was about 4ft. from the ground, and was composed of grass, wool, and the tendrils and fine roots of plants, lined with horse and cow's hair. The eggs were four in num-

ber, greenish white, dotted with brown and lilac, rather most at large end.

A. A. CHILD.

War Department Envelopes.

By 'Reay'

THE "Reay" series of War Department envelopes were first issued in 1870 by the Reay Co., contractors, who printed all of the U. S. Envelopes till 1874, when their contract expired. The following is, we believe, a complete list of these envelopes and wrappers: Wrappers, 1 and 2 cents, Manilla paper; Envelopes. Ordinary letter, 1, 2 and 3 cents, white paper; Full letter, 3 cents, amber and orange paper; Extra letter, 3 and 6 cents, orange paper; 3, 6, 10, 12, 15 and 30 cents, white paper; Extra Official, 6, 12, 15, 24 and 30 cents, white paper. The envelopes are very rare and are seldom found entire even in large collections, although they are frequently seen "cut." The 1 and 2 cents were in circulation but a short time, while the 10 and 24 cents were used only by the Engineer Bureau, and the 15 and 30 cents by only the Signal Corps, hence their rarity.

"PLYMPTON"

When the contract with the Reay Co. expired in 1874, the P. O. Department advertised for proposals to supply them for another term of years. The lowest bid from any responsible firm was from the Plympton Manufacturing Co., of Hartford, Conn., consequently the contract was awarded them, and as the former contract-

ors seemed to think they had a mortgage on the job, they were slightly riled and sought to break the contract, therefore they engaged the best die sinkers to do nothing for one month, so when the Plympton Co. were ready for work they could not hire any first-class help, as they were all bought up. The envelopes were to be ready at a certain time, or the contract would be void, so they hired second class die sinkers and thus saved their contract. Of course the dies were inferior to those made by first-class workman, but the P. O. Department, on being informed of the facts, accepted them until better ones could be prepared. After the time when the first class workman were paid to "loaf," the contractors had just the help they wanted and their envelopes then compared favorably with any previous issue. A large part of 1874 issue were called in, and then destroyed.—*Granite State Philatelist.*

Exchanges.

35 varieties Foreign Stamps (some very good) and 4 Advertising cards for each specimen of coral, onyx, moss-agate, amethyst, etc., large star-fish or sea-urchin or 2 good Indian arrow-heads, Frank K. Rising, Lena, Illinois.

—

This paper 6 months, for 6 different stamp, coin or curiosity journals, or 1 year for 12 different. Hotchkiss and Dillont, 88 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, New York.

The Collectors' Caprice.


Reduced Subscription Price: One year, post-paid, 15 cents.

Reduced Advertising Rates: 1 line, 3 cents; 1 inch, 20 cents; 1 col., \$1.10; 1 page, \$2.00. Ads. must be in by the 15th. of the month to insure insertion in next. Above rates to last until Oct. 1st., 1884.

HOTCHKISS & DILLONT,

88 Prospect Pl., Brooklyn, N. Y.

AUGUST, 1884.


 Publishers who intend to discontinue the publication of their Journals, would do well to write us in regard to the transfer of their subscription list.


We have decided, in order to obtain as large a number of new subscribers as possible, to reduce the subscription price to 15 cents. We have hopes of making this paper the best of its kind, and would like all to help us. If you receive a sample copy, read it through carefully and see if you don't think it worth 15 cents, and then subscribe.

If you need anything in the way of stamps, cards, etc., a glance at our advertising columns will show you the addresses of a number of first class dealers in these specialities. In writing, always mention the fact of having seen their advertisement in this paper, as it gives them an idea of the extent of our circulation, and thereby induces them renew their advertisements.

In order to make the CAPRICE as interesting as

possible to collectors, we ask all to send in short notes and articles on all branches of collecting. This will help us greatly in producing an interesting paper, and will be of service to all. Come one, come all, and give vent to your ideas.

 We will gladly publish the name of any fraud, either dealer, or collector, sent us under the heading "Exposure." We will not only consider it a favor, but a service to our readers if you will send us the name and address of any dealers or collectors selling or exchanging counterfeit stamps.

 We are in want of some good articles on stamps, oology, etc., for which we will give a fair price. In sending MS. always state price, and enclose stamp for return if not accepted, otherwise we will not return it.

THE ECHO,

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION

For Boys & Girls containing stories, sketches and corresponding column. Only 2 cts. per annum. Sample copy free. Address

THE ECHO,

Rogersville,

Missouri.

15 CENTS TO \$1.25.

To every reader of this paper enclosing stamp for terms and sample. No stamp no reply. Address AGENTS' FRIEND, Tipton, Ind.

Editors inserting this and above will receive same space in Agents' Friend. Would like to continue 6 months.

100 FOREIGN STAMPS and large new Circular sent for five one cent stamps, if you name this paper. **GEO. H. RICHMOND**, Northfield, Vt.

Stamps. Cheap Sets. Packets 5c. to \$10. Price list and 15c. worth of stamps for 3 cents. **TUTTLE BROS.**, Box 36, Glen Ridge, N. J.

YES! Send 25c. for one pound of reading matter, books, magazines, papers, etc., sent post-paid; sample 1/2 pound only 15c. from **A. C. Davis**, Ottawa, Minn.

BOYS! A no. 1 Magic Book. by Prof. De Lantle, one of the greatest magicians in the East. Price 10c. Address **M. K. BOYER & CO.**, Reading, Pa.

FUN AND BEAUTY! 25 Transparent Cards and 25 Beautiful Chromo Cards, your name on all, in fancy script type, 10c.; Handkerchief Flirtations free with each pack. Address:— **E. N. HAVERFIELD**, Cadiz, Ohio.

WANTED copy of every Philatelic and Amateur paper published. I have an advertisement for each, and will continue with all that pay. **GEO. H. RICHMOND**, Northfield, Vt.

Ontario Korresponding Klub.

5000 Members now wanted; yearly fees 10 cts. Join now. 3 mos. later fees will be advanced to 25 cents. **J. HICKS**, Secy O. K. Klub, 11 Walter St., Toronto, Canada. Ed. insert ing this and above 3 mos. and sending 1 copy will receive pay by return mail.

20 CENTS WILL PAY for 1 inch trial advertisement in the **COLLECTORS' CAPRICE**, a monthly, devoted to Oology, Stamps, Coins, etc. 15c per year. **HOTCHKISS & DILLONT**, 88 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, N. Y. Publishers inserting this and above will receive same in Caprice. Send 2 copies.

CARD PRINTERS MONTHLY.

A sixteen page journal for Card and Amateur printers, Amateur Authors, etc. Subscription, 20 cents per year. Specimen free. Address, **R. C. DOUTHIT**, Pub., Shelbyville, Ill.

100 FOREIGN STAMPS AND Scot's International Stamp Album for \$1.60, post-paid. Coats of Arms and Flags of the World for \$1.00; or .50 each. **HOTCHKISS & DILLONT**, 88 Prospect place, Brooklyn, N. Y.

RUBBER

STAMPS.

NAME STAMP

PLAIN OR FANCY TYPE, 25c.

NAME and ADDRESS

2 LINES, 40c.

BUSINESS STAMP

3 LINES, 55c.

EACH ADDITIONAL LINE 15 CTS.

INK & PADS, 25C.

ADDRESS:—

Rubber Stamp Works,

LOCK BOX 76, LENA, ILL.

Publishers insert above for name stamp, and send paper.

In order to obtain new subscribers for

The Collectors' Caprice,

we have reduced the subscription price to
FIFTEEN CENTS.

The CAPRICE is a monthly paper devoted to

STAMPS, OOLOGY, COINS,

Curiosities, etc. 500 U. S. or Foreign Postage Stamps or, 15 original notes (of at least 10 lines long) on Stamps, Oology, etc., will be received in payment for 1 year's subscription. Trial ad.

ONLY 20 CENTS AN INCH!

25% commission allowed to agents. ADDRESS—HOTCHKISS & DILLONT, 88 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Important to Dealers.

Will be ready end of October, 1884, Vol I, of the "Foreign Stamp Collectors' News," forming the Philatelic Annual for 1884; hundreds of orders are waiting for the completion of same; advertisements will be inserted at the end of same at the following low rates:

Advertising Rates.

Half in. 1s. (25cts)	One in. 1s 6d (36cts)
Two in. 2s 9d (68c)	Half col. 4s 6d (\$1.12)
1 col. 7s 6d (\$1.88)	1 page 14s (\$3.50)

Advertisements received up to Oct 20, '84. Dealers give us a trial advertisement, you will never regret it.

Dealers, this book will be introduced to collectors in every part of the civilized world.

Collectors, send 50 cents for a copy of over 100 pages of first class philatelic articles.

Stamps, Eight page price list free. Consignments solicited from dealers. Address
EDWIN ENGLAND,

Lorne Stree, Hull, England.

