

# THE REVENUE COLLECTOR.

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## A WORD FOR THE REVENUES.

There was a time, in the history of Philately, when the idea of making a collection or revenues was scouted by most collectors. They gathered with avidity every label in any way connected with the P. O. Department, irrespective of value, use, or previous condition, but almost entirely neglected the beautiful stamps so closely identified with the history of our country, simply because they were not *postage stamps!*

Those days are past, and while there are still a few old fogies who feign disgust whenever the subject of revenues is mentioned, the majority—the great majority—of the wide-awake philatelists of the day, acknowledge that in such a collection may be found pleasure, interest and profit—the three vital characteristics which bind us to our hobby.

It is true that the number of revenue collectors is comparatively small compared to the vast army who are hurrying, skurrying and scrambling over each other in their wild attempts to gather a complete collection of U. S. stamps, but the number is steadily increasing and would be still further augmented should some of the older, and consequently better informed philatelists, open their note-books and give us more literature upon the subject. Why, half the younger collectors do not know when they have obtained a good collection of revenues. They collect spasmodically for a time—find themselves the possessor of collections including all the varieties catalogued by Scott, with the exception, perhaps, of such

stamps as the 6c. Proprietary, \$20 P. of W. and a few others, which are above their reach, financially, and with "Othello's occupation gone" they lay their albums aside, and, if they do not like Alexander weep because there are no more worlds to conquer, they at least lose all interest in revenues and turn their attention to other branches, not half so interesting.

Has the writing of articles about revenues become a lost art? A few years ago, when there was half the interest taken in revenues that is manifested at the present day, we would, occasionally, run across an essay on this most interesting subject, but of late there has been absolutely nothing, with the exception of Mr. Adenaw's able catalogue now running in the *A. J. of P.*, and revenue collectors are groping in darkness.

Fellow philatelists, why hide your light under a bushel? Split the bushel up for kindling wood and let the light of your knowledge shine forth to enlighten the paths of the younger collectors. Let the "Stamps of Hong Kong" the "Issues of Samoa" and such old, hoary-headed, time-worn topics so often re-bashed, rest for awhile, and devote your talents to letting our young collectors know the difference between a 50c. O. P. on silk fibre, or heavy-wave paper, and the common variety on old. Tell us something about the stamps of our own country and we will arise and call you blessed."

To the collector I would say: Awake from your lethargy; emulate the example of the little busy bee who "gathers honey all the day", and gather in what revenues you can, for they will never be any cheaper.

When neatly arranged there is no collection which will present a finer appearance than these relics of the great Civil War, and there is no series of stamps that offer a wider field for research than the document, proprietary, match, medicine and playing card stamps of the United States.

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# THE REVENUE COLLECTOR.

PUBLISHED SEMI-OCCASIONALLY BY

E. R. MARSHALL,

DEALER IN

United States Revenue Stamps

WYOMING. - - IDWA. U S A. -

**Subscription Price-** Your good will.

**Advertising Space-** Monopolized by the Publisher.

**Contributions-** Thankfully received—especially when in coin of the realm.

## EDITORIALS.

Revenues cut diagonally and used as half the face value are sometimes found, and, while they were of positively no value in the eyes of the government, when thus mutilated, they are still worthy of a prominent place in your collection of oddities.

We should be pleased to send you fine sheets of revenues, that you may fill *those vacant spaces* in your album. We carry a full line of Document, Proprietary, Match, Medicine and Playing Card stamps, and can probably supply most of your wants.

Have you any duplicates for sale? We are prepared at all times to purchase all varieties of revenues, and will pay highest cash prices. We especially desire to buy collections, and collectors having such for sale will best advance their interests by corresponding with us.

A visit to your druggist may yield you a goodly number of medicine stamps, especially should he happen to be one of those self-conceited, unprogressive mortals who does not believe in the efficacy of printer's ink. His dusty shelves of "out of date" patent medicines may prove a gold mine of treasures, which may be had for the asking.

It is surprising how few collectors recognize the revenues printed upon silk and heavy wove paper, as separate and distinct varieties. The silk varieties were issued in 1869 and those on heavy wove in 1870. They are not errors or oddities but distinct varieties of paper, and are certainly just as worthy a place in your collection as the 3c. 1857 with outer line.

The theory has been advanced that the double-perforated revenues were issued so by design, and not by mistake, as is generally supposed. The theorist goes on to state that the stamps were not easily separated when provided with regulation number of rows. He forgets to explain, however, why so many are found double-perforated at top or bottom only.

We are not here to "fill a long felt want"—we would prefer filling our pockets with shekels, but at the same time propose to give full value for money received. We respectfully invite your inspection of our advertising columns, and if you don't see what you want, ask for it.

It was not without some trepidation that one year ago we decided to devote our surplus time and cash wholly to U. S. revenues, believing that there was a little niche left vacant in the philatelic world for such a venture. The results have far exceeded our wildest expectations and we now have upon our books 643 regular customers, to whom we send sheets, and every mail brings new applications. Revenues are experiencing the greatest boom for years, and philatelists generally are awaking to the fact that if they wish a good collection of revenues it must be made *now or never*. Revenues are growing very scarce, although the publishers of the principal catalogues do not seem aware of the fact. Half the revenues priced cannot be supplied by the cataloguers, at the prices quoted. Our prices may, in some cases, be above catalogue, but they are as low as the stamps can be bought anywhere, and all we price we can supply.

# DO YOU KNOW A BARGAIN?

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3c. Playing Cards.....	\$1.75	6c. Proprietary.....	\$13.00
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\$1. Pass. Ticket.....	1.80	1 90 For. Exch.....	.50
\$10. Conveyance.....	.70	\$15. Mortgage.....	1.40
\$25. Mortgage.....	2.10	\$200 U. S. I R.....	9.50
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# PROCRASTINATION

*IS THE THIEF OF TIME?*

Applied to Revenue Collectors the above means: Fill out those VACANT SPACES in your album at the present Low Prices, to-day,

TO-MORROW MAY BE TOO LATE!

If you wish to SEE what you are buying we would respectfully call your attention to our

Approval Sheet Department.

This is our specialty, and our sheets contain all varieties of Revenues—from the most common to the rarest specimens. Net sheet for advanced collectors a specialty. 33 1/3 per cent discount from catalogue prices allowed on all but the rarer varieties. References required. Society number sufficient.

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