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THE

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STAMP COLLECTOR'S  
POCKET COMPANION.

369

No. 1.  
APRIL,  
1865.  
GRATIS.



PUBLISHED  
On the 1st.  
OF EVERY  
MONTH.

ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.

MANCHESTER:  
THORPE & BURNS, BROWN STREET.

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STAMP COLLECTING.

THE practice of collecting postage stamps is so generally popular, that a few words on this subject may not be out of place. Trifling as the pursuit may at first sight be deemed, it has greatly aided the study of geography, and a knowledge of foreign currency. Many to whom the names of Luzon, Nevis, Nicaragua, conveyed no definite idea, are now able to point out the exact position of each on the map; can calculate the English equivalents of soldi, bajocci, crazie, and lepta: and tell the difference between neugroschen, and silber groschen, skillings-banco, and ore. Nearly every issue has something curious connected with it, and indicates political changes with as much certainty to the collector, as coins

do to the numismatist. To illustrate this, take the stamps of Naples. The first issue was in circulation from 1857 till 1860; when the king was dethroned, and a temporary stamp was adopted bearing the Savoy cross. On the annexation of Naples to Sardinia, this again was superseded by one bearing the effigy of Victor Emmanuel, though still retaining the Neapolitan "grani" currency. *Mount Brown's Catalogue.*

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### THE HISTORY OF THE POSTAGE STAMP.

The Postage Stamp had its origin in London, on the 10th January, 1840, and for 10 years England alone made use of it. France adopted it on the 1st January, 1849. The Tour—and—Taxis Office introduced it into Germany in the year 1850, and it is now in use in 70 countries in Europe, 9 in Africa, 6 in Asia, 38 in America, and 10 in Oceania. About 50 Postage Stamps may be counted in the United States alone. Van Dieman's Land possesses its own; also Hayti, Natal, Honolulu, and Liberia. Lastly; Postage Stamp Collectors are so numerous a class as to possess a Manual and special correspondents; and the prices of collections at sales are regularly quoted.

## NEW ISSUES FOR MARCH.

**HOLLAND.**—The long-expected 15c new issue has at length appeared. The design is the same as the 5c and 10c new issue. The colour is the same as the now obsolete 15c.

**HAMBURG.**—This town seems determined to give Stamp Collectors a variety of Stamps of different colours if not of designs. We have this month seen a 7sk, printed in mauve!

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## RARE STAMPS.

(WEST INDIES).

**ANTIGUA.**—This is an Island which has been in the possession of the British since 1666. The climate is dry and



healthy. Its area is about 100 miles, and its population about 40,000. Its capital is St. John, with a population of 20000.

There are only two Stamps in use in Antigua—a penny red (of which an engraving is given), and a six-penny green, which for neatness of design cannot be surpassed.

**BAHAMAS.**—The Bahamas are a number of small flat islands, almost entirely surrounded by reefs and shoals, which have been in our possession since 1783. The climate of the Bahamas is healthy; the population amounts to 35,000 inhabitants, half of whom are negroes.

These islands in 1861, issued two Stamps; three in 1862; and one in 1863: all partaking more or less of the following design—in an oval in the centre is the diademed head of Queen Victoria; inscription at the top, "Bahamas Postage," and at the bottom the value. The colours of the Stamps are bright carmine, rose, lilac, mauve, and green.

[To be continued in our next.]

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## THE ALBERT ESSAY.

We give an engraving of the Albert Essay, which was the subject of so much contention between Dr. Gray, of



the British Museum and Mr. H. Burns. The value is 1 penny, and impressions were struck off in red and black.

In our next Number will be given an engraving and description of the rare Corrientes Stamps.



## STAMP GOSSIP, SCRAPS, &amp;c.

POSTAGE STAMPS AND SWEETMEATS.—Among the things which they “manage better in France,” are Postage Stamps. The Boulogne Gazette calls attention to the superiority, both in colour and cleanliness, of the French Stamp over the English. How ugly and nasty the latter is, everybody knows. The former, says our contemporary, “is traced in pure black and white, agreeing admirably with the instrument to which it is intended to be applied, and has on its back an invisible coating, showing the snow-white ground beneath, looking as pure and clean, and wholesome as barley sugar.”—But one thing is wanting to render such a Stamp perfection; and improving according to national custom, we beg to suggest the desideratum. Let the adhesive coating not only look but also taste like barley sugar. Is there no clever confectioner who can carry out this notion? A little sugar and gum-arabic would do it; and to render the compound more palatable, it might be flavoured with otto of roses. The most intimate friend

we have was made very ill, immediately after his marriage, through putting Stamps, by the ordinary means, upon the notes which he had to send out to his friends on the occasion. Surely the public taste might be consulted a little more in the manufacture of Postage Stamps, and especially in making the coating for the under side of them.—PUNCH.

—000—

Why is a sheet of perforated postage stamps like distant relations? Because they are but slightly connected.

Why is the penny English stamp like a newspaper? Because it was first black printed on white, and then red (read).

Why is a postage stamp like a schoolmaster? Because one sticks with a lick, and the other licks with a stick.

On the eve of St. Valentine, 530,000 letters were despatched from the General Post-office, being an excess of 230,000 over the ordinary number,

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## REVIEW.

The Stamp Collectors' Magazine,—4d.—by Stafford, Smith & Smith, Bath.—This excellent and well-conducted Magazine still continues its career of usefulness. It is, without doubt, the best conducted Stamp Magazine in the world.

ADDRESSES OF FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.—Austria :  
 Daniel Frendenberg Jagerzeile, No. 14, Vienna. Iynaz  
 Feigestock, Vienna. G. Goldschmidt, Vienna.

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### NOTICE.

A collection of Fifty rare Stamps are offered as a Prize for the best Original Stamp Tale, to be delivered to the publishers of this Magazine, before the 20th of April.

A set of Nicaragua Stamps will also be given as a Prize for the best Stamp Riddle, to be delivered to the publishers of this Magazine, before the 20th of April.

The competitors for the above are requested to write on one side of the paper only, with their name and address written on the first sheet. The sheets must be fastened in the top left-hand corner. They are also requested to retain copies, as rejected manuscripts cannot be returned. No notice will be taken of any contribution not in accordance with the above conditions.

We take this opportunity to caution Collectors as to Forgeries of the Paraquay Essays which are being sold as genuine.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

**THORPE & BURNS**, Brown street, Manchester, are the cheapest Foreign Stamp dealers in England. Examples: Chinese (Hong Kong) 2c. & 6c.  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. each; 4c. & 8c. 1d. each. Thousands of cheap Stamps at 1d. each, do. at  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. each. New Dutch, 15c. (yellow) 2d. each.

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Stamps sent on approval, on receipt of stamp. Price List, post free, one stamp. All communications to contain stamp for reply, Thorpe & Burns, Brown-street, Manchester.

CHEAP

Agents wanted, everywhere, to  
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Apply immediately to

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Brown Street,

Manchester.

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Further particulars may be had of I. O. T. A.,  
Care of Thorpe & Burns.

APRIL.



Preserve this Check; as a First Class Collection of Stamps will be distributed amongst the Subscribers to this Magazine, every Three Months.

Possession of 2 Checks for 1 Month disqualifies from any chance in the Distribution.

1865.

**CHEAP**

**POSTAGE STAMP**

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