FREE!



FREE!

6 Months Subscription To

“YOUTHS OF AMERICA”

WONDER of Western Journalism. Best Youths' paper in America for the price.

No \$1,000 bonds given away. But to induce you to subscribe for our paper we make you the following **MOST UNPARALLELED OFFER OF MODERN TIMES.**

If you will send us the addresses of 10 of your friends, together with ten cents in silver we will enter your name on our subscription books, and forward you “Youths of America”

FOR 6 MONTHS FREE

Just think of it!!! Don't delay but send immediately and you will never regret it. Address: YOUTHS OF AMERICA, HARTFORD CITY, INDIANA.

The Collector's Caprice

VOL. III.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., SEPT., 1884.

NO. 5.

THE SHRIKE.

By F. K. Rising.

The Shrike or Butcher-bird is a genus of birds belonging to the family of laniadæ, and has more resemblance in character to the falconidæ than any other of that family. It has a short, thick bill, the upper mandible curve, hooked at the tip and furnished with a prominent tooth. The lower part of the bill is beset with hairs which point forward. There are several different species, most of which inhabit warm climates, although some inhabit cold countries.

The most common British species is the Red-backed Shrike, which is rarely found except in the southern part of England. It is only about seven and a half inches in length. Insects are its chief food, but it also preys on small birds and young frogs.

The Great Gray Shrike, sometimes called the Sentinel Shrike is about the size of the thrush. It is a native of some parts of Europe and is also found in some parts of Asia and North America.

They have a remarkable habit—from which they take their name of Butcher-bird—of affixing their food to a thorn, so that their nests

may often be discovered by the number of insects impaled in the vicinity of it. They kill and impale many insects they never eat, but leave to dry in the sun. The Shrike can be tamed, and in confinement they will place food between the bars of the cage, or on a nail, if provided. They can imitate the notes of other birds, particularly those of distress, they make use of this power to attract other birds within their reach. They were, in olden times, used by falconers in catching hawks, of which they are greatly afraid. At the approach of the hawk, the Shrike utters loud screams, giving notice to the falconer to pull the string of his net.

EXPOSURE.

I. B. Cohen, of No. 248 King St., Charleston, S. C., has kindly sent us the names of following frauds: C. Vanderwarker, E. Templeton, Mass.; Chas. Wescott and Fred. K. Stevens, Gardner Mass.; E. G. Garnett and Lea Mervin, Boston, Mass.; John Smith, Winnipeg, Canada.

T. S. Sparrow, Verona, N. Y. has sent the following for publication—

• I wish to warn all who read this, of a fraud and dead-beat of the worst kind. He signs his name as Lou Casper, Lou is Casper and Miss. Lou Casper and

boils from China and Heilig's Mill, N. C. He requested me to appoint him as my agent in his place to sell stamps and coins for me, and gave *good* references. I sent him a small consignment first and more afterwards at his request, and I hold his letters acknowledging the receipt of same.

When I requested a settlement he refused point blank to either pay the bill or return the goods, and defied to collect any thing. The bill amounts to about \$20.00 in all and I will willingly give half to any one who will either collect the bill or get goods to that value. If he objects refer him to me, and I will take the responsibility. I can prove all I have stated by his *own* letters. I am not the only one he has swindled so let all dealers and exchangers *beware* of him.

I have several other parties to complain of among which are M. L. Arey Gold Hill, N. C. and J. Rocky, Jr. 417 Sycamore St., E Des Moines, Iowa, both of whom are owing me small amounts. I have written *repeatedly* to both of the above parties but they will not reply.

~~We~~ We will gladly publish the name of any fraud, either dealer, or collector, sent us under the heading "Exposure." We will not only consider it a favor, but a service to our readers if you will send us the name and address of any dealers or collectors selling or exchanging counterfeit stamps.

~~Publishers~~ Publishers who intend to discontinue the publication of their journals, would do well to write us in regard to the transfer of their subscription list.

SANDWICH ISLAND STAMPS.

By Phranque.

This group consists of eight volcanic islands, containing an area of 7570 square miles. The largest and most important one is Hawaii which is larger than the other seven together. This island has an area of 4851 square miles.

Sandwich Islands are governed by a king; David Kalakna, who was elected by the people in 1874.

The standard coin is one dollar which equals one hundred cents.

THE STAMPS.

Stamps were first issued in 1852. They consist of three values; 2c. blue, 5c. blue, 13c. blue. Description: Large numeral in center; "Hawaiian Postage" above, values below, numeral in fancy frame. There was also a 13c. blue stamp issued this year, having "H. I. & U. S." above. This stamp was used between these islands and this country.

The next issue was in 1853. Values 5c. blue and 13c. red. Description of 5c.: Portrait in center, "5" in upper corners, "postage" above in curve, "Honolulu" at left of head, "Hawaiian Is." at right, "Five cts." below. The 13c. is similar in design, having "Hawaiian—5cts." to left, "United States 8cts." to right, "Honolulu Hawaiian Is." below, "13" in left lower corner, "Cts." in right.

In 1859, 1c. blue and 2c. black on blue stamps were issued. Description: Large numeral in center, "Inter Island" above, "Hawaiian Postage" to left, "Uka Leta"

above, also one of same value in 1867 with "Inter-Island" to left. The colors of the 1c and 2c were reversed in this year. In 1764 the 1c and 2c were printed on white instead of blue paper. The colors were reversed in 1865. These stamps were probably set up and printed from type, that is, not engraved.

A 2c rose stamp was issued in 1862 containing portrait of Elna Keneta in center, "2" in each of the upper corners, "Uka Leta" above in curve, name below, ornaments at each side. This was succeeded in 1864 by a larger stamp of the same value, color; vermilion. Description: Portrait of Elna Keneta in oval in center, name below, value in upper corners, "Hawaii" above. A 5c blue, was added in '66, of very similar design, having portrait of Elna Keneta. Three values—1c violet, 6c green, and 18c red were added in '71. Each have "Hawaii" above and name of person whose portrait appears in each; below. The 1c and 18c have values in each corner; the 6c in upper corner only. The 1c contains the portrait of Akahi Keneta a female, the 6c of Eone Keneta and the 18c of the same.

A new 2c stamp, color; brown-- was issued in '75 having portrait of Elna keneta. "H. I. Postage" above, value in each corner. A 12c black was also issued this year, the design is similar, having same portrait in center as the 2c stamp. An entire new set was issued in the years '82 and '83. Values: 1c blue (which was chang-

ed to green same year.) 2c pink, 5c ultramarine, 10c black, 15c brown 25c blue-black, 50c purple, \$1 vermilion. They are of similar designs, containing portraits of rulers or members of the royal family.


EXCHANGES.

(This Department is open all subscribers.)

I have a long list of stamps, coins, bills, curiosities, printing presses, accordian, harpette, stories, papers, revolvers and hundreds of other useful articles. Send list of what you have and I will the same. Receipt for Copying Pad and Inks (cos \$2) for "V" nickle WITHOUT "cents." T. S. Sparrow, Verona, New York.

35 varieties Foreign Stamps (some very good) and four Advertising Cards for each specimen of coral, onyx, moss-agate, amethyst, etc., large star-fish or sea-urchin or two good Indian arrow-heads. Frank Rising, Lena, Illinois.

This paper six months, for six different stamp, coin, or curiosity journals; or one year for twelve different. Hotchkiss and Dillont, 88 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, N. Y.

 We are in want of some good articles on stamps, oology, etc., for which we will give a fair-price. In sending MS. always state price, and enclose stamp for return if not accepted, otherwise we will not return it.

The Collectors' Caprice.

Reduced Subscription Price: One year, post-paid, 15 cents.

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HOTCHKISS & DILLONT,

88 Prospect Pl., Brooklyn, N. Y.

SEPTEMBER, 1884.

We publish the names of quite a number of frauds this month, and would advise our readers to beware of them. We have decided to send a copy of the CAPRICE to all those whose names appear in it on the charge of being frauds; so that if they repent and wish their names republished under the heading of the "Redeemed List," they can "settle" with the person they have defrauded and ask them to have their names published in the "Redeemed List"—which we will be glad to do, but only on receipt of a letter from the defrauded party requesting us to. We do this to help dealers and others to obtain their goods or pay, and also to encourage the accused persons to pay their bills and to reform. All who know of any frauds should send the names to us for "Exposure," but we hope only to be republished in the "Redeemed List."

Publishers giving the CAPRICE a notice, favorable or otherwise, containing our address, and sending two (2) copies of their paper containing same, will receive

the CAPRICE free for one (1) year.

CLIPPED TID - BITS.

Inquiry has been made as to the passage of the bill reducing the postage on transient newspapers. The bill has become a law and the Post-Office Department in its bulletin, issued lately, announced this fact and the law went into operation June 14. The following is the text of the official bulletin order which has been sent to all post offices:

Post Office Department, Office First Assistant Postmaster General, Washington, D. C., June 13.—The following act is now in force:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the rate of postage on newspaper and periodical publications of the second class when sent by others than the publisher or news agent shall be 1 cent for each four ounces or fractional part thereof, and shall be fully prepaid by postage stamps affixed to said matter."

Approved June 9, 1884.

Hereafter Postmasters will receive for mailing newspapers and periodical publications of the second class, when sent by other than the publisher or news agent, at the rate of 1 cent for each four ounces or fractional part thereof.

James H. Mann,
Acting First Assistant Postmaster Gen.

The revenues of the Post Office Department for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1883, amounted to \$45,508,692.61, which left an estimated surplus over expenses of 1,001,281.83. The increase of receipts over the previous year was \$3,632,282.46, or 8.6 per cent. The Postmaster Gen. says he is of the opinion that the unit weight for rating first class matter should be from 1.2 to 1 ounce.

THE STAMPS OF EGYPT

By Phranque.

Egypt first issued stamps in 1865. They consisted of the following values: 5 paras, slate-green; (a para is equal to $1\frac{1}{4}$ mills of our money.) 10 pa. brown; 2 pa. blue; 1 piastie (equal to five cents.) rose-lilac; 2 pi. orange; 5 pi. rose; 10 pi. slate. These stamps are of a very curious design, having netted background, with five small circles; one in the center, the others near the corners. In upper left and lower right corners is the value in small rectangle. In other corners the word "Para" or "Piastie."

The next issue was in 1867. Values: 5 pa. orange, 10 pa. lilac, 20 pa. green, 1 pi. bright-red, 2 pi. blue, 5 pi. brown. Description: Oval in center containing Sphinx in fore-ground, Pyramid in background; fancy corners to fill out square. Obelisk at right side, column at left. "Para" or "Piastie" in each upper corner, value below. Egyptian characters above and below. In 1872 the following stamps were issued: 5 pa. brown, 10 pa. mauve, 20 pa. blue, 1 pi. bright-red, 2 pi. yellow, $2\frac{1}{2}$ pi. purple, 5 pi. green. In 1879 the $2\frac{1}{2}$ pi. was surcharged 5 and also 10 pa. Description: Oval in center, Sphinx in fore-ground to left, Pyramid to right in back-ground, star and crescent in corners to fill out square. Value in each, Egyptian characters above and at left side of oval, "Para" or "Piastie" at right, "POSTEKNEDEUIEGHZLANE" be-

low. Some of these stamps are very poorly engraved.

The next was in '79. Values: 5 pa. brown, 10 pa. lilac, 20 pa. ultramarine, 1 pi. rose, 2 pi. yellow, 5 pi. sea-green. The 10 pa. was changed to pink 1881 and the 20 pa. to grey in '82. Description: The Sphinx and Pyramid remain nearly the same, they are somewhat better engraved than before, small circle in corner to fill out square of oval, in upper right and lower left circle is the value in numerals, in the others a smaller circle. "Postes Egyptiennes" above, value to left, Egyptian characters at right and above oval.

There were also some 200 Official stamps issued by the country, they contain Egyptian characters in oval.

Some interesting figures are given in the United States Postal statistics 1774-1883 just published in Washington. In the year 1789 they were 75 post-offices and 2,375 miles of postal route. The revenue of the Department was \$7,411, and the expenditure \$7,461. The amount paid for transportation was \$5,663. The population of the United States at that time was 3,929,314. The figures for 1882 give the number of offices at 47,231; extent in miles, 343,613; revenue, \$41,773,135; expenditure, \$41,431,321; paid for transportation \$25,746,113; postage stamps, etc., issued, 41,976,153; money orders, 113,457,114; letters received in deae letter office, 4,375,461; population, 53,165,763.

BOOK REVIEW.

HOW TO DEAL IN FOREIGN STAMPS;
 Publisher: Frank L. Mills, 124
 Walnut St., Cincinnati, O. Price 10c

We have just received "How to Deal in Foreign Stamps," which has been reprinted from the English edition. Having read it we may say that the treatment of the subject, and the general instructions given, are good and such as will enable the beginning dealer to "make money fast," should he abide by the suggestions presented. It is well worth the small sum asked for it and should be in the hands of every dealer whether experienced or not in the "trade."

HINTS ON INSECT COLLECTING;
 Publisher: Geo. H. Richmond,
 Northfield, Vt. Price, 10 cents.

This is a neat little book of sixteen pages, describing the outfit necessary for a successful "tramp;" also, how to make a 'Hunting Box,' and how to kill and mount your specimens, etc., etc. The wise collector will send for a copy and he will profit by the reading given therein.

YOUNG COLLECTORS!

Young collectors make many mistakes, large numbers of which are in relation to postage. If collectors would remember the following, they would save much trouble, both to themselves and to those who have any dealings with them.

When sending stamps by mail,

tie them up in a stout package, and prepay the postage, which is 1 cent per ounce to any part of the United States. Write your name on the outside of a package, but no writing within. The postage on stamps to Canada is first-class, that is, 2 cents per $\frac{1}{2}$ oz., or fraction thereof.

When writing an order or any communication, say what you want in as few words as possible. The least said is soonest mended. Do not send unused stamps of over \$1; send a dollar bill. All dealers accept stamps for the fractional part of a dollar, but always send 1 and 2 cent stamps. Amounts of over \$2. should be sent in a registered letter, money order or postal note. Always enclose stamp for return postage, when asking a question a dealer, collector, or any body else; if you do not, very likely you will never receive an answer. Patronize reliable dealers; those who have a lot to lose. Subscribe for some good paper, which devotes the whole or part of its space, to the hobby in which you are interested. If you have grown tired of your collection and wish to dispose of it, do not trade it off for jack-knife, or pop-squirt; it is worth money; send it to some reliable dealer, and ask him how much he will pay for it, cash. Write your full name and address plainly, every time. Always insert your stamps on paper hinges; they will bring a third more, if sold at auction. Never clean coins with acid; it injures them.

The above article was taken from the Granite State Philatelist.

RUBBER STAMPS.

LOOK AT THESE PRICES.

Name Stamp, (1 line) - - -	\$.25
Name & Address, (2 lines) -	.40
Name, Business and Address, (3 lines) -	.55
Each additional line, - - -	.15
In Plain or Fancy, Large or Small Type.	

INK & PADS, 25C.

PENCIL STAMP, 1 line,...	\$.60
" " 2 lines,...	.75
" " 3 lines,...	.85
"Baby" Self-Inker, 1 line, .	.75
" " " 2 lines,...	.85
" " " 3 lines,...	.95
" " " 4 lines,...	1.05

GIVE ME AN ORDER;

YOU WILL NOT REGRET IT.

Rubber Stamp Works,

LOCK BOX 76. LENA, ILL.

100 FOREIGN STAMPS and large new Circular sent for five one cent stamps, if you name this paper. GEO. H. RICHMOND, Northfield, Vt.

Ontario Korresponding Klub.

5000 Members now wanted; yearly fees 10 cts. Join now. 3 mos. later fees will be advanced to 25 cents. J. HICKS, Sec'y O. K. klub, 11 Walter St., Toronto, Canada. Ed. insert ing this and above 3 mos. and sending 1 copy will receive pay by return mail.

LOOK!	4 Chili stamps, all different,	6c.
	3 Mexico " " "	6c.
	4 Greece stamps, all different,	8c.
	4 Japan " " "	6c.
	4 Cuba " " "	6c.

ALL FOR 30 CENTS,

Postage extra. Address all orders to

GEO. L. GILMORE,
212 Bunker Hill St. Boston, Mass.

FREE, 10 Stamps and Circulars for Stamp. 100 including Argentine, West Australia, Cuba, New Zealand, Brazil, &c., price 20c. 5 War Dep't, 5c.; 7 New Granada 10c.; 10 Brazil 10c.; 6 Bavaria, unpaid 15c.; 30 France 15c.; 20 English 10c.; 7 New Zealand 10c.; 5 Austrian Telegraph 10c.; 6 Mexico 1884, Green 15c.

The above lot post free for \$1.00. Agents wanted at 30 per cent commission. References required.

Wm. Leckie & Co.,
3225 South Park Ave., Chicago, Ill.

15 CENTS TO \$1.25.

To every reader of this paper enclosing stamp for terms and sample. No stamp no reply. Address: AGENTS' FRIEND, Tipton, Ind.

Editors inserting this and above will receive same space in Agents' Friend. Would like to continue 6 months.

Dealers and Collectors.

ADHESIVE PAPER,

For mounting stamps, at
WHOLESALE.

Sample Sheet,	\$ 10
Per dozen	.85
Per 25	1.35
Per 100	4.00

POST-PAID EXCEPT IN 100 LOTS.

Sheets are 17x22 inches square. 5,984 hinges 1-8x1-2 inches can be cut from a shingle sheet.

F. K. RISING,
LENA, ILL.

TO STAMP DEALERS!

EXTRACT FROM WHOLESALE LIST.

	Per 12	Per 100		Per 12	Per 100
*Argentine Rep. 1862	5c.	12c.	8oc.	Colonials only well mixed	6c. 37c
Brazil 20 kinds mixed	66c.		1000	\$3.	
Cape Col. (Tri.) assd.	\$1.		Turkey 12 kinds	50c	
*Bergedorf in sets of 5.	10 sets	66c	Hanover head	10c.	70c
100 sets	\$4.50.		Bulgaria 14 to 16 kinds	\$1.50	
Chili 12 kinds assd.	96c.		Egypt well mixed	8c.	50c
" common mixed	7c.	60c.	Greece " "	7c.	37c
Orange Free States ass'd,	14c	\$1.10	Bosnia " "	14c.	\$1.25
Guatemala, bird, 1 to 2oc,	25c	1.56	Roumania " "	7c.	37c
Servia mixed 14 kinds	75c		St. Vincent " "	18c.	\$1.50
Finland assd.	8c.	36c	Persia " "	37c	\$2.10
Fiji 1c 2c and 6c.	3oc	\$2.50	Mauritius ass'd	14c.	\$1.10
Japan 7 kinds	12c.	66c	Turkey 12 kinds	50c	

ALL STAMPS MARKED * ARE UNUSED.

SEND FOR LARGE WHOLESALE LIST GRATIS & POST-FREE.

ALL ORDERS OF \$1. AND UPWARDS SENT POST-FREE.

ORIGINAL MAURITIUS (BRITANNIA.)

Vermilion	}	Value not indicated.
Red Brown		
Blue		
Sixpence, lilac-brown impert.,		
Sixpence grey perforated.		

PER SET OF FIVE (UNUSED) \$1.10 POST FREE.

12 SETS FOR \$10.

ALL STAMPS GUARANTEED GENUINE AND ORIGINAL.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE GRATIS & POST FREE.

ADDRESS:

EDWIN ENGLAND,

Foreign Stamp Importer and Philatelic Publisher,
LORNE ST., HULL, ENGLAND.

20 CENTS WILL PAY for 1 inch trial advertisement in the

COLLECTORS' CAPRICE,

a monthly, devoted to Oology, Stamps, Coins, etc. 15c per year. HOTCHKISS & DILLON, 88 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, N. Y. Publishers inserting this and above will receive same in Caprice. Send 2 copies.

Wm. E. Cantner,

Greencastle, Franklin Co., Pa.,

COLLECTS COINS, MEDALS, STAMPS,
—ETC., ETC.—

CORRESPONDENCE IN THIS LINE
SOLICITED.



The Collectors' Gazette

VOL. III. BROOKLYN, N. Y., OCT. & NOV., 1884. NOS. 6 & 7.

SARDINIA AND ITS STAMPS.

By Phranq.

Many a young collector is sorely puzzled at reading "Sardinia" in his catalogue and in finding no such country mentioned in his album. To enlighten him somewhat on this subject will be the mission of this article.

The Kingdom of Sarlinia was a former kingdom of Italy, and was the nucleus of the present kingdom of Italy. It included at the time of its annexation to Italy the duchy of Genoa, and parts of those of Montferrat and Milan, the principality of Piedmont, the islands of Sardinia and Caprera, and the Austrian portion of the Milanese. It contained an area of 21099 sq. miles, with a population of about 6530000. King Victor Emmanuel II. succeeded to the throne of Sardinia, March 23, 1849, and was chosen king of Italy, March 17, 1861.

THE STAMPS.

The first set of stamps was issued in 1851. Values; 5 centesimi, black; 20c., blue; 40c. rose. Description:--Profile of King Victor Emmanuel II. to right in oval in center; "Postes" and numerals of value above; "Franco" at left; "Bollo" at right; value be-

low, all in straight lines on solid ground; ornaments in each corner also in each corner of rectangle which contains oval. The inscription below on 5 centesimi stamp is "c.-cinque," on 20c. "c.-venti," on 40c. "c.-quaranta."

The next issue was in 1853. It consisted of the same number and of same values as before. The design is the same as last issue, embossed on colored paper. Colors; green, blue and rose paper, respectively.

Stamps; of same values and having same design as last, with head and oval, white in colored frame; were issued in 1864. Colors; green, blue and rose respectively.

A set of Newspaper Stamps were issued in 1860. Values; 1c. (expressed "Uno" on stamps) and 2c. (expressed "Due") black. The color of the 2c. was changed to buff in 1862. Description:--Embossed numeral in oval on white ground in rectangle of wavy lines; "Franco Bollo" above, value below, "Giornali" at left, "Stampe" at right side in straight lines. Sardinian cross in each corner.

A new series of postage stamps, of same design as last issue, with the head only embossed, and the inscription in white letters, was issued in 1858. These stamps

were also used in the kingdom of Italy, so they belong to Italy as much as Sardinia. Values: 5c. green; 10c. (expressed "DIECI" on stamp) buff; 20c. blue; 40c. bright red; 80c. (expressed "OTTANIA") orange. A 3 lira ("TRE") stamp was added in 1860. Color: bronze. Also a 15c. ("QUINDICA") blue, stamp was issued in 1863.

All of the preceding stamps were unperforated.

The last set, with the exception of the 15c. and 3l. stamps, was issued perforated 1862.

— O —

NOT VALUED BY ITS STAMP.

—

WHAT COLLECTORS ARE WILLING TO PAY FOR GOOD SPECIMENS OF SOME OLD PRODUCTIONS OF THE MINTS. —

Some interesting facts concerning the value of rare United State coins are found in a catalogue issued by a Philadelphia numismatist. A United States silver dollar of 1804 heads the list as exceedingly rare. It is valued at \$600. The obverse has the portrait of a woman with head thrown back in a strained and awkward position and long curling hair hanging down below the shoulders. Over the head is the word "Liberty," and below the head is the date 1804. Between the word and the date are thirteen stars, seven back of the head and six opposite the face. The reverse of the coin bears the United States shield and the words "United States of America." The Carolina ele-*

On the obverse is a crudely drawn figure of an elephant, and on the reverse the inscription, "God preserve Carolina and the Lords Proprietors 1694." The Sommer Island shilling, a brass coin struck about 1616, is said to be the first coin ever issued in America. The obverse has the figure of a wild boar, surrounded by words "Island Sommer." Over the animal are the numerals "XII." The reverse has a picture of an ancient ship, or rather two of them, four masts, with sails set, being visible. There is a six pence of the same coinage, the only difference being that the VI is substituted for the XII. Only three of these shillings and one sixpence are known to exist. Each is valued at \$100.

The "Immune Columbia" Nova Constellatio, issued in 1783, is very rare, and is worth from \$20 to a \$100, according to condition. Upon one side is an eye surrounded by a circle from which shoot out rays. Around this are thirteen stars, and outside of the stars are the words "Nova Constellatio." Upon the other side is a figure of Justice, the words "Immune Columbia" and the date. Another coin valued at \$100, is what is known as the naked Washington bust cent, dated 1792. The obverse bears a medallion of some person looking more like a Roman Emperor than like the Father of his Country. A satisfied smirk upon this gentleman's face can be explained only by the fact that his curly hair is tied with a bit of ribbon, the ends of which hang down his

*Insert "phant."

back. The inscription is: "Washington, President. 1792." The national emblem ornaments the reverse, six stars clustering around the eagle's head. The word cent is placed above it. A "Washington piece," the value of which does not appear on the coin, is valued at \$100. when of silver, and \$50. when of copper. The portrait of Washington, who on this coin is represented as evolving to the left, is fair. Except the portrait the design of the obverse is the same as the one last described. The reverse has the national emblem, above which are 12 stars. In the eagle's beak is a scroll bearing the words "Unum E Pluribus." The date is 1792.

The first silver coins struck in America were the New-England shilling, sixpence, and threepence, issued about 1652. The specimens of these illustrated in the catalogue are perfectly plain except for the letters "me" on the obverse and Roman numerals indicating the value upon the reverse. The value of each coin now is \$50. The Granby or Higby coppers, thought to be the first American copper coins, were made by John Higby, of Granby, Conn., from 1737 to 1739. Up on the obverse is the figure of a deer surrounded by the cheerful invitation "Value me as you please." The reverse bears a circle inclosing three curious designs resembling mallets, the heads of which are surmounted by crowns and the crowns by crosses. Around the circle are the words, "I am good copper," a hand, three masses of little circles.

and a date—1737. These coins are valued at \$75. each. Only four pieces of "Brasher's Doubloon," a gold coin issued in 1787, are known to exist, and they are worth \$50. each. The inscription around the central circle on the obverse is "Nova Eboræ Columbia; Excelsior." Within the circle is a design representing the sun peering over the tops of some hills. On the foreground is the word "Blasphem."

To Be Continued.

A COIN SWINDLER ARRESTED.

B. F. Sievettse, alias B. Sivells, alias F. C. Nellse, advertised in several Eastern and Southern papers for "old and uncommon coins," but in this list he took care to include many of recent date, and offered two and threefold their face value for them. The result was the letters, most of which contained enclosures of coins, began pouring in on Sivettse, and as he was only a night operator in the employ of the United States Railroad at Stromburg, Nebraska, this fact created suspicion in the mind of Inspector King, of Omaha, and he began an investigation. Sievettse got wind of this fact and fled. He was followed by Inspector King, who finally succeeded in finding his man at Oberlin, Ohio, and arrested him and took him back to the scene of his crime. *Agent's Her.*

Items of interest to collectors will be gratefully received from any one.

GRENADA AND ITS STAMPS

By Phranqe.

Grenada is an island of volcanic origin lying in the West Indies. It contains an area of 133 square miles, with a population of about 37,000. It was discovered by Columbus on his third voyage in 1498, at which time it was inhabited by Caribs, who were afterwards extirminated by the French, into whose hands Grenada came about the middle of the 17th. century. It finally fell into the possession of Great Britain in 1783. Of the entire population only about 500 are white, the remainder being colored. The capital of the island is St. George.

THE STAMPS.

Grenada first issued stamps in 1860. This issue consisted of only two values; 1 penny, green, and 6 pence, lake. Description:—Crowned head of Victoria, in oval, in center, on solid ground; "GRENADA" above, value below, on solid ground; Maltese crosses in corners. The whole is laid on a lined background.

In 1864 these stamps were issued with a watermark of a star.

The color of the sixpence was changed to orange in 1866. This color varied greatly, sometimes being nearly red.

In 1876 a stamp was issued having no indicated value. Description:—Crowned head of Queen in circle, in center, on solid ground; "GRENADA" below; ornaments in corners. The whole is laid on a lined back ground. This stamp

was printed in purple and surcharged; "POSTAGE" above, "ONE SHILLING" below, the same year.

The same stamp was printed in violet and surcharged 1-2 penny in 1881. It was also printed in claret and surcharged 2 1-2 pence, and printed in blue and surcharged 4 pence, the same year. In 1883 it was printed in yellow and surcharged 1 penny.

The following stamps were issued in eighteen-eighty-two: 1-2 penny, green; 1 penny, rose; 2 1-2 p., blue; 4 p., slate; 6 p., mauve; 1 shilling, violet. Description:—Crowned head of Victoria in center, in octagon, on lined ground; "GRENADA" above, value below; ornamented corners to fill out octagon, and 16 small diamonds at each side of octagon in horizontal lines.

SOMETHING FOR COLLECTORS.

We are now supplying collectors with a first class Gummed Paper. This paper is prepared especially for mounting stamps, and the gum used, being made of pure Gum Arabic, there is no danger of its turning the stamps yellow. Another excellent feature of this paper that it is arranged so that with one cut of the scissors you make TEN hinges.

We will sell three sheets of this paper for ten cents postpaid.

NOW'S THE TIME.

Send *six* one cent stamps and receive in payment the CAPRICE for six months on trial. Don't fail to avail yourself of the above offer as it will only last a few weeks.

EXCHANGE NOTICES.

OPEN TO ALL.

Rare foreign and United Stamps, coins, birds' eggs, minerals, fossils, petrifications and sea-curiosities, etc. for Indian relics of all kinds. James C. Jay, La Hoyte, Henry Co., Iowa.

Collecteur, Box 185, Franklin, O. 20 mixed stamps for each match or medicine stamp. 275 stamps for the first 27 numbers of this paper. Soil, stones and wood from Ohio for the same from other states. Copies of the "Youths' Companion" '79-'84; "Harper's Young People" '82, stamp papers for offers of stamps, coins and curiosities.

We exchange all kinds of goods, such as printing presses, type, borders, cards, type cases, musical instruments, guns, watches, telescopes, microscopes, rubber stamps, story papers, comic papers, books, etc. If you have anything to exchange write us, give condition, cost etc., and state what you want in exchange. Union Exchange Agency, Box 235, Canajoharie, N. Y.

Minerals, fossils, stamps, coins, and curiosities, for match, medicine and revenue stamps, coins, Indian relics, minerals, fossils, petrifications, birds' eggs, Confederate Bills, and fractional currency. James C. Jay, La Hoyt, Henry Co., Iowa.

NEW ISSUES.

[Stamp World.]

GOLD COAST.—The 1-2d. has been changed in color to green, as announced some time ago.

HUNGARY.—We learn that the

2 kr. official card has been issued for the use of tax collectors.

GUINEA.—The following have appeared the design is new, being a portrait of the king:

5 reis black,	40 reis yellow,
10 " green,	50 " blue,
20 " red,	100 " lilac,
25 " violet,	200 " orange,
	300 reis brown.

LEVANT.—The color of the 7 kopec is now dark blue.

MEXICO.—A 25 centavo green is to be added to the new set.

NEW CALEDONIA.—There have been several changes in the surcharges.

NORWAY.—An official card for army use has been issued.

PARAGUAY.—The one real 1870 has been surcharged "1" in black, and was used as one centavo while awaiting a new supply. The color of the new one centavo is green.

PERU.—The five centavo card has been surcharged in various ways and designs.

The Philatelic World chronicles the following:

PERAK.—The 4c rose of Straits Settlements is surcharged "2 cents—Perak." in two vertical lines.

TOLIMA.—Dr. Michelsen has sent us some new stamps for this State. The arms are in the center in a circle, above which in a pointed oval, "Eo. So. del Tolima" and below in a similar oval the value. They are unperforated. 1c. gray; 2c. lilac; 2 1-2c. red; 5c. brown; 10c. blue; 20c. yellow; 25c. black; 50c. dark green; 1 peso, red; 2 pesos, purple.

The Collectors' Caprice.

Reduced Subscription Price: One year, post-paid, 18 cents.

Reduced Advertising Rates: 1 line, 3 cts; 1 inch, 20 cts.; 1 column, \$1.10; 1 page \$2.00. Ads. must be in by the 20th. of the month to insure insertion in next number. Above rates to last until further notice.

HOTCHKISS & DILLONT,

88 Prospect Pl.,

Brooklyn, N. Y.

OCT., & NOV., 1884.

The firm of C. H. Mekeel & Co. has desolved. The business will be carried on by their successors, the Carson Stamp Co., of Chicago, Illinois.

Dealers! Send in your advertisement for insertion in our December number. Although it will have an extra large circulation, the Advertising Rates will remain the same. Remember it only costs 20 cts. an inch, and it is worth a trial at least. "Copy" for advertisements received up to Dec. 20.

When answering advertisements, you will confer a favor upon us by mentioning this paper.

We are sorry that we have been compelled to issue a double number, but we could not do otherwise. We shall endeavor to turn over a new leaf with the new year, and publish our paper regularly, once a month.


YOUR COLLECTION.

A person, not a collector, always alludes to stamps as "bits of paper" which sounds rather queer to the

owner, who is sometimes put out, when a visitor fails to appreciate his collection. We have often been asked, "How should I start a collection." We should say—take some responsible dealer and buy your stamps from him, either in packets, or by approval sheets. Above all things keep your collection neat and clean. We take the following from a philatelic paper.

"Now in collecting stamps, you should not try and see how many stamps you can get, but how fine a lot of stamps. A few badly torn or defaced stamps hurt the looks of a whole collection. Always bear in mind that a counterfeit or torn stamp, no matter how rare it may be, is worthless, and should not be allowed to enter your collection. In buying or exchanging for a stamp, if you are not a good judge of counterfeits, show it to some friend or collector that is, and be satisfied that it is genuine before purchasing. There are several counterfeits of rare stamps, such as San Domingo, Reunion Isles, Buenos Ayres, Pacific Steam Navigation Co., Paraguay, Bolivia, and other stamps, of course designs that are very deceiving afloat. So it is policy to use good judgment in purchasing from reliable dealers, or persons personally known to you.

—*Philatelist's Friend.*

 Publishers who intend to discontinue the publication of their Journals, would do well to write us in regard to the transfer of their subscription list.

HOW TO FIND LOCALS.

By P. LA T.

A great amount of interest is taken by Philatelists in United States Locals, but the difficulty of making anything like a respectable collection of these rarities deters many from paying them any attention, preferring rather to let them alone than to make an incomplete and poor showing in an otherwise fine collection. This is not as it should be. All American collectors should give the early Locals issues as much attention and thought as the Government issues of the same day.

To find Locals, however, is difficult, and a Local collector should have the patience of a fisherman, and the perseverance of a hunter to aid him in his researches; he will meet with many disappointments and rebuffs. It is hard to make his friends take any interest in his hobby. They will say: "*The stamp fever left me when I left school!*" "Oh no, it is not worth while looking for them, they didn't use letters in the days you mention," or, "We destroyed all our old letters last year," or, "We have some trunks of letters in the garret, but it is so dusty there that we do not care to look among them." But patience! Tell your friends that you are not afraid of the dusty garret; ask them for the privilege of looking yourself through some of the trunks of old letters left, perhaps by their fathers or grandfathers, and if you are fortunate enough to obtain the necessa-

ry permission you can pass some hours of very conflicting though delightful emotions in looking over them.

You find a package dated 1843; you look over them rapidly and find them all hand stamped except one, which has perhaps a "U. S. Despatch Post" 3 cent on it, and if it should be only the green and not the buff or violet variety, Washington never appeared so handsome to you before as he does in the engraving on this interesting stamp. You are well paid if the rest of the letters are blanks. You next find a package marked 1844, suggestive of the Big Boyd, but if you even find a Heavy Oval or Thin Neck of the same Despatch, you are overjoyed. How carefully you will fold the letter, taking care not to crease the stamp, and how carefully you will put it away in your pocket book, to take it out now and then to be sure it is safe, and to admire it over again.

Believe us, the collector with money to spend never feels as he buys a Kidder or Swarts, as the person does who brings them out of their hiding place of years.

Among these old letters you will find a very flowery valentine of fifty years ago, or an autograph of some person since grown famous, or perhaps a telegram of Morse's first Telegraph Company, a list of its very limited offices on its heading with the warning, that all offices close at 8 P. M., and you are sure to find many curious hand stamps on letters from Government

Post Offices, many dated long after the issue of adhesive stamps. So if you only find half-a-dozen varieties of Locals in these old trunks you will feel amply repaid for your trouble, and for the polite snubbing you get from the owner of the letters, and for the clouds of dust you raised in looking them over, treasure carefully what you have found, and seek for new worlds of old trunks and boxes.
—*Bayonne Philatelist*

YOUNG STAMP COLLECTORS.

By H. O. Ward.

With our young collectors the task of discriminating between the various modes of stamp collecting is one of some moment, and the sooner a collector decides upon a plan, the better it is for him. A great many collect upon the so-called French plan, which advises the collector to admit into his album every variety of shade, color, and perforation which exists. This plan has its advantages as well as its disadvantages. A collection so arranged on the French system presents a source of never-failing delight and instruction to the true philatelist, or for a dealer, or an editor of a philatelic publication, it is of great advantage as a reference; still it has some defects, being very expensive, and requiring a large amount of time and labor to be properly arranged; and then again, a collection can never be made as complete, as some of the varieties are now unobtainable, and others so extremely scarce that

only a few are to be met with, and those being held at such a figure that only the wealthy collector can hope to give them a place in his album.

Then there is the English system of collecting, which is only a slight modification of the French plan, and as it is on the same principle, the same remarks will hold good for it also. Perhaps the plan which has the greatest number of adherents on this continent is the American school, which advises the collection of only one variety in a stamp, and denounces the collection of every slight variety, which the French plan advocates. This system is perhaps the best for young collectors; being more simple and requiring a less expenditure of money.

Then a collection arranged on this plan has more interest to the casual observer, who cannot see why a distinction should be made between two stamps because one has perforated edges and the other not; or one may be darker in shade than another, when in all other respects they are identical.

Another thing in its favor is that a collection can more easily be made a complete collection. A collector can very easily obtain one variety of almost every stamp, when if he attempted the feat of accumulating one of every slight variety it would only be accomplished after years of time and labor, and at a great expense.

—*Old Curiosity Shop.*

Send 20 cents for a 1 inch "ad." in our Dec. number. It will pay.

CURIOSITIES!

Price lists and a curiosity FREE. Enclose two one cent stamps to pay postage and packing. J. M. BEERS, 126 E. Water St., Elmira, N. Y.

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Publishers inserting above and this, will receive Rubber Stamps, made to order, to the value of \$1.25. Send two papers.

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15 kinds of rare Iowa minerals, large sized fragments, 25 cts. 9 kinds of 1x1 for 25 cts. 2x2 specimens 10 cts. each. Stamps sent on approval on receipt of postage. JAMES O. JAY, La Hoyt, Henry Co., Iowa.

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A cloth bound dictionary containing 30,000 words, 250 engravings, and a Rubber name stamp, with full outfit—sent post free for \$1.00. 200 copies printed from one writing, with my Chirograph. Full instruction for making Chirograph \$1.00. W. H. STEELE, Belmond, Iowa.

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ELECTED!!!**Grover Cleveland.**

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7	Old Black Joe.	124	Old Log Cabin on the Hill	380	You'll Miss Me, When I'm Gone
8	Home, Sweet Home.	130	'Comin' Thro' the Kye.	337	Razors in the Air.
12	See that my graves' kept Green	131	Must We Then Meet as Strangers.	399	Carrie Lee.
19	Nancy Lee.			404	Boys Keep Away from the Girls
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26	Whoa Emma.	177	Sweet Evangeline	435	Joe Bowers.
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35	When I Saw Sweet Nellie Home	189	Darling Minnie Lee.	508	Mother Says I Musn't.
45	Poor Old Slave.	224	Come, Birdie, Come.	523	Only to See Her Face Again.
77	My Old Kentucky Home.	242	Farmer's Daughter.	532	Peek-a-boo.
85	Gipsy's Warning.	243	O, dem Golden Slippers.	586	I'm Dying for Some One to Love Me.
109	Kitty Wells.	255	Little Brown Jug.	635	When the Robins Nest Again.
119	Take Me Back to Home and Mother.	262	Hush my Darling Do Not Weep	636	I'll Await, My Love.
		267	Little Nell of Narragansett Bay		

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One man says: "Received the ink receipt, and have made up several lots of the ink. The ink is a brilliant black, the best I ever saw. My boys have sold it as fast I could make it, in all now over forty dollars worth, to neighbors and people about here."

These are genuine receipts from a real ink man now offered to the public.

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100 FOREIGN STAMPS and large new Circular sent for five one cent stamps, if you name this paper. GEO. H. RICHMOND, Northfield, Vt.

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F. O. WEHOSKEY & CO., Providence, R. J.

WHOOP! If you have anything you wish to exchange, DON'T FAIL to write to the Union Exchange Agency, P. O. Box 235, Canajoharie, N. Y. List of goods we have to exchange sent free. Book entitled "How We Do Business" for 5 cents cash or stamps. **Whoop!**

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Per 100.....	4.00

Sheets are 17x22 inches square. Over 10 000 hinges 1-3x1-2 inches can be cut from a single sheet.

F. K. RISING,
LENA, ILL.

TO STAMP DEALERS!

EXTRACT FROM WHOLESALE LIST.

	Per 12	Per 100		Per 12	Per 100
* Argentine Rep. 1862 5c.	12c.	80c.	Colonials only well mixed	6c.	37c
Brazil 20 kinds mixed	66c.		1000	\$3.	
Cape Col. (Tri.) assd.	\$1		Turkey 12 kinds	50c	
* Bergedorf in sets of 5.	10 sets	66c	Hanover head	10c.	70c
100 sets	\$4.50.		Bulgaria 14 to 16 kinds	\$1.50	
Chili 12 kinds assd.	96c.		Egypt well mixed	8c.	50c
" common mixed	7c	60c.	Greece " "	7c.	37c
Orange Free States ass'd,	14c	\$1.10	Bosnia " "	14c.	\$1.25
Guatemala, bird, 1 to 20c,	25c	1.56	Roumania " "	7c.	37c
Servia mixed 14 kinds	75c		St. Vincent " "	18c.	\$1.50
Finland assd.	8c.	56c	Persia " "	37c	\$2.10
Fiji 1c 2c and 6c.	30c	\$2.50	Mauritius ass'd	14c.	\$1.10
Japan 7 kinds	12c.	66c	Turkey 12 kinds	50c	

ALL STAMPS MARKED * ARE UNUSED

SEND FOR LARGE WHOLESALE LIST GRATIS & POST-FREE.

ALL ORDERS OF \$1. AND UPWARDS SENT POST-FREE.

ORIGINAL MAURITIUS (BRITANNIA.)

Vermilion
Red Brown
Blue

Value not indicated.

Sixpence, lilac-brown impert.
Sixpence grey perforated.

PEB SET OF FIVE (UNUSED) \$1.10 POST FREE.

12 SETS FOR \$10.

ALL STAMPS GUARANTEED GENUINE AND ORIGINAL

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE GRATIS & POST FREE.

ADDRESS:

EDWIN ENGLAND,

Foreign Stamp Importer and Philatelic Publisher,
LORNE ST., HULL, ENGLAND.

20 CENTS WILL PAY for 1 inch trial advertisement in the

COLLECTORS' CAPRICE,

a monthly, devoted to Oology, Stamps, Coins, etc.
15c per year. HOTCHKISS & DILLON,
88 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, N. Y. Publishers inserting this and above will receive same in Caprice. Send 2 copies.

ATTENTION—COLLECTORS!!!

Having an elegant assortment of rare stamps, I will send to responsible parties a fine selection of my renowned APPROVAL SHEETS. Reference or a deposit required. Advanced collectors send me their list of wants. Note the address

I. E. COHEN,

248 King St,

Charleston, S. C.

The Collectors' Gazette

VOL. IV

BROOKLYN, N. Y., JAN., 1885

NO. 1.

NOT VALUED BY ITS STAMP.

WHAT COLLECTORS ARE WILLING TO PAY FOR GOOD SPECIMENS OF SOME OLD PRODUCTIONS OF THE MINTS.

[Continued.]

Another valuable coin is the New Jersey copper, of which there were several varieties. They were coined under authority given W. Mould, Albion Cox, and Thomas Goadsby, and the price they bring now ranges from 10 cents to \$150. The general design on the obverse is a head like a chess pawn, underneath which is a plow, the coulter of which is just above the date. Surrounding this are the words "Nova Cæsarea." The reverse has a shield surrounded by the words "E Pluribus Unum." The most valuable of this set has a head of Washington instead of the pawn's head.

The "Inimica Tyrannis" copper, issued in 1785, has a figure of an archer surrounded by the words "Inimica Tyrannis America" on the obverse, and 13 stars surrounded by rays, and the inscription "Confederatio. 1785," on the reverse. It is valued at \$20. The Washington cent, issued in 1792, is valued at \$10., and a half dollar of the same issue \$25. Although

"Pine-tree shillings" were coined 30 years, yet all seem to bear the date, namely, 1652. Sixpences, and three and two pence pieces of this style were also issued. The shillings are worth from \$2.50 to \$8. "Oak-tree" shillings are worth \$2.50 to \$7. The United States bar cent, a coin believed to have been made in England in 1785, and sent to this country, has on the obverse a simple monogram composed of the letters U. S. A., and on the reverse 13 parallel ridges, or bars. A good specimen of this coin is worth 3 or 4 dollars. Specimens of the early Maryland money, issued under the proprietorship in Maryland of Lord Baltimore, are exceedingly rare. The coins were made of silver, and included shillings, sixpence, and groats. Good specimens are worth 20 dollars. The Excelsior coppers of New York have on the obverse the State coat of arms, and on the reverse the national emblem, "E Pluribus Unum," and the date 1787. Good pieces are worth 20 dollars. The New York Washington cent was a copper coin issued in 1786, and good specimens are worth 10 dollars. Upon the obverse is a head of the first president, surrounded by the words "Non vi Virtute Vici." The reverse has a figure of Justice, date. 'Neo-Eboracensis.'

The first United States tradesmen's token, so far as known, was issued by the Motts, of New York, in 1789. The obverse has a clock, and the reverse an American eagle. The inscriptions are, very naturally, an advertisement of the wares which the Motts, who were jewelers, had to offer. Specimens of this coin are worth \$1.50.

Of the gold eagles issued by the United States, that of 1796* An uncirculated specimen of that date is worth \$23. Uncirculated specimens of the gold half eagle, of 1815 are worth 100 dollars, while those of 1824 and '32 are worth 25 dollars each. The gold quarter eagle of 1796 is valued at \$17.50 if uncirculated. Good specimens of the silver dollar of 1795 and '96 are rated at 6 dollars each. A proof specimen of the "Gobrecht" silver dollar of 1836 brings 75 dollars, and of '38 and '39, \$45. each. Uncirculated specimens of silver dollars issued in 1851-2 are worth \$47. A proof specimen of the Bland silver dollar, that is, the standard dollar, in which the eagle has eight feathers in its tail is catalogued at \$10. Proof of trade dollars from '79 to '82, inclusive, are worth \$3. —*New York Times.*

TASMANIA AND ITS STAMPS.

By PHRAUQ.

Tasmania is an island of considerable size, lying in the South Pacific ocean, and is separated from Australia by the strait of Bass. It contains an area of 26,300 square miles, with a population of over

64,000. The western part of the island is almost uninhabited, owing to the poor soil, climate, and inaccessibility. It is a British colony, and since '54 the governing authority has been vested in a parliament, consisting of the governor as the queen's representative, and two elective houses, the legislative council of 16, and the assembly of 32 members.

Tasmania was discovered by Tasman on Dec. 1, 1642, and named by him VAN DIEMAN'S LAND in honor of the governor of the Dutch possessions in the East Indies. It was placed under the care of New South Wales, but was declared independent of it in 1825. The name first given it was changed to Tasmania about '58.

THE STAMPS.

The first issue was in '53. It consisted of two values; 1 penny, blue and 4 pence, orange. Description: Small profile of Victoria to right in oval; "VAN DIEMAN'S LAND" above, value below in belt which surrounds oval, on white ground; the remainder of the stamp is made up of crossed lines and the whole is enclosed in a frame having truncated corners. The profile on the 4p. stamp is in a circle, with the inscription in belt; the whole is enclosed in octagon. These were printed in sheets of twenty-four, each slightly different.

The following stamps were issued in '55. 1 p. red, 2 p. green, 4 p. blue. Each color very dark. Description: Crowned portrait of Queen in oval, "VAN DIEMAN'S LAND" above in curve, value below

*Insert "is the most valuable."

in straight line, "POSTAGE" above value in small letters; ornaments in each corner to fill out stamp. These have a watermark of a star.

The same stamps were issued between 1855 and '60 without a watermark. The colors also varied somewhat.

In 1860 they were issued with watermark, figure of value.

The preceding stamps were unperforated. They were issued perforated in 1864. A 6p., and 1 shilling stamp was issued in '58. Description:—Crowned head of Queen in center, in fancy octagonal frame in the 6p., and plain octagon in the 1 shilling; "TASMANIA" above, value below. The 6p. was issued in grey, lilac, brown, and violet, and the 1 shilling in bright red. They are unperforated, but were issued perforated in 1860.

The next issue was in '70. Values—1p. rose, having watermark, "10." 2p. green, watermark, "2." 3p. claret, watermark, "T. A. S." Description:—Crowned profile of Queen in oval in center; "TASMANIA" above, value below in curved lines, enclosed in ornamental frame.

The following having same design as last issue, were added in 1871—4 pence, blue, 9 pence, blue, 10 pence, black, and 5 shillings, bright violet. The color of the 4 pence was changed to yellow in 1876. A new value—8 pence violet brown—was added in 1879.

There are two shades of the 1 pence, three of the 2 pence, and four of the three pence.

DIFFERENT VALUES OF A COIN.

Perhaps many of our readers, not numismatists, upon reading the article on our first page, will not understand the various numismatic expressions used in it. We therefore take the liberty of clipping following explanations from *Granite State Philatelist*.

"The prices paid for coins vary according to their condition. A coin badly worn may be worth only its face value; while the same date in uncirculated condition may be worth many dollars.

Poor coins are those which have only part of their design visible.

Fair coins are those which are somewhat worn, but have the greater part of their designs plain and distinct.

Good coins are those which have every part plain and distinct, no portion of the designs, legends, or dates being worn from the pieces by being in circulation.

Fine coins are those which, while they have been in circulation, show only the slightest wear.

Uncirculated coins are strictly unused, being in the condition they were when first issued from the Mint, showing no signs whatever of the least rubbing or wear.

Proof coins are those pieces which have been coined at the Mint for the use of collectors, and are strictly unused, having a polished mirror like surface."

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Reduced Subscription Price: One year, post-paid, 18 cents.

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HOTCHKISS & DILLONT.

88 Prospect Pl., Brooklyn, N. Y.

JANUARY, 1885.

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Owing to the exceedingly late appearance of the November CAPRICE, we decided not to publish a December number. Our object in this is, that we may be enabled to issue the CAPRICE promptly on the 25th of each month.

Subscribers will receive the full number of papers paid for.

Dealers, whose advertisements appear in this number, will have the advantages of an extra large circulation.

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Send 25 cents for 10 Foreign stamps 2 Foreign postcards and Catalogue of our stamps. Unused stamps taken in payment, or used rare Confederate States.

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I am at all times prepared to send out elegant selections of stamps on receipt of GOOD reference or deposit.

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ESTABLISHED 1823.

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Obverse Kriss Kringle, reverse Lord's Prayer, struck in imitation of fine gold, size 5-8 inch in diameter, mounted with silk ribbons, forwarded to any address for 10cts.

Popular Songs ONE CENT Each.

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4 Ella Ree.	121 Kiss me, Mother, Kiss Your Darling.	322 Yellow Rose of Texas.
5 Old Cabin Home.		371 Sweet Nellie Mahone.
7 Old Black Joe.	124 Old Log Cabin on the Hill	330 You'll Miss Me, When I'm Gone
8 Home, Sweet Home.	Com'ing Thro' the Bye.	337 Razors in the Air.
12 See that my graves' kept Green	131 Must We Then Meet as Strangers.	339 Carrie Lee.
19 Nancy Lee.		419 Boys Keep Away from the Girls
22 Old Folks at Home.	145 Mollie Darling.	429 A Violet from Mother's Grave.
24 Sweet By-and-By.	141 My Daughter Julia.	417 Marys' Gone with a Coon.
26 Whoa Emma.	177 Sweet Evangeline.	425 Joe Bowers.
28 You'll Remember Me.	135 Don't be Angry, Darling.	420 Over the Garden Wall.
36 When I Saw Sweet Nellie Home	189 Darling Minnie Lee.	428 Mother Says I Musn't.
45 Poor Old Slave.	224 Come, Biddle, Come.	523 Only to See Her Face Again.
77 My Old Kentucky Home.	212 Farmer's Daughter.	522 Peek-a-boo.
95 Gipsy's Warning.	213 O, dem Golden Slippers.	526 I'm Dying for Some One to Love Me.
109 Kitty Wells.	235 Little Brown Jug.	635 When the Robins Nest Again.
119 Take Me Back to Home and Mother.	242 Ha! ha my Darling Do Not Weep	635 I'll Await, My Love.
	237 Little Nell of Narragansett Bay	

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Sample by mail, Postpaid, 10 cents. 9 for 25 cents, 25 for a dollar.

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INKS.

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Etc. Etc.
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Each.

I will send to anyone for 25 cents a recipe for making the BRILLIANT BLACK INK used by the leading gentlemen of the country, and for which there is such great demand. Ink cannot be sent by mail, and the express charges on a small quantity would be so much that few could afford to buy it.

It is easily made from the receipt; costs but a few cents to make a gallon; would be a very salable article at a big profit anywhere where people are at all particular in regard to their penmanship.

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One man says: "I received the ink receipt, and have made up several lots of the ink. The ink is a brilliant black, the best I ever saw. My boys have sold it as fast as I could make it, in all our over forty colors worth, to neighbors and people about here."

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In Plain or Fancy,
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INK & PADS, 25 C.

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I employ no agents
so can supply stamps at about
one-half usual prices.

INK PER BOTTLE 15 CENTS.

GIVE ME AN ORDER;

YOU WILL NOT REGRET IT.

Rubber Stamp Works,

LOCK BOX 76, LENA, ILL.

100 FOREIGN STAMPS and large new Circular sent for five one cent stamps, if you name this paper. GEO. H. RICHMOND, Northfield, Vt.

100 FOREIGN STAMPS AND
100 Scott's International Stamp Album for \$1.60, post-paid. Coats of Arms and Flags of the World for \$1.00; or .50 each. HOTCHKISS & DILLONT, 88 Prospect Place, Brooklyn, N. Y.

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15 CENTS TO \$1.25.

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Dealers and Collectors.

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Sheets are 17x22 inches square. Over 10 000 hinges 1-8x1-2 inches can be cut from a single sheet.

F. K. RISING,
LENA, ILL.

TO STAMP DEALERS!

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" common mixed	7c 60c.	Greece " "	7c..37c
Orange Free States ass'd,	14c	\$1.10	Bosnia " "	14c.\$1.25
Guatemala, bird, 1 to 20c,	25c	1.56	Roumania " "	7c..37c
Servia mixed 14 kinds	75c	St. Vincent " "	18c.\$1.50
Finland assd.	8c..36c	Persia " "	37c \$2.10
Fiji 1c 2c and 6c	30c \$2.50	Mauritius ass'd	14c.\$1.10
Japan 7 kinds	12c..66c	Turkey 12 kinds	50c

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The Collectors' Caprice

VOL. IV. BROOKLYN, N. Y., FEB., 1885. NO. 2.

ST. HELENA AND ITS STAMPS.

By Paraque.

St. Helena was discovered in 1502 on St. Helena's day (May 22), from which it took its name, by the Portuguese navigator Juan de Nova Castella. It afterward became a Dutch possession, was ceded by Holland about the middle of the 17th century to the English East India Company, and made over by them to the British crown in 1833. Its value consisted in its being a convenient stopping place on the homeward voyage from India. On the outward voyage, however, it was not available for sailing vessels, which, under the influence of the easterly trade-winds, could reach it at last only by overshooting it far both to the west and to the south; and this difficulty of access peculiarly fitted it to be the residence of Napoleon Bonaparte, who languished here in hopeless captivity from '15 to 1821. The nature of the coast, too, would render a hostile landing next to impossible, presenting, as it does, either a natural face of cliffs ranging from 600 to 1200 feet high, or the mouths of ravines protected by forts and other military works. There is one good inlet, called James' Bay, possessing a fine harbor. Here is situated

James' Town, the only place of any note in the island. In the centre of the island rises 'Diana's Peak' to the height of 2,700 feet. The greatest length of the island is 10 1-2 miles, the breadth 7 miles, containing a total area of 47 square miles, containing a population of 6,241.

It is 850 miles from the nearest land, the island of Ascension, and about once and a half as far from the nearest point of the African continent.

THE STAMPS.

St. Helena first issued stamps in '51. This issue comprised only one value, 6 pence, blue. Description:—Crowned head of Victoria to left, in circle, in center; "ST. HELENA," in curved band above; "POSTAGE" and value in two straight lines below, ornamented background, rosettes in lower corners.

This stamp was unperforated and watermarked with a star.

This was issued in '62, perforated, and in '73 with watermark C. C. and crown.

1863—eight issues.

This design is the same as the last with value erased by line, and new value in words surcharged above in black.

'63.—1 penny, red. 4 pence, rose, unperforated. Watermark C. C. and crown.

'64.—1 penny, red. 4 pence, rose. 1 shilling, green.

'68.—2 pence, yellow. 3 pence, purple. 5 shillings, orange, perforated. Watermark C. C. and crown.

GETTING THE STAMPS

A FRAUD ON THE CREDULOUS THAT HAS ITS AMUSING PHASES.

We have clipped the following article from a Brooklyn daily, thinking that it might be of interest to our readers.

It is believed by many that there is a standing offer by the Government, or by a "benevolent gentleman," of a large sum of money to anyone who will devote himself to the collection of a million canceled postage stamps. The vitality of this absurd story would be astonishing were it not for the well known readiness of a large proportion of the public to accept any statement, however incredible, which offers pecuniary advantage to themselves. Hardly a week passes that personal or epistolary inquiries are not received at the post office on this subject, and it is often difficult to convince the inquirer that wealth is not to be acquired by the laborious exploration of waste-baskets and the soaking of old envelopes. As a bore, the "canceled postage stamps" man or boy has come to be considered second to none. The flattering tale of money to be gained varies somewhat in details. Now it is the Postmaster General who, as they have heard, has issued

a proclamation offering a certain sum of money (varying from \$10,000 to \$100) to the first who shall bring to the department the fruits of this queer harvest; again, it is a benevolent, but eccentric old party, male or female, who has held out as an inducement to this stamp hunting the promise of a collegiate education to the enterprising individual who shall first prove his or her industry and perseverance by the collection of the mythical million; then it is a philanthropist who has offered to dispatch a fully equipped missionary to Zululand or Patagonia, or to give an organ to a Sunday school on the same terms. Many of the victims of this delusion make no inquiries as to the truth of this tale that has reached their ears, but, calmly assuming it to be gospel, limit their inquiries to the exact address of the person to whom the stamps are to be sent—whether or no there is any restriction as to the denomination of the stamps—whether foreign stamps will be accepted, etc.

The sober fact is that canceled postage stamps (with the exception of certain ancient issues prized by stamp collectors) have no value save as waste paper, and the collection of them is simply a waste of time. One who has been at some pains to trace the origin of the ensnaring legend reports that he has discovered it in the fact that about forty years ago there appeared in an English newspaper appealing to the charitable to send the canceled stamps from their letters to a certain address in Brighton to

aid the efforts of a poor boy to cover the walls of his bedroom with those defaced effigies of her Majesty—the promise having been made him that on the completion of his task the expenses of his education would be paid by some wealthy crank. The Post Office authorities took the trouble to investigate the matter and found in fact that it was a lad, but that his education—at least in one branch of learning—was already complete, the stamps sent in response to his appeal being cleaned by some process he had discovered and disposed of by him at a discount. His “unjust industry” was of course quickly suppressed, and his operations having opened the eyes of the Post Office authorities to the danger of extensive frauds, measures were taken to guard against it by the use of fugitive inks, which disappear when any liquid is used to remove the canceling marks. But although further mischief in that direction was thus prevented, the young scamp had laid the foundation of the most annoying of myths.

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We have been compelled to suspend the publication of the COLLECTORS' CAPRICE on account of our inability to devote the time necessary to make it a success.

Nearly all of our subscriptions expire with this number, the few remaining will be filled out by the "Keystone Philatelic Gazette."

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